

The Economist:

OR

THE POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND FREE-TRADE JOURNAL.

"If we make ourselves too little for the sphere of our duty; if, on the contrary, we do not stretch and expand our minds to the compass of their object; be well assured that everything about us will dwindle by degrees, until at length our concerns are shrunk to the dimensions of our minds. It is not a predilection to mean, sordid, home bred cares that will avert the consequences of a false estimation of our interest, or prevent the shameful dilapidation into which a great empire must fall by mean reparation upon mighty ruins."—BURKE.

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NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

A PERFECT COPY OF ALL EXISTING COMMERCIAL TREATIES.

In consequence of our articles on various COMMERCIAL TREATIES having awakened much interest on this subject, and a strong desire having been manifested for full information respecting their contents, we have determined to furnish our readers with perfect copies of the whole of the existing COMMERCIAL TREATIES between this and every other country; and that this may not interfere with our other matter, we will give them in Supplements—of eight pages each (gratis)—once a month until the whole are completed: and all future COMMERCIAL TREATIES shall be given in like manner, so that the volume of the ECONOMIST shall contain a perfect copy of existing Treaties from time to time. We will so arrange this that the Supplementary Number with COMMERCIAL TREATIES and the Statistical Number shall follow each other at equal distances—the former at the beginning and the latter in the middle of each month, so that generally the one or the other will be received every alternate week. The first Supplementary Number was presented last week, containing our Treaties with Austria and Denmark, and the Chinese Tariff converted into English Monies and Measures.

N. B.—The extra Monthly Statistical Number will be published next Saturday, and will be on Sale along with the regular Weekly Number.

CONTENTS.

Food Polluted.—Monopoly D-frauded	137	Foreign:	
The London Election—The Political Posture of Free Trade and Public Men	138	France	145
The Repeal of the Union against the Repeal of the Corn Laws	139	Spain	145
Practical Wisdom in the Brazilian Tariffs	141	Italy	145
Court and Aristocracy	141	Naples	145
Visit of her Majesty to Cambridge	141	Greece	145
The Metropolis	141	Poland	145
Forthcoming Elections	141	Free-Trade Movements:	
Ireland	142	The National Anti-Corn-law League	146
Scotland	142	Durham County and the Corn Laws	147
Wales	142	Free-Trade Meeting at Manchester	148
India and China	143	Courts of Law	149
Miscellaneous of Trade	143	Police	149
The Stale Duties	143	Commerce and Commercial Markets	150
Agricultural Varieties:		Prices Current	151
Agricultural Dinner at Tamworth	143	Corn Markets	151
Correspondence and Answers to Inquiries	144	Smithfield Market	151
Postscript	144	Borough Hop Market	151
Epitome of General News	144	Coal Market	151
		The Gazette	151
		Deaths	151
		Advertisements	152

"If a writer be conscious that to gain a reception for his favourite doctrine he must combat with certain elements of opposition, in the taste, or the pride, or the indolence of those whom he is addressing, this will only serve to make him the more importunate. There is a difference between such truths as are merely of a speculative nature and such as are allied with practice and moral feeling. With the former all repetition may be often superfluous; with the latter it may just be by earnest repetition, that their influence comes to be thoroughly established over the mind of an inquirer."—CHALMERS.

FOOD POLLUTED.—MONOPOLY DEFRAUDED.

We remember some two years ago, when the price of the quarter loaf was 10½d., and a cheap loaf was at the same time selling at 8d., conversing with a poor man who had a large family, on the relative qualities of the two loaves. He expressed his conviction, that as far as the real nourishment which each contained was concerned, the high-priced loaf was the cheapest; but, added he, "We must have a certain quantity to go round the family—each must have a slice." The poor man's bread was eked out by a mixture of potatoes, alum, and other matters.

We have been reminded of this by an article in the *Standard*, setting forth in strong language a most injurious practice which now prevails of adulterating sugars. Our contemporary, however, seems little to have thought of the severe strictures which every line of his remarks conveys against a system of monopoly, of which he and his political friends are the strong supporters. He says:—

"A gentleman connected with an eminent Liverpool commission house has called our attention to the amazing extent to which the adulteration of sugar is now being carried on. The business is going on increasing to an amazing extent, and cannot fail to call forth the interference of the proper Government authorities."

Now, there is no fact more clearly established in business than that competition is the best security which the public can have, not only for being supplied as cheaply as is possible, but also with as good a quality as circumstances will admit; and whenever dealers reduce the quality of an article, or introduce substitutes, it will generally be found that it is in obedience to the wants of their customers for a cheaper article—for let it be remembered that competition reduces the profit of the adulterated or substituted article just as much as of the genuine. The cheap adulterated loaf at 8d. gave the baker no more profit than the genuine loaf at a higher price, and no baker would make the former did not his customers require it. High prices and scarcity are the parents of adulterations, substitutes, frauds, and all other means which are resorted to, to make the wants and the means of a community meet each other. The entire monopoly which the producers of sugar in our colonies have of this market, keeps it always so barely supplied, and the price so high, that we are in no way surprised to find this article the subject of an artificial cheapening process. By law the quantity of the genuine article is so much restricted, that it is not sufficient in its pure state to give to every one a little, and must be eked out by admixture; and it is not improbable that many who buy a sixpenny sugar, will, like the poor man, acknowledge that the eightpenny sugar is really cheaper, but that, though inferior, they must have a given quantity at such price as they can pay. The laws which restrict quantity and make dearth are the real adulterators. But the advocate of monopoly goes on to say—

"Formerly we heard of the thing only in a very small sort of way, but now it is wholesale, and enormous in quantity. We hear of sales and purchases of fifties of tons of the adulterating commodity, and unless a stop be speedily put to this infamous trade, it would almost appear, that instead of sugar we shall be using articles such as, in our innocence, have anything but sweet ideas connected with them, let their actual properties be what they may."

Exactly so—just as might have been expected, in proportion as the population, and with it the demand for sugar, have outgrown the stinted fixed supply, have efforts been used artificially to counteract scarcity by adulteration—a most natural consequence. Let us see who really is chargeable with this baneful consequence. It is a most interesting inquiry to discover why the country must submit, amid the most urgent competition to supply a good article, to swallow the deleterious admixtures to which the *Standard* points: and if our contemporary be honest in the indignation which he expresses against the practice, he will join us in our effort to obtain redress.

In 1811 the quantity of sugar available for the consumption of this country imported was 4,047,221 cwt.; and in 1840, when the population had increased eight millions, the quantity imported was 4,035,845 cwt. In 1811 the quantity of tea consumed was 20,702,809 lbs.; in 1840 the consumption had increased to 32,252,628 lbs. In 1811 the consumption of coffee was 6,390,122 lbs.; in 1840 it had increased to 23,664,006 lbs. So that, compared with the condition of the country in 1811, we have now 3,159,739 persons for whom there is not one ounce of genuine sugar provided, and we have an additional consumption of 11,549,819 lbs. of tea, and of 22,274,214 lbs. of coffee, without any additional supply whatever of genuine sugar to sweeten it. During that period our colonies have had practically a complete monopoly of the home market, to the exclusion of all other sugar, however good or cheap; but their monopoly, misnamed protection and encouragement, has failed to produce one cwt. of sugar more.

"Formerly" the supply of sugar was sufficient, and there was no occasion for adulteration—but in the course of time, as the demand increased a little, and the supply remained stationary, "We heard of the thing only in a very small sort of way"—"but now" that 3,159,739 persons additional require sugar, and 11,549,819 lbs. of tea, and 22,274,214 lbs. of coffee require to be sweetened, and the supply of sugar still stationary, "it (adulteration) is wholesale and enormous." In order that the supply of sugar now should bear the same proportion to the population that it did in 1811, to say nothing of even the much greater ratio which it should bear to that period to keep pace with the consumption of tea and coffee—we would require now an additional annual supply of one hundred thousand tons. Can it then be a matter of surprise that ingenuity should be put on the rack to find substitutes, or that "we hear of sales and purchases of fifties of tons of the adulterating commodity?" and we quite

agree with the *Standard*, that "unless a stop be put to this infamous trade," if we will still continue to think sugar a proper thing to use, and the supply of the genuine article still refuses to increase, we can only under the name, but instead of sugar, "be using articles such as, in our innocence, have anything but sweet ideas connected with them, let their actual properties be what they may." But how otherwise does the *Standard* propose that the additional eight millions of persons are to have even the resemblance of sugar?—for they must be left to judge whether what they do get under this resemblance really answers the purpose of sugar or not. Does the blame lie with those who prevent the supply of the genuine article, or with those who, in its absence, obey the demand of the public, and manufacture a substitute? There is abundance of sugar produced in the world to supply all our wants, and at a much cheaper price than even this counterfeit article, but the *Standard* will not consent that one ounce of any other sugar shall interfere with the West India monopoly. We have Cuba and Brazilian sugar lying in our bonded warehouses, which, if they were to pay the same duty to the State that our colonial sugars do, might be sold to the poor man at least 20 per cent. cheaper than even the adulterated West India sugar is supplied to him; this would be the real cure for the adulteration, this would be the only mode of effectually stopping the frauds on the consumer by admixtures; but we much suspect that it was not the consumer that the *Standard* thought of being defrauded, for it goes on to say—

"At present all the chemical fraternity who exercise their talents in the laudable pursuit of substituting one commodity for another of greater value, and so lead themselves to frauds of the very worst character, are now exerting their utmost in this universal article of sugar.

"We are assured that every day brings forth some new concoction or other, and he is the cleverest fellow who can produce an article such as will vanish away in right easy style, and prevent us from questioning its properties.

"From the enormous quantity of adulterating matter now consumed, it would seem that scarcely any sugar can be obtained free from it. Now this is really too bad, and cannot be tolerated.

"The comparative small deliveries of raw sugar for home consumption have frequently of late been the topic of conversation between merchants, brokers, and parties connected with the sugar trade, and they have invariably come to the conclusion that the article is mixed and adulterated to a very large extent with sago, flour, farina, &c. We will not mention any of the more unpleasant articles we have had put before us, lest we should distract any of our dear friends of sweet taste.

"It is not only in Liverpool that the merchants and brokers have become alive to the extent of this illegal adulteration of sugar, and we find the subject frequently alluded to in the circulars of the leading London brokers."

We too, but for a very different reason, think it "too bad, and cannot be tolerated," that men should be driven to pollute and adulterate a great and important (now necessary) article of food, to keep the price within the means of the consumer, only in order to give a monopoly of the supply to a favoured class of producers. But the grounds on which the *Standard* appears to think so seems rather to be that the merchants and brokers in London and Liverpool feel that these substitutes interfere with their sales of the privileged colonial sugar. The use of a substitute is a "fraud of the very worst character" on the privilege of the colonial planter. The law gives him a monopoly of the market: he supplies rather less sugar to a population of 26,707,459 in 1841, than he did to one of 18,547,720 in 1811; and then the "cleverest fellows" in the "chemical fraternity" exert their ingenuity practically to increase that quantity after it is imported, by admixing with it various matters which do or do not contain saccharine matter; the more they do contain of saccharine matter, the better the substitute, it is clear the more is a fraud committed on the sugar planter, in the little effort which is thus made to adapt the small quantity of sugar to the great number of consumers. So far we can understand that the planter may be injured, but we cannot see how the merchants and brokers are injured. The whole of the sugar produced in our colonies is too little for our consumption, and the whole of it is sold: what more would dealers do than dispose of all they have, or can procure, available for the market. The supplies are as small, and the deliveries are as large, of sugar this year as last, and still about the same as in 1811, but the brokers and merchants are now three-fold the number of 1811, and therefore each man finds much less business now than each man has hitherto done. But this is not because substitutes are used, but because more sugar is not supplied to the market; and yet many of these men do all they can to uphold this monopoly, and thus perpetuate this little trade, and encourage these frauds, of which the *Standard* complains.

But the *Standard* ultimately discovers that this adulteration affects other interests besides.

"There is hardly any article in which adulteration is carried to the extent now known to be the case with sugar, and yet it is the very thing pressing most hardly on the industrious middle classes, as well as the poor man.

"It must also be to the detriment of the honest shopkeeper, as well as vast loss to the revenue, and the immoral character of such doings on the part of these clever manufacturing chemical gentlemen hardly need be mentioned. Surely something will speedily be done in the matter, and steps taken to punish parties lending themselves to the pursuit of such abominable practices.

"There are plenty of clever men of chemical pursuits who will gladly assist in laying hold of this sort of individuals who dare thus to rob the poor man, and we have been assured that there is no difficulty whatever in detecting and exposing the frauds thus committed."

"Pressing most hardly on the industrious middle classes, as well as the poor man"—"individuals who dare thus rob the poor man"—"by mixing sago, flour, farina, &c.," with his sugar.

Who really is to blame for this: those who prohibit cheap sugar to the poor man, or those who reduce dear sugar to the level of the poor man's means of purchase? By the monopoly of sugar, the poor man is cruelly dealt with in more ways than one. First, his industry is in a great measure excluded from some of the best markets of the world, because we cannot take the sugar produced there into consumption here; then the price of sugar is kept so high by the restriction here, that he cannot use it, until it is cheapened by adulteration, innocent or not, and the only consolation he receives is the pretended sympathy and pity of those who inflict these evils upon him. What ignorance or what hypocrisy lies behind all this!

Then there is a "vast loss to the revenue," but how this can be we are quite at a loss to understand. Every ounce of sugar that is produced and supplied practically available to the market, is taken into consumption and pays the duty. How then can this adulteration affect the revenue? We understand well how the monopoly which the *Standard* supports affects the revenue; how if all sugars were admitted at the same duty, a much larger supply would be given to the consumer, and a much larger revenue to the state. We understand perfectly that, had the same sum of money which the country spent last year on protected sugar been expended at the common market price of the world, the consumer would have had 1,700,000 cwts. more to consume than he had, and adulteration might not then have been needed, and that thus the revenue might have been benefited to the extent of two millions; but while all the sugar that is produced on which the law contemplates revenue, actually pays the duty, we are quite at a loss to see how the adulteration of that article can defraud the revenue, or how its prevention is to increase it. The favoured planter sells all he grows, the revenue receives duty on every cwt. on which it contemplates to get duty—nay more—even the West India Islands do not retain sugar for their own consumption, but they reimport the cheap sugar of other countries refined here in bond; all their growth comes to England, all pays duty, all commands the high price from the consumer; and what interest the revenue has in what becomes of it afterwards, we are at a loss to know. We can understand that the price to the planter may be higher or lower, exactly as he can restrict the quantity and prevent increase, either of genuine sugar or artificial sugar; his price is fluctuating in proportion as there is scarcity or plenty, from whatever cause. The duty is a fixed sum, without any reference to the selling price.

The *Standard* seems to think otherwise, and goes on to suggest a cure for the evil.

"We have reason to know that the Government are quite alive to it, and have only delayed taking cognizance solely from the difficulty of being able to check it.

"If the Government would appoint a responsible analysing chemist in every large town or populous district, for the purpose of testing the sugars disposed of, and if parties can be convicted before a magistrate of the adulteration, and punished in some way according to the offence, we have no doubt but that a speedy check would be given to this illicit trade. The fine might be made considerable, and go in a great measure to pay the expense of the chemist, or at all events the saving to the revenue would soon prove greater than the expense."

"Responsible analysing chemists" to prevent a cheap sugar being made by the admixture of "sago, flour, farina, &c."—and upon the same principle their duties will be extended from the grocers' shops to the baker's, to prevent a cheap loaf being made by the admixture of potatoes, &c. The sugar monopoly is jealous of the interference of flour: the wheat monopoly is jealous of the interference of potatoes; and both are jealous that the people shall be fed. So it shall "not be tolerated" that an inferior cheap sugar shall be sold, to enable the poor mother to put at least the semblance of a spoonful into each cup round the table:—that the poor man have a cheap loaf though confessedly inferior, in order that the quantity may at least eke out to a slice for each. What a terrible comment does the *Standard* supply on our legislation for feeding the people!

THE LONDON ELECTION.

THE POLITICAL POSTURE OF FREE TRADE AND PUBLIC MEN.

Shortly after our last publication we were relieved from the painful anxiety which we then felt for the result of the City of London Election:—for with so large a body of electors, and all other circumstances considered, it was quite impossible to feel much confidence one way or the other. Our feelings, however, at the result are not so much those of exultation at the victory won by free trade, as of pain and disgust at the hazard in which it was placed by means which should excite in the mind of every independent, intelligent elector, of whatever party he be, feelings of the greatest indignation. This was not a contest merely between two different men; it was not a contest on mere party grounds; it was a contest between two principles which the City of London is more interested in deciding correctly than any other body of men in the world. It was a contest as to the principles which should be recognised for conducting the commerce of this great commercial country, to be determined by its great commercial capital. From beginning to end no other subject, either personal or political, appeared to attract any interest; from the speeches and manifestoes of the candidates down to the placards and squibs upon the walls, the sole subject was, free trade or protection. An honest advocate, either of one system or the other, cannot but have attached the greatest

possible importance to the result:—whatever opinions he held, he must have considered that not only were his own interests but those of the country at large, greatly at stake; and he could not but feel the greatest anxiety to know, that attached to a constituency of some fifteen thousand men, there is a body of five or six hundred who can be purchased by either party for as many pounds. That the opinions of the whole body of the London electors, bankers, merchants, dealers, and others, having important stakes in the country—on a great and vital question nearly balanced in the public mind; the decision of which by London may settle, at least for a time, the subject of discussion, not only in this country, but in the world at large; that this expression of opinion should hang in suspense on the result of who shall, or who shall not, buy this body of five or six hundred marketable electors—is a fact which at once reflects the greatest humiliation on the general body of electors, and which must always place in great hazard the best interests of this great constituency. Without reference to any struggle or party, every respectable man who wishes to exercise an independent expression of opinion which he honestly holds, should look upon such men as a common pest and nuisance, not only in London, but in every constituency where such men exist; the rest of the electors ought to use every means to eradicate such a baneful interference with their rights. With Lord John Russell's Act, and the executive of the League, this now can be done.

We feel more free to make these remarks after the favourable result of the late election, for as that result has been gained in spite of the "along shore men," the victory is of a much more decided character than at first sight appears by the mere relative number of votes. A very large majority of the independent and intelligent electors of London have declared in favour of free trade, and this declaration will determine future elections.

The most singular feature, however, in the whole proceedings, and the same is equally observable in the whole free-trade movement, is that the public have taken this great absorbing question of the day into their own hands, without any reference whatever to recognized parties or leaders in the state. During the election, if Sir Robert Peel's name was mentioned, it was only as the minister for the time being, whose measures might be acted upon by the decision whatever it might be; and if Lord John Russell's name was mentioned, it was chiefly in reference to the late election, and in which he was a candidate.

There never was a period when the public mind had so little preference for men; and perhaps there never was a period when there was so little ground for a preference on the great subjects which engross public interest. It is true the conviction is becoming every day greater, that the commercial reform introduced by the present Ministry was less a part of their plan or principles of government, than a mere expediency to push off a dangerous crisis, and to allay exasperated feelings; that it was less an act of practical free trade than a palliative to a new direct tax of five or six millions a year, which the minister believed essential to his existence. The people still see the great glaring restrictions on corn and sugar; and if they have escaped for a short time the evils of scarcity by two abundant harvests, they still know that every year they are exposed to this danger in a more and more aggravated form as the population increases. The ideas of deranged currency, contracted circulation, high prices, and the whole train of evils consequent on deficient harvests, with the present corn laws, are still vividly before them; and moreover there is a growing opinion that much if not all the Income Tax could have been avoided by a just settlement of the sugar question; and finally, that there is little or no chance of any greater progress being made in these questions by the present Ministers, as long as we have a fair sky, and as long as the revenue is in no immediate danger.

But, on the other hand, to whom have they to look? Men willingly acknowledge that the late Ministry staked office on much better measures, with regard to corn and sugar, than any proposed since; men willingly acknowledge a confidence in Lord John Russell, as far as he will go with them in commercial reform:—but while the public have been going forward since 1841, he unfortunately appears to have stood still. The whole question of protection, restriction, and commercial legislation, has been industriously discussed, and men have come to a deliberate decision, that the whole system is impolitic in principle, and unjust in practice. The public are willing to acknowledge the large advantages of a fixed duty over the sliding scale, but these advantages appear to them only in the light of a somewhat less injurious mode of applying a most injurious principle. They object, totally object, to the incomes of one class of men being increased by an indirect tax on the community, but they object more to that being done by a plan which, in its execution, bears a long train of other evils with it: otherwise, they admit no distinction between a fluctuating or a fixed duty. It is well understood that both have the effect of raising prices and rents; and they care little whether mortgages are to be satisfied, daughters apporportioned, or grooms and gardeners kept, from the excess of rent derived from protection incidental to a sliding scale or a fixed duty. As to the plea of raising a revenue from corn, men's opinions are quite as decided; they see all statesmen, on the best of grounds, regretting that there is even a momentary

necessity of deriving revenue from any of the ordinary raw materials of our industry, and they will not, therefore, admit the policy, in the settlement of this question, of applying a principle of taxation to corn already repudiated by all men, with respect to wool, flax, or cotton. Similar is the position of the sugar question. Lord John Russell's proposal of reducing the differential duty from 63s. to 36s. still leaving a protection of 50 per cent. to the colonial growers, is universally admitted, both in a financial and commercial view, to be infinitely preferable to the present law, which amounts to a complete prohibition of the foreign article. But still this is only a question of degree; the public have fathomed and settled the principle, and no mere compromise will now satisfy them. These questions have been diligently, laboriously, perseveringly worked, at great personal sacrifices, and against extraordinary obstacles and prejudices; and now—when the truth of the principles is acknowledged by the public mind—when they form the great motive of public political action and decision—statesmen may rest assured, however much some insinuate to the contrary, that no compromise will ever be made by the free-trade party.

That free trade must ere long be the rule and principle of a government in this country, no man can doubt; but who will be the instrument to form or lead such a government, there is at this moment not the slightest indication: and this is the true cause of the apparent indifference in the public mind towards all public recognized statesmen.

That the adoption of free trade by any recognized party of the State would be a great advantage, and hasten these principles more quickly to a satisfactory conclusion, there can be no doubt; but even this is not so much a necessity as it would be a facility. Let statesmen take a calm review of the progress of events during the last three years, and determine this question for themselves,—and then decide how they can best serve their country.

THE REPEAL OF THE UNION AGAINST THE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.

We have repeatedly intimated that our self-chosen vocation is non-political, using that phrase in its ordinary but incorrect sense. Far from being indifferent to political questions, we are, on the contrary, keenly alive to every public movement. But with us, the great question of the day is the *ECONOMICAL* one. This surmounts every other consideration. Through this medium we view all politics. To this end would we desire to see the public mind—for the present at least—exclusively directed. We have only to do with Sir Robert Peel, Lord John Russell, Mr O'Connell, Mr Villiers, Mr Cobden, or any other public man, in relation to this one grand consideration. And Whig or Tory are, of course, objects of the most perfect indifference: we see the present and future welfare of the empire bound up in *FREE TRADE*; and to free trade, therefore, we devote ourselves wholly, exclusively, and entirely.

In this spirit would we glance at the question of the Repeal of the Union between Great Britain and Ireland. We look at it purely in an *economical* sense; but it may be as well to clear the way by certain admissions, which, having once stated, our readers may give us full credit for them throughout our argument.

First, then, it requires no great effort to admit that Ireland has been hitherto most grievously misgoverned—that our whole policy towards that country has been of a purblind character—and that even now we are reaping the fruits of that unjust, absurd, and wicked, because unchristian system, from which we were finally emancipated in 1829.

Second, as little need it be denied, that since 1829 Ireland has been making rapid progress; and that it requires but continued perseverance in an impartial, bold, kindly, and equally discriminative system, in order to ensure a continuance of that improvement, and to make it advance with accelerated speed.

Third, nor ought it to be at all disputed that there still exist in Ireland grievances of a very aggravated description—grievances which press most heavily upon the people, and keep them impoverished and discontented. A bold, determined, cautious statesman, no matter whether he be Whig or Tory, would deal practically with these grievances, with a view to their extirpation, and would carry on the imperial government on such a system and in such a spirit, as would give to every Irishman the same advantages, economical and political, as Englishmen and Scotchmen enjoy. In fact, we recognise, in the fullest and the broadest manner, the common justice of the principle, that Irishmen should stand in every respect on the same level with their fellow subjects. We also admit that, though great advances have been made towards it, this principle has not hitherto been thoroughly carried out; and peace and security to the empire will not be attained until it is.

Having made these admissions, we proceed to affirm—

First: That the Repeal of the Union would not cure any one of the remaining evils of Ireland, but rather aggravate them. And,

Second: That the *Repeal of the Union* would nullify the *Repeal of the Corn Laws*, and be the most disastrous event that could possibly happen, in this day of the power and triumph of *FREE TRADE*. If this be true, it follows, consequently, that

Third: The Repeal of the Union would be utterly ruinous to

Ireland, and vitally disastrous to England; and that, if it were granted, it might constitute a main element in a great social convulsion, from which, otherwise, FREE TRADE will save us.

We entirely put out of consideration the question of what has been called a *federal* Parliament, which, in other words, would be a mere local legislature, entirely subordinate to the imperial Parliament. The people of Ireland, who demand the Repeal of the Union, will never be satisfied with this. If one step is made towards an alteration of the Act of Union, we must go the whole way. It is ridiculous to think of a federal Parliament. It will not satisfy the Repealers; and, with imperial "justice to Ireland," it would be as unnecessary as a federal Parliament for Yorkshire or for Scotland. We therefore push this idea of a federal Parliament out of the way, and look only at the question of the Repeal of the Union—that is, an Independent Irish Parliament, sitting in Dublin, and making laws for Ireland, with no other assent than that of the Crown.

Now, in estimating the strength of the feelings which actuate Irishmen in seeking the Repeal of the Union, Englishmen always commit the mistake of forgetting Irish *nationality*. A long disquisition might be written about the comparative *nationality* of races. But we do not stop to inquire whether there be anything in the blood of the Celtic people which constitutes them more enthusiastically national than those of Saxon lineage. The Scotch and the Welsh are still extremely national in their feelings, but the Irish are *national* throughout the whole structure of their mind, feelings, and physical composition. It may be odd, but it is true, that the Irish are perhaps as intensely national a people as any race that ever existed.

The first time we ever heard Mr O'Connell speak was on his return from his first session of Parliament, after the passing of the Act of Emancipation. We had just then visited Ireland for the first time; and, anxious to see and hear so extraordinary a man, pressed amongst the crowd that was opposite his house in Merrion square, Dublin. For the first time, his rich, round, mellow voice fell on our ear, and the first words were—"I have come from the land of the Saxon and the stranger!" Instantly he fell fifty per cent. in the estimation of the "Saxon stranger," who then heard him for the first time. It seemed an enunciation of intense barbarism. The great advocate of "civil and religious liberty" appeared at the moment an incarnation of intense prejudice and vulgar passion. We turned away, with a feeling of shame and sorrow; and though we have never wavered in that conviction which regarded Catholic Emancipation as a great, a just, and a wise act, we felt deeply humbled at the moment, that this "barbarism" should be one of its first fruits.

Since then we have often heard Mr O'Connell in the House of Commons, in Exeter hall, in Freemasons' hall, in the Egyptian hall, at the Mansion house; and being accustomed to that vigorous eloquence and rotund voice, pleading on behalf of Negroes, Jews, and all the rights of humanity, have learned to regard him—despite his many and enormous faults—as a truly wonderful man. Moreover, we have become familiar with Ireland and its people; and can properly estimate that feeling of nationality, the expression of which seems occasionally so exaggerated to an Englishman. The round tower raising its slender shaft on high, speaking of times by-past and almost unknown; the ruined abbey that tells of the once flourishing condition of the church in Ireland, when, in the popular apprehension, it was a holy and sacred isle; the old records in the Irish language, still extant, and testifying, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that there *was* a time when Ireland was a remarkable country, compared with the rest of Europe—these, conjoined with the sad story of Ireland's wrongs, make the Irishman what he is. The Irish peasant does not *live* at the present moment—he merely exists. But he lives in the *past*—he lives in the *future*. His imagination is filled with what Ireland was, and with what it may become. And you have but to touch on these two topics, the *past* and the *future*, in order to set fire to his mind, and to make him send up a shout that might rend the heavens, for a Repeal of the Union.

But the Repeal of the Union would be ruinous to Ireland, and disastrous to England. Let us see.

Suppose the Repeal of the Union carried. Suppose an independent Irish Parliament sitting in College green, Dublin. Suppose all the awkward preliminaries got over, as to what proportion of the NATIONAL DEBT is to be borne by Ireland, and what by Britain. Suppose every difficulty got over—and there are many which would puzzle Mr O'Connell himself. Suppose all this got over, and the Irish independent Parliament is really sitting in College green. Nay, still farther, let us suppose that there is the most perfect harmony amongst all classes—that at the outset there is no wish for either Catholic or Protestant ascendancy—that, in short, Irish independence has been triumphantly achieved, and is to be moderately exercised.

Well. The people come to their representatives, and remind them that the justice which an English Parliament denied or delayed, must be promptly granted by their own Parliament. Certainly. The people want employment and food—how are these to be provided for them? One great want in Ireland is the want of flourishing cities and a dense population engaged in manufactures, in order to serve as a market for its agricultural produce. Nobody can deny that this great want exists;

no benevolent mind can deny that it would be a great blessing if this want could be supplied.

A repeal of the corn laws, and the adoption of free trade in all our great articles of consumption, would enable *our* manufacturing districts to become larger consumers of Irish produce than ever. Steam has built a bridge across the channel. Liverpool, Bristol, and Glasgow are thus linked to Dublin, Cork, and Belfast. Rents, under free trade, having settled to their proper level (supposing other remedial measures as to landlord and tenant having been adopted), every additional grain of corn, head of cattle, pound of butter, or basket of eggs, would cause a return to Ireland, in the shape of broadcloth, calicoes—aye, and *capital*. For, with prosperity in England, and progress in Ireland, capital *would* flow into the latter from the former. Improved agriculture would be rapidly followed by commercial prosperity; and wherever natural advantages tempted capital, manufacturing establishments would spring up. Thus, not instantaneously, but certainly and surely, Ireland would advance; she would share in the prosperity of Britain; and one of the greatest advantages Ireland would enjoy, would be, that Britain not only took more of her produce but more of her *men*—there would be a larger market in England for Irish labourers, without, at the same time, interfering with the English labourer.

But Irish nationality would not wait upon this. It would cry to its own Parliament, "Why should we take Saxon broadcloth or Saxon calico, when we can employ our own people at our own manufactures—let Ireland be for the Irish." The cry would become too strong for anybody to resist. It would be based, too, on a feeling which a benevolent mind could scarcely repudiate—that of apparently tending to promote the good of Ireland. So, in order to establish Irish manufactures, English manufactures would be kept out by a prohibitory duty. Ireland would fence itself off from England by a hostile tariff. The intercourse between the ports of Britain and of Ireland would be abated. Capital would be *borrowed*, in order to be sunk in *fostered* Irish manufactures. And for a short time there might be great joy over a short-lived prosperity.

By-and-by, the Irish would begin to discover two things: first, that the market for their agricultural produce had fallen off; and, second, that they were paying more for their manufactures than they used. The smuggler would soon find this out. For the smuggler is a knowing fellow, and is quite aware that if he can supply an article *better* and *cheaper* from abroad than people can get at home, he is always sure of customers. Not even Irish *nationality* will give two sacks of grain, two cows, two kegs of butter, or two baskets of eggs, for an article made at home, when a better may be got from abroad for half the consideration. The superior capital and skill of the manufacturers of Yorkshire and Lancashire (*especially when acting unfettered, under a repeal of the corn laws and free trade in sugar, &c.*) would beat the *fostered* manufactures of Ireland. Every mile of coast would be haunted by smugglers—Irish as well as English. The Irish manufacturer would find his dear goods go off very badly, in the face of cheaper and better smuggled goods. To prevent this, a fleet of revenue cutters would have to be maintained, which would exhaust the Irish exchequer, without being able to put down Irish smuggling. New taxes would have to be devised, to meet the failure in the revenue from the customs. Irish manufacturers would become bankrupt, and their people be discharged. Meantime, a very bad feeling would grow up on both sides of the Channel, reviving old prejudices now dying away. The Irish in England would be disliked worse than ever, and many compelled to go home, on account of not being able to withstand the feeling manifested against them. Scarcely an Englishman would dare to visit Ireland, for his presence would continually remind Irishmen that he belonged to a nation which, after all, retained its superiority over them. For Ireland is too *near* England ever to be really independent; nor can she ever, in any sense, be *national*, unless she is able to compete with the capital and the resources of England.

We hold it to be inevitable, that the first popular movement in Ireland, if a Repeal of the Union were obtained, would be a movement in favour of the establishment of Irish manufactures. And this could only be effected by a hostile tariff against England. The operation of this would be defeated by the superior skill and capital of England, through the agency of the smuggler. Meantime, the regular trade between the two countries, instead of vastly enlarging, as it would do under a Repeal of the Corn Laws, would be interrupted, if not broken up, under a Repeal of the Union. It would end in injury to England—in ruin to Ireland.

We say nothing of the shame which would be poured on free-trade principles. We say nothing of the chances of a struggle for ascendancy between Catholic and Protestant, and the danger of a *religious* war. We say nothing of many other evils which start into view, such as the probability of a confiscation of property, when looking at the question of the Repeal of the Union. We have confined ourselves to one view of it—the *economical*, and even of that we have only stated a very small portion. But we hope we have stated enough to induce free traders to feel that "Justice to Ireland" is only to be obtained through a maintenance of the Union.



PRACTICAL WISDOM IN THE CHINESE AND BRAZILIAN TARIFFS.

We last week presented our readers with a copy of the Chinese tariff, reduced into English weights and monies; and it must have been a source of much gratification to all free traders to observe the wise and liberal principles which are adopted in its construction. There is no appearance of high duties on any article produced on that country, for the sake of protection. On ornamental work, dressing-boxes, carved ivory, japan work, and all those things peculiarly of Chinese manufacture, there is only a duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*; on cotton manufactures, which will interfere with their own home industry, we hear nothing of high duties to protect native labour from superior foreign competition; all are fixed equally, at a trifling duty of five to ten per cent. But on *rice*, and grain of all kinds, there is no duty whatever. Indeed, so essential has the Chinese Government always considered it to afford every facility to let the people feed themselves, that there has long been a regulation in their ports, that a ship arriving with a certain portion of rice was exempted from many port charges to which all others were subjected, and thus a direct premium has been given to the supply of food.

In the instructions recently given by the Emperor of the Brazils to his Minister to form a new tariff, one of the most distinct is, "that he should take the necessary steps to select those commodities which are the prime necessities of life," especially referring to the lower orders, and subject them to the lowest rates of duty. England would do well to copy the example of the two Emperors.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY AND PRINCE ALBERT TO CAMBRIDGE.

The Queen and Prince Albert paid a visit to Cambridge on Wednesday. The Royal party left Windsor in the morning; and on arriving at the Paddington terminus of the Great Western Railway, took the direct road from London to Cambridge. At various points along the road, crowds were in waiting, who welcomed her Majesty with enthusiasm; and "triumphal arches," and little ornamental decorations, indicated polite attention. Great preparations were made at Cambridge, where, of course, it was quite an event, both to "gown" and "town." Her Majesty and suite "put up" at Trinity College; and the authorities both of the Town and the University all turned out in grand procession, to do honour to their guests. Her Majesty, after receiving the functionaries in state, went to King's College Chapel, to attend public worship, which was performed with grand and impressive ceremonial. The Royal party dined at Trinity College; and in the evening the town was illuminated.

On Thursday, her Majesty visited the chapel of Trinity College. It happened at the moment of her Majesty setting forth on foot for the chapel, that there was some deficiency of crimson cloth for her to walk upon. In an instant some of the undergraduates pulled off their gowns and threw them down before her Majesty; the example was quickly followed by others; the way was thickly strewn with gowns of every academic rank, over which her Majesty, smiling most graciously, made her way. Having some little difficulty here and there to pick her steps, in consequence of the abundant hand with which these sombre garments were flung together; on her passage back the affair was better arranged, the gowns being spread along the way with some regard to neatness and order. The chapel was lighted with wax tapers, carried by undergraduates, the effect of which was extremely good.

The Royal dinner party took place in King Henry the Eighth's drawing-room, at eight o'clock. After dinner her Majesty held a levee, which was attended by the heads of houses, and other principal members of the University. The levee took place at between half-past nine and ten, and occupied three quarters of an hour.

The grand feature of this memorable Royal visit was the ceremony of conferring the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law upon his Royal Highness Prince Albert. This took place in the Senate house at ten o'clock Thursday morning. Some apprehension existed in the minds of some one or more of the authorities of the University that the attendance of the bachelors and under-graduates, on the present occasion, might be attended with some of those boisterous ebullitions in which those young gentlemen sometimes indulge at ceremonies of this kind, which might be disagreeable to her Majesty. We are happy to say that this apprehension has been proved to have been quite unfounded. The junior members of the University behaved throughout in a most decorous manner. At a quarter to ten the Vice-Chancellor entered the hall, preceded by the two proctors and bedels, and took his seat in the chair provided for him. Some necessary forms at the opening of a convocation were then gone through. After a few minutes further interval, namely, at seven minutes before ten o'clock, a burst of cheering without announced that her Majesty had arrived.

The Vice-Chancellor having taken his place, with the two proctors on either side of him, proceeded to read the Royal mandate for conferring the degree of Doctor of Civil Law upon his Royal Highness Prince Albert, after which those functionaries (who, by the way, wore their caps during the day's proceedings, in spite of the presence of Royalty), having bowed to her Majesty, the important business of the day commenced. All this time the heads of colleges and other high officers (including Lord Lyndhurst, the high steward) had stood in a sort of semi-circle round the dais, with their faces to the Queen, the officers of the household being nearer to her Majesty on either side of the throne. The Royal mandate having been read, the Reverend the Registrar brought one of the books of the University, containing the name of his Royal Highness inscribed in it. The Senior Proctor having read the grace of the Senate, for conferring the degree on Prince Albert, Mr Gunning, the senior bedel, accompanied by the Public Orator, advanced, bowing to his Royal Highness, and conducted him to his position at the top of the steps, immediately facing the throne. The Public Orator then having bowed to her Majesty, proceeded to deliver an oration to his Royal Highness. After alluding to the high and extraordinary honour which the University of Cambridge this day experienced in the presence of her Majesty and Prince Albert, the orator passed some high encomiums upon the character of his Royal Highness, and adverted to the achievements in arms and other good deeds of his an-

cestors. He then referred to his marriage with the Queen of these realms, and the offspring which was the fruit of that happy union. He concluded by invoking the Divine blessing upon her Majesty, and her issue for generations to come, taking care to express a confident hope that they would always maintain the dignity of the realm, and its venerable and useful institutions in church and state. This oration lasted about twenty minutes, during all which time his Royal Highness was kept standing. He bowed occasionally in acknowledgment of the compliments passed upon him by the orator, and sometimes something like a blush passed over his countenance. The Senior Bedel then took his Royal Highness by the right hand, and conducted him to the Vice-Chancellor, who administered to him the oaths of allegiance and supremacy. The Vice-Chancellor, at the conclusion of these, bowed to her Majesty; then, taking his Royal Highness's hand, he administered the oath (in Latin) to obey and defend the laws of the University; after which the Vice-Chancellor, addressing his Royal Highness in the usual Latin form, admitted him to the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law. His Royal Highness then descended the steps of the dais, and was invested with the scarlet robe of a D. C. L., and took the velvet cap in his hand. A loud burst of cheering, accompanied with waving of caps, went through the hall as his Royal Highness, thus equipped, walked back to his seat beside her Majesty. Amidst the cheering we heard some cries of "Doctor Albert." After this the business of the day was prolonged by the ceremony of admitting the Rev. R. Phelps to the degree of doctor in divinity. This being at length concluded, at a quarter to eleven o'clock the Vice-Chancellor dissolved the convocation. The Queen and Prince Albert attended as before, then moved off to their carriage, amidst enthusiastic cheering, and cries of "*Vivat Regina!*"

After leaving the Senate house, her Majesty and the Prince, attended by the lord and ladies in waiting, the Vice-Chancellor, the Senior Esquire Bedel, and some of the heads of houses, visited the Geological Museum, and the various public buildings of the University, and at half-past four set out, escorted by a guard of honour of the Scots Greys, for Wimpole, the seat of the Earl of Hardwicke.

VISITORS TO HER MAJESTY.—The Queen will entertain a succession of distinguished guests at Windsor Castle during the ensuing week. His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Michael of Russia is expected to arrive at Windsor upon a visit to her Majesty on Monday next. The distinguished foreigners in the suite of his Imperial Highness will accompany the Grand Duke.

THE LATE SIR CHARLES BELL.—The following is the letter from Sir R. Peel to the widow of the late Sir C. Bell, announcing that a pension had been conferred upon her:—Madam, I have had great pleasure in recommending to her Majesty that, in consideration of the high attainments of your lamented husband, and the services rendered by him to the cause of science, a pension of 100*l.* per annum for your life shall be granted to you, from that very limited fund which Parliament has placed at the disposal of the Crown for the reward and encouragement of scientific labours. This pension, small in amount as it necessarily is, will perhaps be acceptable to you as a public acknowledgment, on the part of the Crown, of the distinguished merit of Sir Charles Bell. I have the honour to be, Madam, your faithful and obedient servant, ROBERT PEEL.—Whitehall, Sept. 4.

THE METROPOLIS.

THE CITY ELECTION.—As early as half-past six o'clock on Saturday morning, the Guildhall yard exhibited a most busy and bustling appearance, from the arrival of the parties belonging to the two candidates, and about fifty of the city police, who were stationed from the bottom of King street, and in various parts of the hall, for the purpose of affording facilities to the voters. The first vote that was given was recorded for Mr Baring. The numbers present were far less than on former occasions. At the last election for the city, there were at least 500 present when the polling commenced; while, on Saturday, they did not exceed 100. The only booth that was in any way crowded was that of the butchers; this arose from the members of that company having to attend Newgate market. In the first hour 1,308 voted for Mr Pattison, and 1,042 for Mr Baring, giving a majority, at nine o'clock, of 266 for Mr Pattison. The result of this hour's polling threw terror into the camp of the Tories, who well knew the influence which the gallant start Mr Pattison's side had taken, was likely to have upon many a doubtful or indifferent voter. Between the hours of nine and ten, the majority already obtained was increased to 345. Increasing numbers gave increased confidence, and the Liberal party were now in the highest spirits. The Tories, however, answered the jokes of their successful opponents by declaring, that many of their friends were not yet out of bed, or at least had not come into the city; and it would appear that there was something in the remark, for, during the next hour, they pulled up considerably, and reduced the majority of Mr Pattison, at eleven o'clock, to 136; a rapid arrival of the "lie-a-bed" Baringites having, in the meantime, ensued. Still, however, Mr Pattison's friends polled steadily and unflinchingly; and both sides experienced the conviction that the victory would not be achieved without difficulty. At the close of the poll the friends of Mr Pattison claimed a majority of 201. The official declaration was made by the sheriffs on Monday, and the numbers were stated as follows:—For Mr Pattison, 6,532; for Mr Baring, 6,367; majority for Mr Pattison, 165.

HELLENIC FESTIVAL.—A dinner took place on Saturday at the London tavern to celebrate the recent events in Greece, and all the circumstances attending the celebration were as pleasing as the occasion itself was auspicious. A numerous company (although at scarcely more than a single day's notice, we believe) assembled, including the most distinguished members of the Greek community in this country, and some well-known supporters of the Greek cause, among whom were Mr B. Cochrane, M.P.; Dr Bowring, M.P.; Hon. Colonel L. Stanhope, Colonel Thompson, &c. The splendid hall of the tavern was tastefully and appropriately decorated with the flags of Greece and of the great powers; portraits of some great Greek patriots were hung round the walls, while on pillars were inscribed the dates of some of the more celebrated events, and the names of the most celebrated characters, that have marked the progress and establishment of Greek independence.

FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS.

KENDAL ELECTION.—Tuesday, Mr Warburton, the Liberal candidate and Mr Aglionby, M.P., addressed a numerous and highly respectable body of the electors at the Odd Fellows' hall. John Whitwell, Esq., was in the chair.—The Chairman in opening the business of the meeting said, they had met on a somewhat peculiar occasion. Now, for the first time since they had obtained the right of franchise, there were symptoms of an actual contest. But did they fear it? (Cries of "no, no.") He could not think for a moment that they had any occasion to fear it.—Mr Aglionby said, now was the time to be up and doing, and for men to show

of what metal they were made. (Cheers) There had been several candidates on the Liberal side—with their respective merits he had nothing then to do. But now that they had determined on Mr Warburton, he hoped their motto would be "Warburton and free trade," and that by that they would stand or fall. (Great cheering) Mr Aglionby bore testimony to Mr Warburton's parliamentary conduct, and ventured to say, without fear of contradiction, that in the House of Commons there was not a more steady or industrious public man, or one who was a more strenuous advocate of all their civil and religious rights. (Hear, hear.)—Mr Warburton was received with the most enthusiastic cheers. He stated that the result of his canvass had been of the most gratifying kind; that the main question on which he had come there was that great one which now agitated the empire to its centre—the question of free trade. He had come there to advocate what he believed to be that question which, above all others, interested the operative, the artisan, and the small trader. (Cheers.) That it was so he had proof even since coming there; for in the course of his canvass many of the Tories had told him that on the question of free trade they were with him. (Loud cheers) In the course of any other previous canvass he had never heard Tories make such an admission. The honorable gentleman then proceeded to point out the evils which attended the present system of corn-laws, and concluded his remarks, amid loud cheering, by expressing a hope that the electors of Kendal would imitate those of Durham and London, by sending to Parliament one who was a thoroughgoing and conscientious advocate for the principles of free trade. On the motion of the Rev. Edward Hawkes, of Kendal, seconded by Mr Edward Brown, the meeting passed a resolution, pledging them to support Mr Warburton as a fit and proper person to represent the borough. After which the meeting broke up.

SALISBURY.—The vacancy occasioned in the representation of Salisbury, by the death of Mr Wadham Wyndham, is likely to give rise to a contest. The Hon. Mr Bouverie will, we believe, stand on the Liberal interest, with a better chance of success now than when he contested the seat with Mr Hussey. The constituency consists of the corporation and 627 householders, who will be able to give an additional impetus to the principles of free trade by following the example of the city of London. Mr Wyndham represented Salisbury on the Conservative interest since 1818.

IRELAND.

MEETING OF THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION—OPENING OF THE "CONCILIATION HALL."—During the last seventeen or eighteen years of agitation and excitement in Ireland, there has been rarely witnessed such a meeting as that which took place in the "Conciliation Hall" on Monday, October the 23rd, on the occasion of opening that very spacious building to the public. Sufficient time has now elapsed to ascertain the effect upon the public mind of the proclamation and the prosecutions, and the proceedings of the Government, so far from suppressing or even checking the agitation, have operated as a powerful stimulant upon the repeal movement. The "repeal rent" runs up to an enormous amount—new accessions, including the very remarkable one of Mr Smith O'Brien, are announced to the repeal ranks—in fine, the agitation has obtained new life, and a degree of importance never before known, from the coercive measures of the Government. The "Conciliation Hall" occupies a considerable extent of ground, being 60 feet in front by 100 feet in depth. The interior of the building will, when finished, have a very beautiful and striking appearance. It is entirely surrounded by a large oval gallery, divided into two parts—one towards the front being free for ladies, having the entrance in one of the front doors; and the other, to which admission is gained through the Corn Exchange, being appropriated to ladies who have paid 1*l.* to the funds of the association, or who pay 1*s.* each for admission. The proportions of the interior of the hall are extremely pleasing, and the workmanship in every part some of the most beautiful we have ever seen. The materials are, as far as possible, Irish—the stone and lime being from the neighbourhood of Dublin, and the slates from the quarries at Killaloe. The Hall, exclusive of staircases, &c., is 50 feet in breadth by 94 in length, and 30 feet in height, and will accommodate about 4,000 persons. The meeting was advertised to take place at one o'clock; but so early as eleven it was a work of great difficulty to obtain admission. An hour or two before the time of meeting the building was most densely crowded, and many thousand persons abandoned the attempt to gain admission, after a placard had been exhibited on the outside to the effect that no more persons could be allowed to enter. Shortly before one o'clock, Mr O'Connell presented himself on the platform, and was warmly applauded. The honorable gentleman said it was his pleasing duty to begin the proceedings in the Conciliation Hall, by moving that the chair be taken by John Augustus O'Neill, Esq., of Bunoowen Castle, a gentleman of the most ancient lineage, large fortune, and unquestionable patriotism. (Cheers.)—John A. O'Neill, Esq., then took the chair, amid the most enthusiastic cheering. The Chairman said he had accepted with gratitude the honour they did him in electing him as first president in the temple of the constitution, for in that hall it was its bloodless battles must be fought. (Cheers.)—Mr O'Connell then rose and said: I wish that the first sentence which I have to utter in this Conciliation Hall, formed now as it is into an assembly, shall be this truth, that there is but one way to obtain the repeal of the union, and that is by strictly peaceable means. (Cheers.) My second sentence, and the only one I shall utter before I hand in money, is that the repeal is certain. (Deafening applause.) Yes, provided you use no other but peaceable and legal means. (Hear.) Give your enemies no advantage over you. (Hear.)—Mr O'Connell then read a letter from W. S. O'Brien, M.P., giving in his adhesion to the repeal ranks. After the routine business had been gone through, Mr O'Connell addressed a few words to the association, recommending peace and quietness. The repeal cause, he said, had made a progress that had astonished him. He then announced the rent for the week to be 2,281*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* (Enthusiastic cheering.) This important meeting then adjourned to to-morrow, at ten o'clock. There was a Government reporter present during the day.

The adjourned meeting of the association was held in the Conciliation hall on Tuesday at one o'clock. Owing to the wet and boisterous state of the weather, and partly perhaps because the crowds of idle repealers had appeased their curiosity yesterday, the attendance was by no means so numerous as on the opening day. In consequence of an application from some of the reporters of the Liberal press, the gentleman who attended on the part of the Government, and who yesterday sat at the reporters' table, was placed, by order of the association, at a desk since erected outside, and distinct from the enclosure for the press, and labelled in large letters, "For the Government reporters." Inspector Maher, of the Metropolitan Police, having entered, and placed himself at the same desk, he was spoken to by Mr J. O'Connell, apparently at the request of the Government reporter, when he instantly left it and took up his position at one side of the chair. The proceedings were rendered a little novel by the attempt of a Rev. Tresham Gregg, a Protestant clergyman, to address the meeting. He was, however, handed out by Mr O'Connell's "police."—Mr O'Connell, in

his speech, attacked the *Morning Chronicle* and the Whigs; and, after routine business, the association separated till Monday.

THE STATE PROSECUTIONS.—On Wednesday the necessary licences were obtained at the Castle of Dublin for the following Queen's Counsel, who are retained for the defence, in the prosecutions instituted against Mr O'Connell and others. In each case a fee of 1*l.* 9*s.* was paid. The Right Hon. D. R. Pigott, Right Hon. R. L. Sheil; Messrs R. Moore, Henn, Whiteside, Fitzgibbon, M'Donogh, Monaghan, and Hatchell. The following members of the junior bar are also retained for the defendants:—Sir Colman O'Loughlin, Napier, Close, O'Hagan, Alexander M'Carthy, Clements, and O'Hea. In all sixteen members of the bar for the defence. It appears that the Government officers are making great efforts to accelerate the arrangements for the prosecutions, in order to ensure the trial of the traversers in the sittings after November Term, which commenced on the 27th.

THE INFORMATIONS.—CHARGE OF PERJURY.—A considerable sensation has been created by the announcement that Mr Barret, proprietor of the *Pilot* newspaper, and one of the parties implicated in the Government prosecutions, was to attend at one of the police offices this morning, for the purpose of swearing informations for alleged perjury against Mr Frederick Bond Hughes, the gentleman engaged by Government to report the proceedings at Mullaghmast, and the subsequent meetings of the Repeal Association. It appears that the Government reporter has fallen into a mistake in stating Mr Barret to be present at certain meetings. The magistrates declined to receive the informations.

MEETING OF THE DUBLIN CORPORATION.—A special meeting of the corporation was held on Friday in the City Assembly House. The chamber was crowded to excess, and amongst those who were accommodated with seats in the body of the house were several ladies.—The Lord Mayor, having read Mr O'Connell's notice of motion for "the consideration of the insult offered to his lordship and the corporation, and the danger arising to the citizens at large, by the issuing of the Government proclamation," &c., observed, that no precedents could be found to show that it had been the habit to consult the Lord Mayor on such occasions; that it had been remarked to him by the public officers to whom he had referred the subject, that the intended place of meeting (Clontarf) was out of his jurisdiction; and that he had received a letter from Lord Eliot, assuring him and the corporation that no insult whatever was intended towards them on the part of the Government, from every member of which he must say he had ever received the greatest courtesy and kindness. Having stated, in reply to Mr O'Connell, that the proclamation was sent to him from the Castle about four o'clock on Saturday evening, Mr O'Connell proceeded to comment on that fact as an additional proof of the wilful negligence of the Government in delaying the issue of that document, which indeed, he maintained, ought to have emanated, not from the Government, but the Lord Mayor. After considerable discussion, the following was carried:—"That we deem the transmission of the proclamation to the Lord Mayor at the hour of about four o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday, the 7th of October instant, directed against a meeting to be held on the ensuing day, to have been too late for the purposes of due caution, and especially too late for him to warn the citizens of Dublin of the impending peril."

SCOTLAND.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—FREE CHURCH ASSEMBLY.—At the opening of the Free Church Assembly, on Wednesday, October 18th, Dr Chalmers intimated that he had transmitted the address of the Free Church to her Majesty to the Home Secretary, immediately after the rising of the first Assembly, and that he had received the following answer from Sir James Graham:—"Whitehall, June 8, 1843: Sir, I have had the honour of receiving and laying before her Majesty the address which bears your signature, and which was transmitted by you to me. I am unwilling needlessly to refer to the late secession of a portion of the ministers from the Established Church of Scotland; but the assurance of your continued loyalty has been graciously received by her Majesty; and the Queen relies with satisfaction on the declaration which you make on behalf of the ministers and elders of a Church of Christ, that you will be steadfast in your obedience to the civil power, and that you regard that duty as demanded by the highest authority, and as due to the peace and prosperity of the nation. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant, J. R. G. Graham. To the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, Moderator, Edinburgh."

RELIGIOUS TESTS.—The University of Glasgow is taking up seriously, and in good earnest, the important subject of requiring professors, not strictly theological, to subscribe religious tests at their admission. On Friday last a series of resolutions, describing the evil effects of imposing such tests, was laid before the Senate, and the 7th of November has been fixed for discussing the subject. The resolutions have the full approbation of the Lord Rector and of the Dean of Faculties of the University, and of the greater number of the professors, so that they will be carried by a large majority, and they will be followed up by petitions to both houses of Parliament for the abrogation of the obnoxious law.

WALES.

CARDIFF SPECIAL COMMISSION.—CARDIFF COURT-HOUSE.—On Thursday the special commission appointed for the trial of prisoners accused of Rebecca offences was opened before Mr Baron Gurney and Mr Justice Cresswell. At an hour before the doors of the court were opened, there was scarcely the semblance of a crowd to be seen in the street. There was the appearance of apathy rather than of extreme interest, notwithstanding the usual bustle of a country town, always occasioned by the arrival of the judges. The place appointed for the coming trials is an extremely small and inconvenient one. At a few minutes after ten o'clock the carriages of the High Sheriff left town, for the purpose of escorting the judges to the Court house, and from the Court house to the parish church of St John's, to attend Divine service, and hear the sermon delivered upon the occasion, by the chaplain of the High Sheriff, the Rev. E. W. Richards. The counsel engaged in these trials are the Attorney-General and Mr Vaughan Williams for the Crown; and Mr M. D. Hill, Q. C., with Mr Montague Chambers, for the prisoners. Baron Gurney and Mr Justice Cresswell entered the court at half-past eleven o'clock. They were accompanied by the High and Sub-Sheriff, and immediately followed by the Marquis of Bute, Lord James Stuart, Sir John Guest, Bart., M.P., Dr Nicoll, M.P., and several of the gentry of the county. The commission having been read, the court adjourned until two o'clock. The judges then proceeded to the church, when a sermon was preached by the Sheriff's chaplain, appropriate to the occasion. On the return of the learned judges from church, the gentlemen answered to their names, and were sworn in of the grand jury with the accustomed formalities. The senior judge, Mr Baron Gurney, then proceeded to deliver his charge.

That all is not yet tranquil in Carmarthenshire the following letter will fully prove:—"Llandilo, October 22. The outbuildings of a farm called Trymynydd, about three miles from this town, in the occupation of Mr Thomas, were set on fire last night about eleven o'clock, and the whole

nearly burnt, as well as a large quantity of hay deposited in the hay-loft. There cannot be the least doubt that it was the work of incendiarism, but as yet it is not known who the parties were that set fire to the premises. The dwelling-house was saved; the outhouses being situated a little distance from it. There was also some hay, &c., in the haggard, which the Rebeccaites did not set fire to, although close to the house. A detachment of the 4th Light Dragoons, stationed in this town, proceeded to the place the moment the report reached them, but their services were of no avail in capturing the miscreants." The cause of the outrage is supposed to be this: Mr Thomas is an extensive farmer; he has not less than two or three in his own occupation, and the Rebeccaites object to any agriculturist holding more than one farm.

At a meeting of the magistrates of the county of Carmarthen, a rural police rate was agreed upon, to be levied from the people for the maintenance of special constables. Earl Cawdor, and other persons of consequence, were present. This step is certainly a most erroneous one under existing circumstances. The people complain of local burdens, and the cure proposed by these magistrates is to lay on new ones.

INDIA AND CHINA.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.—At length, after the lapse of nearly three months, we have the arrival of an overland mail, which must be a great relief to many parties who have been anxiously waiting for letters and remittances. It appears that the delay in the arrival of this mail arose from the fact, that the steamer, which started with it from Bombay on the 26th of August, encountered bad weather; and, after being at sea for eleven days, was compelled to return to port, when the mails were transhipped to another vessel, which finally sailed on the 7th of September. And, unfortunately, a further delay arose from the absence of any British steamer at Alexandria to bring on the mail on its arrival there; for it seems that the *Geyser* steamer, which was understood to have been ordered to return thither immediately after her arrival at Malta with Major Malcolm and the ratified treaty with China, did not leave Malta until the 4th instant, and then proceeded by way of Beyrout to Alexandria; which, under all the circumstances of the case, and with the great anxiety in this country for the arrival of the letters, does seem to have been a very odd sort of arrangement. The mail had consequently to be forwarded to Malta in one of the French mail steamers, and of course had to wait its time of departure, by which a loss of three days was incurred.—The political news from India by this arrival is very unimportant. The commercial intelligence is, we are glad to say, of a favourable character. The sales of manufactures have been extensive for the season of the year, and the prospects for future business are encouraging. The monsoon had been highly favourable, and abundant crops were anticipated, which would no doubt tend to the improvement of business. Owing, however, to the extreme scarcity of produce in the Bombay market the rate of exchange on England was very unfavourable, and would, for a time, operate prejudicially on parties making remittances.

The news from India is not of a remarkable kind. Tranquillity prevailed in the interior. An army of observation was, it is said, to be formed on the Sutledge, and another in the neighbourhood of Gualior; both were to be ready in the month of October. The new Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hugh Gough, would, it was stated, take the command of the former, and Sir W. Nott of the latter.

Lord Ellenborough, whose presence in Calcutta had produced the best results there, was, it is reported, to come himself to the neighbourhood of Agra Allahabad in October, in order to direct the settlement of the Gualior government.

Scinde was tranquil, and likely to continue so, unless it be disturbed by any measures ordered from London, in consequence of the misrepresentations which some blind partizans sent to England from Bombay. Sir Charles Napier had thus far regulated that conquest. The troops were healthy.

The possession of the Indus contributes also to maintain a spirit of submission in every part of India; it is regarded not only as a line of defence against the Afghans, Persians, &c., but also as a means of creating wealth; for although the districts along the Indus may not be as fertile as those by the Jumna and Ganges, they will soon repay all the losses of the campaign, if properly cultivated. The collection of the revenue is beginning, and as the chiefs have in general submitted to the British, it is thought that there will not be much difficulty in raising even a larger sum than ever was paid to the Ameers. The Bengal troops are stationed at Sukkur, and those from Bombay continue to occupy Hyderabad, Tatta, and Kurrachee, &c. It is reported that large reinforcements will be sent from both presidencies after the monsoon. The facilities of sending troops by the steamers from Bombay are very great—in less than fifteen days from starting, they could be at the capital of Scinde. The health of the troops in Scinde is now better than at any former period; the country has been overflown by the Indus, and the atmosphere is somewhat cool. It is not known if new regiments will be formed for the retention of the Scindian districts, although it cannot be denied that some regiments raised in that country would have a very good effect. There is a foolish clamour got up about the cost of the occupation of Scinde, which has not yet required any additional army, for the old Indian army has acquired and maintains it. The expense is, therefore, not to be considered as an additional one, for it was one already paid by the Indian revenue. The revenues of Scinde would defray the expenses of an additional force, and perhaps it would be otherwise useful to raise five or six regiments in that country, and to employ them elsewhere in the Bombay and Bengal presidencies.

The news from China is to the 26th of June, and contains, therefore, nothing which has not been anticipated by advices received by the *Hindustan*.

A most extraordinary discovery was effected in July last, at Bombay, of a confederacy for plundering boats, robbing ships, and smuggling goods. This gang had existed for at least a quarter of a century, in the most populous part of that town. They are also supposed to be connected with the pirates and murderers who even now so frequently commit the greatest atrocities, within almost the hail of the police and other authorities of that important naval station. No discovery was ever made of the gang until one of the accomplices gave a clue which led to the seizure of their books, and to the development of the whole system, which was organized in the most perfect manner. The police were on the traces of the malefactors; but it was feared that no conviction would take place, as most of the police-agents had been bribed by the gang, and they were throwing every obstacle in the way of having any of their accomplices punished.

THE LOSS OF THE EMIGRANT SHIP "BURHAMPOOTER."—This fine vessel, which it will be remembered was driven from her anchors whilst lying in the Margate roads on the morning of Wednesday last, during the dreadful storm, on to the rocks between the Clifton baths and Kingston, has since become a total wreck.

MISCELLANIES OF TRADE.

THE STADE DUTIES.—The negligence which the present government has displayed in reference to the duties levied by the King of Hanover on all vessels passing up the Elbe, for permission to pass his insignificant town of Stade, seems likely to produce its natural consequences. We understand that a commission, composed of deputies from the different states, interested in the navigation of the Elbe, is now sitting at Dresden; and these gentlemen are very modestly proposing to diminish the duties now levied upon colonial produce, and to make up for the deficiency by a very large increase in the duties on British yarns and manufactured goods. At present, these latter duties are levied at so much per package, whatever may be the size. The present rate on a bale of twist, weighing on an average about 1,030 lbs. is 7d., for which it is proposed to substitute a fixed rate per hundred pounds, which may be as low as 1½d. or as high as 2½d. as both those rates have been suggested. The package of manufactured goods, weighing on an average about 870 lbs., is now charged 3s. 2d.; and it is proposed to change this for a duty of 7d. or 9d. per hundred pounds weight. Suppose the duties to be raised to either of the above scales, the result would be as follows:—

1,030 lbs. of yarns, at 1½d. per 100 lbs.	1s. 3½d.
Present duty	0 7
Increase	0 8½
870 lbs. manufactured goods, at 6d. 100 lbs.	4 4½
Present duty	3 2
Increase	1 2½
Or, if the higher rate be decided on:—	
1,030 lbs. yarns, at 2½d. per 100 lbs.	1 11½
Present duty	0 7
Increase	1 4½
870 lbs. manufactured goods at 9d. per 100 lbs.	6 6½
Present duty	3 2
Increase	3 4½

It must be borne in mind, that the river Elbe, for the privilege of navigating which these duties are to be paid to the King of Hanover, is maintained in a navigable state by the city of Hamburg, and not at the expense of the Hanoverian government. We trust that immediate steps will be taken to urge our government to prevent any such scheme from being carried into execution.—*Manchester Guardian*.

STATE OF TRADE.—The recent fluctuations in the price of cotton at Liverpool have produced some effect upon this market here. The demand both for goods and yarn was limited, yesterday, and the prices showed some little unsteadiness, though the greater part of the spinners and manufacturers still decline to sell, except at the extreme rates of the last fortnight.—*Manchester Guardian* of Wednesday.

AGRICULTURAL VARIETIES.

AGRICULTURAL DINNER AT TAMWORTH.

On Tuesday the first annual dinner of the Tamworth Farmer's Club took place in the Town hall of that town. Sir R. Peel, the patron of the club, presided. In consequence of Sir Robert's late speech at Lichfield, with reference to leases, and the political events of the last few days, the number of those wishful to attend was much greater than upon ordinary occasions. About 250 gentlemen sat down to dinner. The chair was taken shortly after four o'clock.

Sir R. Peel proposed the health of the Queen, which was duly responded to. The health of Prince Albert was then drunk, with an additional cheer for his Royal Highness as "a British farmer." The hon. Baronet, after proposing prosperity to the club, and making the usual disclaimer respecting politics, said—I am a landlord, but I cannot say that I am a very good practical farmer, or one deriving much direct profit from farming. Still I hold land, and it becomes me and other landowners who have not the means of affording information to our tenants from our own practical experience—it becomes us seriously to consider what we can do to promote agriculture. It is certainly my opinion that a landlord, without having much practical knowledge, may still do much for the promotion of agriculture. I take the breeding of stock, for example—the improvement of stock, and I speak for myself, for improvement begins at home. The relation of landlord and tenant is well defined, and well understood; I speak as to my own lands—naturally I wish the prosperity of the whole district, but I have a peculiar interest in seeing my own tenants prosper. Now, I state here in the presence of my tenantry that I will do all I can to contribute to the improvement of their stock, and if a committee of the most intelligent of them will go to Birmingham, the great metropolis of this part of the country, if they will ascertain there for what description of stock there is the greatest demand—if they will ascertain what description derives the greatest improvement in feeding, or giving the greatest quantity of milk from being fed on the pastures of this district, I will, regardless of the price of the animal, introduce here the best of the breed I can find; and if it is a bull, I will give to my tenants and their cows—for the purpose of improving their stock—free access to that bull. (Loud cheers, and laughter.) This is one of the modes in which I, little conversant with agriculture, but as a landlord deeply interested in it, can perhaps do something for its promotion. (Cheers.) With respect to experiments, I have not the slightest doubt that nothing is more bewildering to the practical farmer than reading the results of those experiments. As to manures, for example, what with natural manures, patent manures, and artificial manures, he hardly knows whether it is safe to make experiments or not. He continually sees conflicting results deduced from the same series of experiments. He does not know whether these experiments have been fairly conducted. Now I say that we landlords, though we know little of agriculture, yet have it in our power to benefit our tenantry by taking the course which I am prepared to take—namely, of making experiments and exhibiting the result to all of my tenants who entertain doubts upon the subject. They will then have greater confidence in determining whether or not they will try a manure, and greater confidence in the expectations which they may entertain as to its results. (Cheers.) On a late occasion, in a neighbouring city, I took an opportunity of saying something about leases. (Hear, hear.) I said then, that the habit of this county was adverse to the practice of granting leases, but still that if any tenants of mine felt that their position would be raised—their confidence in the security of their tenure increased—were they to apply to me for an extension of the terms now generally granted, in order to have additional security as to the application of their capital—I said

then that I should be disposed to give to any such application my favourable consideration. I remain of the same opinion. I repeat the same declaration in presence of many who occupy my land. This is not a mere empty declaration, for in the case of the only application of the sort made to me I granted the required lease. The land in question was out of order, and the application was made by a new tenant. He convinced me that his object was to improve the land. He had capital—a circumstance which I think a landlord is justified in looking to. He said, "We are strangers to each other, and it will be best to have a lease." I at once gave him a lease for nineteen years—the first seven years at a reduced rent, and the remaining number of years at the same rent as heretofore paid. (Hear, hear.) That, I repeat, was the only case in which an application for a lease was made to me, and I acceded to it. (Hear, hear.) There is another subject to which I think it right to advert—another opportunity which the landlord has, although too many know but little of it—of benefiting agriculture—I allude to game. (Hear, hear.) There are few more eager sportsmen than I am; but seeing the competition to which I am convinced the farmers of this country are exposed, and to which you must look forward, I think it is the duty of every landowner to make some sacrifices of personal pleasure to enable the tenant to bear up against that competition. (Hear, hear.) I believe that the damage done by game is chiefly done by hares and rabbits. (Hear, hear.) I do not believe that the occupier of land sustains much injury from pheasants and partridges. (Hear, hear.) I have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that I shall be pleased if there is not a single rabbit on the whole of my property. (Hear, hear.) I will do all I can for their destruction, and with respect to hares I will forego the gratification of mere sport, and if any tenant informs me that the hares upon his farm are so numerous that they are doing him a serious damage, I shall at once give orders for their immediate destruction to that extent that shall satisfy him that he can in future sustain no loss in that way. (Hear, hear.) By meeting frequently together—by landlord and tenant being brought face to face, without the intervention of agents—learning each other's character, and ascertaining each other's wants, we shall not only improve the cultivation of the soil, and increase its produce; but we shall also promote and deepen those kindly feelings between landlord and tenant—which soften the gradations of society—which diminish the interval between wealth and poverty. (Cheers.) After various observations of a general nature, advising the farmers to improve their minds, suggesting plans, &c., the Prime Minister made the following important observations:—I repeat, in this so highly-favoured locality, we can have no excuse for being behind hand in the race of agricultural improvement. Besides, we have other advantages—we live in the neighbourhood of a great manufacturing district. We know what importance to us is Birmingham and the iron district. We know what an influence their state has in the demand for our produce—we have had ample experience that with the increase or decay of their prosperity there is a corresponding sympathy on the part of agriculture. We have, therefore, a district not only favoured by nature, but we have the advantage of an immense neighbouring manufacturing district, creating a market for our produce. Then, gentlemen, let us observe the progress which has been made in other less favoured spots. Depend upon it that there is room for great improvement here. I wish to pass no reflections on your skill, your industry, or your enterprise; but I should not be the true friend to you that I am did I not state my belief that there exists ample opportunity for great improvement.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

W., Blackburn.—*The quantities of foreign and colonial wheat and flour taken into consumption were—*

	wheat.	wheat flour.
1840 - - -	2,016,477 quarters	1,306,388 cwt.
1841 - - -	2,300,898 "	1,214,014 "
1842 - - -	2,667,944 "	1,125,801 "

Post-office Revenue.—*We acknowledge the numerous letters on this subject, but we are still without a sufficient reason to account for the falling off. The report of the Parliamentary Committee we expect to receive very soon, and we will publish the most interesting parts.*

R. W., Duckfield.—*The price of the ECONOMIST, including the six additional Statistical Numbers, is 16s. for six months, if paid in advance, but the Newsmen charge 1s. more, making 17s., if paid at the end of each six months. Without the Statistical Numbers the price is 13s. in advance, and 14s. credit for six months, including the Supplementary Number, with Foreign Treaties, &c.*

J. A. N., South Shields.—*The suggestion about the Tariff's had already been considered, and it is not improbable it will be complied with to follow the Treaties.*

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, October 23, 1843.

From some unexplained reason, we have not received our usual Liverpool letters this morning.

A few Cape papers have arrived, the latest of which is dated the 12th of August. There is no later intelligence of interest from Natal than that contained in the advices of the 4th of August last, received about a fortnight or three weeks ago; but it was stated that the rumour was abroad of the intention of Sir George Napier to despatch his son to the scene of disturbance, and send forward the corps of Light Infantry then stationed at Cape Town. No positive intelligence had reached head-quarters of the safe arrival of the last draught of military power at Port Natal. The Cape journals express a hope that the Boers will quietly submit to British dominion without further sacrifice of life, and be content to come in with the terms of the Government proclamation. From the frontier there is little in the shape of news. Active inquiry was being made at Bathurst into the murder of the two English settlers named Palmer and Brown, and a Caffre herdsman had been apprehended on suspicion.

It is satisfactory to observe (says the City article of the *Times*, this morning) in the speech of the Governor-General of Canada, the reference made to the loan raised in this country under the sanction of Parliament for the service of that colony. He states that great works, by the assistance of that fund, are in progress, which he believes are calculated to extend the commerce and develop the resources of that country, and increase the public revenue and general and individual wealth. In ordinary

cases loans for colonial improvement under the sanction of the Home Government are liable to many objections; but as the necessity for this arose at a time when the credit of the colony was far from being in a flourishing state, it forms a very proper exception.

Paris letters of Thursday state that nothing had occurred since the preceding day to remove the unpleasant impression prevailing respecting the situation of Italy.

At Madrid, on the 19th, the Chamber of Deputies was still engaged in scrutinizing the electoral returns of its members. Owing to the ill-will of the Opposition, who abstained from coming forward, the house could not be constituted as soon as the Ministry desired. It was resolved at the Grand Council held on the preceding day, that the majority of the Queen should be the object of a special communication to the Cortes. One of the members proposed that the majority should be declared without any discussion; but the majority rejected the proposition.

A private letter gives a very discouraging picture of the political condition of Spain, and it expresses, we believe truly, the feelings and opinions of the Spanish Liberal party, who have been placed in a minority in the Cortes by most unconstitutional means.

COMMERCIAL TREATY.—It is said that the Zoll Verein has accomplished one of its favourite projects, a treaty of commerce with the United States, the Belgian Consul having received official information of the fact. Perhaps this statement may be premature, but we believe it to be correct that negotiations have been carried on to that end. The importance of such a treaty is to be estimated in more than one point, not the least obvious of which is the tendency it must have to force the Hanse towns into the German confederacy, as by the new treaty an immense quantity of colonial produce would be received through Antwerp, to the direct loss of the Baltic free towns, and of Holland. In fact, with respect to the latter country, its neighbouring rival seems to tread somewhat closely upon its heels, what with its treaties, its railways, and its active inquiries after foreign markets. If, however, Belgium desires to reap the full advantage of these circumstances, a modification of its excessive tariff ought to be a primary consideration, and to this France may possibly step in as a check.—*Leeds Mercury.*

LEEDS.—HEALTH OF TOWNS.—Mr Smith, of Deanstown, near Glasgow, (celebrated as the inventor of the sub-soil plough, and as the great promoter of draining in agriculture) who is now a member of the Government Commission to inquire into the Health of Towns, was in Leeds yesterday, in company with Mr Edwin Chadwick, the secretary of the Poor Law Commission. By invitation of the Mayor, several gentlemen assembled in the Council Room at the Court-house, to confer with Mr Smith and Mr Chadwick; and arrangements were made for obtaining information concerning the sewerage of the town, the habitations of the poor, the health of the inhabitants, &c. Among the gentlemen present were W. Beckett, Esq., M.P., E. Baines, Esq., J. G. Marshall, Esq., and many members of the Town Council, as well as medical men.—*Leeds Mercury.*

The Economist.

OCTOBER 28, 1843.

The leading event of the week—giving of course due precedence to rank and station—has been the visit of her Majesty and Prince Albert to the University of Cambridge. The university and the city—"gown and town"—were dutifully loyal on the occasion; her Majesty gazed on the magnificent and almost unique architecture of King's Chapel; saw what was worth seeing; and had the gratification of being present when her husband was dubbed a Doctor of Law. It is very possible that the honour has been frequently less appropriately applied; but nevertheless it suggests an odd idea, not in the least mitigated by the information that some of the young wags amongst the gownsmen kept bawling out—"Doctor Albert!"

Who can deny that Free Trade is now literally going forth, "conquering and to conquer?" The whole week has been one continued manifestation of its triumphs in the public mind. The return of Mr Pattison—the admissions of Sir Robert Peel at the Tanworth agricultural dinner—the meetings, with the accounts of which our columns this week are crowded—the forthcoming elections—are all so many demonstrations that the question is now reaching the point of victory.

We regret our inability to report as largely as we could wish some of the speeches delivered at these meetings, for really some of them are exceedingly interesting. That by Mr Cobden, at Manchester, on Thursday week, was particularly good—we should say one of his best. Those also delivered at Covent Garden Theatre, on Thursday last, were up to the mark. We give, besides, an account of some of the meetings in the provinces, especially that at Durham on Tuesday, rendered interesting by the adventures of an old farmer, who, though somewhat roughly used at the meeting, very good-humouredly made his appearance at the dinner, and added his testimony to the fact, that the existing protective system was decidedly injurious to those for whose special benefit it is said to have been devised.

The elections are another element in the movement. The majority of the electors of Kendal have decided on selecting Mr Warburton as their representative for the present vacancy; and the other candidates promptly bowed to the decision. Kendal, which was enfranchised by the Reform Act, has never yet been disturbed by a contested election. It is now, however, threatened by one. A Mr Bentinck, who, at the last general election appeared in opposition to the late Mr G. W. Wood, but who found it expedient to retire before the day of nomination, has now made his appearance again. We do not suppose that he has the slightest chance of success. In such a borough, a canvass is a pretty decisive test.

Salisbury is also vacant, by the death of Mr Wadham Wyndham; and for this borough the Hon. Edward Bouverie, a son of the Earl of Radnor, has started. Salisbury and Mr Bouverie are not unacquainted; and he will probably, on this occasion, have again to encounter those class interests, prejudices, and even passions, which he unsuccessfully

assailed before. It is not only adverse to our feelings, but contrary to the principle on which the *Economist* is conducted, to make it the medium of praising any individual whatever, unless it be for unequivocal and deserved exertions in aid of the general good. Nevertheless, we feel constrained to say, on this occasion, what we conscientiously think, that Mr Bouverie would be a valuable addition to the House of Commons. He is a young man, unassuming in his personal habits, of very considerable literary taste and general ability; is clear and decided in his political opinions; and, like his father, who has so long laboured in the cause of free trade, has made up his mind unequivocally on economical subjects. Young men of his stamp are needed in the House of Commons.

Mr O'Connell has, apparently, recovered from the fright into which the Government prosecution seemed to have thrown him. He talks, once more, with his wonted vigour, while his oratory is not the less racy, that it is copiously besprinkled with vituperation.

One particular cause of his irritation is this. Two letters appeared in the *Morning Chronicle*, signed "Philethes," and purporting to be from an Englishman, who had recently travelled over Ireland with the special purpose of studying the causes, the extent, and the probable consequences of the repeal agitation. The letters were remarkable, and were generally quoted by the press, metropolitan and provincial. In many cases, we think the writer to have been sufficiently credulous for shrewd Irishmen to hoax, and also to be materially mistaken in many of his inferences. Nevertheless, he drew a sufficiently alarming picture, bearing, to English eyes, the marks of accuracy, and which was not altogether flattering to Mr O'Connell and the Roman Catholic priests. These letters, according to Mr O'Connell, turn out to have been written by Mr Trevillyan, Secretary to the Treasury, and a brother-in-law of Mr Macaulay. Their appearance was so far inopportune for Mr O'Connell, as they aided in justifying the Government in the step which it had taken. He, therefore, very heartily abuses the Whigs, and mixes up with it a personal attack on the chief proprietor and the editor of the *Morning Chronicle*. He also rather sneers at Mr Sturge, and his offer of sympathy in obtaining a federal parliament, though at first he seemed to patronise the idea. Altogether, Mr O'Connell is in a position not very pleasant to contemplate, isolating himself from all English sympathy, and depending alone on an excited multitude, whom he finds it at least a task to control.

His only chance of escape is that the Government prosecution will break down. For this, some ground is afforded by the fact, that the reporter employed by the Government has blundered, in swearing to the presence of Mr Barrett, the editor of the *Pilot*, at certain meetings, at which, it appears, he did not show himself. This, of course, creates a legal or technical difficulty, and makes one distrustful. But if the objects and language of Mr O'Connell, in relation to the Repeal of the Union, be seditions, then he has said enough and done enough to ensure a conviction. Indeed, we have been long of opinion, that the extravagance of Mr O'Connell's language has so completely overstepped the wariness of his nature, that it could be accounted for in no other way than that he found himself in a whirlpool, out of which he could only be taken by a Government prosecution. The worst of it is, that the imprisonment of Mr O'Connell will not quiet Ireland nor diminish his influence; personally, he may dislike, at his age, and under present circumstances, to be confined in a prison; but it would not do to treat him there with any indignity, while the mere fact of his imprisonment will divert the attention of the Irish people from his position in relation to repeal, to his position in relation to the Government. Again, were the prosecution to break down, it would give such a triumph to Mr O'Connell as might shake the Ministry—so that, either way, it is an awkward affair. Meantime the repeal agitation is increasing in intensity and power.

Matters in Wales are now taking a formal and deliberate turn. On Wednesday last the Government commission of inquiry was opened at Carmarthen. This most important commission is appointed for a full inquiry into the causes of the discontent and outrages in South Wales, and the proceedings at which, as far as they are known to the public, have excited very considerable interest.

On Wednesday the Right Hon. T. F. Lewis and Mr W. Cripps, accompanied by the Secretary to the Commission (Mr G. K. Rickards), entered the Town hall, and took their seats on the bench. Among the gentlemen present were Colonel Trevor, M.P., Vice-Lieutenant of the county, Mr D. Morris, M.P., Dr Jones, Captain Phillips, Dr Lawrence, the Mayor of Carmarthen, Dr Bowen, Captain Scott, &c.

The court being opened, the Right Hon. Chief Commissioner proceeded to read her Majesty's commission, and, having finished, addressed his audience relative to its nature and objects.

The special commission for the trial of prisoners has also commenced its labours at Cardiff. The result will be given next week.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The *Journal du Havre* publishes a letter of thanks from the British consul at that place to the numerous persons, French and English, who had humanely assisted in preserving the lives of the crews of the English vessels, three in number, recently wrecked off that coast, and subsequently provided for their wants.

The deposits withdrawn from the Paris savings bank on the 22nd and 23rd inst. exceeded the receipts by 29,631 francs; the sums withdrawn amounting to 704,000 francs, whilst the deposits were only to the amount of 674,369 francs. "As the demand for repayments has continued now for some weeks to exceed the deposits in the savings banks," observes our correspondent, "I fear it must be held to prove the continued increase of distress among the lower classes."—*Times*.

SPAIN.

The Cortes was opened at Madrid on the 15th. Senor de Onis was elected president of the Senate, and several other sessional appointments

followed, but no business was transacted. As yet order has not been disturbed in the capital. The cruel, disgraceful, and heart-hardening custom of bull-fighting is still in full strength in Spain, as was evidenced on the 13th, when the present governors of the young Queen and her sister deemed it right that they should be present at a scene of the kind. "The sight," says one account, "was magnificent. Eight bulls were killed, and twelve horses remained on the ground gored and disembowelled." It has been remarked that these abominable spectacles have no slight influence in causing that callous disregard of bloodshed, which forms one of the characteristics of this distracted nation. The Ex-Regent Christina, to do her justice, did not patronise such scenes; nor did her successor, Espartero, countenance them. The initiation of the Queen Isabella into the mysteries of bull-fighting was left for Narvaez and Lopez to effect. It is thought to be a stroke of policy on their part, and one intended to gain the hearts of the populace. A Madrid correspondent of the *Times* would also lead us to believe that the *ruse* succeeded perfectly. The young Queen charmed the hearts of the entire public, it is said, by the evident delight with which she witnessed the mutilations and massacres of the occasion. It is painful to think of so young a creature taking interest in such an exhibition of the kind, and of such a lesson of blood being taught to a powerful sovereign, who may have the lives of a whole people ere long at her command.

Accounts from Madrid of the 17th inst. state that the Chamber of Deputies was still engaged in preliminary arrangements; 128 members were already at their posts, but 81 only had as yet been sworn in. The Ministry expected that the house would be definitively constituted in the course of the ensuing week.

ITALY.

A letter from Bologna of the 15th inst. states that fresh disturbances had taken place in that city and its neighbourhood. In the evening of the 3rd the populace came to blows with the Carbineers and Swiss in the streets of Borgo, San Pietro, and San Donato. Four soldiers and a workman were dangerously wounded. The Swiss having given way, a troop of dragoons was immediately sent to the assistance of the Carbineers, and soon restored order. On the 8th several military posts were attacked in the lower city. Similar outbreaks were said to have occurred in other parts of the province, and Cardinal Spinola was so much alarmed at the hostile dispositions evinced by the Bolognese, that he applied for a leave of absence and quitted the city. The prisons of Bologna contained 70 political offenders, and 50 more were detained at Pesaro until they could be safely removed to fort San Leo. It was reported that in a recent congregation of Cardinals, held at Rome, to consider the situation of the legations, Cardinal Beruilli recommended that concessions be made to the people and a general amnesty granted to all persons implicated in political conspiracies since 1831. This proposition, however, was rejected by the almost unanimous vote of the assembly.

We are led to suppose (says the *Times* of yesterday) by information which has reached us from Vienna, that Count Radetzky, at the head of a detachment of about 4,000 Austrian troops, has ere this entered the Papal territories. The disturbances which have lately broken out in the legations have forcibly attracted the attention of the Cabinet not only of Vienna, but of Turin and Florence, to a state of things pregnant with danger to their own states and to the general peace of Italy. An active exchange of couriers has consequently taken place between these three Courts within the last few weeks; and the result is said to be a joint determination on the part of the Austrian and Piedmontese Governments to intervene in support of the Papal authority against the revolutionary movements of the republican party, but with an express stipulation that the Pope shall forthwith consent to those administrative reforms in his dominions without which no permanent tranquillity can be maintained in Italy.

NAPLES.

The *National* announces that the Sicilian sulphur question is terminated. The indemnity to the British merchants has been fixed by a special commission at 130,000 Neapolitan ducats. The merchants demanded that this sum, which it was expected would not be paid for several years, should bear an interest of 6 per cent. The Neapolitan Government then determined to pay in cash. The King of Naples, as his subjects are well aware, is never embarrassed when he wishes to fill his treasury. A trifling speculation in corn which he is accustomed to make in Sicily, or a tax under the pretence of making roads, and the necessary number of ducats will easily be collected.

Government, we understand, is now occupied with the establishment of a regular line of steam-boats between Naples and Ancona, which will touch at Messina, Tarentum, Gallipoli, Bari, Barletta, and Manfredoni, and correspond with the steamers belonging to the Austrian Lloyd's Company which leave Trieste. For this purpose, the Neapolitan Government are now constructing three large steam-vessels, and a fourth will shortly be laid down. This line will commence running in January next.

GREECE.

The *Semaphore de Marseilles* contains a letter from a correspondent at Athens, dated 30th ult., mentioning that the Russians were disappointed by the pacific issue of the late revolution, and were determined, in order to attain their ends, to throw the country into anarchy, and compel the King to retire. The writer, however, reckons too much on the good sense of the people to suppose that they can be the dupes of Russian intrigue, and trusts that the union of England and France, which must be rendered more intimate by the position assumed by Russia, will bring the Greek nation safely through its difficulties.

POLAND.

The *Prussian State Gazette* publishes the following ukase relating to the Jews of Poland, dated the 26th of September:—

"From the 1st of January, 1844, the Israelites of the empire shall be subject to military service, according to the following regulations:—

"The Israelites shall be subject to military service for a period of from twenty to twenty-five years. Even married men must serve if there cannot be found a sufficient number of unmarried men to form the contingent.

"In case of contravention the refractory conscripts may be condemned to remain in the army during thirty-five years.

"The Israelites may provide substitutes, but those who shall desert shall be replaced by others from the same commune.

"In consequence of this decree the sum of 105,299 silver roubles, which the Israelites pay annually towards the recruiting service, is suppressed.

"The Governor and Council of Administration are charged with the execution of the present ordinance. "N. NICOLAS."

CANADA.

By the packet-ship which left New York on the 2nd instant, we have received one day's later intelligence from the United States than was brought by the mail-packet. Its chief importance is the speech of Sir C.

Metcalf, on opening the Parliament of Canada. The 1st of October falling on Sunday, we have no fresh commercial news.

The following note has been communicated to the *Augsburg Gazette*:—"Lord Aberdeen having demanded of M. Guizot whether he had any intention to reconquer St Domingo, the Minister replied in the most satisfactory terms."

The opening of the last portion of the Belgic-Prussian Railroad, that between Verviers and Aix-la-Chapelle, was celebrated with public rejoicings last week, at Cologne, Brussels, and other towns. Within the space of ten years a net work of railways has been spread over Belgium, connecting the south, the north, the east, and the west, with each other; and by the works just finished, this system of railways has been extended to the Rhine. The traveller can now land at Ostend, and proceed by an unbroken line of railway to Cologne. The distance is pretty nearly 200 English miles, and with good arrangements may be passed over in ten hours. In this way a tedious steam navigation of 35 or 40 hours up the Rhine, with the chance of being stranded on sandbanks, may be avoided; and invalids will have the further advantage of breaking the journey into short stages, and taking intervals of rest at pleasure. In a commercial view the importance of this railway is immense. Holland, from her geographical position commands all the mouths of the Rhine, and was thus able to lay the intercourse of southern Germany with the sea under burdensome restrictions, which enabled her to retain what was almost a monopoly of the trade in her own hands. This monopoly will now be at an end. The trade has found a new channel, which the Dutchman's cupidity and jealousy cannot interrupt. The fabrics of Glasgow and Manchester, the wines of Bourdeaux, the raw cotton of America, the sugar and coffee of Brazil, will be carried, with the speed of light, from the shores of Flanders to the Rhine, and thence spread over all western and southern Germany to the borders of Switzerland. The whole expense of the united lines from Ostend to Cologne must have been very great, probably three or four millions. The western part, as far as Louvain, is very level; but the eastern passes over lofty and uneven ground, and presented great engineering difficulties. The summit level, near Aix-la-Chapelle, attains the elevation of 836 feet above the sea.

FREE-TRADE MOVEMENTS.

THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

The monthly aggregate meeting of the National Anti-Corn-law League was held on Thursday evening at Covent Garden Theatre.

The enthusiasm with which the recent glorious triumph of the cause of free trade over monopoly in the City of London had inspired the minds of the members of the League, by whose unparalleled exertions that triumph was mainly achieved, rendered this, their first aggregate meeting since the return of Mr Pattison, more than usually interesting and attractive. Every available part of the house was occupied, even to an inconvenient degree, and the platform was crowded throughout its whole extent, many ladies being on this occasion accommodated with seats amidst the members of the council and the stewards. At the back of the stage there was a transparency with the following inscription in large letters, "Honour to the citizens of London! Justice and Free Trade have triumphed!"

George Wilson, Esq., took the chair at seven o'clock precisely. He and the whole of the council were received with repeated rounds of applause on taking their places on the platform.

When the cheering had subsided, the Chairman said—Ladies and gentlemen, you will very readily anticipate that the first business of this meeting will be to congratulate ourselves, and to congratulate the friends of free trade, upon that splendid victory which has been achieved by the enlightened electors of London, over the combined forces of monopoly on Saturday last. (Cheers.) It is impossible to over-rate that victory. (Cheers.) The eyes of all England were directed towards the men of London. (Cheers.) There was no effort spared which the monopolists or the administration could use to secure the return of Mr Baring. (Cries of "shame!") But it has been found that by the largest jury to which a great public question was ever submitted for a verdict, the verdict has gone against monopoly. (Cheers.) It is due from us on this occasion towards the immediate instruments by whom this victory was achieved that we make our acknowledgments to them, and first to the candidate himself, Mr Pattison. (Loud applause.) He has been explicit from the first. He has been a free trader—not in the abstract. (Laughter.) They had the advantage of being presided over by Mr Travers (loud cheering), a gentleman in every respect well deserving of their esteem and confidence. They have succeeded in their exertions, and the reward be to them accordingly. (Great applause.) It is amusing to notice the various reasons assigned by Mr Baring's friends for his defeat. They are forgetful that in assigning so many they contradict each other, and make each other look ridiculous. (Laughter.) It is sufficient for us to know that he has polled more than ever will be polled again by any man who comes forward on his principles, and that to the 6,532 electors who voted for Mr Pattison the country is under everlasting obligations. (Cheers.) It is impossible to do justice to the efforts which were made on Saturday last. The citizens of London—the most powerful and influential constituency in the empire—took up the mace of the giant and gave a blow to monopoly under which it may reel and stagger, but from which it is impossible it can ever recover. (Cheers.)

Mr Sydney Smith then announced that addresses had been received from the following places, thanking the citizens of London for having done their duty in returning Mr Pattison at the late city election, namely:—Winchester, Brighton, Leeds, Beverley, Boston, South Shields, Bridgewater, Newark, Halifax, Newport (Isle of Wight), Carlisle, Kendal, Rochdale, Bradford (Yorkshire), Barnard Castle, King's Lynn, Manchester; seventeen in all.

Mr Villiers, who was received with cheers, said—The chairman has requested me to open the discussion which has been appointed for this evening. I presume he has done so on a principle that is sometimes acted upon in this place on other occasions, namely, that when several pieces are to be acted on the same evening, not to give the best first (a laugh), and generally one that is short. (Laughter.) You will be addressed this evening by gentlemen of great power, who are more accustomed to address such imposing assemblages as the present than myself, and I can assure the chairman that I shall this evening fully satisfy the conditions of the rule. (Hear, hear.) But I am in hopes that we are near the time when none of us need be long. (A laugh.) There is something like day now breaking on this cause, and a prospect is opened of a termination of all this toil. (Hear, hear.) I think the chairman, when he named his plan, a few weeks since, of holding these meetings, in order to familiarize the public with the arguments on which he rests his case, hardly knew what aptitude there was among his London scholars to be instructed, how

informed they were already, and how ready they were to do their duty with honour to themselves when submitted to rigid trial. (Cheers.) I must say that this is not the time, if we are sincere in the cause, to withdraw our aid and good wishes from the League; they who do so could be justly charged with belonging to those who would shrink or turn from the reality of that for which they are contending. We have heard of principles in the abstract; now these seem to me to be patriots in the abstract (loud laughter); and they have no reason to join the League, for I will say that if ever a body manifested by zeal and perseverance that they were sincere, it is the League. (Cheers.) They have no disguise—they have broadly avowed their object, and they apply themselves like men of business to the readiest mode of accomplishing it (hear, hear); and certainly we in Parliament, who have been toiling in this matter for seven years past, and unceasingly calling for help from without, declaring that we were knocking our heads in vain against a dull thick wall within, if outward support was withheld, should be inconsistent if, when the spirits we had invoked had arisen, we should repudiate their assistance. (Hear, hear.) This is in truth a question that must be carried out of the house before it is carried within it. (Cheers.) I do not say, as it was said by Lord Chatham of the unreformed house, that if it was not speedily reformed from within, that it would be reformed with a vengeance from without (hear, hear), because I believe that the League will succeed, and its intention was to appeal to reason and not to passion (Cheers.) Personally, he had nothing to say against Mr Baring; he believed him to be a man of great private worth, and much esteemed by his friends (hear, hear), but he did hope that as long as he identified himself with monopoly, and assigned such a reason for doing so, he would experience the same fate as had met him last week. (Loud cheers.) I am not saying that agitation is a good thing in itself—I hate it myself as I hate physic (a laugh); but it is not because I dislike the remedy that I am to endure the disorder. (Hear, hear.) There is a certain baronet in the house, a member for the county of Essex (laughter), who was ever taunting me with the inutility of my efforts to get the corn laws repealed, and I remember, little more than a year since, he told me that if I went just out of the house and preached the doctrine of free trade to the cabmen in Palace yard, that I should find that they did not understand me; or if they did, they would not agree with me; and I did not venture to dispute the fact, for I thought it very likely he might have some friends on the stand. (Loud laughter and cheers.) But what have I seen since? Why, this very gentleman, in the confidence that the farmers were proof against books and speeches, encouraged a meeting to be held in his own county, and defied the free traders to shake the men of Essex. (Laughter.) Why, I witnessed this myself. This unfortunate member, after making a long speech on the blessings of monopoly, and showing the farmers how it was that that did them good, have the mortification of seeing Mr Cobden pull a resolution from his pocket to the effect that monopoly had never done the farmers good, that all monopolies were bad, and that they ought to be abolished forthwith, and see it unanimously carried by the farmers and people assembled in the county town (loud cheers); and I do not remember ever to have seen my friend Sir John Tyrrell since in the house (laughter); but that is not a solitary instance. I think I have seen that in twenty-five counties similar resolutions have been carried. (Cheers.) Well, what is this but sign of progress? (Hear, hear.) And if it should continue will render success certain (hear, hear); and I want to know how anybody who wishes success, thus justifies himself in not wishing well to the League, and in not encouraging their efforts? (Hear, hear.) Similar associations have succeeded before, and have been necessary before, for all the eloquence and argument in Parliament will go for nothing when men are interested within and ignorant without. (Cheers.) Why all that eloquence and argument could do in the house was attempted for twenty-five years in favour of religious liberty, and though men like Grattan and Canning and Grenville and Grey were entitled to the gratitude of all good men for their efforts, yet it was not till the Catholic Association was formed that the efforts of patriotic men had any practical effect. (Hear, hear.) Does any body believe that but for the efforts of the League that the glorious event which was declared in the Guildhall the other day would have occurred? I do not deprive the electors themselves of any of the honour or the virtue of their conduct, in what I say of the efforts of the League. All honour is due to the citizens for the decision they have given; but the labours of the League were directed to make them see the case clearly that they had to decide. (Hear, hear.) Well, but if the League was the cause of this important event, and that the event is the most advantageous that has yet occurred to the cause, why should they be attacked for interference, or have any credit withheld from them? (Hear, hear.) As a friend of free trade, I shall ever feel thankful for the exertion they made on the occasion, for it is not only that they have sent an honest and independent man to Parliament, but it is the great moral effect in the world, and in the country, for which I value so much the event. (Cheers.) And I am sure that everywhere blessings will be deservedly invoked upon the intelligent, spirited, noble-hearted citizens who have achieved this victory for humanity. (Loud and continued cheers.)

Dr Bowring was then called upon by the chairman, and having been loudly cheered, briefly addressed the meeting on the general principles of free trade.

The Chairman then introduced Mr Milner Gibson, M.P., to the meeting. Mr Milner Gibson advanced to the table amid the most enthusiastic cheering from all parts of the theatre. He said—Sir, I recollect that only three years ago it was somewhat difficult to collect a small knot of individuals at a public meeting to hear the cause of free trade discussed, and when I now consider that the largest theatre in this metropolis is filled to its utmost extent, and that thousands have been refused admission, not only to discuss the principles of free trade, but to congratulate the cause on a triumph in what has been called a stronghold of monopoly, I am indeed astonished at the progress this movement has made in so short a period of time. (Cheers.) Is it possible that any public question at this moment could draw so large an assemblage of intelligent and of respectable persons together as the question of free trade? Is there a room, I say, large enough in this metropolis—is there a room large enough in the United Kingdom—to hold those who would willingly come and bear testimony to the cause of commercial freedom? and I fear small indeed will be that apartment—diminutive indeed that room—"less," as mathematicians say, "than anything that can be assigned," that would hold the voluntary supporters of scarcity and monopoly. (Loud cheering.) I observe by a paragraph in the *Morning Post*, that in consequence of the Anti-Corn-law League holding its discussions within the walls of this house, her Majesty the Queen and the Queen Dowager have withdrawn their orders for private boxes from Mr Wallack. (Cries of "It's not true;" "no, no;" and "hear, hear.") Ladies and gentlemen, her Majesty and the Queen Dowager know nothing of this—it is an attack of the Ministers; but what a shabby petty warfare is this! If the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-law League were illegal, the administrators of the law might have legally interfered with the proceedings of this society. (Cheers.) But

they are not illegal. (Loud Cheers.) We have a right to free discussion: by the exposure of public abuse, public abuse will be redressed, and this attempt to injure the proprietor of this theatre for allowing the free discussion of a public question within its walls, is, I assert here in the presence of you all, and I would do so in the presence of Conservatives, if they were here, a shabby, petty, and unworthy warfare, and one which ought to be met with a frown of indignation by the whole community of this metropolis. [The audience here rose *en masse*, and cheered the speaker for several minutes.] Now, the Premier himself, in his agricultural speech at Tamworth, though he tells us upon other occasions that we must not be dependent on foreign countries for supplies of food, he yet tells us that we must increase the growth of corn by the importation of a certain artificial manure, called guano. Now this guano comes from abroad, so that though it would be dangerous to be dependent for corn itself, it is perfectly safe to be dependent for the guano which is to produce the corn itself. (Laughter and loud cheering.) I have no doubt, ladies and gentlemen, if the corn laws were repealed, that there would be a very great stimulus to agricultural improvement, and that the productions of this kingdom would be so considerably increased that, perhaps, there would not be so large an importation of foreign corn as many imagine. This, I believe. I believe, also, that the repeal of the corn laws would give general prosperity to this kingdom, and that the farmers—ay, and the landholders themselves—would share in that general prosperity. (Hear, hear.) When I thought of Mr Baring's placards, I asked myself, "Can a man pretend to get the support, in the nineteenth century, of such an intelligent body as the electors of London by such clap-traps as these?"—"Baring, the supporter of the wooden walls of Old England!" Rather say, "The wooden heads of Old England." (Loud and long-continued cheering.) Yes, he is the strong supporter of that respectable class, and, unfortunately, that class has had too much power in the Legislature, and it is this very corn law which has given them that power; for had you free trade in this country, were the commercial classes in that position which their industry and enterprise entitles them to hold, they would soon rival the landed proprietors in political and social power, and we should no longer have that ascendancy of "the wooden heads of Old England," which Mr Baring would have gone to Parliament to support. Let the Legislature know that you are conscious of your rights as free citizens of England—that you will be placed on the same social footing as the most favoured in the land, or at any rate that you will have no acts of Parliament to place you in a secondary position in the social scale. (Hear.) Demand the full reward of your own industry, and if you show yourselves to be in earnest,—speaking in a tone of fearless sincerity—depend upon it your voices will not be disregarded. (Cheers.) Experience has shown that the voice of the people is not to be disregarded, when it is known that they have been moved to utter that voice by a consciousness of the justice of their cause. (Cheers.) The honourable member resumed his seat amid the most enthusiastic plaudits.

The Chairman here said that he had to introduce an active and efficient member of Mr Pattison's committee. This gentleman would have to make an important communication.

Mr Heppel then came forward, and was received with much cheering. He said he had received a letter from Mr Travers, regretting his inability to attend the meeting, but enclosing 100*l.*, being his contribution towards the 100,000*l.* which the League would raise, as a pledge of his willingness to give the cause something more than his personal exertions. (Great cheering.)

Mr R. R. Moore (who upon rising was received with loud cheers) addressed the meeting with his accustomed energy. In reference to the pending election at Salisbury, the learned gentleman said—But we have another contest before us. The death of Mr Wyndham, one of the members for Salisbury, has caused a vacancy in the representation of that city. Many circumstances might deter us from taking any part in that election. The city of Salisbury is greatly under the influence of the dignitaries of the cathedral, and the parsons of the neighbourhood. (Laughter.) In that respect it is somewhat like Durham. In the last contest the anti-monopoly candidate was defeated, and by a large majority, in that constituency. We are told that what is called the screw is very freely used at Salisbury during an election; that every effort is made to compel electors to vote for the monopolists; that there are a few, too, who can be bought, and who have always been purchased; but with all these difficulties against us the League has determined to contest Salisbury. (Loud cheers.) The candidate selected is the Hon. Edward Bouverie, the second son of Lord Radnor. You are aware all of you that that nobleman is a large subscriber annually to the League—that he is thoroughly with us, has spoken at our meetings, and has brought forward this question again and again in the House of Lords—that he is one of the men who would be noble in any rank. (Cheers.) We will take the same course in Salisbury that was taken in Durham, and which we took here; we will hold meeting after meeting, in doors and out of doors, in the evening and in the morning, and I will venture to say we shall collect the electors so often together, that the monopolist shall not find them at home when they go to canvass them. (Laughter and cheers.) We will do all that speaking and printing can do for the people of Salisbury. We go there strengthened by your success; we go to Salisbury fearless—strong in the justice of our cause and its simplicity, resolved to do our utmost, and leave the result to the convictions of the electors of that city. (A voice: "What do you say about Kendal?") Why, the canvass has been completed, and two-thirds of a constituency, who never yet broke their faith at the poll, have pledged themselves to vote for Mr Warburton; and they support him purely as a free trader. Mr Moore concluded a most eloquent and argumentative speech, which occupied an hour and a half in the delivery, amidst the prolonged cheering of the meeting, by whose applause he had been frequently interrupted.

The Chairman then came forward, and stated that he would not continue the proceedings of the meeting a moment longer, and stated that on the 30th of November he hoped again to meet them within the walls of that theatre, and till then, he wished to say "farewell."

Three cheers were then given for Mr Bouverie and the electors of Salisbury, and the meeting separated.

DURHAM COUNTY AND THE CORN LAWS.

(Abridged from the *Gateshead Observer*, Oct. 28th.)

The county of Durham has "pronounced" against the Bread Monopoly. On Tuesday, in the afternoon, a public meeting was held in the market place of the cathedral city, at which about 2,000 persons were present. It was not market day, and therefore, although there was a considerable sprinkling of farmers in the crowd, the number was not so great as at Alnwick. The weather, too, was unfavourable. There was more than a "considerable sprinkling" of rain; a heavy shower was falling during nearly the whole of the proceedings.

Mr W. Shields (illness detaining the Mayor at home) was now called to the chair by common consent, and briefly opened the business of the day.

Mr Bright, M.P., first addressed the meeting, and was warmly received by his constituents, and the other persons present.

Mr Cobden, M.P., followed, and spoke with his usual power and effect. While Mr Bright and Mr Cobden were speaking, Mr Williamson, of Seaton Carew, an elderly farmer, put several questions to them, such as "Could the manufacturer do without the farmer?" and "What is the cause of monopolies?" He was not altogether satisfied with the answers which he received, and persisted in interrupting the speakers, although requested to defer his inquiries until they were done. At length, a rude fellow in the crowd knocked his hat over his eyes. The gentlemen on the hustings rebuked the "Lynch lawyer;" and the Rev. Mr Tyson, of Merrington, who was standing near the farmer, called for the interposition of the police.

Order having been restored, the business of the meeting proceeded; but, in a short time, Mr Williamson renewed his interruptions, and continued them until the crowd became impatient, and, by a process familiar to the majesty of the people, rolled a resistless wave against the offending farmer, and swept him to the outskirts of the meeting. This rough remedy completely cured the evil: the proceedings were not again disturbed.

Gerard Salvin, Esq., of Croxdale hall, a landowner and farmer, moved a resolution, declaring the corn laws to be injurious to the farmer and farm-labourer, and asserting the propriety of abolishing all "protective" laws.

Mr Walton, of Lunley, a tenant farmer, seconded the resolution, which was put to the vote, and carried unanimously.

Thanks were given to the chairman, and "three times three" for corn-law repeal, and for Messrs Bright and Cobden. The people, who had never flinched during the rain, then dispersed, in various directions, to places of shelter; and, in the evening, a party of about fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner at Mr Thwaites's, the Waterloo Tavern.

Mr Gerard Salvin took the chair, and Mr Nicholas Oliver the vice-chair. On the right of Mr Salvin sat Mr Bright, M.P., Mr George Crawshaw, of the firm of Hawks, Crawshaw, and Co., Gateshead, and Mr Joseph Watson, of Newcastle;—on his left, Mr Cobden, M.P., Mr Henry Ashworth, of Bolton, Mr Henry Pease, of Darlington, and Mr William Shields, of Durham. We observed besides, Messrs Granville Ward, Henry Taylor, J. and W. Marshall, John Dunn, Emerson Muschamp, H. Hills, H. Oxley, and—Cocken. To our surprise, we saw also the Seaton farmer, Mr Williamson, who had been so roughly handled in the market place. His presence made much merriment among the free traders, who looked upon him as the last man that could have been expected to join them at dinner.

The repast was of the style of excellence which always characterizes Mr Thwaites's establishment, and it was served up with every attention to the comfort of the company.

On the removal of the cloth, and when the loyal toasts had been given and duly honoured, the Chairman gave the healths of Messrs Cobden, Bright, and Ashworth.

The toast was drunk with three times three enthusiastic cheers. Mr Ashworth was the first to respond to the compliment. In the course of his speech, he alluded to the return of Mr Bright for Durham, and of Mr Pattison for London, and was loudly applauded. He also spoke of the meeting of the previous day (Monday) at Cockerthorpe—which, he stated, was numerously attended, and went off with great spirit. The chair was filled by Sir Wilfred Lawson, Bart., the largest landowner (save one) in the county of Cumberland. Five ex-sheriffs were present, and fourteen or fifteen magistrates; and notwithstanding the interference of an anti-machinery missionary, of the same school as the "Manchester Packer," the meeting decisively declared against the iniquitous corn laws. (Applause.)

Mr Cobden, who was the last to rise, was also hailed with hearty plaudits, and, in the course of his address, drew a picture of republican Switzerland, and traced its prosperity mainly to its wise adoption of the free-trade principle. He afterwards, in speaking of the suicidal simplicity of the English farmers, cast a sly glance at Mr Williamson, and alluded to the events of the afternoon.

"You mistake me! you mistake me!" exclaimed Mr Williamson: "the only fault I have against you is, that you don't go far enough. I agree with you that the corn laws are bad, and cannot be too soon abolished. (Applause.) But you should go for the abolition of all monopolies, and especially the monopoly which lies at the root of the whole of them—I mean the law of primogeniture." (Applause.)

Mr Cobden continued.—The League, he said, had no intention, in agitating for corn-law repeal, to imply their approval of other monopolies. They looked upon the corn law as the monster monopoly—the keystone in the arch of all the monopolies which existed in the country; and they were of opinion that the surest and speediest way of bringing down the whole superstructure, was to direct their undivided attacks on the keystone. (Applause.) Mr Cobden said that he would conclude with a toast—the health of a practical farmer—their worthy chairman. (Loud cheers.) From Earl Ducie downwards, he observed, the free-trade farmers were all excellent practical agriculturists. He had that day received a letter from that prince of English farmers, Lord Ducie, who had been extolled by Dr Buckland for his surpassing skill in agriculture. His lordship said, that when the League called upon the country for 50,000*l.*, he had contributed 50*l.*; they had now demanded 100,000*l.*, and his contribution, rising in proportion, must be 100*l.* (Loud applause.) Mr Cobden concluded with "The health of the chairman." (Three times three.)

The Chairman, in his reply, said he should like to know what benefit the tenant farmer had ever received from the corn laws, or even the owner of the soil. The landlord's rent roll had increased within the last twenty years, but it was a mere paper increase—a worthless name—an appearance of increase without the reality. (Hear, hear.) The tenant, too, how had he fared? Had the farmer's capital increased or diminished? Those who had been engaged in farming from the time of the war, where were their companions—the men who had begun life with them as tillers of the soil? Some were breaking stones on the road-side; others were in the workhouse. (Hear, hear.) The corn laws had proved no "protection" to dozens of industrious, hardworking farmers, who had lost every farthing they had in the world, and, too proud to eat the bread of pauperism, were dependent upon their relations for subsistence. (Hear, hear.) At the last general election, the farmers, clinging to a delusive system of monopoly, which promised them protection, had voted for candidates who were pledged to uphold the corn laws. Sir Robert Peel was raised to office by the parliament which that election created, and what was now the condition of the farmer? Those occupiers of the soil who entered upon their farms in 1840, when corn was 16*s.* a boll, and who trusted to the Peel Cabinet to "protect" them from low prices—how did they feel in 1843, when corn was at 10*s.*? (Hear, hear.)

Mr Cobden proposed—"The tenant-farmers of the county of Durham: may their eyes be opened to the delusions under which too many of them have laboured, and to the injuries which have been inflicted upon them by the corn laws." (Cheers.) With this toast he would couple the name of Mr Williamson. (Renewed cheering.)

Mr Williamson said, in reply, he could entirely corroborate the statements of the worthy chairman. To his own certain knowledge, the farmers of this county had in many cases been reduced to poverty, if not to pauperism. (Hear, hear.) There was hardly a farm in the township of Seaton but had broken one or two tenants (loud cries of "hear, hear"), and it was only by the exercise of rigid economy and strict industry that he had contrived to keep himself in his position. (Applause.)

Mr Bright observed, that there was a gentleman sitting on his right, largely connected with the iron manufacture—a member of the eminent firm of Hawks, Crawshaw, and Co. It was not the practice of the society with which he (Mr B.) was connected, to drink healths; and he was also himself a water drinker, and averse to whatever encouraged the habit of drinking intoxicating liquors. He would not, therefore, propose the health of Mr Crawshaw, but would simply request him to favour the company with his views on the question of free trade. (Loud cheers.)

Mr George Crawshaw rose, amidst warm applause, and declared himself to be a decided free-trader, and a member of the League. With the Chairman, he approved of the object contemplated by that confederation, and of the means whereby they sought to accomplish it. They relied solely on moral force—upon argument and persuasion. The Whigs and the Tories had alike been guilty of what he might call political crime against the people. There might be a difference of degree between the two parties, but there was none in kind: each had resorted to bribery and intimidation—and no party which departed from principles of purity ought to receive the support of honest men. The true end of government was the happiness of the people. How absurd, then, as well as wicked, to begin by degrading and corrupting them! (Applause.) In conclusion, Mr Crawshaw observed, that the anti-corn-law agitation, in its earlier stages, had wrought a pretty general conviction that the manufacturers were injured by the food monopoly. The country was now coming to the knowledge that tenant farmers, also, were victimized by the corn laws. It still remained to convince the landowners that they, too, were sufferers from the unnatural system of "protection." This was his own firm persuasion. He had lived some time in Guernsey, where there were no corn laws—no custom houses—and the inhabitants were prosperous. The land was well cultivated under a system of free trade, and rents were high, farms being worth about 7l. per acre per annum. (Hear, hear.) Mr Crawshaw, after a few further observations, resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

"Mr Shields," "Mr Robert R. R. Moore," "Mr Oxley," and "The Electors of Durham," having been drunk with much applause, Messrs Cobden, Bright, and Ashworth, took their leave amidst several rounds of cheers, and shortly afterwards the company broke up.

GREAT FREE-TRADE MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

The League opened its campaign in Manchester, or rather its campaign in the manufacturing districts, by a meeting in the Free-trade Hall, on Thursday night week, which was a most magnificent demonstration. The meeting had been announced for half-past seven o'clock, and Mr Cobden, M.P., and Mr Bright, M.P., were expected to speak. The doors were thrown open at half-past six o'clock, and from that moment people began to pour into the hall in a continuous stream, till every seat was occupied, both in the body of the hall and in the galleries, and the standing room in the passages and behind the seats was also soon filled up. Seen from the platform the spectacle was imposing almost beyond conception. The audience, to a very great extent, consisted of people in the middle ranks of society, including a great many ladies; and, in addition to those on the platform, we observed in the body of the hall many gentlemen very extensively engaged in commerce and manufactures. The number present was estimated at 10,000 persons, of whom at least 300 were seated on the spacious platform.

Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., took his place on the platform about half-past seven, and was received with loud and enthusiastic cheering, which lasted for nearly two minutes, the whole audience rising and waving their hats, while many of the ladies in the gallery displayed their handkerchiefs, giving the assemblage a most striking appearance.

The Chairman then rose, and made a lively and animated speech; after which Mr Hickin read an abstract of the report presented to the great meeting in Covent Garden Theatre a few weeks back.

Benjamin Pearson, Esq., was then called upon, and addressed the meeting at great length, combating the arguments of the Anti-Slavery Society, who professed to consider the sugar question as one of slavery or freedom of labour, whereas, he contended, that the question was only a question of monopoly opposed to free trade, and that the Government, in supporting the protection in favour of British-grown sugar, were actuated only by a wish to protect the monopoly.

Alderman Callender next addressed the meeting, and the chairman then called upon Mr Cobden, who was received with great and long-continued cheering.

Mr Cobden, M.P., on rising, was received with several rounds of most enthusiastic cheering, the whole of the company rising and standing some time. His speech was one of his best, and we regret that we can only find room for brief selections. He began by saying—After many wanderings in distant counties, I really feel myself revived on finding myself once more amongst my old friends, with the same smiling faces, the same hearts, in the same places, and in this cradle of the agitation of the Anti-Corn-law League. You have heard something said of the labours which some of us have had in this cause. I do not know, if we could have foreseen, five years ago next month, the arduous duties upon which we were entering, whether we should have had the moral courage to undertake them. (Hear, hear.) I believe we are all now willing to admit, that when we commenced the agitation of the Anti-Corn-law League, we had not the same comprehensive views of the interests and objects involved in the agitation that we now have. I am afraid, if we must confess the truth, that we most of us entered upon this struggle with the belief that we had some distinct class interest in the question, and that we should carry it by a manifestation of our will in this district, against the will and consent of other portions of the community. I believe that was our impression. If there is one thing which more than another has elevated and dignified and ennobled this agitation, it is that, in the progress of the last five years, we have found, gradually but steadily, that every interest, and every object which every part of the community can justly seek, harmonizes perfectly with the views of the Anti-Corn-law League. (Applause.) This only proves, gentlemen, that what is true requires but time to establish it in men's minds. (Hear, hear.) Time and truth against all the world. (Applause.) But you must have time; and that time, which destroys everything else, only establishes truth. (Hear, hear.) We had, at the commencement of our career, to encounter the agriculturists, flushed with prosperity from high prices; and they believed that their prosperity would be permanent, as many of us believed that our adversity would be permanent. But it has been found that what then injured us reacted upon those who thought that they had an interest in injuring us. There is nothing inconsistent in our position, to say that the agriculturists have derived no

benefit from the injury inflicted upon us. We are told sometimes that we are inconsistent, because we do not admit that the agriculturists benefit by our injury. Why, it would be very monstrous, indeed, in the moral government of this world, if one class of the community could permanently benefit at the expense of the misery and suffering of the rest. (Applause.) I never take up a newspaper now from the agricultural districts containing a report of one of their agricultural meetings (and this is a period of the year when they are holding them in all parts), but I find, mingled with occasional apprehensions of what the League is going to do, one universal cry—"Improve your agriculture." (Hear, hear.) There is not one of the members of Parliament who sit on the monopolist benches, that has gone down amongst his constituents to attend their agricultural dinners, but has carried with him some one panacea or other that is to enable farmers to brave the rivalry which they now see is inevitable with foreign countries. One says—"Subsoil your land;" another—"Thorough drain your land;" another—"Grub up your fences;" another—"Take care and improve your breed of stock;" another—"You have not good farmsteads for your manure;" and one worthy gentleman of my own county, Sussex, Sir Charles Burrell, has gone back to the nostrum that the farmers must take to growing white carrots. (Laughter.) Lord Stanley says in his speech at Liverpool—"The farmers must not now-a-days stand as their fathers and grandfathers did, with their hands behind them, fast asleep." But I want to ask Lord Stanley, why the farmers' fathers and grandfathers stood fast asleep, with their hands behind their backs? Oh, but it is pleasant to find gentlemen who have been asleep (for they have been quite as much asleep as the farmers have), going down to their agricultural dinners, and paying these tributes to the men of Manchester, who, by these fly-flappers, have managed to rouse them into a little activity. (Applause.) These squires at dinner remind me of the story of Rip Van Winkle, who awoke from his thirty years' sleep, rubbing his eyes, looking about him for his old scenes and old connexions, and wondering where he was. So these squires are rubbing their eyes, and opening them, for the first time, to a sense of their real situation. (Applause.) Having worked our agitation round to this point, I think that so far as argument goes, our labours are nearly at an end. I think the whole case, so far as discussion goes, is given up by the reports of the late agricultural meetings. (Applause.) We are the great agricultural improvers of this country. (Applause.) Amongst the other glories which will attach to the name of Manchester will be this, that the Manchester men not only brought manufactures to perfection, but that they made the agriculturists also, in spite of themselves, bring their trade to perfection. (Loud cheers.) Now, though the agriculturists have much to learn, and many improvements to make, they are, doubtless, very much in advance of most of the agriculturists in other countries. The only fault is that they do not keep so much in advance as the manufacturers do. (Applause.) But that they are in advance of most other countries I think we have sufficient proof. The Council of the League have determined that their future operations shall be strictly electoral. You have heard that we intend to arrange, in London, a collection of all the registration lists as soon as they are published in December. We will have, in a central office in London, every registration list in the United Kingdom. (Applause.) We will have a ledger, and a large one, too; we will first of all record in the very first page, the City of London, provided it returns Mr Pattison; and if not, we will have Manchester first. In this ledger we shall enter first, in due succession, each in a page, every borough that is perfectly safe in its representation for free trade. Then will come a second list, a second class—those boroughs that send men to Parliament who are moderate monopolists, who have notions about differential duties and fixed duties; and we will have another class for those who are out and out monopolists. Well, we may tick off those boroughs that are safe; we go to work in the next place in those boroughs that are represented by moderate monopolists, to make them send free traders, and we will urge upon them in particular to canvass the electors, and send up a majority of their signatures, requiring their members to vote for Mr Villiers's motion at the beginning of next session. (Applause.) We will make a selection of so many boroughs as shall be sufficient to give us a majority in the house; and I take it that those boroughs will not require to have more than 300,000 electors; and upon those 300,000 electors we will begin our fire. We will give them, through the penny postage, full acquaintance with all our proceedings; we'll furnish them with arguments; put them in possession of the latest tactics of the enemy, so that they shall have the reputation of the youngest-born fallacy always at their fingers' ends. (Applause.) We intend to visit them by deputation. If my friend Bright takes one set and I take another, we may get over a great many of them. (Applause.) And we will take somebody also with us. We will convene these meetings from London; we will send our circulars from London. There shall be no party work; the business shall not go into the hands of local cliques at all. We will take a room, and meet the electors by appointment there, without the co-operation of any local leaders, so as to excite no jealousy on either side. And, when we have got them there, we shall try and put this free-trade question upon natural grounds, and see if we cannot find honest men in all parties who will join us in putting down monopoly. (Applause.) The honourable gentleman then alluded to the proposal for raising 100,000l., invited contributions, and concluded by expressing his firm conviction that by the aid and assistance of the people the question must soon be carried. (Loud cheers.)

The meeting concluded about ten o'clock.

MEETING AT ALNWICK.—On Saturday last, Richard Cobden, Esq., M. P. for Stockport, and John Bright, Esq., M. P. for Durham, visited the agricultural town of Alnwick, the capital of Northumberland, to address the farmers at the close of the market, and other persons, on the subject of the corn and provision laws. The meeting was held at mid-day, and comprised men of all classes—farmers and townsmen—shopkeepers and artisans. Of the number present we may name—Mr Grainger, M. P. for Durham; Mr Ingham, Mr Otter, Mr Darling, Hetton house; Mr Thomas Lawson, Longhirst Grange; Mr George Brumell, Morpeth; Rev. D. Paterson, Alnwick; Mr Samuel Donkin, Bywell; Mr Crawshaw, Gateshead; Mr Joseph Forster, Greenbat cottage; Mr Watson, Belford; Mr Biesley, Alnwick; Colonel Younghusband, Mr Grey, Wooperton; Mr Thomas Wilson, Alnwick; Mr Burn, Warkworth; Mr Jobson, Boulmer; Mr Grey, Lilburn; Mr Faucus, Dunston; Mr Young, Glanton; Mr Jobson, Sturton Grange; Mr Hume, Hartlaw; Mr Nicholson, Lilburn Hill; Mr Graham, Alnwick; Mr Crisp, Hawhill; Mr Richard Thompson, Middleton; Messrs J. and A. Lambert, Alnwick; Rev. Mr Robertson, Wooley; Mr Crisp, Rugeley; Mr Henderson, Langley Ford; Mr Skelley, Alnwick; Mr Pringle, Snitter; Mr Storey, Ellilaw; Mr James, Brandon; Mr Robson, Howick; Dr Falder, Alnwick; Mr E. Mole, Embleton; Mr R. Busby, Alnwick; Mr Smith, Thirston; Mr Carr, Ratchough; Mr Luke Hindmarsh (many of whom are well known in Northumberland as extensive farmers). There was also a "fair" sprinkling of ladies in the hall. When

Mr Cobden and Mr Bright made their appearance upon the platform they were received with loud enthusiastic cheering. George Darling, Esq., of Hetton house, near Wooler (on the motion of Mr Samuel Donkin, of Bywell, seconded by Mr Lawson, of Longhirst Grange), was unanimously, and by acclamation, called upon to preside over the proceedings. Mr Bright then addressed the meeting in one of his most effective speeches, and was followed by Mr Cobden; after which a Chartist lecturer, who calls himself the "Manchester Packer," delivered a long rignarole harangue, in which he resorted to the exploded doctrine of advising the people not to seek free trade till they had got the suffrage. Henry Ashworth, Esq., of Bolton, and Mr Cobden, followed the "Packer," and demolished his fallacies to the complete satisfaction of the meeting. For the Chartist amendment, moved by Dickenson, only some twenty or thirty hands were held up; for the resolutions, in favour of free trade, nearly the whole assembly.—*Abridged from the Third Edition of the Gateshead Observer.*

BIRMINGHAM.—A public meeting was held at Birmingham on Wednesday, which was presided over by Mr Alderman Weston, and was addressed by Mr Joseph Sturge and others. The object of the meeting was to express sympathy with Ireland, and to condemn the ministerial policy. A petition was adopted, praying the Queen to dismiss her ministers.

MEETING OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE AT MANCHESTER TO CONGRATULATE THE ELECTORS OF LONDON.—On Monday last, within twenty-four hours of the result of the City of London election becoming known in Manchester, placards appeared on the walls conveying a gratulatory meeting of the League, at the Free-trade hall. The wetness of the evening, and the certainty that Messrs Cobden and Bright, whose addresses are always listened to with so much interest, were in the county of Durham, operated to some extent to make the meeting smaller than it would have been under other circumstances. Nevertheless, there was a very large attendance, both in the body of the hall, upon the extensive platform, and in all the galleries.

COURTS OF LAW.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

IN RE GEORGE SOANE.—The insolvent in this case came up for his interim order. He was described as a dramatic writer, and was the only son of the late Sir George Soane, the celebrated architect, of Lincoln's-inn fields, who had disinherited him, and left the whole of his valuable property, including his museum, to the Crown. The schedule exhibited debts to the amount of about 10,000*l.*, the principal part of which was contracted upon post-obit bonds previously to his father's death. The insolvent was opposed by a Mr Hatton and a Mr Crouch, from whom the insolvent had rented houses within the last three years, and to whom he still owed arrears of rent. The further ground of opposition was that he had improperly defended actions which had been brought against him for the recovery thereof. In the opposition of Mr Hatton, who conducted his own case with great pertinacity, and something more, and afforded a greater degree of laughter than is usually to be met with in cases of insolvency, he (Mr Hatton) stated that in order to obtain possession of his house he had resorted to the expedient of whitewashing the whole front of his house, the windows included, and had also stopped up the chimneys. In the other case, of Mr Crouch, that gentleman stated that although the insolvent had paid him some rent, yet when he wished to obtain possession of his house the insolvent refused to give it up without he got a sum of 50*l.* This statement was strongly denied by the insolvent, who also stated that he had been completely persecuted by these two creditors, who even went the length, by letters and other means, of seeking to deprive him of the situation which he held at the Princess's Theatre.—Mr Churton, the well-known publisher, stated that he was a creditor to a much larger amount than both the other gentlemen together; and he could say that he would have employed the insolvent upon many things, but for the persecutions of Mr Hatton and Mr Crouch, who constantly endeavoured to keep in prison.—After a great deal of recriminative conversation on both sides, the Learned Commissioner directed an adjournment, for the purpose of the insolvent furnishing a special statement of his income and expenditure during the last twelve months.—The insolvent obtained his protection.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The twelfth session of the present Mayoralty commenced on Monday morning before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, Sheriffs Musgrove and Moon, Under-Sheriffs Anderton and Hopkinson, Alderman Farebrother, and other civic functionaries. The calendar contains a list of 252 prisoners, of whom there are charged with unnatural crime, 1; bigamy, 1; burglary, 6; uttering and having in possession counterfeit coin, 7; curtilage, breaking, and larceny, 1; cutting and wounding, 2; embezzlement, 5; forgery, 1; uttering forged instruments, 7; house-breaking and larceny, 3; larceny, 115; larceny in a dwelling-house, 11; larceny from the person, 20; larceny by servants, 42; stealing a letter from the post office, 1; manslaughter, 1; misdemeanour, 7; having in possession moulds, 4; murder, 2; rape, 5; receiving stolen goods, &c., 7; robbery, 1; shooting at, with intent to murder, 1; shop breaking and larceny, 1; navigating, &c., a slave vessel, 1. The committals are—from London, 31; Middlesex, 185; Essex, 4; Admiralty, 1; Kent, 8; and Surrey, 23. Total, 252.

STEALING BANK NOTES.—On Tuesday Charles Crombie was indicted for stealing two bank notes value 100*l.*, and three bank notes value 15*l.*, the property of Elizabeth Lavallion. The particulars of the case have already appeared. The prisoner was son-in-law to the prosecutrix, and they lived in the same house at Greenwich. The prosecutrix missed her notes on the 16th of August last, and they were subsequently traced to the possession of the prisoner.—Inspector Fletcher, who took the prisoner into custody, deposed that on asking him was not his name Crombie, the prisoner replied "No," his name was Arthur Wellesley; and he handed witness a card, on which was inscribed, "Arthur Wellesley, K.G.C.," and he added that he was a son of the Duke of Wellington.—The jury returned a verdict of guilty. Sentence, seven years' transportation.

FELONY.—Elizabeth Alleyns, alias Talbot, alias Cox, whose name has so frequently appeared in the police reports, in connexion with that of a person styling himself the Honourable Thomas Augustus Talbot, and who was, with him, charged with felony, surrendered to take her trial, on a charge of stealing a silver-mounted inkstand, value 10*s.*, the property of Miss M. Parker.—Mr Ballantine appeared for the defence.—The particulars of this case have been frequently before the public. The prisoner had left her husband, and cohabited with Talbot, for whose wife she passed, and the charge was for robbing furnished lodgings, where they had resided together.—The jury returned a verdict of acquittal, and the prisoner left the Court in company with her husband and several friends.

SURREY SESSIONS.

CATCHING A TARTAR.—On Tuesday last Thomas Lloyd, a venerable old man, of sixty-seven years of age, and of respectable connexions, was indicted for stealing, at Ewell, a cloth coat, a glass mustard pot, and a crown piece, the property of Henry Batson, Esq., a retired captain of the 1st Life Guards. The prisoner was defended by Mr Charnock. From the nature of the evidence produced before the Court, it appeared that the prosecutor engaged the prisoner as a footman, and that on entering into his service on the 17th instant, the prosecutor made over to the prisoner nearly 400*l.* worth of plate. On Saturday last it was arranged that the prisoner should leave his master, but previous to his going away the articles named in the indictment were missed, when the coat and mustard pot were found in his box; and the crown piece, which had been taken from the kitchen shelf, was found in the prisoner's great coat pocket. The above is the outline of the case; but the cross-examination of the gallant prosecutor, by Mr Charnock, afforded abundance of amusement to a crowded court, in which the bench most heartily joined. The following amusing colloquy then took place:—Mr Charnock: Pray, Mr Batson, what are you?—The Witness (in a very peremptory and significant tone): Come, come, none of that; let's have no insolence, if you please. (Loud laughter.)—Mr Charnock: I ask you, sir, what are you?—Witness: And I tell you, sir, I will have none of your insolence, or you shall take the consequence.—Mr Charnock: Well, captain, I am not frightened; but I think you are a little choleric.—Witness: I know how to chastise insolence. (Peals of laughter.)—The Chairman: Mr Batson, the court will take care that no improper question shall be put to you; but really you must answer the learned counsel.—Mr Charnock: You will now, perhaps, answer my question, and tell the court what you are.—The Witness (greatly irritated): What am I! Why, what are you? Why, I'm a man, and a gentleman—a gentleman of independent fortune—and that's more than can be said of you. (Roars of laughter, in which the bench and bar most heartily joined.)—Mr Charnock: Well, the jury will be the best judges of that.—The Witness: What have they to do with the usages of gentlemen? (Immoderate laughter.)—The Chairman: Perhaps, Mr Batson, the best plan would be to answer the question.—The Witness (deliberately folding his arms and looking very fierce at the learned counsel): Well now, sir, what do you want of me? Mind what you say.—Mr Charnock: Oh! pray don't be in a passion. I want neither guns nor pistols. You can speak daggers, but use none. (Peals of laughter, in which the witness and the whole court joined.)—The Witness: Oh! never mind about that. Since you must know, I am an independent gentleman.—Mr Charnock: But as to your profession?—Witness: I profess nothing. (Loud laughter.) On the contrary, you profess a great deal. (Continued laughter.) I am a soldier; and now, what are you? (Loud laughter.)—Mr Charnock: You have this advantage of me; you are a gentleman, and I am not; but will you condescend to tell us your rank in the army?—The Witness: I hold no rank at present.—Mr Charnock: What was your former rank? Come, we shall get on last.—The Witness: Oh! no doubt, when you are not insolent. (Loud laughter.) I was captain in the 1st Life Guards, and sold out.—Mr Charnock: How long ago?—The Witness: Thirty years. What else do you want to know?—Mr Charnock: I shall not trouble you for your "travelled history."—The Witness: And if you did, you would not get it. (Immense laughter.)—Mr Charnock: Perhaps not; but still we must have the history of the felony.—The Witness: And you will learn it in the indictment. I thought lawyers were quick witted, and knew everything without asking. (Continued roars of laughter.)—Mr Charnock: Well, captain, the law and the army do not agree, and so I must leave you—a collision would be rather dangerous.—After a little further sharp-shooting between the learned advocate and the gallant captain, this cross-examination dropped, and the gravity of the court was no longer disturbed. The jury found the prisoner guilty, but strongly recommended him to the mercy of the court on account of his extreme age, in which the gallant prosecutor most heartily joined. The prisoner was sentenced to twenty-one days' solitary confinement in Brixton House of Correction.

POLICE.

MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—At Marlborough street, on Tuesday, John Sheppard and Edward Keiley, two Irish labourers, were charged with having committed a barbarous and unprovoked assault on Mr Quarterman, dyer, No. 10 Edgware road.—Police constable Hutting told the magistrate that the injured party was in such a dangerous state that he was unable to give attendance. The constable said the particulars of the assault were these:—About two o'clock that morning Mr Quarterman was going through Park lane towards his house, when he saw a party of Irish labourers before him. The two hindmost parted on each side to let him pass. He had hardly proceeded a foot before he received a tremendous blow from one of the men behind, which felled him to the ground. He called out "Murder;" and the cry being heard by witness, he went forward, and seeing the two prisoners running off, he seized both, and told them they must go back with him. Keiley wrested himself away, and set off at full speed. The constable gave Sheppard into the care of another constable, and went in pursuit and recaptured Keiley. The wounded man was taken to the station house, and a medical man dressed the wounds on his head, which appeared to be of a very serious character. From the width and depth of the wound, and the possibility of a fracture of the bone, it was believed that the unfortunate person had been struck either with a life preserver or a stone.—Mr Hardwick decided upon taking the depositions of the injured party at his own house, in case a fatal result should occur.—Mr Quarterman, who was able to give his evidence, confirmed the statement of the police constable. All the party of labourers were strangers to him, and when two stepped aside to let him pass between them, he considered at the moment that this was intended as an act of civility. On being shown the prisoners, he was enabled to identify them sufficiently to prove that one of them must have committed the brutal assault which he had sustained.—The prisoners, who denied all knowledge of the charge, were remanded.

OBTAINING MONEY UNDER FALSE PRETENCES.—At Union hall, John Harwell was brought before Mr Traill for re-examination, charged with obtaining money under false pretences, by representing himself a collector in the Vauxhall Water Works Company. It appeared that the prisoner had been until recently contractor for watering the roads at Peckham. On Thursday last he called at the house of Mr Gooch, of Camberwell grove, and having described himself as collector in the service of the above company, said that he called for the water rate. The company having a few days previously sent in a bill of the amount due to the company, the prisoner when he called received the money and signed the receipt.—The superintendent of the company now attended, and said that the prisoner was in no way connected with the Vauxhall Water Works, and that he was not authorised to receive the rates.—The prisoner's defence was, that he had been contractor for watering the roads, but that

three of his horses having died during the hot weather in August, reduced him from a state of comparative affluence to one of great indigence.—It however appearing that the prisoner had attempted to obtain other sums of money from customers of the water company, he was committed for trial.

SUICIDE OF A FEMALE IN HYDE PARK.—At Marylebone, on Wednesday morning, about six o'clock, Police-constable Turner received information that a suicide had been committed in Hyde park; he proceeded thither, and near Albion gate, the spot to which he had been directed, he discovered a female quite dead, lying under a tree, around her neck a handkerchief, by which she had suspended herself to one of the branches, and the weight of the body had broken the said handkerchief in two; assistance was procured, and deceased was removed to Mount-street workhouse, Grosvenor square; she was decently attired, had on a wedding ring, and seemed to be about forty-five years of age. There were neither cards nor any other kind of papers upon her, by which a clue might be given as to her name or connexions.

On Friday *Mary Cook*, a respectably-dressed elderly female, was charged with stealing from the shop of Charles Alexander, pawnbroker, 12 New Church street, a shawl and a velvet mantle. The complainant stated that the prisoner came into his shop and presented tickets for the articles which she wanted to redeem from pledge. He placed the shawls on the counter, and while he turned for a dip of ink, the prisoner snatched up the shawl and the mantle, and ran out of the shop. Complainant overtook her in William street, but she had dropped the shawl when running away, and the velvet mantle was therefore the only thing recovered. The prisoner after being taken back, stopped and placed on the ground the money for the articles. She also offered the policeman a sovereign not to take her into custody. Mr Alexander did not wish to press the charge, and Mr Long, in consideration of her respectability and previous good character, dismissed the case, the prisoner making good the interest and loss of the missing shawl.

CHARGE OF MURDER.—On Wednesday the Union-hall police court and the avenues leading to it were crowded in consequence of the examination of a man named *Edward Dwyer*, who was charged with the wilful murder of his own child, a male infant three months old, on the preceding night. The offender, who is about twenty-seven years of age, is a married man, and obtains a livelihood by hawking brooms and other articles about the streets. He is well known at this court, and has been frequently in custody before on charges of assault, and had only been liberated from gaol within the last fortnight, on a summary conviction by Mr Cottingham, for biting a piece out of a man's cheek. The brute, on this occasion, having quarrelled with his wife, took his infant and struck its head on the counter of the public house where he had been drinking. An inquest was held on the body of the child, when a verdict of "Wilful murder" was returned, and he was committed for trial.

FACTORY EDUCATION.—Mr Horner, one of the Factory Inspectors, in a report just published, says, that in his district he had received school vouchers from 591 manufacturing firms, employing 6,872 children. Of the schools which these children attended, he writes as follows:—

"117 Factory Schools, for 3,155 children, or about 45 per cent. of the whole. By 'factory schools' I mean those cases in which the children are schooled within the factory, or sent to an adjoining school, established by the occupier of the factory.

"367 Private Schools, for 2,689 children, or about 39 per cent. on the whole. These are, in general, small assemblages of children in cottages, brought together by indigent old men or old women, who nominally keep a school, they being incapable of earning a livelihood in any other way; but without any qualification for teaching.

"62 National Schools, for 596 children, or about 8 per cent.

"36 Public Schools in connexion with the Established Church, but not schools of the National Society, for 214 children, or about 3 per cent.

"15 British Schools, for 125 children, or about 2 per cent.

"8 Public Wesleyan Schools, for 34 children, or about three quarters per cent.

"4 Public Roman Catholic Schools, for 39 children, or about one-half per cent.

"Of the 117 factory schools, 16 are good, attended by 869 children, or about 27 per cent. of those educated in such schools. There are other factory schools, and some of the private schools, in which some little instruction is imparted; but in the majority of both there is a mere nominal compliance with the law, and it is an entire misapplication of the term to call such places schools. The inspectors have no power to interfere to put a stop to this discreditable mockery of education. I believe that I am understating the case to a considerable extent when I say, that of these 6,872 children, for whom certificates of school attendance are obtained, 4,500 are getting no education whatever at these schools. Nor is the privation of instruction the only evil; these children pay a school fee, for which they get no value in return; if we reckon on the fee to be, on an average, 2d. a-week, for forty-eight weeks in the year, we have 8s. a-year for each child, so that 1,800l. a-year is paid by the parents without value received; whereas this sum might, in well-conducted public schools, procure for these 4,500 children a very good education.

"The main cause of this very bad state of things is to be found in the permission given by the law to work the children eight hours a day; and, as this employment may be at any time between half-past five in the morning and half-past eight at night, it is not possible for the children to attend good schools, when these exist in the neighbourhood of the factories; for all the public schools, and the best private schools for children, are taught between nine in the morning and five in the afternoon. This system, also, by keeping the children in the morning and the afternoon, affords every facility of evading the school attendance. There are, besides, many situations in which even tolerably good schools do not exist. It is vain to expect that the children of the working classes can be reared as they ought to be, until good day schools are greatly multiplied; and it will be useless to establish any schools for factory children, or those employed in any other kind of work, unless their labour be restricted to half a-day, so that they may be able to attend at the usual school hours, and have a due allowance of exercise and play."

COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL MARKETS.

FRIDAY NIGHT.—The reaction in the Liverpool and Manchester markets noticed last week has continued during the present week, and business has been less extensive, especially in Manchester, for export, and prices are a shade lower. The corn markets in London and the country are firmer; and a great consumption appears to be going on in all articles of food, which is the best evidence of the improved condition of the people. Our produce markets have been generally dull during the week, dealers refraining from entering into engagements which would become due before the 31st December. The accounts from the woollen districts continue good; and the wool sales continue to go off with spirit.

INDIGO.—A few additional purchases were made at the close of last week for the home trade, not, however, exceeding about a hundred chests of bought-in lots at cost price, and a dozen lots or two of old indigos at corresponding rates; besides, about a hundred serons and boxes Spanish indigo, bought in at the late sales, were taken for home consumption. There is no demand for export, and it appears that the consumption of the article upon the continent has not resumed its wonted extent as yet, but is likely to do so in the early part of the new year. The confirmatory accounts of the probability of abundant crops of indigo in our East India possessions exclude for the moment any speculative operations, although the present value of indigo is very moderate already, and indeed has sel-

dom been as cheap or cheaper for the good and fine sorts, worth at present from 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per lb., and there is no comparison of these sorts with the more ordinary kinds, now worth from 4s. to 5s. per lb., which are undoubtedly the dearest in our markets.

COCHINEAL. has, during the last two or three weeks, declined 3d. to 4d. per lb., but was again firmly held in a public sale to-day, in which 4s. was paid for ordinary foxy Honduras, and up to 5s. for very bold grained silvers of the same growth.

SUGAR.—Business has been less extensive than last week. The buyers for home consumption have shown little inclination to purchase; prices, however, have been maintained. In foreign only 250 hhds. of foreign Muscovado have been sold at 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d., and 450 boxes of white Havana at 25s. to 27s. 6d.; about 9,000 boxes of Havana sugar are advertised for public sale for next week; there is less demand for crushed sugar for export, but there is nothing ready at market.

TEA.—The sales commenced last week have been progressing somewhat more favourably, a greater proportion of the put-up quantity meeting with buyers, but no improvement in value can be reported.

COFFEE.—The demand by private contract for the home-trade qualities has been but moderate; and at public sale Ceylon has met with few buyers at previous rates, a considerable proportion of what was offered having been bought in. Superior Java, on the contrary, has been more sought for; 1,300 bags of old import and of indifferent quality realized 31s. 6d. to 41s. 6d., being decidedly dearer; by private contract, 400 bags of the same growth fetched 34s. Of 2,000 bags of colour Porto Rico, only a small part found buyers at the high price of 67s. 6d.; besides these transactions, about 500 bags of Padang have been bought at 24s. upon speculation, and 1,200 bags good ordinary old Laguyra at 31s. for export.

SPICES.—1,500 bags good Malabar pepper were sold to the home trade at improved rates, from 3½d. to 3¼d. Cassia Lignia, 600 boxes fetched full prices, from 62s. for middling to 70s. 6d. for good. Pimento, about 1,000 bags were sold at full prices, from 2½d. to 2¼d. for ordinary to good middling.

SALTPETRE.—The demand for East India is unabated; by private contract about 3,000 bags have been sold at the beginning of the week from 24s. to 27s. Since then some public sales have been declared, and a farther improvement has taken place; refined saltpetre has advanced to 30s. 6d. South American saltpetre held at 14s. 9d., considerable offers a little below that price.

RUM.—The purchases have been but trifling, and prices barely maintained this week.

COTTON.—At Liverpool the purchases have been limited, but without a decided decline; buyers have had the turn of the market. Here there was a considerable disposition to purchase at the beginning of this week, and some parcels of the sales of the 19th inst. were resold at ½d. advance; the purchases have since then been unimportant, and do not exceed 3,000 bags for the week; the inquiries for export are still pretty numerous, but without leading to much real business.

FOREIGN.

The Indian mails received at the beginning of the week are but a few days later than the accounts received from Calcutta and Hindostan several weeks ago, and do not furnish any new matter from that quarter. From China there is nothing so late as the accounts that reached us about the same period by the *Achbar*. From Bombay alone the dates are considerably more advanced, being up to the 7th September, but the letters from that market do not present any new or striking features. The prices of cotton were declining, but shipments for Europe still limited. The transactions in European manufactured goods were considerable, but prices are much complained of.

Our advices from the continent of Europe are upon the whole but dull respecting commercial matters. In sugar there was less doing on account of the Dutch Company's sale of about 40,000 baskets Java being declared for the 15th of November, though that quantity was not considered too large for the demand. Coffee in the northern parts barely maintained its value, but at Trieste both prices and the demand had improved. The opening of the Belgian and Rhenish Railroad as far as Cologne, which took place last week, is reported to have created a great sensation at Antwerp; the navigation of the Rhine having been trammelled by the Dutch government, by the imposition of many petty annoyances and duties, the Belgians hope that the greater part of the transit from this country and the south of Germany will henceforth pass through their country.

Extract from a private communication to the Leipzig Gazette, regarding the sale of Cloth at the last Michaelmas Fair.

As usual, well-finished cloth of first-rate quality sold at former prices, and the whole quantity brought forward found buyers. Good descriptions of second and third quality likewise went off at former rates; but, unfortunately, both formed by far only the very smallest part of the stock, and of the great quantity of badly-finished and defective, only small parcels were taken at low prices, and the greater proportion remained unsold, 45,000 to 50,000 pieces out of the 90,000 pieces of cloth and similar stuffs brought forward consisted of such, and were in consequence returned. Last year already we complained of the defectiveness of the goods, and the dishonesty of many of our manufacturers; our remarks have been attacked, and we have replied to those attacks, but the result of this fair again shows that our censure has produced no amendment. Though it has been so often proved that good qualities always sell well, many manufacturers have continued their bad old system, instead of imitating the good example set by such towns as Bieschafswerda and Grossenhain. As abuses and dishonesty, we mean to qualify a deficiency in the width of the cloth, which may be discovered by the buyer, and which is a very great obstacle in the sale; but more especially a deficiency in the length, holes, rents, &c., which may not be discovered at first sight. Deficient length, however, has become so common that but very few manufacturers are trusted in this respect, and that everything almost is measured over again, when the most glaring deficiencies appear, as well as holes, rents, &c., which had never been mentioned. The English manufacturer acts quite differently. With him the width is always as stated, the inside of the piece is equal in quality to the outside, every hole, every rent, &c., is marked with thread, and an allowance for these faults is voluntarily made. The contrary proceeding must necessarily create discredit, and we therefore repeat what we said on former occasions, that our home-made cloths would find a market in foreign countries to a much larger extent, and by far more remunerative prices, if we could counteract the disposition of those German manufacturers that try to force the sale of their goods by furnishing lighter cloth, deficient length and width. It appears unlikely that any steps for such an improvement will emanate from the manufacturers, and it therefore would prove beneficial to our manufacture if the Governments whom it concerns, our Saxon as well as Prussian manufacturers being guilty of the same unfair dealing, would reinstitute the offices of control. The good effect of that measure would soon manifest itself. Of English woollens next to nothing has been taken at this fair for the countries of the Customs Union, and very little for foreign markets.

PRICES CURRENT, Oct. 27, 1843.

Table with columns: ENGLISH FUNDS, PRICES THIS DAY, FOREIGN FUNDS, PRICES THIS DAY. Lists various stocks and bonds with their respective prices.

CORN MARKETS.

(From Messrs Gillies and Horn's Circular.)

CORN EXCHANGE, MONDAY, OCT. 23.—The weather has turned very fine, with westerly wind. The arrivals are short. New English Wheat is 2s. dearer, with a quick sale; free Foreign is also more inquired for, and sales made at 1s. advance. Barley is from 1s. to 2s. dearer; for prime malting 36s. has been made. Oats are the turn dealer, with a quick sale. Beans are 1s. dearer. White Peas are firm; Grey still dull. Flour is firm.

Table with columns: WHEAT, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL, PER QU. Lists various types of wheat and their prices per quarter.

CORN EXCHANGE, FRIDAY, OCT. 27.—The weather is as fine as possible, and the Farmers are busily employed with their Wheat sowing, which, under favourable circumstances, they may possibly finish in a fortnight, after which time they may perhaps supply the markets more freely. Meanwhile the supplies are short to this market except of Irish Oats, of which there is a liberal arrival. No alteration in Wheat from Monday. Barley is firm. Oats of all kinds are a shade dearer than on Monday, though the demand is principally from consumers. Irish are about 1s. dearer within the last ten days. Beans and Peas are firm. A brisk trade in Flour.

LONDON AVERAGES.

For the week ending October 24.

Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas. Shows average prices for each commodity.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Table with columns: Weeks ending, Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas. Shows weekly average prices and trends.

Flour—Foreign, 12s. 6d. per 196 lbs.—British Possession, 3s. 6d. ditto.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

MONDAY.—The rather favourable re-action of last Monday in the general trade at this market was not maintained to-day, former dullness prevailing throughout the day for everything. The causes of this renewed depression originated from the usual circumstances—a too plentiful supply, unfavourable weather for slaughtering, and the fact that out of so large a supply of Beasts and Sheep very few were of first-rate quality, the by far greater portion of both consisting of but second-rate quality. Consequently for the latter descriptions the trade was very dull, and even low prices failed to produce anything like animation. The few head of really prime quality, on the other hand, commanded a brisk sale at good prices. As the winter approaches the supply of dead meat in Leadenhall, Whitechapel, and Newgate markets will considerably increase, and thus one very important cause, which will at times operate against this market, will again prevail.

FRIDAY.—Although we had a very scanty number of beasts, the beef trade was excessively heavy, at, in some instances, a trifling decline in prices. The mutton trade was also depressed, and the muddling and inferior sheep suffered an abatement in value of 2d. per 8 lbs. Very few calves were on show, yet the highest figure obtained for them did not exceed 4s. per 8 lbs. Prime small pigs supported late rates, but other kinds were rather lower. Milch cows were held at from 16l. to 19l. 10s. each.

Table with columns: Prices per Stone, At Market. Lists prices for various meats like Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork.

Prices of Hay and Straw, per load of 36 trusses. Hay, 3l. 0s. 0d. to 1l. 0s. 0d. Clover, 4l. 0s. 0d. to 5l. 0s. 0d. Straw, 1l. 12s. 0d. to 1l. 16s. 0d.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

We have a very large supply of Hops on offer, yet the demand continues active, at prices equal to those obtained last week. The duty is called 130,000l. to 135,000l.

COAL MARKET.

Prices of Coals per ton at the close of the market:—Adair's Main, 15s.—Buddle's West Hartley, 17s.—Hebburn Main, 17s. 6d.—Oakwellgate, 14s. 6d.—West Hartley, 17s. 6d.—Acorn close, 18s. 6d.—Bell and Brown, 20s. 6d.—Clennell, 17s.—Clarke and Co. 17s.—Gosforth, 20s. 6d.—Hilda, 19s. 6d.—Killingworth, 20s.—Lambton, 21s. 9d.—Morrison, 20s.—Russell's Hetton, 21s.—Shotton, 21s. 3d.—Stewart's, 21s. 3d.—Caradoc, 21s. 6d.—Adelaide, 21s.—Maclean Tees, 18s.—Richardson's Tees, 18s.—Tees Harton, 17s.—Tees, 21s.—Llangenoch, 19s. 9d.—Lewin's Merthyr, 19s. 3d.—Ships rivied, 27.

THE GAZETTE.

Tuesday, October 24.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

T. Stebbing and E. S. Polkinghorne, Clement's lane, merchants.—G. Artingstall and W. Beaumont, Litchford, Cheshire, wire manufacturers.—W. Lambert and J. Packham, Brighton, Sussex, ironmongers.—J. Chaffey and A. Jackson, Queen street, Cheshire, warehousemen.—H. J., and W. Woolhouse and S. Blackbrough, Kirkheaton, Yorkshire, cotton dyers.—J. Inwood and C. A. Coates, Brunswick row, Rochester row, Westminster, stationers.—T. Arlett and G. J. Richardson, Croydon common, Surrey, farmers.—J. Purdie and T. J. Barnes, Adalia, Asia Minor, merchants.—T. Stripling and R. Linton, Liverpool, sail makers.—A. Taylor and A. B. Spigg, Coventry, mercers.—J. Pockett and J. Bates, Deal, Kent, coach proprietors.—S. Leather and G. T. Styles, Birmingham, stampers.—W. Taylor, W. and J. Stormont, Shiffall, Shropshire, steel manufacturers (as regards W. Taylor).—P. Kirk, son, P. Kirk, jun., and C. Heathcote, Sheffield, manufacturers of edge tools (as regards C. Heathcote).—J. Gladstone and J. Crosbie, Liverpool, ironfounders.

BANKRUPTS.

WRIGHT, T., Blackmore street, Clare market, cheesemonger. [Messrs Morgans, Old Jewry.] DONKIN, T., Cambridge, victualler. [Clark and Davidson, Essex street, Strand.] GOUGH, W. B., Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, grocer. [Sutton and Co., Basildon street.] HARRIS, M., Swansea, Glamorganshire, draper. [White and Co., Bedford row.] BAINS, J., South Shields, grocer. [Hodson, Broad-street buildings.]

DECLARATIONS OF INSOLVENCY.

J. Groom, Long Buckley Top Locks, Northamptonshire, smith.—Catherine Simmons, Hadley, Middlesex, dealer in brushes.—B. Stanfield, Chichester, out of business.—J. Brown, Webb's place, Gower's walk, Whitechapel, porter in the Mint.—E. H. Plummer, Bland terrace, Dover road, Newington, plant broker.—J. Bowring, Bath, Somersetshire, journeyman coach maker.—H. Rickett, Prince's terrace, Pallenty street, Islington, retailer of beer.—T. Knowles, Beadley Forest, Worcestershire, labourer.—J. Evans, North Brixton, Surrey, out of business.—T. M. Clewes, Churchfields, Kidderminster, grocer.—S. Jones, Acrefair, Ruabon, Denbighshire, farmer.—W. Fawcner, Kidderminster, furniture dealer.—S. French, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, out of business.—C. Dean, Bury, Lancashire, out of business.—S. P. Hall, Sheffield, razor manufacturer.—W. Garland, Woodchester, Gloucestershire, out of business.—T. L. Shapcott, Southampton, vicar.—E. Parlett, Eastgate, Norfolk, lime burner.—G. Cubitt, Eastgate, Norfolk, lime burner.—D. Scott, Manchester, porter.—B. Marshall, Sneinton, Nottingham, machine maker.—W. Richardson, Norwich, baker.—J. Neale, Great Titchfield street, St. Marylebone, upholsterer.—J. Warburton, Liverpool, tailor.—J. B. Hitchins, Vauxhall street, Lambeth, artist.—W. Morison, Gibson square, Liverpool road, Islington, clerk.—H. H. Henson, Haverstock hill, Middlesex, clerk.—C. J. Hare, Deptford, Kent, railway inspector.—J. Holt, jun., Newman street, Oxford street, jeweller.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

J. L. Bell, Liverpool, linen draper.—S. L. Tapscoot, late of Minehead, Somersetshire, coal merchant.—E. Cock, Plymouth, linen draper.—R. Lindon, Snapes, Devonshire, corn factor.—H. Adams, Totnes, Devonshire, merchant.—E. Eardley, Exeter, china dealer.

DIVIDENDS TO BE DECLARED.

November 16, H. S. Winter, Regent street, milliner.—November 16, J. Bidecock, Shrewsbury, Berks, grocer.—November 16, A. Lafargue, Great St. Helen's, City, merchant.—November 16, Ann and J. Phillips, Whitechapel road, window glass cutters.—November 14, T. Hobson, Carlisle, Cumberland, mercer.—November 15, G. Allison, Darlington, Durham, scrivener.—November 21, G. Harriot, Omskirk, Lancashire, beer brewer.—November 21, H. Buggeln, Prestayn, Flintshire, alkali manufacturer.—November 16, T. Bourne, Liverpool, cotton broker.—November 15, T. Parry, Mold, Flintshire, draper.—November 23, S. Grotcock, Leicester, builder.—November 23, J. Capara, Rulings, Derbyshire, common brewer.—November 18, W. Hall, Tredington, Worcestershire, and R. Biallow, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, corn merchants.—November 14, Jesse Tans, Shilton, Staffordshire, earthenware manufacturer.—November 11, J. and T. Harriman, Nottingham, drapers.

CERTIFICATES.

November 11, H. H. Hoskins, formerly of Bernard street, Russell square, but now of John street, Bedford row, lodging house keeper.—November 16, Elizabeth Hannah Foster, Hathers, Leicestershire, tanner.—November 16, W. Blanks, Rochford, Essex, gun maker.—November 15, J. Mease, Hutton, Yorkshire, flax spinner.—November 14, G. Allison, Darlington, Durham, scrivener.—November 16, T. M. Whiteley, Liverpool, hatter.—November 16, J. Wilkinson, Dudley, Worcestershire, vice maker.—November 18, J. Fairfax, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, printer.

CERTIFICATES, NOVEMBER 14.

W. Carr, South Shields, Durham, grocer.—T. and J. Parker, J. Rawlinson, J. Hanson, J. Bell, T. Chapwick, A. Emley, R. Kershaw, J. Musgrave, T. Pullan, and J. Shaw, Woodhouse Carr, Yorkshire, dyers.—J. Hedderley, Nottingham, druggist.—N. Walsh, Over Darwen, Lancashire, paper maker.—J. Wood, Manchester, baker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

D. Carnie, Dundee, glazier.—W. Campbell, Greenock and Glasgow, gun maker.—J. Anderson, Paisley and Dundee, writer.—G. and J. Oughterson, Greenock, merchants.—W. Thorburn and Sons, Leith, merchants.

Friday, October 27.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

ALLEN, J., Alfreton, Derbyshire, innkeeper.

BANKRUPTS.

FLORANCE, E., jun., Subdeanry, Sussex, potato dealer. [Staniland and Long, Bouverie street.] FARRANT, J. B. L., Maidstone, machine maker. [Palmer and Co., Bedford row.] GASKELL, W. B., Birmingham, draper. [Milne and Co., Temple.] YOUNG and BERNARDS, Liverpool, cheese factors. [Corthwaite and Adams, Dean's court, Doctors' commons.]

DECLARATIONS OF INSOLVENCY.

H. Rickett, Prince's terrace, Islington, beer retailer.—R. D. Fulloon, Great Carter lane, City.—J. Peat, Bethnal green, merchant's clerk.—J. B. Irwin, Jernyn street, Westminster.—T. Billison, West Derby, Lancashire, insurance agent.—J. Cummins, George street, Bloomsbury, cow keeper.—W. Bilson, Bury St Edmunds, gun maker.—G. Ellison, Chorley, Lancashire, farmer.—J. Chapman, Callum street, City, cooper.—W. Mathews, Goswell street, Post-office stamper.—H. Cox, Bond street, Wolverhampton.—E. H. Merder, Foxley road, Kennington, schoolmaster.—S. Taylor, Oldham, Lancashire, bookkeeper.—J. Rowland, Manchester, commission agent.—H. Browne, Codner park, Derbyshire, forge manager.—J. W. Thomas, Bristol, accountant.—R. Askham, Hemingbrough, Yorkshire, labourer.—E. W. Jackson, New Ferry, Cheshire, mariner.—J. Hollingworth, Almondbury, Yorkshire, carpenter.—J. Buttersworth, Rochdale, Lancashire, stonemason.—J. Sumper, Chiswell street, Finsbury, tailor.

BIRTHS.

On the 19th instant, the lady of the Rev. Josiah Bateman, vicar of Huddersfield, of a daughter. On the 22nd instant, at Upper Tulz hill, Mrs George, of a son, who survived his birth only three days.

MARRIAGES.

On the 17th instant, at Lyonshall church, the Rev. Henry Robert Lloyd, M. A., vicar of Carew, Pembroke, to Harriet, daughter of the Hon. and Right Rev. Edward, late Lord Bishop of Hereford, and niece of Earl Grey. On the 18th instant, at All Soul's church, Marylebone, Rear-Admiral Hawker, of Ashford Lodge, Hampshire, to Lady Williams, of Cavendish square.

DEATHS.

In June last, at Calcutta, after a few days' illness, in the 27th year of his age, Thomas Kelly Key, Esq., youngest son of Sir John Key, Bart. He was a young man, of great promise and most exemplary character, and his loss is most severely felt by his bereaved parents and family. On the 1st of August, at Bombay, Captain Alfred Bradford, of the 13th regiment Native Infantry, Bombay Army. On the 20th instant, at Brixton place, Surrey, Mary, relict of the late W. Maynard, Esq.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

YORK and LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, King William street, London Empowered by Act of Parliament.

GEORGE FREDERICK YOUNG, Esq. Chairman. MATTHEW FOISTER, Esq. M. P. Deputy Chairman. The superiority of this mode of Assurance adopted by this Company, will be found in the fact that the premium required by a bonus office to assure 1,000l. on the life of a person in the 30th year of his age would in this office insure 1,291l. 7s. 6d.

Assurances at other ages are effected on equally favourable terms, and thus the assured has an immediate bonus instead of a chance dependent upon longevity and the profits of an office. In cases of assurance for a limited number of years, the advantage offered by this Company is still greater, no part of the profits of a bonus office being ever allotted to such assurances.

Prospectuses, containing tables framed to meet the circumstances of all who desire to provide for themselves or those who may survive them by assurance, either of fixed sums or annuities, may be had at the office as above, or of the agents.

JOHN REDDISH, Sec.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 1 Princes street, Bank, London.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, IV Vict. cap. IX.

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J. B. Bevington, Esq.; F. P. Cockerill, Esq.; J. D. Dow, Esq.

MEDICAL OFFICER.

John Clendinning, M.D. F.R.S. 16 Wimpole street, Cavendish square.

STANDING COUNSEL.

The Hon. John Ashley, New square, Lincoln's Inn. Mr. Serjeant Murphy, M.P. Temple.

SOLICITOR.

William Heyan, Esq. Old Jewry.

BANKERS.

Messrs. Drewett and Fowler, Princes street, Bank.

This Institution is empowered by a special Act of Parliament, and is constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance in their fullest extent to Policy-holders, and to present greater facilities and accommodation than are usually offered by other Companies.

Assurances may either be effected by Parties on their own Lives, or by Parties interested therein on the Lives of Others.

The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a Property in Reversion, which can be by no other means realized. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who, by the payment of 5s. 3s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company, can become at once possessed of a valuable property, amounting to 1,000l., subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of Eight Shillings weekly in his expenditure. Thus, by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience, he may at once realise a capital of 1,000l., which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

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AT a MEETING of the MEMBERS of the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE, assembled at the Great Free-Trade Hall, Manchester, on Tuesday, October 24, 1843.

Alderman C. J. S. WALKER in the Chair; On the motion of Alderman Callender, seconded by Alderman Brooks,

It was resolved,—That this meeting, rejoicing in the distinguished triumph over monopoly achieved by the Electors of London, in the return of Mr Pattison as their Representative, offers to them their sincere congratulations and thanks for their noble efforts in the cause of Free Trade.

On the motion of Thomas Hazley, jun. Esq. seconded by Archibald Prentice, Esq.

It was resolved,—That the following Address from this Meeting be presented to the Electors of London:—

"Fellow Countrymen, "You have just been engaged in one of the noblest and most important struggles of modern times. We aided with anxious expectations the result. That result has not disappointed us. True to the principles of freedom of commerce, contained in your celebrated petition presented to Parliament in 1829, when the late great occasion arrived, you rejected the candidate for your suffrages who maintained those principles only in the abstract, and have chosen a tried, honest, and consistent supporter of practical Free Trade.

"We congratulate you on the triumph you have achieved over monopoly—the blow you have struck at a tyranny not less galling than any which your forefathers overthrew. We thank you for the noble example you have set to the Electors of the whole nation, and for your declaration before the world, by the election of Mr Pattison, that the infamous laws, which restrict the supply of the food of the people, shall be totally and immediately abolished—that the whole world shall be opened to our industry, and that trade shall be as free as the winds of Heaven.

(Signed) "C. J. S. WALKER, Chairman." Moved by W. Rawson, Esq. seconded by Joseph Brotherton, Esq. M.P.

That this Address be advertised in all the London Daily Papers, and in the following Weekly Papers—the League, the Examiner, the Weekly Dispatch, the Weekly Chronicle, the Sunday Times, the Observer, the New Bell's Weekly Messenger, the Sentinel, the Spectator, the Patriot, and the Inquirer.

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The Combinations are insoluble, and are mostly of such trifling cost, as scarcely to be appreciable as articles of expenditure, for Ship and House Building, Public Works, Piers, Sleepers for Railroads,—Engineers', Coopers', and Millwrights' Work,—Wood Pavements, Cabinet work, Hop Poles, and wherever Wood is used, the Advantage of this Process must be apparent.

The Patentee is now ready to undertake orders for the preparation of timber to this process, and is authorized to state that his invention having been minutely investigated by Richard Phillips, Esq. the eminent chemist, by order of the Hon. Commissioners of Woods and Forests, they have been pleased to adopt it in some of the works now in progress under their management. Particulars for the use of this Patent, whether by Lignum or otherwise, are obtained at the Office, No. 2 Parliament street. Works, Whitehall wharf, Cannon row.

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TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police office, Whitehall place. "February 23rd, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' short-time rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the sergeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on. "I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, "Your most obedient S. v. ant, "C. ROWAN."

N.B. Every garment, &c. bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly Waterproof.

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