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The Patriot.

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TO LORD PALMERSTON.

MY LORD,—I find that you as a member of her Majesty's government, and now in whose hands are entrusted the destinies of this mighty nation are entrusted, did, in a speech made by you at Tiverton, in alluding to the operation of the corn laws, state "I envy you (or have envied me and chaw-bacons) are the only persons who can benefit the poor." I beg leave, my lord, to differ from you in that sentiment—for I maintain that it is the bounden duty of the government of this country so to legislate for people, with poor or producing classes, by legislating in a manner that will create a constant demand for their labours; we the working men of this country feel we are justly entitled to no less. I would ask why is it we patiently bear the excessive taxation and local burdens levied on us, but for the purpose of giving employment to the many not only of vital importance to us, but also to our country's prosperity? for upon the well being of the working people depends that of the state, instead of which, the policy of yourself and colleagues has been to give a preference to the unskilled labour of other lands against ours, and which soon come upon you with the suddenness of a "mountain avalanche," that if a government will give the preference to the labour of foreigners, and find that the working classes exist also that the expenses of that government shall be reduced in the same ratio as the value of labour and the production of labour is reduced.

You are reported to have said, "But the farmer and the landlord, the producers of the corn, run away with the fact that corn, and we, the people, have nothing." Now, my lord, then they say they have lost all the difference betwen the former price and the present price, which is the same as the late rent account the other side of the balance, and to see how much the cost of production and their out-going have diminished in proportion to the fall in the price of corn.

First of all the cost of his seed is less; the wages of labour are less; he gets manure cheaper and of better quality, and has a greater command of it, for he has less acreage to manure than it was, and better in its quality. His poor rates are less; his composition for tithes is gradually diminishing in proportion as the average of the cheap years are beginning to tell; his rent in most cases less."

Now, my lord, as a practical farmer and working man, I beg to hand you the present and past rent account, and trust you will do me the justice of carefully examining it, and when you have done so, may I request, and I feel certain that your lordship will, as an honest servant of the people, will answer it, and point out to me and my brother farmers that which we cannot discover, viz., the advantages in the reduced cost of production, and the reduced value of labour, diminished value of our produce. Now, my lord, belonging to the Colsden and Bright school, as your lordship most undoubtedly does, I will not allow your words, that the profits of the crops I give as the basis of my calculations are not sufficiently productive. I take them at what ought to be the amount of produce, and not what farming, and shall take as their value the prices under which the great change in Church property was based—the Commutation Act, and compare it with the present value of the same:—

	Per acre.	s.	
Wheat...	4 qrs.	56	6 per qr., is 226 per acre.
Barley...	4 qrs.	31	8 per qr., is 130 per acre.
Oats.....	3 qrs.	32	0 per qr., is 176 per acre.
			532
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Total diminished value in these crops 152 9 or on each acre a diminished value of 38s. 10½d. per acre. I thus clearly prove the diminished value of an acre of wheat. Barley and oats 50s. 10½d. per acre. I, my lord, leave it to the good sense of your consummate ability, deep research, and practical knowledge, to prove how much the diminished value of produce is compared with the cost per acre, the diminished cost will not be worth putting down; but us practical farmers sow more than scientific men generally know, and I will base my calculation upon the quantities so sown—

		Per acre. s. d.
Wheat, per acre	6 pecks	lessened cost 9s. 5d.
Barley "	10 "	2s. 3d.
Oats "	20 "	2s. 6d.
		7s. 9d.

Thus the diminished cost on seed wheat, barley, and oats, per acre, is 7s. 7d.

"The wages of labour less." How and why is it so, my lord? Unless it proves your accursed system has lessened the value of labour, which I will state it is not; for the cost of labour per acre has been about 25s.—reduction on labour 2s. 3d. per acre.

"Rent less." How is this, my lord? This proves the lessened cost on the article, and that the lands are being deteriorated in value. I cannot allow any deduction under this head.

"Poor rates less!" This I deny, and below beg to refer you to a statement upon which I find it is based, viz., payment of rents, say 10 per cent., taking the average amount of rent at 20s. per acre, the deduction would be 2s. per acre, making a total reduction in the cost of production of 6s. 10d. per acre.

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Thus the difference between the two will be found to be 12,918,202 bushels, at 5s. per bushel. As to the increased produce arising from the progressive development of science as bearing upon agriculture, I beg to refer you to produce a greater quantity out of the same extent of land than he produced before. To that practical men, my lord, are well aware that the produce under present prices is not yielded at an increased loss. You further state—"I think the farmers are well off, that if the value of labour and rent balance his loss is far less than he imagines it to be now." What amount of loss, my lord, could you have fancied we were suffering? Why, my lord, to the amount of 50s. 10½d. per acre, after deducting the advantages arising from diminished expenses! In this loss, bear in mind, I have not taken the diminished value of agricultural stock in trade, horse, beast, and mutton, which would amount to 20s. per acre on the two shifts of fallow by pulse and seed crop. After striking a fair and accurate balance, I find that the loss on a farm cultivated on the four-course system to be as follows:—

	Lessened Value of Produce.	Advantages by diminished Cost.
Wheat ...	50s. 10½d. per acre. ...	6s. 10d. per acre.
Barley and oats ...	50s. 10½d. per acre. ...	6s. 10d. per acre.
Beans, peas, fallow 50s.	50s. per 2 acres. ...	13s. 8d.
	141s. 9d.	27s. 4d.

Thus we find our produce has been reduced in value 114s. 5d. on the four acres after striking a fair and accurate balance by deducting the full amount that can be allowed for lessened production and value, and 27s. 4d. on the lessened value of agricultural produce of 28s. 7½d. on every acre of arable land. But your lordship concludes your remarks by stating, "I will not allow you to say that the prosperity of agriculture is not a question between landlord and tenant. The farmer hired the land of the owner; he employs a certain amount of capital in cultivating it, and must *make interest upon his capital or he cannot live*, and make his fair interest out of the land after the rent and altered circumstances in which he is placed." I will suppose myself a tenant under your lordship; and after bearing this statement of yours home to you for you place the statement before you, proving that free trade has lessened the value of the produce raised upon your land 50s. 7½d. per acre after striking a fair balance of the benefit arising from lessened cost of production, and I now ask you, as a landlord, to prove to me how it is possible for me to adjust the bargain between us as to enable me to make any interest of my capital? Your statement is true, my lord, that if we make no interest for our capital, we cannot live. Allow me to ask, why is it so important a class as the producers of food should be deprived of the means of existence?

I took the liberty last year of forwarding your lordship a copy of a letter of mine in which I proved, and I hope truthfully and correctly, how the taxation and local burdens enhanced the cost of production 33s. 3½d. per acre—a copy of which letter I beg to hand your lordship. Upon the question arising, my lord, my lord, prepared to lessen the interest of the national debt, the income of the Queen, your own salaries, and that of all paid on the public revenue, full 35 per cent., being the amount which you have reduced the value of the productions of our labour—I ask, are you prepared to do that act of justice to the suffering tenantry of Great Britain, or will you notice to some equitable adjustment by lessening the taxes a certain amount, and levying a customs duty on foreign produce, to make up the deficiency so created in the revenue?

Allow me, in conclusion, to ask your lordship this plain question, if you can boast and feel pleasure in knowing you have lessened, to a considerable extent, the wages of labour, and allow me also to add, considerably lessened the demand—what, I ask, must be our feelings and that of the great body of the people when we find you have not lessened the wages of yourself and colleagues, and the wages of all paid out of the public revenue! The people, my lord, are becoming aware of the tricks of you thimble-riggers, and believe with me that those gentry who practise such tricks at our races and fairs are far more honorable and honest men than you and your colleagues; because, on the one hand, we country bumpkins (or as your honourable colleague, Lord Lincoln, terms us, "country gulls," clod-hoppers and chaw-bacons) are the only persons who can benefit the poor." I beg leave, my lord, to differ from you in that sentiment—for I maintain that it is the bounden duty of the government of this country so to legislate for people, with poor or producing classes, by legislating in a manner that will create a constant demand for their labours; we the working men of this country feel we are justly entitled to no less. I would ask why is it we patiently bear the excessive taxation and local burdens levied on us, but for the purpose of giving employment to the many not only of vital importance to us, but also to our country's prosperity? for upon the well being of the state depends that of the people, instead of which, the policy of yourself and colleagues has been to give a preference to the unskilled labour of other lands against ours, and which soon come upon you with the suddenness of a "mountain avalanche," that if a government will give the preference to the labour of foreigners, and find that the working classes exist also that the expenses of that government shall be reduced in the same ratio as the value of labour and the production of labour is reduced.

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THE NEW PROTESTANT MOVEMENT IN IRELAND.

A lecture was delivered last night in the National Schoolroom, Borough-road, by the Rev. R. Bickersteth, incumbent of St. John's, Clapham, on the recent remarkable progress and development of Protestantism in Ireland generally, but especially in the most Roman Catholic parts of the west of Ireland." The proceedings commenced at half-past seven o'clock, and the room, which is capable of containing several hundreds of persons, was densely crowded upon the occasion.

The reverend Lecturer said he appeared before the meeting with feelings of unmingled pleasure to give them information with respect to the great and most important movement which was at present going on in Ireland among the Roman Catholics of that country, which movement was conducted by a society called "The Irish Church Missions to Roman Catholics." That movement had already been blessed in this country to the conversion of numbers of interesting persons, and had, by God's blessing, been the means of great good, but that he thought it would be better not to teach the children to read the Bible, and that after a stagnation of some months in the progress of the work. At the observation Mr. Callaghan replied that the Bible was the basis of the education, and that he could not give it up. Mr. Lally had then been informed that he must stop the Bible himself, and after having at the same time attended the Church Missionary lectures during seven months, he had declared that he had by that means, for the first time, learned the Gospel of Christ, and that he would never again enter a mass house. He had then been told that he could not be had joined the Protestant Church, and had indeed been told that seven children also to become converts to the true faith. He had then been engaged for about a year and a half ago, and continued stedfast Protestant. He had also been informed that a statement had been made by Mr. Lally to the effect that there was a serious fall away from the principles of the Irish Roman Catholics to enter zealously into that labour of love. But the work was not going on without difficulty and with much pain. Many of the people of the neighbourhood had become so convinced of the errors of Popery, that she had left the communion upon the Sunday before. On her return home one evening, she had found her father on her knees praying to the Virgin Mary, and on his telling her to pray to God alone, she was told that she was about to hell. "I cannot; I can pray to none but God." As she persisted in this determination, the father drove her to a post and threatened to kill her unless she prayed. She continued with suffering, she was again ordered by him to kneel down and pray to the Virgin, when she again replied that she could pray to God alone. Upon this the father struck her a violent enhancer, felt that there must be something good in a religion which enabled a child to act with so much determination, and was soon induced to inquire into the subject, had, with his wife and his whole family, become converted to the Protestant faith (hear, hear). Of their faithfulness he had given proof in the fact that this painful topic, for he did not wish to dwell upon the excess into which his brethren of any religion were betrayed. He would only observe that the people of the west of Ireland of this country would aid in that good work by their prayers and their contributions. He believed that Ireland was overrun with Popery, and that it could be by the Protestants of England, Ireland would be a Protestant country before the lapse of many years. It was the ignorance, the poverty, the misery, the degradation of Ireland, and her unparalleled social and physical misery, were entirely owing to her adherence to the errors of Popery. Those errors, he believed, could only be uprooted from her soil, her physical, moral, and intellectual improvement would be vastly promoted and permanently ensured.

HUNGERFORD HALL.—ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

Last night a numerous and fashionable audience assembled at the new Hungerford Hall, Strand, to hear a lecture by Professor Lassaigne on the illustrations by Professor Lassaigne and Mdlle. Prudence Bernard, from Paris, of the science of animal magnetism.

Mr. Bernard, on opening the subject, said that as neither M. Lassaigne nor Mdlle. Bernard could speak the English language they had deputed to him the task of acting as interpreter, and he occasionally did so. He hoped that a large portion of the audience were sceptical on this subject, and that scepticism they hoped to shake, if not totally to remove. He was sceptical himself on animal magnetism, and he could not at first comprehend. Their agent was electricity, and all who knew the subtle nature of the fluid knew how wonderful it was in its effects. Many of the audience, he knew, for instance, that an electric submarine telegraph had been, within the last few days, successfully established between England and France. Experiments had been made every experiment failed last year, though the principle was never doubted, and was now proved. Alchemy was another thing which had been ridiculed, but which was now one of the primitive source of the discovery of the wonders and beauties of chemistry. He might state that magic, the progenitor of animal magnetism, existed in the remotest ages. The learned professors, was the science of attraction. That had been discovered by Isaac Newton himself, when he was sitting in the system of gravitation upon the fall of an apple from its parent tree. Their own immortal Shakspeare had also referred to the science of attraction, in the sentiments expressed by *Lorenzo to Jessica*. Even when added to effects of animal magnetism, and quoted at length the experiments made by Dr. Gregory, of Edinburgh, and in conclusion adverted to the wonderful effects of produce of mesmerism, displayed by Professor Lassaigne and Mdlle. Bernard, at the Adelphi Theatre, Dublin, in 1849, when 63 persons, selected for the occasion, were unanimously expressed their opinion that what they had witnessed had been produced by animal magnetism.

Professor Lassaigne and Mdlle. Bernard then took their seats on the platform, and at the request of Mr. Reeves the following gentlemen were selected as committee of six jurors, who were to observe closely all that passed:—Mr. Brewster (son of Sir David Brewster), Mr. Knox, and Mr. Longman.

Mdlle. Bernard having taken her seat in the centre of the platform, the professor intimated that he should first exhibit the effects of mesmerism upon the fair lady, and that before throwing the lady into a state of coma, he should call the attention of the audience to the fact, that before receiving the magnetic influence, she might close her eyes, as that instrument without any effect being discernible.

Mdlle. Bernard then threw the lady into a state of coma, which was pronounced complete by the committee of jurors, and placed in close contiguity to the compass; but no motion whatever was perceptible. The professor then requested the lady to awake, and on her doing so, when asked the subject was declared to be in a fit state for the required experiments. The first in order was to lead her up to the needle, and by the mere influence of the hand to turn the needle of the compass most obediently followed in the same direction. This singular fact was attested by the jurors, who had been appointed for the purpose of closely observing the same.

The Professor then said that he should give some experiments in clairvoyance, and requested that a lady would communicated to the company through the medium of the interpreter. It was requested that the desire of any lady to have the question of the future of her life solved, and that himself standing some feet behind the patient—to whom, by certain mystical passes, it was supposed he conveyed the influence of his will—he (Mr. Bickersteth) should put the query uttered, or sign being made, on the first gentleman whispering something in his ear, he passed his hand once over the lady's face, when she became aware of the query in which she had before been sitting in a state of apparent unconsciousness, and, walking to a distant part of the hall, wrote down on a piece of paper the answer to the query made by signal by another gentleman, upon which Mdlle. Bernard was awoke from her trance, and, on taking her retired seat, and drew his watch from his pocket, and an act which the gentleman declared he had previously performed. She was then requested to proceed to a gentleman, took from him an umbrella, opened it, and passed it to another person on the opposite side. This was done by the lady in a state of coma, and which, as she was never seen any person in the room, and was quite unacquainted with him to whom he had desired the article to be passed, was declared by the committee of jurors to be clairvoyance. The clairvoyant was subsequently handed by divers persons a piece of paper, and having tasted a portion declared it to be either ink, salt and water, brandy, peaseandbro, cod liver oil, &c., according to the wish previously expressed by the individual amongst the company to the professor.

The next test was one of a singular character. Without expressing any word whatever, any gentleman was requested to lead the clairvoyant across the room, and by the mere action her fear of falling; then of walking on pebbles by the sea-side; of treading on fire; and lastly, of having trod upon a serpent. In every case nothing could be more beautifully displayed than the horror and fear arising from the supposed proximity to so dangerous a reptile. This part of the entertainment was received with loud cheers.

Communications were then made by request, briefly, of any striking event in the life of individuals in the company; and, although no motion or word was uttered between them, yet it was striking to hear the relation of the circumstances of one gentleman having been thrown out of a cab and receiving severe injury, and of another, who, being in action and disarmed, was rode up to by a French cuirassier, who made a blow at his head with a sabre, and which, as a desperate means of saving his life, he seized with his hands, by which act they were nearly cut through. As she approached the termination of the latter event, the whole of the audience were raised in a very graphic and earnest manner, her frame appeared to shake under the fearful apprehensions to which it had given rise. Both the gentlemen who prompted the facts to the professor acknowledged that they had been present on both these occasions she could not more vividly have described the scenes that then occurred.

Upon the jury being questioned as to their opinion upon what they had witnessed, two of them, Mr. Brewster and Mr. Knox, declared that they still had their doubts of the truth of what they had seen, but that they were unable, however, to account for it upon any other principle than that of animal magnetism. Overall, using the utmost vigilance, to detect any collusion between the professor and other parties; and, to say the least of it, that the experiments were wonderful. The other gentleman gave a less qualified opinion in favour of the science.

The *World* was then announced for repetition amidst general applause. Altogether it was a very clever performance."

BRITISH BENEFICENT INSTITUTION.

The first general court of this institution was held yesterday, at the offices, 69, Lincoln's-inn-fields, Lord Erskine in the chair.

It appeared by the report that since the foundation festival, celebrated on the 3d of July, 1850, two elections of annuitants had taken place—the first in October, when 200 annuitants were elected, and the other on the 16th of April, when five more were added to the list. Each of those ladies was now receiving an annuity of 20l., payable monthly, and there had also been after having been on the funds of the society for four months, but after her death a sum equivalent to two months' income had been paid to her next of kin, to assist in the funeral expenses—applying for pensions, comprising the widows and daughters of clergymen, military and naval officers, magistrates, landed proprietors, solicitors, medical men, merchants, bankers, architects, &c. The next election for five annuitants is to be held in the current month. The annual office of president had, in the early part of the existence of the Earl of Cadogan, been filled by the election of Lord De Mauley. Sir Charles Price, the banker of the society, had been appointed treasurer. The death of Lord Lyndhurst, who had already had resigned his office of honorary secretary, and the Rev. W. Johns had been nominated his successor.

The first anniversary dinner was held on the 19th of May last, when donations were received from his Grace the Duke of Cleveland, the Earl of Stradford, Viscountess Beresford, Lord Hardinge, and other distinguished persons, amounting to about 400l., while the annual subscriptions had amounted to 200l. The institution was now patronised by 50 ladies, and there were 115 clergymen and gentlemen who had become vice presidents, besides about 200 governors, who had contributed 10l. 10s. and upwards. The accounts on the whole showed the increasing prosperity of the charity. The report having been adopted,

Lord Erskine said he had been elected president, and Lord Erskine chairman of the council, to which several members were added, after which the meeting separated.

CALSTOCK UNITED MINES.

The first annual meeting of the adventurers in these mines took place yesterday, at the offices in Threadneedle-street; Mr. Mitchell in the chair.

The report, which was read by the secretary, gave a most favourable account of the progress and prospects of the mines, and was received with great satisfaction by the company.

The report stated that within a very brief period a large quantity of ore had been raised, and a dressing floor had been erected for the manufacture of arsenic upon a large scale, which are now in full work, the gross produce of the lode, to copper ore, for the month ending the 7th inst., 76 tons, dressed and broken, in quantity about nine tons, was stated to be worth about 400l., amounting with the above to 1160l., out of which a dividend of 5 per cent. would be paid on the 25th of December next; the whole the result of about three months' working, after about nine months' preparation in the erection of machinery, &c.

The financial statement showed that up to the present time there has been expended in machinery and works, out of a nominal capital of 100,000l., and other sums, a total of 44611. 15s. 3d., leaving a balance in hand of 5638l. 5s. 4d., in addition to the produce mentioned above.

Mr. Mitchell, the chairman, Mr. Robinson, secretary, mining officers, and auditors had been cordially voted, the meeting, a very full one, about 80 gentlemen being present—separated.

NEW CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION BILL.

The following are the heads of the bill which the Court of Common Council have determined shall be brought into parliament in the ensuing session:—

"That the corporation of London shall occupy premises in the City of London for a period of a year and a day, and shall per sect and bear lot, shall be a freeman and citizen, and shall have and enjoy all the benefits and privileges, and be subject to all the duties thereof.

"That every freeman and citizen be rated to some municipal, parliamentary, or parochial rate to an amount of not less than 10l.

"That all reference to the register of voters for members of parliament be repealed.

"That the roll of freemen and citizens be made out in the first week of October, to be revised by the Aldermen and Common Council in the first week of May in the year thereafter following, with a provision that due notice be given in each ward of times when, and places where, such revision shall be appointed to take place.

"That in the absence of the aldermen, the Lord Mayor act in his stead.

"That the qualifications for candidates for the Common Council be the same as those of the electors, and that provision be made to prevent any person being a candidate for the office of alderman or common councilman in more than one ward, to limit the duration of attraction, in the sentiments expressed by *Lorenzo to Jessica*. Even when added to effects of animal magnetism, and quoted at length the experiments made by Dr. Gregory, of Edinburgh, and in conclusion adverted to the wonderful effects of produce of mesmerism, displayed by Professor Lassaigne and Mdlle. Bernard, at the Adelphi Theatre, Dublin, in 1849, when 63 persons, selected for the occasion, were unanimously expressed their opinion that what they had witnessed had been produced by animal magnetism.

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