cajolery, treachery, and bad faith that has marked the conduct of almost every European sovereign towards his subjects for the last three and thirty years. Does any man believe that the liberties which have been conquered, would be safe in any single state, without a vigilant jealousy on the part of the people? These popular excesses, that are so much denounced by political prudes in this country, are the natural fruits of the sort of government that has made them *necessities*. They may be condemned or lamented, but, until *rights* are fully legalised, there can be no *regular* action for public powers. The lesson to be learnt from the revolutions of the last twelve months is, the insecurity of the basis on which all governments rest that are *not* governments of opinion, and the dangerous and headlong anarchy that forms the necessary interregnum between demolished despotisms and the *regularised* action of the forms of self-government.

THE SUPPLY OF GOLD FROM CALIFORNIA.

After making every allowance for the well-known tendency of the American papers to indulge in extravagant exaggeration, it now seems beyond all question that the inhabitants of California have discovered the real El Dorado. The New York papers received by the *Britannia* are filled with letters and statements relating to the land of promise. According to some accounts, the quantity of gold already collected is much greater than is generally admitted; there being a wish on the part of the first emigrants to mislead the public with regard to the actual riches of California, in order to prevent further excitement. Any hope of producing such an effect, however, must now be given up. The official report which has been forwarded to the cabinet at Washington, by Colonel MASON and Brigadier-General JONES, in command at Monterey, is full of statements regarding the treasures of California, which seem more like some of the wondrous relations in the *Thousand and One Nights*, than the sober narrative of two American officers describing what is going on under their own observation. In one instance, we are told of two men who obtained 17,000 dollars worth of gold in a few weeks; a Mr. SINCLAIR, who employed fifty Indians at high wages, cleared 16,000 dollars in five weeks; while most of those who worked for themselves alone, appear to have earned about 100 dollars worth of gold per day. As might naturally be expected, the prospect of obtaining such high wages is drawing not only the whole of the inhabitants of New California to the "diggings," as the gold region is called, but even the soldiers and sailors who come within reach of its attractions, are unable to resist the temptation. On this head the official report says:—

"The discovery of these vast deposits of gold has entirely changed the character of Upper California. Its people, before engaged in cultivating their small patches of ground, and guarding their herds of cattle and horses, have all gone to the mines, or are on their way there. Labourers of every trade have left their work benches, and tradesmen their shops. Sailors desert their ships as fast as they arrive on the coast, and several vessels have gone to sea with hardly enough hands to spread a sail. Two or three are now at anchor in San Francisco with no crew on board. Many desertions, too, have taken place from the garrisons within the influence of these mines; 26 soldiers have deserted from the post of Sonora, 24 from that of San Francisco, and 24 from Monterey. For a few days the evil appeared so threatening that great danger existed that the garrisons would leave in a body; and I refer you to my order of the 25th July, to show the steps adopted to meet this contingency. I shall spare no exertions to apprehend and punish deserters, but I believe no time in the history of our country has presented such temptations to desert as now exist in California. The danger of apprehension is small, and the prospect of high wages certain; pay and bounties are trifles, as labouring men at the mines can now earn in one day more than double a soldier's pay and allowances for a month; and even the pay of a lieutenant or a captain cannot hire a servant. A carpenter or mechanic would not listen to an offer of less than 15 or 20 dollars a day. Could any combination of affairs try a man's fidelity more than this? And I really think some extraordinary mark of favour should be given to those soldiers who remain faithful to their flag throughout this tempting crisis. No officer can now live in California on his pay, money has so little value; the prices of necessary articles of clothing and subsistence are so exorbitant, and labour so high, that to hire a cook or servant has become an impossibility, save to those who are earning from 30 to 40 dollars a day."

Some of the American papers propose that the Government should take possession of the gold country, and only grant liberty to search for the hidden wealth on the payment of a certain rent. Colonel MASON appears to have thought of taking such a step; but, upon considering the large extent of country, and the small force under his command, he very wisely came to the conclusion that it would be most prudent not to interfere. Should the United States Government take the same view of matters, the influx of immigrants from all parts of America will, no doubt, proceed in a greatly accelerated ratio. The official report of Colonel MASON was written nearly five months ago, at which time from four thousand to eight thousand persons were said to be engaged in the search for gold. By this time the number will have doubled, in all probability, as the wonderful news must have spread much more widely since August, and have consequently inspired a greater crowd of adventurers with the desire to go and gather golden harvests on the shores of the Sacramento. How long the supply of gold in California will thus continue to enrich all who engage in the search for it no one can say. One writer, who states that "nine ounces of gold per diem is the average amount picked up by each person," is of opinion that 50,000 men might meet with equal success on the ground already explored. Most of the accounts, however, unite in stating that the gold district covers at least 500 square miles of territory, so that a much larger number of hands even than 50,000 might be profitably engaged in this lucrative pursuit.

With our present imperfect knowledge of what is going on in New California, it is impossible to speak with any degree of precision as to what the result may be, of a large increase in the supply of gold bullion from America. And yet it is natural that commercial speculation should endeavour to anticipate the probable consequences of any such change in the relative value of gold, and those commodities of which it forms the price. We observe that some of our contemporaries, in speaking of the effect of an increased production of gold on the price of commodities, deny that any increase which is likely to take place can have much effect on markets in England. On this point we incline to take a rather different view. Taking for granted that some 25,000 persons are employed in the "diggings" next year, and that their average earnings shall amount to no more than 20 dollars a day, which is only one-fifth of what they are said to be earning at present, the aggregate produce would be 500,000 dollars per day, or, supposing no work is done on Sundays, upwards of 150,000,000 dollars worth of gold in the present year. Now we do not say that this quantity will be obtained, but, looking at most of the statements which have been made regarding the abundance of gold over so large a territory, even this large amount may be called a very moderate estimate. Assuming, then, for the moment, that the product may possibly be 150,000,000 dollars in 1849, let us inquire what would be the probable effect upon prices of so sudden an increase in the supply of gold.

According to the best authorities, the average supply of gold and silver from the mines of South America, and all other parts of the world, from 1700 to 1810, was about £8,000,000 a year. Taking into account the loss sustained by the abrasion of gold and silver coin, the quantity converted into articles of ornament and use, and the large amount exported to the East during that period, it has been estimated that the aggregate increase in the quantity of gold and silver employed in commercial purposes in Europe and America, during the 110 years from 1700 to 1810, was not above £50,000,000 or £60,000,000. From 1810 to 1829 the same authorities estimate the average supply of gold and silver from all sources at £5,000,000 a year, which was not equal to the loss sustained by abrasion and by the employment of large quantities in articles of luxury. During the last few years the supply of the precious metals from various sources has greatly increased, and is now supposed by MACCULLOCH to be about £9,000,000 a year. Taking that estimate as something near the truth, it would seem that the quantity of gold and silver employed in commercial purposes is slowly increasing. Under these circumstances, a sudden increase in the annual production of these metals from £9,000,000 to £40,000,000—which would be the case, supposing our estimate to be a correct one—must inevitably have a wonderful effect upon prices, and upon all fixed engagements. What effect it may be expected to have upon the financial and commercial affairs of this country, we shall endeavour to show upon a future occasion.

LATEST NEWS.

SUDDEN DEATH OF EARL AUCKLAND.

(*From the Standard of last evening.*)

It is our painful duty to announce the sudden demise of Lord Auckland, first lord of the admiralty. On Thursday evening last, his lordship left London, in the enjoyment of perfect health, in order to join a shooting party at Lord Ashburton's seat, in Hampshire. On Saturday, accompanied by Lord Ashburton and a number of other gentlemen, Earl Auckland spent the greater portion of the day in shooting; but between three and four o'clock in the afternoon he was seized with a species of fainting, and almost immediately fell to the ground speechless. Assistance was promptly rendered, and his lordship was carried to Lord Ashburton's house, where medical aid was instantly procured. He was, however, in so precarious a condition, that it was thought necessary to dispatch a messenger to London, for the purpose of acquainting the family, and of requiring the services of Dr. Locock, who, accompanied by Miss Frances Eden, repaired to Hampshire yesterday morning. Upon their arrival, Lord Auckland was quite unconscious, and Dr. Locock could hold out no hope of recovery. His lordship, however, lingered until seven o'clock this morning, when he breathed his last. A special messenger arrived at the admiralty at noon this day, bringing the mournful intelligence.

The deceased earl was born in 1784, and succeeded his father as baron in 1814. He was governor-general of India from 1835 to 1841, and afterwards filled the offices of president of the board of trade, master of the mint, and first lord of the admiralty. His brother, the present Bishop of Sodor and Man, and late vicar of Battersea, better known by his name of the Hon. and Rev. Robert Eden, and who was born in 1799, succeeds to the earldom.

Local and Provincial News.

THE AMERICAN MAILS.—The steam-ship *America*, Captain Leitch, sailed from Liverpool on Saturday forenoon for Halifax and Boston; she carried out the usual mails, and a number of passengers for both those ports. The *Canada* that was to leave New York may be expected at Liverpool this day.

Sailed yesterday, the 1st instant, from Liverpool to New York, the packet-ship *Jamestown*, Capt. Trask.

FREE-TRADE HALL.—GRAND CONCERT.—Music would appear as though it were fast becoming a necessity to vast masses of our pleasure-seeking population. Night after night, if the fare be only palatable, do we find the musical banquets of the Free Trade Hall attended by eager devourers, as though "increase of appetite grew by what it fed on." On Saturday next another concert is announced, presenting very considerable attractions; the principals being Miss Birch, Miss Whitnall, Messrs. Sims Reeves and Whitworth. The ladies are too well known to need further introduction; and the recent operatic doings of Mr. Howard Glover, at our Theatre Royal, made the singing of Messrs. Reeves and Whitworth familiar to thousands who, we venture to think, will scarcely let the present opportunity pass without a renewal of the pleasure then afforded them.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The pantomime is drawing large audiences here, not only nightly, but also on the occasion of the two day performances of Saturday and yesterday. It now goes on very smoothly, and seems likely to become one of the most popular the theatre has produced. The day performance of yesterday put upwards of one hundred pounds in the treasury, and last night the house was again crowded in every part,—boxes, pit, and galleries. The play was the old piece of morality, *George Barnwell*, drawing tears from the eyes of the sentimental, and inward promises of amendment from the "fast" youth, as quickly changed to laughter at the wondrous and humorous scenes which followed in the pantomime. *George Barnwell* is to be repeated on Wednesday, to be shortly followed by a version of the last Christmas story, by Dickens, called the *Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain;* in which we anticipate much from the *Milly* of Miss Anderton. The last day performance, it will be seen, is announced for Saturday next.—The Queen's Theatre has produced a pantomime, the principal feature of which is the clever posturing of the clown, pantaloon, and a young imp. The house was equally crowded last night with that of the Theatre Royal.

CHINESE COLLECTION.—Among the interesting amusements of this social time, this one of the Chinese collection stands pre-eminent in novelty and value. The intercourse between us the "outside barbarians" and the "celestial empire" must increase with every opportunity the freedom of commerce is forcing; and to the rising generation, therefore, information in reference to the customs and habits of so peculiar and isolated a people as the Chinese, must become a lesson of importance, one which the present occasion presents in an extraordinary combination of curious and tasteful detail. No exhibition pretending to be the exponent of any people or country has ever shown so complete a knowledge of what was required by a looker-on, supposed to be an entire stranger to the subject. Pass the threshold, and we have really passed the great seas that divide us, and are at once traversing the streets, seated in the drawing rooms, entering the shops, or chatting with the people. We are glad to learn that thousands of our citizens are taking advantage of the limited period this highly interesting exhibition will remain with us.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERT.—FREE-TRADE HALL.—The third and last of M. Jullien's concerts, during the past week, was given on Saturday evening, when the great hall was again literally crammed. A detailed notice of the performance would be little more than a repetition of the remarks in our last publication—a repetition of approval and admiration of the tact and talent displayed by M. Jullien, and his excellent orchestra. Madlle. Nissen improved upon her first performance, interesting even as that was, and we shall be glad to find her in the list of future announcements. M. Jullien will leave Manchester with a much higher reputation than he had yet earned amongst our fast increasing circle of legitimate musicians. The performances of the past week showed a gradual approach to a more refined standard of taste, and a greater desire to leave clap-trap in abeyance. We trust he will go on in the same direction, having faith in the people and in their natural appreciation of what is truly beautiful, their preference even for it over what is false, if it be only put before them in a form they are enabled to comprehend. Another concert is arranged for Tuesday the 9th instant, the occasion being M. Jullien's benefit, and the last of his visits during the present festive season. The programme exhibits choice and judicious selections, among them arrangements from Mozart's *Il Don Giovanni*, and Rossini's *Stabat Mater;* two movements—the *Allegro* and *Storm*—from Beethoven's immortal *Pastoral Symphony;* a set of Quadrilles from Chinese melodies (one of which is attributed to Confucius); the repetition of the *Drum Polka*, and M. Jullien's arrangement of *God Save the Queen*, the last of which being among those grand combinations of musical harmony apt to carry a large audience beyond the limit of commonplace enthusiasm. All this, with solos on flute and violin, by Messrs. Richardson and Blagrove, present attractions which, we doubt not, will realise the most sanguine anticipations of M. Jullien.

COCK'S MUSICAL ALMANAC FOR 1849.—Although the above named almanac is, to a certain extent, a medium of advertising the works of Messrs. Cocks and Co. yet our musical readers will find in its pages much valuable information, not only of a general character, but in the particular one to which it professes to be devoted. The calendar indicates the births, deaths, &c. of leading musicians, along with other interesting events connected with the art and its professors, whilst this again is accompanied by a more detailed account of many composers and their compositions. Then we have a list of the numerous musical societies of London, including the names of their officers, conductors, &c.; a list of the organists of the royal chapels, cathedrals, and collegiate churches in England and Wales; the musical journals—their editors and principal contributors, and other varied matter, the usual staple of these annual remembrancers.

CHANGE IN THE FIRM OF JONES, LOYDS, AND CO.—The following circular announces an important change in the well-known and highly-esteemed banking firm of Messrs. Jones, Loyds, and Co. of this city. The new partners are Mr. Entwisle, the late member for South Lancashire, Mr. Bury, solicitor, and Mr. Jervis, a gentleman for several years enjoying a confidential position in the bank:

"We think it right to inform you that we have ceased to act as bankers at Manchester from the 29th of December instant. The business hitherto carried on by us will be continued by our Mr. Edward Loyd, jun. in conjunction with Mr. William Entwisle, Mr. Henry Bury, and Mr. Thomas B. Jervis, as our successors, under the new firm of Loyd, Entwisle, Bury, and Jervis.

"We gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to make our grateful acknowledgments of the uniform kindness and confidence which, through a long period of years, we have experienced from the commercial community and the inhabitants generally of Manchester and its neighbourhood, and we trust the same kind encouragement will be extended to our successors, in whose progressive prosperity we shall always feel the most lively interest.—We are, your faithful servants,

"W. JONES, LOYDS, AND CO.

"King-street, Manchester, Dec. 27, 1848."

MAN KILLED IN A BEER-HOUSE YESTERDAY.—Yesterday morning, two men, named George Galloway (of No. 28, Back Thomas-street), and James Hogg (of No. 20, Back Thomas-street), whilst in a beer-house in Bradshaw-street, began to fight, and the latter gave the former a blow with the back of one hand, from the effects of which he died almost immediately. The particulars will not be accurately known till the inquest, this day, but the survivor is in custody.

MANCHESTER EXCHANGE.—We have authority to state that on this day 40 years since the doors of this highly important and useful structure were opened to subscribers, by our townsman, Mr. Thomas Woodburne, solicitor, who projected and superintended its erection and establishment, and who is now one of the surviving trustees of the institution. The first stone was laid by the present Sir George Philips, as chairman of the committee, on the 21st July, 1806, and the opening took place on the 2nd January, 1809.—*From a correspondent.*

FRAUD UPON AN ODDFELLOWS' LODGE.—At the County Court, Bolton, yesterday, William Bridge was charged with defrauding the Hope and Glory Lodge, at Farnworth, of £18. The prisoner had been secretary of the lodge, and held a key of the desk, in which was deposited a portion of their fund; and on the 22nd November last contrived to extract the above amount, and decamp with it, intending to go to America; but the vessel was driven back again, and he was apprehended. It was argued by Mr. Gaskell, who appeared for the prosecution, that it was a case of felony, inasmuch as a rent was paid to the landlord for the use of the room. On the other hand Mr. Richardson contended that the rules not being enrolled, it was an illegal body, and the defendant being a partner, no criminal prosecution could be sustained. The magistrates consulted for a short time, and committed the defendant for trial at the Salford sessions.

STRETFORD SUNDAY SCHOOL TEA PARTY.—On Christmas Day, a meeting was held at Stretford, near Manchester, in aid of the funds of the Congregational Sabbath school attached to the chapel of the Rev. E. Morris. W. Morris, Esq. of Salford, occupied the chair. The proceedings were of the most interesting character.

DR. MAINZER'S CLASSES.—We are glad to perceive the efforts making by this gentleman to spread the influence of music amongst the various orders of society in Manchester during his sojourn among us. He is diffusing the knowledge he possesses through the workshop as well as the drawing room, both by means of lecture and practical instruction; and there is little doubt that we shall very soon witness, in our musical gatherings, the important effects produced by his rational mode of tuition, as well as through the artistic sentiment he is always anxious to convey to his pupils.

SALFORD LITERARY AND MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—On Thursday evening last, the members and friends held their annual Christmas party, in the lecture room of the above institution, which was tastefully decorated with crimson drapery and evergreens, for the occasion. After tea Mr. Aitken, having been called to the chair, opened the proceedings in a short and appropriate speech, on the advantages offered by the institution, and the beneficial tendency of moral and intellectual amusements. Messrs. W. V. Herford, Frost, P. M. Redfern, and others subsequently addressed the meeting on similar subjects. Songs, recitations, quadrilles, &c. concluded the entertainments, and the assembly, which was large and select, separated at a late hour, apparently gratified with the rational mode in which they had revived the times of old father Christmas.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL, TOTTINGTON.—The annual recital took place in the above school on Monday evening, when about 32 of the Sunday scholars recited a number of very good and interesting pieces, in a most praiseworthy manner, and which reflected great credit upon the teachers. The choir, also, sang a number of very suitable duets, choruses, and hymn tunes, in a pleasant and masterly manner. The school looked extremely well, being decorated with evergreens, flags, a royal crown, &c. &c. The evening altogether was spent very agreeably, and gave great satisfaction to the audience, which was very large, and would have been more numerous had the school been larger, as a considerable number went back, who could not be admitted.

ST. THOMAS'S, RED BANK.—On Thursday evening last, the annual tea party of St. Thomas's congregation took place in the large upper school-room, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The chairman stated, that he could refer without feelings of disappointment to the anticipations expressed, at the opening of the school, of the various benefits likely to spring therefrom, and enumerated some of them as having been realised beyond his expectations.—The Rev. C. Richson congratulated the chairman on the prosperity of St. Thomas's schools, and having adverted to the prospects of the Manchester Church Education Society, pointed out the insufficiency of the voluntary principle as exhibited in the indifference of parents to send their children to school, and the necessity that some compulsory method should be adopted by government.—The Rev. H. Ethelston laid great stress on the importance of religion being made the substratum of education, and pointed to the condition of France, Germany, and Italy, where the intellect has been trained in science and all knowledge but the truth as it is in Jesus.—The Rev. W. Verdon considered that it was mainly owing to the honour shown to the bible in England that God has preserved us hitherto from the chastisement that has fallen on other lands.—The Rev. W. Read, and other speakers, afterwards addressed the meeting, which broke up at ten o'clock.

ANCOATS LYCEUM CHRISTMAS PARTY.—The annual Christmas party of the members and friends of the Ancoats Lyceum took place on Friday night, in the Temperance Hall, Mather-street. About 250 persons, male and female, young and old, sat down to an excellent tea; and that all enjoyed themselves was proved by the animated conversation and the ringing laughter which almost continually sounded through the hall. The president of the evening was John A. Nicholls, Esq.; and, after tea, that gentleman briefly addressed the company on the advantages of the Lyceum to the working classes of the district. He pointed out that there was attached to the institution a library of 3,000 volumes of the best works; that lectures of an instructive and entertaining character were given; that there were evening classes which were a credit to the institution; and that there was a day-school which contained about 300 children, one-half of whom attended in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. On the whole, though the Lyceum had progressed, it was not so well supported as he should wish it to be, and as it ought to be, by working men. There was accommodation in the building for more members, and room in the schools for more pupils; and he trusted that the coming year would witness a revival of trade, and an increased interest in the institution. Let the support extended to it be such as it ought to be; let the accommodation now at their disposal be proved to be inadequate; and he thought that they should have no great difficulty in raising funds for the erection of a new and more suitable building. They might also have branch schools throughout the district, for the benefit of the working classes. These were objects worthy of accomplishment, and he trusted that all would work for their fulfilment. (Cheers.) The after part of the proceedings were of a varied and pleasing character. A number of glees, songs, and duets were sung by Messrs. Crowther, Voce, Leather, Rothwell, Savage, Wiberley, and other friends of the institution; several pupils of the evening classes recited poetical and other pieces; and two or three gentlemen delivered brief and appropriate addresses. The entertainment closed with dancing.

ASSAULT UPON AN INSPECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES. On Wednesday, at the Borough Court, a man named Edward Press, a hawker of sand, was brought before the magistrates, charged with an assault upon Mr. Rooke, inspector of weights and measures, whilst in the discharge of his duty, in Hulme. It appeared that Rooke had seized his measures a week before, and found three of them deficient nearly to the extent of one-half; and on the day of the assault had found him in possession of other measures equally defective. He had struck the officer in the face, but had not inflicted any serious injury. The magistrates called upon him to find two sureties in £10 each, and in default committed him to prison for three months.

THEFT FROM WAREHOUSES.—A simple, innocent-looking young man, named William Pass, was placed at the bar of the Borough Court, on Friday, charged with felony. The police, having received information that the prisoner had some shirtings and ginghams in his possession, sent a clothes-dealer, named James Cassidy, to treat with him for the purchase of the goods. The result was the apprehension of the young man, in whose lodgings there were found twenty-two pieces of calico fents, ninety-eight yards of gingham, six bundles of twist, and one or two other articles. The fents were proved to have been stolen on Wednesday last, from the warehouse of Mr. James Foran, fent dealer, 12, Church-street. The prisoner declared that he took them from a hawker at Rochdale, of the name of Roberts, in payment of a debt of £4. 5s. The gingham was proved to have been stolen on the same day from the warehouse of Mr. W. Cliff, High-street. The prisoner asserted that it was left at his lodgings by a strange hawker, who was going out of town, and who wished him to dispose of it on commission. Of the six bundles of twist, three were produced, and some evidence was adduced as to their being the property of Mr. Sevalow, of Phœnix-street; but it was not quite satisfactory. The prisoner lodged at a confectioner's shop in Spear-street, and sub-inspector Taylor, of the B division, on searching the room, found some shirting calico under the prisoner's bed, and in other places a dark lantern and a quantity of patterns. The landlady of Pass said that when he was employed, he was a salesman in a warehouse. The depositions in the two first cases were taken, and the prisoner committed for trial.

SALFORD BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—On Friday morning the weekly meeting of the board was held, Aldarman Livingston in the chair. Present, Messrs. Jenkinson, Eveleigh, Towle, Nichols, Lowndes, P. W. Danby, Pennington, Brown, Higgins, Briddon, Barrow, and the Rev. J. Smith. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following was the expenditure for the week ending Dec. 13:—Inmates of the workhouses, 354; Pendleton school, 154; total number of persons relieved, 4,347, at a cost of £227. 5s. 4d. Balance due from the union, £1,907. 7s. 9d. The statement of the previous week was, in the workhouses, 367; Pendleton school, 154. Total number relieved, 4,309, at a cost of £197. 15s. 11d. Balance due from the union, £1,716. 7s. 11d. A letter was read from the Liverpool authorities, complaining that certain paupers who had been sent from Manchester to be transferred to Ireland had not been so removed, in consequence of the intoxication of the parish officer, Hall, sent in charge of them. Mr. Bower, the governor of the Pendleton school, was sent down in order, if possible, to rectify the negligence of the officer and effect the removal of the paupers. Mr. Bower and Hall were brought in before the guardians, when the latter denied the charge of intoxication. He was, however, discharged.—A deputation, appointed by a meeting of rate payers, held on the previous evening, in the Town Hall, Salford, to wait upon the guardians with a copy of the resolutions agreed upon, protesting against the appointment of a chaplain at the salary proposed, was then admitted. Mr. Drew, the secretary to the Ratepayers' Association, and one of the deputation, read the resolution, and begged to ask, whether in the appointment of a chaplain, at the salary proposed by the guardians, it was to be understood that the doors were to be closed against the ministers of other denominations? The answer was, that such regulation would be contrary to the act of parliament, and that such was not the intention of the board. The deputation then withdrew, when it was agreed that the board would take the subject into consideration, and communicate with either Mr. Drew or the chairman of the meeting. The clerk had, since the last meeting, been instructed to reply to the letter of Mr. Veevers, offering spiritual assistance, and he had done so. It was also arranged that the thanks of the board should be communicated to the town mission for their offers of assistance. Mr. Jenkinson then introduced his motion, of which he had previously given notice, namely, "that the resolution of the board appointing a chaplain at £120 per annum be rescinded." He was sorry that the apple of discord had been introduced into the board, and regretted that it had been necessary on his part to make such a motion as the present; but he thought that if the course he recommended were adopted, good feeling would be restored out of doors. He opposed the decision of the board on the grounds of its expense and non-necessity. The work was already tendered for by different clergymen and ministers, and he thought the present course taken by the guardians an unnecessary interference with the rights of dissenters and with the money of the ratepayers.—Mr. Lowndes seconded the motion.—Mr. Brown, the mover of the original resolution, did not think it necessary to reply to the remarks of Mr. Jenkinson, as he thought the objections urged by that gentleman insufficient.—The Rev. J. Smith said that the act of parliament expressly provided that the ministers entitled to visit the workhouse should not only be licensed ministers, but chaplains, members of the Church of England, and approved by the bishop. He did not agree with the remarks of Mr. Jenkinson. Clergymen might be found able to devote part of their time to the duties imposed, but he contended that the greatest diligence on the part of the ministers was necessary in order to save the souls of the poor. A clergyman who had no other means of obtaining subsistence could not afford to devote himself gratuitously to the work, as most of the dissenting ministers who visited the workhouse, from having other means of living, were able to do. He could not see that the ministrations of other denominations were sufficient for the inmates of the workhouse. He approved of Mr. Brown's motion.—Mr. Shelmerdine thought that the only argument raised by Mr. Jenkinson was one of expense; and if, on consideration, it were found that there was a necessity for such outlay, Mr. Jenkinson, according to his own statement, would not object to it.—Mr. Towle also opposed the application on the ground of expense; and after some discussion, Mr. Jenkinson's motion was put, when there appeared in its favour, 5; against it, 9. It was resolved that the decision of the board be communicated to the memorialists.—Mr. Jenkinson having given notice of a motion for some alteration with regard to the relief officers, the proceedings closed.

RED BANK INSTITUTION LECTURES.—On Friday evening last, at the St. Thomas' school-room, Red Bank, Dr. Clay gave his second and closing lecture on the use and abuse of tobacco, snuff, and opium. After recapitulating some of his former observations, he proceeded to say that the leaves of the tobacco plant were imbued with the most poisonous properties, and life was extinguished if but a few grains entered the stomach. The negroes, aware of its influence, for the purpose of satiating their revenge employed a concentrated preparation of the tobacco plant, which they poured into the drink of their victims, and then poisoned them. The symptoms attendant upon an injudicious use of tobacco, he had formerly mentioned, and the instances of death from excessive smoking were numerous. A German author stated that in his own country one half of the deaths which occurred between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five years were attributable to the smoking of tobacco. Smoking invited thirst, and even superinduced an unnatural indulgence in liquids. Even harmless liquids were injurious to the human system: smokers, however, did not appease their thirst by innocent liquids. The smell also was injurious, and the odour inhaled in the process of manufacture induced bronchitis and other diseases. As a medicine it had been frequently followed by fatal results from being injudiciously applied. As a cosmetic it was well known; and the "Balm of Columbia" was nothing but a preparation of tobacco. After thus examining the effects of tobacco when used either as a luxury or a medicine, the lecturer proceeded to notice its effects upon the lower animals, and then alluded to the practice of taking snuff; mentioning, at the same time, the adulterations used in its manufacture; as, snuff, animal excretions and glass, finely powdered, to stimulate the lining membrane of the nostrils. The practice of snuffing, besides its expense, was highly injurious, producing, as it did, hysteria and dyspeptic affections; and there was no doubt that to the habit of snuff-taking Napoleon Bonaparte owed that cancerous affection of the stomach which ultimately caused him his death. Snuffing also encouraged a determination of blood to the head, and, being one of the most frequent causes of apoplexy, persons of plethoric habit should never indulge in the habit. Chewing was the worst manner of taking the weed, and induced derangement in the organs of digestion. The saliva was wasted, and those who had an inordinate liking for chewing could not be less than drunkards. After the details and comments upon the evils attending the use of tobacco, in its various preparations, the lecturer strongly recommended it as a duty owing to society to practise and recommend its disuse, and that measures to stop its progress ought to be immediately taken.

HULME AND ECCLES TURNPIKE TRUST.—REGENT ROAD BRIDGE.—The act obtained during the last session of parliament by the trustees of this road, it will be remembered was stoutly opposed, in so far as the same sought to continue the passenger toll. A committee to oppose these clauses, was formed, by whose exertions memorials, very numerously and influentially signed, were presented to the corporations of both Manchester and Salford, and these had the effect of inducing those bodies to unite in opposition to the passing of the act, in the form in which it was introduced into parliament. By the united exertions of the two corporations and the committee, but especially by the indefatigable labours of the latter body (to whose chairman, Mr. John M. Worrall; solicitor, Mr. Wolley Foster; and secretary, Mr. Thomas Chadwick, too much praise cannot be awarded), the bill was so modified in its provisions, as to secure to the public an exemption from foot toll on and after the first day of this year, with a prospect of a discontinuance of all toll at the bridge gate within five years, and a total abolition of all toll between Manchester and Eccles long before the present act shall expire. The act came into force yesterday, being the first day of the new year, and in accordance with the notice issued by the chairman and the law-clerk, "that on and after the first day of January, the foot passengers over Regent Road Bridge will be free of toll," the ordinary half-penny toll on passing the bridge ceased on Sunday evening at twelve o'clock. The opening of the bridge free to foot passengers, immediately after the hour of twelve had boomed from the church steeples of the city through the silent night of the last Sunday of the year, was attended with all the demonstrations of joy, that could with propriety be attendant upon an occasion so closely following upon the engagements of the sacred day. At a few minutes before twelve o'clock, William Jenkinson, Esq. (late Mayor of Salford) chairman of the present trustees of the road, accompanied by several of his co-adjutors in that trust, and by J. J. Parker, Esq. the chairman of the board of surveyors for Salford, and also by the chairman, solicitor, secretary, and several members of the Regent Road Bridge committee, and attended by Mr. Neal, chief constable of Salford, and several of the Salford police, proceeded to the bridge gate, and immediately on the striking of the hour of midnight the gate was thrown open, and Mr. Jenkinson, in his character of chairman of the trust, proclaimed the bridge to be free to foot-passengers thenceforward forever—a fitting new year's gift, indeed, to the poor of the district, who have so long suffered under this tax. Nothing can give stronger evidence that the labouring population did really feel that what had thus been effected for them was a great boon, than the fact that, although no previous notice had been given to the public of an intention to make any demonstration at the opening, not less than 3,000 persons, almost wholly of the working classes, had assembled to hail the new year as the remover of one obstruction more to a free communication between the important communities of Manchester and Salford. The gate at the foot passenger's side of the toll-house was then taken from its hinges, and a band of music, which it appears had been provided by some persons in the neighbourhood, struck up "See, the conquering hero comes," and preceded the gentlemen engaged in this good work on their return to their committee rooms at Mr. Sidlow's, the Wellington Inn, Regent Road, where the poor were regaled, and the committee themselves and their friends quaffed divers glasses in congratulation of the success of their efforts. We understand that the last halfpenny was paid for toll by Mr. Thomas Skelhorn, a clerk with Messrs. Chadwick and Son, estate brokers, King-street, and was handed by the toll collector to the chairman, to be by him preserved as the last relic of a barbarous custom. Of course the toll bar will not be taken down, as the toll upon carriages, cattle, and vehicles, for the purpose of paying off the debt upon the road, and the interest, accumulated and prospective, will continue to be collected as heretofore. The liberation of residents and general foot-passengers from this unheard-of toll tax within the limits of a large city, which moreover has been levied for forty years, has given the greatest satisfaction to all concerned, and the event was yesterday celebrated by the suspension of numerous flags and banners from the windows of houses in Regent Road. There can be little doubt that the abolition of this toll will work a wonderful change in the immediate neighbourhood of the bridge, and that the large pieces of open ground there will be made available for the erection of houses and of public works. The late mayor of Salford (Mr. Jenkinson) observed at a council meeting some months ago, that Salford was more like a besieged city than a place of commerce; so difficult was it to obtain free access to it. That gentleman had the satisfaction to witness the removal of one of these obstructions (Blackfriar's Bridge toll), and now, by the public-spirited efforts of the corporations of Manchester and Salford, the year which has just expired has been made memorable by the removal of another obstruction equally injurious and harassing to the public. We hope the year 1849 will be rendered equally memorable by the completion of the Springfield Lane Bridge, now erecting, and the removal of the toll bar at Broughton Bridge—which last would be a graceful, and, eventually also, a most politic concession to the public convenience on the part of the owner. There is still another boon which might be got by a little earnest negociation—we mean the opening up of the railway road, from Water-street to Ordsal Lane, to general foot passengers. This could easily be done by erecting a wooden bridge across the rails at the railway station, by which there would be a safe passenger traffic unimpeded by the stopping trains. The result would be to add five commodious routes of intercommunication between Manchester and Salford. The trustees of the Hulme and Eccles trust have, in virtue of the power their act confers, set up a toll bar in Dawson-street, immediately under the South Junction Railway arches. The policy of this act is much questioned, and we believe the result will show that the tolls will not be sufficient to pay the expense of collection. However, we would not grudge the trustees a little bit "compensation" for the loss of their revenue from foot passengers—but if "compensation" in this instance do not signify loss we shall be very much surprised, as the public have the means of avoiding the toll by taking the route by Knott Mill, Water-street, and the Albert Bridge.

MESSRS. DU FAY & CO.'S TRADE REPORT.

Manchester, 1st of January, 1849.

The year 1848 began untowardly, but it ended more satisfactorily for England than the most sanguine could have anticipated. If we take a retrospect of the past, and consider the succession of difficulties, commercial, financial, and political, we have had to encounter, it cannot be matter of surprise that exaggerated fears were entertained of the consequences which would ensue therefrom to this country. Happily the reality, serious as it proved to be, fell short of our fears, and we rejoice that most of the difficulties we have had to contend against, have disappeared with the year we have just now parted from, and that we are entering upon the new one with more cheering prospects.

Tranquillity has not been everywhere restored, and the continent of Europe is still in a somewhat disorganised state, but matters generally are in a fair way of settlement, and confidence, political as well as commercial, is fast gaining ground. The opinion, which prevailed for a time pretty generally, that a European war was unavoidable, is not any more entertained. Amidst all the revolutionary outbreaks abroad a desire for peace was evinced, and private property, with few exceptions, respected by the lowest rabble; we are glad to notice these redeeming qualities, which denote progress, even in revolutions.

It is principally owing to the manifestation of this peaceful spirit that trade and industry, which supply the wants of the people, have experienced less interruption than was expected on the first outbreaks of the revolutions. The mass of the people continued in employment, and consumption of food and clothing went on uninterruptedly during all the disturbances. It may be bold to assert, but we believe, that the lower classes of this country have been benefitted rather than injured by the general commotions on the continent. The cheapness of all kinds of produce and commodities which took place after the French revolution was not altogether owing to abundant crops, for prices fell at a time when some uncertainty prevailed; and when in ordinary times speculation would have stepped in to raise them artificially. The disturbed state of the continent caused shipments of all kinds of produce to be directed to this country, and they were in some instances sold to cover the expense of freight. We are quite sure the deficient cotton and corn crops of 1846 have caused more suffering to the working classes of this country than the European revolutions of 1848.

In some part of the continent revolution acted like agitation for free trade, removing custom-houses not by force of argument, but by that of hands. It is evident that the inhabitants of the countries who have received and accustomed themselves to cheaper articles of clothing by such means, will be anxious to bring about in a more peaceful manner a modification of high duties. We owe to the American war in Mexico a more liberal scale of import duties, and a similar result may perhaps follow the political commotions in Europe.

The advantages of low prices are apparent, if we compare the consumption of cotton in this country during the last two years: notwithstanding all the adverse circumstances, the consumption of 1848 exceeded that of 1847 by 300,000 bales. Many articles which require a great weight of cotton have been manufactured last year, which cannot be made to advantage when the raw material is scarce, and consequently too expensive to be woven into coarse goods. The increased consumption is therefore not owing to foreign demand for coarse yarns and goods, but also to the circumstances mentioned. We produce thin and showy goods, when cotton is dear, and substantial thick cloth when the reverse is the case. Raise the price of cotton considerably, and the falling off in the production of domestics and other heavy goods is instantly perceived; there is a tendency besides of deteriorating the quality of goods when cotton rises.

The benefits which are conferred by abundance are innumerable. They are more striking still when cheap prices of food prevail, and in order to show this more clearly, we submit the following. If we take the average price of wheat in England for each month of the past year, and compare it with 1847, the result is as follows:—

Average price in 1847	69s. 6d. per qr.
" " " in 1848	50s. 7½d. do.
Difference	18s. 10½d.

Which amount on the population of Great Britain (taking the same in round numbers at 28 millions, and assuming that only one quarter is consumed per head in the year) ..... to £26,425,000

Statistical accounts, on which we place reliance, recently received from the continent, corroborate in a striking manner our estimates, both as to the difference in the average price, as well as that of consumption. If we take the wh

"QUEEN'S THEATRE.-MISS CUSHMAN." Manchester Times, 2 Jan. 1849. British Library Newspapers, https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/BC3206371308/BNCN?u=bayreuth&sid=BNCN&xid=75e9c25a. Accessed 15 Oct. 2020.