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A Conversation between Peter Pickingpeg, Jack Shuttle, and Harry Emptybobbin (1838)

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Ta Tom Treddlehoyle

Na Tom, Lad, Oi hev thowt proper to didekate this book ta thee e' tha hope that tha will accept on it e' good yumer. Tha nooas tha telled ma to fettle me Speckteckles, an do it weel, but still tha thowt Oi suddent be a Polatishun---Na oi hev avoided bein one---Oi made it a duty to rite other opunions e' prefferance ta moi own---tak it, Tom, an ma t'best tha kan on it, lad.

Sally Bobbinwinder.

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T' Preface

Oi say, chaps, do yo naw Oi hev bein writin a bit an a book e' order ta ge yo a bit ov informashun, an mak yo sumat wiser nor yo hev been. Tom Treddlehoyle hez bein tryin to mak yo laff we hez wit; but he haz failed, cose he put nawt e'iz book, nut a single sentement can Oi find in it--it iz all foolish twadle aba't nowt---for moi part Oi hev thowt it better nut ta sa mich mesenn e' this book, cose, yo naw, it doasent look weel for a womon to be over mitch amang polutuks; but Oi thowt wen Oi saw Tom Treddlehoyle, it wor a pittty at thay warrant sumat in it ta instruk yo. It is in tha hope that this book will ge ye sum informashun at Oi am indused to print it. Wishin yo weel,

Oi remain yors truly,
Sally Bobbinwinder.

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Conversation between Jack Shuttle, Peter Pickingpeg, and Harry Emptybobbin

Peter Pickingpeg. Good moanin ta tha, Jack; wear ar ta goin ta, lad?

Jack Shuttle. Wha, oim goin tat warehas ta see for me piece. I've be'n watin vara neer a fortnet.

P.P. Hey, lad, tha're ard toimes indeed; I'm suar I doant no haw I'm ta do; I left my poar bairns ruarin for bred this mornin wen I cum awa, an haw I'm ta git em ony, I doant naw.---I've nobbet hed wun bunt this last three week, soa tha ma be suar haw I'm sitewashed.

J.S. Hey, hey, Peter, its noa ard mattar ta ges at that, but I hoap things al mend sooin;-- that kannut goa on much longer az thay ar, there's soa mony books an things prentad on omost al suarts o subjekts.

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P.P. Wha for my part, I reckon nout on en maesen, becose tha sees we've noan toim ta reed em, thear so hord; an as tat childer, I think thayle be war nor uz, for thay kannut get a bit o skuilin at tall.

J.S. Wha, wha, mun, but books arnt soa ard ta reed as thay wor, wen I wor a lad,--tha sees thay hav made em a deal planer nor thay wor. I've be'n reedin wun this mornin ritten be Tom Treddle

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hoyle, an I'll asuer tha its t'planest book I eer soe e moi life, an Oi intend hevin a bit a toke we tha aba't it afoer wa part, but furst I want a wurd or two witha aba't a pereodikal kol'd t' Parlementre Intellegens at a Glanse.

P.P. Wha, mun, I naw nout aba't sich things az them,--thar aboon my kompreenshum.

J.S. I naw that; but I want ta tell tha, an tha can tell Harry Emptybobe, I want im ta kno.

P.P. Goa on we tha tails then, I'l heer tha, an think a wat I can; bud stop, heres Harry comin, an he'll be able ta toke ta tha.

J.S. Gud mornin, Harry, I wanted ta see tha vary mich. Lets goa on ta Crabtree's, an git a pint a ale till Oi tell tha summat.

Harry Emptybobbin. Well, I have no objection,--we can have a little quiet conversation there,--and if you have any thing to communicate, I shall be most happy to hear it. I am anxious to learn all I can, and yet, the more I learn, the more unhappy I feel, because I discover more clearly the evils of the system under which we live.

J.S. Cum, Peter, lets goa, lad, egod he'll tell uz summat asuer he'z dun;--Oi wanted ta tell tha, Harry, aba't a new book ats just cum'd hawt, cold 'Parlementre Intelegens at a Glans'.

H.E. I have seen the first number, and have read it carefully over, but not a

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sentiment does it breathe except one, and that is against the unfortunate men who were transported from Glasgow,---but we could expect nothing better, he is a manufacturer who is the author of it.

J.S. Hey, hey, lad, t'manefactorers naw weel anuff at its all't protekshen at t' workin-man hez, an thear vara hankshus at t'Uncon sud be put daun, but Oi hoap that'l see intu thar folle. But Oi sa, Harry, didant thay kill a chap e Glaska, kose he worn't it t'Uneon.

H.E. No, Jack, they did no such thing, but it is all well enough to raise a cry when parties want to serve a certain end. Was any such attempt ever made in Barnsley, and it must be well known that there has been as much bickering and uneasiness between masters and workmen here as in any town in the world. No, Jack, the working-men are aware that it is not their interest to destroy either life or property:--but they are anxious that manufacturer and operative should go hand in hand and upon peaceable terms,--they do certainly desire such a remuneration for their labour, as will enable them to live in a degree of comfort.

P.P. If that be all at t'Union chaps want, tha out ta hev it; an it 'od be t'benefit a't masters ta help em, for I can see be t'way at t'guverment iz goin on tha kare nobut aba't nother t'manefactorers nor t'poor--all tha look to iz t'landed

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intrust--all t'uther ma goa ta tha div'l for out tha care.

J.S. Hey, tha'rt reight, Peter, bud iz'ent it strange ta toke aba't t'poor destroyin property when thar moar intrested e' pretecktin property nor ony uther klass o'men e' t'world, cose tha'r t'onle produsers o' property; an I'll aseur tha at if they cannut hev thair property proteketed tha'l neer be satisfi'd.

P.P. I tell tha wat, if t'workin men od do thair duty, t'masters od do thairs, but 'tha sees t'plage on't is, men goa an offer thairsens at ony prise, an can a master be blam'd t'hincks'ta if he tacks t'offer, cose e'noes if e'duzent sumbody els will.

J.S. Hey, but stop a bit, Peter, I've t'sekond number oth "Glans" e' my pokket, an wee'l just see what it saze.

P.P. Wha if ta thinks o'readin ony on't, read it all, cose then t'auther will hev a chance.

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J.S. Wha, Peter, I will, lad, cose Oiz'e fond o' fair pla.

P.P. Be stedy then--hum--hum--hum--hum--stop--stop--stop--stop, Jack--what doz it sa'?

J.S. I'll read it agehen,--"the spread of luxury is undermining that purity of heart in which alone genuine independence or freedom can exist"

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P.P. Wha, mun, I'm capt at that, --can he realy think soa, thinks ta?

J.S. That's ard for me ta tell, but I'll goa on we it.

P.P. Do soa, lad; Hum--hum,--hum,--stop, stop agean, I mun speik,--He says its quite reight ta preteckt t'interest o' farmers; but at'h same toime nut to looz t'seet ot' oporatives; wha naw, Jack, that iz kappin; 'cose he thinks noa moer aba't th'oporatives nor I think abat goain inta t'mooin, kaose if he did he'd be willin for t'workin men ta hev sum pauer ouer t'government.

J.S. Wha, Peter, we hev sum pauer, haint wa?

P.P. Tha duz toke, cose t'administrashun iz a thing at we hev nout a'tol ta do we, thats Queen's parogativ, an we sud nut seam ta want respectk for that branch o'tha exekativ pauer,--tha'ts wat iz, not wat owt ta be.

J.S. But representashun bein tha pepols reight iz mooar imedetly our awn province; iz that wot ta meains?

P.P. Egsacktle!

J.S. Art tha represented e'parlement, Peter?

P.P. Noa, I'm nut!

J.S. Then thy famly is nut repprazented, Pee?

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P.P. Noa our parliment iz nut repprezentashun o' persons but propertee!

J.P. Then iz thy propertee?

P.P. Noa I hev none.

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J.S. Yae, Peter, tha hez toa, thy labour's propertee.

P.P. Hey but nut landed propertee, I've noa freehoud.

J.S. Iz nut all propertee repprazented then?

P.P. Noa, its that suart a' propertee col'd freehoud.

J.S. Haw mony free houders ar thar e' this tawn?

P.P. I cannut tell; but Oi think t'parlementre chap's one be t'way he rites--thers nut a great number e'all.

J.S. An yet here's sum tharsands o' pepol e' this tawn.

P.P. Yes, an Oi, woa am nut repprazented, wor able'jed ta gee oud Sam the taylor wo boches for t'laburers, but wo'a iz repprazanted, sum peces o'wood to prop up hiz craze oud hase, or els he'd noan a be'n repprazented.

J.S. Tha sed tha wor speckin o' wot out ta be.

P.P. Excews ma for speickin furst o' wot owt ta be.

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J.S. Tha thinks't repprazentashun imperfeckt then.

P.P. Extreamply soa, an Oi think Oi see four imperfeckshuns e'wot we cole parliamentree repprazentashun, e' tha natur, tha subjeckt, tha moad, an tha end, theze ar not constitushunal, but exidentle ones, an thay loikely enuff cum abat nut e' desine an depravitee but e' a trane o'evels,---I will explanemesen?

J.S. Wot dus ta mean be tha nator o' repprazentashun?

P.P. Tha propertees ove it.

J.S. Wot owt thay ta be?

P.P. Pepprazentashun iz a humane creashan, an was intended ta be, an therefore ought ta be, an exact ballance ta tha prerogatives o' tha uther branches ove the Legislator; for be this ballance the liberties ove tha pepol ar presarved from encroachment.

J.S. It owt then to hev dignaty, revenue, and influence, soa that, heving the same prerogatives az tha Crawn, an in the same degree, it ma be a counterpoize.

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P.P. Egsacktleee soa; accordinly tha dignaty o'parlement, az an aggregate body, iz presarved be an ascripshun, ove properties an perfeckshuns, az indipendance, incorrupshun, feedelity, magnanimity, an soa on. Tha power ove Parlement

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iz that ove makkin Laws in regard ta revenue; all supplyes ar raised be them; an in respekt ta influence, it will allos be propoorshunal ta benefits which tha pepol get from thar repprezentatizes.

J.S. Tha sed yesterda, that tha properties ascribed ta tha executive pawer, ar nut ta ne fun e' onny mortal man--Ar nut tha properties ascribed ta tha Legislative pawer ove tha same kind,--mere supposishuns ove Law?

P.P. Be noa means. Tha properties ascribed ta tha person, ar, strickle speikin, in the executiv pawer. Executiv Pawer az ubiquity, for it iz evary where actin at tha same time--beseeing a tawn, in tha army,--destroying a enemy's fleet at sea, in tha navy,--gaurdin tha trade in a convoy, or tha coasts in a militia,--distributin justice in a cort o'Law,--collectin customs in tha ports, excise in warhases, receivin and paying, rewardin and punishin at t'same time,--now as all this iz tha Queen's business, as she executes it be deputation, we sa, she haz ubiquity, an so o' tha rest.

J.S. Her Majesty, then, az this propertie in proxy?

P.P. Yes, but az awr repprezentatives ar themselves proxis,--an herein thay diffar from Lords ove Parlement, woa sit thear e' their own reight, an woa therefore can voate be proxy,--an

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further, az thay cannut delegate ony to act in their stead, soa, it iz impossable they sud possess ony perfectshuns, except sich az ar personal; these ar in sum degree in each individual; in a high degree in tha collective body, an theas Oi call tha nator ove repprezentashun.

J.S. Tha sed, indipendance wor one propertee ove Parlement.

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P.P. It iz an essenshal propertee interwoven in tha constitushun, an it implies tha absanse ove all undue influanse ove evary kind. Nether tha crown, be means ove tha army, or tha offesars ove sum branches ove tha revenue, nor tha peears, be means ove tha Loards ove Parliament, or Loards Lieutenants ove counties, can interfere. No, nor sud tha candidates themselves uze bribery, or corrupt influanse under hevvy penolties.

J.S. Tha sed incorruptshun wor another propertee.

P.P. Yes, for a man ma goa uninfluansd into Parlelament, and becum corruptable be strong temptashuns there; in sich a case, he wod cease ta be faithful ta tha trust reposed in him be tha pepol, an ove course wod lay aside all that elevashun ove soul, which we call magnanimity, an wod sink, from tha noblest ove all cratures, an object ove publick confidanse, ta tha despickcable state ove a ministors' tooil.

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J.S. Hev nut awr Legislators clamed theas excellant properties, an passt mony laws ta secure em?

P.P. They hev, but it iz confest all means hev be'n furst inadequate.

J.S. Woa can heal it?

P.P. Nut tha woa soa infatewated az nut ta see it, nor tha woa ar soa intressed as to deny it, nor they woa spend thar life in declamin against humane depravity.

J.S. Woa then?

P.P. Sich az understand tha Loard's prayer, Lead uz nut into temptashun.

J.S. Haw does ta mean, Pee?

P.P. Wha, Oi mean, that if human frailty iz soa great, it owt nut ta be put ta sich sever trials as endanger tha virtue an felicity ove a person, a family, a county, a kingdom, a world,--for a British parlement ma doe all theas.

J.S. Soa, tha wod keep a man virtuause, be putin it awt ove his pauer ta be vicious.

J.P. Wot can ta do we em?

J.S. But is this possible?

P.P. evary thing that ought ta be, iz possible. How mich money, doz ta think, was spent at t'last elecshun?

J.S. Happan, 200,000 pand.

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P.P. Well, let uz supp[ea]s 100,000 pand, wea gat it?

J.S. T'freeholders; oud Sam wor drunk a week.

P.P. Wod nut anual parlements an equal repprezentashun put it absolutla awt ove tha pauer ove tha whole world ta distroy tha independance ove parlement?

J.S. It sud seem soa; at least its worth trying--but hev wa a reight ta theas?

P.P. We hev, both a natoral an a constitushunal reight ta theas; septeneal parlements ar ove late date, trieneal ar nut mich onder, an it was noa longar agoa nor tha reign ove Henry seven, that tha pepol at large wor deprivd ove this reight, an the qualifikashun ove electors for knights ove tha shire determind ta be ownin ove a freehoud, ove forte shillins a year, which, be tha wa, wos then equal ta twente pands ove real value; as ta borrows, we sa nothing ove them here, they do nut deserve it.

J.S. Tha spak ove tha subject ove repprezentashun.

P.P. Aye, lad, but Oi aks wot iz repprezentad? Wot ought ta be repprezentad?

J.S. Tha pepol undoutadly.

P.P. Nut hases an land?

J.S. Noa: bonifide tha pepol tharsenns.

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P.P. Wot, all tha pepol?

J.S. If all tha pepol hev lives, liberties, an in them property, all tha pepol hev a natoral reight ta chuse thar own gardeans.

P.P. Thay hev also a constitushunal one.

J.S. Wod nut this endanger propertee, be putin tha poor on a level with tha rich?

P.P. Neather propertee nor person ought ta be endangered; but if one must suffer better damage propertee nor person; hawever this is no question here, for tha danger in boath

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lys sum whear els, Oi mean e' undue influanse, nut e' tha number ove electors;--keep repprezentashun puar an uninfluansd, an all things ar safe.

J.S. But is sich an elekshun possable?

P.P. Easey as tha elekshun ov a corronar, or a sherriff e tha sitty.

J.S. Wot folt doas ta finde we tha moad of repprezentashun?

P.P. Tha estabblishment of tha afoarmenshuned qualifikashun hevin chang'd tha subject of repprezentashun from person ta property, tha wod sopoas at propertee wor equallee repprezented.

J.S. Sartanlee oi sud; an oi think wot eveal is repprezented sud be farelee an eaquallee repprezented.

P.P.

Wha, na then lets ta "t'Glanse" agean, an see wot he says.--Wots that aba't Barnsla?

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J.S. It says, "we congratulate you on the success you met with in the bill you sent up for the recovery of small debts".

P.P. Aye but he says nowt aba't givin t' pooar t'means o' payin ther dets be alla'in em a wage for ther wark. Oi'l tell tha wot, Jack, Oi went in t'other da we a bunt, an wen Oi put it e t'skail Oi pull'd t' bunt band off, and it bended dane on ta t'cawnter as it woddant weigh, an t'riter o' that varry peece sed, Dam tha, tha sal wate an haar an a hoof for that; an thats him at can toke aba't t' bill for small dets. Oi think it ad seam him a deal better ta leearne ta be a sivil ta 'tweivers ner tri ta rite. Its 'tworst-ritten thing Oi ivver saw e me life,--What thinks thaa, Harry?

H.E. My opinion is, that he has forgotten himself when he begins to talk about petitions against black-slavery. The spirit of the whole work is such as (if acted upon) will encourage slavery at home in its worst form. Those who produce all the wealth of the nation are still to be slaves in England. The people of this town have had their wages reduced one hundred and fifty per cent within the last twenty-four years, by adding to the number of yards they have to work, and reducing their wages. All things went on

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well when they were in a situation such as would enable them to pay their debts; but now that the means of payment have been taken out

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of their hands, a bill must be passed to make them pay, by taking the little property they have, or sending them to prison. Would to God that i could say with Coleridge,--

“O, dear Britain! O, my mother Isle!
Needs must thou prove a name most dear and holy--
To me a son, a brother, and a friend,
A husband, and a father!--who rever
All bonds of mutual love, and find them all
Within the limits of thy rocky shores.
O, native Britain! O, my mother Isle!
How shouldst thou prove aught else but dear and holy
To me, who, from thy lakes and mountain rills,
Have drank in all my intellectual life,
All sweet sensations, all ennobling thoughts,
All adoration of the God of nature,
All lovely and all honorable things,--
Whatever makes this mortal spirit feel
The joys and greatness of its future being!
There lives not form nor feeling in my soul
Unborrow'd from my country;--O, divine
And beauteous Island! thou hast been my sole
And most magnificent temple, in all the which
I walk with awe, and sing my stately songs,
Loving the God who made me.

Would to God, I say, I could say so in truth, but when my countrymen are pining in want, how can I think the remembrance of my country dear to me? War and its evils have ruined us; but they who take the sword shall fall by the sword, and, as William Howitt, says “If they do not fall by its edge, they will by its hill.” It is under this evil we are now labouring

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As a nation we have befallen, through war, into all our present misery and crime, and it is through the empidity of such men as the writer of the Glance that we are made what

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we are; and, believe me, if he could, he would (if I may judge from the third number of the Gleaner) bring us into another war, and it is impossible that the great European kingdoms, with their artificial state of society, can carry on war without enduring evils far more extensive, tremendous, and lasting, than the mere ravaging of lands, the destruction of towns, or even of human lives. We are, as a nation, an awful proof of this at this moment. Sooner than submit to the spirit which pervades the whole of that work, I would advise the labourer, to give up his toil, and make a stand for the liberty of his country. The comments, even in the second number, are so weak and feeble, that one can hardly exercise a thought upon them; but in the third, much as he talks about union being an evil, he calls upon his party to unite against the Catholics who, he fears, are going to make sad ravages in the country. His whole cry is, Take care of Daniel O'Connell, or he'll swamp us! And he would fain be religious too! oh, that we could see a better sample of it in the Warehouse, much happier would his workmen be,--but I am interrupting you.

J.S. Hey, Harry, lad, an Oi wist Oi cud

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interrupt thee e t'same wa. If Oi wor as good a scollar az thee Oi'd let sumbody naw.

H.E. Jack, you have had as good an opportunity as i have; I was one and twenty years of age, before I knew the Alphabet; but I have often loaded myself with wealth, and have been so repeatedly stript of it again by the hand of tyranny, that I determined on making myself acquainted with matters and things.

P.P. Oi tell tha wot, Harry, Oi sall never think o'reading t'Gleaner noa moar; but Oi think he'll gee ore trying ta rite wen he naws haw fowk like it.

H.E. I did intend to write an article on it, but when I came to look it over, I found nothing to write about.

J.S. Oi think its a deal like Tom Treddlehoyle,--there's nowt int, an Oi begin ta see at wa mun do summat for ussens, or hev nowt,--wot says ta, Peter?

P.P. Wha, Oi'm at same oppinion mesenn. Year after year hev wa been gettin pooarar, e' spite o' all we cud do. Tha sees t' rich al do nowt for uz,--we ar pooar, an we ma sta

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soa, for owt thail do; Oi see its toim naw ta start t' union ageean, an unite stronger nor evar, an never stop till we get Universall Suffrage, for Oi find we can do nowt ba't it. Oi recolect wen Oi started weighvin diaper

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at furst Oi hd a three-devishun, an it wor seven marks long, an Oi hed £ 2.5s. 0d. for it, an naw its eleven marks for 11s. 9d. This diffrance neer cud a tane place if wa'd a hed Universall Suffrage.

J.S. Thart reight, lad, cose we cud hev hed t' corne law repeeld afore this toim,--that's wot kills uz,--be stoping furing trade.

P.P. Oi think thar warrant at t' pla hase o' Monday neet, wor ta?

J.S. Noa.

P.P. If taa hed, thad o' heard summut aba't furin trade at ad dun tha gud. Naw Oi'm ove oppinion that's t' wa at wa ar ta be sav'd,--be changing t'system altogether.

H.E. I am of the same opinion, for you must bear in mind that, "All is the gift of industry; whatever exalts, embellishes, and renders life delightful". There is not in the whole circle of scinces any axiom more self-evident than the truth contained in the above quotation from thsi excellent poet, the boast and glory of an antient, manly, religious, and enlightened nation,--the Scots. But notwithstanding the conviction it carries along with it, the reverse has ever generally been, and still continues to be, the popular opinion. Nothing is more common than to hear the historian ascribe the creation of the stupendous monuments of human madness and

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human industry, the pyramids of Egypt, to a monarch, the building of Chinese Wall (fifteen hundered miles in length, and proof against fierce and warlike nations) to an emperor; to hear of the Sea being chastized by a Xerxes, and of the world being conquered by an Alexander, with a long, long etcetera that would fill a folio volume, and tire the patience of the reader. But I maintain, and it would be trespassing on your

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understanding to prove it, that the much-abused insulted, despised, poor do all these things,--none others can;--they support themselves by honest labour, and also every other privileged order.

This is a self-evident fact--but if any one doubts it, I ask, where is the government that could subsist without them,--what money monhger could do without them? Ye nobles, what would your condition be but for the labour of the lowest orders? Ye pious priests, whose villas are surrounded by stacks of wheat and all kinds of grain, whose yards are filled pigs and poultry, and every necessary of life, in the greatest profusion, Could you enjoy these good things without the half-naked, hungry, hard-toiling peasant? Where would be agriculture, manufactures, and commerce; but for these useful classes of society, the strength of every nation,--even the balze of courts, and all the pomp and splendor of Royalty,--would dwindle to nothing--would be

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annihilated without the aid of the husbandman, the mechanic, and the artificer. Is a war to be engaged in? They must be the principal actors in that bloody tragedy. Are the taxed increased by it? They must bear the burthen, for let them be laid in any shape whatever, they must at length fall on the shoulders of this description of men, and it is physically impossible they should be otherwise. This they feel, (for every one cannot see it) in the advanced price of every necessary life; this forces them to new exertions of labour, to the most unremitting industry, every nerve is strained, every faculty of the mind is called into action, till at last the indefatigable Briton is brought to execute more labour than five foreigners,--which by-the-bye renders this once happy island of more value to the government than the wide-extended empire of Russia is to the haughty tyrants, who govern it. The taxes operate like the weight upon the pendulum, they keep the above ranks of men in continual motion; meanwhile the privileged sit at ease, and talk of their dignity. My mush-distressed friends, our ancestors were the dread of tyrants, and envy and admiration of the world, ought we not then as their descendants, to endeavour by every legal and peaceable means in our power to get the present

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innovations removed from the constitution, that it may again shine in all its glory: an equal representation, with annual elections, are our

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birth-right, and a most essential branch of the constitution itself. It is the democratical part of this beautiful fabric that must do good, and be admired. It was wisely and prudently formed by our ancestors to check the luxuriance of power, and hold the pursue of the nation. Friends, beware of power,--it is a green-eyed monster,--keep a jealous eye upon it,--seldom, very seldom, it is used with moderation. The right of suffrage is of inestimable value. If the poor suffer themselves longer to be deprived of it, power, like a deluge, will in the end sweep their remaining liberties from the Island, "And like the baseless fabrick of a vision--Leave not a wreck behind."

But I will place the matter in another point of view, and probably we may discover enough to see the absolute necessity for a parliamentary change, if we wish to avoid final ruin. Various have been the calculations respecting the number of people in England; some writers have fixed them at one number, some another; but let us suppose them at nine millions, which, perhaps, may be a high statement.

It will follow that one half will be children and old persons, the first not yet capable of sustaining labour, and the latter past enduring it. If, from the remaining five millions, we subtract place-men and pensioners, with their swarms of agents and dependents; the men of blood, possessed of princely fortunes, with their numerous trains of servants, who riot in all

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manner of waste and prodigality; the pious and innocent elegy, with all their domestics; the gentlemen of robe with their dependents; notorius usurers who add cent to cent and, like the vulture in the fable, prey on the vitals of the nation; powdered fops, and pert coxcombs, (who look on the labourer with a sneer of contempt), clothed with amazing knowledge & erudition, from the friseur and habit-maker, while the starched

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significant countenance proclaims the soul seated in exulting in the pincal gland; the numerous standing army, together with hosts of other unnecessary individuals; the remainder will not exceed three and half millions, and they will of course have to support the other five and a half millions by their labour.

The first political philosopher in Europe has said, “that the English submit to taxation without enquiry”, and I am of the same opinion from their apparent neglect;--for what nation is there, ancient or modern, that ever laboured as they do, under such burdens. It has been reserved to the people of Britain to shew the world--“What high capacious powers lie folded up in man”--what persevering industry can produce, and patient submission suffer. But it is said, our money is not taken from us without our consent, it is given by the House of Commons. I ask, are they elected by the free and unanimous voice of the whole people?--No,

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far from it, they are chiefly elected by the influence of money, and other trickery;--what wonder that taxation has raged without a check?--what wonder that the ancient, manly, and submitting soul of the nation seems to be departing?--what wonder that God’s own image, truth, is termed sedition, and her admirers threatened with the bastile?--what wonder that every labouring man in the kingdom has to pay three-fourths of his earnings in taxes?--what wonder, that the farmer is prosecuted with despotic severity for taking a partridge reared by his own industry, and fed with his own property?--what wonder the law has become so voluminous, so crabbed, and so knotty, that not one in a thousand understands it?--what wonder if lawyers, taking advantage of it, should “lay their iron talons on the poor, And gripe them ike some lordly beast of pray.”

P.P. Oi sed oi wod hev a bit a toke we tha, Jack, aba’t Tom Treddlehoyle. Oi can onle sa Oi think Tom a dasant chap; but tha’s one thing Oi connut help speikin aba’t, and that iz, a Joint Stock Company ove riters ats just started up ats nawn be t’name o *Sam Switchem’s Club*.

J.S. What dus ta mean, pretha?

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P.P. Oi'l tell tha. Thaa sees Tom Treddlehoyle publisht a book, and Sally Bobbinwinder sed shoo wod do, and it made this Joint-Stock consarn goa inta fits varry neer, ta start on a thing

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afore tha see it--but Oi tell tha wot. Oi intend riting ta Nicholas Nickleby, ta keep back t' next number, an then Oi'm suar tha'l stick fast; thad neer o' hed a proclomashun if it hed daut a bein for Im, for all tha's soa mony on em ta rite.

J.S. Wha, mun, every body is laffin at em, for sayin owt aba't Sally, afore shoo gets hur book hawt; but its like em---thar mad ta show tharsenns summat, an thar nowt,--Oi'l ansur for it, wen t' book cums, it al be worth nawt; all t' lot on em seams soa ful o' vemmon, ta begin we. Thayd better mind thar M.N.W.D.D.L. an E. or else tha'l catch it reight, poor things.

P.P. Its toim ta goa naw, lad, an as Oi intend hevin a bit a tawk wetha at another toim, we'l end up be getin Harry ta do uz a resitashun,--wilt ta, Harry?

H.S. I will do one on the direful effects of war.

J.S. Silehause, Peter, and hear ir,--its a good thing.