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THE
COMING REVOLUTION.

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“He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God;
“and he shall be as the light of the Sun rising in a cloudless morning.”

Last words of the son of Jesse.

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THE COMING REVOLUTION.

SOME forty years ago, some Austrian authorities were frightened by the arrival of a treatise on the REVOLUTION of Double Stars, and confiscated it as contraband. Ambitious and avaricious men in England are not so silly. Words and phrases do not frighten them; but serious talk about Justice, if the mass of a nation gives ear to it, is to them truly alarming. Has not a great philosophic statesman taught us that in national affairs Expediency ought to decide everything, and that all talk of Justice is misleading? Have not multitudes of his disciples insisted, that *Justice* is only a little star, which twinkles for private men and for homely use, while to statesmen who act on a grand theatre, *Expediency* is the glorious Sun, illumining the diplomatic firmament? "No Enthusiasm," cries the Whig, emulating Talleyrand. When Benthamites and Liberals and Radicals either sympathize with or submit to such doctrine, no one can expect collective Toryism to become champions of Justice. Thus statesmen in mass adore the goddess EXPEDIENCY. We see the natural consequences. That safeguard of Justice to all humble persons,—trial by Jury,—supposed to be an Englishman's birthright, has been so largely supplanted by the Summary power of Magistrates, unpaid and paid, that through the treatment of *first* the rustics, *next* the poorer classes of the towns, the sarcasm of "Justice's Justice" has

been for full forty years a widespread moan. The "Just Ruler over men, ruling in the fear of God," has not yet risen as a brilliant Sun upon us.

"*Nil de nobis nisi per nos.*"—"Nothing shall be done concerning us without our agency," was the formula of free Hungary, and was the sentiment also of freedom in England; among the men who knew how hard it is to obtain Justice in Councils from which you are shut out. From the very commencement English peasants were debarred from part or lot in Parliament. In consequence they could not *keep* the better state to which the first Edward had raised them; but under the third Edward they were forced by the whip to work for a wage appointed over their heads. To this day the vast majority lies under a despotism, tempered by the liberties of other classes.

Women also have been legislated for by the male sex, on the obviously false pretence that men have no motive to be unjust to women. In fact the injustices are many, inveterate and very great. A vast heap of new injustices have rushed in upon the country while we fancy that we are free and glorious. Ministers secretly determine on war, and actually entangle us, without consulting Parliament. Without any public, free, unbiassed discussion or debate on the *justice* of a war, we are first plunged into what may be* awful blood-guiltiness, and then the whole force of party influence is put forth to constrain votes. While no gain to Justice is allowed by the rightful authority of Parliament, severe mischief is done to domestic legislation by foreign war, just or unjust. Lord John Russell, with tears in his eyes, abandoned his promised Reform Bill, *because* we were drifting into the

* Written before our horrible crime at Alexandria.

Crimean war! Parliament has ALWAYS TOO MUCH TO DO, and every new load laid upon it causes hurried legislation at a session's end or at midnight hours, and opens the door to a clique of intriguers, chiefly medical; who have no authority for their ambitious and despotic efforts from any fair debate of collective medical men. The beginning was well meant and very specious. A few physicians, wiser in their own art than in Politics, grieved over our unsanitary state, and (apparently) failed to understand some of its factors, perhaps its chief factors,—Ignorance and Vice in the people on the one side, Private Tenure of the soil on the other. Without removing, or trying to remove, either of these *causes*, they imagined that they could remove the *effects* by—what? By Act of Parliament which *compelled* the towns to pour into the natural streams the most detestable filth! A deed which before was *penal*, they induced Parliament to make *compulsory*. In that year (1848) Parliament may have been so preoccupied by the Continental Revolutions and by fear of their imitation in the United Kingdom, that it could not give time to consider the measure pressed upon it. How barbarous is our Constitution, which loads a single legislature with duties and power so overwhelming. Out of this measure it cannot be pretended that no good arose. Very many *towns* were benefited at the expense of the *villages*, whose streams were spoiled; a process which continues to this day. The Thames became so foul, that Parliament itself was well-nigh stifled by the evil odours. At vast expense a relief was in four or five years obtained for London. The noxious system of *liquid drainage* having been enforced by the highest authority, the tangle became appalling when reverse legislation came on. The mischief has been done by allowing physicians to dictate law.

But the tale must go backward. Under the powerful ministry of Lord Grey, it had been discerned by keen observers how obedient was Parliament to the ministers, and how fond were the "Whigs" of reforming in Benthamite fashion by Central Power. Certain medical men got the ear of the War Office and the Admiralty, and persuaded these authorities that for the efficiency of an army and navy the continental system was the right one;—viz., to supply soldiers and sailors with an adequate number of *safe* harlots, slaves of the State, who are to be cleansed as mere sewers—things, not persons. Such secrecy was observed, that no whisper of the scheme got abroad to the public. Lord Melbourne, then prime minister, had given his assent to it; but William IV. died before the scheme could be brought before Parliament. Queen Victoria succeeded to the throne. Hereupon Lord Melbourne declared that it was simply impossible to ask a *maiden* Queen to set her signature to *such* a Bill of Parliament. What a condemnation of it to every moralist! to every statesman with whom morality is paramount over crooked Expediency and dire Ambition! But what did the Statesmen say to it? We know from later events. They said: "Morality, the English Constitution, Ancestral Law, women's natural and cardinal rights, must all yield before the exigencies of military service and men's sensuality." Such is the deadly immorality and injustice which the principle called Expediency enforces. So little do the upper classes of England care for that rule of Justice, which alone a Just God and Just Nature can bless.

Lord Melbourne's project was temporarily crushed: the secret was kept for full thirty years. Meanwhile terrible wars were fought by English troops. It suffices to name the

Syrian and Afghan wars, three Chinese wars, the Burmese war, the Crimean war, and the war of the Indian Mutiny, in none of which did any one outside guess that English soldiers and sailors were feeble (as the doctors had pretended) from want of the abundant and safe harlots alleged to be essential to health and strength. The reader may naturally ask, How do we now know Lord Melbourne's secret? It has been revealed through Harriet Martineau. Because she was at the time a constant and powerful writer in the *Daily News*, the wife of a Cabinet Minister called on her, hoping to engage her influential pen on the side of this foul plot. She refused flatly and indignantly, but kept the secret, when the scheme suddenly evaporated. Only long after, when it was successfully renewed, did she disclose the previous attempt.

See the pernicious results of allowing the Executive to originate Legislation, and indeed to be the expected leader of all important law. Military and naval officers, accustomed to despotism, lenient to unchastity in men, but despisers of unchaste women and reckless of such women's rights, open their ears gladly to surgeons who unblushingly avow that Fornication is necessary to the health of the unmarried; surgeons who believe the morbid and false assertions of self-excusing profligates, but are certainly ignorant of the experience of chaste men;—an ignorance which implies that they were unchaste themselves from earliest youth; surgeons who, however crammed with one-sided statistics, are quite unacquainted with history and with the human mind, utterly thoughtless about the rights of women and the sure results of moral depravity. Officers inured to make the efficiency of troops paramount, snatch greedily at the promise of having fewer soldiers in hospital, blind to the certainty that to

facilitate profligacy facilitates excess and ensures collapse. Such men secretly importune the Prime Minister, and ply him with surgeons' arguments, until with him they concoct stealthy legislation for midnight hours: nor have this powerful and immoral clique shrunk to avow that great tact was used to conceal their deeds of darkness from the more religious part of the nation.

After success in 1848 in passing their compulsory Act for polluting our *rivers*, the Sanitary Reformers, or their more forward section, planned a compulsory pollution of our *veins*; and applied to the late Sir Robert Peel in hope of engaging his aid for a compulsory cow-poxing of every infant; under the same belief that Artificial *Impurity* is the normal road to HEALTH. Sir Robert gave them a flat repulse, declaring that Britons would never endure the making of disease compulsory. But the intriguers knew better. They knew that we are a most *law-abiding* people; and that any small fraction which dared to oppose LAW once passed would now instantly be crushed by an irresistible and unrelenting Central power; hence all they had to do, was, to work in secret on Parliament in its hours of emptiness and sleepiness. Sir Robert Peel fell from his horse and was lost to us in 1850. Three years later the Emperor Nicolas sent Menchikoff to Constantinople with sharp and hard demands, and invaded what is now called Roumania; out of which came the Crimean war. Whether this gave the opportunity which was so cleverly seized, the present writer cannot definitely assert. Certainly in that year both Parliament and the nation and the newspapers were too intent on foreign affairs to be at all sharp-sighted as to English legislation. Certainly in that year a law of compulsory Vaccination (so called) was passed;

certainly also, for four or five years after, the mass of the gentry were unaware of the new law: so stealthy was the process, so inobservant the retailers of news. This is no place to do more than state the outlines of this enormity. Suffice it to observe, (1) that no public debate on the efficacy of Vaccination has ever been held either in Parliament or in any open council of medical men. (2) that its supporters overlook the *first principle of all modern science*. They cannot deny that Small Pox had a beginning in filth of food or of air, yet they forget or deny that the *same causes* must still produce the *same effect*. They gratuitously and absurdly declare that that is no longer possible; but that every case of small pox is occasioned by transmission, and might have been prevented by vaccination or by re-vaccination. (3) denying the true causes of small pox, they draw off attention from them by inculcating the infusion of a new disease. (4) if cow pox does not remove the true causes of small pox, but can (as they say) prevent the eruption, it is certain that Nature will take her revenge in some other and worse way. (5) confessedly small pox never increases the mortality, but in appearance even lessens it, other diseases becoming less fatal when it is most active: hence in no case is it a matter for Parliamentary concern at all. Yet so eminent a man as Dr. Lyon Playfair made the ridiculous assertion in Parliament that Vaccination saves us 80,000 lives every year. (6) there is not a shred of proof for what is so boldly asserted, that Vaccination *ever* lessened small pox. The disease was diminishing *already* before Jenner took up Vaccination; and, for thirty years after, only a very small fraction of England was vaccinated. Yet all that time it was diminishing, evidently through improved habits, better surgery and a sudden

general *disuse* of inoculation, which had so fatally spread the disease. (7) finally and chiefly, no Parliament has any right over healthy bodies of children or adults. Pro-vaccinators pretend, (what some have called blasphemy of the Creator) that a perfectly healthy infant is a focus of dangerous infection. To command the infusion of cow pox, is on the part of any Parliament, as clear a *usurpation* as to command the infusion of the plague. To forbid perfect health, is as monstrous an overstepping of legitimate law-making, as to forbid chastity. A power which plays such tricks forfeits all moral right to obedience, and if overthrown by insurrection, its fall will be justified by future historians. Many revolutions have been from much smaller causes. Such are the enormities from stealthy secret legislation, by which English Law forfeits all right to be esteemed venerable and sacred;—by which also Patriotism is undermined.

As Lord Melbourne was abashed by the thought of a Maiden Queen, so *perhaps* were his successors by the presence of Prince Albert at her side. Certainly they did not renew their foul intrigue till after his death, when the Queen was deeply immersed in her own grief and in her family interests, and had a great distaste for all public business. In 1864 they carried an Act concerning certain places called Garrison Towns, which was *not* compulsory, and excited no notice. In 1866 they made it compulsory, under the assurance of a trusted minister that the new Bill contained *no* new Principle! In 1869 they multiplied by nine the area under compulsion. On all these occasions the London newspapers maintained profound silence. To blind us further they called three different bills by the same name, *viz.* Contagious Diseases Bill;—one sort relating to such diseases as Scarlet Fever, &c., a second con-

fining to cattle,—the third pertaining to Women only; for against *none but Women* was it compulsory! Profligate *men* were not touched by it. A token of fraud very notable appears further in the fact that *the Bill had no preamble*. Had they opened by saying; “Whereas it is expedient to provide at public expense safe harlots for the use of soldiers and sailors in her Majesty’s service, &c.,” the portentous announcement would have drawn attention to the dark intrigue. Too late it broke on the public what gross and foul outrage the new Act perpetrated on women, whom it deprived of the defence of English law, jury and judge, and subjected them to persecution and infamy at the *suspicion* of a policeman. More need not be said here, than that viler and more iniquitous despotism is inflicted on English women in and round these “garrison towns,” than the most bitter despiser of our institutions could have anticipated. On the Continent, military rule gave despotic power to the police, which no civil legislature sanctioned. This disgrace was perpetrated by our Parliament for the first time, but it was through midnight legislation, secret and fraudulent. Stern account may one day be demanded for these doings.

But how can we stay the plague of midnight legislation, of base intrigue, of sudden surprizes and of the block in Parliament which hinders the repeal of bad laws? No way is possible, except by *lessening* the *business* of Parliament, shortening the speeches, and forbidding any one man to occupy more than his own proportionate share of time. All other reforms are small, compared to this, and will be futile if this be neglected. This will be a real, but peaceful Revolution. It can easily be done, if the Nation resolves upon it. The United Kingdom must be divided into States, (as Germany

into Prussia, Bavaria, Hanover, Saxony, &c.) each with its own legislative chamber, *competent for all local interests*; the Central Parliament must be elected by the Local Chambers, and must strictly exclude the Queen's Ministers from any vote or seat. Nothing short of this will adequately lessen the business of Parliament and restore to Private Members the legislative power of which the officials now cheat them. To unite Legislative and Executive powers in a Party imparts temporary despotism, ever struggling against rivals for its own existence; speculating on votes, instead of studying the just and acting for it bravely; in short, powerful for mischief, but cowardly and feeble against gigantic wrong.

