

professionally,' said I, 'for the law.' 'Not at all, Mr. King,' 'twas for the church I was educated, but—The emphasis he put on this particle, this minor syllogism of a doubtful case, led me to ask how he had given up the profession. 'That,' said he, 'Mr. King,' confidentially speaking, 'was another calculation, not a matter of conscience, mark me; but when I knew that I would have to study sermons, compose prayers and learn by rote a jumble of principles and doctrines at variance with each other, I could not for the soul of me subscribe to do it. So I left the church and studied law. That now serves me in my present position, where I can deal with men and matters, sometimes judiciously and sometimes the opposite; where money gives the preponderance without perjuring myself and taking the name of God in vain, and professing to teach what I did not altogether believe nor practice. My classical studies enable me to handle philosophers and philosophy learnedly. My knowledge of divinity to grapple with the clergy, and my knowledge of law keeps me measurably clear of libel and prosecution, although I have been twice heavily fined, and as often on the verge of being imprisoned for defamation of character, but escaped by compromise, on the parties being well bribed. Truth is libel, Mr. King, consequently, although well learned in law, where is the protection from the virulence of privileged characters, who make the law for their own advantage? None! However, they have not had it all their own way. The Deniston road case is settled, and the public have triumphed for once over tory influence, for which they may thank your humble servant, through the columns of *The Dwarf*, for the victory!' 'The road,' said I, 'was not so much worth after all to the public, compared with the expense of litigation.' At this interruption he gradually shut his mouth, and sternly gazed at me with a peculiar sneer. 'The road was nothing, sir,' he retorted, 'twas a public privilege and right.' At this point of our conversation a tall man opened the door and broke off the subject. I rose from the chair and was about to retire, when Mr. Jinks insisted on me keeping my seat. After a few complimentary words of 'How do you do, sir!' 'Comfortable, thank you, sir,' etc., the tall gentleman handed Mr. Jinks a roll of paper, to which he assented with a bow, and dismissed him by abruptly saying, 'Mr. Richmond, I have received no information from London respecting your affairs, as yet. The name Richmond led me to survey the personage more attentively. The sinister, dejected-looking appearance of the man, although decently appareled, at once struck me that he was the notorious agitator and government spy who, under false pretences, had roused up the West of Scotland to arms against the government in 1816. He had scarcely got on the street, when Mr. Jinks rather scrutinizingly enquired if I knew that gentleman. I replied in the negative. 'That man,' said he contemptuously, 'is the most consummate scoundrel under heaven; that man, sir, has done more mischief, and brought more families to misery, than any other man since the days of Judas Iscariot; that man, sir, brought Hardy and Baird, and James Wilson to the block, and was the means of banishing hundreds of men from their native land, in consequence of his perfidy.' 'How does he come to have correspondence with you? if I am at liberty to ask the question, sir,' said I, 'you who are the organ and advocate of radicalism, he being a traitor to the well-being of his country and the people's rights.' 'That is Richmond the spy, sir, who if it was known he was in this city would be torn to pieces; you must have heard of him.' To which I nodded assent. 'This man,' he continued, 'in 1816, when universal suffrage and vote by ballot, was on the point of being obtained for the shires and boroughs of Scotland, through the electors, was employed by Kirkman Findley, the M. P. for Lanarkshire, who was an agent for the government under Castlereagh, the then prime minister, to agitate the country to rebellion, by force of arms; which he accomplished, and brought, as I noticed before, several men to the scaffold. Now fifteen years have elapsed, and his reward of blood remains unpaid by the government. He is pursuing his employers to fulfill their then stipulation with him, and has had the audacity to apply to me for a certificate of actual service in Ayrshire, promoting rebellion there from 1816 to 1819, for which he was promised £10,000. He has called several times at my office, just as you have seen him to-day, expecting that I like himself would, for money, aid him in this affair.

The government agent wrote to me privately to notify the fact of his services; but mark me, Mr. King, money is with me of no value when marked and tarnished with blood, and never shall I sign the acts of his treachery, if he should die a beggar, as he will.

'Such is the world, Mr. King—men, honest, simple men, are duped by villains, and the government, which should protect the people, bribe the villains to lead them into rebellion and betray them, as this vagabond has done. Yes sir, and we radicals betray one another through their agency. I have told you of being fined, and barely escaping imprisonment. How, you will ask? why, by false intelligence given to me, the which when made public, I was prosecuted, and the parties denied their informations and allegations. I was then responsible, and had to bear the incubus of their slander, like Atlas with the globe on his back. But vox populo, vox deo, will no more be the motto of *The Black Dwarf*.

'You will become a conservative,' said I, promptly. 'No sir,' he replied, 'I will tell the truth for all parties, and defend the oppressed. But I have found the working classes, as they are called, such a mixture of incongruity; such a mass of unredeemable matter; such a compound of ignorance and low cunning, of simplicity and roguish, bare-faced impudence, that after years of labor and anxiety, and expenditure of genuine principle and means, they remain the same ungovernable heterogeneous mass they were from the beginning of my career till now. D—n me King—excuse me for swearing, but I get tired, and sometimes wish I had never spent an hour advocating in their behalf.'

'You are an intelligent man, and a scholar, Mr. Jinks,' I responded, 'and have a greater knowledge of Grecian history than I have, and know well that the leaders of democracy and the philosophers of ancient times, were men who spent their life-long labor to ameliorate the condition of the lower classes, and what had they for their labor and toil but dishonor, self-exile, banishment and death. Adjudged and awarded by the ignorant wretches, whose welfare they sought and labored assiduously to obtain. 'Such,' (I continued, drawing out his radical sentiments, 'were the rabble in ancient times, and such are they now. A change of circumstance, a breath, a misplaced sentence, will turn the current of their affections, and the voice of the multitude to-day, which would rend the heavens in thundering applause in your favor, to-morrow will witness against you as a traitor and a miscreant. A love of place and power is the spirit of ambition; but such ambition, without the ability to fill that situation as a leader of the people, for the good and benefit of mankind, is the aim of fools and madmen; and such is the spirit of mobocracy throughout the world.'

'Hold there,' he said, interrupting me, 'American republicanism is against your notions and opinions of government; they have the best organization on this earth.' 'True,' said I, sir, 'but their system of government is not democracy; they have their Congress, Senate and President, and he has a Cabinet of selected men, which, taking the form altogether, represents our King, Lords and Commons. To be sure there are no hereditary claims, nor septennial parliaments and limited franchise, such as we have.' 'And let us add,' said he, 'nor feudal oppression, nor an over-bearing established clergy, nor the law of entail, nor a hundred thousand of a standing army in time of peace to awe the people.' At this rejoinder his hooked nose nearly touched his curved chin, as he shut the great cut of his mouth and broadened out his narrow face with a tremendous grin, while his eyes assumed a deep hazel, glanced at me like an eagle fastened on its prey. 'These abuses,' he continued, sir, 'make all the fundamental evils opposed to a well regulated government. I am perfectly convinced, however, that the mob, as you are pleased to call the people, are not qualified to conduct the affairs of government; yet they are qualified, by universal suffrage, to vote for men who can; and there the Americans, having this privilege, will always have a sound constitution and a free government, and if you please let this suffice for the present on politics. I have a regard for you Mr. King, and would love to have you connected with our establishment; you are tinged with principles imbibed in you from your early infancy; but these notions will evaporate as your knowledge of men and things will increase. Will you join our establishment? you will be handsomely remunerated for your labor.' He then inquired particularly into my

affairs, my engagement, my reporting, collecting accounts, lifting advertisements, etc., etc. When he had satisfied himself as to these items, he offered me an engagement considerably better than I had; to all of which I asked for time to settle up with my former employers, to which he acceded. During our confab I heard a great noise now and again, which drew nearer every few minutes, until it burst out, as I thought, right opposite the house. 'What is that noise?' said he, trying to look through the dirty panes. He had scarcely uttered the self-surprised sentence, when in rushed a person covered with blood, and his clothes literally torn to shreds, and fell prostrate on the floor. 'Mr. Richmond,' ejaculated Jinks, holding up his hands in amazement. I could not have distinguished him to have been the same person I was in company with an hour before, so torn, and besmeared with blood and dirt! 'Save me! save me,' he muttered in bawling tones. 'The mob will kill me.' 'Out with him,' vociferated twenty voices at the same time. 'Out with the murderer; out, out with him or we'll pull down the house.' Several rocks by this time had come dash through the window, and the landlady was at the door wringing her hands, and calling loudly on Mr. Jinks to put out the man or the people would pull down the house! Mr. Jinks immediately run out and endeavored to pacify the mob, but no words could reach their sympathy, in truth, no words could be heard, so tumultuous and fiendish were the discordant voices calling for the immediate delivery of the murderer Richmond into their hands. Missiles, by this time of every kind, were being thrown indiscriminately around. While Jinks who was confident of public favor, declared that Richmond had been in his room, but had left. The violence, however, continued, and he was forced to take shelter in his room shutting and fastening the door, inclosing three of the most frightened beings ever domiciled together.

As I had no good opinion of a mob at any time, and now I, likely, would be subject to their disapprobation in a house hiding the victim of their bad feeling, as well, their suspicion against Jinks, for the mob were now bawling against him, in as dishonorable epithets, as against Richmond.

Any thinking person may conceive how I felt, as every few seconds brought a rock bang against the door, which was within three feet of where I was sitting.

By the increasing noise, I could calculate also that the mob were considerably growing in numbers, and the belligerents more ferocious. Jinks from the time of his entrance was busily employed removing a large pile of paper to one side, where he lifted a trap door, and commanding my help, dropped Mr. Richmond to the cellar below; after which he replaced the paper.

At this instant the door had three panels smashed in. And I as quickly removed myself to a recess beyond the bedstead. Presently down fell the door, and in jumped a number of men demanding the victim of their vengeance, swearing death to the traitor.

Never shall I forget the assumed composure of Mr. Jinks, as he faced those outrageous villains. Neither have I at any period of my recollection formed a lower estimate of human character in its most degraded form, than I did at their diabolical entrance to commit murder on a murderer.

The room and every cranny and corner was searched, the papers overturned, but no Richmond could be found. During the bustle I hastened to the door, and there as far as I could see, stood a dense crowd in the midst of which a gallows was erected over a gateway, rope and cross beam all ready for execution. Being taken no notice of, I mingled in the crowd, and edged my way out, where I became a spectator to one of the most barbarous proceedings I have ever before or since witnessed. Whether the police or the city authorities had any knowledge of the affair I know not; but there were no interference for a long time, when the mob turned away in another direction and sacked several victualing stores, and shops belonging to what they called the tory party. Night, and a company of militia thinned the streets. And Richmond made his escape through the aid and philanthropy of Mr. Jinks.

The next time we met, was at *The Black Dwarf* office. There I entered on my engagement as collector and news-gatherer, and since that time I have learned that Jinks was a mixture of every thing in human nature, worthy of censure and applause. Although I never was a really smart reporter, yet I generally gave occurrences as they transpired, and that was something in

a one-sided paper where accusation, insinuation, public abuse, and scandal, were the bone and sinew of its deformed existence.

THE LEAF WEARERS OF INDIA.—At a recent meeting of the Anthropological Society in London, a communication was read from Dr. Shortt Zillah, a surgeon, at Chingleput, giving an account of certain wild tribes of India; the most remarkable were a tribe inhabiting some parts of Crissa, called "Leaf Wearers." Their chief physical peculiarity consists in the formation of the lower jaw, which like that of the bulldog, underhangs. Dr. Shortt stated that he had not observed or read of a similar malformation in any other race. The men are considerably under the size of Europeans—the tallest of twenty that he measured not being more than five feet three and one-half inch, and one was four feet eight and three-quarter inches. In other respects they are well formed, and they wear clothing to a certain extent; but the women wear no clothes—a few leafy twigs collected from the jungle being employed instead. The leaves are tied in conical bundles, and are placed one before and one behind, and are fastened by a string of clay beads, which goes around the waist several times. This tribe is looked upon as the outcast race of the province; they inhabit the most distant and wild parts, and cultivate the soil on the declivity of the hills. They have the Mongolian type of countenance, a well-formed globular head, with an expanding forehead and rather high cheek bones. The bodies of the dead are universally subjected to cremation, no ceremonies being performed beyond that of bathing and fasting, and the ashes are thrown into some stream. They have a language of their own, which seems to belong to the Ooryah; they have no priests, their children are untaught, and they have no written language. Traditional stories and songs are handed down from generation to generation. They have only one cooked meal, which consists of boiled rice seasoned with herbs, and is eaten at night. In the morning the men, women and children start for the jungles in search of wild fruits, roots, etc., which they use for food. Several varieties of the wild yam are abundant in those parts, and are eaten roasted. They sometimes cultivate a few of the common vegetables, as also tobacco, of which they are particularly fond. It is powdered and placed between the lower lip and incisor teeth, when, from the pressure and irritation caused perhaps by the tobacco, the gums appear to get absorbed and the lower incisors fall out at a very early age. One of the stories current among them is, that Jugger-nauth, or the supreme ruler of the universe, formed a male and female at the creation of the world, and placed them on one of these hills; in course of time the woman disobeyed her husband's command, for which the goddess Parvuttee cursed the woman and enjoined her to wear leaves all her life instead of clothes. The religion of this tribe can scarcely be said to belong to any system; they entertain some indistinct ideas which they carry out in trifling superstitious ceremonies; they have no idols, nor have they any particular mode or place of worship; they have some rude notions of a Supreme Being, who is said to be present everywhere; they are fond of animals and rear cattle, goats, pigs and dogs, and the villages abound with poultry, which are a small kind; they make use of animal food of all sorts, not excepting even the cow. They are evidently of a peaceful character; the only weapons about them being the bow and arrow, and a tanghee, an ax for cutting wood.

THE DIET OF THE FRENCH WORKMAN.—He is up at dawn. In fact everybody rises early in France. There is more business done before 10 o'clock in Paris than there is in London before 11. There are two places where breakfast may be had—the *cremre* and the soup shop. Some excellent coffee, with milk, cost less than one and a quarter pence, and the bread, with butter one penny. For dinner the soup will cost one and a half pence; the plate of meat two pence; half a bottle of wholesome wine, four pence, or a quarter of a bottle two pence, or a pint of beer or milk two pence, and all of really good quality. In many places they give soup, a piece of mutton or *beef a la moid*, bread and half a bottle of wine for 60 centimes, or about 11 cents of our money.

With this year the British Parliament has been in existence six hundred years, out of which Lord Palmerston has had a tenth as his share.