

THE GREAT MEETINGS IN ENGLAND, OR, THE Free Trades & Protectionests.



Come all you gallant Englishmen & listen to my song,
And I'll warrant I'll amuse you & not detain you long,
It is concerning Free Trade as plainly you may see,
And the meetings that are being held in Town and Country

CHORUS.

Among all classes high & low, great discontent is raised,
There is some calls for Protection & others for Free Trade.

Spoken.—Good morning neighbour Jobson, pray what is the meaning of all these great meetings that are being held in all parts of England.—Why you see friend the are what they call Protectionists Meetings, there is two classes of men who both say they are working for the good of the People, although they take opposite means to do it; one calls themselves Protectionists & the others Free Traders. Oh yes, I see, do you know friend Jobson I signed a petition in favour of Free Trade, but I thought when we get it we should be all gentlemen and live like fighting cocks and have plenty of Roast Beef and Plum Pudding, but I dont see much of it as yet.

Now there was Bright & Cobden and many others too,

The Free Trade did agitate in Eng'land althrough,
They said let foreign corn come in, the people want cheap bread,

But how they was to raise the tin, the devil a word they said,

Spoken.—Well to be sure bread is cheap enough, now if we could only get the money to buy it with.—You must not be in a hurry, Rome was not built in a day, besides. There is a good time coming only wait a little longer.—That is an old story, besides while the grass is growing the horse is starving, I have heard say, we shall be all king's in our turn, but I fancy it will be a long time coming to my turn.

Alterations might be made, and with me you agree,

When men would be much better paid in town & country
Divide the great farms into ten, put down machinery,

Then happy times in England we once again might see.

But what is the meaning of Protectionists do they mean they will protect our sights, if so, they are the men for me. Why I do not hardly, they seem to say by allowing the Foreign Corn to come into the English Markets will injure the trade of England and therefore through the English Labourer out of employ, but perhaps after all it is only one word for us & two for themselves, so to my thinking one bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

These Free Trade chaps they do declare, that we shall be supplied,

With lots of bread, prime beef & beer, if we be satisfied
And roasted pigs shall run about on purpose for to treat us,
With a knife & fork stuck in their r—p, a bawling out who'll eat us.

Spoken.—On them days are gone by when Pigs used to run about in that style, besides I heard my grandmother say that she heard her grandmother say that somebody else said the streets of London were paved with gold, but when I went there I'm blest if they was not paved with stone, just the same as our town down here.—But I'll tell you what it is if them nobs was to study the interests of the poor man as well as they do themselves, it would be much better for us all, and then there would be no cause for discontent.

Now let us hope n England the good time we may see,

When the Farmer & the Labourer may all united be,
Bad luck to the selfish kives I say who causes all the evil,
They would rob the poor man day by day, So pitch them to the devil.

M. A. Hodges, (from Pitts,) Wholesale Toy Warehouse,
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