

be mixed up with other things which we do not care to particularise just now, then are we far gone indeed on the road to ruin.

Meantime, fellow-citizens, you will perhaps be kind enough to lend your attention to what a brother artisan has to say on a subject of such momentous concern to us all. The hours of leisure at his disposal are necessarily few—he is then the less likely to tire you with a long discussion; they will at all events be thus spent with great pleasure to himself, and, permit him to hope, with some profit to you. An exposition of the opinions of such a one will be less liable to have an unfair bias, than if proceeding from another, of a superior rank, however gifted with talent, or graced with eloquence, that other might be.

Fate so willed it, that he who now addresses you should be a sojourner in France for several years. During his stay in Paris he saw the struggle that ended in the late Revolution. He was afterwards, in common with others of his trade, doomed to suffer personally from the bad effects which for a time flowed from that great (and as some maintain glorious) event; his attention was thereby turned, more strongly than is usual, to serious reflections on the true sources of public comfort and happiness, which were near being dried up in that great nation for a season. It was then he plainly saw, brought home to him in a manner not to be mistaken, how vastly important a well regulated and stable state of things is to the comfortable existence of a great community. The period alluded to may be comprised between the end of July 1830, and June 8, 1832, on which day the turbulent and *levelling* portion of the French Republicans was firmly (it is to be hoped finally) put down by the strong arm of public force, exerted on the side of order and the laws. The sight of antagonist principles, striving for mastery almost daily in the vexed streets of Paris, during the above space of time,—where the arguments used in the strife were not