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other! This is legislation all on one side. We must have radical reform: we must have the CHARTER. And so we cavilled for it, disputed for it, and got into prison for it; and yet the Government has not made the charter the law of the land, not equalized duties upon tobacco and liquors to consumers. At length there came from Manchester some very plain men, and they proposed various reforms, and all to be accomplished without an act of parliament. One rose, and he said there was a heavy malt-tax chiefly paid by the people, and that there was great murmurings and complainings, for malt made all the liquor the people consumed, and this, together with the duty upon the liquor, exacted from every man, woman, and child, a tax of six shillings and tenpence annually; so that a family consisting of six persons paid two pounds one shilling. Now, said he, there is no act of parliament compelling men to drink —no local law, no municipal or parish power; and, as to physical law, all medical authority tell us persons in health don't want it, and that but few cases where health is prostrate can be successfully restored by it; so that this is literally a self-imposed tax, and I for one have taken it off and am now pocketing the brass. Well, said another, who rose, then there is the tobacco; a quantity consumed I suppose amounts to nearly seven millions a year, almost as much money as is raised by the poor law commissioners for England; and when a man has smoked for half a century, he has not enlarged his intellect, added to the love of his heart, educated his children, improved his furniture, beautified his person, paid his tradesmen's bills, or become a better member of society, but has spent, at a very low calculation, between two and three pounds every year; and who compels him to smoke? or to what law is he amenable if he does not smoke! Men cavilling for the mitigation of taxes, for the removal of burdens by act of parliament, and yet here is an all but prohibiting duty imposed upon all who use it! Why, where is the manliness of complaining! Talk of reform bills, and charters! if you had these to-morrow, you would tax yourselves seven times more than the Government tax you. Others succeeded, some upon the license laws, some upon the loss of time, of health, of character, and reputation; but all left me with the impression that taxes were only paid by consumers, and that those things which were no part of the body's support were superfluities, and, to do without them, was to relieve one's self at once. And I began to reason about it, and to act for myself, and not wait for the Government to do for me what I could do for myself; and so signing tectotal, and throwing up my pipe. I continued to deposit in the savings' bank all my

TWO CHAPTERS FROM THE LIFE OF A CHARTIST.

CHAP. I.—SHOWING HOW HE TOOK THE PAN OFF THE MALE, ETC.

I'm Charles Hunter, a fender and parlour snovel camper, exclaimed a little still-built, ruddy, clean looking man, and I want to give this meeting the benefit of my experience. I think it is high time we should all speak out; and if this audience will take my advice, they will do for themselves what they expect the Government to do for them. I was for many years a most moderate drinker of porter and ale, and believed, that I worked hard, and earned considerable wages, that I had a right to spend it as I liked, and especially upon what I liked; and I confess I did like ale and beer, believing it a staple commodity of my health and wellbeing. I did not neglect my family, though now and then I got little more than did me good. I was one of those sort of men who always take care of No. 1. Well, as I was saying, I liked the beer, and I liked the company met at the beer house: and then we were all radicals and chartists, and read the papers that most suited our taste, and were often hot and violent, and were ready to make pikes, and crows' feet, and interfere, by force, to procure what I now find we had the power to do ourselves, if we were sincere. Our eyes were always directed to the burdens of the people, and we were constantly discussing the disproportion of the tax upon cigars and tobacco. What! said some, the costly tobacco manufactured into cigars is taxed only so much, but the short cut, returns, and shag, are taxed very considerably more! and then the wines of the rich and the common drinks we consume bear no proportion to each