

popular institutions. Let us have Conservative elements in our polity by all means ; they are necessary to save democracy from suicide ; but this anchor will not hold.

—From the storm of debate on the Agreement, which at last rose to a hurricane of invective, we have come to the calm consideration of a question in which all have an equal interest, that relating to the peopling of the North-West. In the Syndicate we have the men who can do that indispensable work, if the work can in any way be done : their aptness for it, and readiness at once to take it in hand, are a great set-off against the excess in the price demanded by them over that demanded by their rivals, and anything else that may be unwelcome in their terms. But whence are the people to come ? A vague impression prevails that there are in Europe multitudes longing for a happier home, who have only to be made acquainted with the existence of our North-West. In the purlieus of the English cities there are, no doubt, multitudes who may well long for a happier home ; but they are, unluckily, for the most part, fit for nothing but the wretched callings by which they have been accustomed to subsist. Of agricultural labourers there does not appear to be a great surplus ; and for such surplus as there is, the other Colonies are our active competitors, exerting through their agents an influence quite as adverse to us as that of the much-abused speeches of Mr. Blake ; while the upper classes, so far as they can control the movements of the peasantry, are inclined to direct emigration to New Zealand, which still retains the faint odour of its original Conservatism, and is in no danger of being annexed to the American Republic. The English farmer is not easily moved ; he is much wedded to the aids and comforts of the garden-like country and the hive of industry in which he lives ; in his cast of character and habits he has nothing of the pioneer : moreover, he is not a labourer, but a director of labour, and half a gentleman, while his wife, in her notions and aspirations, is more than half a lady. At the time of the Agricultural Labourers'