Charter having at length been granted, in effect, if not in letter; and there was nothing unrighteous or revolutionary in their demands. It was a far grander thing to have our mechanics caring for politics than to see them fighting for a double allowance of beer and a short spell of work. The modern agitator is a poor being compared with his predecessor of forty years ago. By so much as thinking is better than boozing, the discontented artizan of Thomas Cooper's early days was superior to the man on strike of the present period."

Some years ago certain books by Francis Jacox were popular. "Mr. Jacox appears to have read through the Bodleian and all other collections of books; he does not talk like a book, but like the British Museum library. . . . We do not know any books in modern times at all like Mr. Jacox's; they are unique; in fact, they are curiosities of literature. . . . The man must be a cyclopædia; we expect to come across him one day, and to find him bound in cloth, lettered. He ought to be in several volumes, but we suppose they are bound up in one thick royal octavo, and contain more matter than a hundred volumes of Dr. Going or Dr. Septimus Losequick."

In 1883 the Rev J. De Kewer Williams