

since I came
to my portman.
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show me the

answered Ben
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People's Charter." The good man assured him that the same feelings were very general throughout all that part of the country; and he seemed so calm and reasonable, that his guest applied himself to prove to him that what was sought could not be granted with safety to the institutions of the country, and, if granted, would only prove detrimental to the very classes who demanded it. He pressed him close with various arguments, and Ben answered briefly, from time to time, but at length the laborer paused for a moment or two thoughtfully, and then replied:

"I dare say it is very true, sir, what you say; and I never pretend that the charter is the best thing that could be invented; but of one thing I am very certain, that gentlemen must either allow us a hand in making the laws which govern us, or make laws to protect us against oppression. It is all very well saying, as I have heard some say, that labor must find its own market like any thing else, and that it is but a commodity that is bought and sold, and such like; but there's a difference between it and other commodities; for it must eat and drink, and will eat and drink; and the market is not a fair one, for every thing is done by law for the buyer, and