

We hope that they will not be misled by vague anticipations, and, above all, that they will not manifest a spirit of unreasoning obstinacy, which will certainly tend to defeat the very purpose they have in view. We must say a word, however, on another matter. A strike for a rise of wages is not likely to be attended with success. The *time* is altogether another question. If workmen are in a position to strike for a rise of wages, they are also in a position to strike for shorter time; and our own experience enables us to affirm that as much work and as good work will be done in a short week as in a long one. We should rejoice to see the Saturday half-holiday absolutely universal; and we recommend all workmen to strive for this great reform, as incomparably more valuable to themselves, to their wives, and to their children, than any additional shillings that they hope to obtain. If men strike at all, let them strike for the Saturday half-holiday, and the good wishes of the whole community will go with them. To every workman we would say, look to the Saturday half-holiday as one of the most precious things that you can possibly acquire: get it by all means. Work hard, faithfully, honestly,—like a man; but by all means get the Saturday half-holiday; and when you get it, be sure to make a good use of it.—*May* 13, 1854.

THE COTTAGES OF OUR HINDS.

WE presented to the reader on Saturday last, in our report of the late half-yearly meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society, the remarks of two very estimable noblemen on the cottages of the country, especially the cottages of hinds, and on the best means of improving them. It was