CANTERBURY COUNTY COURT.

The monthly court was held on Wednesday last before Charles Harwood, Esq., Q.C. There were nearly ninety cases for adjudication, though few were of general interest:

Newport v. Hyder.—Plaintiff in this case sued as the executor of Mr. Filmer, of Nackington, for £6 19s. 6d. alleged to be due from Captain Hyder for the keep of some dogs. There was no direct proof of the liability. The plaintiff deposed to having made out two bills for Filmer, one of which was sent by a witness to defendant, and in that charge was made for the keep of the dogs; in reply to which defendant merely stated that there was a little mistake in it; and it transpired that on issue of summons defendant had promised, by telegraph, to discharge the claim, but had since gone abroad. His Honour said he did not feel justified in making an order without some more direct proof of liability; for which purpose he adjourned the case, with an instruction to plaintiff to obtain the original MS. of the telegraphic message, and advised plaintiff to consult a solicitor. Plaintiff could see no necessity for that after the admission.

Davison v Athill.—A poor woman sued her landlord for a sum due on hop-tying, against which there was a set off for rent—it appearing that she had rented a cottage at 1s. 6d. a week, but which defendant, during the last three weeks of her tenancy, had doubled, as he had given her notice to quit the premises, which she disregarded for two weeks. She stated, in her unsophisticated way, that she never consented to such a thing, nor did she have any written notice.—His Honour remarked that neither of these was necessary; if she held the house beyond the period notified, she must pay the penalty.—She was, therefore, nonsuited.

Adley v. Dickens.—This case, which had been adjourned for the production of an account that had been sent to defendant, was re-opened by Mr. Towne, who stated that Mr. Wightwick had informed him that defendant had not been able to find it—in fact, there was no evidence to show that the disputed part of the amount formed any portion of the account which had before been paid; and, therefore, he prayed the judgment of the Court.—His Honour said that his impression was that the use of the horses under the circumstances did not raise any pecuniary obligation.—Mr. Towne said it was clear that plaintiff had given the labour—in the way of loan, as his Honour replied, though perhaps it had not been returned, on account of the defendant not having the horses. At any rate, it was not a legal obligation to be enforced in any court of law; and it was indecent, in fact, to bring an action on such an account five years afterwards.—Mr. Towne mentioned that an action might then be brought against the defendant for not giving the use of his horses.—Verdict for plaintiff for the amount paid into Court, which precluded any costs.

Matcham v. South-Eastern Railway Company.—Mr. Towne for plaintiff, and Mr. Delasaux for defendants; and a jury was sworn.

A preliminary objection was taken by Mr. Delasaux to the jurisdiction of the Court, on the strength of a case heard against a gas company tried at Durham, and reported in the *Law Times* of November last, in entertaining an action against the company in their corporate capacity, which his Honour over-ruled, on the ground that the objection applied simply to the recovery of costs. It was quite another question whether they could reap the fruits of a judgment. The place of residence was supposed to be where the business was carried on.

Mr. Towne then stated the nature of the case as afterwards elicited in evidence, of plaintiff having occasion to cross a wooden bridge from one side of the railway to the other at Wall's End, near Grove Ferry, one of his horses broke through, by which it was so much injured as to justify the claim which was made of £35, including the attendance of a veterinary surgeon and the loss of services of the horse. Notice of the damage was given to the railway company, and no objection was raised to meeting it fairly. Now, there were two questions which the jury had to consider—first, whether the railway company should pay for the damage occasioned through their negligence, and next, the amount of that damage, which, though set at £35, was nothing like the full extent sustained, for beside materially deteriorating the value of the horse, its services had been lost for ten weeks, and a long bill had been incurred through the attendance of a veterinary surgeon. And he mentioned that £40 had been offered for the horse a short time previous to the accident, while perhaps it would not now fetch £15, it being lame for life. To show the liability of the company, he stated that it was an express condition of their act of parliament that they should make and maintain approaches to the land severed by their line. He was at a loss to conceive what answer could now be set up. Plaintiff was advised to inform Mr. Coxhead, station-master at Ramsgate, of the damage he had sustained, who in turn told him to send it to superior authorities in London, who had deigned no notice—no objection was made either to their liability or the amount of injury sustained. He fully believed the jury would come to the conclusion that the company should be held responsible; and that he should have no difficulty in producing evidence to their satisfaction of the damage sustained. He then called:

Edward Matcham, who deposed that he was a hay-salesman at Upstreet. On the 1st June last his man took his wagon across the railway at Wall's End, with a load of hay. Between the gate and the railway was a small bridge thrown over a dyke twelve feet wide, belonging to the railway. On the wagon and two horses going across the bridge, he heard a call for assistance, and proceeding thither found the near hind leg of the trace horse through the bridge up to the hock. A plank had given way, and it was not without difficulty that they could get the horse out. He had been offered £40 for it, but would not take it—he would not have taken £45. It did nothing for eight weeks, and he estimated its value at £1 a week—with horse and keep £1 12s. He paid the farrier £5 10s. In cross-examination he stated the parties of whom he had bought the horse, and who had offered him £40; and said he was in the habit of crossing the bridge, but saw nothing the matter with it. Had there been anything it would have been visible. He never made any complaint of its being out of repair. The accident occurred on a Friday, and the bridge was repaired the following Tuesday.

Troward Cowell, a labourer who was in the employ of plaintiff at the time, deposed to his taking the wagon on the bridge. When about midway the fore horse broke through—it could not walk afterwards. Cross-examined.—He had hold of its head when crossing the bridge. He had frequently been over, but saw nothing of any decay.

William Holness, farrier, had the horse under his care eight or nine weeks, and his charge was between £5 and £6, for attending and dressing it. He put on what he thought proper. He attended it sometimes twice or three times a day. Was there every day for three weeks. He would not call it sound, nor was it likely to work so well as before. Cross-examined.—He should not like to give £20 for it now, though it might be worth it. By the Judge.—The flesh was more bruised and swollen; the skin was not much broken; there was a trifling mark; its leg swelled after a day's work.

Wm. Sneller, who knew the horse in question, spoke to its having been damaged full £20.

Mr. Delasaux, for the defence, observed that the jury had most likely gleaned from his cross-examination that there was no wilful neglect on the part of the Company. Plaintiff and his servants, who had been in the habit of crossing the bridge, had seen no defect—nor was it likely then that the Company should, when they were less in the habit of observing it? Plaintiff had given them no notice of anything of the kind. Where then was any real neglect on their part? Now, it was frequently the case when companies were sued like this, for parties to attempt to get more than was really due to them. Not one of the witnesses in the present instance really knew the value of the horse now. Any one purchasing it would seek to get it for the lowest amount. He put it to the jury to say whether there had been any real negligence on the part of the Company to warrant the plaint laid before them. They would receive from his Honor direction as to the amount of damage for which the Company should be liable.

His Honor, in summing up, remarked that it was in truth an undefended action so far as the question of liability was concerned. The question was whether the company had such a bridge as was necessary for traffic between the land on each side. By their Act they were bound to make and preserve gates, arches, and culverts as might be necessary for the passing to and fro in the cultivation of the land. It was quite clear that in the present instance the bridge was not of sufficient strength as it would not bear the weight of the horse. Whether they knew it or not, it was their duty to have constantly there such arches, bridges, and culverts as would be safe for persons to go over who occupied adjoining land. Their liability therefore was clear; and the only question for consideration was as to the amount for which they were liable.

The jury after a brief consultation gave a verdict for plaintiff for the full amount—£35.

Hardeman v. Akhurst.—A small claim for cleaning and repairing a watch, which defendant refused to pay because, as he said, the watch stopped four or five days afterwards, and when he took it to another watchmaker he stated that it had not been cleaned. Plaintiff denied this—stated that he had cleaned the watch, and that its deficiency was not mentioned to him before a year after his cleaning it. His Honor observed that it was no proof that the watch had not been cleaned merely because another watchmaker said so—he might have deceived the defendant to sustain his own charge; and therefore gave judgment for plaintiff.

Wilson v. Adams.—A suit for damage alleged to have been occasioned to a little girl of plaintiff's, who was an artisan, by defendant running over her. Plaintiff presented his case in a very indistinct way, as he had no proof of the accident having arisen from the carelessness or negligence of the defendant, while the child herself appeared unconscious of what happened to her, beyond that she was pushed backwards by a boy and fell under the wheel. Defendant, who was examined, stated that the fault did not rest with himself—that the child was merely pushed against the wheel—that she jumped up immediately and ran away; upon which he drove on, believing that she was not injured.—A girl named Phœbe Solomon substantiated this in every particular; while the father of the child denied it, and stated that the wheel passed over his child from the collar bone down the chest; to which Mr. A. B. Andrews, who was in attendance, could depose.—His Honor appeared inclined to adjourn the further hearing to enable plaintiff to produce witnesses of the accident; to which Mr. Towne, who was for the defence, strongly objected, saying that the plaintiff was nonsuited upon the evidence of his own witness, the defendant, who had been examined in his behalf.—His Honor said he had the right to adjourn it if he thought proper, rather than nonsuit the plaintiff. Defendant had admitted that he knocked the child down. It appearing by no means clear that there was carelessness on the part of the defendant, and after a few other remarks, his Honor nonsuited the plaintiff—telling him that he ought to have consulted some one to prosecute his case. This it transpired he had done, but after the first consultation took no further steps in the matter. He lost his suit and had the costs to pay, which it appeared he was unable to do.

Benjamin Mutton applied for relief of the Court under insolvency. He was supported by Mr. Delasaux. His schedule showed his debts to be £242 0s. 8d.; his assets, none, beyond the excepted articles. He stated the insufficiency of profits as the cause of embarrassment. He passed the first examination unopposed, and was ordered to come up next Court day for his final order. The Court adjourned to Wednesday, October 10.

The Leeds papers this week record the death of Mr. Joshua Bower, who began life as a journeyman carpenter, and died at the age of 82, possessed of £100,000.

Red, White, and Blue.—A man appeared in the streets of Hull the other day with his wooden leg painted red, white, and blue.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.

WEEKLY REPORT.

Admitted—In-Patients	11	Out-Patients	14
Discharged	13		18
Remaining on the books	70		216
Vacancies for In-Patients	Males 25	Females 25	

Patients are admitted every Tuesday under Dr. Lochee, and every Friday under Dr. Gooch.
Surgeon for Friday, Sept. 28, Mr. Reid.
Tuesday, Oct. 2, Mr. Holttum.
Weekly Visitors commencing Saturday, Sept. 29, Mr. William Kemp, and Mr. J. H. Nicholls.
Friday, Sept. 21, 1855. THOS. SOUTHEE, Sec.

CANTERBURY DISPENSARY.

Number of Patients admitted during the past week... 12
Remaining on the books ... 67
Total admitted since the opening of the Institution... 23,088
Patients are admitted every morning between nine and ten o'clock, under the care of Mr. Rigden, Surgeon.
By order of the Committee.
*** Vaccination performed gratuitously every Thursday morning at the Dispensary, between nine and ten o'clock.
Burgate, Sept. 21, 1855.

THE KENTISH TIDE TABLE,

Showing the Time of High Water at the following Places, for the ensuing Week, both in the Morning and Afternoon.

	Whitstable.		N. and S. Foreland, Dover, and Deal.		Kentish Coast, from Folkestone to Rye, and Boulogne.	
	MORN.	AFTER.	MORN.	AFTER.	MORN.	AFTER.
Sept.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
25	11 38	12 0	10 17	10 39	9 57	10 19
26		0 21	10 39	11 0	10 19	10 40
27	0 42	1 2	11 21	11 41	11 1	11 21
28	1 22	1 42	0 1	0 21	11 41	0 1
29	2 2	2 20	0 41	0 59	0 21	0 39
30	2 40	2 59	1 19	1 38	0 59	1 18
Oct. 1	3 18	3 39	1 57	2 18	1 37	1 58

CANTERBURY COURT OF GUARDIANS.

At the usual meeting last week, the President in the chair, the committee to whom the manner in which the painting of the house had been conducted, reported that it was not according to contract, and that it was very inefficiently done; that the paint had not been of the best composition, nor was that inside the gutters painted or done twice as it ought to have been. It was ordered that the contractor should be required to complete his contract in a workmanlike manner.

Mr. Foreman appeared with his apprentice to prefer the complaint which he had brought the previous week, when counter accusations were made, and it was the impression of the guardians that the master was in some respects a little "too tight," while nothing would justify the apprentice in drinking as his master imputed to him. The latter was advised to return to his employment and behave himself so that his master should have no cause to complain during the remaining brief period, six months, that he had to serve; and the master was advised to be a little more forbearing and indulgent.

A testimonial was readily awarded the late schoolmaster, against whom it was stated there had been no complaint.

A letter was read from the Rev. C. W. Bewsher, complaining of the conduct of the master in refusing him admittance to see a dying pauper, and ordering his ejectment by the porter. It appeared that Mr. Bewsher, hearing of an aged pauper named Richardson, in whom he had always felt an interest, had refused to take food for several days, and was dying, went to the Union at a quarter past eight in the evening. The porter refused his admittance at that late hour, and as the master and matron were absent; but he forced his way in. The master, on his return, complained of this intrusion, feeling that there was no such urgency for his going to see the pauper, and as it was beyond the privileged hours. On the Wednesday following Mr. Bewsher went to the Union again, and asking if he could be admitted, was answered readily in the affirmative; but saying he supposed there was no thanks due to him (the master) for it, the latter replied that he did not know about that—no one had any absolute right to come there. Mr. Bewsher called his conduct disgraceful and was talking very loudly, upon which the master ordered his instant ejectment. Mr. Bewsher alleged this twofold grievance, in which the master justified himself, both for the improper time at which Mr. Bewsher first came, and his subsequent taunting language, which was calculated to create an unfavorable impression in the house. In reply to inquiries the master stated, that he should never think of refusing the admittance of any one at reasonable hours; or of their conveying anything nourishing to the paupers, though it was usual to show it to him first. There was an evil, however, in this, as it implied either that the surgeon did not order what was necessary, or that the house did not provide sufficient; and sometimes it went to a ridiculous length, as in the case of a young lady who the week before had brought in some milk and water.

The Chairman read a note from the chaplain, stating that Mrs. Richardson had to his knowledge been provided with everything that was necessary and that kindness could suggest. The Chairman added a remark that the absence of the master and matron at the same time had given rise to this squabble.

Mr. Pout thought Mr. Bewsher was the originator by forcing his way in, contrary to the rules. The officers must be upheld or there would be an end to all discipline.

Much discussion arose, in which the first intrusion of Mr. Bewsher's, and his subsequent taunt, were reprobated; as well as the absence of the master and matron at one time, when there was no schoolmaster in charge, and the ejectment of Mr. Bewsher on the taunt that he had used. A difficulty was expressed as to the way in which to settle the question. Mr. Boorman observed that they wanted to say something which would amount to nothing, and perhaps the best way would be to find fault with both.

It was proposed by Mr. Greaves, seconded by Mr. Cooper,—"That the Court are of opinion that the observations of Mr. Bewsher to the master were uncalled for and very injudicious; but they do not consider the provocation received was sufficient to call for his forcible ejectment from the house."

The master reported that there were in the house last Saturday, 87 paupers; admitted since, 2; discharged, 6; remaining, 83,—being a decrease of 25 compared with the corresponding week last year. Vagrants admitted during the week, 8; continued from the previous, 258; total, 266,—a decrease of 130 on the like period last year.

On proceeding with the election of schoolmaster, it appeared that though there were two candidates, but one was eligible—Mr. R. R. Varty, schoolmaster of Cranbrook Union, whose testimonials were laid before the meeting. The other candidate, Mr. F. Abram, was neither in attendance, nor had he sent in any written application or testimonials—being engaged in the hop duty he had deputed his father to appear for him, and was therefore not qualified, as had occurred once before on a similar occasion. The election of Mr. Varty was unanimous.

The usual contracts were then taken:—Mr. Ward's for the printing of the parliamentary electors' list; Mr. T. Bryson's for bread and flour—the best second flour at 54s. per sack, and second bread at 8½d. the 4lb. loaf; Mr. John Jennings for meat—consisting of boneless beef and mutton suet, at 8s. 2d. per score; Messrs. W. Beer and Co's for ale and porter at 28s. 6d., and table beer 17s. per barrel; and Mr. Ambrose Wale's for milk at 9d. per gallon.

A tidy female with five orphans, the eldest not more than nine years of age, applied for assistance towards their maintenance, in consequence of the loss of both father and mother. They were the children of one Smith, who formerly kept an oyster shop in Sun Street, and died about two years ago—followed by his widow a twelvemonth since. The grandmother had taken charge of the children, with the view of preserving them from the Union, which she was in expectation of doing with a little assistance,—trade being too bad for her to derive their subsistence entirely from that. Some of the guardians were desirous of aiding the applicant in her generous endeavour, but others, disapproving of the character of the house, thought the children would be better off in the house, and on that ground felt inclined to refuse the required aid. The case was adjourned to permit the opportunity of the necessary inquiries.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening the forty-second annual meeting of the Canterbury auxiliary to this society was held at the Guildhall Concert Room. J. P. Plumptre, Esq., presided in a well-filled room, there being of the company the Rev. J. Langley, Rector of Wallingford, Herts, a deputation from the Parent Society; the Revs. Western Plumptre, C. T. Plumptre, T. Harrison, F. J. Holland, Stevenson, Smelt, C. E. Smith, Warton, Sims; the Rev. Messrs. Cresswell, Necton, Worth, Roger Moore, Kirtland, Wilson (dissenting ministers), Mr. Greaves, &c.

Mr. Langley, in descanting on the extensive and beneficial operations of the society, observed that it had been the means of circulating no less than nineteen millions of copies of the Bible among our own people in the United Kingdom, and thirty-eight millions among the inhabitants of other parts of the world, of which 10,000 were among our Sardinian allies. To supply this extraordinary demand, a copy was produced in two minutes and a half at the Clarendon Press, at Oxford; but with all their efforts—and he afforded some details of them—they could make but little progress in Spain—a country which once stood at the head of nations, but was now in so low and abject a condition. They had had 5,000 each of the Bible and the Testament printed in the Spanish language, with which they hoped to effectuate some good. In the past year alone they had distributed 400,000 copies—a proof of something being done to instruct the population in the principles of Christianity. And he noticed the economical operation of the society—how much cheaper it was to prevent than punish crime, the former of which it was hoped was attained to a great extent be a free distribution of the Scriptures. What was the cost of a Bible compared with the prosecution of an offender? They could not commit a man to prison for a month at a less cost than £10, or transport him for less than £150; and Mr. Clay had given an estimate of one notorious family—the members of which had been frequently prosecuted, imprisoned, maintained, and some transported,—having cost the country the astounding sum of £26,000! If the circulation of the Scriptures proved the means of deterring from crime, and that it did they had numberless instances, what a saving scheme it was to the nation! So convinced were the society of the beneficial working of the Scriptures, that they strove all they could to supply them whenever wanted; and as regarded Ireland in particular, they never refused an application from that country—and how great was the good there being effectuated! He even went to the field of battle in proof of what was being done. Mr. Barker, their agent, was incessant, among the people of all nations there, in circulating the Bible—among friend and foe; and such was the eagerness of many to possess themselves of a copy, that French, Turks, & Sardinians crowded round his sick bed, whence he gave 400 copies. The Bible could not be distributed so freely among the Russians, as it was a plan of the society to give it to none but those who could read, while the generality of the Russians could not. Out of three hundred of those who were made prisoners not more than seven could read. It was not so of the Russian guards. The generality of them could read. In France too their work was going on well, though not so well as they could wish. The Emperor himself was with them, but the policy of the country precluded his carrying out his own views as he desired. What a blessing it was that he had resided so long in this country, by which he had obtained a tolerant feeling towards Protestantism. He had lately liberated four Protestants who had been incarcerated for holding religious assemblies contrary to the religion of France; and they might believe that he would do much more if he could. As regarded the war, they must pray that it would be overruled for good—for the dissemination of God's word. It might have been brought about for some magnanimous and glorious work which they yet saw not. India had a special claim to their regard. There were millions upon millions who had never yet had a page of the Scriptures unfolded to them—nations differing as much from one another as they did from ourselves. One hundred and fifty millions of their own fellow subjects there were perishing from a positive lack of knowledge. There were only two hundred missionaries for the whole of India, whose operations were necessarily limited. The annexation of the Punjab had given them 100,000 square miles of territory, and three millions and a half of souls who had never yet heard the Scriptures. A very encouraging mission had been established there, and great good would doubtless result. Fifty thousand villages in that country had never seen the face of a missionary. Here was a field for their operation! He dwelt on the importance of directing the rising intellect aright by making it acquainted with the word of God. It was grievous to say that the Sovereign of this country had more subjects perishing from the lack of knowledge than any other in the world excepting the Emperor of China. He congratulated the Christian community on their liberality, and the great good already thereby achieved, and exhorted them to still further beneficence and increased exertions to bring all the world to a knowledge of the Word of Life.

Several other speeches were delivered in behalf of the society.

LOCAL NEWS.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent.—East Kent Regiment of Militia.—G. Wildes, gent., to be Ensign.

Hunton Bridge.—The new iron bridge at Hunton, which is now open for traffic, gives universal satisfaction, and enables those who use this road to regard with indifference the floods (if any should arise) of the approaching winter and following spring. A considerable sum is yet required to defray the cost of its erection.

Hastings Regatta.—This aquatic fete for the present year came off on Tuesday, and afforded such a variety of sport as is seldom witnessed in displays of the like character, there being no less than eleven matches, including the humourous *finale* of a tub race.

Highway Robbery.—On Monday night, soon after 8 o'clock, a labouring man, named George Hammond, in the employ of Mr. Love, of Wicke Farm, Headcorn, was stopped on the road between Headcorn and Biddenden, and robbed of 3s. 6d., all the money he had in his possession. The ruffians not content with taking this poor pittance, injured him very much by knocking him down, kicking, and jumping on him. When found he was in such a dangerous state that his life was for some time despaired of, but he is now doing well. Being a dark night he was unable to recognise his assailants.

Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital.—A feeling has been for some time extensively entertained amongst the working classes of Kent that the gratuitous and disinterested services of Mr. Woolcott as honorary medical officer of the above institution deserved some mark of gratitude at their hands; and the committee of the Working Men's Subscription Fund, that was formed in 1851 (which committee has never been formally dissolved,) have determined to enter at once upon the very pleasurable duty of acknowledging, in some way, the invaluable services of Mr. Woolcott. A subscription list has been opened for the purpose of purchasing a testimonial to be presented to that gentleman, and, so far as the object has yet been made known, it has been met by a very satisfactory response.

Public Sales.—By Messrs. Charlton, at the Mart.—A freehold estate, known as Rankin's Farm, on the road from Maidstone to Staplehurst, containing farm house and buildings and 130 acres of land, let at £300—sold for £7,500. A freehold farm known as Felling's Pitts, in Nettlestead, and East Peckham, 57 acres of land, with possession—£2,450. Freehold farm, known as Lillyhoo and Summers, near Beltring, comprising about 73 acres, with farmhouse and suitable buildings, producing £185 per annum—£3,320. By Messrs. Green, at Garraway's.—Freehold residence and about 4 acres of land, at Phiffin's-hill, near Frindsbury—sold for £920.

Death of the Rev. Edward Hasted.—The Rev. E. Hasted, vicar of Hollingbourne and Hucking, died at the vicarage of the first-named parish, on Saturday se'nnight. He was born 11th November, 1760, and was consequently in the 95th year of his age. He had been incumbent of Hollingbourne for 65 years, and for the last 50 years had been in the commission of the peace for the county. He was eldest son of Edward Hasted, whose laborious and valuable "History of Kent" has secured perpetuity to his name, as it can never be wholly superseded as a Kentish chronicle. With the late venerable vicar of Hollingbourne, this ancient and respectable family is, we understand, extinct.

Fire and Loss of Life.—Shortly after one o'clock on Saturday se'nnight, information was communicated to the Gravesend police station of an extensive fire raging in the farm buildings of Mr. James Armstrong, of Southfleet. Immediately upon post-horses being procured, Mr. Superintendent White and three firemen, accompanied by the larger engine, proceeded to the spot, where it was found that three outhouses and one stack of oats were already consumed, and that the fire had spread to a second stack of oats, contiguous to a full barn, upon which water was being thrown by the farm labourers, with a view to keep it from igniting. A large pond being within 100 yards' distance, the engine was with all speed brought into play, and an additional branch having been affixed to the engine, the burning stack and barn were played on at the same time, the efficient engine being plentifully supplied with water, and the further progress of the flames was arrested by three o'clock. The origin of the fire is attributed to the carelessness of the hoppers sleeping in one of the outhouses, one of whose children perished in the conflagration. The stock and buildings are insured.

Fire at Wateringbury.—On Saturday se'nnight, shortly before ten o'clock, one of the kilns belonging to the large hop-oast of Mr. Leney, brewer, situated in the main street of this village, was discovered to be on fire. A messenger was sent to Maidstone for the engines and in the meanwhile the inhabitants exerted themselves with praiseworthy alacrity to subdue the flames. The hand-engine belonging to Mr. Jude was brought to the spot, and through the exertions of those who worked it, and the assistance of the neighbours generally, the fire was got under without spreading destruction further than to the top of the kiln in which it commenced. The fire is believed to have been caused by some lucifer matches having been dropped among the hops while in the plantation, which ignited on the kiln. The property destroyed was part of the kiln, which belongs to Mr. Alderman Lucas, and the damage to which is estimated at about £50. The hops drying at the time, which were, of course, uninsured, are said to have been worth from £10 to £12. Some pockets of dried hops were on the premises, but these were got out uninjured.

Sevenoaks Stock Market.—On Tuesday last an attempt was made to re-establish the monthly stock market held for so many years in this town, and temporarily discontinued some time since, and judging from the quantity of all kinds sent, the large attendance of buyers and sellers, farmers and graziers, and the magnitude of the sales and purchases made, it would seem to have been highly successful. In fact, the scene was an exceedingly animated one, and it was generally remarked that few better markets had been held in Sevenoaks prior to the temporary discontinuance referred to. If well supported with stock by the resident nobility, gentry, and farmers, there can be little doubt that buyers will soon find their way to the old market again, although it may want some of its former elements, and thus benefit both themselves and the trading inhabitants for many miles round. There were about 1,500 Down and Kent sheep and lambs, 400 head of cattle and calves, with a fair proportion of pigs and horses, at moderate prices, the average being—Beef, 4s. to 4s. 6d. Best Downs, from 4s. 10d. to 5s. Kents, from 4s. to 4s. 6d., &c. The committee, whose general arrangements gave great satisfaction, dined together at the Rose and Crown Inn. A firm determination to continue the market regularly every third Tuesday in each month was shown by all present, and several speeches were made to that effect, and promises of continued and efficient support given.

Whitstable.

Extraordinary Diving.—The smack Nancy, of Whitstable, Mr. G. Hall, submarine engineer, arrived at Christiansund on the 13th instant, having been diving near the coast, and recovered from the galiot Johan Auguste, lost in the year 1819, 11 tons 7 cwt. of copper, also 45 casks of crome cale, in 23 fathoms water. Two years before the engagement with Mr. Hall, two Danish divers made a trial during two summers, but could not recover any of the cargo, and we have never heard of any property being recovered in 23 fathoms water until the present case. Mr. G. Hall was formerly one of Colonel Pasley's principal divers employed in raising the guns and clearing the wreck of the Royal George in the year 1840.

Accident.—A few days since as Mr. Smith, fruiterer, of this place, was gathering fruit, the bough on which he was standing gave way, and he was precipitated to the ground, sustaining a fracture of his blade bone, beside contusions on his face and arm.

Fire at Sea.—At an early hour on Thursday se'nnight, a fire was observed at sea, some little distance from here. Several of our dredgermen found a barge laden with straw burnt almost to the water's edge, drifting about, with no one on board. The remains were brought in here, but nothing has been learnt respecting the crew.

Wingham.

At the last Petty Sessions, John Newman, a wagoner's mate, was ordered to pay 21s. fine and costs, for riding in a wagon, drawn by four horses, without having any reins or person to guide them, in the parish of Ickham, on the 23rd August last. Henry Hammond was charged with cruelly beating and ill-using a dog belonging to Thomas Bushell, but the evidence failed to substantiate the accusation, and the case was dismissed. Wm. Parrin was charged upon the information of the constable of Staple, with being at a great distance from his cart, while passing from Staple to Wingham.—Ordered to pay fine and costs, 20s. James Spain, a servant in husbandry, was charged upon the complaint of his master, Mr. John Jacob, of Northbourne, with having absented himself from his work on the 21st August.—Ordered to have 20s. deducted from his wages.

Ash.

A little boy named John Ralph, aged nine years, had his foot seriously injured on Monday by a thrashing machine. He was promptly taken to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

Sandwich.

Sandwich Horticultural Show.—A good display of fruits, vegetables, and flowers was presented at the New Inn Assembly Rooms on Tuesday. The judges (Messrs. Baker and Hammond) made very pleasing observations upon the marked improvement in cultivation, evinced by the superiority of the flowers (with the exception of dahlias), as well as the fruits and vegetables exhibited upon the productions of the past years, while the *tout ensemble* of the room from the increased number of pot plants and unusually tasteful decorations, reflected credit upon those entrusted with the arrangements.

At the meeting of the Horticultural Society, held at the New Inn, on Tuesday, we were pleased to remark that the observations we addressed to the managers twelve months since, had not been forgotten. The result must be pleasing to the subscribers, and the increased number of visitors, able and willing to render assistance, proves that the inhabitants of Sandwich generally are taking more interest in its welfare now that the society is being placed on a better footing. The very marked improvement of this over former exhibitions was the general theme of conversation, and the Judges Messrs. F. Masters, Hammond, and Baker, made some very pleasing observations upon the decided advance made in the principles of cultivation evinced by the productions generally, as well as in the amended general arrangements of the meeting.

Margate.

ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

	In the house.	Discharged.	Vacant beds.
Men	26	4	12
Women	50	3	Nil.
Boys	62	1	Nil.
Girls	43	1	7
	181	9	19

A Pickpocket.—A young fellow of 19, named William Barry, was committed to prison for a month on the 15th inst., for an attempt to pick the pocket of Mrs. Haywood, a visitor.

A man in gentlemanly attire wearing moustaches, and who stated his name to be Adrian Biron, Ashford, was brought before the magistrates on the 18th inst., on a charge of being intoxicated and guilty of riotous behaviour, at about two o'clock in the morning; to which he pleaded guilty, and was sent to prison for seven days.

The second regatta this season took place on Tuesday last, under the patronage of James Taddy Friend, Esq. The first part of the morning was not altogether promising, and fears were entertained that the day would be a showery one. About ten o'clock, however, the clouds broke beautifully, and at the commencement of the regatta it was as fine a day as could be wished for. There was scarcely enough wind for the sailors, but it suited the row-boats very well. By twelve o'clock the town presented a very animated appearance; flags were hung from one end of the street to the other, and several were placed upon the lamp-posts round the harbour. The pier band added to the gaiety of the scene by playing some of the most popular airs of the day. The bill of fare was of the usual class, and, unfortunately, through some misunderstanding between the committee and the mariners the six-oared galley match for a prize of £10 did not take place. The principle attraction was the challenge match between the "Alma" and the "Hazard," and yacht sailing match for the cup of the value of £20. The sprit sail match was a very good one, the "Alma" coming in first, but we understand that the decision of the committee as to this race has been protested against, and the matter will be shortly investigated. The prizes were distributed at the Tivoli Gardens in the evening by W. Caveler, Esq., the chairman of the committee, who presented Mr. Bushell, of the "Alma," the successful competitor in the challenge match, with £2, and the yacht match was declared in favour of Mr. Kirby, of the "Violet," and a salver was presented to that gentleman of the value of £20; the chairman remarked that it was the first salver that had been presented on such an occasion in Margate. There were several other prizes of minor importance.

At the County Court last week the following case was heard:—

Boys v. South-Eastern Railway Company.—The plaintiff in this case is a gentleman holding several public appointments at Margate, who claimed the sum of £3 11s. as damages, &c., by reason of the Company not having fulfilled their contract. It appeared from the address of Mr. Towne, that plaintiff had made arrangements to go to London on Sunday evening, the 2d inst., by the 6.45 p.m. train, and having, by the assistance of a friend, obtained a first-class ticket, made his appearance at the platform and found the whole of the first-class seats occupied; he consequently went by a later train to Deal, from there to Dover, and took the mail train to London. A witness stated that he obtained the ticket for the plaintiff, but was requested not to give it up until he saw the plaintiff seated, which, however, he omitted to do. Mr. Buchanan, who appeared for the Company, addressed the Court at some length, showing that the ticket was granted by way of favour to a friend after the issuing door was closed, with a request that it should not be given up until the plaintiff was seated, and that under the circumstances the Company was not liable for damages. Mr. Towne, having replied on the part of the plaintiff, his Honor summed up, and stated that the utmost he could give was £1 16s., being the amount paid out of pocket by the plaintiff.

Ramsgate.

A regatta, got up by some gentlemen belonging to a yacht in the harbour, came off last Saturday, which afforded much pleasure. In the evening K. B. Martin, Esq., harbour-master, gratified the spectators by raising a bonfire and setting off a quantity of fireworks.

Sir Moses Montefiore.—Intelligence dated Alexandria, Sept. 9, mentions that "Sir Moses Montefiore arrived here by the last steamer from Syria, being perfectly satisfied with the result of his visit to Jerusalem, where he is to found a hospital on a large scale for the Jews. Sir Moses returns to England, *via* France, to-day, and during his stay here has been treated by the Pacha with every mark of respect, a house in the country being placed at his disposal, and his meals daily sent to him. The Viceroy's attentions to Sir Moses are in consequence of his Highness having been for some time his guest when in London, in 1852."

At the Petty Sessions last week, Thomas Lawrence, a labourer, in the employ of Mr. Manser, at Dumpton, near Ramsgate, appeared on summons at the instance of Mr. Stephen Hogben, charged with riding on the shafts of a waggon laden with corn, and with damaging a chaise, the property of complainant. Defendant pleaded guilty. He was ordered to pay 1s. fine, with 11s. costs.

Harriet Setterfield, charged with using offensive and abusive language towards Stephen Cockburn. Defendant pleaded guilty, and was ordered to pay a fine of 1s. and 10s. costs, in default to stand committed to Sandwich house of correction.

Thomas Hatton, fisherman, an apprentice, was brought from the pier cage, charged with being drunk and using threatening language towards the officer. Pleaded guilty. Fined 5s. and 8s. costs.

Ann Bradley, a woman who sells lace about the streets, was charged with being drunk and using obscene language in the public streets. Prisoner pleaded guilty. She came out of Sandwich gaol only the day previous, where she had been sent for 14 days' imprisonment; her conduct when taken into custody was so violent that assistance was required to convey her to the station, she kicked and bit the officer, Thomas Carter, on his hand. His worship declared he had never had before him a case so vile as this. She was sentenced to two months in Sandwich gaol.

On Tuesday a boy was knocked down in High-street by a fly which was being driven down rather fast; he fell under the carriage, the wheels bruising his arm and taking a piece out of his cheek. His wounds were promptly attended to.

We regret to hear that our respected townsman, Mr. John Cuttler, Deputy Lord Warden, has sustained a severe bereavement by the death of his son, a Lieutenant in the Royal Marines, a promising officer, who died of fever, contracted while on service with the Naval Brigade, a few days before the taking of Sebastopol.

In Re Oppenheim.—On Tuesday last a dividend meeting took place in the Bankruptcy Court, under the estate of Henry Oppenheim, of Ramsgate, Custom-house agent and ship owner. The unsecured debts, according to Messrs. Harding and Pullein's accounts amount to £1949, and assets to £520, of which the official assignee has received £292. The dividend was directed to be declared, and may be received upon application to Mr. Lee, of Abchurch-lane, the official assignee.

At the County Court held on Tuesday last, the following cases were heard:—

Elgar and others v. Farley.—This was an action brought by the plaintiffs, trustees of a burial club, to recover from the defendant, their late secretary, £22 18s. 2d., for money had and received by him. Mr. Towne appeared for the plaintiffs, and the case was proved by Mr. Newing. The defendant did not appear, and an order was made to pay forthwith.

Abraham v. Dumaresq.—This was an action brought by Mr. Abraham, a tailor, to recover from the defendant, a gentleman residing in Spencer-square, the sum of £3 10s. for refusing to accept a coat made for him by the plaintiff. It appeared by the evidence of plaintiff's foreman that the coat having been made was returned for the reparation of some defect, which consisted in some small pieces, called "wheel pieces," having been put into the skirt. A new skirt was put in, and the coat instead of being taken to the defendant's residence, was left at another house by the mistake of a boy; and when recovered a week afterwards, as soon as plaintiff was aware of it, defendant refused to take it in. The defence was, that hearing nothing of the coat after it was taken back for alteration, defendant had obtained another.—His Honor could see no ground for the defence as there was no warranty; and defendant agreed to take the coat, the costs of action and costs of suit.

St. Peter's, Thanet.

A dinner was given to the children of the National Schools here on Wednesday last, by Mrs. Edmonstone, a lady from Calcutta, to celebrate the birthday of her eldest son, who has been staying for some time with his uncle, the respected vicar of this parish. The room was decorated with appropriate devices, and a suitable address was read by one of the pupil teachers. The Rev. John Hodgson then addressed the children at some length, exhorting them to endeavour to imitate the conduct of the young gentleman whose birthday they had met to celebrate. The health of Master Edmonstone was drunk and responded to with hearty cheers, as was also the health of other members of his family. "God save the Queen" was sung, and the children retired to their homes, highly delighted with the treat thus afforded them.

Dahlia Show.—On Thursday the anniversary of this society was held at the Wheatsheaf Inn, when a beautiful display of flowers was produced as would grace the tables of any society. We are happy to say that the number of competitors, and of these many were new members, proving that the interest and prosperity of the society is not on the wane. The dinner was under the presidency of Mr. Manser, supported by Mr. Hill, deputy, Messrs. Moss, the Secretary, Finn, Foat, F. Masters and Hutchinson (the Judges) and about 30 members and friends. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly received, and enthusiastically responded to, as were also those referring more particularly to the occasion of the meeting. The arrangements of the dinner reflected great credit upon the cuisine of mine host; and as the financial statement evinced a marked improvement over past years, our readers will readily believe a very pleasant evening was spent.

Broadstairs.

Another Fatal Accident.—This favourite little watering-place appears destined, this season, to be the scene of a series of accidents, for, in addition to the fatal catastrophe of last week, which we recorded in our columns of Saturday last, we have now to record another of a similar nature. It appears a Deal pilot-boat, with three men in her, was overtaken by a squall on Monday afternoon, in Kingsgate Bay, half-way between Broadstairs and Margate, and a slight distance from the North Foreland, and, notwithstanding that there were all experienced seamen, the boat somehow or other capsized, and the three occupiers were precipitated into the sea. Two of them were providentially saved, but the third poor fellow (whose name we have as yet been unable to ascertain) met with a watery grave. His body was recovered within a little more than a hour, when one of his legs was found to have been broken. The boat was so near the cliff at the time of the accident that the people walking there actually heard the cries of the poor unfortunate sufferers, but were unable to reach the beach in time to afford any assistance. This is the third fatal accident that has happened this season at Broadstairs.

Deal.

On Sunday afternoon, the 16th inst., the Vivid, a Deal boat, ran into Kingsgate Bay, under a heavy press of canvas. When in the act of putting about, the boat missed stays, and immediately sank in 10 feet of water. Two of the crew clung with terrible energy to the tops of the masts for a period of 20 minutes, and were at length rescued by the coast-guard men of the station, in a state of exhaustion. The other poor fellow, named Richard Cave, got entangled with the sails, and met a watery grave. An inquest was held on Tuesday, when the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death." The gentry of the neighbourhood got up a subscription for the coast-guard, which, we are happy to state, amounted to 30s.

Dover.

The Sailors' Home.—The fancy fair or bazaar, in behalf of this very useful institution, was kept open four days at the new Town Hall, (much to the inconvenience of public business.) At the close on Friday night, the receipts realized nearly £400.

On Saturday divers arrived here in order to search for the body of the boy, who was drowned in the ill-fated brigantine Henry, of Yarmouth, with the master and mate, by her being run down in these Roads by the Vivid steam packet. The divers looked into the cabin and forecastle of the vessel without being successful. They, however, were enabled to attach a cable to the anchor and chain, which will be raised.

Noah Lee, tinman, &c., remanded on a charge of stealing a chaise, in March, 1852, a pony the property of a man named Dennis, was again had up before the magistrates last week. Inspector Jessop, of Rye, who had apprehended the prisoner, failed to procure the attendance of a material witness prior to the prosecution, and at a late stage of the proceedings prisoner was further remanded until the 25th inst. Dennis, the owner of the stolen pony, and from whose description (given the day after the robbery) Lee was taken into custody, would not swear to the identity of the prisoner: his replies to the bench created a suspicion that he had been tampered with.

Folkestone.

At the last meeting of the Pavement Commissioners, a long discussion took place respecting Mr. Crawford's property on the Parade,—which was ordered to be restored to its former state. The Mayor and Capt. Kennicott stated that they had been endeavouring to get the expences incurred in making a guard house paid by the Government, and they hoped they should succeed.

It was stated at a meeting of the Burial Board that Sir George Grey had consented to the old burial ground remaining open till September next year. Mr. Messenger was appointed architect to the Board at a four per centage, for which he will have to furnish the plans and specifications of the new cemetery.

General Sir De Lacy Evans has presented a donation of £5 to the Working Man's Educational Union.

Robbery.—On Wednesday se'nnight, two soldiers belonging to the German Light Infantry, broke open two officers' desks at the camp, and stole therefrom 80*l.* in gold and notes, and got clear off.

Longevity.—The venerable lady, generally known as "Aunt Nanny Cook," attained the age of 101 years on the 13th inst. She is still in the possession of all her faculties, and her recollection of past events is remarkable, among others, her remembrance of her last war. She has lived under five reigns, having been born in the time of George II.

Faversham.

The County Court was held on Friday last, before Chas. Harwood, Esq. During the month 46 plaints were issued. The following were the only ones of interest:—

Boulton v. Fright.—Mr. Johnson for the plaintiff, said he was a dealer at Boughton, and on the 18th of August last, met the defendant at Oldham, and agreed with him for the purchase of a horse for 15*l.* 10s.; and a pony (worth £10), on the defendant's representation that the horse was "only eight years old, and perfectly sound and quiet." After he took the horse he found it was upwards of 16 years old, and he now claimed £15 10s., the amount paid in exchange, for breach of warranty. Mr. Johnson produced evidence to prove his statement. John Newing, a farmer, at Boughton, proving the horse had worked on his farm for 16 years. Mr. Delasaux for the defence said, the defendant did not warrant the horse, but merely said it was eight years old, which he was told by some one acquainted with horses, by their losing a mark on the mouth when seven years old, and did not mean to imply that it was not more than eight years old. The defendant sold the horse as a sound and quiet horse, and there had been no proof given that it was not so, and produced the defendant who corroborated his statement.

His Honour in summing up said that the plaintiff naturally concluded the horse was only eight years old, and the plaintiff having given £16 for the pony a few months before, he was of opinion he had sustained a loss of £10, for which an order for payment was accordingly made with costs.

Cruttenden v. Monk.—This was a claim for £3 10s. Both the parties live at Graveney. The defendant has been confined to his house a long time with rheumatism, and on the representation of the plaintiff, that if he had a horse he would soon get better, he bought one of him for £4, and paid 10s. down to bind the bargain. The first time the defendant used the cart it broke down, and on that account he refused to pay the balance of £3 10s., but offered to return the cart.—The Judge told the defendant if he was not able to use the cart himself, he ought to have tried to make it fit for him before he bought it.—Order for payment by £1 a-month.

JUDGMENT SUMMONSES.

Gerring v. Sayers.—These parties live at Luddenham. The plaintiff obtained an order of Court in November last for payment by defendant, by instalments of 2s. a-week, of 2*l.* 13s. 4d., money lent him to buy furniture when he was about to get married. The defendant had only paid 4s., and an execution had been taken out, but the goods in the house he lived in did not belong to him.—Ordered to be committed to St. Augustine's for thirty days.

Re John Willis Hadlow, an Insolvent.—Mr. Johnson appeared to support, and Mr. Delasaux to oppose, this insolvent; and in consequence of the absence of the insolvent, from illness, the first examination was adjourned to the next Court.

Sittingbourne.

Greenstreet Horticultural and Floral Society.—The annual show of this excellent society was held at the Dover Castle Inn, on Friday last. The attendance of the neighbouring gentry and their families was very numerous. Many beautiful and choice specimens of fruit, flowers, and vegetables were exhibited, and the arrangement of the whole was greatly to the credit of the managers, who were indefatigable in their exertions to render the exhibition worthy of that patronage so liberally bestowed upon it. The judges on the occasion were Messrs. Masters, Turley, and Mowzeley.

At the Petty Sessions on Monday, before the Rev. Dr. Poore and the Rev. G. B. Moore, the licenses of several innkeepers in the district of Sittingbourne were renewed.—Sarah Anderson, of the Half-way House beershop, Bobbing, applied for a license to sell exciseable liquors by retail, but was refused.—Similar applications were made by Edwin Shrubsole, J. M. Chambers, and Charles Hammond, of Sheerness, and refused.—A license was granted to Matthew Langton, of the Fruiterers' Arms, Rodmersham.—Abraham Chapman, of the Bowl Inn, Stalisfield, was summoned by Mr. Superintendent Green for keeping open his house for the sale of beer at quarter to 12 o'clock on Sunday, the 2d inst. The defendant pleaded guilty, but said he was not at home at the time. Fined £2 10s., including costs.—James Cripps was convicted for riding on his cart without reins, at Minster on the 31st August last, and fined £1, including costs.

Abraham Chapman of the Royal public-house, Stalisfield, was charged at the Petty Sessions last week with keeping his house open on Sunday after hours.—The defendant pleaded guilty, and said he was not at home at the time.—Fined £2 2s. 6d., and costs.

James Cripps, of Minster, labourer, pleaded guilty to a charge for riding without reins.—Fined 1s. 6d., and costs.

Rochester.

The "Seven Poor Travellers."—The scheme approved of by the Court of Chancery, for the regulation and management of Watts's Charity, at Rochester, which has of late obtained some notoriety from the last Christmas Story of Mr. Charles Dickens, has been published. The provisions relating to the poor travellers are as follow:—The trustees, as heretofore, to provide every night suitable and convenient lodgings for six poor travellers. To appoint a master and matron at a salary not to exceed £25 per annum each. The house shall be open every evening for the reception of six poor travellers, or wayfaring men, not being common rogues or vagabonds. Application for admission shall be made to the master before the hour of six o'clock in the evening; and, in selecting the persons to be admitted, care shall be taken that, unless under special circumstances, the same person be not received more than one night, and in no case for more than two consecutive nights. Every poor traveller admitted to the house shall have a lodgement for the night in a room by himself. A supper to be provided in the common room every evening, at seven o'clock, for the poor travellers, each of whom shall depart from the house by ten o'clock in the morning, and shall on his departure receive from the master the sum of 4d." The first meeting of the new trustees was held on Monday, when it was agreed, amongst other things, that the supper provided for the poor travellers is to consist of half a pound of boiled round of beef, one pound of bread, and half a pint of porter each.

Chatham.

Deputy Coroner.—Mr. Hills, county coroner, of Chatham, has appointed Mr. H. Wickham, of Strood, to act as deputy, which the Lord Chancellor has been pleased to approve of.

Orders have been received for acting assistant surgeons Moffitt and Griffin to hold themselves in readiness for embarcation on Thursday for Scutari.

A party of invalids, from regiments serving in the Crimea, to the number of 25, being non-commissioned officers and privates, arrived at Chatham on Wednesday from the hospital at Chichester. Amongst those who are wounded is private Robert Clinton, of the 88th Regiment, who, on the 7th June, being engaged with the Russians in the Quarry pits, received an iron ball under the left eye, close by the nose, which passed through his head and went out under the right ear. The effect was, both his eyes were knocked out. He is a native of Scotland, and only 19 years old.

A large party of invalids, from the Crimea, who had been sent home in consequence of sickness and wounds, and are now convalescent, left the invalid depot on Tuesday for London, to be sent into different parts of the country. A party of 28 invalid soldiers arrived from Portsmouth.

Sheerness.

The Alban, 3, paddle, arrived last week direct from Heligoland. She has not brought any of the Foreign Legion home this time, in consequence of having two or three cases of cholera on board, one of which has proved fatal. The rest have recovered.

The Urgent transport is lying in the fair way moorings, completing coaling from the Premier of Swansea, and Columbine, from the hulk. This ship was to be ready for sea by the beginning of this week. Last week she took in a quantity of bonded stores for the military mess. The cabin appropriated for these gentlemen is on the maindeck, and is about 36 feet long, and the table 26 feet in length by five feet wide, and can seat 40 comfortably. The height of the Urgent between decks exceeds eight feet, and she is capable of carrying 1,200 troops, independent of officers, for whom there are about 40 cabins, &c. The wood casing has been taken off the boilers and Burnettised wood substituted in its place, with felt underneath. There is a rumour prevalent that she is to go to the Baltic with stores and the Russian prisoners from the Devonshire, in exchange.

The Thunder and Trusty, floating batteries, are moored over on the west shore, and form part of the steam reserve, when required.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT READING.

The inquest on the five persons killed by this accident, recorded in our last, was held on Monday.

William Graham, the engine-driver, who had charge of the 5.25 p.m. train from Red-hill to Reading, said that all proceeded safely until just after the train got out of the Tuns cutting, when he perceived something coming, but he did not at first think it was on the same line. When about two yards off from the engine he saw that it was on the same line of rails, and knew that a collision was inevitable. He first perceived that the engine was on the wrong line by the man opening the door of the fire-hole. He could then see a man on the south side of the engine, standing up. The collision took place almost immediately afterwards, and he (Graham) was pitched off on the top of the boiler of his own engine, and something fell upon him. He was jammed in between the lever and the boiler. He succeeded in extricating himself from it in about three or four minutes.

By the Coroner—If an engine had been coming to meet him, he should have received a telegraphic message to that effect, and he should not have been allowed to leave Wokingham unless the line had been clear. It was an invariable rule, before they left any station, that they received a telegraphic message certifying that the line was clear. This was done before they left Wokingham.

The telegraphic message received from Red-hill, and a copy of which was found on the deceased, Crosley, was read to the witness, and he said, in answer to various questions, that Crosley, on getting the engine prepared, ought to have communicated with Mr. Thew. By omitting to report himself to the station master, and going by the signals, Crosley acted in contradiction to the rules of the company.

James Wallis, foreman porter of the goods department at the Reading station, said—I was standing at the corner of the engine house by the goods shed when I saw Crosley run into the engine house from the Forbury, and in less than two minutes he came out of the engine shed on his engine tender first. He went up the down line towards Wokingham, at the speed of 15 or 16 miles an hour. I could not see whether the lamps were lighted or not. He did not stop or regard any of those signals. If a switchman had been in the box he could have directed him into the up line, as he was going too fast, I knew there was a train due at 7.30. He gave no signal at all by whistling as he was coming out, which made me suppose he was coming back I cannot account for his conduct.

Mr. Thew, station master at Reading, said—I am responsible for the correct discharge of all the duties of the company's servants placed under me at the station. The porter brought the message produced to me, while I was at home at tea. I sent the person who came down to the engine shed to look out for one of the cleaners; and if no cleaner was to be found a porter was to take the message to Crosley, in order that he might prepare his engine to proceed to Guildford. I did not see or hear of Crosley until I heard of the accident. It was Crosley's duty to have informed me that he was going, and to have received a written order from me before he ventured to take his engine out of the shed. He did not do so. In leaving the station without my authority it was an infringement of a great many regulations of the company. In order to have come out he must have passed the danger signal. The fact of his leaving without his lamps was also an infringement of the rules. As soon as he had passed the signals he was entirely out of my hands, and became responsible for all the movements of the engine. In my opinion the rules and regulations of the company are sufficient to prevent all accidents, provided they are obeyed. If he had reported himself to me I should have telegraphed to Wokingham before I had allowed him to depart. I have been at this station five or six years, and always found the present system work with safety.

The Coroner—Supposing there had been a switchman at these particular points, would that have prevented his going on the down line?

Mr. Thew.—No, not if there had been twenty switchmen, from the speed he was going.

The Coroner summed up, and said it was clear that this accident happened from the negligence, carelessness, and inattention of the man Crosley, who had certainly paid the penalty of his own life for his rashness. The law was very clear upon the point, that when a person took upon himself the duties of an office, he ought properly to discharge those duties, and if, through negligence, carelessness, or inattention, he omitted to do so, and thereby caused the death of his fellow-creatures, that person was guilty of manslaughter. That was clear, and however painful it might be to sit over upon a dead man, still, as the evidence was clear, they could not resist coming to the conclusion that Crosley was guilty of manslaughter.

The jury retired, and after an absence of a quarter of an hour they returned, and delivered a verdict of "Manslaughter against Joseph Crosley, in reference to the deaths of Wm. Thomas Fynmore, Christopher Bilton, Sarah Norton, and Francis Beart, and that the said Joseph Crosley killed and slayed himself." They recommended that a man be kept constantly to attend solely to the signals.

It has been found necessary to keep the barometer in the Liverpool Corn Exchange locked up, some of the merchants having been detected altering the indicator, in order to excite fears of bad weather, and thereby affect the prices.

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