is very *desirable*. The loose and ungrammatical, and sometimes contradictory, verbiage to be found in Acts of Parliament, is discreditable to the Legislature, and, in many important instances, has been a source of perplexity to the administrators of the law, and has proved of serious detriment to the interests of the public and also of individuals.

In one journal—and that not of an official, though a highly respectable, character (the *Manchester Guardian*) —we see an announcement that Lord Palmerston is availing himself of the leisure afforded by recess to mature and perfect a scheme of representative reform. The contemplated measure, our contemporary hopes, will satisfy the just expectations of the country, and be supported by the united and energetic action of the Liberal party. We *hope* so, too; but "hope deferred maketh the heart sick." The severest pang of hunger, after a time, subsides, it is said, and leaves the starving man without even a sensible desire for food. So is it with the appetite for reform, and the demand for organic changes; the dishes have so often been brought on and removed, in mere mockery of the hungry guests, that at length all relish is gone—the heart is sick, and the disappointed expectants stare on the vacuum with languor and indifference almost amounting to complacency. The people have lost faith in political programmes, in public men, in Parliament, and almost in political principles of every kind. They have become literally "a faithless generation;" and Lord Palmerston will find it no easy matter to induce signs of life from human forms destitute of faith.

FLAT, OR NOT FLAT?

NEARLY thirty years ago a pretentious announcement was placarded on the walls of this city that a distinguished foreigner, Baron Von Vilierop (or some such outlandish name), would, on a given day, leap from St. James' hill into the Barrack yard, a distance of between two and three hundred yards. The good citizens, full of that charity which "believeth all things," hastened, at the appointed day and hour, to the neighborhood of the spot selected for this great achievement. The day was fine, and gullibility made a grand demonstration. All the city, except the bedridden and the necessary garrison of the shops and factories, assembled to do honor to the Baron. But the Baron did not appear. The Norwichers gazed, first at the well-known hill and then towards the Barrack yard—and continued gazing for hours. The afternoon passed away, and the evening came on—still, no Von Vilierop. Then it began to be rumored that it was a hoax, and the wearied lovers of the marvellous slowly wended their way home by all sorts of back streets and roundabout routes, to avoid the derision of those who had been *compelled* to stay at home, and made a virtue of their necessity. For years no wonder-workers had a chance in Norwich; for, by a transformation not at all unaccountable, those who had believed all things henceforth would believe nothing. From credulity they had passed into utter infidelity. But gradually a new generation has arisen, and strangers have settled amongst us, who, having been Von Vilierophed, retain the natural appetite for the uncommon.

Within the last few weeks, a gentleman distinguished by a singularly accurate perception of the flat and non-flat, has come amongst us under the assumed name of "Parallax," to prove that the earth is not a sphere, but a plane. Hundreds of decently-dressed persons have gone to hear his "arguments," and some of our native philosophers have entered into discussion with him. Now, it seems to us that these philosophers, in thus attempted to convince "Parallax" of his error, should have satisfied themselves, by a respectful inquiry as to the gentleman's name and into the gentleman's antecedents, that he really did himself believe what he had so plausibly asserted. "Parallax," no doubt, feels himself under great obligations to the gentlemen who have thus honored his performances by their patronage, and made his platform attractive; but we venture to assert that the interests of truth, scientific or religious, would not have suffered had "Parallax" been left to demonstrate the flatness of the earth without opposition.

We have been amused at the apprehensions which some pious gentlemen have expressed at the possible consequences of a general reception of "Parallax's" novelties. The very Christian religion, judging from their remarks, is involved in the question whether the earth is spherical or flat. We take leave to say we do not agree with them in this opinion. The truth of Christianity does not depend on the form of the earth, nor is it in the slightest degree affected by the soundness or absurdity of "Parallax's" views. Augustine was tolerably orthodox on fundamentals, but he held that the doctrine of the antipodes was subversive of the faith, Lactantius denounced the same doctrine, in a strain of gross ridicule: "Is there any one so foolish as to believe that there are antipodes with their feet opposite to ours—people who walk with their heels upwards, and their heads hanging down?" For many a century the greatest and best men of the church ridiculed the notion that the earth was spherical, and quoted from the 104th Psalm and the Epistle to the Hebrews to prove that the earth must be flat. When the new truth of the earth's motion was brought out, Luther exclaimed, in his vehement style, "I am advertised that a new astrologer is risen, who presumeth that the earth moveth and goeth about—not the firmament, the sun and moon, nor the stars; like as one sitteth in a coach or in a ship, and is moved, thinketh he sitteth still and resteth, but the earth and trees go run and move themselves. Thus it goeth when we give up ourselves to our own foolish fancies and conceits. This fool will turn the whole art of Astronomy upside down; but the Scripture showeth and teacheth him another lesson, as when Joshua commanded the sun to stand still, and not the earth." Now, had "Parallax" come amongst us in his own proper name to avow certain conclusions which investigation had forced upon him, and had there been in his conduct a manifest proof not only of honesty of purpose but of his entire disinterestedness, we would have said to those gentlemen who assumed the championship of religious and scientific truth, "Deal kindly and respectfully with this inquirer; take warning from the intolerance and folly of the fathers of the church; take warning especially from Luther's mistaken zeal, and, as the event has shown, his foolish vehemence." But when a man comes amongst us in disguise, opens a public building, and makes money of his ideas, he raises against himself a suspicion which prevents full confidence in his genuineness and sincerity. We say that "Parallax" has not proved that the earth is flat, but that he has a humbug in it; and when he brought up their sixpences to his "sign of vision," he established a case of flatness more conclusive than any he is likely to demonstrate by reference to the horizon at Cromer.

Unquestionably, "Parallax" should have been asked for his credentials before he was allowed to take rank as an honest inquirer amongst the gentlemen who have, as we think, unwisely taken the pains to fill his pocket by creating an excitement for his benefit. We greatly withholds his name, *primâ facie*, dishonors himself. A man who brings out novelties for sixpence, *primâ facie*, has some other purpose in view than to prove and establish the truth. "Parallax," for aught we know, may be a creditable, intelligent, and truth-loving individual; but "Parallax" may be, *for aught we know*, a person with whom no creditable, intelligent, and truth-loving individual ought to associate. Before "Parallax" was allowed a place on the platform of a fair and full inquiry, it was his duty to have proved, by some simple items of information which gentlemen usually give on their first introduction to a new society, that he was entitled to be received with attention and courtesy. "Bought experience, if not bought too dear, is the best." The Von Vilierophed of this generation are the least likely to run after wonderful jumpers; and the victims of "Parallax" will, for many a year, shrink back at the sound of the word "flat" with a disagreeable sensation which none can describe but those who, unhappily, feel it.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

On Friday evening (the 17th), the Choral Society had their last concert for the season, which precedes what may be termed their *leap* year. St. Andrew's Hall was, as usual, filled in every part. The music was light and various, the only pieces that could strictly be called classical being Mozart's overture to "Figaro," and the introduction to Spohr's "Jessonda." There is an old saying, replete with wisdom, which teaches that "you cannot eat your cake and have your cake." In former years, the society reserved their cake till the last, their principal band engagements being made for their miscellaneous concert *pour la bonne bouche*. The cost of bringing out "Eli," in first-rate style, had, however, been so great, as to preclude the possibility of having wind instruments from London upon the present occasion. Notwithstanding this deficiency, the overture to "Figaro" and the Lord Palmerston is availing himself of the leisure afforded by recess to mature and perfect a scheme of representative reform. The contemplated measure, our contemporary hopes, will satisfy the just expectations of the country, and be supported by the united and energetic action of the Liberal party. We *hope* so, too; but "hope deferred maketh the heart sick." The severest pang of hunger, after a time, subsides, it is said, and leaves the starving man without even a sensible desire for food. So is it with the appetite for reform, and the demand for organic changes; the dishes have so often been brought on and removed, in mere mockery of the hungry guests, that at length all relish is gone—the heart is sick, and the disappointed expectants stare on the vacuum with languor and indifference almost amounting to complacency. The people have lost faith in political programmes, in public men, in Parliament, and almost in political principles of every kind. They have become literally "a faithless generation;" and Lord Palmerston will find it no easy matter to induce signs of life from human forms destitute of faith.

The first movement, in C minor, the effect of which depended on the contrast of light and shadow, were injured by imperfect intonation. The chorus and solos went well. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the music. The overture was tried for the first time, the accompaniments to the songs. To say that the *obbligato* instruments never bolted in, when they ought to have stolen in, would not be true. We can, however, give Mr. Hammond, who led the orchestra, the credit, under all circumstances considered, that he could fairly have been expected.

In spite of all that we have said about the frequency of fiddle solos, it was impossible to hear that of Mr. Blagrove without pleasure. It was short and impressive. The Hymn to Peace, in the Recitative composed by Dr. Beriot, is charming, and the effect imparted by the "Tremolo," as here employed, was original, striking, and fine. Herr Baumann's Fantasia was one of those caprices with which Liszt has given the public proof of the legitimatists and the delight of his audiences. It was so beautifully handled that, long as it was, it drew forth an encore. We regret to have to say that the chorus here helped the dice. Nothing can be in worse taste than for an orchestra to usurp the functions of an audience. It is true that much of the clapping and stamping was done by boys who had been there and there be restrained; but if the Choral Society have a proper regard for their own credit, they will unite to put down this nuisance at the outset.

Before proceeding to notice the principal singers, we must say that the two "part songs" were done in a highly finished style by the chorus. It may be doubted, however, whether they were worth the trouble bestowed upon them. Nothing can be duller than a *modern* madrigal. The composer and the poet alike fail when they unanimously attempt to assume the mode of a bygone age.

Madame Fiorentini, it will be remembered, was engaged last year for the Hall of 1858. She was admired no less for her personal attractions, and the graceful fascination of her manner, than for the beauty of her vocalization. This lady is a native of Sevilla, where of late, she has been a leading star in Opera. Since the Festival of 1852, she has made the tour of the United States, and been professionally engaged in Mexico and the Havanna. She was singing Madame Sonntag in Mexico, when the latter fell a victim to that terrible disease which at one time threatened to depopulate the globe. Madame Fiorentini's Recitative, an elegant cavatina composed expressly for her, was original, and, being peculiarly adapted to her powers; but her greatest triumph, perhaps, was in the "Cancion Espanola," which obtained a vociferous encore. We regret, that this song, now national in Spain, is supposed to be of Arabian origin, and of great antiquity. It is somewhat licentious, and, if the Moorish Dancers were copies from life, it is—nearly note for note—without having subjected him to the charge of plagiarism; probably the theft escaped detection by the critics.

Mr. Sims Reeves, fulfilled his great promise, who has just completed her musical studies in Italy. Her voice is a rich contralto of great compass and volume. Her style is good, and she has had considerable practice in florid passages, and a good shake. Though slightly nervous, and little assisted by the band, which was not so good as it ought to be capable of *nursing* a singer in such a composition as "Se Abbandon," she sang the music with little taste and expression. Her "Savourneen Deelish" was less happy. The shake was fine, but inopportune; and the phrasing was Italian, not Irish. We doubt whether any singer, not born in Ireland, could now do justice to this matchless air.

Of the amateur vocalists, only Miss Lascelles, a very sweet contralto, was previously known here. Miss Ransford delighted the audience in the once hackneyed song "Bid me discourse," and Mr. Winn sang the "Three words of love," with a pathetic sensibility not unworthy of Weiss. The vocal ducett and the two trios, all pleasing in their way, were done with a consent which can only be had from voices accustomed to sing together.

"God save the Queen," by the principal singers, band, and chorus, wound up the concert, and with it a season which will long be remembered, not only in the annals of the Choral Society, but also in the musical history of Norwich.

Local Intelligence.

The Municipal Elections. Saturday next being the first of November, the citizens will then be called upon to exercise their municipal rights in the re-election or rejection of those Councillors who have held office during the last three years. We are happy to observe that there is absolutely no excitement on the subject, and the only change of which we have yet heard is probable is that Mr. T. O. Springfield will leave the Council and be succeeded by Mr. Osborn Springfield, owing to the natural wish of the electors of the 7th ward to retain that name on the list of its representatives. The fair and conciliatory conduct which has been pursued, on only in the minority on the Conservative party, evidently indisposes them to make any aggressive attack on the position of the Liberals. The Mayor and Sheriff, the chief officers of the Council, are by an established rule, taken in rotation from each side of the Council; and from the published list of committees we observe with satisfaction that, although in the Council the Liberals have a very considerable majority, the numbers of each party on the committees are in some cases absolutely equal, while in all the others they are as nearly so as practicable. Indeed, on the Watch Committee, which we believe involves the largest expenditure of any, the Conservatives have a majority, and on the Finance Committee, the reset in importance, the number of each party is precisely equal. This is the best possible answer to an ill-natured remark made by Mr. Gorell at the late dinner at the Bell Hotel.

The Theatre. An advertisement in one of our columns informs our readers that another Shakspearian Night is about to appear in the Norwich Theatre. The names of the performers are a guarantee for the musical public, and we have no doubt that the company will meet with a hearty welcome.

A Masonic Dinner was held on Thursday evening at the Lamb Inn, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Mr. A. H. Hooper, and a numerous company attended. This lodge, which has recently been removed to the Lamb, is now, we understand, in good working order.

Accident. Between four o'clock on Thursday afternoon as a man named Covell was crossing Bank Plain, he was knocked down by Col. C. Oliver's carriage which happened to be passing at the same time and place. The blame is attributable to no one but Covell himself, who was intoxicated at the time.

The Pavement. The five gentlemen chosen by the council to act on the Free Library committee are—the Mayor, and Messrs. Brightwell, W. J. U. Brown, G. Middleton, and J. H. Tillett. The name of Mr. Tillett was recorded their nomination, was erroneously given in our last impression as one of the committee.

Accident to Mrs. Woodcock. On Wednesday morning, Mrs. Henry Woodcock of St. Giles', was with a severe accident. She was descending the staircase when her foot caught in the carpet and she was precipitated to the bottom, by which she sustained a dislocation of the collar-bone. Medical assistance was speedily at hand, and by the use of chloroform the bone was replaced. The unfortunate lady still suffers considerably, but her speedy recovery is confidently anticipated.

Accidental Poisoning. Concerts. This project has been attended with complete success, the Lecture Hall having been crowded almost to suffocation every Saturday evening. We are glad that the working classes appreciate this effort to provide them with rational amusement, and we find that the Committee are making arrangements, by the purchase of musical instruments, to render Concerts increasingly attractive, we have no doubt that a larger building will soon be necessary for the continuance of these popular entertainments.

Music by Dr. Buck. We perceive that Dr. Buck has announced his intention of publishing apart from his volumes of the Cathedral Music, the Chorus "Come hither angel tongues invite," as performed at the institution of the present Bishop of Norwich. The beautiful words of this hymn have been attributed by some to Bishop Bathurst, to others they have been given to Bishop Stanley, but they are to be found in a collection of poems by our present Bishop of Norwich, Bishop Stanley, LD, which has deeply interested some of our greatest divines.

Suicide. On Saturday, Mr. Wilde held an inquest at the Golden Can, St. Andrew's, on the body of William Stubbs, aged 49 years. At seven o'clock that morning his son saw him assisting in loading some manure; but the son shortly afterwards, on going into his father's stables in Yyall's yard, St. Andrew's, found him suspended by a rope from one of the ledges of a ladder, and quite dead. About ten years since, deceased met with an accident whilst on the railway, since which time he had been subject to lowness of spirits. The jury found a verdict of "Hanged himself whilst in a state of mental despondency."

St. Faith's Fair was held on Friday last, when there was a very extensive and splendid show of Scots, shorthorns, and other kinds of stock. The number of beasts was 3000. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but trade was rather dull and a great many beasts remained unsold. The sales effected were at lower prices, ranging from 5s. to 8s. per stone of 14lbs.

Exhibitions of Magic. In another column we publish an announcement of exhibitions to be given next week in the Assembly-rooms, by Mons. Hamberger, a professor of magic. We have had no opportunity of witnessing this gentleman's performances, but in those districts which he has visited, the public journals bear a uniform testimony to the great skill and dexterity which he evinces in the exercise of his profession.

Inquests before Mr. Press. On the 17th inst., an inquest was held on the body of Laura Ling, aged 11 years, who died after a very short and severe illness, not having had any medical attendant. The jury were fully satisfied it was a case of Natural Death.

Mrs. Stowe's "Dred," Dramatized. On Monday night, a drama founded on the popular fiction lately published by Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, was produced at the Surrey Theatre with great success. The author, we understand, is Mr. Frederick Phillips, of this city, who, after several unsuccessful attempts on the part of metropolitan playwrights to adapt the subject to the stage, has succeeded in concentrating the interest of Mrs. Stowe's tale in the *Daily News*, after confessing that he went to the theatre with some misgivings, and with little expectation of seeing the "Dred" successfully dramatized, and, he added, that he was agreeably disappointed. Although the great stratum of fact, and the metaphysical reasonings thereupon, which account for the character of "Dred," and Mrs. Stowe's tale, are necessarily absent, as well as the argumentative portions of Mrs. Stowe on the subject of slavery, he considers that the author has succeeded in the very difficult melo-drama, which has all the elements of popularity, and the performance of which on the occasion referred to, was fully equal to its dramatic merits.

Narrow Escape. On Wednesday night, shortly after eleven o'clock, as Mr. R. Bullard and Mr. W. Wilde were returning from Thorpe, in a fly belonging to Mr. Mallestes, of the Royal Hotel, the horse became troublesome while descending the hill near the railway station, and just before reaching the bridge, the animal ran with the fly at full speed towards the station yard. The driver did all he could to restrain the horse, but it ran on the road, and the consequence was that instead of turning directly into the yard, the horse dashed across toward the river, and smashed through the railings by which the bridge is guarded. Fortunately, at this moment, the wheels of the fly were in contact with one of the piers of the bridge, the shafts and harness were snapped, and the horse and driver were thrown into the water, the fly was left on the brink. Happily neither of the occupants of the vehicle was injured, though they were doubtless considerably frightened. The horse speedily extricated himself from his perilous condition, and the horse after considerable difficulty was towed by parties in boats down to Freeman's Staith. Mr. Mallestes, and the horse dragged on shore, having received no material damage.

FINE ARTS' ASSOCIATION.

The committee of the Norfolk and Norwich Fine Art Association, are now able to promise the public a fine treat in the impression of a valuable collection of paintings, which it is expected will be ready for view about the 12th of November. To this exhibition two rooms in the new Hall of Commerce will be appropriated, and contain the works of living artists and sculptors, (purchasable) and the other, specimens from the collections of private gentlemen. Why should not Norwich, which has evinced little intention of sending pictures are—P. Macdowall, R.A., Thos. Earle, and A. Munro, sculptors. Painters:—George Cole, A. Cooper, R.A., E. H. Bailey, R.A., J. C. Neil, E. A. Brooke, T. Uwins, R.A., W. C. Thomas, J. D. Scarbrock, T. Oakes, E. Oliver, F. Proud, A. Cooper, R.A., A. Vickers, G. S. Rosenberg, J. Hamilton, J. Robins, R. W. Hook, T. Duffield, T. F. Herring, &c. Amongst those who have promised to contribute valuable collections to be made from their private collections are—Sir John Boileau, Bart., Sir Wm. Foster, Bart., Miss Martineau, T. Brightwen, J. Colvin, F. Preston, J. Palmer, Esqs., &c., &c. The collection of pictures will, it is confidently expected, be the best ever exhibited in Norwich—and there will also be a large number of valuable specimens of sculpture. We trust that the public will give the most liberal encouragement to this exhibition, as it has ben got up with great energy and expense by gentlemen, whose sole object is to afford the public an opportunity of inspecting first-rate works of art.

THE "PARALLAX" CONTROVERSY.

We last week informed our readers that a committee had been appointed to test practically the truth of the statement of "Parallax" that at every altitude the horizon rises to the line of vision. We have received from the Secretary a statement of the results of the observations. We make no comment, beyond the simple expression of surprise that those who signed the first resolution appeared to have thought it consistent to attach their signatures to the report, which, if it proves anything, proves appearances unless they consider that appearances are of equal value with scientific demonstrations? Further experiments are, we understand, still in progress.

Cromer, Tuesday, Oct. 21st, 1858.

Having visited Cromer to take observations of the dip of the horizon at different altitudes above the sea level, we beg to state that, when the tide was high, the instrument being about five feet above the level of the sea, we could not see the horizon, but could see one minute.

The weather was so hazy when we reached the lighthouse that we were unable to see a well-defined horizon.

Wm. Bayfield, C.E., } Surveyors.
C. W. Hillard, }

John Weir
"Parallax"
R. F. Hinde
Geo. Sanderson
Robt. Hart
G. C. Burrows

Geo. Gould
W. H. Bayfield
Geo. Goodwin
Jas. Sheringham
E. Hinkley
Benj. Russell

ADDENDUM.

But so far as we DID see, the surface of the water appeared to rise toward the line of sight.

"Parallax"
R. F. Hinde

Alex. Sanderson
C. C. Burrows
Robt. Hart

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

SURREHILL.—On Saturday, *Bartholomew Farman*, of Salhouse, was charged with stealing a quantity of faggots, some money belonging to him. The defendant is the complainant's landlord, and gave Stoliday notice to quit on the 4th of April. Complainant had expended his money in furnishing, and was standing upstairs in the cottage on the previous Monday night, when, as he alleged, Farman with three others came into the door, ripped up his bedstead, and hurled him out of the house. Defendant then got up the bedstead, and in his pocket, which contained the key of the house, was the money, which he was getting into the road missed his money. Mr. Fox appeared for the defendant, and called Robert Farman, Francis Sewell, two of the three men, to prove that Stoliday having refused to give up the key, Mr. Farman pulled it out of his pocket, in doing which the bedstead fell to the ground. Defendant picked it up, counted the money—£2 17s. 6d.—and gave it to Stoliday. Mr. Longe said the Bench were of opinion that the charge was groundless, and that Mr. Farman was perfectly innocent. The case was therefore dismissed.

Robert Barney, Philip Barney, and James Mountain were charged with trespassing in pursuit of Honsford. The two first, being old offenders, were fined £5 or three months' imprisonment; and Mountain 10s. or 14 days' imprisonment.

Henry Edwards, a notorious offender, who has been convicted a great number of times, and who ten months ago received a ticket of leave, was charged with being a suspicious character, and with having in his possession a quantity of fish, and certain materials and preparations for manufacturing such commodities. There was no defence, and he was fined £20, and in default three months' imprisonment each.

On Saturday, *James William Vincent*, cabinet maker, of Tombland, was charged with assaulting Mr. Henry Bailey, one of his apprentices. In May last, Mrs. Bailey, who lives in the country, wished to apprentice her son to a cabinet maker, and applied to Vincent, who, after some, agreed to take him for ten pounds. Having as he said been previously robbed by an apprentice, he declined to take half the money down, and agreed to receive the remainder at the expiration of half the term, so the money was paid at once. He introduced a person named Bayfield to fill up the indentures, which Mrs. Bailey being as she said a poor woman, the expense would not be so great as having a lawyer. The lad had not been at work two months before Vincent began to ill use him, and on one occasion had struck him with a hammer, and once with a chisel. Mrs. Bailey now brought the case before the magistrates that the indenture might be cancelled. Mr. Clements appeared for the complainant, and asked Mr. Bayfield, who was present, what he had inserted in the indenture. He replied doing, having as he said been advised not to do so. Mr. Clements said there was nothing in the indenture about the £10. The master was entitled to the lad's services for it. Vincent denied having taken the lad, and wished the case to be postponed, in order that he might obtain legal advice. The magistrates agreed to this, but, having, on account of the expense of a journey to Norwich—Mr. Clements said there was clear that there was an intention to cheat the lad out of the premium—they ordered that he should be bound over in the sum of £20, to appear at the next Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, to be dealt with (the distance allowed by Act of Parliament.) On arriving at the toll-bar, Mrs. Scott demanded toll on the cattle, which was paid by Bunn. Mrs. Scott, in defence, said that she was not aware that the cattle were passing from one pasture to another, and had she known this, she should not have demanded toll. The magistrates thought that Bunn had not sufficiently explained himself to Mrs. Scott, and the case was dismissed.

On Wednesday, *Mr. Marriott*, who is creating some excitement in this city by lectures on "Medical Botany," at his establishment in St. Stephen's, was charged by Henry Baker, who had been in his employ as a lecturer, with threatening language towards him. Mr. Marriott had charged Baker with having taken money from his till, which Mr. Baker indignantly denied; and out of this and other circumstances a quarrel had arisen. On cross examination it appeared that Mr. Baker had left the house on summons under an assumed name, he being no "Baker" at all. The summons was therefore dismissed.

On the same day Mr. Tillett sat alone on the bench, saying that he appeared on behalf of a considerable number of the merchants and traders of this city, who had determined to raise a petition against the Sewer and Water Works Act, of great public importance. He had selected the case of Messrs. Snowdon, drapers, of the Market-place, which involved the question at issue. He then formally applied on behalf of Messrs. Snowdon for a summons against the Sewer and Water Works Company, calling upon them to assess the premises occupied by his clients in the manner they were required to do by Act of Parliament, partly as a dwelling-house and partly as a warehouse. The grounds of the application were contended for by Mr. Tillett, including warehouse, shop, and dwelling-house, and the fact that the premises were contended for more than £20 of the annual value is occupied as a dwelling house, and they did not need a supply of water for the trade part of their premises, and that the Company therefore exceeded their assessment of £20 per year. He (Mr. Tillett) had caused a notice of this application to be made to Mr. Dalrymple, the solicitor to the company, and a conference had taken place between them that the case should be heard on its merits, on Monday, November 3rd. It was a very important question, affecting a great number of ratepayers, and ought to be settled, and he should therefore now not go further into the question than to ask the magistrates what he thought would be sufficient grounds for them to grant a summons. The 50th section of the Water Works Act, it was provided that in every case in which any building was used partly as a warehouse and partly as a dwelling-house, the owner or occupier might require that the annual value of such warehouse should be assessed separately according to the 53rd section, the distinction was made, if possible, still more plain between water required for domestic purposes and water required for manufacturing purposes. He thought Snowdon's complaint was, that whilst they only required water for domestic purposes, viz., for the dwelling-house, they were made to pay the full rate, in the same proportion, for the warehouse. In order to bring the case within the jurisdiction of the magistrates, he (Mr. Tillett) would refer them to the Water Works Act, which, he said, was incorporated with the company's special Act), and by which, in the event of any dispute, the annual value of a tenement was to be settled by two justices. Mr. Snowdon was also present, being a director of the company, and the secretary (Mr. Mackenzie), directed the summons to issue.

The case of ill-treating a pauper lunatic, which was remanded from Saturday last, should have been brought before the magistrates to-day. Mr. Clements, who appeared for the complainant, said the case was not ripe, it was not. He said that nearly directly after the case was adjourned on Saturday, the prisoner, who had been sent out of the city and had not yet returned. He should therefore make application for a warrant against them. He also charged Mr. Bayfield, the person who was charged with having conspired with Vincent and his foreman to defraud Mrs. Bailey, by taking the premium from her son and not intending to carry out his indenture. The magistrates thought the magistrates would bind Bayfield in his own recognizances to appear when called upon. The magistrates, after some consultation, granted both applications.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

Birth.

KNIGHT—On Tuesday, the 14th instant, at Dykebeck, Tyrwhitt-Drake, the wife of George C. L. Knight, Esq., of a son.

Marriages.

ADDISON—SMITH—On Wednesday last, at St. Margaret's church, King's Lynn, Mr. J. Addison, of Dersingham, to Mrs. Smith, Saturday Market-place, King's Lynn.

ARCHER—DOWNE—On Monday last, at Gressenhall, by the Rev. Thomas Ellis, vicar, John Archer, tyrewright son of Mr. Joseph Archer, of Gorgate Farm, to Mrs. Hannah Dodman, of the Swan Inn, Gressenhall.

BAKER—WIGGINS—On Tuesday, the 14th instant, at Trinity church, Newington, Mr. James George Baker, late of Diss, to Harriet, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Sharpe, formerly of Diss, and Ipswich.

BARRETT—MIDDLETON—On Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Old Lakenham, by the Rev. George Carter, William James Barrett, Esq., of Swaffham, to Emma Middleton, dress-maker, late of Surlingham.

BLYTH—GOODERHAM—On Thursday last, by the Rev. T. Ellis, vicar, Thomas Blyth, carpenter, of Alby, to Miss Harriet Gooderham, of Saham, near Watton, in this county.

COOK—CROSS—On Thursday last, at All Saints' church, by the Rev. W. Gurney, M.A., Mr. Thomas Bostock Cook, to Miss Elizabeth Pease, of this city.

COOPER—BASTARD—On Thursday last, by the Rev. G. C. Bastard, Mr. Wm. Cooper, of Sandringham, to Miss Eliza Bastard, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

EGGETT—FROST—On Wednesday last, at the parish church of St. Peter Mancroft, by the Rev. Hugh Ellis, Paul Eggett, bricklayer, Lyng, to Miss Hannah Frost, of the same place.

FLOAT—GRAHAM—On Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the parish church of St. John's, Bedminster, Bristol, by the Rev. H. G. Eland, vicar, assisted by the Rev. H. R. Somers-Smith, rector of Little Bardfield, Essex, and the Rev. A. Gilbert vicar of Binham, in this county, uncle of the bride, the Rev. George William Grogan, incumbent of St. John's, Cheltenham, Thomas Float, M.D., to Helen Isabel Maria, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. H. Graham, rector of Great Bromley, Essex.

FOX—SANDERSON—On Tuesday last, at Cove church, by the Rev. Fisk, Mr. Frank Ling, eldest son of Mr. Ling, Rosecommon, Ireland, to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Gibson, Willington Hall, Durham.

READER—BAKER—On Sunday last, at Wisbech, Mr. John Reader, to Miss Susannah Baker.

REYNOLDS—COLLINS—On Thursday last, by desire, at the Baptist chapel, Eye by the Rev. J. Cubitt, Mr. Henry Reynolds, farmer, Wingenham, to Hannah, youngest daughter of Mr. John Collins, grocer and chandler, of Eye.

ROBERTSON—GOFF—GOFF—ROBERTSON—On Friday, the 15th inst., at Oulton, by the Rev. H. F. Fell, M.A., R.W. Robertson, eldest son of the late Mr. R. Robertson, miller, of Sprowston, near this city, to Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Goff, farmer, of Oulton, near Lowestoft. At the same time and place, Mr. Thomas Goff, eldest son of the above Mr. T. Goff, to Julia Anna, second daughter of the late Mr. R. Robertson.

SANDERSON—PANCHEN—On Tuesday last, at Cromer, by the Rev. Frederic Fitch, Mr. Henry Sandford, of Colchester, to Martha Mickleburgh, only daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Panchen.

WILSON—GUNTON—On Tuesday last, at Wisbech, Mr. John T. Wilson, to Miss Mary Ann Gunton.

Deaths.

COOKE—On Thursday last, at his residence, at Peckham, Surrey, in the 72nd year of his age, William Cooke, Esq., late of her Majesty's Customs.

DIGBY—On Friday, the 24th inst., in Calvert-street, aged 62 years, Sarah Ann, widow of Mr. William Digby.

GRIMES—On Monday last, aged 75 years, Mr. Francis Barnabas Grimes, farmer, of Bradfield.

GUNTON—On Tuesday last, at Great Yarmouth, aged 58 years, Sarah Gunton, wife of Mr. Thomas Gunton, butcher; deeply regretted by her family of seven children.

HANNAR—On Tuesday last, aged 18 years, at the residence of Mr. Robert Abbott, of Ely, where she was employ he had lived during the past four years, Samuel, youngest son of T. Hannar, Witham, Essex; very deeply regretted by his relatives and all who knew him.

HOOD—On Tuesday last, suddenly, aged 76 years, Mr. John Hood, of Hethersett.

JEPPS—On Sunday last, at the Great Hospital, Bishop's-street, in the 80th year of his age, Mr. Thomas Jepps.

MASSEY—On Sunday last, aged 87 years, Thomas Massey, of Thorpe Hamlet.

MAY—On Tuesday last, at Colishall, Mr. Henry Mayes, farmer, aged 78 years; the whole of which life he had been a constant resident in the parish, and greatly respected by all who knew him.

STEADS—On Saturday, the 4th inst., at Leicester, in the 63rd year of her age, Mrs. Mary Ann Steads, sister of Mr. John Lincoln, pipe manufacturer, of this city; respected by a numerous circle of friends.

THOMPSON—On Saturday last, at Bodnor, near Brighton, Marianne, wife of the Rev. George Thompson, B.A., head master of Walsham Grammar School.

TRUNDLE—On Tuesday last, of consumption, after a long affliction, Hannah, the beloved wife of Mr. James Trundle, saddler, Cornhill, Ipswich, and youngest daughter of the late Mr. Michael Rush, Swaffham.

District Intelligence.

Hillington. At the petty sessions held at the Fiolkes Fakes, before Sir W. B. Folkes, Bart., A. Hamond, Esq., R. Elwes Esq., and the Rev. J. Hamond, the following cases were heard:—Robt. Turner, Chas. Turner, Stephen Turner, and Jas. Turner, all of Great Massingham, laborers, were charged with assaulting Mr. Blake, of the same parish, on the night of Saturday, the 11th instant. This case was ultimately allowed to be settled out of court, the parties consenting to pay costs amounting to £1 8s. Geo. John Barrett, of Gayton, parish constable, was charged with assaulting Mr. Robt. Collins, of Gayton, by locking him down with his whip. He was fined 10s. and 17s. 6d. costs.—James Churchman, of Castleacre, laborer, was charged with assaulting Mr. Jas. Reed, the proprietor of Gayton game, in the parish of A. Hamond, Esq., at Gayton Thorpe. Being a bad character, he was fined the full penalty of £5 and 15s. costs, in default was committed to Swaffham bridewell for three months' hard labor.

North Walsham. On Tuesday afternoon last, a fire broke out in a shed adjoining a barn in the parish of Worthwick, in the occupation of Mr. Thos. Codling. The barn and sheds, with 40 coombs of wheat and 30 coombs of barley were destroyed; but owing to the presence of the North Walsham engine, and the exertions of the firemen, a stack of hay was preserved. Fortunately the wind was not very high. The fire, as is too often the case, was occasioned by the careless use of lucifer matches.

YARMOUTH.

PAWNBROKERS' DUPLICATES.—On Thursday, James Cartwright *alias* James Mitchell, who was remanded on Thursday week on a charge of having in his possession fifteen pawnbrokers' duplicates for sundry silver watches, and gold chains, and other articles, which were found in different places, and which were supposed to be part of the produce of some extensive robbery or robberies, was again brought up; and no further evidence being produced he was cautioned and discharged.

THE ROBBERY IN THE MARKET-PLACE.—On Saturday, John Bushel, the millionaire who had been remanded on the previous week on a charge of stealing a quantity of 5s. and 2s. 6d. from the person of Martha Tennant, of Tunsby, was again brought up, when no further evidence being produced, he was discharged. The superintendent of police said he had very little doubt about the person who really committed the robbery, although it could not be proved.

THREE ISHMAELITES.—On Tuesday, three lads named Wm. Hume, John Smith, and James Blake, were charged with having been concerned in the robbery of a gander the previous night. Hume having been repeatedly before the magistrates, being well known to the police as a reputed thief, was sentenced to three days' imprisonment, at the expiration of which time he will be sent to a reformatory school for seven years; the other two prisoners having no visible means of subsistence, and being unable to give a good account of themselves, were each sentenced to one day's separate confinement.

CONCERT.—On Tuesday evening, a miscellaneous concert of a superior character was given in the Lecture-hall of the Young Men's Institute. The vocalists consisted of Miss Ransford, Miss Lascelles, and Mr. Winn, the latter of whom acted as accompanyist to the instrumentalists—Mr. H. Blagrove and Mr. Hammond. We have not space for criticism on the performances, and must content ourselves with the remark that the different artistes were well received, and that the entertainment gave every satisfaction to a large audience, which includes the elite of Yarmouth and its neighborhood.

CAPT. DE RUTZEN, LATCHAM.—On Wednesday evening, a public meeting was convened by handbill at the Corn Exchange to "consider the late verdict of the Coroner's jury, which condemns the conduct of Capt. De Rutzen, of Latcham, of Lowestoft; and to inquire whether such a verdict was consonant with the principles of justice." Mr. W. T. Jackson, of Lowestoft, took the chair, and addressed a few very intelligent gentlemen attended. The audience, which was not very large, consisted principally of the working classes, but several persons of higher position in life were present, and several females. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Chapman, and by Messrs. Fish, J. Fisher, Tuttle, and Chapman. The general tenor of the speeches was similar to that taken some time since at a public meeting at Lowestoft, published in our paper, viz.:—That in the opinion of the speakers, the death of Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Jackson, Dr. Matcham had been treated with the greatest unfairness and injustice, and contrary to the principles of justice." Mr. W. T. Jackson, of Lowestoft, took the lead in the proceedings, and in their judgment on the case, they had given him the benefit of his previous good character and uniform zeal in bringing delinquents to justice. He hoped that the public of similar character would ever occur again. If it did, he must prepare himself for the consequences.

Mr. Solomon addressed the bench that it was an oversight, and then left the court.

HAVEN AND PIER COMMISSION MEETING.

On Wednesday, a special meeting of the Haven and Pier Commissioners was held in the Card-room, Town-hall. The commissioners present were—*Sir Norfolk*, Bart., M.P., Esq., *Sir Norfolk*, the E. M. Love, and J. Kerrich and J. Gibbons, Esqs., *Sir Norwich*, J. G. Johnson, J. De Vear, and W. Pratt, Esqs.; *Sir Yarmouth*, Sir H. Edwards, and J. Barker, Esqs. The chairman of the commissioners, H. N. Burroughes, Esq., M.P., but lately present, J. Kerrich, Esq., was, on the motion of J. G. Johnson, Esq., seconded by Mr. Pratt