

thermometer registered 13 degrees Fahrenheit on that night. There has been no such weather in London since 1861, when so many trees and shrubs were killed by the frost. The following table shows the lowest temperature registered at the Receiving House in Hyde Park each year since 1870 by Mr. SUTTON, the superintendent:—

Year.	Lowest Temp.	Degree of Frost.	Year.	Lowest Temp.	Degree of Frost.
1870	17	15	1876	21	11
1871	19	18	1877	25	7
1872	28	4	1878	23	9
1873	23	9	1879	19	13
1874	20	12	1880	15	16
1875	26	6	1881	12	20

It will be seen from the above table that the present frost, although it has but lasted a week, has been the severest we have had for twelve years; whilst it is remarkable that the days are quite as cold as the nights have been during some of the winters which have been considered severe.

Local Topics.

THE FANCY DRESS BALL given by the Friars' Cricket Club, in the Derby Assembly Rooms, on Wednesday night (a full account of which we give in another column), was one of the most perfect successes in this line we have ever had to chronicle. Nothing nearly so good has been attempted in this neighbourhood since the famous ball which signalised the "coming-of-age" of the late MARQUIS OF HASTINGS; and everything passed off brilliantly and without a single *contretemps*. The dresses, as will be observed, were well-selected, and so admirably varied that there were few duplicates; whilst a glance at the *menù* will convince everybody that the articles of faith, so touchingly enunciated by the typical "Friar of Orders Gray," had not been departed from by the "holy brothers" of the 19th Century, who displayed their orthodox regard for "fat pullets," "chirping cups," and other "mortifications." The Friars have, in fact, "scored heavily," and if their present success may be considered ominous of future triumphs, the brotherhood will be simply unvanquishable at the wickets during the forthcoming cricket season.

THE CHESTERFIELD BUTCHERS seem to be exercised in their minds concerning "foreigners"—not necessarily Russian or Turks, but non-resident butchers who are permitted to rent stalls in the market, and thus to interfere with "vested interests"—and they desire to have similar "privileges" to those which are, they say, accorded to the butchers of Derby, &c. Chesterfield has a charter which defines its privileges, and amongst the Corporation officers is a Master Butcher, whom we should suppose to be the proper person to protect the interests of the fraternity. By the provisions of the Derby charter "no foreign butcher shall sell or expose to sale any meat or flesh within the borough, upon market days, before the ringing of the bell and after the sun setting." The Chesterfield charter of incorporation is derived from King JOHN, who conferred upon the town the privilege of holding two markets and a fair; but this original charter has been much enlarged by Queen ELIZABETH and, like the Derby charter, was confirmed by CHARLES II. We are not aware that the minor provisions of these charters are over-ridden by the Municipal Corporations Act.

THE STATE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN certainly tends to pauperising a not inconsiderable section of the community, and this fact was recognised and commented upon by Canon MCKENNA in the course of an important discussion at the Derby School Board on the subject of Juvenile Offenders. Mr. MCKENNA thinks, very justly, that "industrial schools, reformatories, and kindred institutions for children" are plentiful enough; and that what is wanted now is some method of bringing home to parents their duties towards their children. "If parents," said the worthy CANON, "had to pay for the education of their children in truant-schools, they would perhaps understand that, having brought children into the world, they ought to educate their offspring." But this is precisely what the classes of whom Mr. MCKENNA speaks will not do so long as the State can force the ratepayers to do it for them.

THE DERBY AMATEURS, having had so successful an opening performance of "The Rivals," have determined to reproduce the late Lord LYTON'S admirable play, "Richelieu," the title *role* to be undertaken by E. H. HOSKINS, Esq., of Duffield, whose masterly interpretation of the character of the great Cardinal will be fresh in the recollection of all old play-goers in Derby. Why not improve the occasion by having two consecutive nights of performance—following-up "Richelieu" by the production of "Bombastes Furioso" at popular prices? We venture to say that this enlargement of plans would suit the public taste and produce a corresponding good effect upon the "treasury."

Local News.

A local summary of events in 1880 will be found on page 6.

Earl Ferrers has arrived at Staunton Harold.

The Duke of Portland and the Baroness Folkestone left Welbeck on Tuesday for Melton Mowbray, where, it is stated, they intend to spend the hunting season.

PETITION.—Mr. M. A. Bass, M.P., presented on Friday night in the House of Commons, a petition from sundry persons in Derby praying for an inquiry into the subject of perpetual pensions, the movement instituted by Mr. Bradlaugh.

Mr. F. Bentley, Mus. Bac., Oxon, organist of St. Andrew's Church, has been appointed choirmaster and organist of the Hull parish church. Mr. Bentley was the successful candidate out of some 150 who applied.

TRINITY CHURCH PAROCHIAL NURSES' FUND.—Collections were made in Trinity Church on Sunday last for the above object. The congregations were thin, owing to the severe weather, but the collections realised 35l.

FORTHCOMING FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.—This (Wednesday) morning Mr. George Henry Cammell, of Brookfield Manor, Derbyshire, and third son of the late Charles Cammell, Esq., of Norton Hill, Sheffield, and Ditcham, Hants, will be married to Miss Edith Mildred Cordelia, eldest daughter of Colonel Haworth-Booth, of Derwent Bank, Malden, Hull Bank House, Hull, and Rowleston Hall, Holderness. The presents to the bride are most numerous and costly, she being well known and highly esteemed in North-east Yorkshire.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.—On the 6th inst. the marriage of Mr. Ignatius O'Callaghan and Miss Katharine FitzHerbert took place at Tissington, Derbyshire. The bride, attired in white duchesse satin trimmed with Limerick lace and pearl embroidery, pearl and diamond ornaments, entered the church at eleven o'clock, leaning on the arm of her uncle, Sir William FitzHerbert (who gave her away), and attended by eight bridesmaids, four of whom wore cream foulard trimmed with lace and gold guipure, toques to correspond, and Japanese bracelets, the gift of the bridegroom. The remaining four wore Madras muslin dresses trimmed with lace and slashed with cardinal satin, and cardinal satin toques, Japanese lockets, also the gift of the bridegroom. The bride's travelling dress was of crimson plush, toque and muff *en suite*. Some very pretty toilets were worn, especially a peacock-blue plush and light-blue cashmere costume, trimmed with Carrickmacross lace, toque *en suite*, worn by Mrs. Rainier; a dead-leaf Merveilleux satin, trimmed with duchesse point, worn by Mrs. O'Callaghan; a ruby velvet costume, trimmed with handsome Spanish buttons, worn by Mrs. Corbet; and a black costume, trimmed with Algerian scarves, worn by Mrs. James FitzHerbert. The presents were very numerous.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.—The secretary of this Charity (Mr. Edwin Parker, Full-street) has received a letter from his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, promising a donation of 100l. to the Building Fund of the proposed new hospital, and also consenting to become a patron of the bazaar to be held in Easter week.

CHORAL CONCERT.—Our readers will not fail to notice the concert advertised in our columns for Friday next. It is intended to form the close of the Centenary celebrations connected with the Nonconformist schools of the town. A specially selected choir will sing choruses, anthems, and part-songs under the experienced baton of Mr. Crowther, and several well-known vocalists will contribute solos, &c. An excellent performance may be confidently anticipated.

PRESENTATION TO MR. CROWTHER.—On Saturday at the Gerard-street Board-schools, Mr. W. Crowther was presented with an elegant ivory baton by Mr. Bulman, on behalf of the United Schools Concerts, in recognition of the zealous and able services which he has rendered to the cause of the concerts. The baton is mounted in gold, and has the following inscribed on it:—"Presented by the committee to Mr. W. Crowther, in recognition of his arduous and eminently successful labours as conductor of the Derby United Schools Concerts from 1875 to 1880." December, 1880." Mr. Crowther briefly acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the hope that the concerts would not be discontinued.

THE DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY.—A quarterly meeting of the Governors of this institution was held on Monday, when there were present Lieut.-Col. J. Evans, who presided, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. R. A. R. Jones, Mr. Ratcliff, Mr. Sharpe, Mr. Band, Mr. Barnes, and Mr. Whitaker (secretary). Mr. FitzHerbert was unable to be present through a slight accident received whilst skating. The minutes of the Weekly Board revealed the fact that it had been decided to give Mr. Hough (who is quitting the office of House Surgeon) an honorarium of 5 guineas. In the month of December last the medical staff had a long conversation with the Weekly Board as to the nursing, and at a later period it was decided to order inquiries to be made as to the nursing staff, and as to the dispensing of medicines. Finding from the local newspapers that some ambiguity prevailed as to the reception of smallpox patients in the Infirmary, the Weekly Board had expressed their willingness to receive a further deputation from the Sanitary Authority, in order that the latter might possess reliable information on the subject. In inviting tenders for drugs, the Board had directed that the chief local chemists should be invited to compete, as well as the London houses. A letter had been received from Mrs. Arkwright, of St. Ann's Scar (who has reduced her subscription) complaining of the manner in which a certain patient was discharged, and the Board had decided to inform Mrs. Arkwright that the man in question was discharged in the usual manner.—No discussion arose, and the meeting only lasted a few minutes.

AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF RAILWAY SERVANTS.—A meeting of members of this society was called for Sunday evening last at the Green Dragon, London-street, Derby, when Mr. Duffin, of London, attended to deliver an address, but the severity of the weather and other causes combined to prevent many from attending who would otherwise have been present, and the meeting was adjourned sine die.

ACCIDENT WITH A PLANING MACHINE.—As a man named Pope, living at 14, Orton-street, was working with a small planing machine at the New Carriage Works, London-road, on Monday, his left hand got trapped. He was taken to the Infirmary, where it was found necessary to amputate three of his fingers.

THE BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—The weekly meeting of this Board was held on the 11th, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Abney, and there were also present Mr. Sherwin (vice-chairman), Mr. W. G. Wheelton, Mr. R. A. R. Jones, Mr. C. J. Storer, Mr. J. Turner, Mr. Sower, Mr. B. Brindley, Rev. F. Hoare, Mr. J. N. Hefford, Rev. C. H. Moliner, Mr. W. H. Whiston, Mr. Woolley, Mr. T. Carllich, Mr. Stansby, Mr. Sims, Mr. Boam, Rev. A. McKenna, Rev. W. H. Tetley, Mr. G. Dean, and Mr. Hill.—On the motion of Mr. Dean, seconded by Mr. Turner, Anne Smythe, now assistant cook at the Birmingham Asylum, was appointed cook at the Workhouse schools, at a salary of 20l. a year.

SOUP KITCHENS.—At a meeting of the Soup Committee of the Derby Charity Organisation Society, held on Monday, present, Mr. Monkhouse (in the chair), Revs. W. J. Tetley, J. W. Williams, and W. H. Briddon, and Messrs. F. Ward, T. Sims, and R. Binn, it was decided, if the present weather continues, to open the Morledge kitchen on Saturday next, at a quarter to twelve. Tickets can be obtained of any member of the Soup Committee, and at the office of the society, 31, St. Mary's-gate, Derby.

ROBBERY OF CASH FROM NORMANTON BARRACKS.—On Saturday last the police succeeded in capturing a young private of the 54th Regiment named Andrews, who is alleged to have stolen from the pay-office a large sum of money, stated to be over 130l. The money was intended for the payment of pensioners, and was extracted from a drawer, which was forced open. The man was captured in Devonshire, where he had gone to see his friends, and was remanded yesterday (Tuesday) by H. F. Gisborne, Esq., till the petty sessions on Friday. He admits having taken some money, but he says he does not know how much it was nor what has become of it.

TRINITY CHURCH.—The members and associates, to the number of over 60, of the Young Men's Christian Association in connection with the above church, met together at the Mission Hall, Liversage-street, last Thursday evening, to hear an address from the president, who kindly provided tea, which was presided over by Mrs. Hoare, Miss Hgare, Miss Pakeman, &c. This was an inauguration of the society's work for the year just commenced. The meeting was of the conversational kind, very pleasant and interesting throughout. Councillor Gretton presided, and, after a few brief and appropriate remarks, called upon the president, the Rev. F. Hoare, to give his address, the subject being "Trifles," which was done in that gentleman's usual interesting and exhaustive style. The subject was afterwards thrown open for discussion, when several members spoke wisely and intelligently, seeing no necessity for despising the day of small things, which were often connected with great circumstances in human and every day life. The musical entertainers of the meeting were Master and Miss F. Hoare, who sang sweetly and impressively two select pieces, accompanied by Mr. Stevens, the organist, on the pianoforte. The flute band in connection with the association rendered good service at the end, under the leadership of Mr. M'Carthy. After the Doxology had been sung, a little after ten o'clock the meeting separated, after the usual votes of thanks, all evidently pleased with the evening's proceedings.

VOLUNTEER SOIREE AT THE DRILL HALL.—The annual ball of the B C and D (late fourth and fifth) Companies of the 1st Derbyshire Volunteers, took place at the Drill Hall, on Friday evening last, and on the part of the fifth corps was the eighteenth which has been held. The attendance was not so large as usual, owing to the most severe weather, but a most enjoyable evening was passed by those who dared to venture through the frost and fog, and to whom the warmth and comfort of the hall was most welcome. The decorations were unusually pretty, but the chief cause of the success of the evening was the excellence of Mr. King's band, which went through a good selection in perfect style, and keeping most correct time throughout, left nothing to be desired. Among those present we noticed Majors Buchanan and Gascayne, Captains Robinson, Bowring, Newbold and Cox, Lieutenants Cooper, Buchanan, and Wheelton, and Lieut. Forman, of the 1st Derbyshire Yeomanry. The dancing was kept up until nearly three o'clock.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A YOUNG WOMAN.—Mr. Close, borough coroner, held an inquest at the Town Hall, on Monday morning, on the body of Mary Alice Horobin, aged 21, who lived with her parents at 100, Park-street. Deceased had been rather unwell for the last five weeks, but was better on Saturday. At about half-past four, however, she complained of her head and lay down on the sofa. A few minutes afterwards the mother thought she seemed very unwell and sent for Dr. Brady, who came immediately, but before he arrived death had taken place. The evidence of the doctor showed that death arose from apoplexy, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

ANOTHER SUDDEN DEATH.—On Monday morning the borough coroner held an inquest at the Derby Town Hall on the body of Israel Wheatcroft, aged 26, a plate-layer, who lived at No. 1, Court, Nottingham-road, and who died suddenly on Sunday. A brother and sister of deceased spoke to his having been taken ill suddenly on Sunday, and dying before medical aid could be procured; and Mr. Rice, surgeon, said when he arrived at the house the man was dead, having evidently died from consumption. A verdict was returned accordingly.

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AGRICULTURAL REPORT.—The weather during the past week has become much more severe. Snow to the depth of four inches has fallen throughout the district, and the thermometer has during several nights exhibited at times twenty degrees of frost. Ponds of water and in some instances running streams have been frozen over, and the progress of agricultural operations has been stopped. Farmers have found it necessary to supply food in greater quantities to their herds and flocks. The recent spread of the foot and mouth disease has necessitated the adoption of measures of restriction in moving cattle from place to place by the authorities, with a view to stamping out this complaint.

A BLANK DAY AT THE POLICE COURT.—On Friday last the borough magistrates found no cases for trial at the Town Hall. Alderman Turner, as the senior magistrate present, received from Colonel Delacombe, in the absence of the Mayor, the regulation pair of white gloves. Mr. Turner expressed the gratification the magistrates felt at seeing the empty dock, and their hope that it meant an absence of crime in the town. It was always a pain to the magistrates to have to convict on the numerous cases coming before them, but the public might nevertheless be sure that they would always do their duty with care, and without fear or partiality for either side.

SUDDEN DEATH IN A PUBLIC HOUSE.—An inquest was held by the borough coroner on Friday evening, at the Infirmary, on the body of Jabez Sanders, aged 44, 23, Clifton-street, London-road. Deceased, who was a book-binder in the employ of Messrs. Bemrose and Sons, on Thursday evening, at about 6.20, went to the Fox and Goose, Friar-gate, where he complained that he felt poorly and asked for three pennyworth of brandy. He did not drink any, but asked the landlord (Mr. Roberts) to send for a doctor, and Mr. Rice was sent for, and on his arrival found deceased unconscious. He died a few minutes afterwards from heart disease, from which he had suffered for some ten years.—The Jury returned a verdict in accordance with these facts.

THE DUKE OF PORTLAND AND HIS WORKMEN.—Thursday the 30th ult. was the birthday of the Duke of Portland, and on that occasion he gave a supper to about eighty of the workmen employed at Welbeck, who have been working overtime for some months past to complete the restoration of the Abbey. Punctually at five o'clock the men sat down, and did ample justice to a most substantial supper. The Duke, Lady Bolsover, and the other members of the family afterwards entered the room, and were received with three cheers, the men all standing. Mr. Tinker, the clerk of works, proposed the health of "His Grace the Duke of Portland," coupled with that of Lady Bolsover and the other members of the family. The toast was drunk with musical honours.—The Duke responding, said: I thank you very much for the kind way in which you have drunk our healths. I think you have done the work in the house very well, and have finished it off very quickly. We are all very much obliged to you for having made our home so comfortable. I hope you have had a good supper and will pass a pleasant evening. After wishing them all good night, and hoping they would enjoy themselves, his Grace and the family retired amidst renewed cheers.

PHILOSOPHICAL AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.—There was a good muster of the members of the above society in the schoolroom adjoining the Friar-gate Chapel last Wednesday evening, when a most interesting lecture on "The function of Music in Religion" was delivered by the Rev. C. H. Wellbeloved, of Mansfield. The chair was occupied by Mr. Kitchen.—In the course of his remarks the lecturer alluded to the elaborate musical services of the Romish and Ritualistic churches, and attributed the well-filled churches to the musical attractions. In order to make a church successful the musical service must be of a lively and attractive character, for that was the only way to induce young people to take an interest in them. This was being felt to be the case, and accordingly the leading churches of every denomination now paid far more attention to this part of the service than they did twenty years ago.—The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

DRILL HALL, DERBY.—Thursday, January 20, 1881, Mr. Bentley's first subscription concert. Instrumentalists: Madame Norman Neruda, Messrs. Ries and Zerbini, Signor Piatti. Vocalists: Mdlle. Jose Sherrington. Conductor: Mr. Zerbini. Subscribers' tickets for the three concerts, 10s. 6d. each. Admission: Reserved seats, 5s.; second, 2s. 6d.; back, 1s.; to be had from Messrs. BEMROSE, Iron-gate, Derby, where a plan of the room may be seen and seats secured. Concert to commence at a quarter before eight prompt. Carriages may be ordered about a quarter before ten.—[Advt.]

THE FROST IN DERBY.

The cold weather which set in early last week has developed into one of the most severe frosts known in this country for many years. It is stated that in some parts the thermometer descended below zero on Saturday, and reliable records show that in this locality it has several times been near that point. Skating commenced at the Dead Waters, London-road, on Wednesday, but the ice was very uncertain and not many persons ventured on. The frost of that night was thought sufficient to justify the issue of tickets for admission to Allestree Park, which has again been kindly thrown open by Mr. Evans, M.P., for the use of skaters. On Thursday afternoon a few persons went from Derby to try the ice on the large lake in this park, and some dozens placed sufficient in the judgment of those in charge to indulge in a short skate before returning. It was safe enough in the middle though broken in several places. The very hard frost that ensued set all doubts at rest, and on Friday some hundreds dispersed themselves on the thick, though rather lumpy, sheet of ice which had then formed. On Saturday the shop of Mr. Hefford, chemist, Queen-street, who is entrusted by Mr. Evans with the issue of tickets, was hotly besieged by would-be skaters, and it is estimated that about 1,000 found their way on to the lake during the afternoon. Meantime the canals had become skatable, and many persons preferred a good spin on these to the journey down to Allestree. On Sunday the surface of the Derby and Burton Canal was covered with "forked straddling creatures," especially in the neighbourhood of London-road. Some few went long distances, several going nearly to Burton, and on the Nottingham-road Canal some venturesome athletes are said to have skated to Trent. On Sunday night the cold was rather intensified than otherwise, but on Monday afternoon the thermometer was considerably higher. Many persons will be anxious to know the exact state of the atmosphere during the past few days, and the following minimum readings taken by Messrs. J. Davis and Son, opticians, All Saints, Derby, may be relied on:—January 13th, 13 degrees Fahr.; 14th, 5 deg.; 15th, 8 deg.; 16th, 7 deg.; 17th, 14 deg. It is stated that the mercury fell to within three degrees of zero outside the town, on both Saturday and Sunday nights.

The intensity of the frost, though hastening the deaths of many aged and infirm people, and contributing to the explosion of some imperfectly-tended boilers, has largely decreased, the record of deaths from drowning, which generally accompany accounts of skating. None whatever