

COMMITTED TO DERBY COUNTY GAOL.

Mark Faulkner and *George Ford*, of Longford, to be imprisoned three months and find sureties, for night poaching.

George Mason, of Derby, to the sessions, charged with stealing one mare, the property of Joseph Mason.

Oliver Rogers, to the sessions, for stealing from the person of George Harrison, at Wirksworth, certain silver coin.

John Hamilton, to be imprisoned 14 days, for begging at Ashbourn.

Thomas Dallison, of Duffield, to be imprisoned one month, or pay 11. 4s. 6d., for assaulting William Scattergood.

Nathaniel Holden, of Hartshorne, to be imprisoned 14 days, or pay 3l. 0s. 6d., for assaulting Thomas Brown.

Henry Hawthorth, of Ashbourn, to be imprisoned six weeks, or pay the sum of 2l. 15s. 0d., for assaulting James Corbishley.

MATRIMONIAL INFELICITIES IN FRANCE.—The *Moniteur* publishes a report on the administration of civil and commercial justice in France in 1848, addressed by the minister of justice to the president of the republic. The applications to the courts for separation *à mensâ et thoro* decreased from the number of 1,168 to 939. 884 were made by wives, and 55 by husbands. 16 marriages had lasted less than one year; 192, from one year to five; 210, from 5 to 10; 291, from 10 to 20; 128, from 20 to 30; 44, from 30 to 40; five, from 40 to 50; and one upwards of 50 years; the duration of 52 remained unknown. 518 had produced children; 318 had been sterile; no information was obtained respecting the other 103. 875 of those applications were grounded on ill-treatment, 44 on adultery committed by the wife, 41 by the husband. The court admitted 655 and rejected 97. In the other cases either a reconciliation took place between the parties, or the suit was abandoned.

MALICIOUS CONDUCT.—On the night of the 18th, and again during the night of the 22d inst., an iron rail was maliciously laid across the "down" line of the Midland Railway near the Burton station. A reward of 25l. has been offered to any person who will afford information by which the offender or offenders shall be convicted of either of the offences.

THE READING OF LORD RANCLIFFE'S WILL.—Mr. Jenkyns, solicitor, of London, produced the important document, and read it aloud; it is very short, being only six lines, and it is expressive as it is brief. It bears date the 27th of June last. By the provisions of the will every pennyworth of his late lordship's property is bequeathed to Mrs. Burt, no mention being made either of relations or servants; and even the plate presented to his lordship in 1831 by the Radicals of Nottingham, which he promised should be bequeathed to his heirs for ever, falls into the same hands. Upon the will having been read, Sir Cavendish Rumbold, stepped forward and said, "I, as eldest son and representative of my deceased mother, the Hon. Lady Rumbold, one of the co-heiresses, in my behalf, and in behalf of my aunts, the Hon. Lady Levinge and the Princess Polignac, protest against this will. I declare it not a valid will, and not Lord Rancliffe's by his own free will, but it is the will of Mrs. Burt." The whole party then left the hall, and we hear have since taken active steps for disputing the legality of the document and settling the matter in a court of law.—*Nottinghamshire Guardian*.

A good deal of excitement and anxiety has been evinced in Uttoxeter, from the fact that Charles Cook, for many years the driver of the mail between that town and Derby, was missing, and of whom no tidings could be heard. He had retired to rest as usual on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., and nothing unusual appeared in his manner on the following morning, when he left home. On being enquired after when the mail was ready to start (about 8 o'clock,) he was nowhere to be found; and the most diligent search proved unavailing up to Saturday night. It was, however, suspected that all was not right, from his father having found his watch and money carefully laid by when he entered his room on the Wednesday morning, and a search was commenced in the river Dove, by dragging, when his body was discovered a few yards below Dove Bridge, on Sunday about 4 p.m. An inquest has since been held, and a verdict of "Found drowned" returned.

THE KNIFE AGAIN.—It is our painful duty this week to record an instance of juvenile depravity which occurred at Bonsall, on Wednesday. During the dinner hour at the grammar-school at the above-named place, the day being rainy the boys were playing round the stove in the school-room, when a boy of ten years of age, named Benjamin Bryan, playfully took off the hat of another boy named William Wheatcroft, son of John Wheatcroft, guide, who is about a year younger. The latter, who had an open sharp pointed pen-knife in his hand, rushed at young Bryan, and inflicted a deep stab on the face just below the left eye. The blade took a slanting direction, glancing on the cheek bone, and causing a deep and ugly wound, but fortunately missed the sight, and although the eye is much swollen and discoloured, it is not absolutely lacerated, and the wound, under the care of W. R. Lomas, Esq., surgeon, seems going on favourably. Young Wheatcroft has been expelled the school.

PLAYING WITH FIREARMS.—We have recently had occasion to notice the reprehensible practice of children playing with pistols, and we have now to speak of a narrow escape from a similar cause, experienced by two children of a larger growth, named James Wightman, and James Brownson, both of Cromford, and both having seen as many years as should have brought with them mature discretion. The men were very old acquaintances, and lived on the best possible terms with each other, being, in short, frequent companions. On Wednesday evening the pair had been just tasting a "wee drappie" of Mr. Higgot's excellent stingo, in the kitchen of the Greyhound Inn, and they somehow, in the most inexplicable manner, and, for the first time in their lives, knocked up a sort of serio-comic quarrel, much to the amusement, if not edification, of all within hearing. Matters, however, assumed a more serious aspect, on Brownson producing a pistol, and aiming at Wightman, and the more so, as the latter being an eighteen stone man, and of goodly breadth, would have stood a poor chance of being missed, at a distance of less than a yard. At this moment, the "big 'un" got hold of the muzzle of the "little 'uns" pistol, seemingly determined, in the event of an explosion, to catch the charge in his hand, and thus prevent mischief; while Mr. Edward Higgot, who happened to be present, endeavoured to gain possession of the dangerous weapon. Both, however, pertinaciously adhered to the pistol. At this juncture, Mr. Robinson, agent, of Cromford, hearing a disturbance, went into the kitchen, and with some difficulty, not unaccompanied with danger, got possession of the pistol, and finding it loaded and capped, took it into the yard, and fired it at a brew-house door, which now bears unequivocal testimony, that had Wightman's broad body been the target, the consequences would have been neither agreeable or trivial. Some talk ensued about an appeal to the magistrates, but our correspondent observes, that if they have as much sense as he is willing to give them credit for, they will arrange their differences over another drop of the "barley bree."