tween the two Houses were, as all the world now knows, settled on the basis of mutual compromise and concession. On the 15th August the Land Bill amendments were considered by the House of Commons. In the course of the discussion which they provoked, the Prime Minister made it known that he was willing to accept the spirit if not the letter of some of the most important of the Peers' alterations in the Bill. Thus he acquiesced in the revised edition of Lord Salisbury's amendment to the preamble, providing that tenant-right should not, *apart from other circumstances*, be deemed a sufficient reason for making the hundred redress rent. In the second place, he agreed to strike out of the Bill Mr. Parnell's clause suspending proceedings during the application for a judicial rent. This amendment was accepted sufficiently satisfactory by the Peers to justify them in not pressing their original claims any further. The collision between the two Houses thus ended in a complete, but it is to be hoped, not a costly, which embodied a substantial victory for the Lords.

The narrative of the passage of the Irish Coercion and Land Acts through Parliament is practically the record of the Session of 1881. There are one or two episodes independently of this which may be noticed, but they are comparatively insignificant, and they all for no reason connected with the Land Bill, have been a recrudescence of the Bradlaugh business. The decision of Mr. Justice Mathew caused Mr. Bradlaugh, after some delay, formally to present himself for Northampton. He was re-elected by a greatly diminished majority, reappeared in the House of Commons, walked up to the table, and requested that the oath might be administered to him. Sir Stafford Northcote interposed, and a motion which he brought forward, to the effect "that Mr. Bradlaugh has not permitted to go through the form of repeating the words of the oath," was carried by a majority of 208 to 175. Mr. Bradlaugh, persisting in his claim to be sworn, again left the undersigned, and was finally ejected by the Sergeant-at-Arms. Nearly the same scene was repeated the next day (April 27th); and finally Mr. Labouchere appealed to the Prime Minister to bring forward the Parliamentary Oaths Bill of which he had given notice. This was declared by Mr. Gladstone to be equivalent to a motion for repealing the Land Bill; consequently he did not see his way to accede to it. Two days later, however, it was announced that the Parnell Ministry would introduce such a measure. After the interval of a fortnight, Mr. Bradlaugh once more made his way into the House of Commons, and was, as on previous occasions, promptly removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms. This was followed by a motion of Sir Stafford Northcote, carried without a division, that until Mr. Bradlaugh pledged himself to abstain from all business of the House he should be excluded from its precincts. The resolution had the desired effect, and nothing more was heard of Mr. Bradlaugh or of his claim to take the oath until the memorable 3rd of August, when he endeavoured to force his way into the House, and was carried out by seven policemen. His new parliamentary school-boy friend Parnell has refused to pledge himself to introduce a Parliamentary Oaths Bill next Session, and it is difficult to say what the next stage of the business will be. Meanwhile it may be pointed out that the whole difficulty is the creation, in the first place, of Mr. Bradlaugh himself, in the second place, of the Government. If, when Mr. Bradlaugh had been originally returned for Northampton, he had taken the oath, no objection would have been offered to his doing so; or if the Government had proposed a Bill substituting the affirmation for the oath, there is very little doubt that it would have been passed.

The great event of the Parliamentary Session, in contrast, as it is the most melancholy, incident in the political year, is the death of Lord Beaconsfield. The last speech which he made was on a subject of Imperial importance—our position in Afghanistan. There had been several short conversations on this subject in the Upper House, and on the 3rd of March Lord Lytton forwarded a lengthy dispatch from the Ameer of Candahar. The whole weight of military authority was against the step. Why was it taken? As Lord Beaconsfield pointed out, the Government had been silent on the subject of the opinions of the Viceroy and his council. The Conservative leader declared that, though Candahar might be in no sense pensable to our Indian Empire, its possession could not fail to prove exceedingly useful. The key, he said, of India was not Herat or Candahar, but London. The chief point made by Lord Beaconsfield in his reply was that, although, in a general way, he did not believe in the superiority of Russian diplomacy to all others, Russia had achieved almost unprecedented diplomatic success in being the means of England's undertaking a mission which had cost her twenty millions of money. Ultimately the peers accepted Lord Lytton's view in favour of the retention of Candahar by a majority of 89. With this result the Opposition might, perhaps, have done well to be content. But the Session either brought the matter before the House of Commons some three weeks later, and the Government, after a two nights' debate, carried a vote of confidence by a greater than they could have expected—338 to 216. These were the two great debates of the Session in either House of Parliament on our Indian and Central Asian policy.

The annexation of Tunis by France and its consequences to England was the topic of much discussion and criticism in both Chambers of late and, of late, but was not the theme of any set debate. Lord Dalkeith and Lord Dunraven and Lord Stanley of Alderley, and others, have each of late assisted on the maintenance of British rights and interests in the regency of the Bey; and it is to a great extent due to their persevering protests that we are indebted for the assurance which the Bey of Tunis has received from the French Government, that the position of M. Roustan at the capital of the Bey shall not be such as to give France any ground for large over other Powers in the regulation of the external relations of Tunis, and that the French Government have no intention whatever of violating the Treaty of Bardo Tripoli. In the House of Commons, Mr. M. Guest, Mr. Gosset and Sir H. D. Wolff have been equally vigilant; nor, on the whole, have the leaders of the Opposition in the House of Commons. The matter, therefore, stands thus: We are allowing France to strengthen her position in Tunis, first, on the understanding that she undertakes not to attempt to extend her influence beyond the limits of the regency; secondly, that for whatever injury has been done to the property of English subjects, as a result of the bombardment of Sfax, full restitution shall be made. Our own position in Cyprus has naturally been mentioned more than once in connection with the French occupation of Tunis. The attempt has been made by some of the critics of the late Government to justify the violently proclaimed French protectorate of the regency by the fact that the whole figure passed into our hands. There is really no analogy between the two, for the acquisition of Cyprus was the result of treaty negotiations, and that of Tunis by France was not.

South Africa is almost the only other part of the world which has provided material for the discussion of matters of Imperial policy. Lord Kimberley, in his negotiations with the Boers, before and after the third defeat of our troops—that at Majuba Hill—were intermittently commented on, and Ministers were repeatedly defied for their pains, at about them between January 28th and March 29th. Two days later, Lord Carnarvon made his powerful and unanswerable attack upon the whole conduct of the Government in the Transvaal. It was not till nearly four months later (July 25) that the same subject was considered in the House of Commons. Upon that occasion Sir Michael Hicks Beach brought forward a motion censuring the action of the Cabinet in the Transvaal; and although it was negatived by a majority of 315 to 205, it was not the Opposition but the Government who were really wrested in the argumentative encounter. Sir Michael Hicks Beach was scarcely less effective in his statement of the case he had been. He dealt with familiar facts, and he put his case in such a way that it was impossible for the Government to make any reply. The only question really at issue is not whether the original annexation of the Transvaal was wrong, or even whether its retrocession to the Boers on the terms formulated by the Government, and retaining only for the Queen a nominal suzerainty over the province, was right; but whether this was done in the right manner, and whether, if Her Majesty's Ministers were once decided to give up the Transvaal, it is not they whose hands are stained with the sin of blood-guiltiness in having commenced and continued a war the result of which was practically a foregone conclusion. Sooner or later the country will give its judgment upon this matter. The whole future of South Africa, its peripheral and obscure parts, is at the policy of the Government is demonstrated to have unnecessarily increased our difficulties in that part of the world, nothing is more certain than that the whole subject will be reopened, and Ministers strongly called to account.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ELECTION.

It is a curious circumstance that Cambridgeshire, so little accustomed to election contests, and where, up to a very few days ago, we had no intimation of the probability of any vacancy in the representation, should be included amongst the counties called upon to elect representatives since the prorogation of Parliament. But the retirement of Mr. Hutton Rodwell—the necessity for which has called forth sincere personal sympathy—has rendered an election inevitable; and from present appearance it seems not unlikely there will be a contest, for it is believed that however doubtful the chances of success may be to the Liberal candidate, he will persist in going to the poll. The Conservatives, more powerful than they were in Lincolnshire and North Durham, have had their candidate first in the field, and no more suitable or more efficient standard-bearer could they select than Mr. J. M. Burton, Q.C., who, up to the time of the last election had so well represented Ipswich. At a large representative meeting of Conservatives held in Cambridge on Wednesday afternoon, which we fully report elsewhere, Mr. Bulwer was enthusiastically and unanimously adopted as the candidate, and he at once proceeded to make a declaration of his political faith which could not fail to be satisfactory to every sound and patriotic Conservative. Mr. Bulwer defined the Conservatism of which he is an adherent, stating that, without being a bigot either in religion or politics, he would maintain the constitution of the country, which he reverenced, and under which England has grown great. The main constitution and the best form of Government in the world; but, like all human institutions, it was not absolutely perfect, and therefore it required constant, if cautious, amendment. The question of Free Trade necessarily claimed a place in his political programme, and we are bound to say that we must admire the gentleman for the frank and conspicuous judgment. The prophecies that were made so long ago by Cobden and Bright of the certain and speedy spread of Free Trade principles amongst the great nations of the earth have all proved false; the exact reverse was the result, and with one accord they have all become more Protectionist, and instead of lowering their tariffs they have raised their tariffs; and now, after a lapse of five-and-thirty years, we are further away from the commercial millennium than we were. The Conservatives have proved true to themselves, and, as a result, they have gained a great many converts to the sound doctrine of Free Trade. The question demands careful and early investigation, and something must be done. It is unreasonable that that would not be grown by the English farmer at a price that would pay a profit, the cultivation of wheat must be abandoned, and, therefore, the farmer is absolutely dependent upon foreign nations for our supply of food,—a result which would leave us at the mercy of any power that might choose to force us into war. These were very sensible and practical views, and are now so widely extending, that for the first time we see manufacturers and farmers standing on the same platform, and, as one, demanding the protection of British industry against the attacks of foreign nations, who protect themselves against us by rigid tariffs, bearing out our views of their commercial policy. This movement, different from that of 1846, is intended not for the interest of one class, but for all, and consequently we find the demand of the great manufacturing towns of the north, warmly sustained by the farmers of the rural districts. Of the Marquis of Blandford, who has entered the field as a Liberal candidate, we have no doubt. The young nobleman has been already proved, enters the field with everything to render his prospects of success encouraging. He is a hard reformer on such and equitable principles, and would steadily insist on such a readjustment of the burdens of local taxation as would relieve the agricultural interest from the unfair load to which it is now subjected. The issue in Cambridgeshire will be looked for with keen interest. The Conservatives certainly have no reason to fear the result, if they continue under existing circumstances; for whatever way we look, whether at home or to foreign matters, there is cause at the same time for satisfaction and for condemnation of the conduct of the Government. The polling has been fixed for the 13th, and in the interval we are sure the Conservatives of Cambridgeshire will use every effort to hold the seat, and, if they are true to themselves, there can be little doubt of their success.

Local News.

The Office recently resigned by Sir T. L. Seccombe was that of Assistant Under Secretary of State for India, Lord Cranbrook having conferred the last issue. Sir T. L. Seccombe had resigned this last-named office nearly three years ago.

The Ely Cathedral.—The works in connection with the dock extension have been commenced during the present week. The contractors, Messrs. S. Pearson and Son, of Bradford. The formation of the new road to the farm (late Bates's) on the reclaimed Estuary land, is the first thing required to be carried out. The road will be about a mile in length, with a total width of 33 feet, of which 17 feet will be metalled. It is anticipated that it will be finished in two months. On its completion, the construction of the dock will be commenced with all speed, and with as much manual labour and mechanical aid as can be applied. In about a fortnight or three weeks from the commencement the contractors expect to commence the lock entrance from the Alexandra Dock to the new dock. This will be 50 feet wide and 30 feet long, and the depth of water at the present dock namely 25ft. 6in. from the sill to high water on ordinary spring tides; and it will be 30 feet at low water. The dock basin will be 1,000 feet long by 400 feet wide, giving a total area of 9½ acres. The depth will be 30 feet from the coping to the bottom. The walls are to be of concrete (of which about 50,000 yards will be required), the sides of the dock being vertical and the ends sloping. Messrs. Pearson and Son's contract includes the making of the road, the dock and the lock entrance, and the other for ordinary traffic. The time fixed for completion of the work is two years, but the contractors hope to be able to finish in that time, and perhaps in 18 months. The tramway along the northern side of Fisher fleet, about which so much "talk" has been exciting, is a "bye" in the state, but of what practical use it is likely to prove before the new dock lines are completed is difficult to understand. The branch culvert by which the Bawsey drain is to be diverted into the sewer running from the Alexandra Dock to the new dock is now rapidly progressing. With the great pressure of trade which has for weeks past been experienced at the existing dock, it is evident that it will be used more than ever absolutely required. At a meeting of the Directors of the Dock Company held on Wednesday, Colonel J. Barnes, M.P., was elected to the Board as representative of the Great Eastern Railway Company in right of their contribution to the Eastern Capital.

Football.—At a meeting held on Tuesday evening, it was unanimously resolved to form a King's Lynn Football Club, and the following were elected officers:—Captain, Mr. L. K. Jarvis; deputy captain, Mr. F. P. N. Woodthorpe; secretary, Mr. F. Reddie; and honorary secretaries, Messrs. R. W. Street and H. Barrett. The committee is composed of Messrs. G. Ritter, C. Dennis, Smith, G. Reddie and T. M. Nuccoli.

The Friends of Mr. H. T. E. Whalley, who is at present in Canada, sailed for the Dominion on Saturday in May last, will be glad to hear that he has arrived safely at his destination. He was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Montreal, in the cathedral of that city, the second Sunday after Trinity.

Entertainment.—On Friday and Saturday evenings 20th and 27th ult., Mr. Fred. French, assisted by Miss Kate Read, appeared at the Music Hall, Lynn, in his entertainment entitled "Sunshine and Shade." The attendance was fair, and Mr. French succeeded in keeping his audience in a constant state of laughter. He is an artist of no mean ability, and possesses great power of mimicry.

Vivid Steam Tug Company.—The annual meeting of the shareholders of this company was held on Tuesday, at the Duke's Head Hotel, Mr. T. Brown, chairman of the company, presiding. The balance sheet was as follows:—

Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ending 31st December, 1880.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Dividends	600	15	0	Wages	329	5	1
Passengers	20	13	0	Coals	1,236	0	0
Freight	65	0	0	Miscellaneous charges	63	11	9
Loss to date	339	8	2	Commission	20	0	0
				Repairs & maintenance	165	3	9
				Preliminary expenses	16	0	0
				Captain Cowen	17	10	0
				Shares	21	0	0
				Secretary	19	0	0
				Insurance	12	15	0
	£1,125	16	2		£1,125	16	2

Ditto for half-year ending 30th June, 1881.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Dividends	600	15	0	Balance from last account	339	8	2
Passengers	20	13	0	Hire *Her Majesty*	1,000	0	0
Freight	65	0	0	Tug Fund	329	13	6
Loss to date	1,338	9	9	Secretary's commission	20	0	0
				Extra repairs to Fund	168	7	3
				Loss on sale of *Her Majesty*	608	1	0
	£2,023	18	9		£2,023	18	9

Capital Account for year ending 30th June, 1881.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
178 shares at £5.5 per share	4,450	0	0	Cost of *Her Majesty*	1,780	15	3
Amounts owing by the company	50	0	0	*Her Majesty* 3,552	2	6	
Bankers overdraft	149	4	3	Less sale 1,950	0	0	
				Accounts paid	710	8	0
	£4,649	4	3		£4,649	4	3

Balance Sheet, 30th June, 1881.

Liabilities.	£	s.	d.	Assets.	£	s.	d.
178 shares at £5.5 per share	4,450	0	0	Steam Tug *Vivid* (cost)	1,780	15	3
Amounts owing by the company	50	0	0	Amounts owing to the company, for which acceptances are held	1,800	0	0
Bankers overdraft	149	4	3	Balance, being loss to date	1,338	9	9
	£4,649	4	3		£4,649	4	3

—Mr. Jas. Brown moved the adoption of the accounts, which was seconded by Mr. Curson.—Mr. Holmes objected to various items, and to the manner in which the business of the company was conducted, proposed that the company be wound up, and the vessel in question was purchased on the recommendation of Capt. Cowen; but this Mr. Cowen denied, and produced a letter and telegram from the secretary in proof of his assertion. The vessel is square, was built by the company for £3,552/2, and as she proved ill-adapted to the requirements of the trade of the port, she was sold by auction for £1,950, and it is stated that the purchaser shortly afterward resold her privately for £4,250.

Boat Racing.—On Saturday evening, the boat races which were postponed at the annual regatta in the East Brink Cut on the previous Wednesday, owing to the boisterous state of the weather, were commenced in the Norfolk Estuary Cut, and resulted as follows:—One-mile race in outriggers; prize, five pounds, given by Mr. J. Messrs. W. Hovell, H. Green, E. T. Johnson, H. Barrett (stroke) and D. Vickers (cox). Messrs. H. Tilney, J. Smith, J. Ward, J. Ward, J. Ward (stroke) and H. Smith (cox), also competed.—Scullers' race for one-mile distance one mile. C. Bristowe was first, and W. Johnson second. The race was witnessed by a large number of spectators, who assembled on the Common Staith quay and the ferry landing, the latter being the rendezvous for the same day a race took place for Mr. J. Plowright's prize, when five boats started, viz., *Lancer* (G. Cornwell), *Fairy* (E. Bunn), *Ada* (A. King), *Nautilus* (J. Rutter), *Clara* (W. Frost). Mr. Hewetson attending as referee. A good start was made at half-o'clock, Mr. Frost being little or no wind the boats made very little headway, except the *Lively Polly*, which evidently gained a lead, and kept herself clear of all the other boats, and which she held right away down to the Nun buoy. The *Nautilus* also appeared to gain a little on the breeze, but she did not reach the *Clara*, *Flirt* or *Nautilus*, all of which were some distance astern, and eventually they gave up the contest, the wind being so light that they were unable to make headway, and the race therefore rested with the *Lively Polly* and *Nautilus*, the former winning by about half a mile.

Lynn Philharmonic Society.—The annual meeting of this society was held on Wednesday at the Athenaeum on Tuesday evening, Mr. J. Bray presiding. Mr. G. W. Page, financial secretary, read the accounts and statement of the society, which showed the receipts during the year had amounted to £139/13/11, and the disbursements to £93/12/6, leaving a balance of £46/1/5 in hand. The accounts having been adopted, the committee was appointed as follows: Dr. Reed and Messrs. J. C. Page, J. T. Cook, A. Wilkin, F. H. Partridge, H. C. Allinson, S. S. Bagshaw and B. J. Wall. Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring officers for their services during the past year. After the annual meeting the committee selected the following officers for the ensuing year: Mr. S. A. Gurney, president; Rev. E. J. Alvin, Rev. J. R. Slight and Dr. Lowe, vice presidents; and Messrs. G. W. Page and H. Taylor, joint secretaries. The election of conductor was deferred to a future meeting of the committee.

District News.

CROMER.—Marriage Festivities.—On Thursday, 25th ult., a marriage was celebrated at the parish church, the marriage of Mr. R. H. J. Gurney, the youngest son of Mr. J. H. Gurney, of Northrepps Cottage, and Miss Evelyn Buxton, fourth daughter of the late Sir Edward North and the present Dowager Lady Buxton, of Colne House, Upwood, Huntingdon. The bride was given by her Thomas Fowell Buxton, was attired in a handsome white satin dress, trimmed with Honiton lace, and a white satin bonnet, trimmed with orange blossom and jessamine; Honiton lace veil, and wreath of orange blossoms. The veil was fastened with a diamond pin, the gift of the bridegroom; and among the bride's ornaments were a diamond necklace (the gift of Sir Fowell), an opal bracelet (the gift of Mr. Buxton), and a diamond and opal bouquet, composed of white flowers. The twelve bridesmaids, all nieces of the bride—daughters of Sir Fowell and Lady Buxton—were Miss Gurney, Edward and Henry Buxton—were dresses of cashmere, handsomely trimmed with lace, and Gainsborough hats, the latter trimmed with blue and trimmed with cream lace. The gift of the bridegroom to each bridesmaid consisted of a silver locket. Two little pages, Master Lionel Buxton (Catton), and Master Henry Pelham, nephews of the bride, attended, and they were dressed in pale blue satin, with hats of the same colour. The bride's mother (the Dowager Lady Buxton), was attired in prune satin, trimmed with Honiton lace and bonnet of the same colour to match. The Bishop of the diocese performed the ceremony. The wedding presents were numerous and costly. It is understood the happy pair intend paying a visit to the United States as a honeymoon tour.

DIDLINGTON.—Miss Amherst, who has been suffering from the effects of a severe cold, has left for the continent, and is at the town house, on the 15th July, and which deprived her of her eyesight, is so far recovered that Sir Henry Amherst allowed her removal to Didlington on Friday last.

Appointment.—The Hon. Caroline G. H. Amherst, daughter of the late Viscount Amherst, has been appointed private secretary to her Excellency G. William Des Vœux, C.M.G., Governor of Fiji.

DOWNHAM.—The Harvest.—Another wet harvest has been added to the long catalogue of misfortunes which have for so long a period attended the agricultural world. The harvest was commenced on Friday that a welcome change in the weather was about to take place were so quickly dispelled, and with the exception of the week ending with the following day, harvest operations have been almost at a standstill ever since. The expense to farmers in gathering in the crops of the British farmer in times of adversity was never more sorely tried than it has been during the past month, and, had no further misfortune been inflicted, there certainly was never an instance in which he was more entitled to the sympathy of the public at large. Unfortunately, however, the sympathy he has from the most look for somewhat more substantial than the pity of his neighbours in matter where he is prevented from fulfilling his obligations among the nations of the world. The downfall of his agricultural interests involves the disappointment of the hands of the powers that be, either in the shape of a Land Bill, or something that will relieve the burdens which falls so heavily on the shoulders of the farmer. It is our purpose now to speak of things as we find them, rather than to advocate measures which we believe to be erroneous and to the interests whose duty it is to discover means for their partial, if not permanent, amelioration. The farmer, as a rule, is a cheerful and hopeful of any human being, but there cannot be a doubt, notwithstanding the promise given by an unusually fine season in May, that the prospects of the farmer are as miserable as can possibly be imagined, and that the unsettled state of the elements during the month of August has caused a loss of more than short of national disaster. A gloomy view this, perhaps, but it is, nevertheless, one that is perfectly correct, and, although every cloud has its silver lining, the cloud is sometimes so black as to make us believe there is no silver lining at all. But we must not despair. A fair amount of grain has been got up in places under favourable conditions, and a very plentiful supply of straw, which, if not of the best, is not at all improve its quality. In the fen lands there are thousands of acres still standing, some in shocks, some in sheaves, and some lying on the sodden ground, and likely to remain there, growing lower and lower in quality, if, indeed, it is not finally added to the blight and mildew which extensively prevail, will not improve either the quality or quantity of our English and Scotch grain. Consequent is, as it always must be when there is deficiency in home-grown crops, that we shall be compelled to import, and, in the present instance, to a much greater extent than ever before. The landlords also, especially the loss affect of rent, will be heavy, and, in addition to the losses of others; trade and commerce suffer in like proportion, and the welfare of the whole community must, as a natural consequence, be seriously affected thereby.

School Board.—A special meeting of this Board was held on Tuesday afternoon, when a resolution was taken as to the reopening of the schools, in consequence of the illness of the principal teacher, Mr. Mawrey. There were present—Rev. J. Fenwick (in the chair), Rev. S. Howard, Messrs. W. Pope, S. G. Trotter, R. S. Bennett and W. Goulder. The clerk read a letter from Mr. Mawrey and had a medical certificate stating that Mr. Mawrey had had a slight attack of paralysis, probably, and was not considered seriously affected, but the patient's rest was necessary for his recovery; and the Board having considered Mrs. Mawrey's application that the schools should be reopened on Monday, it was unanimously agreed that the schools be reopened on that date, inasmuch as the necessary arrangements had previously been arranged to terminate. The Board also expressed a hope, which will be shared by many others, that Mr. Mawrey may soon be restored to health. It was likewise resolved that the Barrowby Drove school should not reopen till the 17th inst.

Fire.—A very serious conflagration took place on Tuesday afternoon, and was accompanied by a tremendous downpour of rain. The fire was first seen by some of the hands near our immediate vicinity, but to save a valuable cart mare, the property of Mr. John Reeve, was instantaneously shot by Mr. Reeve, and died shortly. Two other horses were being led at the same time and place by a man and boy, and a woman was also following, leading a donkey cart, but all of these escaped unhurt.

HUNSTANTON.—At the Regatta which is announced to take place on Saturday, it has been agreed, with the sanction of the committee, that the Life Boat should be launched, and the crew go through some of their exercise.

Cricket.—A match was played on Monday between eleven of the Wisbech Town and District club and eleven of Hunstanton Visitors, and was decided by the first innings, the Wisbech eleven winning easily. The swift round-hand bowling of Harborne, of Long Sutton, was very conducive to the Visitors' wickets, having seven in the first innings and five in the second. Score:—Wisbech Town and District: Harper 2, Wade 0, Lamb 0, Brooks 8 Napier 3, Elworthy 8 Napier 0, Johnson 0 and 8 Napier 2, Aldridge 4 Nelson 8 Napier 2, Potter run out 1, Harborne 2 Powell 8 Bourne 2, Taylor 0 Walker 2, J. W. Stubley 8 Humphrey 0, Baker 0 not out 0, Bye 1, Leg byes 2, Wides 2, Total 64. Hunstanton Visitors: Brooks 8 Woodham 0; not out 8, Humphreys 8 Harborne 3, Harborne 3, Nutter 0 Elworthy 0, Wakelam 0, Bourne 0 Harborne 0, Thompson 1 Harborne 2; b Harborne 3, Napier 8 Harborne 0; b Harborne 1, Leaper 0 Wakelam 0; and b Stubley 28. Walker 2 Elworthy 11; b Harborne 0, L wicket b Harborne 1. P. Leaford not out 2. Nelson 8 Harborne 1. Extras 3 = 64.

To the Editor.

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to a printed statement made by a gentleman signing himself J. Humphreys, Principal of the Hunstanton Grammar School, to the effect that within the last 10 years Canon Kingsley was refused the pulpit, as it is termed, in yonder church, meaning, I presume, St. Edmund's Church.

There are only three failures in this one statement, 1 Since December, 1876, to the best of my knowledge and belief, Canon Kingsley was not here. If he were, I certainly had not the honour of being his acquaintance. 2 No application was ever made by him, or for him to preach.

Consequently none such was ever refused.

Whether the titles of Principal, or of the Institution of the Grammar School are equally appropriate, I am not concerned called upon to decide. I simply confine myself to the statement that I know to be contrary to fact.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. WALLER.

The Vicarage, Hunstanton.

August 27th, 1881.—Rector of Hunstanton.

P.S. August 29th, 1881.—Referring this to the papers, I thought it best to give Mr. Humphrey the opportunity of retracting the above statement. I wrote (August 29th) to say that I would wait after the date from 10 to 22 years, and that the fact was notorious at the time. I shall ascertain shortly how far I am justified in concurring in the call notice that in the history of a place only 20 years old, 10 years is an important portion of the time, and that it depends on the value of these *ex cathedram* random statements, that they are based on the hearsay of 20 years ago.

NORTON SUBCOURSE.—Suicide.—An inquest was held on Monday, at the Queen's Head, before (Mr. R. J. Colley), on the body of Edward Meek, carpenter, Norton Subcourse, who committed suicide on Tuesday morning. The deceased's wife deposed that her husband had been in the Eye Infirmary for nine weeks, and had undergone an operation. He was quite sober he had suffered much pain at times and had been prevented from doing his work. This had affected his mind. She had gone to church on Sunday four and five o'clock in the morning, in the workshop, with his throat cut. A razor, stained with blood, was on the floor. Mr. Edward Meek, deceased's father, that he had attended deceased, and observed that lately he had become very much depressed. He had also stated that he had rather had been in low spirits lately; and the jury returned a verdict that deceased committed suicide whilst of unsound mind.

PLUMSTEAD.—Killed on the Railway.—Between 2 and 3 o'clock, on Tuesday, 30, as a platelayer named Robert George, in the employ of the Great Eastern Railway Company, was passing by one of Cosmer Bank at Great Plumstead, he found the dead body of a young man named George Bunting, of Little Plumstead, aged 18 years. It appeared deceased had had been drinking at the Heart's Ease public-house, and when he left for home took with him some beer. It is supposed that he fell or lay down on the line with his head on one of the rails. His face was smashed in, apparently by the passing of a train, and there were no injuries on the other parts of the body to suggest that he had been knocked down by a train. It was thought on the Friday, Tuesday he had returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

Melancholy Accident.—As Mr. John Chapman, a farmer of Little Plumstead, was passing by one of his fields on Wednesday morning, he observed his thatcher, James Canham, lying on the ground, in a probable rate of mortality.—Mr. Carmichael's bill of £13/18/3 for cleaning his pelisse, and his fee of £1/1/0 for attendance, the surgeon reported progress in cleansing the filter beds, and asked for instruction as to remedying the disagreeable condition of the fencing of the Palace green, upon which no order was made.

Petty Session.—Thursday, September 1st. Before the Rev. H. Pigott (in the chair), and J. Cropley, J. M. Vijan, J. Martin and M. J. Pate, Esqs.—*Inland Revenue*, of Wisbech, labourer, was committed to prison for one month for stealing two pairs of boots, value 18s, and property of Mr. Hayes, of Wisbech. He was also sentenced to one month's imprisonment for misconduct in the Ely union workhouse.—*Ava*, wife of David *Ivory*, was charged with assaulting her daughter-in-law, Julia Sharp. Dismissed.

Miscellaneous.

A Cyclone.—Much damage was done by an easterly cyclone which raged along the southern Atlantic coast on Sunday last. The greenhouses of the Jesuit house working from the wharves at Charlestown were blown into the sea and drowned. Much damage was done to the shipping, which was brought by the extraordinary high tides which accompanied the cyclone.

Cheap Foreign Corn.—Corn Seed Fair was opened in Vienna on Monday. It is estimated that the surplus available for exportation from Austria will be 1,000,000 quarters of wheat, 500,000 quarters of barley, and 750,000 of oats. The attendance was not large, and business in wheat was dull in consequence of the low prices demanded.

An Extraordinary Occurrence happened on Saturday in one of the Dundee public-houses. A publican named Johnston, contrary to the rules of the establishment, sprung in feet foremost, he did not return to the surface, and his next appearance was at the door of the baths, naked and covered with blood. The water in the water had drawn him through the pipe a distance of between 20ft. and 30ft., and had shot him, as if from a catapult, into the river Tay, by pipe in the wall 9in. in diameter. Johnston says that on leaping into the pond he felt as if some one had seized him violently by the legs, and he was drawn through the pipe, and he was propelled into daylight and the river. He has since been confined to his bed, but his medical attendant is of opinion that he will recover.

A Daring Case of Burglary was investigated by the Liverpool stipendiary on Monday. The prisoner, a man named Joseph Heuthuck, broke into the house of a Mr. Harman, at Bootle, and, on being caught, in his hands into a room where Mrs. Harman was lying, and stole a watch from the bed, and, when the woman attempted to raise the alarm, he struck her a blow on the head, and fled. The prisoner was committed for trial.

Another Dynamite Outrage.—On Saturday morning an attempt was made to destroy the house of John Ford, a herb beer maker, of Walsall, by exploding a dynamite bomb at the door of the house. No motive has been assigned for the outrage. The door was damaged and great alarm caused, but none of the inmates were injured.

Fire.—A pleasure barge and a yacht have been destroyed by fire on the river Dee, near Eaton Hall. Preparations had been made for the burning of the barge, when a gust of wind caused the ignition of some oil. In rushing to extinguish the flames, the yacht caught fire, and the whole of the vessel, caught fire, and he only saved himself from a frightful death by jumping overboard. A yacht, lying alongside, also caught fire and was burnt, and he was also caught fire, and both were utterly destroyed.

Thomas Blackman, in a similar case, lost £400, on Saturday, at Ashton, near Henry Thomas, over the Thames championship course.

Shocking Bus Accident.—On Saturday Mr. Thos. Atkins, one of a firm of music warehousemen, accompanied by his wife, two daughters and a nephew, went in a bus from Bishopsgate to Victoria Park. In a short time the boat capsized, throwing its occupants into the water. A Mr. Williams went to the rescue of the drowning Mrs. Atkins, but all the others sank. Mr. Atkins was an excellent swimmer, and it is supposed he could have saved himself if he had chosen. The four bodies were recovered nearly an hour afterwards.

Salvation Army.—Disturbances approaching riot took place on Sunday at Exeter, in consequence of the Salvation Army parading the streets. A number of men were arrested and taken before the magistrates on Monday. The army marched into one of the streets and sang a hymn, on the 'Ship' Inn premises, who struck up a tin kettle accompaniment to the hymns which the Salvation Army attempted to sing, and the crowd followed the army into the city by way of Exe Bridge the army found their progress disputed by a number of roughs, and fighting ensued. The army, with a number of roughs, walked to the hall in which the Salvation Army meet was besieged by crowds, and fighting took place between the Salvation Army and the crowd, in which was that the police captured one of each side, and the magistrates fined both, placing the prisoners under the care of Mr. Hayward, the chief constable, who commenced the fight. Later on the leaders of the Army had to be escorted home by a large body of police, and their symphonies were taken into custody by the police, but he was dismissed. A very bitter feeling is growing, and the result of such disturbances is generally much regret that they do not shew more discretion than to parade the streets.

The Murder of a Child near Chesterfield.—The adjourned inquest upon the body of the child Emanuel Wilson, found in a field near Tapton, on Brimington, on the 26th ult., and adjourned to the Municipal hall, Chesterfield, where Gough was present and carefully watched the proceedings. Some seven or eight witnesses spoke to seeing the prisoner and the child together in Johnston's lane, and afterwards Gough was seen with the child in his cart, and afterwards Gough was seen with the child in his cart, and hurrying away.—Walter Davidson, a boy, said he saw the prisoner on Saturday with his cart. He would not let the children take the cart down the private road which leads to the plantation where the body was found.—Prisoner, in cross-examination, said he did not meet the prisoner on Saturday after returning from Brimington. Prisoner said to him: "We have been many times on this road, haven't we, Walter?" He asked why, and prisoner said: "I have done wrong, and shall never be happy any more." He asked what he had done, and prisoner said: "At the conclusion of the inquiry, which lasted all day, the jury found a verdict of "Wilful murder against Gough, and he was committed for trial at the next Derby Assizes.—The prisoner preserved a stolid demeanour, and declined to say anything.

Singular Disappearances.—Mr. James Dutchess, police-inspector at Woolwich Arsenal, reported to the Woolwich Board, under circumstances utterly inexplicable. He had on the previous night taken over charge of the establishment, but, having fallen asleep, he was roused to leave home at midnight. He was seen by a constable on business about 20 o'clock, and at 2.30 was on service. He was traced to London Bridge station, and there the trail was lost. A letter was left behind him saying he was weary of life, but it is not believed he has committed suicide.—Two girls, respectably connected, who had been learning millinery in an establishment in Chester, have disappeared. They had been in communication with some one in Liverpool, who had advertised for two young ladies anxious to become actresses. They went to Liverpool in answer to a telegram from this "gentleman," and thence to Manchester, where all trace of them was lost. The police have the matter in hand.

Plans of alterations of Mr. Bray's premises in the market place, and an intended building by Mr. Thos. Cobell, were approved.

Accident.—On Tuesday evening a horse-driver named Joseph Smith, in the employ of the Midland Railway Company, was received at the North Gate Hospital, having been hurt while shunting trucks at the goods station. It appears that he was between the buffers of two trucks at the moment they were coming together, and but for the fact that men were pushing the truck, he would have been drawn by the buffers, which would have been more severe. There was no outward injury, but severe internal pains.

Funeral.—Yesterday, the remains of a much respected master mariner belonging to this port were interred in the church yard cemetery. The deceased, Robert Cornwell, was for 40 years connected with the trade of the late Mr. Wm. Stevens and his son, Mr. W. G. Stevens, the deceased was 72 years of age. The Deceased was an Oddfellow and a Freemason, and was followed to the grave by several brethren. The coffin was borne by Messrs. Cornwell, Stevens, and others.

The Strikes.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer the dignity of the Third Class Order of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath on the Right Hon. Henry Brand, the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Borough Petty Session.—Wednesday, August 31st. Before Ald. Ford (in the chair) and Ald. Brown, *John Pierce*, chemist's assistant, of Cambridge, was summoned for wilfully neglecting to maintain his two children, Beatrice and Ethel, and for that he had thereby become chargeable to the common fund of the Wisbech Union. Defendant admitted his liability to maintain his children, and he had paid for them in the past. He said that the mother of the children left him and was now living with another man in Otago, New Zealand. He had left the children some ago in the care of his brother-in-law, and paid for their maintenance, and in his absence the family had his furniture and sent the children to the workhouse. Mr. Hayes, the master, said they had been there eight years, at a cost of £12/10/ per annum