

LAST WEEK'S LATEST NEWS.

THE MEN IN PETTICOATS. — HORRIBLE AND REVOLTING DISCLOSURES.

Yesterday, the prisoners Park and Boulton were re-examined. The court was crowded as much as ever, and Bow-street was blocked up by the multitude of people assembled to see the prisoners as they were brought to and from the court. They were brought into court, in custody of the gaoler, at half-past eleven, and placed in the dock, Boulton on the right and Park on the left hand. Both looked somewhat depressed, and much paler than at the first examination. They, however, stepped lightly into the dock, and leant forward upon the rail for some time. The prisoners are both well-dressed. Boulton wears a dark cut-away coat, light trousers, and dark tie. Park is not perhaps so smartly dressed. He has a dark coat also, darkish trousers, and patent-leather boots. The clothes of both have evidently been made by a fashionable tailor. The prisoners, especially Park, frequently communicated, by notes written in pencil, with their solicitor, Mr. Abrams, who, in his contact of the defence, displays indefatigable vigilance. The magistrate, after a short time, gave the prisoners permission to be seated—a privilege they frequently availed themselves of.

The management of the case for the prosecution on the part of the police is entitled to the utmost praise. Superintendent Thompson, of Bow-street, has displayed throughout an acuteness, tact, and shrewdness reflecting the greatest credit on that officer. "Involuntary" witnesses have been ferreted out, subpoenaed, and placed in the box, with a celerity that perfectly astounded them.

There was the same eagerness on the part of the public—not the public of Seven-dials, but the fashionable public—to secure seats or standing-room in the court, to gaze on the prisoners and hear the filthy details related by the witnesses. Although the gratification of this peculiar taste involved the necessity of standing for five hours, and enduring an amount of suffering from the oppressive atmosphere, which few persons care to undergo except on the rarest occasions, not one of the "distinguished visitors" showed the slightest disposition to leave, or give up their places to any of the disappointed crowd outside; and at least one of them—a noble lord—surveyed the prisoners during the greater part of Friday through an opera-glass. But perhaps the most notable, not to say the least creditable, feature of the whole affair was the unblushing freedom with which the privileged auditors manifested their sentiments, and especially their sympathy with any revelations that appeared to tell in favour of the defendants. Their inclination to "laugh" at disclosures which filled several people with disgust, was repeatedly checked by the officers of the court.

Mr. W. H. Roberts, of Moorgate-street, asked permission to say a few words in reference to the reports in today's paper, in which his name had been mentioned by the witness Francis C. Cox. He conceived that the fact of his name having been mentioned in connexion with such a case was prejudicial to him, and he was therefore desirous of explaining to the court that he was, by the merest chance, present with the prisoner Boulton at the Guildhall Coffee house on the day referred to. He (Mr. Roberts) was solicitor to Lord Arthur Clinton, conducting his bankruptcy case, and that was how—

Mr. Flowers thought that any statement would be prejudicial and unfair to the defendants at the present time, and thought Mr. Roberts had better wait before making any statement. He could assure him that nothing had been said to his prejudice.

William Henry Martin deposed: I was appointed four years ago as agent to the Burlington Arcade. The constables were under my control. I have seen the defendants in the Arcade dressed as women. I saw them walking up and down as common women. I did not see them talk to anybody. I had them turned out of the Arcade in 1869. They were then dressed as women. I can't say how many times I have seen them in the Arcade dressed as women, but I have seen them there several times. It was in the afternoon when I saw them. They were lounging about and walking up and down. I took them to be persons of loose character, and hence my instructions to the constables to turn them out. I had no idea they were men. I have never seen any one in their company. I have seen them in the Arcade dressed as men. They attracted my attention because they were dressed very fast. Their boots were like women's. I saw them in 1867 and 1868.

Cross examined by Mr. Besley: I only saw the defendants once dressed as men. I have only upon one occasion given instructions to turn them out. I only give instructions to turn out loose women. It is rather difficult now to tell who is loose and who is not.

Do you serve the loose women in your shop?—Yes; I serve anybody who comes into my shop.

Then inside your shop you can't distinguish the loose women; but I suppose you can outside the shop?—I don't understand your question, sir. (Laughter.)

Did you ever hear that Smith took money from the loose women?—(Emphatically): Yes, I have, to my disgust.

Oh, you have heard of it to your disgust?—Yes, sir.

Do you mean to say that you always saw Park with Boulton?—I can't say.

How many times have you seen them altogether?—Twenty times.

And always in female attire?—Yes, with the exception of once.

Now, you have mentioned the words improper conduct, what do you mean by that?—I mean winking and looking leeringly at gentlemen.

Have you ever seen the defendants do that?—Yes.

Did Smith ever tell you that he had never taken money from women?—Yes; he told me so upon his honour.

Police-constable Holding, 53 C, deposed that he had seen the defendants in the Burlington Arcade a score of times. They were always dressed in men's clothes. He had, he thought, seen Boulton once in female attire. A young man whose name, he believed, was Cumming, was always with them. They walked in a very peculiar manner. He believed them to be men.

Cross-examined by Mr. Besley: People said they were women dressed in men's clothes. He never interfered with them. He left George Smith to do that. He never heard that Boulton called Smith "a sweet little dear." He heard George Smith request the defendants to leave the arcade. He did not see any violence. Witness believed Smith turned one of them out by force upon one occasion.

Edward Nelson Haxell deposed: I am the landlord of the Royal Exeter Hotel, in the Strand, at the corner of Exeter street. It is known as Haxell's Hotel. I have been the landlord seventeen years. I know the two prisoners. I first saw Boulton on the 7th of April in the present year, at my hotel. He was then dressed as a man. I saw him in the morning. He was introduced by Mr. Gibbings, a very old customer of mine. Mr. Gibbings was staying at the hotel at the time. Mr. Gibbings is a gentleman of independent fortune. He has no employment to my knowledge. Boulton stayed eight days at the hotel on that occasion. Mr. Gibbings was also staying there at that time. Mr. Gibbings came some time in March. He occupied, I think, 83 or 84—a bedroom and sitting-room. Boulton was introduced to me by Mr. Gibbings as the best amateur actress of the boards. Boulton was Mr. Gibbings's guest, and he engaged a room for him. He occupied 85. The sitting-room is 83. Eighty-five is on a different floor from 84. Boulton was dressed as a gentleman when he first came. I knew that he was a man. I understood from Mr. Gibbings that he had been invited up from Edinburgh to come specially to the musical party. I think that Boulton and Gibbings left the hotel together. Gibbings paid every bill. Mr. Gibbings lives at 13, Bruton-street, and I have understood, at Olapham. I only know that Boulton lives at Edinburgh. I have seen Boulton in female costume while he was staying at my house. I have seen him, I think, four times in that attire. I have seen him leave the hotel in female costume three or four times. He generally went out in a carriage to some entertainment about seven or eight o'clock. He went out in ordinary lady's evening-dress. Mr. Gibbings, Mr. Park, and a Mr. Somerville generally went out with him. Mr. Gibbings was dressed as a lady on those occasions. Mr. Somerville was dressed always as a gentleman, and Park sometimes as a lady and sometimes as a gentleman. Mr. Somerville was not staying at my hotel. He simply came in to dine with Gibbings as a friend. He was always in male attire. I know Mr. Thomas. I have known him about twelve months from the present time. I have understood that Mr. Thomas is a gentleman of independent fortune. He always came in his own carriage to my house. I don't know where he lives. He was introduced by Mr. Gibbings. I don't think Mr. Thomas stayed at the hotel. I have seen Mr. Thomas in female attire. I think he generally came in his own carriage in female attire. Mr. Thomas seldom came without dining with Mr. Gibbings. There was an evening party with music at my own house on the evening after the boat race.

Mr. Flowers: It strikes me that the evidence of this witness is as important as any that has been given.

Mr. Besley: Yes, sir; in the interest of the defendants.

Examination continued: What time did the ball begin?

About half-past nine, and ended about half-past three. Supper was a nearly as possible at twelve o'clock. Gibbings, Boulton, Park, Thomas, and Cumming were all dressed as ladies, and in full ordinary evening costume. They all dressed at my house, except Thomas. I think he came in his carriage dressed. There was only one other man dressed in female attire.

Mr. Poland: Who was that? Witness: I think his name is Mr. Peel.

Do you know his Christian name?—I do not.

How come you to know his name was Peel?—Mr. Gibbings told me—I asked—in fact, I think he is connected with the family of Peel. (Sensation.)

How many women were there?—Seven, I think, but there were thirteen in all dressed as ladies. I believe the others were all ladies. Three were introduced to me, one young lady was with her father.

Mr. Flowers: There was one old gentleman there then?—Yes, and only one.

Examination continued: I am pretty certain there were no other gentlemen dressed as women except those whose names I have given you. Those men who were dressed as women danced with the men. I saw no disturbance that night. The only disturbance I heard was because Mr. Gibbings wanted to carry out the programme intact, but some gentlemen wanted more dancing and less singing; but Mr. Gibbings would not have it. So I said,

"Don't you think we had better wind up and clear out?" and he wound up and cleared out. (Laughter.) I remember Miss Cavendish, but I did not know her till I saw her here to-day. I don't know how many gentlemen went with them or came with them. I think all those who were dressed as ladies, with the exception of Mr. Thomas and Mr. Peel, slept at my house that night. I know nothing of 13, Wakefield-street. I only knew the prisoners as friends of Mr. Gibbings. I knew nothing more of them. When Boulton and the others left my home in the evening they had a hired carriage. My maid chamber-woman, who is here now, had charge of the ladies' retiring-room on the night of the ball. I think her name is Pincott.

—Mr. Flower: What age man is Mr. Gibbings?—Witness: He is twenty-two.

Have you seen Gibbings any time this month?—He was at my house the other day. He has not been away.

And Mr. Thomas?—I don't think he has been to my house since the dance. I am not certain, but I think Mr. Peel came dressed with Mr. Thomas in his brougham.

Mr. Poland: Who paid Park's expenses?—Mr. Gibbings paid everything. They were all guests of Mr. Gibbings, and everything went down in his bill.

Cross-examined by Mr. Besley: Mr. Gibbings gave me notice of the party about a fortnight before that in April. He wrote me, and said he was coming up for a week's frolic. He is a most accomplished musician and frequently gave musical parties. He afterwards said, that instead of having a musical party he thought he would make it a little fancy dress affair, and said, "We shall come in drag," which means men wearing women's costumes.

Mr. Flowers: This is the first time the meaning of the word "drag" has been given in evidence?

Cross-examination continued: The invitations were sent from my house. I believe they were twenty-five in number, but there were forty-eight came. Six of the persons dressed as women I knew to be men. Others, I believe, knew it also. I heard the observation round the room, "How well the young fellows were acting! There was plenty of funning, but nothing coarse or improper I heard Boulton sing, if I may say so, very charmingly. He sang "Fading away" three or four times, with great eclat. I heard it said that Boulton's was the most perfect female voice. I told the leader of the band that it was Ernest Boulton, and he said "It must be a lady." Boulton, I believe, arrived from Edinburgh on the morning of the 7th April. I had heard of him before, and spoken of as playing ladies' parts in good society. I believe I have seen some notices of his acting at Scarborough. Gibbings told me that he had played at St. George's Hall, Laugham-place.

By Mr. Straight: At the time these things were going on the hotel was full. There was not the slightest impropriety; if there had been, I should have turned them all out. It was a lark, and no secret about it. There were always plenty of chambermaids about. Park generally came to my hotel as a man dressed as a woman; went out in a brougham, came back, went into Mr. Gibbings's private room, changed his clothes, and came down again. Mr. Gibbings only left my hotel last week, about four days ago. I was much surprised when I heard of this charge being made against them; and now, but until convicted, I shall never believe it.

Re-examined by Mr. Poland: I had cautioned Gibbings about going out in woman's attire, and told him that if he went to private boxes of theatres he would get into trouble. He said that he meant nothing by it. I replied, "I know you don't, but others may think you do." I never heard the slang phrase "drag" used by anybody else than Gibbings, and he said it meant going in women's clothes. I swear that I believe that all the persons at the ball believed that the men dressed as women were men.

Mr. Poland: Let Mr. Shaen come in.

A gentleman was here confronted with the witness, but he said he did not know him. Would not swear that he was not at the ball. Witness said he was at the ball, but came there involuntarily.

He was told to stand down for the present.

By Mr. Poland: There was a lady who fainted, but she was a lady. There was a medical man there, and I sent him into her. He told me that she was a little overcome with the supper. Mr. Gibbings said that he was so pleased with the affair that he would have another in May.

Herman Mendeghol, steward of Berkeley-chambers, Bruton-street, said: I know Mr. Gibbings. He took rooms there from the 1st of April. He did not sleep there on the 1st, but on the 2nd and 3rd. Then he went away. He had not yet given up possession. Park introduced him, and he had two rooms there at 25l. a year.

Cross examined by Mr. Straight: There are twenty-one gentlemen sleeping there at present. Park generally slept in his rooms.

Peter Roberts, a warder of the House of Detention: When the prisoners were brought to the gaol, I searched them and changed their clothes for male attire. This is the list of things Boulton was wearing (he told me that he had addressed at the station, expecting to have his own clothes).—A body and dress-shirt of scarlet silk; three petticoats; a green gauze dress; a bodice; a pair of drawers and stockings sewn together; two bustles; a pair of boots, bronze colour; a red flannel skirt, and a quantity of wadding at the breast; a metal chain; four lockets; three bracelets; one finger-ring; a pair of earrings; a box-order for the Olympic Theatre; and a necklace; there was no shawl. Park wore the following:—A dress of green, with crape shawl; a crinoline; a pair of stockings; a white pair of boots; some wadding on his breast; and two finger-rings. I tied them in separate bundles. There were no stays on either of them.

The jewellery was produced in court. It was flashy, but "brummagem."

Agnes Dixon: I let lodgings at 118, Princess-street, Edinburgh. I know the prisoner Boulton. He lodged in my house at the end of last year, from the end of October to about the first or second week in April. I cannot say exactly. The lodgings were taken for him by a Mr. Louie's Charles Hunt. He paid all the expenses. Mr. Hunt occupied a sitting-room and bedroom. Boulton used his bedroom, when Mr. Hunt was absent. They have occupied the same bedroom when, perhaps, Mr. Hunt has returned suddenly and a bedroom was not ready for him. The letters produced are in his handwriting. (The letters handed to the witness were those read last week, signed "Louie.")

Other letters were put into the witness's hand, and she was asked to identify them as the handwriting of a man who had called at the lodgings.

She said: I think they are the handwriting of Mr. Fiske. He used to come and see Boulton. I know a brother of the prisoner Park. He used to come and see Boulton.

This witness was cross-examined as to the behaviour of Boulton when at her house, and to all Mr. Besley's questions she replied most satisfactorily. In continuation she said: I know that Mr. Hunt is related to a person in a high position. He always behaved well. I should think he is about twenty-six. Mr. Fiske is a younger man. I know that Boulton had female attire. I never saw him in them. Mr. Thompson (superintendent) came down to my house, and overhauled Mr. Hunt's things. He was from home at the time. Mr. Thompson told me to come to London. I recognize the likeness of Hunt among the photographs produced.

Mr. Poland then proposed to read the rest of the letters. There was one, however, which, containing a number of private names, might not be read in court.

Mr. Flowers thought not, unless defendants' counsel desired it.

Mr. Poland said he should ask that they be committed—firstly, for a general conspiracy to commit an abominable crime; secondly, conspiring with other persons to commit an abominable crime; and, thirdly, by conspiring to incite other persons to commit the same crime; and there is also a question whether it would not be to commit an offence against common decency for which they would be amenable at common law. Also, with reference to Park, there would be evidence before the jury to show that the offence had actually been committed by him.

Mr. Besley: But it is necessary to state with whom, how, when, and where.

Mr. Poland: I should fall back upon the legal charge, as, with divers persons, at divers times, between such and such a time, and the present.

The prisoners were then further remanded for a week, and left in the police van, hooted as before.

AGED 15 YEARS, was charged with stealing 11b of tea from a caddy, while in transit from the premises of Samuel Seaward and Co. carriers, Minorities, to the shop of a grocer in Kentish-town. A carman, named John Bolton, in the service of the prosecutors, had a large quantity of goods to deliver at the houses of various tradesmen, and he took the prisoner with him to assist him. Two caddies of tea, each weighing 28lb, were in the goods, and these were delivered to a grocer in Kentish-town, who weighed the caddies. One of them only weighed 27lb. An examination of the caddy was made. It had been opened. An examination of the cart was made, and under some straw in a corner a bag containing about a pound of tea quite clear was discovered. The bag belonged to the prisoner. It was one in which he was in the practice of carrying his bread and butter. He admitted that he had abstracted the tea from the caddy. It was stated by the police-constables engaged in the case, that the practice of plundering goods in transit was very common, and that tradesmen and carriers alike suffered by it. Mr. Lushington asked the prisoner if he had any parents. The prisoner replied that his father and mother were both dead. He then alleged he had picked up the tea in the bottom of the cart. Mr. Lushington said the tea was quite clean and had been taken out of the caddy. It was a very bad system of robbery and must be reformed as far as laid in his power. He sentenced the prisoner to 14 days' imprisonment with hard labour, and after that to be detained five years in a reformatory school, which would give him an opportunity, if he behaved well, of retrieving his lost character and becoming a good member of society.

FRIDAY.
BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
E Clarke, Manchester, Inkeeper—J Holmes, Collierwood, near Oldham, tailor—E Syle, Huddersfield, cotton warp manufacturer—G Tooley, Walm-recessant, Notting-hill, builder.

BANKRUPTS.
E Burton, Remlesham-road, Lower Clapton, and Lett's Wharf, Lambeth, builder—Charles Edwards, Hackney-road, fruiterer—J Allen, Swaffham, fishmonger—J Bacon, Ely, miller—J Carter, Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington, manufacturer—E Cash, Burton-upon-Trent, cordwainer—J Reeves, Llandudno, licensed victualler—J Richardson, Boston, currier—W Whitehead, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Oldham, pawnbroker.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

OLYMPIC.
Miss Bateman's appearance as *Mary Warner* on Monday evening attracted a crowded and delighted audience. The genuine success achieved by Tam Taylor's capital play at the Haymarket last season, and the deep sympathy and emotion awakened by Miss Bateman in the character of the earnest-hearted workman's wife, have left a strong impression on the London public; and the reports of the triumphs won by Miss Bateman during her late visit to the United States, in the past, increased the interest of the occasion. Her reception indicated the great personal popularity as well as the artistic repute in which she is held. Round after round of deafening applause, hearty cheer, and the waving of handkerchiefs testified the delight of the public in the return of a favourite they so warmly admire and esteem. Miss Bateman acting throughout the play was superb, and claimed the tears and sympathy of her auditors. She was ably seconded by Mr. Belmore and Mr. Vernon, while Miss N. Francis won general favour by the intelligence and earnestness she displayed. The piece was well put upon the stage, and well played throughout, and is destined in its new home to command a most brilliant run.

"LOVING HEARTS," AT THE STRAND THEATRE.
The author of this comedy is Mr. G. Neville, a gentleman hitherto, we believe, unknown as a dramatic author. We cannot pronounce this, his first essay as a dramatist, a very promising one. The plot is neither novel nor amusing, the dialogue is common-place, and the characters altogether uninteresting. An embarrassed English gentleman; a greedy, vulgar money-lender, preparing to foreclose under a mortgage; a sentimental son and heir, who declines to marry for money even to save a father from ruin; a poor but pretty ward, whom the son and heir much prefers; a vulgar, but good-natured rich old lady, who makes perpetual mistakes both in grammar and in manners; a faithful pair of rustic domestics, who offer their little savings to a wine merchant—such are the chief figures among Mr. Neville's dramatic personae. When we say that the scarcely more melodramatic schemes are in the end defeated, the property bought in by the disinterested interference of friends, and the haughty family of the *De Traffards* set up again by the discovery of an old document concealed in the frame of a family portrait, and referring to a treasure buried near an old oak in the grounds of the mansion, we have said as much perhaps as is necessary in the way of indicating the story of the comedy. The acting is not entitled to unqualified praise. Miss Burton's graceful, pleasant performance deserves every commendation, and becomes more conspicuous when contrasted with the lamentably manifest incompetency of Miss Kate Santley. Mrs. Raymond made the most of the character of *Mrs. Fitzjones*, a wealthy City lady. Messrs. W. Joyce and Chamberlayne were both utterly unequal to their parts; and Mr. E. Terry was thoroughly inartistic as the usurer *Goldman*. The piece, however, was well received on the first night, and author and performers called before the curtain and applauded.

"ILLUSIONS," AT THE CHARING-CROSS THEATRE.
A new two-act comedy, bearing the title of "Illusions," has been produced at the above house. It is a light and sketchy piece, betraying here and there strong marks of the prentice hand, but possessing amidst its faults of construction a certain amount of freshness that is suggestive of capacity to do better things presently. The plot is very simple. *Jack Hurdle*, whom we find a despairing author in the first act, and an editor in the second, is beloved by the two daughters of *Sir Robert Arkeleigh*, *Clara* and *Edith*. The sisters are at first unconsciously of each other's love; but on the truth escaping the lips of the elder sister, *Edith*, believing that her own affections have been misplaced, resolves to do all in her power to promote *Clara's* happiness. *Jack Hurdle*, however, is in love with *Edith*, and confesses his passion at a moment when she is anticipating his profession of attachment to her sister, who is a listener in the background. *Clara* is deeply wounded by the seeming duplicity of *Edith*, whose refusal of *Mr. Hurdle's* offer and sacrifice of her own feelings for her sister's sake are not viewed in the right light by her rival. A quarrel and an estrangement ensue, but all ends happily in *Clara's* discovery that her love for *Jack Hurdle* is an illusion, and that her heart is really given to a *Mr. Lavender Julep*, a bashful and comic lover, whose attentions have been laughed at through two acts. *Clara* is brought to her senses by the belief that *Mr. Julep* has drowned himself in despair, and the re-appearance of her lover, who has only "made believe," brings about the result for which he and his friend *Doctor Bolter* have schemed. There is nothing particularly new in all this, and the piece is overweighted with characters—two of them, *Colonel Stoneheart* and *Peter*, being in no way connected with the plot; but, despite certain improbabilities of situation and far-away views of life and human motives, the comedy was favourably received by the audience, who summoned actors and author before the curtain to bow their acknowledgments. We cannot, however, venture to predict a very long run for the piece, which was well mounted, and in parts fairly—in others badly—acted.

THEATRICAL CHIT CHAT.
Madame Piteri, the popular and pretty danseuse of the Alhambra, announces her farewell benefit for June 4. It is stated that nearly one-sixth of the Drury Lane Opera band is composed of brass instruments. Such is the modern passion for noise!—*Musical Standard*.

There will shortly be an examination at the London Academy of Music for six scholarships of the value of fifteen guineas each (open to any musical student desirous to make the art a profession) for singing, pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, entitling the successful candidates to one year's free musical instruction.—*Musical Standard*.

SHOCKING BOILER EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF LIFE.
A terrible explosion took place at half-past six o'clock on Thursday morning at Messrs. Kiersley and Co.'s ironworks, Kidegrove, Staffordshire. The boiler which exploded weighed eight tons, and was very much worn. The water gauge indicated safety a few minutes before the catastrophe. Three men were killed on the spot; five have since died, and ten others severely injured, some it is feared fatally. The men were changing shifts at the time, otherwise the consequences must have been even more serious. The cause of the explosion is unknown. Most of the men killed and injured are married, and a subscription has been opened for the relief of their families, some of whom will be left destitute.

THE CAPTURE OF SUPPOSED FENIANS.
Michael Davitt, of no occupation, and who gave his address, 35, Midland street, and John Wilson, of Harper's-buildings, Manchester, were charged at Marylebone, on Friday, on remand, the former with loitering on the platform of the Great Western Railway, supposed for an unlawful purpose, and the latter with having fifty six-chambered revolver in his possession, and not giving a satisfactory account of the same.

Mr. Poland prosecuted on behalf of the Treasury; Mr. Collins, instructed by Mr. Pain, defended.

Evidence was given to show the connexion between the prisoners as regards the sale of arms, consisting of revolvers, rifles, and bayonets.

The prisoners were remanded, without bail, till Thursday.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT AT BARKING.—The adjourned inquiry into the circumstances attending the deaths of John Brook, Daniel Mansfield, John Phillips, Richard Williams, and John Wailing, who lost their lives in a well on the works of the Chartered Gas Company at Barking on Monday, the 16th inst., was resumed on Wednesday, at the Royal Oak Tavern, East Ham, before Mr. Lewis, jun., the coroner for Essex. The coroner stated that he had seen Mr. Russ, a competent engineer, on the subject, and he was satisfied that where there was no previous intimation of foul air being in the well, it was quite impossible to guard against such an occurrence as had taken place. There being no further evidence to offer, the coroner summed up, and the jury immediately returned a verdict that the deceased men were accidentally suffocated by carbonic acid gas while descending a well hole at the Chartered Gas Company's works at Barking.

MANSHIP HOUSE.

EMIGRATION TO NEBRASKA.—The Lord Mayor, on taking his seat in court, said he desired to make a statement to which he wished all publicity to be given. A day or two ago, a complaint was received by him from a party of emigrants who had recently gone to Nebraska, and in it the name of a gentleman in the City of London was mentioned. Some misapprehension on the subject had arisen. He placed the communication before Captain Foster, the Government emigration agent for the port of London, who had since made a strict investigation into the matter. The statements were found to be exaggerated, and, to the chief accusation, the parties in London did not, and had never consented, and that had been abandoned. He (the Lord Mayor) had since received a telegram from Omaha, the capital of Nebraska, stating that the complaints of insufficient employment in that colony were, in a great degree, without foundation, and that the emigrants were now doing fairly. By the publication of these circumstances some good might probably be done, and some misapprehension prevented.

CLERKENWELL.
ASSAULTING WITNESSES.—Robert Dunbar, a costermonger, of 2, Hurrehorn court, Golden-lane, was charged with being drunk and violently assaulting Mrs. Matilda Harrison, at Exmouth street, Clerkenwell. On the previous day the complainant had summoned a female relative of defendant's to this court for using threatening language, and, in the result, both parties were bound over to keep the peace. As the complainant was leaving the court, another relative of the defendant assaulted her, was taken before Mr. Barker, and ordered to pay a fine of 10s., or, in default, to be imprisoned for seven days. The complainant again left the court, and was followed by the defendant, who went up to the complainant, and struck her a violent blow in the face. The defendant said he had no questions to ask, for that would be no good, nor had he anything to say in his defence. Mr. Barker said he should not give the defendant the option of paying a fine, but should sentence him to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the House of Correction for two calendar months.

MARLBOROUGH STREET.
A MERCHANT CONVICTED FOR CRUELTY.—Mr. George Smith, coal merchant, of No. 15, Princess-square, Commercial-road, Lambeth, was summoned before Mr. Knox by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, for causing a horse to be cruelly treated; and a man in his employ was also summoned, but was not in attendance, having run away. The defendant was fined 40s. and costs.

STOLEN GOODS IN TRANSIT.—A wretched-looking boy, with a few rags hanging about him, named Charles Quinton,