

## NORTHERN STAR

### 1 April 14 1838

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR On Thursday night week, the body of a man named Robert Hopwood Fournese was found in the water at a place known by the name of "floodgates". From what has been since learned, it appears that on the night in question a boatman, named **John Harrison**, was going in that direction with his vessel, and discovered the body. He called some other boatmen to his assistance, by whom, with the said of a policeman named Outhwaite, the body was got out of the water. It was taken to a public house in East Street, called the Robin Hood, where an inquest was held, and in the absence of evidence was adjourned to Wednesday morning last. The body was searched on being taken out of the water, but nothing whatever was found upon the person of the deceased, except a little tobacco in a paper in one of the waistcoat pockets. He has been missing for five or six weeks. Deceased was a remarkable chemist, and had an allowance of £50 per annum from some gentleman in Hull, for having discovered some peculiar fast blue for staining paper. He had also a similar pension from government for some similar discovery. No evidence whatever was brought out that was likely to show how the deceased came by his death, and the Jury therefore returned a verdict of "Found drowned".

### 2 September 8 1838 Bradford

TURNING THE BRIDGES **Robert Everett**, a boatman, was charged by the Canal Company with passing a bridge, leading across the canal to an occupation road, and leaving it turned off. The case was fully proved. The defence was that he found it turned off and left it so. He was fined in the mitigated penalty of 10s and costs 12s. **Rhodes Yates**, also a boatman, was charged with shooting pigeons the property of Mr John Webster. This charge was also proved by the same individual as the former, and he was convicted in the penalty of 10s, costs 12s.

### 3 September 21 1839 Huddersfield

PETTY SESSIONS **Joseph Mills**, a boatman, was charged with stealing a quantity of wool from a bag in the possession of Messrs Marsden's and Co, Carriers; he was taken with it in his possession while carrying it away; he was committed for trial.

### 4 February 23 1840

SECOND EDITION Yesterday morning, about half past seven o'clock, a boatman named **Andrew Farmer**, belonging to Kingston, was in the act of stepping from a west country barge, lying off Battersea, when his foot slipping he fell into the water. An oar was thrown to him to keep himself up, which he grasped for a minute or two, and then let go, as if paralysed by the cold, immediately sank, and was carried away by the tide.

### 5 March 28 1840

DIABOLICAL MURDER IN A BOAT ON THE ROCHDALE CANAL, MANCHESTER, AND APPREHENSION OF THE SUPPOSED MURDERER

An inquest was held on Monday afternoon last, at the Infirmary, Manchester, on view of the body of a man named **William Cheetham** who was found murdered in his boat on Sunday evening last. The Coroner, in addressing the Jury, briefly stated the case into which they were called to enquire as follows:- In stating the nature of the inquiry which they were now met to investigate, he would just observe that this would involve a serious charge against some person or other, and the probability was that the prisoner, **James Hanson**, would be the man they would have to commit. The circumstances of the case were shortly these:- On Saturday afternoon last, three men were drinking together at the Brownsfield Tavern, Beaver Street, Port Street. He believed they were fellow boatmen, in the employ of Mr Shepherd, the owner of the boat in which the deceased was afterwards found. It appeared that they got together in this way. A man of the name of **Clayton**, captain of the boat, and the prisoner were together at an eating house in Tibb Street, whence they went to a house on Port Street, and, after drinking a quart of ale together, they went to their boat,

which was plying on the Rochdale Canal, and was being loaded at Brown's Fields. The boat not being loaded, as they expected, they adjourned to Brownsfield Tavern, where they met with deceased, and drank some more beer. They all continued together till about half past six o'clock, when the deceased left them, the two others continuing there till about a quarter before eight o'clock, when Clayton left the prisoner at the public house, saying he was going to the Leeds Railway to take his place to Mills Hill, but would return the next morning in time for their boat. On returning the next morning, as he passed the Brownsfield Tavern, he saw the prisoner standing at the door, and immediately on going up to him, the prisoner said, "Poor Will is dead!" "Nay", replied the other, "surely not"; and they both went together to the boat. On opening the cabin, Clayton (the captain) perceived the deceased on his knees on the floor, and the other part of his body on the bed. He called him by name, but he not answering, he went up to him and shook him; but still he did not answer. This exciting his curiosity, he took hold of him by the hair of his head and looking at his face he perceived that he was dead, that his lips were blue and swelled, and that he frothed at the mouth. He was also much bruised about the face, and there were several marks of blood upon the floor. Clayton also further deposed that there was a broken slate upon the floor, but nothing else transpired except that they went for a policeman, and having found one near Ancoats Bridge, he and they, in company with one or two others, proceeded to the boat where they discovered the body as already described. They had the deceased conveyed immediately to the Infirmary. One of the policemen, when the body was got on shore, found a part of a brick which was covered in blood. These were the circumstances of the case, so far as he yet knew; and it would be their duty to enquire who had committed the awful deed.

James Clayton was then called and, in addition to what he stated above, further deposed that the deceased was without his hat, which was lying on the floor, broken in pieces. In other respects he was dressed. He had two black eyes; the upper lip was much swollen, and the end of his chin was scratched, and the left cheek was much scarred, as if he had been dragged along the ground. His nose was also bloody. Did not look at him so as to speak further as to the injuries, but blood was upon several parts of the floor. One of the marks was about the size of a half crown, and appeared as if it had been occasioned by repeated dropping. It was not dry but stiff. There was a broken slate in the cabin, which witness had not seen before that morning. He did not notice the prisoner's clothes, or his appearance, and did not suspect him. Did not notice any marks of feet or scuffing on the deck, or other parts of the boat.

**James Bold**, a boatman in the employ of Messrs Thomas, Beethman and Company, of Brown's Fields, deposed that about a quarter before eight o'clock on Saturday night, as I was drawing up one of the paddles of the Brown's Field locks, for my boat to pass, I observed a man jump from the wall of Mr Bridge's yard, adjoining, upon one of the balance poles of the lock. He cried out after he had jumped upon the pole, "D—m your eyes, I'll cut your bloody head off". He then stooped as if to pick up some stones, and then ran to the stern end of Mr Shepherd's boat, which was then in the canal. I then perceived a man having his head out of the cabin, and the first man began to throw the slates or bricks at him, and some others which he picked off the ground. After he had done this for about two minutes, he jumped upon the stern end of the boat, and turning towards me, said, "D—m his eyes, Jem, what must I do with him – I'll kill him". The other man was calling out "watchman". I answered, "Leave him alone, I think thou's done enough at him". Just before this the man who had been throwing the stones had been leaning over the other, and had given him a kick which seemed to be a heavy one and, I think, must have been the cause of the man's death. I did not hear him cry out again, and all was still afterwards. But I observed the first mentioned man, immediately after the kick, jump into the hatchway, and throw the stones out of the boat onto the bank, which I thought was curious. I then left my boat, and returned to an empty boat at the Ancoats end of the canal. On my way I called at the boat house, and told the woman there what I had seen, and that I thought the man was badly hurt. About an hour before I had seen the deceased approach his boat and enter the hatchway. He appeared to be fresh, but at the time I could not distinguish the man so as to know him.

The prisoner, James Hanson, Oldham Road, Rochdale, was then asked whether he had any

questions to ask the witness, to which he answered, "No".

The witness said he thought the prisoner was a great deal bigger than the man whom he saw throwing stones, and wore a pair of light coloured trousers.

A pair of fustian trousers were produced marked with blood, which the prisoner admitted that he had worn; but the witness could not swear to them. He did not know the prisoner, and his voice seemed to be different to that of the man who threw the stones.

John Clayton was again called, and further deposed. I am captain of this boat; the prisoner said he had that night been robbed of some corn and some bread, and that two other boats had been robbed besides, which had been done, as stated by the deceased, by four men and a woman. The prisoner also stated to witness that the deceased told him that the four men and the woman had followed him, and beaten him.

The prisoner had no questions to ask the witness.

George Rose, a private watchman to Mr Binns, of Brown's Field, stated that about five or six minutes past seven o'clock on Saturday night, while on duty, he heard a cry of "murder" two or three times, while he was sitting in the boiler house near to the canal. He went into the engine house, and opened the window opposite to the place whence the cry proceeded, and perceived a man jump out of one of the boats, and go into a slate yard. When this man had jumped out of the boat, witness saw the head of another man from the top of the cabin, upon which the man who jumped out of the boat with an oath swore that if he could find a stone he would cut his d---d head off. He said he would make him remember for throttling him. The man then went and got two or three stones, which he threw at the man in the cabin, and went and picked up others which he also threw at him. The man then went down the yard and got some more stones, and on returning threatened to murder the man, saying, "D---n your eyes, I'll murder you," and then threw the stones. He again brought some more stones from the lower end of the yard, and on his return said he neither cared for them nor their boat, for he could get another tomorrow. He threw those stones into the boat also, and afterwards he got other stones, and jumped upon the top of the cabin, and threw them into it (as witness thought) upon the man. Witness did not see the man's head at that time; but shortly afterwards, he saw him put it out of the cabin, and the man who had thrown the stones was sometimes half in and half out of the cabin, but he (witness) went away, and took no further notice. It was just about dusk when all this happened. The man had trousers on like those produced. He could not swear that the prisoner was the man. Witness did not say anything to the men, because boatmen are often fighting, and witness was afraid they would throw stones at him. On the following night, having heard that a boatman was dead, he then told what he saw. The man who was throwing the stones appeared to be sober, but the other man appeared to be about three parts drunk.

**James Howarth**, boatman of Coarshaw Heath, near Middleton, deposed that on Saturday night about ten minutes past nine o'clock, the prisoner shouted out to me to know whether I had any matches, but having none he went to Mrs Jackson's, which is close by, where he got a light and made a fire in the cabin of William Shepherd's boat. I observed Wm Cheetham, the deceased, sitting on the bed. He was very bloody about his shirt sleeves, which hung over his hands. One side of the deceased's face was bloody. He said he had it done in the cabin, but the prisoner said he had had it done in Manchester. When the fire was put on I went on board of my own boat to bed. The deceased said there had been men on board who had done it. I am sure the deceased spoke to me, but cannot swear whether he said it was "men" who had done it or "a man". Next morning, about six o'clock, I went into the cabin to the prisoner and the deceased, and asked for a rope which Hanson had promised to lend me. Hanson was in bed. He got up and dressed him, and then went to the deceased whom he called "Bill", and on his not answering he punched the deceased on his shoes to awaken him. The deceased was laying on a different bed from that on which Hanson had been laying. He then got hold of his jacket sleeves and shook him, shouting out, "Bill". He then pulled him off the bed, seeing that he did not answer. I am not sure whether the deceased had a hat on or not. I then asked Hanson for the rope, which he gave me, and I went away. I was not surprised to see that the man did not move, because knowing he had been drunk the night before I thought he

might still be drunk. I did not notice the deceased any further, and I did not go into the boat afterwards. I saw nothing different in Hanson's appearance or his dress.

In answer to a question by a Juror, the witness deposed that when he went into the cabin in the morning he thought he heard the deceased snore, and said to Hanson, "He's asleep yet".

The prisoner being asked whether he had any questions to ask, replied that he had not, that the deceased rolled into the bed again after the witness went away, and said he would have another hour's sleep while Hanson went to seek for the captain, who had not been aboard that night.

The Jury, at the suggestion of the Coroner, retired to look at the boat, which was not far distant from the Infirmary, and then adjourned until eight o'clock.

Inspector Butcher said, I went to the boat and first asked the prisoner if he knew what had occurred? He told him he had gone to the boat between seven or eight o'clock on Saturday night for a feed of corn, that he had got it and went to the stable for the horse, and returned to the boat; that he then saw the deceased, who told him he had been followed on board by three men and a woman, who had beaten him and then pummelled his head. He said he had asked deceased if he had known any of them, and he replied that he did not, and that they had followed him into the boat, and served him in that way, and had robbed him. He (prisoner) said that after he went to a public house where he got forward in liquor, and remained there till between ten and eleven o'clock, and he then told the waiter that Bill had got a good beating. He said that he went to bed and lay until six o'clock in the morning. He then awoke deceased and told him that he was sleepy and would lay half an hour longer. That he (the prisoner) then left the boat but found him almost dead. That he then went to the captain, met with him, and took him to the boat, and that afterwards they came to me. On going into the boat, I saw the deceased lying on his back on the bed, and I ordered him to be conveyed to the Infirmary. The body was quite warm but dead. Part of the brick now produced was found in the yard. [It was marked with blood on one edge, and on two of the sides] There were three distinct marks apparently newly made on the door of the cabin, as by stones or bricks.

Mr William Smith, house surgeon to the Infirmary, had made an inspection of the head and body that morning, and stated that there were two or three slight lacerations on the scalp, and effused blood under the scalp. There was a fracture of the skull extending from the top of the head to behind the left ear. Inside the skull there was a very large quantity of blood effused, which pressed to a considerable amount on the brain, and caused death. There was nothing in the chest or abdomen to account for death. There were appearances in the stomach as if the deceased had been drinking. A fall or a blow might have produced the injuries to the skull, but not from the fist. The injuries might have arisen from more blows than one. Deceased could not long have retained his senses after having received these injuries. There were no other external appearances except slight bruises on the face.

The inquest was adjourned until Friday.

## **6 April 4 1840 Rochdale**

**A MAN DROWNED** On Wednesday night at nine o'clock, a young man, named **William Evans**, a boatman, a native of Runcorn, while crossing a lock in this town on the canal, fell into the lock, and was drowned before he could be got out. He was the main support of aged parents and bore an excellent character for sobriety.

## **7 August 17 1844**

**THE LATE CATASTROPHE AT NOTTINGHAM** The public anxiety created by the painful occurrence on Wednesday has subsided in but a very slight degree, although the verdict of the jury has given general satisfaction. The first execution which took place on the High Pavement was that of Daniel Diggle, who was found guilty at the Lent Assizes of 1817, for shooting, with intent to murder, one James Kerry. Before that time the last penalty of the law was inflicted on a mound in the forest, just outside the town, called "Gallows Hill", which was a sort of local Tyburn. The place of execution was changed because it was feared that the "Luddite" trials being then prevalent, an attempt might be made to rescue the prisoner if he were taken on the usual mournful journey to the

suburbs. While, however, the necessary arrangements were being made, Lord Rancliffe wrote to Lord Sidmouth pointing out the impropriety of the proposed alteration, and stating that in the event of any extraordinary excitement, the lives of numbers might be endangered, as the street was much too narrow to hold the multitudes who generally assemble on such occasions. His lordship's caution was unfortunately disregarded, and the fatal proceedings of Wednesday have proved how well founded it was. The coroner in his opening address to the jury stated that the accident was more dreadful than any which had happened in Nottingham since the memorable explosion of gunpowder at the Canal Company's wharf on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 1818. That horrid calamity was caused by the imprudence of a boatman named **Joseph Musson**, who taking it into his head to have "a flash", procured a quantity of powder from a cask and made a train; this he set fire to, and by some means ignited also the contents of 21 barrels, each containing above 100lb weight of the destructive material. The effects of the terrific explosion which followed may readily be conceived; the spacious buildings were instantly swept from their foundations, and everybody in the immediate vicinity was killed or wounded. Ten persons were instantaneously destroyed, their bodies in several cases being literally blown in pieces, and numbers of others were maimed for life. The damage in the neighbourhood was immense, scarcely a house on that side of the town, in fact, escaped without having its windows broken, and those of the Castle, St Nicholas's Church, and of whole rows of dwellings near the spot, were utterly demolished.

The inquest on the bodies of the unfortunate persons who perished in so melancholy a manner at the Nottingham execution concluded in the following verdict, "The jury are of opinion that the deceased individuals were accidentally thrown down in and by a crowd of people who had been attending a public execution in the town of Nottingham, and were then and there trampled to death, or suffocated." It was then unanimously added that "the Jury are of the opinion that the front of the County Hall is a most improper place for a public execution, and they trust the persons who have the authority to fix upon a place for that purpose will not allow another execution to take place there".

## 8 October 19 1844

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE MERSEY It is our painful duty to record another of those melancholy accidents which so often happen on the Mersey when the weather happens to be boisterous. The Hesperus, bound to Africa, was lying in the River off the magazines, preparatory to going to sea, when, about eight o'clock on Wednesday evening week, the wife of the chief mate, wishing to see her husband, engaged a boat manned by two hands, to proceed to the vessel; they had not proceeded far when she was, at her own request, put ashore again, the sea being very rough at the time. The men then put off and reached the ship for the purpose of bringing the mate ashore; accordingly he, together with the steward and one of the coopers, embarked, and the boat left the vessel with the view of returning, when it is supposed she must have been upset by a squall of wind, as it was at the time, and indeed all day, blowing hard from the south east. It being quite dark, the accident was not witnessed by anyone, and it is conjectured that all hands (five in number) must have perished immediately. Up to the present moment nothing has been heard or seen of the bodies, nor the boat, the rudder and oars only being picked up. What adds to this distressing catastrophe is that one of the boatmen, **Wm Ritchie**, has left a wife, for the last three years in a delicate state of health, and five children, the eldest not ten years of age, totally unprovided for, and in a most deplorable state of destitution. The name of the other boatman is **Hugh Jones**, also married, but no family. We do not know the names of the other sufferers.

## 9 December 7 1844

INQUEST NEAR WATFORD On Saturday last an inquest was held by Mr Osbaldiston, at the Artichoke Inn, Crossley Green, near Watford, upon the body of **John Green**, aged sixty, in the employ of Messrs Dickenson and Longman, of Croxley, paper makers, whose death was caused by his foot slipping, whilst stepping from the masonry forming the bank of the lock on to the sill of the lock gates. From the evidence of the driver, whose duty it is to raise the paddle (or flood gate) on

the towing-path side of the lock, he had just completed raising the paddle, when he was astounded by the cry from the boatman "let go the paddle", followed by a splash in the water. The driver instantly "let go the paddle" and proceeded across the lock in search of his mate, but he was nowhere to be found. He then hallooed to a man who had passed over a bridge close by, only a few seconds before, and with his help the body was found. Every exertion was made by the two men to restore the body to animation, but in vain. Mr Garlike, surgeon, of Rickmansworth, was fetched as speedily as possible but on his arrival he pronounced the vital spark to be extinct. The jury returned a verdict Accidentally drowned. One of the jurors, addressing the coroner, said, that notwithstanding there did not appear the slightest negligence on the part of the canal proprietors, or their servants, the jury wished to suggest that an immediate step affixed to the ballast beam, between the bank side and the mitre sills of the lock gates, would be likely to prevent the recurrence of accidents.

#### **10 November 1 1845**

**SUSPECTED MURDER** Great excitement prevails at Saltash, in consequence of the discovery of a man, named **Joseph Clotworthy**, a boatman of that place, dead in Modition Lane, on Thursday afternoon week. The wife of the party who discovered it found the body to be that of her father. How he came by his death is wrapped in mystery, and it is feared that the poor fellow has been murdered. All that is known is that on the evening of the previous day, two men, strangers to the place, dressed as miners, hired him to take them in his boat from Saltash to Clothero; he was never seen alive afterwards. His body bore marks of severe bruises, and his eyes were blackened. That boat was found at Hole's Hold, the opposite side of the river, with one paddle and the deceased's jacket in it. A man who was in company with the two suspected individuals on Wednesday is in custody, but nothing else throwing light on this dark transaction has been elicited.

#### **11 June 19 1847**

#### **Central Criminal Court**

**MANSLAUGHTER** **Edward Thomas**, aged 26, was indicted for the manslaughter of **Joseph Dawson**. Mr Clarkson defended the prisoner. It appeared that Thomas was the captain of a canal boat which was upon the Grand Junction Canal at Brentford, at the time the occurrence happened. The deceased was also a boatman, and it appeared that on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May he had some quarrel with the prisoner at a beer-shop, and wanted to fight with him, but the prisoner refused, and left the house. At a later period of the day the deceased was found lying upon the banks of the canal suffering under mortal injury upon his stomach; but the circumstances under which he met his death were altogether involved in mystery, except that the deceased stated that he had been kicked by the prisoner. It appeared, however, from the evidence, that the deceased, who was stated to be a much more powerful man than the prisoner, and who was also described to be a "desperate" fighter, had waylaid the prisoner on his return to his boat, and there was very good room for believing that if he had really inflicted the fatal injury upon the deceased, that it was only done in self defence against the attack of a man who was very much his superior in physical power, and who had waylaid him and forced the struggle upon him. The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

#### **12 June 2 1849**

**ATTEMPTED MURDER** A female of anything but prepossessing appearance, named **Ann Christian**, was on Tuesday brought before Mr Maude, at the Borough Court, Manchester, charged with stabbing a boatman named **Thomas Brierly** with a knife, thereby disabling him and inflicting other injuries. The parties, we ought to state, cohabit together, and on Monday evening had a quarrel, when the woman caught hold of a table knife, and stabbed her paramour in the chest. A struggle then ensued, the wounded man trying to deprive the woman of her weapon, when she drew it through his hand, and nearly severed his wrist. Mr Baswick reminded Mr Maude that the prisoner was the same woman whose depositions he (the magistrate) had had occasion to take some short time ago at the Royal Infirmary, in consequence of the dangerous state in which she lay from wounds inflicted upon her by the very man whom she had stabbed, so that it appeared the tables



were turned, and she had been the aggressor. Mr Maude read both parties a lecture on their savage brutality, which he intimated would probably have a bloody termination one time or another, and he fined the female 40s, committing her in default of payment for two months.

### 13 July 21 1849 Worcester

INGENIOUS BURGLARS **Thomas Witherford**, aged 25, boatman, was charged with a burglary in the house of Mr Henry Stibbs, farmer, residing at Warndon, near Alvechurch, in this county. The robbery, as it appeared in evidence was effected during the night of the 16<sup>th</sup> of June last, in a somewhat clever manner. It appeared that the prosecutor, after retiring to rest, was aroused by three men knocking loudly at the door, and upon the window being opened they informed him that, in passing his fields, they saw the cows fighting furiously, and advised him by all means to go and part them. The prosecutor immediately dressed himself, and opened the door, when the men immediately seized him and before he had time to give an alarm, he was dragged to the granary, where the ruffians bound and gagged him, and then robbed the house of two £5 notes and a quantity of bacon, with which they got clear off. The prisoner was recognised as one of the men, and after a short trial, was found "Guilty"; and a previous conviction for felony having been put in against him, he was sentenced to fifteen years transportation.

### 14 October 20 1849

MURDER AT GLOUCESTER A coroner's inquest was held on Saturday last at the Railway Tavern in this city to enquire into the circumstances of the death of **William Cooke**, a boatman. It appeared that the deceased and a fellow boatman, named **Goodgroom** quarrelled and fought on board the boat Sarah, on the Severn, on the preceding day, and Cooke was seen, after struggling for some time, to sink into the water, and rise no more alive. His body was subsequently found. Several witnesses deposed to his having been wilfully thrown into the water by Goodgroom, from whom he endeavoured to escape. The accused and another man named **Jones**, who was on the deck of the boat, looked on whilst the deceased was drowned with perfect unconcern. A line thrown from the boat would probably have enabled him to escape sinking. The man Jones having gone up the river to Worcester, the inquest was adjourned in order that his evidence may be taken.

### 15 July 26 1851

SHOCKING BRUTALITY A boatman named **J Wick** is in custody, at Manchester, on the charge of kicking a woman to death. Police-constable Moores was going down Back Irwell Street, about twenty minutes to five o'clock, on Monday morning, when he heard screams from a cellar, and on going there found Wick kicking and beating two women, whom he accused of having robbed him of four half crowns. One of the women was bleeding about the head and face, and appeared to be dying. She was afterwards conveyed to the Infirmary, but died on the way. The other woman was also carried to the Infirmary, where she lies in a precarious state. The prisoner was brought up at the Manchester Borough Court on the same morning, but was remanded. On Monday afternoon the deposition of the woman whom the policeman found on the floor of the cellar was taken, in consequence of fears being entertained that she would not survive. She said her name was Helen Ferrand, and that of deceased was Margaret Firling. They lived together in the cellar in Back Irwell Street. The deceased went out late on Sunday night, and returned with the prisoner about four o'clock in the morning. Deceased said Wick was an old acquaintance of hers, and asked him to treat them. Wick promised he would pay for breakfast for them all next morning. Witness was in bed when they came in, but got up and supped with them off some picked herrings and some beer, of which they all had rather too much. Wick afterwards went to bed. He gave each of the women a shilling, and they then went out for a walk. They returned in about half an hour, when Wick seized and beat them both, saying they had robbed him. Witness remembered no more of the matter. On Tuesday the prisoner was again brought up at the Borough Court, when Mr Skinner, house surgeon at the Royal Infirmary, stated that he had made a *post mortem* examination of deceased's body. He found an extensive laceration of the liver, with effusion of blood on the abdomen. The ribs on both

sides were fractured, and one of the lungs lacerated. There were also several contused wounds on different parts of the body, with great appearance of internal violence caused by external blows. These appearances were quite sufficient to account for sudden death, and might have been caused from the feet or knees of a powerful man like the prisoner. The prisoner was again remanded for a week. Mr Herford held an inquest on the body of Margaret Firling, but no additional evidence was adduced, and it was adjourned.