

the state of the institution, from which it appears that the receipts of the past year were not only sufficient to meet the expenditure, but left a small balance in hand.

WELLS.

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.—We hear it is the intention of those who have received so many benefits from this excellent institution during the principality of the Rev. Canon Pinder, M.A., who has resigned that office from ill health, and also of his numerous friends and admirers, to present him with a handsome testimonial.

EAST SOMERSET ELECTION.—A careful analysis of the recent canvass, made from upwards of 500 returns by local committees in East Somerset, has just been issued to the Conservative party by their indefatigable agent, Mr. Foster, of Wells. Taking the promises made to each candidate separately, and making a proper allowance for unascertained votes, the bond fide result arrived at gives Major Page a majority over Sir Henry Hoare of 2,004, and Mr. Neville Grenville a majority of 2,087. The total number of promises received by Sir Henry Hoare was 2,525.

DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS.—Preference.—Rev. Thomas Barnes, M.A., to the rectory of Loxton; Rev. Charles Gardiner Baskerville, B.A., to the curacy of St. Thomas, East Wells; Rev. John Bere, B.A., to the rectory of Silgate and perpetual curacy of Upton; Rev. George Daves, B.A., to the perpetual curacy of Trinity Church, at Ash in Mirtock; Rev. Sydney East, B.A., to the vicarage of Northover; Rev. John Nibbs (Garland), M.A., to the rectory of Shipham; Rev. Benjamin Francis Hemming, B.A., to the curacy of Sampford Briston; Rev. Edmund W. St. Maur Masphill, M.A., to the curacy of Foreoscote; Rev. George Willy, B.A., to the curacies of Cricket Malherbie and Cutworth.

BATH.

SECOND SOMERSET MILITIA.—This regiment, which has from time to time given so many men to the regular army, has now completed its usual 28 days' training. The drill, having been but slightly interrupted by rain, has been systematically carried on, and the result showed itself in a striking manner at the inspection, which took place on Friday in the regimental ground. The inspection was conducted by Colonel Mann, Town Major, of Plymouth, and was in all respects satisfactory. After marching past in slow and quick time the regiment was put through a variety of evolutions as a battalion, in divisions and companies, and in all of them, as well as in the file and volley firing, the greatest efficiency was manifested. At the close of the manoeuvres Colonel Mann addressed Col. Pinney, and warmly commended the conduct of the regiment on parade, and also expressed the pleasure it gave him to hear of the general good behaviour of the men during the training. The only thing he took exception to was the way they carried their knapsacks. It would afford him, he said, much gratification to make a favourable report of the regiment to head quarters. Colonel Mann was subsequently shown by Colonel Pinney over the newly-erected stores of the regiment, of the arrangements of which he expressed his approbation.

BRISTOL.

WHIRL OF A BRISTOL VESSEL.—The Ocean Queen, of Bristol, 602 tons, laden with coals, sprung a leak of the Land's End on Monday, and went down. The master and crew (18 in number) were picked up by a pilot boat.

DEVONSHIRE.

EXETER.

COMMISSIONS.—First Royal Devon Yeomanry Cavalry.—Major the Earl of Devon to be Lieut.-Col., vice Sir J. Duckworth, promoted; Captain Lord Poltimore to be Major, vice Lord Devon, promoted.

PREFERRMENT.—The Rev. Field Wayet, M.A., has been preferred by the trustees of the late Lord Rolle to the vicarage of Otterton, in the county of Devon, vacant by the death of the late Ven. Archdeacon Moore Scaevan.

RETRIAL TO BURY A DISSENTER.—At the Cathedral Chapter-house at Exeter, on Tuesday, an Ecclesiastical Commission, appointed by the Bishop of Exeter, under an act passed in the 3rd and 4th of Victoria, entitled "An Act for the better enforcing of Church Discipline," sat to inquire into a complaint preferred against the Rev. Mamerto Gueritz, vicar of Colyton, a parish in the east of Devon, for refusing to read the burial service at the funeral of an old man, named John Pavey, who died in September last in the said parish. Pavey was formerly a member of the Church of England, but died in the Unitarian faith; and it was on the ground of his being a Unitarian that the Rev. Mr. Gueritz refused to read the burial service at his interment. The commission, composed of the Rev. Chancellor Phillips, the Rev. Canon Woolcombe, the Rev. Prebendary Mackarness, and the Rev. H. Sanders, were charged to inquire whether there was prima facie evidence to warrant further proceedings being instituted against the defendant for his alleged breach of the canonical law of the Church. The complaint was made by the daughter of the deceased, who was represented by Mr. Davies, solicitor, of Exeter, and the Rev. Mr. Gueritz appeared in person, and admitted all the facts as laid in the complaint forwarded to the bishop, stating that he had acted from conscientious motives, and not from any ill-feeling towards the deceased or his friends. The commission, having satisfied itself that John Pavey had been duly baptized according to the rites of the Church of England, and that he had neither been denounced, excommunicated, nor had violent hands warranting further proceedings. The fact evidence expressed his readiness to submit to the decision of the bishop without any further proceeding being taken.

TIVERTON.

A COASTGUARDMAN ATTACKED BY FIVE BADGERS.—A Sidmouth Coastguardman of the name of Fox, when returning from duty at the Ladrarn Station one morning last week, was actually attacked near one of the stiles on High Peak by five badgers, which set on him in a most furious manner. Having a good stout stick in his hand he, after a brief combat, dispatched the largest, and succeeded in making the rest decamp down the cliffs, which were said to abound with these animals; upon which he returned to the Sidmouth Coastguard Station, bringing the dead badger with him as a proof of his prowess.

TORQUAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—Mr. Chas. Frederick Lettbridge, of this town, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, was admitted a member of the college at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on Wednesday last.

WILTSHIRE.

DEVIZES.

THE ROYAL WILTS MILITIA, commanded by Lord Methuen, having completed their period of training for the present year, were officially inspected at Devizes, on Friday last, by Col. Shadwell, Deputy Quartermaster-General of the South-West Military District. The regiment mastered 528 rank and file on the field under arms, exclusive of band, pioneers, &c., and at the close of the inspection Col. Shadwell warmly complimented Lord Methuen and his officers on the general efficiency of the regiment and its fine appearance on parade.

WARMINSTER.

THE WILTSHIRE YEOMANRY.—In contradiction to the serious charges made against the Wiltshire Yeomanry Cavalry, in a paragraph which has been extensively quoted, Mr. Fussell, clerk to the magistrates of the Warminster division, writes:—"I was in the town (Warminster) the whole time, and partly from my own observation, and partly from inquiries I have made of those most competent to give information on the subject, I am able to give the statement a flat and unqualified contradiction. So far as the immoral practices mentioned are concerned, no female was denied, nor one was thrown into the river or any other water, nor was the slightest insult offered to any female in the daytime. That the knuckers, bell-handles, signboards, &c., of some of the inhabitants were assailed by a few when 'the wine was in and the wit out,' cannot, I regret to say, be denied, but that was the extent of the misconduct; and in most, if not all the instances, reparation was made or offered."

HAMPSHIRE.

RINGWOOD.

ASCENSION DAY.—Thursday last being Ascension day services were held in our parish church, morning and evening, and the Holy Communion administered, at which the Rev. H. J. Wale and the Rev. Richard Bendyshe officiated.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY was hailed in this town by the ringing of merry peals from the church tower at intervals throughout the day, whilst the subscription union jack, purchased on the occasion of the Prince of Wales's marriage, floated proudly in the breeze in close proximity to its musical neighbour.

VESTRY MEETING.—A meeting of the ratpayers took place at the vestry-room, on Thursday, for the purpose of receiving the churchwardens' accounts for the year ending Easter, 1865; the Rev. H. J. Wale occupied the chair. The accounts having been gone through separately, and a balance of £37 5s. 6d. remaining in hand, they were pronounced to be highly satisfactory, and were passed accordingly. A vote of thanks having been proposed to the chairman, the meeting, which was but thinly attended, broke up.

CHRISTCHURCH.

REMOVAL OF NUISANCES.—This meeting was held in the Town Hall, on Friday, under the presidency of the Mayor, for the purpose of considering what means were necessary to the removal of certain nuisances existing in the neighbourhood. The meeting was composed almost entirely of owners of property in the town. The Nuisance Removal Act of 1855, amended by the Act of 1860, pointed clearly, as stated at the meeting, that the board of guardians of the union was ipso facto the Local Board of Health for the district. This being understood, a resolution that application should be made to the board to carry out the powers vested in them and to appoint an inspector of nuisances was carried; and subsequently a deputation was appointed, consisting of the Mayor (Mr. Lemon) and the Rev. Z. Nash, the incumbent of the parish, to attend the meeting of the board of guardians and support the suggestions of the meeting. It is earnestly hoped that the board will take the matter up and carry out the provisions of the Act, which will promote health and cleanliness.

BOURNEMOUTH.

IMPROVEMENT COMMISSIONERS.—There was a meeting of the commissioners on Tuesday, the 23rd, when J. Tregonwell, Esq., presided. The members present were Messrs. W. Bill, Macey, J. McWilliam, and M. Cox. The total receipts of the commissioners from rates, including the rent of the pier, had been £1,445 3s. Among the disbursements £394 5s. was for repair of roads, £42 2s. for scavenging, and £72 15s. 3d. for sewers, £217 15s. 6d. had been expended upon the pier works, and the incidental expenses were £116 4s. 7d. The balance due to the treasurer is £130 13s. 6d.

A MINIATURE REGATTA.—On Wednesday, the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday, Bournemouth were quite a gay affair, owing to a little regatta which was got up by the liberality of Major Thelwall, he giving the prizes that were competed for. The weather was fine, and those assembled to witness the sports seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves. The races, with the results, were as follows:—

- First.—For four oared galleys, manned by Coastguards men, distance, about one mile and a-half. First prize, £2; second, 10s.; third, 5s.
- Tackton 1
- Bournemouth 2
- Parkstone 3

Second.—Pants—distance, one mile. First prize, 10s.; second 6s.; third, 4s.

- Frederick George (Matthews) 1
- Juanista (Roberts) 2
- Edith (Turner) 3

Third.—Sailing boats—distance, about two miles and a-half. First prize, £1 5s.; second, 10s.; third, 10s.; and the four last 5s. each.

Frolic, Thomas Cartridge 1 Royal Albert, Jessie Baker 5
Rose, William Cartridge 2 The Graces, Jas. Brown 6
Tackall, John Coaden ... 3 Seagull, Thomas Wills... 7
Henry, Joseph Brown ... 4

Afterwards there was a duck hunt, which, with the laughable amusement of walking on the greasy pole, brought an agreeable evening to a conclusion.

ALLEGED DEFALCATIONS BY A NOBLEMAN'S STEWARD.

At the Sherborn Police Court, on Tuesday, Mr. Robert Short Waters, steward to the Right Hon. Earl of Shaftesbury, surrendered to his bail on a charge of embezzling certain large sums, during his service as above. The magistrates present were—John Goodden (chairman), J. F. Falwasser, W. N. Allford, E. Benthall, and B. Littlehales, Esqrs., and the Revs. W. J. Goodden and J. Blennerhasset. His lordship occupied a seat, as on the former occasions, on the bench, and his courteous appearance and remarks, since the last hearing, attracted general notice. The prisoner sat with his solicitors, as on the previous hearing; and the court was thronged during the day with a crowded and attentive assembly.

The proceedings commenced by the reading over of the depositions of Lord Shaftesbury and Mr. William Target, a report of which has already appeared in the Dorset County Chronicle, and His lordship, having under his eye, was allowed to leave the court after having been bound over in his own recognizances to appear, if necessary, at a higher tribunal.

Mr. Cole appeared for the prosecution, instructed by Mr. Humphreys; and Mr. G. Lewis defended, instructed by Mr. Hemsley.

Mr. Cole said, before proceeding with the present case, he thought it right to make an observation upon what happened after they left the court on the last occasion, when several letters were submitted in court, one of them said to have been received from Lord Ashley, but it was not against Lord Shaftesbury in any way. By some means these letters found their way into the Standard newspaper, and most improperly, they were then put into circulation, and it was a great injury to the court that Lord Ashley had been in the habit from time to time of borrowing money from the prisoner, and tended to insinuate that it was done with the full knowledge and consent of his father, Lord Shaftesbury. This, he considered, was a most improper thing to do, particularly after the magistrates had signified their wish that any great sum should be repaid to him. Having so said, he would read the following letter from Lord Ashley in reply to it, and also one from the Hon. Lionel Ashley.

Mr. Lewis said he was extremely sorry the matter should have been introduced there, but he would explain how the letter must have been made evidence in that matter. At the same time he must object against any letter being read from Lord Ashley against his client, and if these noblemen had any ground to complain of, they had a proper means of doing so by a correspondence to the newspapers, so that he should protest against the counsel on the other side reading any letters whatever. The letter which was complained of was produced in evidence, and he protested against this irregular mode of proceeding.

Mr. Wood, a representative of the Standard, explained to the Bench the manner in which the letters in question fell into the hands of Mr. R. Waters by his father. A letter, of a motive in the matter, neither did that gentleman hand the letters to him. They were read as evidence, and as such he took them from the table; he trusted this explanation would be satisfactory.

After some further conversation Mr. Cole read the letter as follows:—

"St. Giles's, April 9, 1865.
"My dear Father,—I am sorry indeed that you should have been annoyed by the production of that letter of mine to Waters. I feel that you ought to have an explanation. It was a sum—£400—of which I had borrowed by me in the month of March, at the close of our honeymoon, previous to our going abroad. I asked him to advance it to me out of my next quarter, and of course I supposed that he had deducted it from the rent. It is a sum which I have repaid to him, and I do not think that I have constantly done so. That was my only pecuniary transaction of any sort or kind I had with Waters, or indeed with Lurton. You may imagine my astonishment when I received a letter from Waters in 1862, asking me whether he should charge it to you or me. [The remainder of the letter was held to be private, and consequently was not read.]

The second letter was addressed to Mr. Humphreys, and ran thus:—

"24, Grosvenor Square, April 7, 1865.
"Sir,—I observe in the Evening Standard of this day a report of the proceedings before the Sherborn magistrates relating to the production of Mr. R. Waters by my father. A letter of mine, dated January 24th, 1864, is there inserted at full length, although it was not read in court, and is evidently produced with the intention to signify that my father was in the habit of borrowing money to borrow money of Mr. Waters. I never at any time borrowed any money of Mr. Waters, and thus I did without the knowledge of my father in February 7, 1859. It was in my first year, as an undergraduate at Cambridge, when I was studying in the hall of St. Giles's. My father did not lend his own money (as you will see by those letters which I enclosed) but undertook to get me £50 from another person on my note of hand, charging me at the rate of 5 per cent. interest. On June 20, 1854, I repaid the sum of £46 12s. 6d. being at the rate of 6 per cent. instead of 5, and he then returned me my note of hand.
"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
"G. H. Waters."

Mr. Cole said the first case he should bring before them was entirely simple, and had been brought to light by certain papers found in the prisoner's box or portmanteau at the time he was apprehended—papers which ought to have been delivered up at the time he handed over his accounts to Lord Shaftesbury in September, 1866. At that time Mr. Waters employed a Mr. Duce to sell certain timber at Bishop's Lydeard, the amount realised therefrom being £140 8s. 6d., and after deducting expenses the balance of £136 12s. 5d. was due to Lord Shaftesbury. Duce had an account at the County of Gloucester Bank at Swindon, and handed a cheque to Waters for the amount. Mr. Waters also kept a private account at the same bank, and this sum, it appeared, was transferred to that account, so that no trace of it had been found. It was Waters's duty to make a proper entry of the money, but no trace of it had been found in any of his accounts. Mr. Cole then read a letter of Lord Shaftesbury, dated August, 1866, he received instructions from the defendant with regard to the sale of some timber. He saw Mr. Waters, and afterwards advertised the sale, which took place on the 11th of September at Bishop's Lydeard, in the county of Wilts. On the 9th December, 1866, he wrote the letter now produced, which stated that the balance of £130 13s. 6d. due on the account at the County of Gloucester Bank at Swindon, was to be paid to the County of Gloucester Bank at Swindon, agreeable to his (defendant's) wish. He knew Mr. Withers as a valuer, residing at Morden, near Swindon, and remembered that he was employed at the sale in question. Witness paid the balance to Waters's account at Swindon agreeable to his instructions, and Waters told him at the time he had an account there. He gave the cheque produced, transferring the amount from his own account to that of the defendant.

Mr. Cole here read a note which was written on the fly sheet of a letter from Mr. Withers to the defendant, dated December 10th, 1866, the effect of which was that the money had been paid into the bank.

Mr. Lewis declined to ask this witness any questions. Mr. William Brown, wearing, manager of the County of Gloucester Bank at Swindon, was next called, and stated that defendant opened an account there in the spring of 1863. Witness had not brought the books showing the whole course of that account, but could produce a copy of the amount.

Mr. Cole informed witness he had been served with notice to produce the books, and he ought to have done so. Witness: We are advised that as bankers we are not competent to produce our books; there would have been a large box full.

Mr. Cole said that had nothing to do with the matter; he should oblige him to produce the books, or proceedings of a serious nature might be preferred against him.

Mr. Lewis said he did not object to the witness's speaking from memory; he did not deny that the money had been paid; but before he had done so he should show the court it had been satisfactorily accounted for.

Examination continued: On the 10th December, 1866, he wrote a transfer on the cheque produced, amounting to £130 13s. 6d. from Mr. Duce's account to Mr. Waters's private account. He had looked at the book he held in his hand, containing an account of Mr. Waters's connection with the bank, and found out of a total amount of £395 5s. deposited in 1866 had been remitted either to Messrs. Hoare's bank in London or to Lord Shaftesbury.

By Mr. Lewis: Lord Shaftesbury kept an account at the bank, he only retained a small sum there for purchase of the estate about five miles from Swindon, and Mr. Waters on the estate about five miles from Swindon, and Mr. Waters opened an account at the County of Gloucester Bank at Swindon, the accounts were kept so close, and to obviate the necessity of his carrying large amounts of money about with him, witness came to the bank about three months after Mr. Waters's account had been opened. He knew that invariably as soon as the rents were collected at Swindon, money was paid into the bank. By Mr. Duce's keeping an account at the bank it was the easiest way to transfer the amount spoken of from one account to the other, rather than sending it through another bank.

By Mr. Cole: The moneys received at the Swindon bank were not paid into Lord Shaftesbury's, but into Mr. Waters's account. Had often known the method adopted—of a large amount, Mr. Wickes, steward to Lord Craven, had a large account at the bank, and made use of his private account, the same as Mr. Waters did. Mr. Wickes banked in London, but made use of the County of Gloucester bank for Lord Craven and Lord Bellingbroke.

Mr. Lewis produced the bankers' pass-book, which showed that a balance of £400 was still remained in the bank between May 1863 and Jan. 3rd, 1863, which witness said was not in any way operated on by Mr. Waters in the interval. [This book was detained by Mr. Cole, who declined to give it up again when requested by the bankers.]

Mr. Lewis asked the Bench that the bankers' pass-book which he had just sent to the counsel on the other side should be returned. He would wish to have a check that a book should be produced, and the counsel wishing to see it, that it should not be returned after it had got into his hands.

Mr. Cole said the document was produced in evidence, and consequently it became in the possession of the court, and he had a right to inspect it. He did not wish to retain it beyond that.

Mr. Lewis said it was the rule to hand it to the counsel who was supposed to return it. [The document was returned and the matter then dropped.]

Edward Lewis, superintendent of police at Sherborn, said he apprehended the prisoner at his own house at Greenstead, in Surrey, on the 27th of March. He had a leather-bound document in his possession, in which were found a number of portmanteau keys, and which were marked with "A. P." The portmanteau was taken away with Mr. Waters's permission.

Mr. Lewis said he did not wish to put any questions to this witness. Mr. Cole said the second charge which would be preferred against the defendant was that of receiving £148 2s. 6d. on account of insurance paid on a barn which was destroyed, of which sum had not been accounted for. In the late Lord Shaftesbury exchanged a piece of land with the late Rev. Robert Moore, upon which was a barn, and that barn was insured in the name of Mr. Moore. After the land had been exchanged the barn was destroyed by fire, and the insurance money was paid to Mr. Moore; but as it belonged to Lord Shaftesbury the money was handed over to Mr. Waters in his behalf, and had never been accounted for.

Clement Harrington Moore said he was the son of the late Rev. Robert Moore, and was educated at St. Giles's, and was a undergraduate at Christ Church Hospital. He remembered the fact of his father having exchanged some land with Lord Shaftesbury—he thought it was about the year 1800. There was a barn on that property, which he understood, was insured against fire by his father. He recollected the circumstance of the fire, and heard of his father's account of receiving the money from the insurance office; of this, however, he could not speak positively. He produced a receipt found among his father's papers, which was dated St. Giles's, Dec. 13, 1800, acknowledging the receipt of £148 2s. 6d. from the Rev. R. Moore, a proportion of assurance due to the Earl of Shaftesbury on account of a barn destroyed by fire. This was signed by Mr. Westcott in behalf of Mr. Waters.—By Mr. Lewis: Witness could not speak positively as to whether the money came from the Rev. Robert Moore, or from Lord Shaftesbury.

Mr. Cole said the next case against the defendant was that of receiving money from Mr. Hannan, an auctioneer, and played by him to sell a quantity of timber, the money for which had never reached Lord Shaftesbury's hands in any way.

John Hannan deposed that he was an auctioneer, residing at Blandford, in the county of Dorset, on the 3rd of August, 1854, he sold some timber for Lord Shaftesbury, under the direction of Mr. Waters. This was for the Dorsetshire estates, and the sale took place at Romford, near St. Giles's. The amount realised by the sale was £132 17s. 3d., which after the amount of expenses had been deducted left a net balance of £165 2s. due to his lordship. On the 16th of October in the same year he sent a cheque to Waters for that amount, and the money was afterwards duly paid to him. He also sent a sale account and received a letter of acknowledgment (produced from the defendant. The letter ran thus:—

"Mr. J. Hannan—Dear Sir—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your cheque and sale account for which I am much obliged. Yours, &c., R. S. S. WATERS."

That was the only receipt witness got. The cheque was dated on the 24th October, 1854.

Mr. Cole said he might inform his friend (Mr. Lewis) and the Bench that this cheque, and another, would be found to have been paid into the estate account of the Earl of Shaftesbury, but there was no receipt of it. Although the money might have been paid into the bank there was no receipt, and Lord Shaftesbury never got the credit of it.

There being no further questions to ask, Mr. Cole proceeded with the next charge against the defendant, the details of which will be found in evidence.

William Bawley said he was a farmer, living at Lydeard, near Swindon. In 1861 he occupied a farm near Lord Shaftesbury at Greenhill, in Wiltshire, and purchased some timber of Mr. Waters, as steward of his lordship. He took the timber as "thinning" of the copse, under defendant's valuation. The amount of the timber purchased on the 9th of May in that year, was £103 13s. 6d., which sum was paid in a cheque for £137 8s. 7d., being accounts due for timber and less deductions. The amount of the rent was £24 6s. 3d., which, with the timber accounts above stated, made the sum of £107 13s. 9d., and the deduction amounted to £30 5s. 2d., left the balance of £137 8s. 7d., which sum was duly paid by cheque and a receipt obtained from the defendant.

Nothing material was elicited in cross-examination.

Mr. Cole then proceeded with the next case as follows:—John Bailey Denton (late of the firm of Denton and Drake) said he was an engineer, and carried on business at 62, Parliament-street, Westminster. The firm to which he formerly belonged acted as engineers to the General Land Drainage and Improvement Company, Lord Shaftesbury entered into a contract with the company relative to the drainage of his estates, but he could not produce that contract, as he believed they were still in the possession of the company. The works on the Dorset estates were not completed under his superintendance, but under Mr. Waters, and therefore he (witness) was not well acquainted with the matter. He presumed the contracts were all in the possession of Mr. Clifton, the secretary of the company. Witness produced a cheque which he paid to Mr. Waters, of £1,122 11s. 1d., in favour of Mr. Waters, or order endorsed by him, and dated December 29, 1850, and paid through the National