

Colonel the Hon. A. Harcourt has succeeded Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. D. de Ros in waiting on Her Majesty.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

ANNUAL meeting was held in the Company Green street, Shotley Bridge, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., for the purpose of the attendance of both directors and shareholders in the extreme. John Renton, Esq., of Shotley, the chairman of the Company, presided. He then read the report of the directors, and upon the secretary to read the report and the accounts amended thereto, after which

ded to ingratiate the company upon a relatively prosperous state, notwithstanding the depression which had prevailed throughout the district. In the latter part of the last twelve months, statistics indicated the consumption of gas had been somewhat below the corresponding period of the preceding year, and he had not been commensurate with the consumption which had prevailed in the neighborhood. Although the company's agents and additions recommended by the engineer had been carried out and were being carried out, the company had not proved before the public the wisdom of its gas adoption. However, Mr. M. Bell took the opportunity to make a statement of the accounts and charged the object of the secretary with having "wiffully and deliberately" defined "an item of a cash payment on the share register, stating that he had made a payment of \$100.00 to the secretary in August last, in respect of

The secretary acknowledged in the press directors that such amount had been received. A debate ensued. Mr R. Dickinson, one of the directors, taking a leading and prominent part in the discussion, charged Mr Bell with being a correspondent of the *Guardian*, and writing therein "an infamous anonymous letter" a few months ago, which had had

damaging the company's property in the value of some thousands of pounds, concluding with a threat of heavy artillery of words that the writer's letter "should be wiped out of society." So this, Mr Bell asserted his right to correspond with the latter's leave or license at any time so

... were written, and stated that facts in-
falsifiable had only been recorded in the
led to and which had not been attempt-
denied. The cannonade having somewhat
the report was ultimately adopted, the direc-
toring for it. The retiring directors were J.
... George Watson, and the aforesaid (to use Mr.
... R. Dickinson. Upon the proposition

After election being made, an objection was taken as to the gentleman's eligibility by Mr. Bell, on the ground that he was "concerned in or participates in the management of a contract with the company," and such by the Stock Companies Act, 1856, disqualifies any person acting as a director. Notwithstanding this, the objection was rejected by his hitherto co-directors, and the election being entered against the validity of such

The auditors for the past year had been Messrs. J. H. Bell and John Dickenson. The former had resigned, and the latter was objected to, on account that he was interested in the company "otherwise than as a shareholder," the firm of which he is a member supplying the company with coals, bricks, &c., and in his private capacity. Bell was elected. A vote of thanks to the auditors was passed, and the meeting terminated.

and brought the proceedings to a termination, meeting, so far as the shareholders were concerned, leaving the directors to make arrangements for their own government, and to digest the observations made during the meeting.

DAY.—Before P. Annandale and H. Silver Esqrs.
Francis Monagan and Owen Mahon were charged with being drunk and disorderly on the 1st of March at Rockhill. Monagan was ordered to pay 2s 10d

BREACH OF THE PEACE—*Francis Mahoney* was charged with a breach of the peace at Blackhill, on Saturday night last; he denied being drunk, *Butt* had a second summons to pay 8s 10d—*Joseph Smith* and *Peter Mahaley* were charged with a breach of the peace on Sunday morning about one o'clock on Sunday morning; *Butt* denied having fought at all. He was fined 8s 10d.

the road, when the other prisoner knocked and the police picked him up, and took him home. That was all—he did not fight a bit.—To each.

Truck Garvin was charged with being drunk and driving at Blackhill, on Sunday morning between 10 o'clock, and offering to bet money.—Querego 10d.

RESULT.—*Francis Colburn* was charged with assault on a police-constable Stamper whilst in the execution of his duty at the Shotley Bridge Iron Works, on Sunday night, March 1st. The workmen are paid a day in the works, and the men have to approach the works by a window in succession. The police were sent there to prevent any undue crowding. *Colburn* being fined and sent to the house of correction.

ed to free his passage up to the window; he was dis-
trasted with by the policeman, upon which he re-
sisted the temple a severe blow, of which he was
shaken. He again made his way past his com-
panion, who was again ordered back by the police, upon
which he seized a half-brick and struck P.C. Stammers
a blow on the side of the forehead. He was
then taken into custody. — Catholic Standard, 1903, 10-11.

keeping his place, that he was not attempting to take his turn.—There would be about 200 people at the time.—The Bunch stated to him that he had been fined a penalty of £20; but as he had acknowledged his offence and made due submission to the officers he would be fined £2, including costs.

the person of Robert Turner, on Sunday morning last. Gardener and some others had gone to Christopher's harness-room, Blackhill, to keep their company, who was waiting the return of his carriage. The men had taken some drink in the room, of which they had all taken freely. The company fell asleep. On awaking he found that his watch

...with taking the watch, and said if not turn it up he would send for the police. They denied having taken the watch, and the police were sent for, a search was made and a watch discovered on a cushion where Gardner was sitting. —P.C. Story and Stamper, on arriving at the room, proceeded to search the men, when

he distinctly saw Gardener slip the watch from the seat. It was the opinion of the Bench that he had been a drunken freak—that the men were drunk together—therefore ordered the man to have his senses restored, upon which the magistrates reprimanded and cautioned them against playing such jokes. The groom was also severely reprimanded for his neglect of duty in allowing men to bring a

SPIRITUALISM.—A woman applied to the magister summons against a tradesman in Medonsley street. It appears that a few days ago this tradesman was attempted by thieves. He being a student in Spiritualism, consulted his oracle, and, by the aid of the spirits, that it was some lodger with this woman who had attempted

...; to this she would not consent; she thought she had been subjected to slanderous persecution from the beginning ever since. To prevent this the woman asked for protection from the law. However, as it was only a case of slander, the magistrates could not grant her request, assuring her at the same time that it was not likely that any of her neighbours would take any notice of her.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.
THURSDAY, March 6th.
Smith and M. Kearney, Esqrs., sitting Magistrate.
CATCH OF THE PEACE.—*Thomas Jordan* was charged with being drunk and disorderly in a house of the parish, and with being drunk and disorderly in a house of the parish.

charged with a breach of the Beer Act.—*Eleanor*
house open for the sale of beer on Sunday
March, at Castlelides. Defendant acknowl-
edged that a man had been served with a gill of beer
from a bottle, at 11 o'clock on Sunday.

proved, she was cautioned and fined \$1 and \$100 for violation of the Motor Vehicle Law. — *Michael Kelly* was charged with having left a horse and cart on the highway at 117th of February, contrary to the highway laws. It appeared that the man left a horse and cart on the highway at "Gaiters", in the charge of the boy being cold went to get warmed up. — *John Kelly* was charged with having left a horse and cart on the highway at 117th of February, contrary to the highway laws. It appeared that the man left a horse and cart on the highway at "Gaiters", in the charge of the boy being cold went to get warmed up. — *John Kelly* was charged with having left a horse and cart on the highway at 117th of February, contrary to the highway laws. It appeared that the man left a horse and cart on the highway at "Gaiters", in the charge of the boy being cold went to get warmed up.

NON-PAYMENT OF TOLL. — John Humphrey, who was passing through Shildon, was stopped by William Vaux, the gatekeeper, who demanded the toll. However it appeared that Humphrey had paid the toll, but the old man would not accept the money, so Humphrey left the money on the ground. Bench was opinion that Humphrey had no

WILFUL DAMAGE.—*William Burlington* was charged with having, on the 9th February, wilfully damaged a field by trespassing. The man acknowledged the charge, but said he was going to a funeral, and being very dirty he went into a field for a

ing. Ordered to pay costs, and cautioned a
the like again.

DEFAULTING RATEPAYERS.—Mr Matthew Cou
mor for Ebchester, had issued several summon
sions to defaulting ratepayers at Berrysope. The whole of t
settled by the parties paying the rates and co
REBELL. — James Scafein was charged with c
wounding James M'Nally, at Consett. T

compromised. Shuvlin to pay all expenses.

