

EXTRAORDINARY INQUEST AT MIRFIELD.—An inquest was held by Thomas Taylor, Esq., coroner, at the Ship Inn, Mirfield, yesterday afternoon week, on view of the body of Sarah Ann Lumb, who was fifteen years old, and the daughter of a farmer residing at Marsden. It appeared from the evidence that on Thursday, the 14th ult., the deceased left her home about eight o'clock in the evening, the weather being very boisterous, and having gone about 300 yards with a schoolfellow, she turned back, and is supposed to have accidentally walked into the river Colne. Samuel Whitehead, of Marsden, builder, deposed that deceased was his niece; that her skirt was found in the river on the 15th ult., about a quarter of a mile below Marsden, and that her shawl was discovered on the following Tuesday, her flannel petticoat on the 24th, and her dress skirt on the 28th ult. Advertisements were published offering a reward for the recovery of the body, and witness, at the request of deceased's friends, had been to Holmfirth to consult a "wise" man, who, however, could give no information. Inquiries were made at Huddersfield, Dewsbury, and Wakefield, without success. However, on Tuesday week, witness received a letter stating that Capt. Hudson was mesmerising persons in Huddersfield, and on Wednesday he accompanied Mr. Josa. Farrer, a spinner, of Marsden, to the mesmerist's lodgings. The captain, on being asked if he knew of any person who could give information respecting a young woman who was missing, mentioned the name of a female residing at Mold Green. The witness went for her and brought her back in a cab, but did not tell the purpose for which she was required. She was immediately mesmerised, and then asked if she knew what the two gentlemen had come about. She replied, "Yes, about the young woman who was drowned at Marsden." She was then asked if she knew the shawl there on the chair; she said "Yes, it is the shawl that young woman had on her head when she was drowned." She also identified the dress-skirt, which was very much torn, and was told to see where the missing woman was. The mesmerised person appeared to be asleep for about five minutes, and then gave a description of the progress of the body down the river, and ended by saying that the body was covered with mud, except her feet, within one hundred yards of the second bridge in Mirfield, where horses go over. In consequence of this statement the witness went to Mirfield on Thursday week, and commenced searching in the river Calder, near Ledgard bridge, but was told that Shepley bridge was the second, and accordingly had the workmen removed to the latter, where after three or four throws deceased was found in the mud, about twenty yards above the bridge, and her feet did not appear to have been buried. The distance by land between Marsden and Mirfield is about fourteen miles. A *post mortem* examination proved that deceased had come to her death by drowning, and the jury returned an open verdict.