

**BRUTAL ASSAULT ON A WOMAN AT MIRFIELD.**—Yesterday, at the Magistrates' Courthouse, Dewsbury, Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Balme being on the bench, John Kennedy, shoemaker, was charged, under the Aggravated Assaults on Women Act, with ill treating his wife, and further, with assaulting Policeman Markey, of the West Riding Constabulary. It seemed that on Saturday night the prisoner and his wife were at Dewsbury, and they returned to their home at Wasp-nest, Mirfield, by midnight. The prisoner, who was under the influence of some beer he had partaken of, began to slap his wife's face, next to strike her with his clenched fist, then to knock her down, and finally to kick her. The poor woman was so injured that she could hardly move, but at length she revived and went upstairs to her bed room, where she was followed by the prisoner. He asked her with an oath what she was going to do, and when she told him she was about to lie down, and wished him to do the same, he got hold of her and pushed her head foremost downstairs. She lay at the foot unable to move, but was assisted into a chair by an old man who was attracted to the house by her cries. The prisoner at this time was in the room near the place where his wife lay, but he would not give any help, and soon afterwards went out. The unfortunate woman went upstairs, and laid down in bed, but was roused in a few hours by a statement to the effect that her husband was returning in a state of intoxication. She rose and received him quietly when he entered the house, and at his request began to cook him some food. Maddened by the evil passions which before possessed him, he began again to ill-treat her, and, seizing a shoemaker's knife, tried to cut her throat. She, however, drew back and was only scratched on the neck. An officer (Markey) who had been sent for to take the prisoner into custody, now appeared, and was most brutally assaulted by him. They had what may be termed an up-and-down fight, which lasted about three-quarters of an hour, and at last the officer secured his man, and having handcuffed him took him to the lock-ups at Dewsbury. The prisoner, who had no defence to offer, except that his wife had fallen down stairs accidentally, was committed to prison for two months for assaulting the officer, and ordered six months' additional incarceration for ill-treating his wife. The Bench also decided that, at the expiration of his eight months' imprisonment, he must find sureties to keep the peace for six months, or remain in jail until that period has expired.