

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER NEAR MIRFIELD.

RICHARD HEYWOOD was indicted for the manslaughter of Ada Hobson, a little girl eight years of age, near Mirfield, on the 5th November. Mr. SHAW prosecuted; and Mr. WADDY defended the prisoner. The deceased, it appears, was at the time of her death on a visit to her uncle, Edward Dyson, at Mirfield, and on the 5th November the latter took her to Raven's-walk, in the neighbourhood of Mirfield. On returning in the evening Mr. Dyson placed his niece on a donkey, seating her on a piece of carpet on the top of the saddle, and leaving her feet suspended into one of two panniers which were on the back of the animal. When on the road near to Shepleybridge the prisoner came up from behind with a brewer's waggon and two horses at a fast trot. The noise of the trotting horses, together with that of the rolling barrels in the waggon, alarmed the donkey, which began to swerve across the road. Mr. Dyson called out to the prisoner, "Stop, stop," but the waggon continued its course, and the front wheel struck one of the panniers. Deceased was thrown violently to the ground, and she died shortly afterwards from the injuries she received. The defence set up by the Learned Counsel for the prisoner was that the unfortunate occurrence was purely the result of an accident caused by the donkey crossing the road immediately in front of the waggon, which was on the right side of the road, and he urged that his client could not be held responsible because it had not been proved that the prisoner had been guilty of culpable negligence.—*Not Guilty.*