

COMING OF AGE OF HENRY RALPH BEAUMONT, OF WHITLEY BEAUMONT, HUDDERSFIELD.—This event took place on the 17th of December, but owing to the severity of the weather and Mr. Beaumont's enforced absence from home, any notice of the occasion was deferred until Saturday, when a deputation of the tenantry of the estate came to Whitley Beaumont to present him with a congratulatory address, magnificently illuminated and mounted in an oak frame with double gilt heading.—Mr. W. J. Dunderdale (agent to the Whitley Beaumont estates) introduced the deputation, and said they had come to express their views and goodwill, and to present the address to Mr. Henry Beaumont on the attainment of his majority, feeling this to be an occasion not to be passed over without notice, it being an almost unique event in the history of the family that an heir should grow up and attain his majority on the lands of his fathers. Many of the tenants, through illness and other causes, had been unable to be present, but a good many had been able to face the inclemency of the weather and come to express their good wishes in person.—Mr. Radcliffe, of South Crosland, in a few opening remarks, after allusion to the ancient connection of the family with the estates of South Crosland, Whitley, Mirfield, &c., referred to the acts of charity and religion performed by the different members of the family during different generations, most of which grants are now devoted to educational purposes, and mentioning also the gift of a park to the town of Huddersfield by Mr. Henry Frederick Beaumont, M.P.—Mr. Thomas Hudson and Mr. Daniel Exley also followed in equally complimentary terms, and Mr. Henry Ralph Beaumont having suitably replied, Mr. Henry F. Beaumont, in reply, said—The attainment of my son's majority is both to him and to me, and consequently to you, a most important event. You are aware that my estate was so strictly entailed that I was enabled to manage it in a pecuniary sense as I could wish. I am thankful to say that you and I have had nothing but the pleasantest relations for many years, and if at the present moment there has been a movement among some of you which has not been of the pleasantest nature, I trust that it is only a flash in the pan, and its cause may soon pass away. It shall not be my fault if this does not happen. I trust my son will always keep up the pleasantest relations when my tenancy is over. I have endeavoured to bring him up with a strong sense of justice and liberality, both socially and politically, and I have every reason to believe I have succeeded. I thank you for your kind expression of good-will towards myself and Mrs. Beaumont. I thank you on behalf of my son, who I know at his age must feel it difficult to give expression to the feelings in his mind, for your kind and beautiful address. This day will be marked with a red letter in my diary, and impressed on my mind forcibly with most pleasant recollections. The dream of twenty-one years ago has been realised. You are not perhaps aware that had I not been blessed with male issue this property on which we all reside might have lapsed to the Crown, but now it is in a fair way to remain in the family. I am in hopes that, if all runs smoothly with us in the immediate future, and that I am in a position to carry it out later in the year, that we may hold a larger celebration of this most auspicious event.—Mr. Beaumont entertained those present at dinner, after which numerous toasts were drunk.