THE WREXHAM ADVERTISER, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1894.

Football.

RUABON V. CEFFN.—This match was played at Ruabon on Saturday before a large gate. The home club played a superior game all through, and won by six goals to nil.—The following are the newly elected officers of the Ruabon club:—Messrs. Cooper, Morgan, J. Jones, G. Evans, Pumford, J. Morgan, Jos. Wyatt, J. Thomas, A. H. Harris, and C. Morless. Mr C. H. Gerrard is secretary.

WELSH LEAGUE.

WREXHAM V. CHIRK.—Played at Chirk, on Saturday, the home team gaining an easy victory by six goals to one.

RHOS V. BAYHEO INSTITUTE.—Played at Johnstown, on Saturday, the visitors winning by six goals to one.

DRUIDS V. RHOSTYLLEN.—Played on Saturday on Ynysmeir Park. Rhostyllen arrived well with a strong set of old forwards, but in the back division there were several new players. With the exception of Powell, who is still on his holidays, the Druids played their best available team, the same as did duty on the previous Saturday. Winning the toss, the home captain elected to play down hill, and the game commenced briskly, the visitors making the first position which, however, was easily frustrated by J. Humphreys. The home forwards raced to the other end, and T. Davies shot a little wide. G. Owen took the leather from Cotton and centered, and T. Davies opened the scoring with a splendid shot. Tomkins. The home club had now the best of matters, George Roberts and Owen having a shot, which knocked the cross-bar and passed between posts. The visitors broke away, but L. Blew, when in a good position, sent the leather to Cotton, whom George Owen easily robbed. Shortly afterwards, R. Evans scored another. Butler had a good chance, but was too slow. Two corners were then granted the Druids, but were cut away, and the home club failed to make effective use of a "hands" in front of goal. The Druids were having considerably the best of the game, and W. Evans headed the third goal shortly before half-time. After changing ends the wind blew the second half opened in favour of the Druids, who made a determined rush, but were repulsed by the visitors became aggressors. Upon was called upon several times to save his charge. The home right broke away, but the visitors were in readiness, and their defence was now equal to all demands. At length, however, T. Davies beat Cotton, and registered the fourth. The visitors replied with a goal from the foot of Cotton. The game during now each goal being visited in rapid succession. The home club scored again, and the visitors retaliated. After the last goal-scoring game had been, the centre line was drawing to a close, the Druids again asserted their superiority, and had managed to score more goals, leaving them victorious by seven goals to two.—The Druids: Upton, goal; J. Humphreys and C. Thomas, backs; G. Owen, O. Attewell, and D. Evans, half-backs; James Davies, George Roberts, T. Davies, Wm. Owen, and Tom Edkins, forwards. Cotton: Tomkins, goal; Williams and Pattison, backs; Jones, Price, and L. Plant, half-backs; J. Littlehales, R. Cotton, L. Blew, R. Little, Bailes, and R. Hewitt, forwards. Referee, Mr Davies, Wrexham.

SHROPSHIRE AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.—In this league, on Saturday, Shrewsbury beat Newtown, at Shrewsbury, after an exciting game, by four goals to three. Oswestry defeated Wrockwardine Wood, at Oswestry, by three goals to nil.

SHROPSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION AND PROFESSIONALISM.

The annual meeting of the Shropshire Association was held on Wednesday evening at Shrewsbury.—Messrs R. F. Gough, Oswestry, 27 votes; J. W. White, Ironbridge, 25; C. E. Wilcox, Shrewsbury, 23; E. Bickerton, Shifnal, 19; W. Bailey, Wellington, 19; E. Wycherley, Market Drayton, 16; and Morgan, Wellington, 15.—Messrs E. R. Whalley, Oswestry, W. Duncan, Ellesmere; J. Wheatley, Wellington; W. E. Jones, Whitchurch; and Dr. Edkins, St. George's, were re-elected as the executive.—The secretary reported the rules to be revised, so as to provide for professionalism. He had, he said, formerly opposed professionalism, but it was obvious that would probably become prevalent to a large extent in the county. By adopting professionalism they would be able to keep their own men when they had a good team.—Mr Wood, Market Drayton, seconded the motion, which was supported by Messrs Morgan, Wellington; Doody, Oswestry; Bingham, Shifnal; and Furber, Market Drayton, and opposed by Messrs Heywood, Horsehay; J. S. Wilcox, Ironbridge; Jones, Whitchurch; and Morris, Newport. On a division the voting was 13 each, and the chairman gave his vote against the motion.

The Welsh League competition commenced on Saturday. Chirk gave Wrexham a severe beating, at Chirk, and Bayheo Institute piled up up a similar score against Rhos, at Johnstown. Druids were much too good for Rhostyllen.

To-day (Saturday) Wrexham play their first match this season on the Racecourse, their opponents being Rhos.

We understand that R. Roberts, the old Bolton Wanderers player, has signed for Wrexham.

WELSH ASSOCIATION.

The following are the fixtures in connection with the Welsh Association :—

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES, &C.

1895.
March 16th—Wales v. Ireland, in Ireland.
" 23rd—Wales v. England, in England.
" 23rd—Wales v. Scotland, in Wales.
January 19th—Wales v. South Wales.
February 16th—Trial Match.

WELSH SENIOR CUP.

1894.
October 24th—First Round.
November 17th—Second Round.
December 15th—Third Round.
1895.
January 12th—Fourth Round.
March 2nd—Semi-Final.
" 9th—Semi-Final.
April 15th—Final Tie.

WELSH LEAGUE JUNIOR CUP.

1894.
November 24th—First Round.
December 15th—Second Round.
1895.
January 5th—Third Round.
" 12th—Fourth Round.
March 16th—Semi-Finals.
April 13th—Final Tie.

FIXTURES FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 15TH.

WELSH LEAGUE.

Rhostyllen v. Chirk, at Rhostyllen. Referee, Mr R. Davies.
Westminster Rovers v. Druids, at Stansty Park. Referee, Mr Vickers.
Wrexham v. Rhos, at Wrexham. Referee, Mr Moses.

SHROPSHIRE LEAGUE.

Oswestry v. Wrockwardine Wood, at Oswestry.
Shrewsbury v. Wrockwardine Wood, at Shrewsbury.
Gb. George's v. Newtown, at St George's.
Hereford v. Wellington, at Hereford.
Ironbridge v. Bridgnorth, at Ironbridge.

Brymbo Institute v. Flint, at Brymbo.

MR. S. SMITH, M.P., AND THE FLINTSHIRE MINERS.

THE EIGHT HOURS QUESTION.

Mr Samuel Smith, M.P., has addressed the following letter to one of his constituents in response to the recent remarks made at a meeting of Flintshire miners concerning his action with regard to the Eight Hours Bill for Mines :—" 7th Sept., 1894. I am told that a statement has been made to some miners of my constituency that I voted against the Eight Hours Bill. I trust that you will not contradict the statement, as it is wholly untrue. I voted for the second reading of the Bill, and was prepared to support the principle of the Bill in committee in the House had some very important amendments to consider. One of these was the Government amendment. It was drawn up to suit the strong opposition of large sections of the mining population, especially those of Durham and Northumberland. In these districts there is a vehement opposition to making the Bill universal by giving power to them, and to them alone, to adopt the amendment, whereupon the promoters of the Bill insisted that it was considered very unfair to make that schedule. I believe eight hours is enough for a miner to be employed, as it is a hard and perilous calling; but I also felt that local wishes and very varying needs of different parts of the country should be considered. Parliament, as a rule, is much more acting on the principle of 'Home Rule' in all our legislation. That is to say, the Colonies of separate parts of the United Kingdom are taken into account, and the Welsh members have strongly supported the principle and claimed that it shall be applied to Wales. It therefore seemed to me inexpedient for Parliament to enforce an eight hours day in those sections of workmen who were strongly opposed to it. The local option clause would have enabled the extensive districts embraced in the Miners' Federation to put the law into force. It would at once have put two-thirds of the miners of England, including those of North Wales, under the Eight Hours Bill, and if the experiment proved successful the remainder of the mining districts might have been converted to it in a few years' time. The arguments of the House of Commons in favour of this view were exceedingly strong, and it seemed a pity that the promoters of the Bill refused to try this experiment. I felt I could not honestly vote against the local option clause, but knowing the feeling of many constituents I did not vote for it, but abstained from taking part in the division. It was very difficult to know how to act. A member of Parliament has no easier task than to vote for the whole nation as well as for his own constituents, and I sincerely trust that my action has acted as seemed to me right, and I trust that this explanation will satisfy my constituents.

(Signed) SAMUEL SMITH."

The committee appointed to inquire into the explosion at the nitro-glycerine factory, Waltham Abbey, in May last, when four persons were killed and twenty injured, have issued their report. They find it impossible to say how it originated. They urge the necessity for the immediate adoption of certain precautionary measures, and express the opinion that a factory like that of Waltham Abbey should have the constant services of a chemist of high standing and long special experience.

Correspondence.

THE WELSH LAND COMMISSION AND THE ALLEGED POLITICAL BOYCOTTING AT ROSSETT.

SIR,—I see in your last week's issue a letter from Captain Griffith-Boscawen, giving an unqualified denial to my statements before the Land Commission at Mold.

As I am going to Newtown to prove my statements on Saturday next, when the case will be heard, I am not present, and as I have given Captain Griffith-Boscawen notice of my intention I will say no more on the subject beyond the following facts which I can prepared to prove. The motives of Captain Griffith-Boscawen, and his friends, in this matter, I do not say, but one will be more pleased than myself if he will show me that I am wrong. The facts are these :—

1. Peter Pearce prior to the first County Council election had sent his cow to the ley at Trevalyn for a month at 30s. per month.

2. After the election the cow was refused admission to the ley on the following spring.

3. On the day of the poll Mrs Boscawen cautioned Pearce in these words :" Remember the ley, Peter, remember the ley."

4. For eighteen years the practice had been for the gardener and his men to arrange every autumn for the ley in the following spring. This was done by the autumn preceding the election.

5. In the spring the gardener always sent word to Mrs Pearce asking if the cow would be sent to ley as Pearce sometimes sent a rearing calf.

6. In the spring of 1889 the gardener did not send word as usual.

7. Mrs Boscawen had seen Pearce every summer for eighteen years on the lawn every Tuesday and Saturday night and every Sunday morning and evening at the ley. I personally heard her address him on the lawn on the election day several times; cannot, therefore, understand how she comes to say she does not remember the fact.

These are the facts. As to my "personally sarcastic and unfriendly manner," I have the luck as the other leg.—I am, &c.,

Rossett, Sept. 13th, 1894. SAMUEL MOSS.

THE WELSH LAND COMMISSION AND STANSTY LANE.

SIR,—I shall be obliged if you will kindly insert the following letter, which I have sent to the Editor of the *Oswestry Advertiser*, for publication in that paper.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, J. LEWIS.

Beechley, Wrexham, 12th September, 1894.

" SIR,—In your paper of Wednesday last, Mr A. N. Palmer is reported, in his evidence given before the Commissioners here, to have stated as follows : ' I am quite ignorant of the circumstances under which most of the lands mentioned in the tithe schedules as common have been taken into cultivation.' But about the year 1882, or 1883, the late Sir W. W. Wynn applied to the then owner of Stansty Park for what much used lane leading from some cottages in Rhosddu to Plasgoch-lane might be added to an adjoining field, which he was then about to put in a spirited protest from the late Mr John Jones, solicitor, in his application to have the lane declared a leader in the sense lane, you make some severe comments on the above statement, and especially against the magistrates.

" As I was professionally engaged in all the proceedings relative to the matter, I may say that the lane referred to for the surveyors and ratepayers of Stansty, and the above statement is so much contradicted by the real facts of the case, I think it right, in justice to the memory of my highly esteemed neighbour, the late Mr Wynn, to state that the magistrates of this division, for whom I have the honour to act as clerk for the last 20 years, never had any erroneous representations reported as having been made to the Commissioners.

" After the diversions made in the Stansty highways at Rhosddu by the formation of the railway in 1866, the lane referred to was much more than alluded to became useless, and at a vestry held for the township of Rhosddu, on 28th April, 1868, at which I was present as a ratepayer, a resolution was unanimously passed to the effect that the lane was no longer of any use or necessity, in order to relieve the rates from the expense of repairing and taking charge of it. There was accordingly a notice to that effect put on the gates of the road surveyors; all the requisite notices were duly given, and the matter was brought before Quarter Sessions, on 2nd January, 1869, the usual notices having been issued, and the order for stopping up the road, and fences were afterwards placed on each end of it.

" The total length of this road was only about 360 yards, and the land on the south side of it (Wrexham Racecourse) belonged to the late Sir Watkin Wynn, and that on the north side belonged to the late Mr Thomas Jones, Stansty Park; and upon this legal abolition of all rights of way along the surface the ground, from the centre of the ' lane,' became the absolute freehold of the late Sir Watkin and Mr Jones respectively as the adjacent owners.

" No objection was made to the above procedure for upwards of thirty years. But, then, some persons having been built at one end of the old lane, a person named Baker set up a right of way there, and pulled down part of a wall, across the closed lane, belonging to Sir Watkin Wynn, and was accordingly mamoned before the Court of County Session at Wrexham. The late Mr Thomas Jones, Stansty Park, engaged on each side, and the late Mr John Jones appeared for the defendant, who was convicted and fined for trespass.

" The above I can vouch for, as all the facts came within my own personal knowledge, and it is clear that Mr Palmer has been under an entire misapprehension : and the statement, that the lane, in the proceedings of the late Sir Watkin and the magistrates, was unnecessary and unjustifiable, we are not surprised to hear that he made on the ground that it did not interfere with the rights or enjoyment of the public."

" Mr A. N. Palmer, referring to the report of his evidence given in the Commissioners' meeting was to the effect of that paper :—" As to the alteration of the lane in Stansty, mentioned in the last paragraph of my statement, there was nothing of this in my public examination, because although the fact was mentioned to me, I had no means to ascertain the precise dates involved. I now find the facts to have been as follows :—The lane was handed over to Sir Watkin by order of Quarter Sessions, dated June 30th, 1868, but although gates were put up at each end, the land, with the exception of the right of way being claimed, and it was not until the end of 1882, after part of the gate had been replaced by a stone wall, that proceedings was taken against some of those who had broken down the gates, and the wall did some damage to it. Since 1883 no one has been allowed to use the lane."]

SIR,—I have just seen the letter of *Mr John Lewis* in the *Oswestry Advertiser*, relating to the lane in Stansty. As a matter of fact, I did not see a single word before the Commissioners on the side lane, and when I read the report a week ago, in which mention was made of it, I was at a loss to understand to what that I had referred to it. Spite of this, the editor writes in one of his leaderettes that I had actually spoken the words quoted. The truth of the whole matter is this. In the notes from which I spoke in giving evidence, the very sentence given in the *Oswestry Advertiser* was contained. But I had not been able to find time previously to look up the old records in the office of the Commission, and as I was determined to say nothing about the lane which I could not give chapter and verse, I deliberately refrained from giving my evidence from mentioning the lane at all. The reporter must have got possession of my notes, or of an unrecorded copy of my memorandum, which I had given to the clerk of the Commissioners only."

However, as the question of this lane has been raised by Mr Lewis, I should like to say a few words about it. If the township vestry decided not to be charged the cost of the lane, I presume the township vestries were composed, *the right of way* along it was not thereby touched. "Useless" it was not, for it was habitually used up to the date of the prosecutions at the end of 1882, especially by colliers going to and returning from their work in the Stansty Colliery. The grievance which many inhabitants of Stansty feel is not the refusal to Mr Lewis to have the wall put in repair, but the deliberate withdrawal by the justices of the magistrates' powers to do so, and the right of way along this ancient, fenced, "beautiful, and much used lane."—I am, &c.,

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

A HINT TO TRAVELLERS.

SIR,—It may be of interest to the travelling public from the beautiful Vale of Llangollen to our great Metropolis to learn that if they travel by the London and Paddington direct the fare is 15s 1d whereas if they book to the Midlands (fare 6d) and thence to Paddington (fare 14s 1d) it is only 14s 6d. Verily, inscrutable are the ways of our railway companies!—I am, &c.,

WALTER MAKEPEACE.

HOPE SCHOOL BOARD.

SIR,—It would appear from the report of the proceedings of the Board at their last meeting, that the members have utterly failed to grasp the points of my letter of the 7th of August. I neither said nor implied that the Board asked for £1,100. His estimate simply covers the period from May, 1894, to May, 1895, while my letter deals with the financial year ending on the 30th August, two different periods as will be seen. I did not write the letter without having facts which would enable me to prove the correctness of my statements if necessary. The expenditure for the current financial year cannot by many pounds less than I have stated, and the actual amount may be many pounds more. The estimate submitted in May seemed ample to meet the costs during the period it was intended to cover, but it will practically leave the Board in May next in the same position as it is now, that is about £200 poorer than three years ago. The members of the Board ought to know where they stand, but it is evident they do not. The accounts of the financial year will be published in the course of a few months, and those ought to put an end to all controversy.—I am, &c.,

J. GRIFFITHS.

Caergwrle, September 11th, 1894.

ERDDIG PARK.

SIR,—I, in common with many others, have read with great interest the lines of poetry, which are popularly ascribed to the pen of Sir Philip Yorke, and which are exposed to view near the Coedyglyn Arms. These lines are so agreeable and so pleasant that there can be none who will fail to obey them cheerfully. But while grateful for the poetry and for the future, we, on the other hand shows it, would it be considered very unreasonable if I were to suggest that a little attention be directed to the park would be greatly appreciated ?—I am, &c.,

ION.

THE BISHOP OF ST. ASAPH AND RUTHIN SCHOOL.

SIR,—This matter has excited so much interest, that I feel sure you will welcome the short letter commenting upon the replies and explanations by the Bishop and his friends, which I now send you, and in which letter which appeared in your columns of the 25th of August, I should like to ask one question.

The Bishop's letter contains the fact that the Bishop "signed" the case presented for Sir Edward Clarke's opinion, and this, according to the report of the County Council meeting by Mr Gee, his name appears distinctly on the paper. Was the case, then, therefore, which is correct—the printed signature or the chaplain's letter? And, further, even supposing the Bishop was ignorant of the contents of the case with his sanction, and did he afterwards see the opinion?

When one is in possession of a satisfactory reply, I will be glad to make the one comment upon the entire proceeding.—I am, &c., QUERIST.

A DOG STORY.

SIR,—I read in the columns of the *Liverpool Courier* a few days ago that a dog, named Rover, frightened at the report of a gun, fled from his owner, and led a sort of Bohemian life in the woods for a period of two and a half years; all efforts to capture him during that time having failed, he was ultimately trapped and restored to his owner. Several years ago I had a small toy terrier, very much resembling a fox; he was one of the most ungracious little creatures I ever fell in with. He originally belonged to a friend of mine in Hereford, and on one occasion I was walking along the road to Ross with the gentleman, accompanied by the dog. As we approached the village I was somewhat startled by a fierce, standing not many yards distant from us, displaying a fine ridge, and, I suppose, of endowing his skill as a marksman. The sentence he did so by a dog bolted in the direction of home, a mile and half distant, and I saw no more of him for a long time. Soon after this occurrence the little fellow became my property, which he was to the end. This is certainly not less than two years afterwards, I paid to Rhosddu to Plasgoch-lane might be added to an adjoining field, which he was then about to put in a spirited protest from the late Mr John Jones, solicitor, in his application to have the lane declared a leader in the sense lane, you make some severe comments on the above statement, and especially against the magistrates.

" As I was professionally engaged in all the proceedings relative to the matter, I may say that the lane referred to for the surveyors and ratepayers of Stansty, and the above statement is so much contradicted by the real facts of the case, I think it right, in justice to the memory of my highly esteemed neighbour, the late Mr W. W. Wynn, to state that the magistrates of this division, for whom I have the honour to act as clerk for the last 20 years, never had any erroneous representations reported as having been made to the Commissioners.

" After the diversions made in the Stansty highways at Rhosddu by the formation of the railway in 1866, the lane referred to became much more than alluded to became useless, and at a vestry held for the township of Rhosddu, on 28th April, 1868, at which I was present as a ratepayer, a resolution was unanimously passed to the effect that the lane was no longer of any use or necessity, in order to relieve the rates from the expense of repairing and taking charge of it. There was accordingly a notice to that effect put on the gates of the road surveyors; all the requisite notices were duly given, and the matter was brought before Quarter Sessions, on 2nd January, 1869, the usual notices having been issued, and the order for stopping up the road, and fences were afterwards placed on each end of it.

" The total length of this road was only about 360 yards, and the land on the south side of it (Wrexham Racecourse) belonged to the late Sir Watkin Wynn, and that on the north side belonged to the late Mr Thomas Jones, Stansty Park; and upon this legal abolition of all rights of way along the surface the ground, from the centre of the ' lane,' became the absolute freehold of the late Sir Watkin and Mr Jones respectively as the adjacent owners.

" No objection was made to the above procedure for upwards of thirty years. But, then, some persons having been built at one end of the old lane, a person named Baker set up a right of way there, and pulled down part of a wall, across the closed lane, belonging to Sir Watkin Wynn, and was accordingly mamoned before the Court of County Session at Wrexham. The late Mr Thomas Jones, Stansty Park, engaged on each side, and the late Mr John Jones appeared for the defendant, who was convicted and fined for trespass.

" The above I can vouch for, as all the facts came within my own personal knowledge, and it is clear that Mr Palmer has been under an entire misapprehension : and the statement, that the lane, in the proceedings of the late Sir Watkin and the magistrates, was unnecessary and unjustifiable, we are not surprised to hear that he made on the ground that it did not interfere with the rights or enjoyment of the public."

" Mr A. N. Palmer, referring to the report of his evidence given in the Commissioners' meeting was to the effect of that paper :—" As to the alteration of the lane in Stansty, mentioned in the last paragraph of my statement, there was nothing of this in my public examination, because although the fact was mentioned to me, I had no means to ascertain the precise dates involved. I now find the facts to have been as follows :—The lane was handed over to Sir Watkin by order of Quarter Sessions, dated June 30th, 1868, but although gates were put up at each end, the land, with the exception of the right of way being claimed, and it was not until the end of 1882, after part of the gate had been replaced by a stone wall, that proceedings was taken against some of those who had broken down the gates, and the wall did some damage to it. Since 1883 no one has been allowed to use the lane."]

SIR,—I have just seen the letter of *Mr John Lewis* in the *Oswestry Advertiser*, relating to the lane in Stansty. As a matter of fact, I did not see a single word before the Commissioners on the side lane, and when I read the report a week ago, in which mention was made of it, I was at a loss to understand to what that I had referred to it. Spite of this, the editor writes in one of his leaderettes that I had actually spoken the words quoted. The truth of the whole matter is this. In the notes from which I spoke in giving evidence, the very sentence given in the *Oswestry Advertiser* was contained. But I had not been able to find time previously to look up the old records in the office of the Commission, and as I was determined to say nothing about the lane which I could not give chapter and verse, I deliberately refrained from giving my evidence from mentioning the lane at all. The reporter must have got possession of my notes, or of an unrecorded copy of my memorandum, which I had given to the clerk of the Commissioners only."

However, as the question of this lane has been raised by Mr Lewis, I should like to say a few words about it. If the township vestry decided not to be charged the cost of the lane, I presume the township vestries were composed, *the right of way* along it was not thereby touched. "Useless" it was not, for it was habitually used up to the date of the prosecutions at the end of 1882, especially by colliers going to and returning from their work in the Stansty Colliery. The grievance which many inhabitants of Stansty feel is not the refusal to Mr Lewis to have the wall put in repair, but the deliberate withdrawal by the justices of the magistrates' powers to do so, and the right of way along this ancient, fenced, "beautiful, and much used lane."—I am, &c.,

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

THE TRADE UNIONS CONGRESS.

On Friday the ballot for the parliamentary secretaryship resulted, on the first poll, in a vote of 140 for Mr. Mawdsley, M.P., 137 for Mr. Wess, M.P., and 105 for Mr. Tom Mann, and, on a second poll, in the election of Mr. Wess by 211 against 141 for Mr. Fenwick. The former referred to the result as a triumph for the principle of an eight hours bill. Cardiff was chosen for next year's meeting of the congress.

Mr Patrick J. Delves again presided on Saturday over the sixth and concluding session of the congress. A question relating to the constitution of the Parliamentary Committee was decided by a large majority, then adopted condemning the action of the House of Lords in reference to employers' liability, and requiring the working men of the country to insist on the abolition of the unconstitutional veto power now vested in that House. Another resolution was to the effect that the time had come for a ballot of the whole of the organised workers of the country, whether they were in favour of the Government finding work for the unemployed at trade union rates of pay and hours of labour. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Mayor of Norwich, Mr Fenwick, M.P. (the late secretary), and others, and the delegates separated after singing together "Auld Lang Syne."

" UNITED OPTIONS."—We have received a copy from Messrs. Smith and Beresford, stock and share dealers, of 53 and 54, Chancery Lane, London, of an explanatory pamphlet (revised edition 1894), descriptive of operations in stocks and shares under their methods. It will be seen by an advertisement that a copy of the pamphlet can be obtained on application to Messrs. Smith and Beresford.

LABOUR REPRESENTATION ON PARISH COUNCILS.

WORKMEN'S MEETING AT RHOS.

A meeting of the men working at Hafod, Bersham, and Vauxhall Collieries, was held at the Public Hall on Friday evening, Sept. 7, for the purpose of hearing an address upon the "Parish Councils Act," by the Rev. Basterby, vice-chairman; J. Williams, M. A. Ralli, P. Jones, T. Parry, W. Davies, W. Jones, J. Hall, J. Herbert Lewis, M.P., Hall Mathews and J. Boney, Dr. Edwards; Councillors Lord Mostyn, called upon the meeting to order. Mr. Davies, Gwersyllt, and J. T. Williams said he should have liked to see more workmen present, but the non-attendance was no real indication of the interest taken in the matter by the working classes. They, accordingly, did not know whether there was a feeling that they as working men were holding that meeting in a spirit of hostility to the Liberal candidature. It was no such thing, but just the other way. They wished to act in concert with the Liberal party, and the object of the meeting was to enlighten one another, and be sincerely thankful to Mr Lewis and his colleagues "but of the country at large would interest themselves in the matter. The most important was the constitution and the working of parish councils. Owing to the numerous legislative changes of late years the crisis in the local trade, which disputes it was his duty, as their agent, to attend to, he (the speaker) had not had time to study the Act and inquire into the provisions of the Act. He looked forward to having another meeting before the Act came into force to give a more detailed explanation of the Act. There could be no manner of doubt that it was one of the best and most beneficial Acts passed by any Government. It met the wants of the working class of the country to a degree. Before it was passed he could honestly say that no Government had brought forward such a measure which would, accordingly to the wants of the working class as the present Government had done. Some of these Bills had been thrown out by the House of Lords, and had been thrown out by the Tories and Lords. In spite of all that the House of Lords had done the leadership of Mr Joseph Chamberlain had that in the course of twenty years no Parliament had the power to pass a Bill which was in the way of legislation. Well, this Act was one of those measures. It would come into force in November next, and it was their duty to do all they could to understand the provisions, and take advantage of it. The Act was as large as an Act could be, and was also a very difficult one to understand, on account partly of the other Acts to which it referred. It was a member of a large force, standing not many yards distant from us, displaying a fine ridge, and, I suppose, of endowing his skill as a marksman. The sentence he did so by a dog bolted in the direction of home, a mile and half distant, and I saw no more of him for a long time. Soon after this occurrence the little fellow became my property, which he was to the end. This is certainly not less than two years afterwards, I paid to Rhosddu to Plasgoch-lane might be added to an adjoining field, which he was then about to put in a spirited protest from the late Mr John Jones, solicitor, in his application to have the lane declared a leader in the sense lane, you make some severe comments on the above statement, and especially against the magistrates.

" As I was professionally engaged in all the proceedings relative to the matter, I may say that the lane referred to for the surveyors and ratepayers of Stansty, and the above statement is so much contradicted by the real facts of the case, I think it right, in justice to the memory of my highly esteemed neighbour, the late Mr W. W. Wynn, to state that the magistrates of this division, for whom I have the honour to act as clerk for the last 20 years, never had any erroneous representations reported as having been made to the Commissioners.

" After the diversions made in the Stansty highways at Rhosddu by the formation of the railway in 1866, the lane referred to became much more than alluded to became useless, and at a vestry held for the township of Rhosddu, on 28th April, 1868, at which I was present as a ratepayer, a resolution was unanimously passed to the effect that the lane was no longer of any use or necessity, in order to relieve the rates from the expense of repairing and taking charge of it. There was accordingly a notice to that effect put on the gates of the road surveyors; all the requisite notices were duly given, and the matter was brought before Quarter Sessions, on 2nd January, 1869, the usual notices having been issued, and the order for stopping up the road, and fences were afterwards placed on each end of it.

" The total length of this road was only about 360 yards, and the land on the south side of it (Wrexham Racecourse) belonged to the late Sir Watkin Wynn, and that on the north side belonged to the late Mr Thomas Jones, Stansty Park; and upon this legal abolition of all rights of way along the surface the ground, from the centre of the ' lane,' became the absolute freehold of the late Sir Watkin and Mr Jones respectively as the adjacent owners.

" No objection was made to the above procedure for upwards of thirty years. But, then, some persons having been built at one end of the old lane, a person named Baker set up a right of way there, and pulled down part of a wall, across the closed lane, belonging to Sir Watkin Wynn, and was accordingly mamoned before the Court of County Session at Wrexham. The late Mr Thomas Jones, Stansty Park, engaged on each side, and the late Mr John Jones appeared for the defendant, who was convicted and fined for trespass.

" The above I can vouch for, as all the facts came within my own personal knowledge, and it is clear that Mr Palmer has been under an entire misapprehension : and the statement, that the lane, in the proceedings of the late Sir Watkin and the magistrates, was unnecessary and unjustifiable, we are not surprised to hear that he made on the ground that it did not interfere with the rights or enjoyment of the public."

" Mr A. N. Palmer, referring to the report of his evidence given in the Commissioners' meeting was to the effect of that paper :—" As to the alteration of the lane in Stansty, mentioned in the last paragraph of my statement, there was nothing of this in my public examination, because although the fact was mentioned to me, I had no means to ascertain the precise dates involved. I now find the facts to have been as follows :—The lane was handed over to Sir Watkin by order of Quarter Sessions, dated June 30th, 1868, but although gates were put up at each end, the land, with the exception of the right of way being claimed, and it was not until the end of 1882, after part of the gate had been replaced by a stone wall, that proceedings was taken against some of those who had broken down the gates, and the wall did some damage to it. Since 1883 no one has been allowed to use the lane."]

SIR,—I have just seen the letter of *Mr John Lewis* in the *Oswestry Advertiser*, relating to the lane in Stansty. As a matter of fact, I did not see a single word before the Commissioners on the side lane, and when I read the report a week ago, in which mention was made of it, I was at a loss to understand to what that I had referred to it. Spite of this, the editor writes in one of his leaderettes that I had actually spoken the words quoted. The truth of the whole matter is this. In the notes from which I spoke in giving evidence, the very sentence given in the *Oswestry Advertiser* was contained. But I had not been able to find time previously to look up the old records in the office of the Commission, and as I was determined to say nothing about the lane which I could not give chapter and verse, I deliberately refrained from giving my evidence from mentioning the lane at all. The reporter must have got possession of my notes, or of an unrecorded copy of my memorandum, which I had given to the clerk of the Commissioners only."

However, as the question of this lane has been raised by Mr Lewis, I should like to say a few words about it. If the township vestry decided not to be charged the cost of the lane, I presume the township vestries were composed, *the right of way* along it was not thereby touched. "Useless" it was not, for it was habitually used up to the date of the prosecutions at the end of 1882, especially by colliers going to and returning from their work in the Stansty Colliery. The grievance which many inhabitants of Stansty feel is not the refusal to Mr Lewis to have the wall put in repair, but the deliberate withdrawal by the justices of the magistrates' powers to do so, and the right of way along this ancient, fenced, "beautiful, and much used lane."—I am, &c.,

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION AND THE COSTS OF THE RECENT LITIGATION ACTION.

The quarterly meeting of the Flintshire County Council was held at Rhyl, on Wednesday, Mr J. L. Maspratt presiding. There were present : Aldermen Bevan ; Councillors Jas. Fraser, J. Hopley Pierce, Jas. Whittingham, Charles Davies, Thos. Davies, David Jones, and R. Williamson. Mr J. Williams Rogers, Acting Town Clerk ; Mr J. W. M. Smith, Borough Surveyor ; and Mr Charles Moore, Sanitary Inspector.

ABSENTEES.

The CHAIRMAN explained that Mr C. K. Benson and Mr B. Lewis were unable to attend the meeting of the committee.

COMMITTEE MINUTES.

The Committee, considering a suggestion made by Inspector Moore, concerning the renewal of the widening of Smithfield-road between Manley and Hightown-roads to a uniform width of 36ft. 6in., the usual preliminary steps should be adopted.

The Bonedon Surveyor remarked that he believed the improvement would be a good one.

The Bonedon Surveyor reported that he had applied to Mr Cartwright, solicitor, Mold, for Messrs. Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway, for permission to erect a corrugated iron shed upon the Tarmonbury-road Station, and he had received the permission was given subject to certain conditions, which the Committee requested the Surveyor to ascertain.

TO WIDEN VICTORIA-ROAD.

The Bonedon Surveyor reported upon the suggested widening of Victoria-road into a large scattered county like Flintshire, that was the absolute necessity of having one person who was responsible for the duties attached to the office, in any way it would not be possible in some cases for local councillors to look after the matter. But when they dealt with a number of villages it was imperative that they had a Surveyor who could devote his whole time. (Hear, hear.) He ventured to say that 1,200 pupils in this county received technical instruction each year. The duties of the Surveyor in this case necessitated much administration, and there may be friction in connection with the Surveyor and the Clerk. They had a number of administration of this particular kind, where a number of local committees had to deal with a number of Surveyors, and they found that it would be a great friction taking place. Even under the most perfect arrangements it would be difficult for one man to be impossible to avoid friction. That was necessary in connection with organisations like the Technical Instruction Committee, but with regard to individual cases which had come under his notice, he had no hesitation in recommending that the technical classes in Flintshire had proved a great boon to the county. He had been struck with the keen interest in the affairs and in the control of his own parish it would be his own. He would have a vote and vote, and he would use them. At the first parish meeting would be called by the overseers, and would be held if possible in the month of March next. Part of the work of the parish meeting would be to elect a chairman of the parish council, and overseers of vestries was now dethroned. The meeting would have the power to appoint a person to take the minutes of the meeting. The election they should as workingmen to themselves. Parish councillors were members of the parish councils would be nominated, and it was not the utmost importance that they should attend the meeting. In the election they should as workingmen to themselves. Parish councillors were members of one another. Otherwise they would not be able to secure the return of their own candidates. Rhuabon parish had been divided into four parishes, and Ruabon into five parishes. In the parish of Gresford, Holt, Pulford, Eccleston, Aldford, and the latter taking in Johnstown. On the Rhos parish council they would have seven members As they, the working class, were the backbone of the constituency, they could easily return a majority on the Council. They had the right to have a voice in the extensive powers given to the parish council, Mr Williams mentioned the question of dealing with the property and charities (other than ecclesiastical), the power of which was extended by the Act, and of acquiring land by compulsion, if necessary, for allotments of one, two, or three acres. Another meeting would be held in April for the nomination It was to be hoped they would all take these matters into their consideration. They would not be able to attend to them without interests.—Mr William Phillips, Halkyn, agreed with the remarks of Messrs Williams and Hughes. There were, he thought, too many preachers and ministers on the Parish Council, on the Lighting Board, on the Burial Board, on the School Board, they always found the same men. They did not want preachers and big speakers. Referring to the Technical Instruction Committee of last year, Mr William Phillips said he thought the preachers gave very little assistance. (Hear, hear.)

Mr Joseph Hughes expressed a similar opinion. He thought they had had enough of preachers and shopkeepers on the different Boards.—Mr William Garner said he would like to say a few words on their chance. They should place men of their own class on the Council. They had had enough parsons to them in their efforts to make both ends meet.—Mr Richard Jones, Rhosllanerchrugog, said he thought the Brickworks be named to act with the Miners' Union Committee for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the workmen at the time of the approach election.—Mr Thomas Hughes, Erw Gerrig, and Mr Benjamin Jones, Ruabon, also addressed the meeting. It have been called by the Technical Instruction Committee of Denbighshire. The meeting was to be held on the Council to next year, so that the Parish Councils could prepare for it.—Mr Hughes, on the Pennant, it was decided to hold the inquiry in the Council Chamber.

Mr Lewis also reported, that in October next a Conference would be held between the Crown lands in Wales. He had learned that not more than £10,000 would be invested out of the £150,000 taken from Wales, while he would like to see more than £10,000 realised by the sale of Crown land in Flintshire. He would suggest that the matter be left to a committee to deal with matters before the Commission.—Mr Charles Davies, Mold, said he would be well if the Woods and Forests Department would let the timber on the land at a low rate of interest.—It was decided to refer the matter to committee.—Mr Thos. Davies, Bronyn Ellesmere, Lll. Jones, J. H. Lewis, and Alderman Howard were appointed.

Alderman Howard had given notice of a motion, to the effect of the Council to invoke the protection of the council against the intimidation and interference of aldermen by councillors. Exception was taken to the wording of the motion, and Mr Howard gave an explanation. He said by more than one councillor he had been told that he was not to vote against the Tory candidate. He thought that deceased had fallen off the wall.

Dr. Parry Jones, Wrexham, said he was called in on the Sunday, the day he was done to the deceased. He was suffering from a wound on the left side of the head. He also had a broken rib, which penetrated the lungs. He was semi-conscious, and frequently pneumonia set in. He lived until Saturday, the 8th inst.

The jury returned a verdict of " Accidental death."

RUABON.

WORKINGMEN'S LITERARY INSTITUTE.—This institution, which is the largest in the village, re-opens during the winter months, was opened on Monday for the season.

MALE VOICE CHOIR.—The Male Voice Choir, which during the summer months suspended the practices, have now resumed them, and are working hard. This society appears to be in a flourishing condition.

TH