

A.A. 25.12.08

A.A. 25.9.1908

Magdalen.

BROUGHTON.

HARVEST HOME.—On Saturday last Mr. Hunt, of Roake Farm, entertained his employes and their wives to supper to celebrate the safe in-gathering of the harvest. Mrs. Hunt, assisted by Mr. and Miss Russell, and the Misses Leabourne had gaily decorated the barn in which the supper was held. After the toast of "The King" had been loyally honoured, Mr. Russell proposed the health of "Mr. and Mrs. Hunt." This was received with cheer, and briefly acknowledged by Mr. Hunt. During the evening songs were sung by Messrs. Brewer, Parsons, Reid and Williams, and selections on a gramophone were also enjoyed. The proceedings concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

ANONYMOUS SLANDERERS.—The following letter from Mr. W. F. Greenwell appeared in Wednesday's Daily Mail in connection with the suicide of Gen. Luard:—"Sir,—Though I think everyone was already agreed on that point, the tragic occurrence of last week has served to accentuate and bring home to us the terrible mischief and cruel injustice that can be brought about by that most cowardly and detestable method of anonymous letters. No language is too strong to condemn and no punishment too severe for the curs who resort to such methods. Such pests, provided they think they can do so with safety to their own precious skins, will do anything and stick at nothing. The village in which I now reside is infested with a gang whose favourite method of attack and annoyance is that of anonymous communications, and on one occasion they did not hesitate to forge my name to one of their lying and slanderous productions.—W. F. GREENWELL."

ROMSEY COUNTY BENCH.

MONDAY.—Before Col. Griffiths (in the chair) and Mr. H. L. Hansard.

THEFTS AT BROUGHTON.—James Richard Hatchings and Arthur James Hubble were charged on remand with having stolen an overcoat and a basket, valued at 10s., the property of George Barnett, at Broughton on the 19th inst.—George Barnett, a carter, living at Broughton, stated that on the previous Thursday, about 5 o'clock, he was in the stables at Darfield Farm, where he had his coat and basket hung up. He left both articles there for the night, but on going there next morning at 5.30 they were missing, and a short time

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ROMSEY COUNTY BENCH.

MONDAY.—Before Mr. W. H. Deverell (in the chair), Capt. Suckling, R.N., Major Chichester, Mr. D. Faber, and Mr. H. L. Hansard.

A BROUGHTON GENTLEMAN'S RATES.—William F. Greenwell, of The Rookery, Broughton, was summoned for the non-payment of two poor rates amounting to £5 14s. 4d. and 9s.—He did not appear, and the service of the summons was proved by P.C. Andrews.—Mr. W. C. Upshall, assistant overseer, produced the rate book showing how the defendant was assessed, and also gave evidence as to the legality of the rate, which was made on May 27 last. He said he had made several applications for it, and had called at the defendant's residence and sent a message in by the servant, but the defendant refused to see him.—The magistrates issued the usual distress warrant.

KINGSOMBORNE LANGUAGE.—James Oran, a single man living at Kingsomborne, did not appear to answer a summons for using obscene language in that village on November 29.—P.C. Richardson said that on the date named (a Sunday), about 10.30 p.m., he heard the defendant making use of very bad language near the Rectory, and went and told him to desist. He made no reply, but a short time after witness again heard him, and he was also threatening to punch his (the constable's) head. When he again went towards him the defendant went indoors.—There was a previous conviction as recently as August last, and the defendant was now ordered to pay 9s. fine and 11s. costs.

BEGGARS AT KINGSOMBORNE.—Charles Read and James Pagett, of no fixed abode, pleaded guilty to begging at Kingsomborne on Saturday, and the offence was proved by P.C. Richardson, who said the men were calling from house to house asking for food.—Both prisoners said they had come out of the casual ward at Romsey Workhouse that morning intending to make for Salisbury, but it was so wet that they turned for Stockbridge instead.—As there were no previous convictions, and the men had been locked up since Saturday, they were nominally sentenced to one day's imprisonment.

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A.A. 8.1.09.

Hon. Sec. Twyford and Winchester Centre of N.C.D.L.

BROUGHTON RATES. To the Editor.

SIR,—With reference to the report of proceedings against me to recover rates at the Romsey County Bench, which appeared in your issue of the 25th ult., will you please allow me to explain through the medium of your columns that I addressed a letter to the magistrates stating that I had allowed these proceedings to be taken against me for the express purpose of protesting publicly against the action of my fellow Guardians and Rural District Councillors in continuing to employ certain officials whose conduct I consider to be unsatisfactory, and that I had no intention of disputing the legality or evading payment of the rate. With reference to Mr. Upshall's statement that I refused to see him I might explain that sometime ago, for reasons which Mr. Upshall will probably remember, I gave him notice that all communications intended for me were to be made direct and in writing. No distress warrant was actually issued, as Mr. Upshall found a cheque for the rate and costs awaiting his return from Romsey.—Faithfully yours, W. F. GREENWELL.

Broughton, Hants, 6th January, 1909.

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