

FURIOUS DRIVING.

Edward Jackson was indicted for furiously driving the mail coach between Leeds and Huddersfield, on the 17th of June last; thereby endangering the limbs and lives of the passengers.

MR. HARDY stated the case to the Jury, the following evidence was adduced in support of it.

Mr. John Chambers, stated that he was clerk to Messrs. Brookes, of Leeds. On the 17th of June last he was an outside passenger on the Huddersfield mail. The defendant was the coachman, and there were three other outside passengers and four inside. When they got over Leeds Bridge, it appeared to him that they went quicker than the mail usually did. When they got to the top of the hill leading down to Birstall, they saw the Independent coach which belongs to the other proprietors upon the hill, on the other side Birstall called White Lee, a mile or rather more before them. They then went still quicker. The next place they stopped at was the Horse Shoes, at the bottom of Mirfield Moor, when he considered they were hardly a quarter of a mile after the other coach. From there they set off at full gallop, and continued at that speed till the coach was overturned, which was a little beyond the obelisk on Sir George Armytage's estate, at the turn in the road near to the weighing machine. Witness was conscious of the coach running upon the two off wheels from six to twelve yards before it turned over. When he came to his recollection, after being overturned, he found himself in a cart, and he then saw the coach laid by the side of the road. His left-shoulder was dislocated, and he was in other respects seriously injured.

Mr. John Howarth said he was a merchant of Leeds, and was an inside passenger in the mail on the 17th of June last. They stopped at Millshaw from ten minutes to a quarter of an hour. They then proceeded to Birstall, and it appeared to him they had lost so much time at Millshaw, that the driver's intention was to make it up. They next stopped at the Horse Shoes on Mirfield Moor, where he saw the Independent coach three or four hundred yards before them. From thence it appeared to the inside passengers that they set off at a furious gallop, which was continued till the coach was overturned. Witness was very seriously hurt, he had three ribs broken, and was otherwise very much crushed. He had been in the habit of going to Huddersfield thirty or forty times a year. He had before been overturned, but never in that place. The coachman drove at such a rate that the inside passengers durst not put their heads out of the window for fear of throwing the coach off its balance. He believed the road was pretty good. In instituting the prosecution, he had nothing but the public good in view.

Mr. Joshua Bradfield, of Knaresbrough, and *Mr Charles Malinson*, a gardener, gave similar testimony.

The Chairman having summed up the evidence, the Jury found the defendant GUILTY.—*Fined £10, and to be imprisoned till the fine be paid,*

[The Prosecutors of this indictment will, we understand, be subject to an expense of thirty pounds at least, and that their remedy is to be found in a suit at the Assizes, in an action for damages against the proprietors of the coach, which action is already commenced.]