

MIRFIELD.

INQUEST.—On Tuesday, an inquest was held at the Man and Saddle Inn, Dewsbury, on the body of Sarah Blackburn, aged four years, the daughter of Richd. Blackburn. On the 5th inst., the deceased was playing, when she accidentally fell into a bowl of hot water and was severely scalded. She, however, lingered in great suffering until Monday last. Verdict, "Died from being accidentally scalded."

INNKEEPERS FINED.—On Monday, before John Hague and J. B. Greenwood, Esqrs., William Heslop, the keeper of the Yew Tree Inn, Mirfield, was charged by Haworth and Asquith, the Mirfield constables, with having company in his house at half-past twelve o'clock in the morning of Sunday, the 15th instant. Fined £1 and 12s. 6d. costs.—John Shepherd, the keeper of the Flower Pot Inn, was also charged with having company in his house during the usual hours of divine service, on Sunday afternoon, the 15th inst. Fined £1 and 15s. costs.

DARING OUTRAGE AND ROBBERY.—The township of Mirfield, and more especially that part in the vicinity of the railway station, has during the last few weeks been infested with a gang of villains who have committed a series of determined and daring burglaries and robberies. None, however, which it has been our duty to record, have equalled in atrocity one which took place on Saturday evening last, at the residence of Mr. Ledgard, Canal Lodge, solicitor, distant about half a mile from the railway station. It appears that about nine o'clock in the evening, at which time Mr and Mrs Ledgard were sitting in one of the front rooms, a knock was given at the front door, and that Mr. Ledgard himself went, and before opening the door inquired who was there, to which he received a reply which led him to suppose that the party wished to speak with him upon business. Mr. Ledgard then partially opened the door, when it was pushed open wide, and four or five persons, with their faces blackened and veiled, and who were armed with pistols, rushed into the passage, and seizing Mr. Ledgard, placed a pistol to his head and forced him down the passage, and back into the room. Mrs. Ledgard, who, on hearing the disturbance, had come into the passage, was also seized, a pistol put to her head, and she was also put back into the same room with Mr. Ledgard. Two of the villains having then closed the room door, with presented pistols demanded their money, which was immediately given up. After obtaining it, one of the thieves left the room, the other remaining guard over Mr. and Mrs. Ledgard, and threatening instant death if either of them spoke or stirred. The two female servants, on hearing the screams of Mrs. Ledgard in the passage, ran out of the kitchen, and endeavoured to hold the door on the outside, at the same time screaming aloud for assistance, whilst the villains inside tried to pull open the door, which they almost immediately succeeded in doing, and then with great violence dragged the two females through the kitchen into the same room in which Mr. and Mrs. Ledgard had been placed under guard. On the latter of the two female servants being forced into the room, and under the supposition that all the inmates were then secured, two or three of the villains ran up stairs, with the intention, no doubt, of commencing the work of plunder; but Mr. Ledgard having contrived to escape by the window while the attention of the fellow who was guarding the room was momentarily withdrawn, the whole of the villains became alarmed, and made a precipitate retreat, without having obtained any booty, except the money from Mr. and Mrs. Ledgard, which fortunately did not exceed £5. An alarm had also—unknown to Mr. Ledgard—been given by a servant boy, who being in his bed room over the stable, had heard the screams of the female servants, and who ran for assistance, but which unfortunately did not arrive until some time after the villains had decamped. It is almost needless to add, that the whole neighbourhood is in a state of terror, and that families possessing plate and other valuables have removed them to places of safety. A reward of £100 is offered on the conviction of the offenders, and the police are taking active measures to lead to their discovery.