

COCK FIGHTING.—At Dewsbury, on Monday last, James Sheard, of Kirkheaton; Wm. Thornton, George Lee, George Garforth, David Taylor, and Seth Shaw, of Thornhill; and Henry Holmes, Thomas Oldroyd, John Mann, James Garforth, and Francis Crawshaw, of Mirfield, were summoned before John Hague, J. B. Greenwood, and E. B. W. Balme, Esqrs., for being present aiding and assisting at a cock fight. Sheard and Thornton did not appear, and warrants were issued for their apprehension. From the statement of John Armitage, a gamekeeper at Hopton, it appeared that about half-past five o'clock on the morning of the 9th of August, the party met near the Reformatory School at Mirfield, and Sheard and Thornton were the handlers at a cock battle, all the other defendants being present, aiding and assisting in making the ring. It also transpired that Armitage held the stakes. The nine defendants who appeared were fined £1 each and costs, and the Justices said they considered Armitage as bad as the rest. On Thursday last, Sheard and Thornton, the two handlers, were apprehended, and brought before J. B. Greenwood, E. B. W. Balme, and J. M. Stausfield, Esqrs., pleaded guilty to the offence, and were fined £5 each and costs, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment.