

OVERTIME IN THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT.—
CONVICTION OF MANUFACTURERS.—On Monday at the West Riding Police Court, Mr. Carr, Mr. Crowther, and Mr. Whitaker being on the bench, Messrs. Michael Swallow and Sons, carpet manufacturers, Heckmondwike, Messrs. James Howgate and Sons, cloth manufacturers, Ravens-thorpe; and Mr. James France, yarn spinner, &c., Thornhill, were summoned for permitting breaches of the Factory Acts by working boys and young women after six o'clock at night. It has been quite a common sight in the Dewsbury district to see after eight o'clock at night boys and girls returning home apparently from work, but nothing was done until March, when Mr. Beaumont, who had not long before been appointed Sub-inspector of Factories, made some evening visits, and found in the premises of the three defendants several boys and girls employed at seven o'clock. There were nine at Messrs. Howgate's, as many at Messrs. Swallow's, and two at Mr. France's. The defence set up, after a plea of guilty had been made, was that the employers did not know of this breach of the law, but that the overlookers were to blame. Mr. France was fined £4, and the other defendants £18 each.