

**CHARGE UNDER THE EXPLOSIVES ACT.**—Yesterday, at the West Riding Police-court, Dewsbury, William and Thomas Garforth, contractors for the execution of sewerage works for the Mirfield Local Board, were summoned before Messrs. Wm. Carr and Benjamin Sheard, under the Explosives Act, for keeping a quantity of explosives without having a proper receptacle for the same, to wit, 7lb. of tonite and 100 detonators.—Inspector Hunt said that at 10.40 p.m. on the 29th of August he was at the works, where the defendants were constructing the main sewer for the Mirfield Local Board, and he went into the watchman's box, where he found eight cartridges, weighing 1lb., filled with an explosive material. He asked the watchman if the firm had a certificate authorising them to keep such material, and he replied that he knew nothing about it. Witness afterwards saw Thomas Garforth, one of the defendants, and asked him for a certificate. Defendant told him he was not aware that such a thing was necessary. The defendant made the same statement before the Court.—The Chairman said there was no reason at all to think the defendant kept the material for an improper purpose, but the law was perfectly clear that proper places for keeping such things were required, and persons were not allowed by law to use the material without having a certificate authorising them to do so. There was no certificate in this case, and defendant was, in the way he had kept the articles, exposing the public to great danger; and not only that, but cartridges kept in that loose way might get into the hands of the workmen, and they knew nothing about them. The penalty was very heavy, but in this case, as defendants had erred innocently, they would only be fined 10s. and costs.