

THE BLANKET WEAVERS' STRIKE.

The female operative blanket weavers who are on strike held another mass meeting in the Primitive school-room, top of Heckmondwike, last night. The first weaver who addressed the meeting stated that they met at Cawley Hill that morning, and proceeded in a body to Flush Mills (Messrs. J. F. Firth and Sons), where they eventually succeeded in inducing the weavers to join the movement. They next went to Wellington Mills, Liversedge (Messrs. Crowther's), where they had similar success, but she believed the weavers at this place had for some reason or other gone back to their work. (A Voice: "No, no.") The next place visited was that of Mr. James Walker, of Mirfield, whose weavers were willing to strike if those at Messrs. Cooke and Wormald's, of Thornhill, would do the same. The same remark applied to Britannia Mills, Dewsbury. The weavers had promised to be guided by the weavers of Messrs. Cooke and Wormald. At the premises of the last-named firm a deputation representing the weavers had been interviewed, and they promised to lay the matter before a general meeting, and give an answer by Monday at noon. Several other weavers gave addresses urging the importance of being united in the matter, and it was resolved to renew their visit to Messrs. Cooke and Wormald's on Monday, with a view of persuading the weavers there to come out on strike. Complaints were made of the paucity of the number who went to Thornhill that day, and several speakers requested that the whole strength of the strike hands should turn up on Monday, so that greater influence could be exerted upon those of a wavering disposition regarding the strike.

Messrs. John Burnley and Sons, manufacturers, Heckmondwike, assure us that immediately after breakfast on Thursday morning a large number of weavers on strike came down to their place, filling the entrance to the works, a number of them actually forcing themselves into the weaving-room, for the declared purpose of inducing, or compelling, the weavers to come out on strike with them. This they refused to do, having no grievance to complain of, as the firm has always paid the extra price for upwards of 20 changes of shuttles since it was first agreed to up to the present time, and has not given notice of any intention to discontinue the same. The strike weavers remained on the premises, obstructing all business, for between two and three hours before they could induce the firm's weavers to leave their work, and at last this was only accomplished by sheer intimidation, and in some cases rather rough handling. As regards the matter of "the hose," the firm tried all means to induce the visitors to leave their premises in vain, and in the end some of their men adopted this device to clear them off.