

the window, and it would appear that the man had also seen the woman, as he at once drank off his beer and left the house. During all this time neither Mrs. Lamb nor the servant girl observed anything approaching the slightest excitement on the part of Johnson. He talked in a self-possessed and calm manner. Between this incident and what occurred on the highway leading up to the death of Mrs. Addison no one seems distinctly to know. It is

understood that an old man named Walker, working on the roadway, saw Mrs. Addison pass him, and soon after he also saw Johnson following in the same direction. It is likewise said that a little girl named McCormick was on the road at the time of the fatal deed, but neither Walker nor the latter appeared to have seen Johnson actually kill Mrs. Addison. It was not until Mary Ann Young, wife of Mark Young, miner, living at No. 1, Springwell Terrace, heard two reports, as from a firearm of some sort, and fired in rapid succession, immediately opposite to her home, that the crime was discovered. Mrs. Young, who was sweeping around her doorway at the moment, was unable to see what was the cause of the reports owing to some out-buildings and a wall which intervened between the houses forming Springwell Terrace and the highway obstructing her view. She, however, hurried round the low end of the wall, and on looking upwards saw a woman, fully dressed and wearing black kid gloves, lying on the side-walk, with her head towards Four Lane Ends. Mrs. Young ran to the woman, but on seeing the blood trickling from the latter's head on the ground into a crimson pool, she became alarmed at the sight, and scarcely knew what to do. By this time Mrs. Brown, mother of Mrs. Young, who lives next door, had also heard the shots fired, and she ran across her yard and looked over the wall. Neither of them saw the least signs of life in the body-lying prostrate before them, and as other neighbours who had likewise been aroused by the unusual reports now began to gather, Mrs. Young ran off to the police station, which stands about two hundred yards from where the deed was committed, and, knowing Mrs. Cartwright, the wife of the resident sergeant of police, she entered the kitchen of the latter without ceremony, and exclaimed excitedly, "Oh, Mrs. Cartwright, somebody has shot a woman on the road." Mrs. Young then observed that a man was sitting unconcernedly in a chair in the same room. This man was none other than Johnson, although Mrs. Young was unaware of the fact at the time. Mrs. Young says she did not see any one on the road when she first ran to the woman. Johnson had walked into the police station, where he inquired for Sergeant Cartwright. The officer was absent at the time, it being the monthly pay day at Houghton-le-Spring. On Mrs. Cartwright telling Johnson, who betrayed no signs of outward excitement, that her husband was not at home, the latter said, "Well, Mrs. Cartwright, I have shot the landlady." Mrs. Cartwright, who knew Johnson well, exclaimed, "Surely, Johnson, you have not done that." He replied, "Yes, I have. They have driven me to it." Johnson then took a revolver from one of his pockets, and handed the weapon to Mrs. Cartwright, saying, "That is what I did it with." Mrs. Cartwright replied, "Oh, Johnson, what a bad job." The man added, "Yes, I know it is, but I have done it, and I know the consequences. I will get the rope." Johnson then placed himself at the disposal of Mrs. Cartwright until the arrival of the sergeant, and, after giving up everything he had in his possession, he allowed her to lock him up in a cell. Mrs. Cartwright, who is a most kind-hearted and motherly person, was deeply affected at the recital of the man's confession, and more particularly when the appearance of Mrs. Young confirmed what he had told her. After Johnson had been locked up, Mrs. Cartwright proceeded to examine the revolver, which is a weapon about eight inches long, with six chambers, of good make, and having the appearance of not having before been used. One or two members of the family also examined the weapon, and toyed with the trigger, after which it was put away. On the return of Sergeant Cartwright, horror was added to Mrs. Cartwright's grief when she realised how narrowly some of her family or herself had escaped becoming the victims of perhaps another tragedy, on being told by her husband that the deadly instrument which she had handled so innocently was still loaded in four barrels. When Sergeant Cartwright's services were not available, another officer was sought for, and it so happened that Police-Constable Bellam, who had returned from Houghton, was found, and he hurried towards Springwell Terrace. There was an immense crowd of people then gathered around the deceased. The body had not, however, been disturbed, neither had deceased's umbrella and basket, which were lying on the ground not far from her head. Deceased was lying on her left side, and in such a position as to lead to the inference that after being shot she made an effort

of the jury, which was lying at the foot of the home of the deceased, close by the inn, having been viewed, the following evidence was given.

Christopher Addison, a miner living in the Lane Ends, a son of the deceased, identified the body as that of his mother who was 47 years of age, and was the widow of John Addison, an agricultural labourer. Johnson had lodged with them but had not been in the house to stay all night for the last month. Witness was last present when Johnson and his mother were together on Saturday morning. Witness came from work about nine o'clock, and Johnson was then standing at the table end sharpening a razor to shave himself. He never spoke. Johnson, when he finished shaving, washed his face, and went out without saying where he was going. There were no words that witness knew of between the deceased and Johnson. He had never heard the deceased threaten Johnson. Johnson went out about 9.30, and deceased left home about a quarter-past ten. His mother was going to Hetton to catch a train to go and see her mother, with whom she was going to stay a week.

The Coroner: Was she going to be married?

Witness: No, sir.

Not that you know of?—No, sir; not that I know of.

William Walker, a labourer, deposed that he was at work on Saturday morning near Springwell Terrace, when Mrs. Addison came by and spoke to him. A little girl named McCormick passed along at the same time, and about three minutes afterwards Johnson passed. He spoke civilly to witness, and the next thing witness heard was the crack of a pistol, and the little girl McCormick ran back looking very scared. Witness immediately afterwards heard the pistol fired a second time.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said it would be a very difficult thing to swear to the man. He was walking away after the shots were fired, and had his back to witness.

In reply to Superintendent Wilkinson, witness said he saw no other man pass but Johnson. Continuing, Walker said he went towards the woman, who was lying on the footpath on her face. She appeared to be quite dead, and blood was running from her face. He got some people who had come to the scene of the tragedy to go to the police station. He did not hear any shrieks or cries. He had known both Johnson and Mrs. Addison for some time.

Sarah Ellen McCormick, 13 years of age, said that before Saturday morning she had never seen Johnson nor Mrs. Addison. When she first observed the prisoner he was crossing the road at the Lane Ends. This would be just after ten o'clock. She saw Mrs. Addison walking in the direction of the railway bridge. Johnson passed witness and tapped her on the shoulder. He said something to her at the same time, but witness could not say what it was. Johnson took a pistol from his breast pocket, and fired at Mrs. Addison, who put her hands to her head, and exclaimed, "Oh, stop it!" Johnson fired again, and she fell down. Prisoner then walked on towards the police station. In reply to the superintendent, witness said Johnson was only about two yards behind the deceased when he fired.

P.C. Wm. Bellam having given evidence,

Sarah Cartwright said she resided at Hetton Police Station, and was in the kitchen on Saturday morning when Johnson came in and asked if the sergeant was in. She replied that he was not, and Johnson then said, "Mrs. Cartwright, I have shot the landlady!" Witness exclaimed, "Oh, Johnson, is it true?" and he said, "Yes." Johnson gave her the revolver produced, and she then took him to the cell and locked him in. She asked him to give up what he had in his possession, and he gave up the revolver, three cartridges, a knife, and a bunch of keys. The revolver was still warm, and there was no sign of drink about the prisoner, whose demeanour was perfectly cool.

Wm. Cartwright, sergeant of police, stationed at Hetton, said that about 11 a.m. he saw Johnson. After cautioning him, he charged him with wilfully murdering Margaret Addison in Hetton-le-Hole. He replied, "I followed and I did it, and I came straight to Hetton Police Station, and gave myself to Mrs. Cartwright. I also gave her the revolver I did it with. I fired two shots at her. I could stand it no longer." The revolver contained two empty cartridges and four undischarged ones, which witness drew.

John Cuthbertson, a porter at Hetton Railway Station, said that he knew Wm. Johnson, and last saw him on the platform at Hetton. Previous to that he was with him in the Colliery Inn on Thursday night. The prisoner began to talk of some things Mrs. Addison had belonging to him, and which she would not give up. Witness told him he had better take no notice, but Johnson came over and said, "Look you, there'll be a funeral at the Lane Ends before there's a wedding." Witness told him not to be so silly, as it would only be the worse for himself. He then said, "I am not

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

WALDRIDGE CHESTER-LE-SPRING.—Waldridge, having a vacant date last Saturday, played a scratch team captained by A. Milner, over whom they scored an easy victory. Results:—Waldridge, 6 goals; Chester, 1.

EDMONDSLEY STRANGERS II v. NEWCASTLE.—Played at Edmondsley, and resulted in a draw of 1 goal each.

GATESHEAD WEDNESDAY v. FELLING CHURCH INSTITUTE.—Played on the Institute ground, Felling, before a fair muster of spectators, in fine weather. The game resulted in a draw of 1 goal each.

EDMONDSLEY v. WEST END RESERVE.—Played at Edmondsley, a very evenly-balanced game terminating in a draw, neither team being able to score.

HERRINGTON RESERVE v. EGYPT RANGERS.—Played on the Reserve ground. The game resulted in a victory for the Rangers by 8 goals to nil.

MURTON COLLIERY WANDERERS v. RYHOPE WANDERERS.—Played at Murton, and, after a well-contested game, the visitors won by 3 goals to 1 goal.

MURTON COLLIERY TRUE BLUE JUNIORS v. NEW HERRINGTON JUNIORS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a draw of 1 goal each.

NEW HERRINGTON v. SUNDERLAND SWIFTS.—Played on the New Herrington ground. The game, which was very fast, ended in an easy victory for the Swifts by five goals to one goal. The committee of the New Herrington Club generously gave the proceeds of the gate to the widow of the late J. Hawkes, late member of the Black Watch Association Football Club, who was drowned off Roker last summer.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. EDMONDSLEY HEROES.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a draw of 1 goal each.

HETTON Y.M.C.A. v. SUNDERLAND HAVELOCK A.F.C.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the home team by 3 goals to 1.

WASHINGTON HEROES v. EAST RAINTON.—Played on the ground of the latter, when the visitors won by 3 goals to one.

NEW HERRINGTON AND PHILADELPHIA FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On Monday evening last (by permission of the managers) a grand concert was held in the Girls' School Room, New Herrington. The proceeds were in aid of the above society, whose funds are in a very straightened condition, owing to their having wet weather for the two last exhibitions. The concert was carried out through the sole efforts of Mr. R. Oliver, grocer, New Herrington, who is always willing to lend a helping hand in such matters. Mr. Oliver engaged the services of some very well-known talent from Newcastle-on-Tyne, and there was also some very good local talent amongst the performers. The promoter obtained every satisfaction for his painstaking efforts, for there was a very large audience present, every available space being crowded. Mr. Oliver presided, and before introducing the performers made a short speech upon the objects of the concert. The programme opened with a song, "The Diver," by Mr. J. Lambert, of Durham; followed by another song, "Afton Water," by Mrs. E. Davison, of New Herrington, who rendered her part most admirably, and was vociferously applauded when she left the stage. Miss C. Ogle rendered "The song that reached my heart" and "Old Madrid" most appreciatively; Miss M. Gilhepy sang "Thy voice is near," and "Better bids a wee," which were well taken with; Dr. Bloxam, of Houghton-le-Spring, rendered "True till death," and "Once Again"; and Mrs. E. Davison sang, "Bonny Jack." But the most appreciated parts of the programme were the comic sketches and songs. Mr. J. B. Bell, the most popular comic, gave, "They're after me," and "The Bald Headed Swell," for which he was loudly applauded and scored, having to appear no less than six times; and Mr. W. T. Merritt kept the audience convulsed with laughter by his imitation of "Joe Cowen," and his mimical sketch of "The night before Waterloo." Mr. Coulton Hedley, the celebrated Tyneside comic and orator, was, unfortunately, unable to be present. Mr. T. C. Coates acted as pianist. A most pleasant evening was brought to a close by the whole company singing "God Save the Queen."