Sussex Agricultural Express
Saturday 21 September 1895
OVINGDEAN
CONCERT IN AID OF PRIZES. - A concert was held on Tuesday evening in Mr. Cowley's barn in aid of the school children's prises. The Rev. F. W. ANDERSON presided over an appreciative audience. The barn was prettily decorated with flowers and lanterns. The programme consisted singing, recitations, &c., and was thoroughly appreciated, the performers being Miss Rose Osborne, Miss McNaughten, the Gaiety Minstrels, Mrs. McNaughten, Miss Nellie Hollands, Dr. Gordon Baker, Miss Barker, Miss Daisy Hollands, Masters Green and Lingley, Mr. Dwyne, Mr. C. McNaughten, Miss E. Gearing, Miss T. Murrell, Mr. W. Holland, Mr. C. Osborne. A minstrel troupe of school children, conducted by Mrs. Locos, was much appreciated. Impossible to know if this is our W. T. Dwyne

Sussex Local News.

FORESTERS' DINNER AT LEWES.

The members of Court "Lewes Castle," A.O.F., celebrated their annual dinner at the Shepherd and Dog Inn, on Thursday. The popular secretary of the court, Mr. J. W. Beardsmore, presided, and supporting him were the following officers and members: Brother Fletcher, Bart., E.F., Alderman E. Ellman, Aldermen J. Buchanan, Mr. Bowman, Bro. J. Lewis, Councillor G. Holman, Councillor W. Gates, Councillor J. E. Broderick, Bro. J. Hillman, Councillor J. Mitchell, and Bro. J. West. Those also present included Bro. W. J. Tapp (secretary Court "Lewes Castle," S.S.C.), Bro. A. Strong, Bro. Hodgson, Bro. Hammond (Newhaven), Bro. A. Strong, Bro. S. Thorncliffe, Bro. E. A. Card, Bro. E. L. Blaber, Messrs. G. Gladman, Holden, Tapp, Bro. Dr. Gordon Clark, Bros. Gurr, Coleman, J. R. Lazell, J. Turner, Rather (Court "Sussex"), Bro. Dr. Gordon Clark was the doyen of the excellent repast served by the host. Behind the chairman was suspended the banner of the Court, so beautifully renovated by Miss Cousens, of School-hill.

The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman announced the toast of the evening, namely, the inability to attend from the Rev. Dr. Cross, Alderman Buchanan, Alderman Fitch, the Rev. C. Lamb (Newhaven), Mr. H. Curtis Card, Mr. S. White, Mr. D. C. Manley, Mr. J. E. Blaber, Mr. J. Lewis, Mr. J. Mitchell, Mr. J. Gurr, Mr. W. Linfoot, Councillors Blaubolt, Hobden, Harris, Hayler, Hickie, and Pelling. Mr. J. H. Tod, Mr. E. Cole, Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. J. Lewis, Mr. H. Tod, Mr. E. Cole, Mr. C. J. Rose, Mr. W. Green, Mr. W. W. Grantham, and Mr. E. Tapp.

Bro. G. J. Lamey then gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," and spoke of the great assistance rendered by the British forces in the past, adding that he believed the volunteers would, if occasion arose, emulate the example of those who had gone before them (applause).

Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart., M.P., whose name was coupled with the toast, in response, drew attention to the fact in the House of Commons by the Under-Secretary of the Friendly Societies' Act, soft related how, owing to a chain of technicalities, a Friendly Society, such as Court "Lewes Castle," but by other courts in his constituency, had to pay the Home Office £1 for the certificate (by Sir Herbert Maxwell and himself, they were able to give the Court a certificate free of charge). He hoped the result he had stated (hear, hear). Proceeding, Sir Henry said he was soon to see the navy of this country equal to any other two navies of the world. As regarded the army, great changes were pending consequent upon the appointment of a military commander-in-chief (the Duke of Cambridge). During the 38 years his Royal Highness had been at the head of the Army, he had had the honour of serving under him, and could speak personally of his abilities. It had been said the Prince Duke was not progressive enough, but he had always given consideration to every suggestion made to him, and many of the adopted reforms.

THE REVIVED SOLDIER

now enjoyed were due to his initiative. Alluding to the introduction of the territorial system Sir Henry said that the Royal Sussex Regiment was second to none in the whole army, and he was proud to have been a part of Sussex lads to join it that its ranks were always full. As an instance of the success of the Militia, Sir Henry mentioned the case of a young Horsham tradesman who had joined the militia, was called up for the Royal Sussex, and had just come back as one of the Sergeant-Instructors of the Militia (a position held at some regiment, which he (Sir Henry) had the honour to command (applause). The weapons of the Volunteers were also to be improved, and he hoped it would be done soon by the army. One difficulty arose, and that was that the weapons required a longer range. At the present there were only 49 ranges in the country at which the Lee-Metford could be fired, and, in his own case, he had eleven company ranges, and all of them, he feared, would have to be closed but two. They would have to be able to fire at distances of 1,000 yards, and it might be that they would be able to use shorter ranges, with a reduced charge of powder. He thought it would be well to make the main body of Volunteers shoot well up to 500 yards, and let others with longer ranges and plenty of time travel to places where longer ranges were available. He hoped that our citizen army would go on improving, and that improvements would be made as they be designed (applause).

Bro. Coulson Kernahan (Seaford Engineers) responded on behalf of the volunteers.

Again called upon, Sir Henry Fletcher submitted "The Mayor and Corporation." He said they were greatly honoured by the presence of the Mayor that evening and at least two other gentlemen who had performed their first office, and he had no doubt that among the audience he saw before him there were many who would become future councillors (hear, hear). The Mayor, as they were informed had been ill, and had not been in a position for long time, but he thought that during the period he had been amongst them he had done his duty as a citizen, as a councillor, and as a magistrate, and he was sure he was which no one could complain (applause). He expressed a hope that Councillor Gates would be persuaded to accept office for a second year (applause).

The Mayor, who was heartily received on rising to responed, said that he had felt very much the honour conferred that toast. That toast in the town of Lewes was always responded to enthusiastically, and he was sure he was glad that it was because the Mayor of Lewes had carried out the duties of his office to the satisfaction of gentlemen Sir Henry Fletcher had said that two gentlemen were present who had accepted the position of Mayor and one had resigned on account of ill health. He was sure gentlemen Sir Henry with regard to the latter that the number did not by any means, lessen the work of the Mayor and as easily as possible at least two or three gentlemen who probably would be willing to accept the honour and post of mayor (laughter and applause). With so many gentlemen present they did not know when the future might bring them, and he was sure that if any of them might be had not the slightest idea that he would ever stand before them in the position of Mayor of Lewes. Sir Henry Fletcher, on behalf of the Corporation, as well as on his own account, had the best way in which he had proved the toast. It was true that the Corporation spent a great deal of the ratepayers' money (laughter) but they endeavored to spend it for the benefit of the town (applause). The Municipal Buildings, he believed, would be of great benefit to the town in the future and not as a corporate body, they endeavored to do their duty, and all complaints were taken to the proper quarter and attention. In conclusion he proposed "Court Lewes Castle and Juvenile Branch."

Bro. C. W. Kemp (sub-chief ranger) first acknowledged the toast, and said the court now numbered over 1,100 members. He hoped they would be able to do more work in the court than they seemed to none in the kingdom (applause).

Bro. W. J. Tapp, P.H.C.S.W. (secretary to the court) said the Juvenile Branch was 1,100, and there were four new vacancies for the Juvenile Branch funds amounted to £9,900. Since 1893 they had paid away £14,004 in the sick fund, and £3,677 to their ex-rangers. To widows they had paid £921, and out of their subscriptions of 1s. 6d. they had paid £2,000 for funeral benefits. In the same period they had received £3,690 in interest, and at the present time about £3,000 was invested with the Lewes Corporation (applause). In the last twelve months, in which they now admitted girls as well as boys, they had added 38 names to the list. In order to give the difficulty as to the ownership of the funds in the branch, they had formed a separate branch, and in the rest of the profits were divided equally every year and placed to the credit of the members in order to partially pay their contributions to the parent society when they had occasion to do it. This was the beginning of the scheme of the Juvenile Branch. The Juvenile Branch court was doing well, and they had invaded the Kent district and had established a branch at Ashford. This movement amongst women was likely to spread marvellously, perhaps not so much in the south as in the north, where, in the manufacturing districts, it was very much largely wage-earners.

The toasts following were "Sir Henry Fletcher," "The Honorary Members," "Kindred Societies and Visitors," "The Chairman," "Surgeon and Chairman," and "The Host and Hostess."

Between the toasts some excellent songs were rendered by Mr. R. T. Hall, Bro. Hammond, Bro. E. A. Card, Bro. Gleasman, Bro. W. H. Paris presided at the piano with his well known ability.

The following constituted the dinner committee and the stewards for the arrangements for the dinner:—Bros. C. W. Kemp (chairman), R. J. Mayhew (vice-chairman), H. E. Hewman, C. Hasenra, G. Morley, A. Coleman, and H. Taylor.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY AT SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

Mr. Walter Paine as hon. sec., and they were ably assisted by the hon. sec. of the Newhaven club.

EARLY CLOSING ASSOCIATION.—A meeting in connection with this association was held at the Town Hall on Tuesday evening for the purpose of forming a local Voluntary Early Closing Association. The Mayor (Councillor H. H. Blaubolt) presided over a large gathering, chiefly formed by shop assistants &c., interested in the movement. The Chairman, in opening the proceedings expressed his sympathy with the movement, and was pleased to see so many present. Mr. Alderman Jones of London. On the motion of Mr. Lavender, seconded by Mr. Gates, a committee of 12 members was formed, and Miss Davis, assisted by Messrs. Deacon, Lavender, and Lucas, and G. Rose Smith were appointed to canvass the town for signatures. Mr. A. de Lavigerie was appointed hon. sec. pro tem., the Mayor consented to act as treasurer, and the chairman and speakers brought the meeting to a close.

BRIGHTON.

SHOCKING SUICIDE AT THE CENTRAL STATION.—On Monday morning a dreadful scene was witnessed at the Central Station. Almost eleven o'clock a respectable looking man was standing on the Brighton arrival platform, suddenly a shriek was heard, and he was seen to be lying on the rail of Northern Line. The body was cut in two, the head crushed, and the brains scattered about the line. The unfortunate was struck by the driver, who, until he heard the cries of the by-standers, was unaware of what had happened, so sudden was the occurrence. The deceased was discovered the one foot of metals intervening between the platform and the same of the locomotive. It was feared that the wheels had passed over the stomach, the head and shoulders. With all speed a stretcher and blankets were placed upon a steamer and many of the onlookers fainted at the sight. The body remained at the Terminus until the night. The body remained at the Terminus until the night. The deceased was identified by his son as Joseph Wood, 62 years of age, bootmaker, of 92, Ann-street, Brighton. Upon a piece of paper in the pocket was found the deceased's address, and date, name. After identification the body was removed to the West Hill police station, and subsequently to the Dr. Bull Bank held the inquest on Tuesday.—A son of the deceased stated that his father had been missing since On Monday morning he left home to see a doctor. He was very very depressed, and seemed to make trouble out of little things. He had been in the Sussex County Hospital Lewes Asylum eleven years ago. He had no reason to go to the station. Witness had never attempted to deposed to seeing deceased throw himself in front of the train, and the evidence of witnesses who had been within of second mind." Verdict, "Suicide while of second mind."

SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL.—Number of patients in hospital last Board day, 151; total number admitted (none, 20); including two accidents; 28 urgent cases; number of out-patients relieved (by 1 nurse) 1,000; number of out-patients prescribed for during the week, 1,000; number of out-patients prescribed for during the week, 1,000; number of out-patients prescribed for during the week,