

merits as the landlord of a sporting house, the sudden and awful termination of his career banished every other consideration from the minds of the amateurs :—

O *slippery* state of things ! What sudden turns,
 What strange vicissitudes in the *first* leaf
 Of MAN'S *sad* history ! To-DAY most happy,
 And ere TO-MORROW'S sun has set, most *abject* !

MELANCHOLY DEATH.

HICKMAN, accompanied by his friend, left his house early on Tuesday morning, the 10th of December, to witness the fight between *Hudson* and *Shelton*, at Arpenden Common, near St. Alban's. He was in excellent health and spirits during the battle, walking about the ground with a whip in his hand, in conversation with Mr. *Rowe*. At the conclusion of the battle he returned to St. Alban's, where he made but a short stay, and then proceeded on his journey to London.

On returning home in the evening, HICKMAN drove, and endeavoured to pass a road-waggon on the *near* side of the road, instead of the *off* side. Whether from unskilful driving, the darkness of the night, or some other cause, in clearing the wheels of the waggon, the chaise was overturned; and, dreadful to relate, both were precipitated under the wheels, which went over their heads; HICKMAN was killed instantaneously, his brains were scattered about the road, and his head nearly crushed to atoms. Mr. *Rowe* seemed to have some animation, but was soon dead. *Randall* had parted with them at South Mimms shortly before, and he stated that they were sober.

It was in the hollow, half a mile north of the Green Man, Finchley-common, where HICKMAN and Mr. *Rowe* were killed.

It appears that the last place where the two unfortunate men, HICKMAN and *Rowe*, drank, was at the Swan, between Whetstone-turnpike and the Swan-with-two-Necks, and within half a mile of the spot where the catastrophe happened. HICKMAN observed upon the darkness of the night, and spoke of the fog coming on, when he got into the chaise. His friend anticipated some danger, and refused to accompany him in the gig, unless he drove. HICKMAN positively refused, and, unfortunately for Mr. *Rowe*, the latter occupied the place of HICKMAN's friend. The horse escaped unhurt, and the chaise was perfect, (which belonged to Mr. Boyce, livery-stable-keeper, Leather-lane, Holborn,) and in it the sufferers were conveyed more than a quarter of a mile, to the Swan-with-two-Necks. The above shocking accident had such an effect on the nerves of the landlord, that he was also a *corpse* in less than a week afterwards.

Mr. *Rowe* left a most amiable wife and three small children to lament his loss.

Immediately after the fight was over between *Hudson* and *Shelton*, HICKMAN said to the writer of this article, that, on his own account, he was sorry *Hudson* had lost the battle, it being the intention of the friends of *Josh*. in the event of his having proved the conqueror, to have backed him against HICKMAN for £100 a-side; and he laughingly observed, "*Blow my Dickey*, if I shouldn't like it so vastly!" It is rather a curious coincidence, that, on the above day twelve-

months, a report reached London that HICKMAN was dead, in consequence of the severe blows he received in his battle with *Neat*. It, perhaps, may also be necessary to state, that HICKMAN had been thrown out several times from single-horse chaises, in consequence of his daring and hazardous driving. On being picked up, a few months since, nearly killed, he then, poor fellow ! bitterly exclaimed against the use of such vehicles, and, in the heat of his passion, wished that if he ever rode in one again he might have his brains knocked out. His wish, too lamentably for his unhappy wife and two small children, has been verified.

THE INQUEST.

Wednesday evening, December 11, 1822, an inquest was held, at the sign of the Swan-with-two-Necks, Finchley-common, before T. Stirling, Esq. Coroner, on the bodies of THOMAS HICKMAN, and Mr. THOMAS ROWE, silversmith, of Aldersgate-street, St. Luke's, who came by their deaths under the following dreadful circumstances :—

The accident excited the greatest interest in the *Sporting World*; and although the Inquest was held at an earlier period than was expected, the Jury-room was crowded to excess to hear the evidence.

The jury being empannelled and sworn, the first duty requested of them was to view the bodies of the deceased persons, who lay in an adjacent spot to the house in which the Inquest was held. On their arrival, a most horrid spectacle presented itself to their view; the *Gas-light-Man* lay on his back, and had it

To the Sporting World.

REMEMBRANCE
OF
A BRAVE MAN;
AND
CONSIDERATION
FOR
HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.

*Under the Patronage of the P. C. and Superintendance
of Mr. JACKSON.*

A BENEFIT
FOR THE
Widow & Two Infant Children
OF THE LATE

T. HICKMAN,

Denominated in the Sporting Circles the

Gas-Light-Man,

WILL TAKE PLACE

AT THE FIVES' COURT,

St. Martin's Street, Leicester-square,

ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY the 5th, 1823,

*At which every Exertion will be made by all the First-Rate Pugilists
to produce a Grand Display of*

THE ART OF SELF-DEFENCE.

The Setts-to between Messrs.

Cribb
Spring
Belcher
Harmer
Carter
Oliver

B. Burns
Randall
Turner
Martin
Cv. Davis
Richmond

Eales
Shelton
J. Hudson
Tom Owen
Holt
Scroggins

Curtis
A. Belasco
P. Halton
Purcell
Brown
Lenney, &c.

In consequence of the melancholy and afflicting accident which befel the late T. HICKMAN, instantly depriving his Wife and Two Children of his support, he having scarcely commenced Licensed Victualler, (not more than six weeks,) but with an excellent prospect of improving his circumstances in life, the above appeal is made to the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Amateurs composing the Sporting World, in order to assist his Widow towards providing for her fatherless offspring. The well-known liberality of the Sporting World, so highly distinguished upon all occasions, to give a *turn* to the Unfortunate, renders any further comment upon the aforesaid melancholy circumstance totally unnecessary to excite their interest and attention.

TICKETS, 3s. each, to be had of Mr. JACKSON, at his Rooms, 13, Old Bond-street; of PIERCE EGAN, Sporting Bookseller, 71, Chancery-lane; CRIBB, Union Arms, Panton-street, Haymarket; BELCHER, Castle Tavern, Holborn; RANDALL, Hole-in-the-Wall, Chancery-lane; HARMER, Plough, Smithfield; CY. DAVIS, Cat-Tap, Newgate-market; HOLT, Golden Cross, Cross-lane, Long-Acre; EALES, Prince of Mecklenburg Arms, James-street, Oxford-street; B. BURNS, Rising Sun, Windmill-street, Haymarket; and of the WIDOW (Mrs. HICKMAN,) Adam and Eve, Jewin-street, Aldersgate-street.

MRS. HICKMAN'S BENEFIT.

The *rush* at the Fives' Court, from the anxiety of the amateurs to show their sympathy for the Widow and Children of the *Gas-light-Man*, was equal to any thing ever before experienced: on the door being opened, the money-taker was almost carried away from his post by the pressure of the crowd, so anxious were the amateurs to gain admission. The attraction was great, independent of the cause; and, on the