

## HARRIETVILLE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Feb. 8th, 1875.

I am extremely sorry to find that Mr J. R. Gilbert, of Running Creek, should feel annoyed at my reporting a fact, namely, "that it was rumored here on good authority that he had retired from contesting the vacant seat at the Mining Board," but when he accuses me of taking an unwarrantable liberty with his name, I must tell him that as soon as a candidate announces himself, his name becomes public property.

I have only to add that my report can be verified by a number of residents here, who were told by no less a person than Mr H. Traulsen, when canvassing, that Mr Gilbert had retired from the contest.

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**NEW MAGISTRATES.**—The following gentlemen are gazetted to keep the peace in and for the Northern Bailiwick:—Messrs James Giles, Bombala, N. S. Wales; Cecil Guinness, Bourke, Darling River, N. S. Wales; Joseph Hanson, Colac colac, N. S. Wales; Johnson Quin, Myrtleford; James Shaw, Mansfield.

**CRICKET.**—The Benalla cricket team is about to play a match with the Avenelites, and the event takes place on Saturday next, the Benalla men going to Benalla by the 9-30 a.m. train, and returning by the 10-30 p.m. goods train on the same day. In the meantime, the Benalla men are practising every evening, and feel confident that they will render a good account of themselves on the day of the match.

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**AUCTIONEER'S REPORT.**—Mr Alexander Tone reports having sold on Saturday, the 6th inst., on behalf of Mr Thomas

THE OLD INST., ON BEHALF OF MR THOMAS  
Dunkley, junr., to the Messrs Sanderson, a  
farm of 40 acres situated at Carraragarmungee,  
for the sum of £200; on Monday, the 8th  
inst., a farm of 54a 1r 20p, situated at Boor-  
haman, to Mr W. Dale, for £152; at Chiltern,  
on Tuesday, the 9th, a brick cottage with half  
an acre of land, to Mr John Moore, for £170.

**DANGEROUS MANTRAPS.**—The ash pits at  
some of the railway stations in this district  
are a constant source of danger to strangers  
who have to visit the stations at night. At  
the Chiltern station, on Monday night, a son  
of Mr Christie, of Barnawartha, fell into the  
one on the upperside of the station, and received  
very severe injuries on the head. This is not  
the first accident of the kind which has  
occurred at the Chiltern station, but we  
suppose a life must be sacrificed before the  
safety of the public is considered. The ash  
pit referred to is situated close to the crossing  
of the line used by foot passengers, which is  
marked only by a few pieces of quartering  
laid between the rails. Any one arriving  
there on a dark night would be unable to see  
the crossing-place, and if a stranger, he would  
naturally turn a little to the left, guided by  
the lamps at the station, and in a direct line  
with the ash pit. Mr Christie himself fell  
into the hole at the same time as his son, but  
escaped serious injury. The young man  
was insensible for some time, and could not,  
of course, proceed on his journey. He was  
taken into Chiltern, where he recovered con-  
sciousness, and is now doing well. If nothing  
else can be done, the railway authorities  
might at least place a lamp at each of the ash  
pits half an hour before the arrival of the  
night trains. Such a precaution is especially  
needed where the passenger station is situated,  
as at Chiltern, on the opposite side of the line  
from the township.

**DISCHARGING FIREARMS.**—At the Bench's  
Police Court, on Monday last, R. Hoskin  
applied to the Bench for permission to dis-  
charge firearms in one of the public streets of  
Beechworth. The Bench was directed to make

charge firearms in one of the public streets of Benalla. The applicant was directed to make his application in proper form.

**POLITICAL.**—The *Herald* says: — "It is rumoured that a member of the Legislative Assembly who has not been long in the House, who has given a general support to the Government, is likely to be appointed to an impending vacancy in the ranks of the police magistrates. If this be so, a sharp contest will be witnessed in a well known country electorate." In connection with this the *Clipsland Times* writes:— Does it refer to Mr F. L. Smyth? The denial of his rumoured resignation has been very faint indeed, and his warmest local friends are beginning to bewail their ignorance of his movements and his intentions.

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