

Never yet so fine a hood! Such attention has this opening and closing received, that it has at last become purely child's play

To put the hood down, release a small catch without getting out of the car; push upwards and rearwards and the hood gently falls to its open



Beige Bronze

WHAT A

Munro Donald recalls the Kent coachbuilder Maltby' and its pioneering work designing and fitting fully automatic hoods.

The early history of the British motor car is inextricably linked to that of the British coachbuilder. These artists and craftsmen gave identity and personality to the work of the engineers who built the chassis. Often these coachwork designs were unique to a particular car manufacturer or, indeed, a specific chassis. Occasionally, however, a coachbuilder would hit upon a design so striking and original that it became desirable in itself. As a result, it was fitted to cars produced by several manufacturers. A case in point was the Redfern Saloon-Tourer built by Maltby's of Folkestone, 'Builders of

Beautiful Bodies', as their slogan had it. This coachwork was to be found with such diverse chassis as Rolls-Royce, Morris, Buick, Wolseley and Armstrong Siddeley in the '30s.

What was so special about the Redfern Saloon-Tourer? It attracted interest from devotees of such varied chassis as those mentioned. Each of these makes had strong links with more traditional coachbuilders. The attraction was what was possibly the world's first power hood, coupled with the very elegant lines displayed by this model. As Maltby's advertisements declared, it offered saloon comfort with the hood up, and the pleasure of open air motor-

ing with the hood down. Maltby's had been established by



secured the sales agency for the Moto Manufacturing Company, makers of the MM motor car and previously, together wit Daimler, part of the ill-fated Great Horsele: Carriage Company. The latter had been an ear attempt to monopolise the motor industr which failed.

The Folkestone Herald of 20th August, 190 reported: 'Taking time by the forelock migl well be adapted by Mr John Maltby as his bus ness motto. It can be truly said that th estimable gentleman could discern the tin when the motor industry would be great ar flourishing in this country. Others might have pooh-poohed it years ago, but Mr Maltby cou clearly see that advancing time and inventive genius are associated together. Thus it was th this enterprising Sandgate tradesman was th first in this district to own a motor. An engine by profession, he set himself to work to learn a he could anent the mechanics and science automobilism.

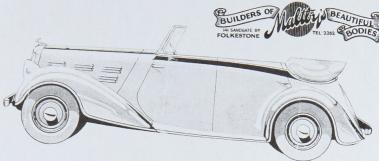
Thus equipped, Mr Maltby opened a sma repairing shop and was entrusted with all th work of Folkestone Motors Ltd. That he ha done that work well is known to that compan But Mr Maltby's fame has extended far beyor local limits, and motors far beyond London a sent to him for repairs or overhauling. A

Maltby has also built cars, and these are ru ning in various parts of the world. It is qui understandable. The owner of a valuable motwill not entrust it to a novice. He must find o a man who can be relied upon.

ydraulic

Red





"OPEN TO CLOSED"

To raise the hood, a few light strokes on the handle beside the driver's seat and the hood is up again. How wonderful, and what a vast improvement!

The hood is hydraulic. No! It is not complicated. The best things are simple. There is no elaborate mechanism. The device will not give trouble. Motorists have used hydraulic brakes and jacks for years and the hood.

Above: An original sales brochure describing Redfern Saloon-Tourer bodywork on a Morris chassis.

Right: Maltby's premises at Sandgate, Folkestone, in 1928.

'Thus it is that Mr Maltby has made a name for himself far and wide, and it causes no wonder to hear that he is just about to extend his premises. Our old friend has not only marched with the times, but he has kept in front. His many old friends congratulate him, not only on his deserved success, but also on the fact that he has been the means of finding employment for many deserving men in Sandgate."

How much of a hand John Maltby had in penning this eulogy is hard to say. He was certainly a prominent advertiser in the Folkestone Herald. While the article may contain a lot of hype, it is in essence a fair description of Maltby's position at the time. In a memoir of life working for Maltby's, a mechanic tells the story of how Sir Montague Webb's green and yellow de Dion Bouton was shipped back to Maltby's from India every two years for servicing. Clearly there was no-one in India whom Sir Montague could trust with his car. It may be a little uncharitable to suggest that he may have had an additional incentive to patronise the Sandgate company. It is possible that the car accompanied him as free baggage on his annual leave.

Generally speaking, the cars of the Motor Manufacturing Co, for which Maltby was agent, were clumsy and inefficient, even for those days. Possibly their only redeeming feature was the fact that they utilised the Iden gearbox. Maltby must have appreciated the merits of this.



In 1904, he began building omnibuses for Folkestone Motors Ltd. The bodies were constructed on chassis built by George Iden, complete with Iden gearboxes and engines. Two years later, the Iden premises in Parkside, Coventry, were taken over by the Deasy Motor Car Manufacturing Co. John Siddeley went to work there and it eventually became part of Armstrong Siddeley. Maltby's had a long association with the amalgamated company. They became their agents and distributors for Kent, and built handsome bodies for many Armstrong Siddeley chassis.

In April, 1906, John Maltby had formed a limited company. By 1912 he was ready to start manufacturing complete vehicles under his own name. The business grew, and shortly before the Great War the company won a contract to build 200 two ton lorries for the Indian Government. The war prevented this order from being completed until about 1923. During the war the

works were given over to War Department contracts and some of Maltby's machinery was requisitioned. The question of compensation engaged John Maltby for some time after hostilities had ceased and was the subject of an appeal to the War Compensation Board.

Manufacture of commercial vehicles, some cars, and sales and servicing of various cars, occupied the postwar years. The business became very successful. By 1925, Maltby's had branches in Hythe, Canterbury and Folkestone and were distributors for Morris and Minerva, as well as main agents for Humber, Crossley and Buick. Maltby's own vehicles had been renamed MMS. Coachbuilding activities had been extended to include bespoke bodies for Rolls-Royce, Armstrong Siddeley, and many other makes under the direction of Mr Trevor, who had previously worked for Lanchester. Contracts were also won to body cars to manufacturers' own specifications. One such cus-

District and village news

next meeting on Wednesday November 19, at 2pm in St Luke's Church Hall, Haw-king, If any gardener or gen-eral helper can spare one or two hours per month to help maintain the garden for St Luke's Church Hall then go along and fidying up in St Luke's Church Hall then go along and join the team who meet every first Saturday of the month between 10am and noon.

the month between 10am and moon.

WHAT'S on at St Luke's Church Hall. — Wednesday 1.30pm Hawkinge Mothers Group. Thuskinge Mothers Group. Thuskadys, 2.30pm Women's Fellowship. Fridays, 6pm Friday Club. Hr you wish to look St Luke's Church Hall or require inforpadion about events held there, please contact the booking secretary. John Page on 89 1722.

SERVICES. This Sunday November 16, at St Luke's Church, Hawkinge, 9.30am Family Communion, 5.30pm Evensong. At the Baptist Free Church (at St Luke's) Hammorning worship and junior church.

Lyminge

Lyminge

COUNCIL: The Lyminge
Parish Council held it's
monthly meeting at the
Lyminge village hall on
Monday October 27 at
7.30pm. The chairman, Clift
D. Hamer welcomed councillors to the meeting, The minutes of the meeting held on
September 22 were approved
and signed by the chairman.
The clerk, Mr C.W. Auld
referred to matters arising, He
said he had received a letter
from Sheppasy District
from Sheppasy District
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from Sheppasy District
from the council of the council of the
that work had started a started
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that work had started a started
to the care parking spaces
in the car park at Station
Road, Lyminge.

A shapping matter was

in the car par.
Road, Lyminge.
A planning matter was

Acrese. This is a change or use of the Farm House planning application for the building of a general purpose farm building at Park Farm, Acrise Court. The farm house is in the parish of Lyminge and then we building is in the parish of Lyminge and then we building is in the parish of Elham. A finance matter was referred to by Clir Taylor who said he had attended a finance committee moving on October 20 when of applications of the council to do a manual grant was discussed. Clir Taylor proposed the present amount of £300 should be increased to £350. Committors agreed to was discussed. Clif 14/10 proposed the present amount of £200 should be increased to find the compression of £200 should be increased to find the found, the future of the hall will be in formation of £100 beginned to a local playgroup, this was agreed by council-loss, but an application by the British Red Cross for a donation was refused by council-lors as it was not a locally based charity.

The clerk said he had of £300 should be increased to £350. Councillors agreed to the increase, ClIr Taylor also proposed a donation of £10 be given to a local playgroup, this was agreed by council-lors, but an application by the British Red Cross for a dona-tion was refused by council-

received a letter from Mr R.D. Gay regarding the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs Lansdell. It was said Mr Gay was a resident of Etchinghill and he was interested in the environment.

Shepway District Council had not received a request for an environment. Shepway District Council had not received a request for an experience of the council. The vice-chairman, cil and will take his seat at the November meeting of the council. The vice-chairman, cil not be received a request of the normal council and will take his seat at the November business relating to a replacement bus shelter had a proposed to the council of the previous bus shelter had allogedly been damaged as a yesult of a road some standard of the council of the previous bus shelter had allogedly been damaged as a yesult of a road say so and another one is needed. If was suggested that Clit Monk, the Shepway District Councillors should be informed by letter as a matter of priority and because of the urgency of this matter, he should be requested to assist the council so that the process to obtain a replacement bus shelter can be dealt with quickly, next Lyminge Parish Council meeting will he held in Lyminge village hall on Monday November 24 at 7.30pm.

Newington

Newington

SHOW: Newington and
District Gardeners' Association held their Autumn
Show at the Newington
Village Hall' on Saturday
September 27, It was a very
exhibits which were staged by
24 Actibitions. The show was
well supported with visitors
keeping those on the tombola and refreshments stall busy.
Mr Bill Cross won the
members points trophy, Mr
ken Andrews won the best
exhibit in the show and Miss
K. Ligod has a special mention for her courgette Penguin
the decorated vegetable
Cup.

"HAIL1- Newinton y Village
"HAIL1- Seminoring y Willage
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•HALL: Newington Village Hall Committee held a month-

Hall Constant and the state of the state of

274168. On a happier note, the auction held in the hall on

was made.

*FAYRE: The Newington Church Autumn Fayre which was held on Saturday October. 25 was again well supported and a profit of £650 was raised.

*SERVICES: This Sunday, Novembar 16 at the Parish Church of 51 Nicholas, Dewington 10.15am Sunday School, 6.30pm Evensong.

Stelling Minnis

SCOUT Group. A Jumble Sale will be held at the Scout Hall, Bossingham, on Saturday November 15 at 2.30pm. Please bring any jumble to the hall on the day or telephone Jim O'Rourke on 709343 or Caroline Cope on 700552 to arrange for collection.

70052 to arrange for collection.

ACTION Group: Stelling Minnis Village Hall Action Group. Minnis Memories 18 now being printed and wift be launched at a Wrie and Cheese evening in Bossingham Village Hall this Friday November 14.

The Cheese county in Bossingham Village Hall this Friday November 14.

The Cheese evening in Bossingham Village Hall this Friday November 14.

The Cheese Ch

evening.

-PETS: The Lord Whistor Centre, Rhodes Minnis, open Tuesday-Sunday Dam to 4pm for light rershments and gifts. Low income Vet Clinic every Tuesday and Thursday 2pm to 3pm. Dog Grødning for all breeds now

for the annual Animal Blessing Service, carols, nativity scene with real don-

nativity scene with real con-leys!

*SERVICES. This Sunday,
November 16, 9.30am
Stelling All Ages Service,
Ilam at Upper Hardres, Holy
Communion and Sunday
School.

The Sunday School Group
Started by Elizabeth Haffenden and Ginny Hall meets
on the third Sunday of each
moth at 11am and then joint
in with the congregation at the
communion part of this service.

Alkham

ST ANTHONY'S Church

Capel Evenging at 6.30pm ad Sung Definities at 9.30km. Mr. Anthony is a place of worship and sacred, yet peop-ple are not only walking their dogs and defining the grave-yard by leaving the inevitable of the properties of the control of the picking rate species or flow-ers which have existed for centuries because they lie in their usual natural habitat. This is not only theft, but des-ecration of holy ground. WOITE. For those worship-per of the properties of the pro-tide of the properties of the pro-ton November 30 at 8pm. "CONDOLENCES. It was great sorrow to hear far Ricky Ducatel's wife Christine had possed away. The Ducatel Aming have lived in Ewell Minnis for a great

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KENT'S NEWEST GARDEN CENTRE

HIGHFIELD

the family.

YOUTH Club. Come along to the Youth Club and meet new friends and join in the fun at the village hall, Thursdy November 13, ages nine plus from 7pm to 9pm and ages 124-7,30pm to 10pm, parts who would like to join in and help are needed.

result of the work of the work

activity!

•SALE: Alkham Good
Neighbours group held a jumble sale last month and raised
£80. These funds are used to
finance the senior citizens'
annual dinner. All villagers
over 60 are invited to the din-

throughout the year. The next such event is the Christmas raffle and those interested should contact Rosemary Polden or Doreen Lott. **BEEKEEPERS: Dover and District Beekeepers Asso-

ble sale last month and raised
BEFREPERS: Dover and
BSO. These funds are used to
finance the senior citizens
over 60 are invited to the disc
over 60 are invit

The Beekeepers Association held their annual meet-ing in the village hall or October 24 and this event war very popular, not only with

Contd on page 30



FOLKESTON



39 Destinations from £59.00 including

Magic of Chocolate - Wales - Great Gardens - Scot Isle of Wight - Edinburgh Tattoo - Trains of Bel Bulbfields - Paris - Rhine - Black Forest - Ire Plus Cyprus and Malta.

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Maltby's the coach builders' showrooms now a video shop, at 141-3 Sandgate Road, Folkestone. Mr Arthur Chatfield's picture dates from 1928. He is standing under the "Minor" sign, in the right-hand showroom window. In the left hand window is a little known Voison, which looks like a soft-top. There were also Maltby garages and/or workshops at

Sandgate (where the business began). Hythe Sanugate (where the business began), hythe and Canterbury. I once heard there was a Deal garage too, but I suspect this is a reference to a Caffyns garage. The Malby family severed connections with the business about 1929 when the Redfern family bought the business, and, later Caffyns took over.

A RECENT appeal I made in our Wheels motoring section for infor-mation on the Maltby coachbuilding firm at Sandgate and in particular about a Redfern Tourer the

firm built, brought results beyond

my wildest dreams.

Not so much about the 'Tourer' —
although I did receive information about
this — but a fascinating story about a
local family team of engineers who
worked for the firm.
My article in Wheels was seen by
Miss Linda Gowans, of Eastbourne, who,
in retirement from the Caffyns garage
chain — they took over Maltby's —
looks after their archives.
Sadly those archives do not contain a
wealth of pictures of Maltby's legendary
coachwork but Miss Gowans put me in
touch with a remarkable family of motor
engineers.

engineers.
Arthur Chatfield, 97, of Ash joined
Maltbys in 1926 as garage foreman and
driving instructor after arduous Army
service in the trenches in the First World
War, when he was badly wounded.

War victim

Having ...
engineer in Eastboun...
he moved with Mr F Aitken to when we will be moved with Mr F Aitken to becoming manager there. He then went on to work for the firm for 44 years, eventually retiring in 1964.

Looking back on his career with Maltbys and Caffyns, Mr Chatfield told me: "I think my family served the company for over 150 years...

150 years...
160 years...
160 years...
160 years... Having trained and worked as a motor

grands on Russell was at Horsham, and Derek, my younger son was at Canterbury, — and also at Ramsgate, Deal and

Ashford. worked at Eastbourne, Folkestone and

worked at Eastbourne, Folkestone and Canterbury," — Phew!

Mr Chaffield, who lives with his son Derek, presented to Caffyns the fine picture, top left, of the Sandgate Road, Folkestone showrooms of Maltbys, which was taken in 1928.

The coachbuilders were agents for Morris cars and vans, and Arthur is pictured inside the showroom window under the 'Minor' sign.

Call-up in 1917

Also in the picture, on the right of the doorway, is Mr Dick Redfern, brother of the managing director of the time Francis Redfern.

The managing unrector of the fine, Francis Redferns' father, another Francis, was a member of the senior management of Johnnie Walker's and, 1 am told, bought the Maltby business for his sons in the late 1920s. Also pictured, is a salesman called Guntripp who married into the Redfern family, and, under the 'Morris' sign, is Mr P Young, later service manager for the firm at Canterbury. Arthur Chatfield was 18 on Boxing Day 1917 and, within a month received his calling up papers to join the Army. He did six months training and was then sent by train to Folkestone in July 1918.

by train to Folkestone in July 1918.
From the port he went to Etaples for

Feature by our staff history buff and local author Bob Hollingsbee

more training before going to the Front into the thick of fighting in the trenches. On August 22 he "went over the top" under heavy fire, and, he said, "Several of my mates were killed or wounded."

Soon afterwards, in another advance under machine gun fire, Arthur was wounded, a bullet passing through his left shoulder and out of his chest.

Trapped 12 hours

He was trapped 12 hours in 'Man's Land' between the armies before stretcher bearers could reach him.

Back in the UK he was discharged, in March 1919, after seven months hospital treatment and given leave during which he received electrical arm bath treatment for a paralysed arm.

Thankfully he was granted a training allowance to become a motor mechanic with Aitken and Grinstead in Eastbourne.

Arthur, who has a good memory, says: "I well remember working on cars such as Albert, Cubit, Angus, Sanderson, Calcot, Calthorpe, Overland, Coventry Premier (water cooled V-twin), ABG (six cooled V-

"There were also many motorcycles, such as Levis, Baby BSA, Velocette and Cedos, Douglas, P&M, Enfield (belt drive with a variable crankshaft pulley for gear ratios), and Matchless V-twin."

Always on call

At Folkestone he and his family had a

At Folkestone he and his family had a flat at the top of the Mality showroom building "and, of course, I was always on call," he commented.

With Malithys he worked on Morris Cowley, Oxford and Isis tourers, two-scaters, saloons etc; also Minerya, Buick, Oldsmobile, Chevrolet and Clyno. When Redferns took over he had to split his time, he says, and help out at each branch. Sandgate was the largest works and body building was on a large to the comment of the comment o

Mr Chatfield remembered well the Redfern Tourer owned by Munro Donald, of Worksop, with its Malthy patent, hydraulic operated soft top con-trolled from the dash — featured in our Wheels motoring section, in April. These Tourer bodies were fitted to Buick, Wolseley, Morris 25hp, Alvis, BMW, Rolls-Royce etectera. And Arthur remembers the last built was on a Lagonda chassis

Lagonda chassis

 Incidentally Debbie Grimson, of the Sportsman Inn, at Sholden, tells me a copy of the charabane party picture featured in our *Wheels* section, on August 21, hangs in her pub — outside which it was photographed in 1926!

was photographed in 1926!
And another caller said he thought the driver of the charabane was Pop Wills—also known as 'Father' Wills—well known as the one-time proprietor of the Pullman charabanes based in Cheriton.
Passengers in the 1922 coach included members of the White family of Eythorne and Tilmanstone, who lent me



Arthur Chatfield, pic-

were thus opened to the public nearly one hundred pounds were in this way collected.

On leaving the grounds of "Enchanting Encombe" and again turning to the left, you will not fail to observe that more than ordinary attention is directed towards Spring House and the cottages on either side. Spring House is THE sensation of the subsidence, and by the time this pamphlet is in the printer's hands it may

have collapsed altogether. With but a shed intervening stands the house and bakery, built by the late occupier, Mr. Ludlow, for whom much sympathy is felt, the house and bakery having been but recently completed. Barton House and the Rose Inn are but slightly affected, and are still occupied. On the opposite side of the street you will notice the Station till lately occupied by the Sandgate Coastguards, who are now in safer—though less official -quarters. The flagstones in front of the outer wall were thrown completely out of place, and the appearance of the wall itself is at present decidedly zig-zag. By observing the wall facing the sea and the condition of the row of houses, it is made evident that the authorities were wise in directing the men to remove their families and goods into other quarters. Adjacent stands M. Offredi's café, which is considerably damaged, as is also the sea wall and surface of the Esplanade round about.

Recrossing the road, the much-talked of ruins in Chapel Street, will be witnessed. It is difficult and unnecessary to describe the pranks played by Nature in this locality. Considerable attention has been given it, by the illustrated press, by reporters, and photographers.

Retracing your steps into the High Street, you will pass an imposing building, known as Beach Rocks Convalescent Home, which is in a perfectly safe and sound condition

A little further on, you'll stop and refresh at The Alexandra Hotel, which adjoins that favourite public resort well-known as Maltby's Mansion of Mirth, the New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties, where every evening, throughout the year, may be witnessed a first-class entertainment of refined variety.

Having reached this Haven of rest, you reward your guide, who leaves you to Wander at Will.

Sandgate Sensational Soil Subsidence.

TOM MALTBY'S GUIDE.



PRICE ONE PENNY.

The net proceeds of sale of this Guide will be given to the Relief Fund.

J. J. Chapman, Printer, Sandgate Telegraph Office, High Street.

SANDGATE * SOIL * SLIP. :

TOM MALTBY'S GUIDE.

PON your arrival at Sandgate Station, and enquiring the road to the ruins, any man on the enquiring the road to the ruins, any man on the station, from the courteous Station-master, Mr. Caudell, to the boy who collects tickets will direct you to " Keep to the left." Presuming you are here met by a Guide to whom the locality is known, he will first-at a short distance from the Station-point out to you a vacated residence known as Littlebourne Lodge. In reality Littlebourne Lodge has borne a great deal, and is considerably dislodged, the walls and ceilings being badly cracked. Turning up an opening on the left you are shown Cheriton Cliff Villa. The doors of this domicile are owing to the Landslip rendered unfit for opening and shutting, and furniture and goods were at considerable risk lowered to the ground from the windows. On the sea front opposite you'll notice a badly damaged groyne. Re-crossing the road and still keeping to the left you reach a terrace of seven houses, known as Sunnyside. The tenants here mainly depended on summer boarders for maintenance and support, but owing to severe damage to the housesboth inside and out-it is scarcely likely, unless repairs are rapidly proceeded with, that the usually comfortable and charming apartments therein will this year be

At the back of Sunnyside Terrace you may be shown one of the gardens belonging to Tavenor Bos., fruiterers and florists, of Sandgate. This garden is in a generally upheaved condition. Adjacent stands Wellington Place, situated on an elevation at the rear of Wellington Terrace. The houses on the Terrace and in Wellington Place are also deserted by the tenants. The apartments in Wellington and Gloucester Terraces have for years been among those most sought after by visitors, and the calamity means a terrible loss to their late tenants. Keeping to the left of Wellington Place you reach the Clarendon Inn, which,

notwithstanding the dilapidated condition of the houses on either side, stands tolerably firm in comparison. Business, up to the time of writing, is still carried on, though very great inconvenience has been caused to the landlord and his wife not having been able to procure proper food, in consequence of the damage done to the stoves. Neighbourly assistance has, however, been forthcoming.

Adjoining the Clarendon stands (so far) three cottages, the lower two being completely parted. The gardens in this neighbourhood are also in a terrible condition. While inspecting the Clarendon Inn' and adjacent cottages you stand on Brewer's Hill, a much frequented road leading to Shorncliffe Camp. Almost exactly half-way up this Hill a spacious gap in the path occurred, and for some time the water from a broken drainpipe rushed with great violence towards the sea. Men have been at work here since Sunday, and the

roadway is now partially restored.

Descending Brewer's Hill and turning again to the left Castle House is brought to view. This house was occupied by Mr. Mark Judge, a gentleman of influence, who since the catastrophe has come prominently and worthily, forward in the interests of the sufferers. The east wall of this residence is parted in the centre, and the ceilings and floors are in a state bordering on collapse. On the left of Castle House stands Prospect Place, consisting of five houses, each being more or less damaged, and, like the others, deserted. Three other smaller houses at the rear of Prospect Place are in a similar condition. In a garden immediately at the rear of the houses referred to above the visitor will be surprised at the sight of greenhouses and vineries fallen and falling, flower beds upheaved, and stone steps and palings lying in startling confusion. This garden is also the property of Tavenor Bros.

Retracing your steps and bearing to the left you reach Farleigh House, which, though considerably damaged inside and out, has been purchased since the disaster by Mr. J. J. Jones, of Beach Rocks. On the left of Farleigh House you enter the gates of Encombe, the property of Miss Reilly, by whose kindness visitors have been enabled—by paying sixpence at the gates—to witness some of the most strange and serious results of the Landslip. The money paid for admission is added to the Relief Fund, and it may with satisfaction be chronicled that during the first four days the grounds