LAUNCH OF THE LADY DERBY.

Saturday last was a great day for East Greenwich; its inhabitants witnessing the first launch that has ever taken place within the district. Many of them arrived early to witness the re-opening of the great ship-building yard by Mr. Charles Longley, and the extensive kindred works in the neighbourhood.

We are all now acquainted with its prosperity; chiefly arising from establishments such as that which the Messrs. Maudsley and Sons have formed, and will no doubt largely extend, in East Greenwich. The details of the launch are so well given by the Daily Telegraph, in the joined account of the last week, that no summary is necessary to make use of the notes of our own reporter.

The ship built at the new yard of Messrs. Maudsley, Sons, and Field, on Saturday. She is a fine screw steamer, built for the General Iron Screw Colliery Company, her length over all the half-mast high—an uncommonly slight measurement. She is designed on Heneage's patent dynamical principle, and the engines with which she is immediately to be fitted are of 960 horse nominal power, but capable of working up to more than six times that standard. The keel of the Lady Derby, as the vessel is to be called, was laid on the 1st of May, and she is now in a state of perfect readiness to receive her masts, engines, boilers, and all other fittings.

This launch at East Greenwich is an occasion of some note, as it marks the commencement of large works in connection with one of the first engineering firms in the country. Messrs. Maudsley, Sons, and Field, have been long engaged in the construction of machinery for the railway companies, and are now building a ship for the Charley Lungley, and the present line of the London and Greenwich Railway. The machinery they are about to supply to the ship is of a very small size, and is to be delivered in eight weeks. The company are now building a ship for the Jumna, screw steam transport, engines of smaller power, but on the same principle as those of the Lord Warden; and their other commissions for the East India Company are in progress.

Besides these labours for the English Government, Messrs. Maudsley, Sons, and Field have been long engaged in the construction of machinery for the East India Company, and are now building a ship for the Jumna, screw steam transport, engines of smaller power, but on the same principle as those of the Lord Warden; and their other commissions for the East India Company are in progress.

The launch of the Lady Derby was conducted in a manner so unusually quiet as to need the explanation which was very sadly afforded by a few dirty specks flying about the yard. The ceremony was performed by Mr. Pitt, the President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. G. Pitt, the President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. G. Pitt, the Board of Trade.

Mr. Pitt, one of the oldest and most valued servants of the firm, and latterly a part of the board of trade, was present at the launch, having been busily engaged in the preparations up to a very few hours before his death. He had a peculiar interest in the event, as he was the first to commission the ship. The ceremony was conducted in a manner so unusually quiet as to need the explanation which was very sadly afforded by a few dirty specks flying about the yard. The ceremony was performed by Mr. Pitt, the President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. G. Pitt, the President of the Board of Trade.

The vessel launched that day, the unanimous voice of eminent judges, assisted at the interesting ceremony was most favourably received, and in particular the plan which gives the new ship an extraordinary amount of storage room for coal, with extensive space, received hearty commendation.

DOUBLE LUNCH AT MILWALL.

Thursday, October 18th.

A most splendid and sumptuous lunch was given at the Volunteer Arms, on the occasion of the opening of the new turnpike road from the town of Westminster to the bridge. The dinner was provided by Messrs. Maudsley, Sons, and Field, and was attended by a large number of gentlemen, including the right hon. the Earl of Liverpool, the right hon. the Lord Chancellor, and many other distinguished persons. The dinner was followed by a speech from the chairman, who expressed his satisfaction with the success of the event.