

SUICIDE OF MR. C. P. MELLY.

Mr. Charles Pierre Melly, a well-known Liverpool merchant, who had been in a depressed mental condition for some time past, shot himself at his residence, Riversley, Aigburth, on Saturday morning. Owing to his extreme nervous condition, Mr. Melly had been lately under the constant care of an attendant. He was a member of the well-known firm of Melly, Forget, and Company, cotton merchants, but for several years past had been unable to give any attention to mercantile pursuits. For the benefit of his health he spent a good deal of time at Scarborough and other health resorts, and had from time to time resided with his married sons. On Saturday morning his attendant left his bedroom temporarily, and on returning with Mr. Melly's breakfast found him dead in bed with a pistol by his side. He had apparently shot himself in the head. Medical aid was instantly called in, but of course it was of no avail. Mr. Melly was born in 1829, and was consequently 59 years of age. He was the father of seven sons and one daughter. Until a few years ago he was active in many good works, and took an especial interest in the charitable institutions of this city. He was also an ardent educationalist, in which connection he is, perhaps, best remembered as one of the founders of the Liverpool Education Aid Society, which for some years did much to promote education among the poor by providing school pence for the children of the most needy and deserving parents; but the functions of this excellent institution were absorbed by the School Board, upon the establishment of which the society came to an end. He was also instrumental in founding several night schools in various parts of the borough at the inception of the system. Mr. Melly represented Abercromby Ward in the City Council for six years. He was first elected without a contest in 1866, and at the expiration of his first term of office was unsuccessfully opposed by the late Alderman Vining. At his own expense Mr. Melly erected various drinking fountains throughout the city, and was in hearty sympathy with the temperance movement. Indeed his last appearance upon a public platform was at a temperance meeting held in St. George's Hall about seven years ago. He was a warm friend of Christian Home Missions, the formation of the North-end Mission being mainly due to his liberality and active co-operation. He assisted in the promotion of the Liverpool Gymnasium in Myrtle-street, which has since become the property of the Young Men's Christian Association, and also took a prominent part in urging the provision of public parks and open spaces.