NORTH-WEST DURHAM EMIGRATION AGENCY.

PERSONS wishing to EMIGRATE can be Booked by the Best Lines to America, Australia, and all Parts of the World, at the LOWEST RATES, on application to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, the only Authorised Agent for the Queensland Government in the District; or to Mr. JOHN CHAYTOR, Grocer, West Stanley.

TO PARTIES REMOVING OR LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND OTHERS.

ADAM BRODIE, assisted by his Son, ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, undertakes the SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, FARMING STOCK, HOUSE PROPERTY, and other EFFECTS in the most approved manner, and on reasonable terms. Instructions by Post punctually attended to.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

ADAM BRODIE,
SHARE AND INSURANCE BROKER, TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
LOCAL GAS, WATER, AND OTHER SHARES BOUGHT AND SOLD.
DEALER IN STEAMSHIP SHARES.

FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE AGENCY.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurances of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt Settlement of Claims.

NOTE.—The Oldest Insurance Agency and the only Share Broker in the District.
ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

No. 1,336. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, March 12th, 1886. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Contracts.

SANITARY PIPES.—TENDERS given for SANITARY PIPES, BRICKS, and FIRE CLAY GOODS of all kinds.—Apply to R. CURRY & Co., Delves Lane, Consett.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY of the Lanchester Union, invite TENDERS for certain SEWERAGE WORKS, at Esh.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Union Office, Lanchester; and Endorsed Tenders (on the Form supplied), will be received by the undersigned up to Wednesday, the 10th day of March, 1886.

No quantities will be supplied, but any further information may be obtained from Mr J. W. Rounthwaite, the Surveyor to the Authority.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any of the Tenders.

WM. HENRY RITSON, Clerk.
Lanchester, February 24th, 1886. 759v

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for LEADING MATERIALS required by the Board, and also Price, per day, for TEAM WORK.

Specification to be seen, and all information to be obtained, by applying to the Surveyor, who will receive TENDERS, Sealed and Endorsed "TEAM WORK", from the 27th day of February till the 13th day of March, 1886.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.—By order of the Board,
761v JOHN DIXON, Surveyor.

TO CONTRACTORS,

THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR, of the Lanchester Union, invite TENDERS for SUPPLYING the Workhouse at Lanchester with FLOUR, GROCERIES, BUTCHER MEAT, PRESERVED MEATS, COFFINS, &c., for twenty-six weeks from the 31st instant; and also for the SUPPLY of COAL and GAS COKE for twelve months from the same date.

Forms of Tender, specifying the quantities of the various articles required, may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom Tenders (with samples as far as practicable) should be sent not later than Wednesday, the 24th instant.

The Guardians do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any of the Tenders.

WM. HENRY RITSON, Clerk to Guardians.
Lanchester, March 11th, 1886. 812v

Money.

SPECIAL BRANCH.—M. L. ROSENBERG, 54, Westgate Road, Newcastle, advances MONEY on Reversionary Interest or Legacies under Wills, on Life Policies for £100 and upwards, on Building Society or other Shares, on Household Furniture without removal, and on deposit of Silver Plate, Jewellery, or any goods at a reasonable rate of interest, and on terms of repayment, all as arranged.—Established 1860. 739v

Wanted.

WANTED, LADIES and YOUNG MEN, to take pleasant WORK at their Own Homes. 2s. to 5s. a-day easily made. Work sent by Parcels Post. No canvassing.—THE ALBERTYPE Co., 448, Edgware Road, London, W. 689v

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. QUIGLEY, 5, Front Street, Consett. 396v

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.

LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations.—Apply to Miss COCKBURN, at the S. R. O., 13, Front Street, Consett. 828s

To Let.

TO LET, at Catchgate, a SHOP, KITCHEN, CELLAR, and STABLE. Apply to George Hobson, Catchgate. 765v

TO LET, a BUTCHER'S SHOP, at Kyo.—Apply to WILLIAM WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate. 368v

TO LET, at May Term, TWO SHOPS at present occupied by Mr. R. WILLEY, and situate in the New Town Hall, Consett.—Apply to T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Solicitor, Consett. 680v

TO LET, at May, a Self-contained HOUSE at Catchgate; occupied by Dr. Benson for a number of years; good opening for qualified medical man.—Apply, GEO. LEADBITTER, Catchgate. 801v

TO LET, or FOR SALE by Private Contract, a Five-roomed HOUSE, with Washhouse and other Offices in Large Yard; also, a large GARDEN with good Greenhouse, situated in Ledger Terrace, Blackhill.—Apply to JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM, Railway Terrace, Blackhill. 668v

TO LET, at Shotley Bridge, ONE-HALF OF A SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGE RESIDENCE, containing Six Rooms and Kitchen, good Pantry, W.C., and necessary Conveniences, also a small Garden or Lawn on the South Side, with access from the Terrace.—Apply, T. B. SAWBRIDGE Guildhall Chambers, Newcastle. 54v

For Sale.

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, at 1d. per lb.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

INCALVING HEIFERS FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett. 404v

TURNIPS FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett.

BULL CALVES, by Pedigree Bull, FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett.

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester. 196v

FOR SALE, a Useful Brown MARE, used to farm work. Cheap, 60s.—Apply at this Office. 811v

FOR SALE, a Roan COW (the second calf), due 13th March.—Apply to J. TURNBULL, Collins Green, Lanchester. 800v

HAY AND STRAW FOR SALE, in lots of 5 Stones each.—Apply to JOHN NICHOLSON, Manor House, Lanchester, or to W. THOMPSON, Jun., The Office, Lanchester. 807v

HOUSE FOR SALE or TO LET, with immediate possession, situate at Iveston Bank.—For particulars apply to JOHN J. HETHERINGTON, 26, Market Place, Durham. 346v

TO INNKEEPER.—SPIRIT STOCK BOOKS. One Shilling each, may be obtained at the "Guardian" Office, Consett; or sent by Post on receipt of 13 Postage Stamps.

FOR SALE, FOREIGN HAY, NITRATE OF SODA, PERUVIAN & ICHABOE GUANOS, SULPHATE OF AMMONIA, SUPERPHOSPHATES, AGRICULTURAL SALT, FEEDING CAKES, all best quality.—Importers—HAVELOCK & USHER, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 804v

FOR SALE, a GREENHOUSE with Span Roof, almost new, 11 feet long by 7 feet wide, frame work 2¼in. by 2½in., glass bars 2¼in. by 1½in. Also, over 140 PLANTS, comprising Fuchsias, Geraniums, Primulas, Camelias, Azalias, &c. The Greenhouse is heated by a St. Margaret's Heating Apparatus. The whole may be had on very reasonable terms.—Apply for reference to *Guardian* Office, Consett. 808v

AN IMPORTANT FACT.

£10 AND UPWARDS CAREFULLY INVESTED in Options on Stocks and Shares is the safest and most popular way of rapidly making money on the Stock Exchange, by the non-liability system. Explanatory Book (fifth edition), giving full details, *Gratis and Post Free*.—Address, GEORGE EVANS & Co., Stockbrokers, Gresham House, London, E.C. 809v

For Sale.

FOR SALE, One WAGGONETTE, for single or double harness; One WHITECHAPEL DOG CART; One SPRING CART, suitable for Grocer or Wine Merchant. The above are all built by Messrs. Angus & Co., Newcastle, and are all in good condition. Also, DOUBLE and SINGLE SETS of HARNESS.—Apply to WILLIAM TURNER, Whitehall Lodge, Blackhill. 590v

Business Announcements.

ESTABLISHED 40 YEARS.

MESSRS. G. T. TINN & SONS,
SURGEON DENTISTS,
42, NEW BRIDGE STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

MINERAL TEETH FROM 5s. PER TOOTH.

UPPER OR LOWER SETS FROM £2 10s.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Gas Office, Shotley Bridge. 148v

PIANOS. ORGANS. HARMONIUMS.

MESSRS. DAWSON & CO.,
142, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
(Late Saville Row).

Pianos from 15 Guineas. Violins, Guitars, Banjos Strings, &c.

Pianos Tuned and Repaired in all parts of Northumberland and Durham. 665v

MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

OWING to the great increase of Business, the Proprietor has been compelled to REMOVE from RAGLAN STREET, to LARGER AND MORE COMMODIOUS PREMISES at
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

Sole Agent for the Magic Washing Fluid.

MRS. CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL,
WEAR TERRACE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

MANY PUPILS from this School have passed in Honours the Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham Local Examinations, Trinity College of Music, &c. Masters for Arithmetic, Drawing, and Painting; a French Governess Diplomee; Music—by a Pupil of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett. 4v

JOHN FREEK,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.

HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.

N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 384o

OLD ESTABLISHED CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT.

J. COCKBURN,
NEWSAGENT, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER, FANCY STATIONER, & CONFECTIONER,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Desk and Pocket Diaries, 1886. Account Books, Birthday Cards. Fancy and General Stationery in great variety.

A few Xmas *Graphics* and *Illustrated London News* to be sold cheap.

London and other Papers delivered to order. Books not in Stock, to be had on a short notice.

WILLIAM RAW.
AUCTIONEER.
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.

All business properly and carefully attended to.

HUGHES & CO.'S
PHARMACY,
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL,

CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

CURRY'S TOOTHACHE DROPS.

HUGHES' Cough, Rheumatic, and Neuralgic Pills. The IXL Blood Purifying Mixture and Pills. Rheumatic and Gout Mixture, Hop, Dandelion, and Mandrake Bitters. Concentrated Sweet Essence of Senna. Compound Decoction of the finest Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla. Tonga, the new Specific for Neuralgia. Raspberry Beer Powder.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCES.

AGENTS FOR THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (OPTICAL) ASSOCIATION.

SPECTACLES IN GREAT VARIETY.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

ALTERATIVE POWDER FOR HORSES

SHEEP DIPS—COOPER'S, BELL & RIDDLE'S McDOUGALL'S, AND OTHER KINDS.

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET CONSETT

Business Announcements.

ORDER

NESTLE'S
SWISS MILK
TRADE MARK AND YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH IT. 558v

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWARD AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA (the Finest Tea in the World). Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

W. T. SMITH,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 22, NEW BRIDGE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

WILL VISIT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY from 11 a.m. to 5·30 p.m., at No. 3, MOUNT PLEASANT, where he will be happy to see his old and new patients.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted from 3s. 6d. per TOOTH, with all the Latest and Best ENGLISH and AMERICAN IMPROVEMENTS.

NO CHARGE until a PERFECT FIT IS MADE, and ENTIRE SATISFACTION GIVEN.

Mr. SMITH will, with pleasure, call at the Residence of Patients to suit their convenience.

REMEMBER THE HOUSE:—
No. 3, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 390v

SKIL-BECK. (RUN) FOR DRUGS, PATENT MEDICINES, TOILET ARTICLES, PERFUMES, SOAPS, HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES, and all FAMILY REQUISITES, at *Startling Reductions*. See Windows and Prices. A Special Consignment of Pure Honey, 7d. per pound. 84, CLAYTON STREET, NEWCASTLE. SKIL-BECK.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES,
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM),
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

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FIRE BRICKS, 2¼in. and 3in., QUARLS, various sizes, GROUND FIRE CLAY, COMMON RED BRICKS, RIDGE TILES, FIRE BACKS for Glendinning Ovens, FLUE BRICKS, CHIMNEY TOPS, KITCHEN SINKS, GULLIES, JUNCTIONS, BENDS, ELBOWS, TAPERS, GARDEN EDGING, CEMENT, PLASTER, LATHS, HAIR, LIME, TACKS, SAND, COALS COKE, &c., &c., can be Supplied in Large or Small Quantities by applying to

R. CURRY AND CO.,
DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

STOCK OF BRICKS, PIPES, &c., AT DELVES LANE DEPOT.
824t CEMENT, PLASTER, &c., AT WAREHOUSE, GIBSON STREET.

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR

Has the pleasure to re-introduce to the People of Consett and the Neighbourhood, the

OLD FAMILIAR CLOCK FACE,

And to notify that whilst from it they may always learn the correct time, from him they may always rely on getting the Best Value the Market can produce, at the Lowest possible Price.

THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS!
9, 9A, AND 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

P.S.—CONTINUATION OF SPECIAL BANKRUPT AND SALVAGE SALE THIS WEEK, AND SPECIAL BARGAINS.

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR
HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW,
SHOULD USE THE
"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.
IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.
PREPARED ONLY BY
JOHN HUME AND SONS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
BRANCH—MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 583r

HALL'S for OIL CAKE and COTTON CAKE.
HALL'S for HORSE FEED.
HALL'S for CATTLE SPICE.
HALL'S for FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST CALIFORNIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW PROCESS FLOUR.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the BEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST TEAS.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW SEASON TEA.
HALL'S for BEST ASSAM TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST DARJIELING TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST BUTTER.
HALL'S for BEST LARD.
HALL'S for MANNA CAKE.

HALL'S is the RIGHT SHOP for all who want a good Article combined with Cheapness.

STARCHES, BLUES, PATENT MEDICINES, and all PACKETED GOODS 10 to 50 per cent Cheaper than the usual Price.

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE GROCER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN 289t

Business Announcements.

MORE REDUCTIONS, NOT IN WAGES,
BUT IN THE PRICE OF
HATS, SHIRTS, WOOL PANTS, CAPS, SCARFS, WOOL VESTS,
&c., AT
THE 2 W.'S GREAT SALE,
COMMENCING TO-DAY (FRIDAY). 726v

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN.

GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE
MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, FIELD SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF
PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.
INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN,
OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED,
Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

HOBSON'S AROMATIC CALF FOOD, REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for Milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save Calves from that Inflammatory Fever commonly called Quarter-ill or Black Leg.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF
PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-eight years.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 427r

6th THOUSAND. 6d., BY POST 7 STAMPS.

DR. ELLIS'S POPULAR LECTURE, "THE EAR AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE THROAT."

"As Medical Officer to the Throat and Ear Hospital in Newcastle his familiar knowledge of, and interest in this branch of Surgical art has now a wide and useful field, his capacity for working in which seems to be thoroughly vindicated in the lecture before us."—*Newcastle Journal.*

London: WALTER SCOTT, Paternoster Row; Newcastle: W. E. FRANKLIN, 42, Mosley Street; or from the AUTHOR, 100, Rye Hill, Newcastle. 709v

THOUSANDS OF SUFFERERS
Have been effectually
CURED
BY LAMONT'S SELF-CURATIVE
MAGNETIC BELTS

For Lumbago, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Liver Complaints, &c.
INVIGORATORS for all Bronchial and Lung Complaints.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, &c.
KNEE CAPS for Sore and Weak Knees.
SOLES for Cold Feet.
SPINE BANDS, WRISTLETS, ANKLETS, GLOVES, &c.

THESE UNRIVALLED MAGNETIC APPLIANCES are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour. They need no attention, give no shocks, are as comfortable to wear as an ordinary garment, and as they last for several years, and are RE-MAGNETISED FREE EVERY YEAR, they are without exception the most economical, effective, and pleasant remedy extant.

COLDS.—ALL PERSONS who are subject to COLDS BRONCHIAL, and LUNG COMPLAINTS should wear one of LAMONT'S MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATORS.

They are now worn by thousands of persons in all parts of the country, and the testimony on all hands is that they are "WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD AS A PROTECTION FROM COLD and Bronchial Attacks during the winter season."

MR. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following Testimonials, recently received. Further particulars will be found in DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET, POST FREE.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

31, Weardale Street, Mount Pleasant,
Spennymoor, November 7th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—It is now five months since I sent for one of your Magnetic Invigorators for my little girl. She was very ill with bronchitis, and we applied the Invigorator as soon as it came. I am glad to inform you the effect was marvellous. We had lost all hopes of her recovery, but thanks to your Magnetic Appliances, she is now as fine and as healthy a child as you could wish to see.

You will remember that I got one for our son, and he also is now quite strong. You can refer any one to me who disputes anything I have said. You can make what use you like of this, for we bless the day that we got the Magnetic Appliances for our children.—Yours truly,
Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN JEFFERSON.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

Board School, Arthurs Hill,
Newcastle-on-Tyne, July 2nd, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—I can heartily recommend your Magnetic Lung Invigorators, my daughter having used one for the last six months. She has been subject to severe attacks of Bronchitis for the last 10 years, and I tried all sorts of remedies to relieve her before she began to use your Invigorator. It has removed all pain and suffering, and she has not had a cold since she began to wear it. I am in every way satisfied with it.—Yours truly,
Mr D. Lamont. GEORGE PRINGLE.

"IT HAS COMPLETELY CURED ME."

65, Eleanor Street, Cullercoats,
March 9th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—It is with the greatest pleasure I write to inform you of the effect the Magnetic Invigorator I purchased from you has had upon me. Prior to purchasing it I was troubled with a weakness in my chest, also with indigestion, the accompanying evils of which I need not mention.

Now, I am not one to fly to any new remedy that may present itself to me, as some do, and aggravate the complaint. With my own conception of the value of magnetism as a curative, I resolved to try a Magnetic Appliance, which I have worn for twelve months, and the best proof I can give of its efficacy is by saying that it has *completely cured me*, and more than that, it has had a most wonderful effect upon the whole of my system. It is comfortable to wear and effectual in its operations. It causes no unpleasant sensation and can be "cast" with safety.—I am, yours &c.,
Mr D. Lamont. G. W. MASON.

THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 28s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., continue to give unbounded satisfaction.—Sent Post Free on receipt of 21s.

CALL OR WRITE FOR PAMPHLET.
GRATIS AND POST FREE.

D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT,
(PERMANENT AND ONLY ADDRESS),
44A BLACKETT STREET NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
AGENT FOR CONSETT:—Mr. THOMAS MILNER, Chemist.

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS
LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

THE SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE TO THE WEST.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law. 85u

GREAT BARGAINS!
AT
C. F. COOKE'S,
NOTED CHEAP SHOP,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

ARRIVAL OF SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF NEW GOODS FOR THE SEASON.

NEW DESIGNS IN MEN'S SUITS,
FROM 14s. 6d., 30s., and 39s. 6d.

BLACK WORSTED SUITS, FROM 24s. 6d.

BOYS' SUITS, FROM 2s. 6d.

GRAND LOT OF MEN'S FELT HATS and CAPS IN ALL THE LEADING SHAPES, ALL AT LOW PRICES.

C. F. COOKE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT.
THE
"CONSETT GUARDIAN"
AFTER ATTAINING
A LARGE AND INCREASING CIRCULATION
HAS BEEN
CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED
AND MAINTAINS ITS POSITION AS
THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Full and Impartial Reports of all Meetings in the District (by its own Reporters). The General News is carefully condensed, and special attention is given to Local News, by Agents of known ability and character.

TO ADVERTISERS.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

Has now been established upwards of twenty-six years, and has gained a most extensive circulation in Consett, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Lanchester, Annfield Plain, Medomsley, Ebchester, Castleside, Tow Law, Burnopfield, Lintz Green, Rowland's Gill, Iveston, Dipton, Burnhope, South Moor, Stanley, Tanfield, Tanfield Lea, Tantobie, White-le-Head, Hobson, Clough Dene, Swalwell, and the adjacent locality.

The large and increasing circulation of the *Consett Guardian* renders it invaluable as an advertising medium, and current Advertisements are inserted in its columns at moderate charges. Advertisements for lengthened periods are subject to considerable reduction.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON
AT
59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT
Where Advertisements are received up to NINE o'clock on that morning.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12TH, 1886.

THE VOLUNTEER CAPITATION GRANT.

The dissatisfaction which has been slumbering for a long time amongst Commanders of Volunteers has broken out at last, and many eminent officers have made it known that unless the allowance from Government is considerably increased, the force will inevitably come to grief. Hitherto the authorities have been deaf to the appeal, but on the representation of so many members of the House of Commons who are connected with the movement, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman was induced to receive a deputation on the subject. Of course he could only undertake to give the matter his serious attention, as before such a request could be granted he would have to confer with the Chancellor of the Exchequer whose aim at the present moment is to keep the estimates as low as possible. Undoubtedly, a crisis has been reached so far as the Volunteers are concerned, and the question now is whether the military ardour of our citizen soldiers is to be stimulated, or hopelessly checked. The officers say with good reason that thirty shillings a man is insufficient to support a corps in efficiency and strength. This sum was evidently fixed upon with the idea that when clothing was provided for, little else would be required. But those who know anything about volunteer organization are aware that clothing is only one of many necessary expenses. Target practice, ammunition, rent of drill rooms, travelling expenses, although partially paid for by Government are heavy demands on the funds of a corps, and have been the cause of many an overdrawn balance. Perhaps it would not be too much to say that three-fourths of the corps are in debt to their treasurers—a fact aggravated by the practice of not paying over the grant till six months after it has been earned. The financial year closes in October, by which time every volunteer who can do so, has made himself efficient, and yet it is not until April or May that the amount is in the hands of Commanding Officers—the consequence being, a liability in the shape of banker's interest to say nothing of other inconveniences. It is no wonder that officers get tired of this state of things, and it is the chief reason why we suspect so many commissions are thrown up.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

There was no business of importance in the House of Lords.

In the House of Commons, Mr Childers and Mr Broadhurst gave Mr Gent Davis a lesson in Parliamentary behaviour, and several questions were answered and notices given. The motion of Mr Holmes for stopping supplies until the Government had declared its policy with regard to Ireland, was discussed and withdrawn.

MONDAY.

Earl Granville, in the House of Lords, made a short statement, in reply to Lord Harrowby, on the question of granting a subvention to a line of steamers from Vancouver city to China and Japan.

In the Commons various questions were answered.—the one respecting the South Medomsley evictions being postponed until Thursday—and the chief subject under discussion was the Crofters Bill, which was read a second time. Mr Mundella introduced the bill dealing with Railway and Canal traffic, but the debate on it was postponed.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, their Lordships gave second readings to the Arbitration Bill, the Justices' Jurisdiction Bill, and the Law of Evidence Amendment Bill.

In the House of Commons the Manchester Ship Canal Bill and other private business occupied the attention of hon. members for three hours and a half. Mr Brand asked whether the Sheffield and Manchester firms holding contracts to deliver steel ingots for heavy army and navy guns were completing those contracts satisfactorily. An affirmative answer was given by Mr Campbell-Bannerman. Mr Dilwyn moved, "That as the Church of England in Wales has failed to fulfil its professed object as a means of promoting the religious interests of the Welsh people, and ministers to only a small minority of the population, its continuance as an Established Church in the principality is an anomaly and an injustice which ought no longer to exist." He believed the motion would commend itself to a large majority of the Welsh people. Mr Richards seconded the motion, both gentlemen adopting a conciliatory tone. Mr Albert Grey's amendment was a plea for reform, of which, however, subsequent speakers denied the necessity. Mr M. MacInnes (Hexham) seconded the amendment. The debate took place in a well-filled House, and the result was looked forward to with much interest. Eventually the House divided—For Mr Grey's amendment, 241 against 229—majority 12. The result was received with Conservative cheers.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, a bill introduced by Mr. Dodds to amend the Public Health Act was forwarded. Sir J. W. Pease's measure for Sunday closing was criticised by Mr. J. C. Stevenson, as not sufficiently stringent; while the Home Secretary thought it was rather too stringent in its provisions relating to rural districts. The bill was talked out.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY EVENING.

If to the 470 members who voted on the motion of Mr Dillwyn for the Disestablishment of the Church in Wales be added to the number of pairs and absentees who found it convenient not to be present when the division was taken, the majority of 12 carries indeed with it a significance which Churchmen in England from Berwick to Lands End will not fail to mark. It strengthens the conviction that *the* Hustings question at the next election may be one that infinitely more concerns Englishmen than even the great disturbing question of Irish Home Rule, which, at the moment, takes precedence of all others.

As far as antecedents go, and testimonials can endorse character, Mr Childers has made a good selection in appointing Mr C. Malcolm Wood, the Chief Constable of Manchester, to the post of Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. He is of the right age, 39, and has qualified for the army, has served in the Indian Police, and has also been a magistrate in charge of a division in Scinde. Returning from India some eight years ago, he was appointed to the post of Chief Constable of Manchester, where he has given entire satisfaction to all classes in the discharge of his responsible duties. Coming thus to London in the prime of life, and with large Indian, and also provincial experience, we shall be much surprised if Mr Wood does not succeed in breathing into the somewhat torpid Metropolitan Police some of his own spirit.

The Bill for the remuneration of Jurymen summoned to Assizes commands general sympathy. The scale of payment proposed is meagre enough. It is not enough to make a man anxious to serve in the capacity of juryman; it is only sufficient to compensate the very poorest class who are chosen for their loss of time. The *Law Times* says very properly that the Bill ought to be extended to Middlesex. Londoners are not indeed taken so far away from home as Assize jurors, but they have a much heavier proportion of service. The abolition of the old rules of venue has caused a great many actions to be tried in the country. City jurors are pretty heavily worked, considering the constant demands of the Mayor's Court, to say nothing of other inferior tribunals; and the huge commerce of the city makes large demands upon both special and common jurors in the hearing of "London" actions at the Royal Courts. But it is the Middlesex juror who is called upon for all causes other than "London" causes, heard at the Royal Courts; and it must be admitted that he gets much more than his rightful share.

Correspondence

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—Ed. C.G.)

SNOW-CUTTERS TOOLS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—It has always seemed strange to me that our Highway Boards never think of keeping a stock of light, broad-bladed wooden malt shovels to cut the drifted snow with. It is a sorry sight to see the waste of time and labour caused by letting men use garden spades, clay tools, and very often worn-out coal shovels eight or night inches square. With a suitable tool one man could easily shift more snow than three are doing at present. Also some of our snow-ploughs having no steerage wheels, cannot be run straight, though generally loaded with passengers for that purpose, at an enormous waste of horse-power.—I am, &c.,

BENDIGO.

THE NEW RAILWAY TO ANNFIELD PLAIN.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Perhaps it may interest your readers to know what yearly sums the North-Eastern Railway Company, as successors of the Stanhope and Tyne Railway Company, do pay to the respective owners of Lanchester Common Land, for the privilege of carrying other than Lanchester Common minerals over the same. The memorandum below is from the lease of 1835 still running:—

	£	s.	d.
Geo. Baker, Esq., West Carr House	4	12	0
John Selby, Esq., The Farm	2	14	0
Miss Simpson, Pont House	1	8	0
Mrs Bates, Leadgate	1	13	0
John Smith, Esq., Pont Head	3	5	0
Teasdale Byerly, Redwell Hills	2	18	0
Mr Fletcher, a field	1	14	0
John Smith, two fields	1	5	0
Major Swinburne, Brooms Allotment	1	6	0
J. Dunn, Low Brooms	2	6	0
Sir J. V. Clavering, Stoney Heap	2	6	0
Sir J. V. Clavering, Bent House	1	5	0
Major Swinburne, Fence House	0	1	6
Miss Simpson, Oxhill	3	16	0
R. Townley, Esq., Stanley West	2	18	0
Total	£36	10	6

Your obedient servant,

A LANDOWNER.

THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Would you allow me to remind your readers that the above-named Acts will be brought under the notice of the House of Commons on the 16th inst., by a motion "That in the opinion of this House the Contagious Acts ought to be repealed." In consequence of a resolution passed by the House on the 20th April, 1883, condemning their main provision, the operation of these measures has been partially suspended for more than two years. It is, however, still in the power of the War Office and Admiralty to put them into full operation without the previous sanction of Parliament.

The active complicity of the State with social vice which is involved in these Statutes is not removed by their partial suspension, but continues to deaden the national conscience, and to encourage social impurity both in the districts to which they apply, and in the country at large. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that they should be repealed with the least possible delay.

Would you therefore permit me, through your columns, to urge electors, of whatever political party, to write to their Parliamentary representative requesting him to be present on the 16th inst., and to support the above-named resolution, which will be moved by the Right Hon. James Stansfield.—Yours, &c.,

JOSEPH EDMONDSON,
Treasurer of the Northern Counties' League for abolishing State Regulation of Vice.

Pitsmoor, Sheffield, 8th March, 1886.

TORY ELOQUENCE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I noticed in your issue of last week an amusing letter on "Tory Eloquence," signed "Justicia," commenting on the remarks of Mr Booth at the late successful banquet, also twitting those present on their presumed intelligence and questioning the laudable generosity of Sir George Elliot. I would like to ask your hasty correspondent how, if the Liberal party were so *anxious* for *reform*, eleven reforms bills brought in by them were rejected, and why Messrs Gladstone and Bright, along with 244 members of the Liberal party, voted *against* Household Suffrage, and if they desired to enfranchise the people why they opposed the efforts of the Tory party? He says they (the Liberal party) fought for years for the privilege we *now* enjoy. Then why did they not confer this *boon* when they had the opportunity and power to do so? Simply because they had *not* the *inclination*, and, as Mr Gladstone said, they were *not* unanimous on the question, and were *not* the great united Liberal party they professed to be, for he said "I do *not* believe in Household Suffrage." John Bright said it would include the *residuum*. Radical authorities highly commended the Tory party on their prompt action relative to this question. So, "Justicia," read up your history and give us facts, and not the ravings of a deceased brain, and cease to lecture on the intelligence of the much-maligned Tory, then you will "not rush in where angels fear to tread." Is the fact that the banquet was a successful one too much for your unevenly balanced mind to sustain? I fear so. The Grand Old Man let the people pine 18 years before *he* granted the people in the counties the *privilege* you speak of; and then only under compulsion, and by the assistance of Lord Salisbury and his patriotic followers. Intelligence, forsooth! seek after and try to obtain it, "Justicia," is the advice of yours, &c.,

COMMON SENSE.

Blackhill, March 9th, 1886.

EDUCATIONAL "CRAMMING."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—With your permission I may now proceed further in my denunciation of the present system of cramming—mis-called education. Teachers, parents, inspectors, and children have all borne their part nobly and well in bringing about the inglorious substitution of the first for the second. How it has been done must plainly appear at no very distant date, but the history of the educational matters of the past ten years is yet to be written. While I now review a very few of the past years quietly and deliberately, the whole affair seems to resemble a most ignominious and panic-stricken scramble, in which certainly the inspectors of schools do not appear by any means the most dignified. I can only compare them to task-masters, slave-drivers, or plantation stewards; and yet they are not altogether responsible for the desolation they have helped to bring about. Step by step they are assisting to establish in this free country a system which is intended to be many degrees more intolerable than the old negro slavery. The words of Prince Bismarck will best describe it, "Blood and iron." They know the utmost they are able to exact, and they exact it all. Woe to the weakling and laggard in the race. Mercy and humanity are meaningless words. Upon the simple frame work of our Code they have raised a stupendous and wonderful edifice of their own, admirable in its twisted interpretation. It has about as much connection with the Code as the Talmud has with the Bible. They resemble the preacher who is able to spin out a two hours sermon on a verse of half-a-dozen words, and conclude by making the text mean exactly the opposite of what is plainly stated therein. This may sound somewhat strong, but having had considerable experience of Inspectors' interpretations of our Code as shown by the questions they ask, I am able to speak with certainty. The teacher who is bent upon passing a successful examination superadds to the ordinary school course a new branch of education, namely, the study of Her Majesty's Inspectors having special regard to the questions they ask. *As a rule*, it pays.

Let me give an example of Inspectors' equity. At a school, well-known in the North country for its success, an examination was held two years ago. One class was examined in grammar upon slates. All passed, and the mark, doubtless, was excellent. On the following year, the same Inspector examined the same standard, which had been taught by the same teacher, working as if his life depended upon results. The Inspector found they knew nothing about that subject, and reported accordingly. It is such strange inequalities as these which give us room for complaint. The teachers themselves hold within their own power a splendid indictment against the Inspectors, having regard to their interpretations of the Code. It would pay some one to make a collection of absurd, impossible, and, might I add, unlawful questions, and publish them in pamphlet form. I would willingly supply a solemnly large number myself. So then, not knowing what is coming upon us, we are in a continual state of unrest and uncertainty—in fact, a state which is to many of us a living death. To this we object for our own sakes, and for the sakes of our children. We are Englishmen, and have, I am bound to say, a fair share of the National spirit, and we object to be experimented on. Teachers and taught are only flesh and blood, and they will not willingly be turned into machines.

With regard to teachers generally, I am afraid that in one thing we are like slumbering volcanoes. We fume and fret, and communicate our woes to each other only. We have a weekly paper of our own, which not all the teachers, and very few managers, read, and not a soul else. We have an Union, but still it remains a beautifully solemn *theory* that union is strength.

To conclude, let me give one rare question asked by an Inspector in a public school in South Shields. He was examining Standard II, whose work in geography is to know the definitions—that is, to tell in their own words all about a lake, river, mountain, strait, &c. Remember the children are only eight and nine years of age. Says the Inspector: "What is water?" (Let each reader of this letter answer that question for himself). One little boy at the top of the class piped out: "It is a fluid, sir." "No it is not," said the Inspector; "it is a mineral."—Yours, &c.,

Dipton, March, 1886.

SIMMONITE.

Trade Notes.

PROBABLE STOPPAGE OF A SEAM AT PELTON COLLIERY.—Owing to the loss of a very large contract, the proprietors of Pelton Fell Colliery will be obliged to lay a seam idle, thus affecting about 250 men and boys. In consideration of this a large meeting of the miners connected with the local lodge of the Durham Miners' Union was held in the schoolroom, on Tuesday se'nnight, when it was decided to cavil for those who were to remain, and those who lost their work would be supported by the others who were retained.

Several additional notices to leave were given at Wolsingham Steelworks on Saturday. General reductions of from 5 to 10 per cent. take effect from Monday next.

Owing to the long and continued severity of the frost the quarrymen of Newlandside (Stanhope) have decided to let the quarries stand until the weather changes.

Sporting Items.

SHOOTING HANDICAP AT WEST PELTON.—The handicap promoted by Mr Everatt was resumed on Saturday, when a division of the stakes was agreed upon, Mr W. Smith, who shot for Cock Robin, taking two shares, and Bendigo, (Mr Dawson) the remainder. Mr George Waddell officiated as referee.

WRESTLING AT HALFWAY HOUSE, PRUDHOE.—The seventh competition for a silver cup, given by Mr H. Tulip, for 9st. men, to be won three times in all, was brought off on Saturday. Final falls—J. Hurst, Prudhoe, threw H. Tulip, Halfway House, twice in succession, and won. The youths' prize was won by F. Leonard, West Wylam, P. Garrity, Prudhoe, being second. Mr J. Frazer was referee.

RABBIT COURSING AT FLINT HILL.—The rabbit coursing promoted by Mr Anthony Harrison from the house of Mr John Bennet, Flint Hill, was concluded on Saturday in the presence of a good company. There were eighteen entries, and Champagne Charlie, 18½, and Shy Girl, 17¾, divided first and second money, and King of Trumps, 18¼, third money. Thomas Brown was pistol-firer and John Atthey judge.

WARNING TO MINERS.—The following warning was issued on Tuesday:—An extensive area of high barometer readings now covers North-Western Europe, and miners are consequently warned of the danger which may be anticipated from dry coal dust and unsuspected accumulations of gas.

WEST DURHAM AND TYNE RAILWAY BILL.—The Committee of Selection of the House of Commons met on Tuesday under the presidency of Sir J. Mowbray, and arranged that the West Durham and Tyne Railway Bill should be taken first by the Committee on Private Bills, which will meet on the 17th inst. The Hon. R. Bourke, M.P., will be the chairman.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame." *Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."—Also, makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence.

"THE FAMILY DOCTOR."—This very useful work contains an immense amount of valuable information. In the current number are instructive articles on exercise, diphtheria, the hydrophobia scare, recipes for the table, hints for the household, trained nurses, and chapters on food. The evils of tight lacing are demonstrated by illustrations of the internal organs which are impaired by this baneful habit, and the phrenological organs are shown by a large chart. The proper treatment of the body is not the only subject treated in the pages of the "Family Doctor," for the editor's idea is evidently to insert articles on all subjects affecting the health of the people.

SATURDAY "SYMPHS."—The fourth Brinsmead Concert was given on Saturday night, Dec. 19, to a large audience. Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique "Episode de la Vie d'un Artiste," was the *piece de resistance* of the first part, and was most ably performed. The other day one of our representatives called upon Mr Brinsmead to ask him a few questions about these concerts, which have proved a wonderful success. "You see," he said, "at this time of the year there are few opportunities given to the music-loving public for hearing classical masters in conjunction with modern composers. The musical public has reached a high standard of cultivation: the love for music has never been greater than in the present decade: and I may say, without any egotism, that I am proud of the success which has attended my new effort for the advancement of the art to which I have devoted my life." Mr Brinsmead gave a sigh of satisfaction as he ran his supple fingers over the enamelled keys of one of his grand pianos, enrapturing my uneducated ear by what is called in musical circles the "tone colouring *nuances*," showing all the gradations between the faintest whisper and the grandest *fortissimo* crash. Like all really great men, Mr Brinsmead is an enthusiast, and his tongue trips lightly from one subject to another. He enlarged upon the application of electricity to pianos, and told me how one day he hoped to produce a sustained piano note such as is now obtained only on the organ. "I admit that my pianos are somewhat expensive, but they are the best. I have lived for the perfection of the piano, and when ideal perfection is reached I shall retire from the business." (This with a sly smile.) I will not trouble you with the technicalities of my art, but I have taken out numberless patents for every part of the instrument. The last is the new tuning pin by which a child can adjust the tone." And Mr Brinsmead discusses the evolution of the piano and its parts with an infinite gusto. Mr Brinsmead is a large employer of labour, having an army of four hundred men in his employ in the two fine factories, from which sixty pianos a week are carted away to all parts of the world. It is computed that one piano per hour is made during the working year—a vast output of harmony. No wonder that Mr Brinsmead is an enthusiast as he talks of his magnificent factories—the result of a lifetime's laborious energy. Some day I hope to pay a visit to the factories, when a description of this remarkable industry may be of interest.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions, 6½d. and 1s. bottles.

DR BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For radicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.—Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

THE RECENT SNOWSTORM.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

By the end of the week, the whole of the blockaded roads in this neighbourhood were opened out, and now communication is attainable in all directions. This week, the Consett Iron and Steel Works have been in full operation; and the whole of the collieries in the locality, as well as at Annfield Plain, Medomsley, Stanley, &c., have been re-started. Trains are now running regularly between Consett and Tow Law. Snow fell to a depth of about six inches early on Saturday morning; but since there has been no further downfall. A quantity of the snow lying in the principal thoroughfares has either thawed or been carted away; but there still remains a vast accumulation in the streets. The weather has been sharp and frosty throughout each day, but became terribly cold at nights. On Wednesday afternoon, several sharp showers of snow descended, and the weather was bitterly cold.

TOW LAW.

Railway communication from Crook to Tow Law was established on Friday, and the first passenger train since Monday night arrived at noon. Later on trains with merchandise and mineral traffic, which had accumulated to a great extent eastward, also arrived. The weather on Friday night was more settled. At night, the railway between Tow Law and Consett was opened for passenger traffic.

During Saturday the portion of the Tow Law and Consett line, between a mile or two west of Tow Law and Burnhill, had to be traversed by the snow-plough to keep the road open. On Friday a body of men were engaged in a somewhat hazardous occupation; large masses of snow having lodged on the sides of the deep cutting south of Tow Law, it was necessary to remove the snow, otherwise a sudden thaw setting in would have released sufficient to block the lines below.

WEARDALE.

Incidents of the storm still come in from the outlying districts. A family residing at Weather Hill, two miles out on the moors from Stanhope, were surprised on the morning of the storm to find the house in complete darkness, the snow in blocking up the front had reached to the roof of their two story dwelling. They had to knock to a less fortunate neighbour, who liberated them by cutting a tunnel through the snow to the door of the imprisoned family. On Friday, 700 snow-cutters were employed on the line west of Tow Law.

The enormous amount of snow which fell in the early part of the week continues to be supplemented by smart showers at intervals, speedily rendered crisp by the intense frost, and producing much suffering on the part of the inhabitants for want of fuel and food. On Saturday, the carriers dealing in dairy produce and provisions were unable to make their ordinary journeys, the main roads being blocked, while all the bye-roads are similarly impeded. The highway authorities are loth to increase uselessly the enormous amount of money expended, especially at this advanced season of the year. Should no further fall take place months must elapse before the snow can be cleared away. Harry Clifford's concert company, announced to appear at the Town Hall at St. John's Chapel on Saturday night, were prevented putting in an appearance by the state of the weather.

On Monday morning, while Moore's coach, which leaves Cowshill at 6·30 to catch the 8·50 a.m. train at Stanhope, was passing through St. John's Chapel, the two horses slipped on the ice, breaking the pole. The coach was unable to proceed further, and the heavy load of passengers had to complete their journey on foot.

BLANCHLAND.

Since the heavy fall of snow on Tuesday and Wednesday week, the weather has continued exceedingly wintry and severe in the Blanchland district. On Saturday morning, an additional covering of snow lay on the ground several inches deep, and during the day it drifted heavily through the country, which added materially to the storm. For some days past the sun has shone with great power and brilliancy upon the heavy white mantle on the earth below, through a dry, keen atmosphere, indicative of the great frost that prevails—the frost being at an extreme height of severity—an instance of which the writer witnessed, and begs to record: two cans of water conveyed from a well to a short distance were left standing in the open air for about 15 minutes, when the surface of the water was coated over with ice of a considerable thickness. Several hands are daily employed in opening the inland roads, but their progress is greatly impeded by the alternate blasts which arise, and re-block the ground in less time than it was opened. A vehicle of any kind is seldom seen, and some of the roads can only be traversed by man or horse; whilst the routes in the isolated parts remain—as they have long been—entirely blocked by a tremendous snow, bidding defiance to the approach of either equestrian or pedestrian. Such a scene has never been witnessed by the oldest resident. Farmers are suffering severely, the hay crop of last season—one of the lightest on record—having been consumed. A light crop of hay is considered an omen of a fine, open, mild winter, according to proverbial sayings running thus:—"A summer of light growing denotes a winter of light chewing;" and "a summer of great growing, a winter of great chewing." More reliable, however, might have been the old adage that "when there are many hips, many haws, there are many frosts, many snows"—last summer's crop of hips and haws being extraordinarily prolific. No extra provision, however, seems to have been made for the unusual stormy visitation, and farmers stand in a very unfortunate and pitiable condition. Supplies of hay that they have bought are at the railway stations, and cannot be removed, owing to the blocked condition of the roads; whilst coal and provisions, which they are low of, are only procurable at a great risk of life; fortunately the telegraph and postal facilities which were for a short time interrupted, are now available to the public.

On Monday night about nine o'clock, a man named William Sparke, about 40 years of age, a miner, working at Grove Rake, Rookhope, left that place to proceed to his home, near Allenheads, which is situated about three miles distant. Having to travel on a turnpike road over the moor, he unfortunately was unable to follow the road owing to the intensity of the blast. Losing his way, and getting on to the moor, he lost all recollection of his whereabouts, and wandered about in that condition through the deep drifted snow until nine o'clock the next morning, when he was luckily discovered from Harewood Shield House by Mr Little, near to Beldon Cleugh—several miles out of the right direction. Mr Little immediately sent his son George to release Sparke, who was in a helpless and pitiable condition—entirely blind, and almost frozen to death—from his long and weary night's exposure. Mr Little conducted Sparke to Harewood Shield, where he was most hospitably treated; and after remaining there until Wednesday morning, he so far recoved as to be able to renew his journey home. About forty men, who had been despatched from Allenheads in search of the missing man, were happily relieved from further anxiety by falling in with their friend near to the Western Meadows on his return journey.

CORBRIDGE.

On Wednesday afternoon a slight thaw set in, and the ice upon the Tyne, which had been frozen over near to the tunnel, had broken up. There, however, seemed every prospect of a further fall of snow. The severe weather has had the effect of bringing a number of strange wild birds close to the village. On Tuesday two pheasants were observed sitting upon the bridge, and on Wednesday afternoon there were six seen upon the bank side three yards from the railway. A few mornings ago some wild ducks alighted in front of Mr Harry S. Edwards' residence, Bythorn, and on Wednesday a large heron was noticed passing the village.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Friday morning the Stanhope and Tyne line was cleared sufficiently to allow of work being recommenced from Stella Gill. Harraton and Pelton Fell collieries got to work again. The block on the main line having been removed, Chester Moor also started. It is expected that the block on the line west of Stella Gill will soon be removed.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, March 8th.—Before JOS. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (chairman), JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq., and Lieut.-Col. A. B. WILKINSON.

DRUNKENNESS.

Charles Brodie (for whom his sister appeared) was charged by P.C. Hudson with being drunk, causing a great disturbance, and wanting to fight with his coat off at Low Westwood, on the 20th ult.—He was fined 5s and costs.

John McAllum was summoned at the instance of P.C. Best for being helplessly intoxicated and using most disgraceful language at Blackhall Mill at nine o'clock on Sunday night, 21st ult.—Defendant was also fined 5s and costs.

Charles Grant and *John Doran* were severally charged by P.C. Neesam with drunkenness in Victoria Street, Consett, on the 22nd Feb.—Both defendants were mulcted in 5s and expenses, this being Doran's 18th appearance.

John Hall, steelworker, Consett, pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Neesam, of being drunk and disorderly at Consett, on the 27th of last month. The man was ejected three times from a public-house in Middle Street.—A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.

James Armstrong (who was represented by his wife), for having been drunk and fighting in Victoria Street, Consett, on the 4th inst., was fined in the same amount.

John Waugh pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness.—P.C. Hall found the defendant, at 11·30 last Friday night, in a fearfully intoxicated condition, and staggering amongst the snow, in Raglan Street, Consett.—Defendant was ordered to pay a fine of 5s and expenses.

John Little was likewise found guilty of a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Simpson, of being inebriated and creating a disturbance in the streets of Consett, having a crowd of 200 people surrounding him, on the preceding Saturday night, and was similarly fined, with the option of seven days' imprisonment.

P.C. Martin charged *Alexander Little* with being drunk at Consett on the same date, and was accorded a like punishment.

Thomas Hobday was brought up at the instance of P.C. Martin for having been drunk and incapable at Consett.—It appears that between eleven and twelve o'clock last Saturday evening, the officer found the man lying against the rails of the Infirmary, nearly opposite the gate of the Police Station. Upon being accosted, he said that he "wanted to be locked up."—Defendant flatly contradicted the charge; but P.C. Jordison swore that the man so incapable that Martin and himself had to carry him to the lock-up. He smelt strongly of drink, and witness supposed that he had been taking ether, but this was denied by Hobday.—Defendant made a lengthy statement in his own defence. He had just come up from Blackhill, having passed Sergt. Cruickshank and P.C. Watson near the Royal Hotel, and upon approaching the Police Station, some person assaulted him by striking at him, and finally kicked him in the stomach, causing so much pain that he was obliged to remain where he was and support himself against the Infirmary wall. He was crying when the policemen came up, and he admitted that their story might be quite true, although his weakness and sufferings had been mistaken for symptoms of intoxication.—Sergeant Cruickshank was called, and stated that the defendant passed him about 11 p.m. He appeared to be labouring under the influence of liquor.—The Bench believed the case to be proven, and imposed a penalty of 5s and costs, with the usual alternative of seven days' hard labour.

William Pattinson, a young man (on bail), failed to appear to answer a similar charge.—P.C. Stubbs stated that at 3·30 the previous (Sunday) afternoon, he observed the defendant very drunk in Foundry Row, Blackhill. He fell once or twice upon the ground, and as defendant refused to divulge his name, he was locked up.—The fine and expenses inflicted amounted to 10s 10d.

John Jordan was summoned by Sergt. Thornton for having been drunk and guilty of disorderly conduct in front of the Red Lion Inn, Dipton (from which place he had previously been ejected) at 8·30 on the night of the 27th February.—Fined 5s and costs.

Alexander Corney, of Leadgate, failed to respond to a summons charging him with having been found blind drunk on the road between Consett and Leadgate, on the 23rd ult.—The case was proved by P.C. Neesam, and the defendant was fined 10s 6d, including costs.

Charles and *Mary Morton*, man and wife, hawkers, belonging to Hanging Stone, near Iveston, did not appear in response to a summons charging them with being drunk and causing an uproar at South Medomsley Colliery, between nine and ten o'clock on the 27th ult.—Sergt. Tate, who summoned the defendants, stated that they were surrounded by a crowd of 200 and 300 people, and the police experienced the greatest difficulty in getting them away.—In each instance, the Bench mulcted the offenders in 5s each, with the costs; in default, seven days' hard labour.

An elderly person named *Mary Martin*, was charged by P.C. Neesam with being drunk and disorderly in the streets of Consett.—On the 22nd of last month, the constable being summoned from the police station, came upon the women in a very drunken state. She was abusing her husband, and had cut his face in several places by throwing all the things in the house at him. Witness advised the woman to return to the house; at first she refused, but ultimately departed.—The defendant absolutely repudiated the charge, but Sergeant Norman affirmed that she was intoxicated when brought to the police office.—The woman was fined 2s 6d and the Court costs.

ASSAULT AT CONSETT.

Mary Ann O'Neil, of Sunderland Street, Consett, was summoned for having assaulted Mary Ann Carr, living in the same street, on the 22nd February. The offence arose out of a squabble between the parties, who are neighbours. Witnesses were called on both sides, the assault being denied by the defendant.—The Magistrates considered that the case was proved, and imposed a penalty of 20s, including costs.

[illegible] BASTARDY ARREARS. [illegible]

A young man named *James Lynn*, who was apprehended at South Shields, was brought up to show cause why he had failed to pay the sum of £1 6s, arrears and costs due on an affiliation order, obtained by Mary Huggins, a single young woman, living at Burnhope.—Defendant pleaded that he could pay on account of scarcity of employment, but as the complainant pressed for the money, he was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

A BEERHOUSE-KEEPER HEAVILY FINED.

Thomas Armstrong, landlord of a beerhouse at Blackhall Mill, was charged with opening his house for the sale of drink during prohibited hours.—The testimony of P.C. Best went to show that about eleven o'clock on Sunday morning, 21st ult., he was at Blackhall Mill in plain clothes, when he noticed a man emerge out of the back-yard of defendant's premises, carrying something under his coat. Upon stopping the man (whose name was Hugh Clark, a cinder-drawer at Hamsterley Colliery) and asking him what he had got, he replied, "Nothing." The officer looked under the jacket, and drew out a can, filled with a half-gallon of freshly-drawn beer. On charging the defendant, he admitted his guilt, but affirmed that that was the first time he had ever sold drink during closing time.—Armstrong urged, in extenuation of the offence, that the man strongly pressed to be supplied with half-a-gallon of beer, stating that he had some friends coming to see him that forenoon. At first, he (defendant) refused to fill it; but at length he gave way. He was exceedingly sorry at what had happened.—The Justices ordered the defendant to pay a fine of £10 and costs, but agreed not to endorse the conviction upon the license.

ALLEGED GAME TRESPASS.

William Angus, Medomsley Edge; *Robert Hall*, Blackhill; and *Charles Graham*, Consett, were placed in the dock on a charge of trespassing in pursuit of conies on land in the occupation of Mr Joseph Pumphrey, at Elm Park, near Ebchester, on the 28th February.—Wesley Whitfield, the game watcher, was going his usual rounds on the Elm Park Estate, when he observed the defendants concealed behind a hedge, and he followed them into a hay shade. They had a ferret in their possession, and told him that they had traced a rabbit in there. On proceeding along the road, the ferrit managed to get out of the bag. He informed defendants that they had no right there, and they ought not to set him at defiance.—Defendants alleged that the land was not in the occupation of Mr Pumphrey, and they had permission from Ridley, the farmer, to go over the ground, and the latter declined to prosecute them.—Whitfield, on being questioned by the Bench, explained that the land really belonged to Mr Charles Wilson, of Shotley Park, but Mr Pumphrey had secured the right of shooting thereon, the game being reserved. The men were both on Ridley's and Brown's land.—Defendants objected to the summonses being amended, and the magistrates dismissed the cases, but granted fresh summonses against the offenders.—Whitfield essayed to lay a complaint before the Court regarding the conduct of the defendants on coming to the Court that morning, but the magistrates declined to enter into details.

SNOWBALLING SCHOOLBOYS.

Two boys, named *John Malloy* and *John Casson*, whose parents reside at Consett, were summoned for assaulting John Davidson, a scholar in attendance at the Consett Iron Company's British Schools on Feb. 24th. Casson was further accused of committing a similar offence upon John Parkinson, another schoolboy belonging the British Schools, on the same date.—Mr G. T. Hyden, the master, explained at length that it had been the custom for gangs of youths attending St. Mary's Roman Catholic and other schools, to waylay boys who were late, knock them down, kick them amongst the snow, and pelt them with snowballs. This practice has been a serious nuisance, and the masters of the various schools had consulted together with a view to stopping this practice. A few years ago, a similar prosecution was instituted, and had a deterrent effect for a considerable period; but the nuisance had again assumed such an intolerable aspect that, with the sanction of the rest of the schoolmasters in Consett, he had decided to summons these two offenders. As a schoolmaster, he considered himself *in loco protectis* to the boys. Mr Hyden, however, did not press for a heavy punishment, but simply wished to bring the subject under the cognisance of the Bench.—Malloy declared that his son was not attending St. Mary's Schools. He was over 14 years, and did not go to any school.—The complainants were called, the first declaring that he was attacked by the defendants and other boys, who pelted him with snowballs. The second youth averred that Casson threw a piece of frozen ice at his leg, hurting him very much.—The fathers urged that the boys were almost beyond parental control.—The magistrates, after consideration, decided to dismiss the cases upon the parents of the defendants promising to give the boys a thorough chastisement before leaving the precincts of the Court.—Malloy expressed his eagerness to thrash his son anywhere—in the Court before the magistrates, in the school in the presence of the master (to which Mr Hyden objected), or anywhere else. He could not afford to pay any fine. Stepping up to one of the constables (P.C. Martin) acting as usher, Malloy said to him, "Give us that long stick, and I'll thrash him now," producing much laughter in the Court.—The magistrates thought the punishment might be inflicted in the quadrangle, where the delinquents were forthwith escorted, and their parents administered to them a sound whipping.

DISGRACEFUL ASSAULTS UPON FEMALES: A BRUTAL FELLOW.

James Williams, a youth of diminutive stature, whose parents belong to Craghead, was brought up (on remand from Lanchester) charged with attempting to commit rapes upon Ellen Hume, a young woman, living at Craghead; and an aged widow, named Mary Richardson, of Lanchester, on the 25th April, 1885. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared to prosecute; and Dr Carr defended.—The reason proceedings against the youth have been delayed so long was in consequence of his subsequent apprehension at Easington Lane for an indecent assault committed upon a young woman in that locality; and he was only taken into custody on being released from Durham Gaol on Monday, 1st inst., after having undergone a term of four months' imprisonment.—The prosecutrix Ellen Hume, aged 14 in April last, stated that she resided at 24, Stone Row, Burnhope. On the 25th April, 1885, she was sent to Edmondsley by her mother for some butcher meat. She left home about 9 a.m. She got the meat, and was returning from Edmondsley. On arriving at Holmside, she observed the prisoner standing at the corner end, and he followed her right up the road to Webster's Cottage, after which she lost sight of him. Reaching the end of Webster's garden, prisoner came over the hedge. He came towards her, and got hold of her by the shoulders and said, "Let's have a find," and she said she would not. He offered her 6d, and she replied, "I do not want neither you nor your 6d. You will get wrong." He then threw her down on the ground, and attempted to assault her. She shouted out, and prisoner put his hand over her mouth. However, she shoved him by, and he knocked her down a second time. He attempted to criminally assault her. She struggled with her antagonist a second time, and released herself, after which prisoner indecently exposed himself, and she ran away. She complained to her mother, and also gave information to P.C. Crabb.—Cross-questioned by Dr Carr, complainant stated it would be 11·30 a.m. when the assault was committed. She did not know where the defendant lived before he was arrested for the charge at Easington Lane. She had not accused any other person of the assault; nor had she seen the prisoner until that morning, when she identified him out of two men placed before her.—Robert Miller Pearson spoke to seeing the prisoner in the neighbourhood of Holmside on the day in question.—P.C. Esson deposed that he apprehended Williams on the 25th July last for another offence committed in an adjacent Petty Sessional Division. Prisoner then made a statement, admitting that he assaulted a girl from Burnhope, and likewise an old woman near Holmside that day. He said, "I overtook the girl in Holmside Lane, and I threw her down. She made a loud noise, and I ran away. I was afraid."—By Dr Carr: He captured the prisoner between Craghead and West Pelton. Williams made the statement voluntarily. He never told him jokingly that it was a pleasant way of passing the time.—P.C. Crabb said that the prosecutrix came to his house and complained that a young man had attempted to commit a rape upon her in the Holmside Lane. He examined the girl's clothes, and found them all dirty and torn at the back. There had been a heavy rainfall previously, and the roads were exceedingly "clarty." Upon inspecting the place where the assault was alleged to have been committed, there were several heel and toe marks imprinted in the ground, and every appearance of a struggle.—As the case was tried under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, the prisoner was entitled to be sworn; but this offer was declined by his counsel.—The prisoner pleaded guilty, and Dr Carr addressed the Bench at considerable length in behalf of his client, who, he averred, was influenced by evil passions.—The Bench resolved the charge into one of indecent assault, and committed the youth to stand for trial at the forthcoming Quarter Sessions.

In the second charge, Mary Richardson, the prosecutrix, stated that on the 25th April last, between eleven and twelve a.m., she was near the Holmside Schools, when she saw the prisoner sitting on the roadside indecently exposing himself. She crossed to the other side of the road, and he followed her, got hold of her, and threw her down. He said he would give her sixpence; she shouted "murder," and he lifted her clothes up. She managed to keep him off her, and she screamed.—By Dr Carr: She had been confronted with the prisoner before. She said that the youth was just like the person that assaulted her, except that he had the whiskers shaved off. She had no doubt in her own mind but that the prisoner was the man.—P.C. Esson apprehended the prisoner on the 25th July, at Craghead, when he made the following statement, after witness had turned him over to another constable upon a distinct charge: "I hope there'll be no notice taken of that case. If I had got clear of this, I will be wiser for the future." He added, "I hope you will not report it." Previously, witness said to prisoner that he thought he had got a fright for what he had done before in Holmside Lane, and the youth replied that she (the prosecutrix) did not know him. He cautioned prisoner that whatever he said would be taken in evidence against him. Williams said nothing more. On the 25th April the old woman came to his house and complained of having been assaulted by a young man. After receiving a description from her, witness visited the place where the assault was alleged to have been committed, and he found marks of the toes and boots, &c., also several pieces of the old woman's dress.—Prisoner reserved his defence, and was committed to the Sessions on this charge also. An application for bail was not entertained.

THE INVENTIONS EXHIBITION.—TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."—Sir,—May we ask you to insert in your columns the following statement of facts contained in the *London Gazette* and the *Society of Arts' Journal*—facts which seem to us the more important because the conclusions from them are applicable to both the Main Divisions of the recent exhibition at South Kensington. Upon reference to the Official Catalogue, we find that two gentlemen connected with the pianoforte trade were nominated on the Music Committee, one of them being also a member of the Committee of Advice. We also discover that the firm to which one of these two gentlemen belongs, is announced as winning not only the highest prize—viz., the Gold Medal of the Society of Arts, but also the Ordinary Gold Medal. As for the second committeeman, he receives a gold medal with the names of the three firms for which he is agent, so added that the single honour becomes equivalent to six, the agent and the manufacturers being equally entitled to the gold medal awarded in their joint names. In other words, the medal may be used as three by the committeeman, and as one by each of the three firms. We observe also that the firm which bears this gentleman's name obtains a silver medal. The violin experts of the Loan Collection were in like manner rewarded with one supreme gold medal and one of the ordinary character. But this is not all. A firm to which the nephew of one of the committeemen belongs received a gold medal and a bronze medal, similar honours falling to another firm for which he is agent, with the name of the maker added, so that both can use it. It thus appears that the firms, in which the officials referred to are pecuniarily interested, have obtained the equivalent of two supreme gold medals, eleven ordinary gold medals, one silver medal, and two bronze medals—sixteen in all. This simple statement of facts emboldens us to ask whether officials connected with the International Exhibition should be permitted to compete for prizes.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants, JOHN BRINSMEAD AND SONS, London, Jan. 20.—*Daily Telegraph, January* 21, 1886

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THE SOUTH MEDOMSLEY EVICTIONS.

GRAVE CHARGES AGAINST THE POLICE.

INDIGNATION MEETING OF RATEPAYERS.

On Monday night, a meeting of ratepayers, adjourned from Monday last on account of the stormy weather, was held in the United Methodist Free Church School-room, Dipton, to consider the action and conduct of the police in the recent eviction of strike hands at South Medomsley. Mr Wm. Robson, a member of the School Board, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance.

The CHAIRMAN said they were still in about the same position as they were last Monday night. No active steps had been taken by anyone else, except by Mr Pease in the House of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) To a very great extent, he thought, that relieved the ratepayers of Dipton from taking any particularly active steps, except it were to support Mr Pease in the work that he had already taken in hand. Few of them expected last Monday night that a member of Parliament would take into consideration the work that had been done, but after the terrible conduct of the leaders of the people—or the officers of the law—in evicting the people, he thought it was only necessary that some one of importance should look at the state of things even in England. Everybody knew what a day it was, everybody knew that people were even trying to get their cattle into the house, and that human beings should be turned from their firesides into the street was one of the most cruel actions that had perhaps ever taken place in England. He did not know that there had ever been anything like it. There had never been a day like it—at least so the papers and old people said—for about 50 years, and the worst feature of the case was for the police to commence the terrible work, and to commence it in great numbers. They mustered over 50 policemen. (A Voice: "Seventy.") Well, 70 policemen, and many times there were not 30 people there to watch. Who were the bigger fools? Certainly the policeman had the worst of it all day. The superintendent of police might have been a little more careful and not quite so active, and he thought he was very much to blame. If he had to give an account of himself it would be a little greater difficulty to him than turning people outside. It would cost him something like an effort to clear himself from many points of law according to the statements of people who understood law. There seemed to be great doubt as to the mode in which they proceeded, there seemed to be great doubts as regarded the time of notice the men had, and the greatest doubts as to whether or not they were right in turning people out on such a day. If anyone was now suffering bodily from the action of the police that day—(A voice: "There is")—they must have it if possible, because it was only right that members of Parliament ought to know all about those things, and that the public ought to know. In every other circumstance of life men had to answer for their actions. If a publican turned a man out, and he suffered from cold and exposure he had to answer very severely generally, and when the police took upon themselves the terrible work of turning people out, and someone suffered, it ought to be widely known, and, if possible, the men who so acted ought to be brought up to answer the charges made against them. Last Monday night, as many of them were aware, facts were brought against the police, and the secretary would very likely read out the charges as they stood. There were some very strange ones and some strong remarks, no doubt, but they should get everything gathered together and make it known to Mr Pease if the business was not settled that night in the House of Commons. He thought they might almost, as suggested, send a report to Mr Pease. It was very little use sending to the head of the police, as they were thinking about doing. (A voice: "Telegraph from this meeting," and hear, hear.) At the present time, the police had to answer their own charges, and, no doubt, they were trying to make the best of their case. It was no use petitioning them now. They must take it to a higher power now that a higher power had taken it up. He would suggest that they should get to business, and pass some resolution. The meeting was open to receive evidence against the police.

Mr DAVID MOLE (Secretary of the Ratepayers' Association) read the charges made at last Monday night's meeting. Summarised, these were principally as follows:—On the 12th of January a man was crushed and kicked by the police in his house; P.C. Bain had sworn that there was an organised attempt made to rescue prisoners, and that the police barrack panes were riddled when there was only one pane broken; Sergeant Tait called a respectable married woman a b—— w——; P.C. Lindsay, when asked a civil question, called a man a b—— liar, and on another occasion threatened to smash the face of one of the strike hands named Forster; one constable was helplessly drunk upon his return from Lanchester Police Court; there were witnesses in the room who found him lying in the ditch, and there was a witness not connected with the strike who saw him indecently exposing himself on the edge of the public footpath; a colliery official, annoyed at a hostile demonstration, unsheathed a dagger or sword-stick, in full view of the police, who made no remonstrance, at a lad named Temple; Sergt. Thornton, when remonstrated with about the ill-usage of Docherty, said that if he had been there the man would have received twenty times more—("Shame"); P.C. Newton threatened T. Steele that unless he made tracks he would "kick him off the place;" on the afternoon of Tuesday last, whilst the evictions were in progress, P.C. Sanderson passed a party of men largely under the influence of drink, and called them "b—— fools" for following the advice of Patrick Carling; while Hy. Cook was passing along a footpath claimed to be public property, but which the colliery proprietors now claimed to be their property, he was knocked down by a policeman. It was thought to be P.C. Sanderson, but they were not sure. He (Mr Mole) thought they should not be so un-English as to condemn those men unheard, but they were only public servants, and he thought as ratepayers, and as men not connected with the strike, it was their duty to see that these men should get a fair chance of answering the charges brought against them. If they were true he thought it was time they were removed from the force. (Hear, hear.) A man that could not keep a civil tongue in his head and, because he was placed in a little brief authority, would bully his fellow men was not, he contended, fit to be a police constable. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said he thought everyone in the room knew something about those men, and he did not think there was a single man who did not know very well that some of these policemen had been very far wrong. The charges had been made, and now they were at liberty to speak to the best course to be taken.

Mr GLAISTER, an old man, charged P.C. Neesam with having kicked and illused his son. They had to go out and get water, and they thought he was dead for some time. He was suffering yet.

Mr JOHN WOODLEY said that some time after the assault on Henry Cook he was standing at the bottom of the row with several others. Some four or five policemen were stopping people from going up the footpath which the colliery company claimed as theirs. He told a policeman that if he wanted to go up the road and was prevented he would take legal proceedings. About ten minutes afterwards he walked up the road and they did not stop him.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that a resolution should be immediately passed and forwarded to Mr Pease at the House of Commons.

Mr SWALWELL asked whether the police had had any special authority or not, or whether it was just an ordinary case of eviction?

The SECRETARY: I believe that is a matter shrouded in mystery. Mr Tyzack said the police had authority to do it.

Mr SWALWELL held that the police had no business to order men. Their only business was to see that the men were protected.

Mr H. BLOOMFIELD said it was not true, as stated, that Supt. Oliver served ejection notices. It was another false statement.

The SECRETARY asked if any man in the meeting had had any kind of notice served on him by Supt. Oliver? (Cries of "Not one," and "No.")

A STRIKE HAND: I received five notices, but not one from Mr Oliver.

The SECRETARY said that in the "police statement" Supt. Oliver was said to have personally served the notices a week gone Friday. The men who were ejected each and all declared that they had never received a paper from Supt. Oliver in their lives. It was further stated on behalf of the police that the men knew perfectly well that they would be ejected on the Tuesday. He was not aware that a single man knew that he would be ejected on the Tuesday. This would show how much truth there was in the police statements.

Mr JOHN TAYLOR asked if there was any man in the room who could say positively that the police had no right to eject the people? If they could prove that it was contrary to law they were in a position to take legal proceedings against them.

Mr SWALWELL: The law does not go further than to protect men sent to do it.

Mr BLOOMFIELD alleged that Supt. Oliver had been overheard to say at Consett Police Court that he had been in the force for 30 years, that he did not want to be disgraced now, and that he hoped the men would leave themselves. He said he had never heard in his life before of compelling the police to evict any man, and he added, "I think I will write to-night to Mr Crawford and ask him to bring a bill into the House to do away with it."

Mr TAYLOR questioned whether it was any use sending to Mr Pease, because he saw from the newspapers that evidence had been supplied to the member for the division, and he would be able to substantiate and endorse Mr Pease. He understood they had been formulated by the Miners' Union.

Mr BLOOMFIELD thought it would strengthen the evidence if an expression went from a ratepayers' meeting. It would perhaps look better coming from a ratepayers' meeting than from the miners, who were directly concerned.

Mr TAYLOR said in that case he would move that they telegraph to Mr Pease that an indignation meeting was being held, condemning the action of the police.

Mr G. ETHERIDGE seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the resolution, said it would give Mr Pease to understand that the men had been brought to a desperate pitch.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there not something about Supt. Oliver striking a woman and allowing furniture to be tossed downstairs—contrary to all law, surely?

Mr D. HENDERSON repeated the statement already made by him in the press with reference to himself and wife being shoved out. A policeman struck his wife on the head, but he could not exactly get to know who it was.

The CHAIRMAN thought that if it was true about the assault, some action should be taken. It was a cruel thing, and they ought to have their heads broken. It was really desparate. (Hear, hear.)

A VOICE: I would like to have the job. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: If there is any evidence to show that this lady has been struck at, let us have it by all means.

A VOICE: Was there anyone in the yard? They would not allow anyone to go in.

Mr HENRY COOK said he was in the yard at the time. He saw the police thrust Douglass Henderson and the wife out on to the stairs. He did not see any striking, but it might have taken place without him seeing it, as there was a crush of policemen at the bottom of the stairs.

Mr BLOOMFIELD corroborated this. He felt the violence of the police himself.

Mr COOK said that when the candymen were evicting Birtley, who had been ill for a long time, he spoke to them, and Supt. Oliver took him by the shoulders, and told him that if he did not hold his tongue he would shove him out of the door.

Mr R. DODDS said he saw the policemen knock Henderson about between them several times when he had come downstairs into the yard.

No further evidence of violence against the police was tendered, and as it was stated that the telegram to Mr Pease had been despatched, the meeting proceeded to discuss the action of the colliery company in having attempted to close up a footpath which had hitherto been public, but which they now claimed to be their property.

Mr MARSHALL, an old inhabitant, said that a good many years ago an attempt was made to close the same road by the colliery company, but when the official plan was examined it was discovered that it was a public road, and the company desisted their obstruction.

Mr M. JOHNSON and Mrs T. GLENWRIGHT said they had travelled the road for 40 and 25 years respectively. (Applause.)

Mr MARSHALL, in answer to a question, said the road was originally given by two ladies living at Pontop. At the time of the last obstruction it had been public property for 80 years.

The CHAIRMAN complained that Mr Tyzack had also lately prevented people from going along the railway. The railway had up to the present been used in lieu of another road which had been taken from the public.

The SECRETARY explained that this matter had been inquired into, and it was discovered that the road in question, less than 20 years ago, went through where Mr Tyzack's garden now was. The road had come into the occupation of the Coal Company, but the public had a right to it, even if they had to go through Mr Tyzack's parlour.

It was resolved that both grievances should be further inquired into.

IMPORTANT MAGISTERIAL STATEMENT.

On Monday, at the Consett Police Court—before Jonathan Priestman, Esq. (chairman), Jas. Annandale, Esq., and Lieut.-Colonel A. B. Wilbraham, Mr Wilfrid Tyzack, manager of South Medomsley Colliery, who was represented by Mr T. W. Welford, solicitor, Consett, made application to the Bench for ejectment warrants in the case of Samuel Bloomfield and Thomas Nicholson, of Dowlais Cottages, Dipton. Neither of the tenants appeared when called upon.—Mr Tyzack explained that both Bloomfield and Nicholson were formerly employed at the colliery, but ceased working when the dispute originated last December. Since that period these two men had been paying their rents regularly for the colliery houses.—P.C. Johnson, the colliery owners' special officer, proved to serving the parties with two distinct notices—the first being a 14 days' notice to terminate the tenancy, and the second a 14 days' statutory notice to quit, granted by the justices. Both Bloomfield and Nicholson were still in possession of the houses, although the notices had already expired.

The Bench issued ejectment orders in both instances, the parties to give up possession of the houses within 21 days from that date.

The Chairman added the following important statement:—"As there seems to be some misapprehension as to the law on the subject of these ejectments, I may say that the jurisdiction under which the magistrates act is given to them by the Statute 1 and 2 Vict., cap. 74, commonly called "The Recovery of Small Tenements Act." Under this Act, where the interest of a tenant which is previously held without rent, or at a rental not exceeding £20 per annum, shall have ended by legal notice to quit or otherwise, and the tenant refuses to give up possession, the landlord, or his agent, may give him notice of his intention to apply to the magistrates to recover possession of the premises. Upon the day fixed for hearing the tenant may appear and state any case that he has in answer to the landlord's demand; but, if the magistrates consider that the landlord's case is proved, and that the tenancy is determined, the magistrates are bound to issue their warrant to give the landlord possession after the expiration of 21 days. This warrant the police must execute by force; but the proceedings were in no sense of a criminal character. They are analogous to proceedings in the County Court. They are inititiated by the landlord as a private person, and are subject to his control throughout. At any time he can stop the proceedings, and direct the warrants to be withdrawn."

THE MISSING POLICEMEN.

We are informed that the three missing police-constables—two from Esh Colliery, and one from Hedley Hill—who were supposed to have been lost in the snowstorm after departing from South Medomsley, on the occasion of the evictions last week, arrived safely home on Thursday se'nnight. It appears the Hedley Hill officer remained at Lanchester, not being able to proceed further with safety; and the other two managed to travel as far as Langley Park, when their progress was impeded. Sergt. Nicholson, of Cornsay Colliery, experienced the greatest difficulty in reaching his destination, having struggled for several hours amongst the snow wreaths, and battled with the fury of the storm. Another policeman, named Best, who is stationed at Westwood, took the 6·15 train on the night of the evictions, and on travelling from that place up the hilly country to his home, he was buried in a large snow wreath, from which he was unable to extricate himself. He called out for assistance, but the sounds were unheard in that lonely part of the district, and he was obliged to remain in this condition for a considerable period; and when help arrived on the scene he was utterly benumbed and unable to stir, having lost the use of his limbs. The officer had to be dug out by two men, who eventually heard his cries for assistance, and they had to convey him home the constable being in an utterly exhausted condition. Best was bedfast for several days, and was incapacitated from further employment till Monday, when he was forced to attend the Petty Sessions at Consett to give evidence in certain charges. He then appeared in a weak and feeble state, and is at present unable to attend to his regular duties. Doubtless a similar tale could be unfolded by most of the 70 policemen who were present at the evictions. There were present 45 officers and men from the Consett Petty Sessional Division, and 25 from other parts of the county.

MEETING OF THE FEDERATION BOARD.

On Wednesday, a meeting of the Federation Association was held in the Miners' Hall, Durham, there being present Mr W. H. Patterson, Mr John Orr, Mr L. Trotter, Mr P. Carling, Mr D. Reid, Mr T. Hart, Mr T. Hindmarch, Mr William H. Lambton, Mr R. Allen, Mr J. Routledge, Mr J. Forman, and Mr R. Hanson. The purpose of the meeting was to formulate a statement of their position in relation to the evictions which took place on Tuesday in last week. Several representatives of the press subsequently attended the meeting, and the facts of the case put before them.

Mr W. H. PATTERSON made the statement on behalf of the Board. He said that the position they first took up on behalf of the men in the present dispute they still adhered to. The original intention of the South Medomsley Coal Company was to reduce the wages of the coal hewers, enginemen, mechanics, and cokemen; but when they found that each section was bound together, the manager withdrew the claim for a reduction in all classes excepting the coal hewers. Not only had they, but other gentlemen, had written and offered their services to act as negotiators between the owners and workmen, so that the dispute might be amicably settled. Every attempt of the kind had, however, been resisted by the owners. The statement made by Mr Tyzack, the manager of the colliery, that if arbitration was resorted to they would confine the dispute to the mere average wage, was totally untrue. When the interview took place with Mr Tyzack at the colliery, both the members of the Federation and workmen who were present would bear out the statement that open arbitration was offered to the owners. They would then have been at liberty to bring forward any argument before the arbitrator, and pursue whatever course they might desire in order to show why this reduction should be submitted to. They had even gone the length of proposing that Mr Joseph Dodds—whom he supposed was one of the owners, but who stated that he is only the solicitor for the company—should act as arbitrator between the owners and the workmen. But this, too, had been refused. With regard to the evictions, the conversation that took place between Supt. Oliver and himself at Lanchester was private in its character, and the statement that he (Mr Patterson) made to him was that if anything was done he must appeal by written statement to the Federation Board. This he did, and the following was a copy of his letter:—

Durham County Constabulary
Divisional Superintendent's Office,
Consett, Feb. 20, 1886.

W. H. Patterson, Esq.,

SIR,—I have to inform you that the warrants of ejectment for South Medomsley Colliery will take effect from Friday, 26th inst. The police are directed by the said warrants to evict their tenants from the houses within seven days from that date. This is a most unpleasant duty for the police to have to perform. I therefore ask you to be so kind as to bring the matter before your committee, with a view to persuade the men to remove their furniture themselves, and so prevent us from having this very unpleasant duty to perform.—By so doing, you will greatly oblige, yours truly,

JAMES OLIVER, Superintendent.

He (Mr Patterson) replied to Mr Oliver's letter as follows:—

Durham Miners' Association, Feb. 24, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—I have this day placed before our Federation Board your letter of the 20th inst., and, after full consideration, and remembering the treatment we have received from the owners of South Medomsley Coal Company, we have agreed that the law must take its course. We have done all in our power, even to the fact that the men are willing to refer the present dispute to Joseph Dodds, Esq., M.P. for Stockton, as umpire, with a full knowledge that he is the solicitor for the company.—Yours truly,

W. H. PATTERSON.

Mr James Oliver, Supt., Lanchester.

Mr Oliver also had an interview with Mr P. Carling and Mr Orr, who would state what then took place.

Mr ORR said when Mr Carling and himself attended the meeting on the 20th of February at Dipton Mr Oliver came up to their trap when they drove up to the hall and asked for Mr Patterson. He (Mr Orr) told him that Mr Patterson would not be there, as he was called away on business. Mr Oliver said: "I came here on purpose to see him to-day to see if anything can be done to get the people to leave the houses themselves. We have received instructions that I and the police must turn these people out on the magistrates' ejectment warrants, which will take effect on the Friday following the 20th." He (Mr Orr) said that he had no authority whatever to act in any way, or to advise the men in any form as to what they should do. Mr Oliver then asked him if he would bring it before the meeting, and he said he would. Mr Oliver also asked him in leaving, in the presence of Inspector Webster, if he could advise him any course to pursue by which the men could be brought to leave the houses of their own accord. He told him that the only course he could advise him to adopt was to write Mr Patterson officially, and in all probability would call a Board meeting to consider his letter or application, and that application, he believed, had just been read.

Mr CARLING said that after they left Mr Oliver there was a large and influential meeting, and at that meeting he gave it as his own personal opinion, without the authority or consent of his colleagues of the Federation Board, that the men should not leave their houses until they were evicted by Mr Oliver and the "candymen." He had then an opinion—and he had it still—that it was not that he wished them well, or that he sympathised with them, that Supt. Oliver made his request; but that it was that he wanted to relieve himself of the dirty, inhuman action of turning the men out, and take credit for having approached them in a conciliatory spirit, and allowed them to do the dirty work themselves. Hence, upon his own authority, he advised the men to remain in their houses, and he was only sorry that they did not carry out his instructions to bar their doors and windows, and give as much trouble as possible. (Hear.) Mr Carling most emphatically declared that no member of the Federation Board knew anything of what he was about to utter, and therefore he took upon himself the whole responsibility. Mr Tyzack had charged the Federation Board with a certain amount of indiscreet action of which they were not guilty, because they knew nothing at all about it. He took it upon him as a personal member of the society, and used the expressions on his own responsibility.

Mr PATTERSON (proceeding) denied the charge made against them by Mr Tyzack that they advised the men to resist the law. (Hear, hear.) The Federation Board did not know that the evictions were to be carried out on the day they were, and all that they had to say in reference to them was that they were carried out in the most inhuman way; that no man with any sympathy or Christian feeling would have carried them out on the day they were—a day on which it was inhuman to turn a stray dog to the door, let alone a human being. They all felt most keenly for the men, as a more reasonable, honest, and hardworking set of men—and that too, according to Mr Tyzack's own testimony—did not exist in the country. The action to be taken in the House of Commons would, they trusted, be the means of providing protection for the miners in the future in a much better way than they have hitherto been. (Hear.)

Mr CARLING: Have we nothing to say with regard to the conduct of the police?

Mr PATTERSON: We think it is the most inhuman conduct that we have heard of.

A VOICE: What about the future?

Mr PATTERSON: Well, we are simply standing to offer to refer the dispute to the arbitration of Mr Joseph Dodds.

Mr W. H. LAMBTON said they hoped to get a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the legality of the evictions.

Mr PATTERSON: Our solicitor informs us that they were illegal.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Liberal papers for the publicity they had from time to time given to each stage of the dispute.

A "CHALLENGE" TO MR TYZACK.

Thomas Cain and *John Tones*, Unionists at South Medomsley Colliery, both pleaded guilty to charges of drunkenness.—Sergt. Tate adduced that at 11·30 p.m. on the 22nd ult., he found the defendants very drunk near to Mr Tyzack's house. Cain was standing in front of the house, and was challenging the manager out to fight (laughter), and was also pelting snowballs at the windows. When asked for his name, he refused to give it. The other defendant was lying on his back; he was doubling his fists and exclaiming, "Come out, Mr Tyzack, you b——, and I'll fight you."—The magistrates fined each of the defendants 5s and costs.

ASSAULTING A "BLACKLEG."

Robert William Cooper, an under-hand puddler at the Consett Iron Works, was summoned on a charge of assaulting Albert Edward Duell, a youth, now engaged as a "blackleg" at South Medomsley Colliery.—The evidence of complainant, an intelligent fellow, was to the effect that on Saturday, February 20th, he visited Consett along with Mrs Heath, his landlady, and others. On coming out of Mr Davison's shop in Front Street, the defendant came up to him, and asked him where he was working at. He told Cooper that he was not working far away, whereupon the defendant struck him upon the side of the face and likewise kicked him on the thigh. He went and informed the police.—In answer to the Bench, complainant said he was not hurt very much.—Defendant confessed his guilt, and added that he was a "little bit kind of intoxicated," and did not know what he was doing.—The Chairman observed that this was a gross and unprovoked assault; but considering that the costs were so heavy, the magistrates had decided to let him off on payment of 10s fine and 16s expenses. Being unable to pay, Cooper was committed for one month's hard labour.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The miners recently evicted from the South Medomsley Colliery houses seem to consider themselves almost, or perhaps quite, martyrs to a principle, said principle being, it seems to me, that of self-interest. Will any of them answer the following questions *straight* without circumlocution or unnecessary talk?

1. Are the houses their own?
2. (If not) Did they not get notice to quit?
3. (If so) Why did they not leave?
4. What other course did they leave open to the Company but to evict?
5. If any of those miners had a lodger who would not leave after due notice, what would they do? Submit and let him stay without payment, or evict?

I won't enlarge on the subject, but it really seems to me, from their own account in the papers, that they attempted to hold property not their own, and I have been accustomed to hear this calling by a rather ugly name; but possibly the answers to my questions will put another face on it.—I am, &c.,

A FARMER.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Considerable interest has recently been imparted to the unhappy position of the workmen on strike at South Medomsley Colliery by sensational reports from the Newcastle daily newspapers. While I regret as much as any person can do the present position of both the employers and employed, it is but fair, I consider, to all parties that the facts of the case should be kept in view by all who wish to see right and not might ultimately prevail. The late workmen and their friends are, I am afraid, scarcely blameless in the late deplorable evictions, and whether the object of the miners' agents was to excite the sympathy of the public by encouraging the workmen to remain in their dwellings, after they received the customary notice to quit, thus setting the law at defiance, is best known to themselves. It cannot be denied that Supt. Oliver, when he asked the miners' agents to get the workmen quietly out of their houses, so as to avoid the unpleasantness of evicting them, was much more humane than the advice of these delegates at their public meeting; and as Mr Oliver did not relish the work, he put off its execution as long as he could without a gross neglect of duty, and the payment of a large sum for expenses in consequence. I am acquainted with the Superintendent of Police at Consett, and know him to be averse to high-handed proceedings of any kind, and I must say that more evidence will have to be produced of his inhumanity than that which has appeared in the Newcastle newspapers to convince me on this point. No one at all acquainted with the inhabitants of Dipton can doubt of the bitterness of feeling which has for some time manifested itself on every opportunity to annoy the police and those men known as "blacklegs," and knowing this, I must take the evidence given by the "strike" hands with a modicum of salt. That the men and their families were evicted during the midst of a great storm was a source of greater hardship to the police, many of whom had to travel long distances before they commenced the scene of their unpleasant duty, than to the evicted families, who had to remove but a few yards, and who could have saved all the annoyance by removing their goods quietly. It may seem hard to most of us that families should be turned out in such weather, but let us calmly ask ourselves the question—Are the police, who simply carry out the law, to blame? I think not. So long as persons refuse to leave their houses, after receiving notice to quit, just so long will evictions have to be carried out, however distasteful they may be to all parties concerned.—Yours, &c.,

A CONSTANT READER.

THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE POLICE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Judging from the newspaper reports of the last few days the above trade dispute is now beginning to awaken some interest.

I certainly do not envy the man or men who were responsible for the heartless evictions of March 2nd. To turn helpless women and inoffending children into the street in such weather was worthy of a Nero, and no man worthy of the name would have for one single moment countenanced such inhuman barbarity; although not much else was to be expected from certain philanthropic gentlemen.

To be a spectator of the painful scene was bad enough, without having to listen to the rank blasphemy and horrid language used. I had an idea there was a law to prohibit cursing and swearing on the streets. If there be so, it is a law from which Supt. Oliver's men seem to be exempt. I know this may seem to some a sweeping assertion, but if necessary both names and numbers of the men so offending can be given. And, "Tell it not in Gath," even the superior officers are not blameless in this respect.

Again, as showing the high-handedness of the guardians of the peace, a public footpath, willed upwards of a hundred years ago to the inhabitants of Dipton, has lately been closed by the orders of some one in authority, and on Tuesday, March 2nd, when one of the "strike" hands attempted to pass that way he was knocked down in the snow by a person dressed in blue.

Much has been said and written respecting the genial disposition of Supt. Oliver. I would like to ask if it is true that he promised to prosecute the driver of a cart belonging South Medomsley Company because no name appeared upon the cart, and if such promise was ever made, why has it not been redeemed? Surely such a prosecution cannot be deemed premature, seeing the said driver admitted before the Bench at Consett he had used the cart eight months, and during that period no name had ever appeared upon it. How true it is one man may steal a horse with impunity whilst another is punished for looking over the fence of the field in which it grazes. Furthermore, may I ask if it is by permission of the police the "blacklegs" here go about armed, and do not hesitate to threaten all and sundry, and when appeals are made to the police for redress the parties appealing simply get laughed at, and are probably told to go to a sulphurous region that I do not care to name. A recent writer in your journal stated we had no right to expect the members of the force to be saints from heaven; I may perhaps be permitted to add we have equal right not to expect them to act like fiends from the nethermost regions; and judging from their acts, threats, and language generally, the latter is a deal the more truthful comparison.

I am glad the ratepayers are stirring themselves in this matter, and that an investigation is to be demanded into the events of the last few weeks, as those men who are paid as public servants have become public masters, and it is certainly time they found their level. And if the police are not prepared to act civilly and impartially to all, let them resign and make room for better men.

Much has been said about freedom of contract, and the action of the "strike" hands in attempting to prevent the "blacklegs" from working. Dare anyone say this was not first resorted to by the masters? Collieries can be named and masters' names given who openly confess they are forbidden to give employment to any of the locked-out hands from South Medomsley. Is this freedom of contract?

With regard to the "candymen," a local poet has immortalised them in song, stating they are to be stewed for the support of the owners. Whilst I admire his wit, I detest his reason; for no bird of the air or beast of the field would come near them, be they roasted, stewed or boiled, though the latter process might be necessary in order to remove the filth in which they are incrusted.

With heartfelt thanks of the men of South Medomsley for your past favours, and a hope for a continuance of your love and fidelity.—I am, yours, JUSTITIA.

Dipton, March 8th, 1886.

LOCAL PRIMITIVE METHODISM.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of the Shotley Bridge circuit was held at Consett on Saturday. There was a large attendance of officials, and the Rev Thomas Elliott presided. An increase of 54 members for the year will be reported to the district meeting and conference. Mr James Leadbitter, Cutlers' Hall Road, was appointed delegate to the district meeting, and Mr George Lowes, of Consett, vice. The Rev Mr Alderson, Hexham, has accepted an invitation to succeed the Rev Henry Yool as second minister for the next connexional year. Mr Yool removes to Edinburgh. The new chapels at Lanchester and Castleside, which have been recently completed, were in a sound financial condition, the congregations also being much improved. A successful bazaar has been held at Shotley Bridge in prosecution of a new chapel scheme; and the chapel debt has been reduced at Allendale. The Sunday-school reports are also healthy, there being 1727, showing a good increase on the year. During the year the Tyneside portion of the circuit has been made into a branch, and it is hoped that ere long it may become independent of the parent circuit.

WHITE-LE-HEAD CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of this circuit was held at White-le-Head on Saturday afternoon, when there was a good attendance of officials. The Rev J. Gill, superintendent, occupied the chair. The income of the quarter, notwithstanding the prolonged depression of trade, was £6 in excess of the previous quarter. An increase of 25 members for the year will be reported to the district meeting and Conference. Mr J. W. Taylor, of Dipton, was appointed delegate to the district meeting.

STANLEY CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of the above circuit was held on Saturday afternoon in the Stanley schoolroom. The Rev John Waite presided. A goodly number of officials from the various places were present at the preachers' meeting.—The report of the Examining Committee was received, and two young men were nominated for the preachers' plan to go with older locals for a quarter or so, and to take their further examinations.—The reports of the chapels showed that the trustees had done well in reducing their chapel debts considerably during the year.—The report of the Sunday-schools, as presented by the secretary (Mr P. Reay), showed great activity in this department of the work. Several of the schools have formed catechism-classes and Bands of Hope during the year, all of which were doing well.—The report of members showed an increase of three for the year after removing 111 from the roll book from various causes, making the total number of members in the circuit 434, to be reported to the district meeting and Conference.—It was decided to hold the usual circuit demonstration during the next quarter, and the question to be referred to the societies to consider. The Circuit Committee, consisting of all the officials in the circuit, was appointed to attend to this business.—Mr Philip Reay was appointed delegate to the district meeting, and Mr E. Pickering vice.—The income of the Quarter-day Board was equal to the expenditure.—The legislation to hand was not considered, as it was thought there was not sufficient time allowed for such important business to be done, by the Committee not forwarding it to the December Quarter-day on account of the state of the weather.—Tea was provided by the friends. The circuit, as a whole, is in a fairly good condition.

BLAYDON LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of the Blaydon Local Board was held on Thursday week in the Board-room, Tyne Street—Colonel J. A. Cowen (chairman) presiding.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL: COST OF SNOW-CUTTING.

The statement of accounts was next read, which showed that the expenditure of the Board last month was £168 6s 11d. Mr Herdman had incurred an expenditure of £80 for snow-cutting (which had been given to unemployed workmen), and it was agreed that an additional cheque for £35 be placed in the hands of the Clerk, to be used if required.

The Surveyor (Mr Hawdon) stated that a great many of the roads remained to be opened.

THE ENSUING ELECTION.

With regard to the approaching election of members of the Board, the Clerk (Mr Dalton) reported that the retiring members were:—Blaydon Ward—Messrs James Douglas, David Jeffery, James Jenkins, and W. Plinder; and Chopwell Ward—W. Green. The last day for receiving nominations would be March 23rd; voting papers to be delivered April 1st; voting papers collected, April 5th; examined, April 6th.

THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT: THE WATER SUPPLY AND THE VENTILATION OF SEWERS.

The Medical Officer (Dr P. Brown) reported that, despite the recent severe weather, the district was remarkably free from disease.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board, stating that they had had before them the report of the Medical Officer of the Blaydon Local Board upon the recent outbreak of enteric fever in the district. From this careful and exhaustive report the Board learned that grave suspicion attached to the water supply from the south reservoirs, since it appeared to be obtained from sources exposed to serious risks of pollution. It appeared that this reservoir was fed from certain disused coal-shafts, and a catch drain, both of which, according to the opinion of the Medical Officer of health, were liable to pollution, the former from privies built above them at Winlaton, and the latter from ashpits and privies at March's Buildings. The relation of the reservoir to such probable sources of contamination was, in the Board's opinion, a matter for the immediate attention of the Sanitary Authority, who should also take into consideration the need which existed for the efficient ventilation of the sewers. Steps should also be taken to secure such alterations in the construction of middens as would in all cases prevent any further risk of the soakings of their contents into the soil around them. The Board would be glad to be informed in a short time what action had been taken or decided upon by the Authority with regard to these matters.

The Clerk said that he had drafted out a reply, stating that the matters referred to were having the attention of the Blaydon Board. With reference to the ventilation of the drains, there had only recently been constructed, according to plans approved by the Local Government Board, and were ventilated in the manner insisted on by that Board, namely, by open manholes; and it was not the want of ventilation, but the smell from these manholes which was referred to by the Medical Officer. Mr Hubert Laws, engineer of the sewerage works, had reported as follows:—

"The fact that smells are felt from the ventilators is a good proof that they are doing their duty. I would advise that the present arrangements remain unaltered."

The CHAIRMAN said the water had been analysed, and found to be pure. It was a pity that one of their officers should endeavour to lead the Local Government Board astray.

It was agreed that the reply, as drafted by the Clerk, should be sent to the Local Government Board.

After the transaction of other business, the Board adjourned.

BLACKHILL GOSPEL MISSION.

On Saturday evening, a temperance meeting was held in the Mission Room, Blackhill—Mr A. E. Turner, the president of the Mission, in the chair. The Mission Band was present, under the leadership of Mr Palliser, and added considerably to the interest of the programme. The meeting was commenced by singing the hymn, "Hold the Fort," which was followed by prayer, and then

The CHAIRMAN gave an address, which was of a character suited to the occasion and fairly put the meeting in tune, so to speak—that is, the audience in sympathy with the performers and *vice versa*, and the programme was proceeded with in a spirited and efficient manner.

The first solo, "Intemperance, England's foe," was well given by Mr Joseph Taylor, a young convert, after which

Mr THOMAS WILLIAMS gave an address, in which he referred to the fact that he had learned to take intoxicating liquors at an early age in his own home, and he warned parents not to place temptations in the way of their children. At the close of his address Mr Williams produced some pledge cards and invited anyone to sign the pledge. The invitation was accepted by a well-known toper, who came forward and qualified himself for a blue ribbon.

Mr Joseph Siddell next gave a humorous description of the contents of a drunkard's "home," when brought under the auctioneer's hammer. After a reading by Mr Henry Peacock, relating how a ship was lost through the intemperance of her captain and crew, the Mission Band rendered a piece of music in good style. This band numbers fifteen performers, and there is the best possible feeling and harmony among them, a not invariable characteristic of brass bands.

Mr THOS. E. SHOTTON then gave an address, in which he put the "case" for total abstinence in five logically put and well-sustained reasons.

This was followed by a song from Mr Spence, to the tune of "Wait for the waggon," in which the audience assisted with the chorus. Then another humorous reading by Mr Michael Hall, about a drunken man eating his own hat; and finally an address by a converted prize-fighter, in which he showed that it was next to impossible for a heavy drinker to become a sober man without the grace of God in his heart, which he enforced by lessons drawn from his own experience.

This did not exhaust the programme, but the time being advanced the Chairman was obliged to close the meeting at this stage, and several pieces are held over for a future occasion.

THE EXPLOSION AT USWORTH COLLIERY.

THE MANAGER FINED.

At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Wednesday, *James Leslie Moreland*, certificated manager of Usworth Colliery, was charged with permitting the firing of a shot in the said mine when certain persons were employed in the mine, or part of the mine, under circumstances already reported. It will be remembered that this case was heard on the 12th June last, before the magistrates, who on Wednesday presided at the special court, when it was decided between the parties, and with the consent of the court, that the matter in dispute should go for the consideration of the Court of Queen's Bench, and the case was to stand adjourned until such time as it could be brought before the Gateshead Court. Wednesday having been fixed for the purpose of hearing the case, after the magistrates had held a private consultation,

Mr T. C. Granger, barrister (who represented Mr Willis, Government Inspector), said he appeared on behalf of the Home Office, and he had agreed with his friend, Mr Cooper, who represented the defendant, that they should take a conviction of the defendant with a nominal penalty, subject to the magistrates granting a case for the Court of Queen's Bench. Under those circumstances, and with their worships' permission, he thought that would be the most feasible course. The Home Office had decided that there would be a formal conviction in that court on Wednesday, and he was instructed to support it, and as his friend Mr Cooper did not object that would be the best course to pursue. Mr Granger added that they did not press for the maximum penalty. The smallest penalty would satisfy the Home Office.

Mr Pattison (chairman) said the Bench were quite satisfied that the Act had been contravened, and the full penalty of £20 and costs would be inflicted.

Mr Cooper said that, of course, they would grant the defendant a case, as arranged, for the court above.

To this the Bench assented.

Mr Alfred Septimus Palmer, managing engineer, was charged with a similar breach of the Mines Regulation Act, but

Mr Granger said that he and Mr Cooper had agreed that this case should depend upon the decision in Mr Moreland's case in the Court of Queen's Bench, and if the latter case was quashed, the charge against Mr Palmer would not be proceeded with. If the decision was confirmed, then the other case would be brought before them to convict in a similar way.

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest rate*, by ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

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TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 Stamps by the Maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham.

The most wholesome and nutritious of confections is far less consumed than it would be were it not for the greatly adulterated articles sold under the name of chocolate. Every cake of chocolate bearing the name of Cadbury is guaranteed to consist solely of pure Cocoa and white sugar, and may therefore be given to children with perfect safety. Chocolate makers by special appointment to the Queen.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, BARCLAY AND SONS, London, and all the Wholesale Houses.

FLORILINE!—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke, "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicate to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

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Business Announcements.

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ESTABLISHED 1830.

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VIOLIN.

WANTED PUPILS (Young Ladies preferred). Terms moderate.—Apply, Miss NIXON, Old Police Station, Consett, late of Newcastle. 632v

JAMES NIXON, CARRIAGE PAINTER.

WANTED, CONVEYANCES TO PAINT. Best work guaranteed. Terms moderate.—Address, Old Police Station, Consett. 633v

---

MISS E. A. SLOANE
(Organist of St. Mary's, Blackhill),
HAVING recently finished Musical Studies under W. REA, Esq., R.A.M., Newcastle-on-Tyne, is now prepared to give LESSONS IN HARMONY, also on the PIANO, HARMONIUM, and ORGAN.
ADDRESS:—
POST OFFICE, BLACKHILL. 485v

OIL & GAS-COOKING STOVES, PARAFFIN LAMPS, AND GAS-FITTINGS.

THOMAS DOYLE
(Late with J. C. HALLIDAY),
3, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE.
NOTE THE ADDRESS, AND SEE PRICES IN WINDOW.

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 920

ROBERT JACKSON'S

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY

ESTABLISHMENTS,

59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET

STREET, CONSETT.

☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

THOMAS MILNER,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,

☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT

MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

A Consett Gentleman says:—I have found your New Season's Cod Liver Oil to be most beneficial in preventing hoarseness and relieving the strain on the chest, consequent on prolonged speaking in the open air, whilst the administration of it is not accompanied by the nausea resulting from many oils I have tried, and I can confidently recommend it."

1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES

For the speedy production of a Delicious Temperance Cordial. Ginger, Pine Apple, &c. 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

The excellent qualities of these Pills are too well known to be enumerated here, while the increasing demand under the Popular Name of Milner's Own Pills, is the best Proof of their efficacy. In Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

An excellent Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c., and all Diseases of the Chest and Stomach. 1s. per Bottle.

HAIR RESTORERS PERFUMES, POMADES.

TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr LAMONT'S Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c., &c.

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS

T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the

TAR ELIXIR PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP

Prepared by Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.

PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, LITTLE & Co.'s, JEYE'S, COOPER'S, and WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips.

ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS AND PURGING BALLS FOR HORSES.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MILNER, CHEMIST,
OPPOSITE THE POST-OFFICE CONSETT. 721v

H. GUTTERIDGE,
SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER,
BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.
REPAIRS DONE ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

NOTE ADDRESS:—33, WESTGATE ROAD (near Central Railway Station), NEWCASTLE. 450v

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

EVERY kind of SEWING MACHINE REPAIRED, or taken in PART EXCHANGE for our own. Post Card from any part of the district will receive prompt attention by

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING CO.
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT, AND
JAMES STREET, WEST STANLEY, R.S.O.

Head Office in the District:—16, GRAINGER ST. WEST, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
The only Manufacturers of Singers' Celebrated Sewing Machines. 622v

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YOU ARE INVITED
TO
BUY YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES
AT
JOHN GIBSON'S NEW SHOP
CORNER OF
FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET, BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station).

As they are unsurpassed for FITTING and DURABILITY.

☞ A Well-selected Stock always on hand.

All Goods marked in plain figures, at LOWEST READY-MONEY PRICES.

BOOTS MADE TO MEASURE, AND REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS DONE AS USUAL. 539u

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THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

MAPPING BOOK.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

EXTRA LARGE SIZE,
AS RECOMMENDED BY
SCHOOL TEACHERS.

TO BE HAD ONLY OF

ROBRT JACKSON,
GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET,
AND
9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONS ETT

QUEENSLAND.

This young and promising Colony offers Special Advantages to all classes, and the QUEENSLAND ROYAL MAIL LINE convey Passengers

☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

MAIL or other Steamers will be despatched from LONDON or PLYMOUTH fortnightly, by which ASSISTED PASSAGES will be granted to eligible Persons, such as Engineers, Farmers, Fitters, Engine Drivers, Railway Carriage Builders, Blacksmiths, Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Sawyers, Carpenters, Wheelwrights, Shoemakers, Tailors, Shipwrights, Farm Labourers, Domestic Servants, Gardeners, Vine Dressers, Road Makers, Miners, Quarrymen, Navvies, at the following rates:—

SECOND CABIN...£21 10s. | THIRD CLASS...£7.

Children under 12 years, half-price. Infants under 12 months, free. Persons not eligible for assisted passages will be taken at the following rates:—Second Cabin, £31 10s.; Third Class, £17.

For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, Queensland Emigration Office, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; or to the Local Agent,

ADAM BRODIE,
529v Town Hall, Consett.

1s.—THE NEW POCKET TIMEPIECE.—1s.
Size and Shape of an Ordinary Watch,
With New Patent Adjusting Swivel Ring for attaching to Watch Guard.

ONE SHILLING, Post Free 15 Stamps, two for 27 Stamps. The AMERICAN POCKET TIMEPIECE (Patented). Size of an Ordinary Watch; Electro-Silver Case, Steel Works, Balanced Action, Enamelled Dial, Glass Dome. Each denotes correct time, and is warranted for two years. To be procured only from the undersigned. All orders executed by return of Post.—J. B. PILLINGER, 140, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E.

THE TYROLEAN MUSICAL BOX, 2s.,

POST Free 27 Stamps. Eight Tunes. Size 7½ by 2½ inches. In a strong polished wood case, with German silver fittings, simplified action, constructed on a new principle to play operatic and song, with the following tunes—Home, Sweet Home—Hold the Fort—The Last Rose of Summer—The Minstrel Boy—Molly Darling—The Blue Danube Waltz—My Love she's but a Lassie yet—Meet me in the Lane, Love—Perhaps she's on the Railway. Two for 48 stamps. With Bell, 3s. each; Two Bells, 5s.—J. B. PILLINGER, 140, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E.

Public Notices.

☞ NOTICE OF REMOVAL. GREAT BARGAINS.

COME EARLY TO THE GREAT CLEARANCE SALE
AT
R. WILLEY'S,
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

SALE NOW GOING ON, consisting of CHINA, GLASS, EARTHENWARE, HARDWARE, LAMPS, BRUSHES, and FANCY GOODS of every description.

The whole of the above must be cleared out previous to removing to the Wholesale Warehouses lately occupied by Messrs. R. CURRY & Co., Merchants, Gibson Street, Consett.

COME EARLY, AND BUY CHEAP.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

R. WILLEY, GROCER, NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MIDDLE ST., CONSETT.

☞ SHOP TO LET, AND FIXTURES FOR SALE. 802v

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED,
HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1885.

THE DIRECTORS have much pleasure in presenting their Report and Accounts for the year 1885. The Assurance Funds have been increased during the year by the sum of £990,345: namely, the Ordinary Branch, £232,425, and the Industrial Branch, £757,920. The total Assets of the Company amount to £5,702,862.

ORDINARY BRANCH.

The number of policies issued during the year was 17,353, assuring the sum of £1,887,890, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £85,374. The Premiums of the year were £303,275, being an increase of £64,407 over the year 1884. The total increase for the first four years of the Quinquennium is £162,018.

The claims of the year amounted to £108,777. The number of Deaths was 712, and 36 Endowment Assurances matured.

The rate of Expenditure of the Branch was little more than Ten per cent. on the Premium Income. The number of Policies in force was 65,483.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.

The Premiums received during the year were £2,794,522, being an increase of £150,006. The Claims of the year amounted to £1,069,878. The number of Deaths was 129,846. The number of Policies in force, including 36,671 Free Policies, was 6,695,890.

The Directors are happy to report that the duration of policies in this Branch is still steadily increasing. The average duration of all policies now in existence exceeds five years.

The rate of expenditure of the Branch upon the Premium Income shows a further reduction of more than one-half per cent.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1885.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	80,028	0	0
Ordinary Branch Funds	1,445,697	8	3
Industrial Branch Funds ...	4,154,445	5	0
Claims under Life Policies admitted	22,691	12	8
	£5,702,862	5	11

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
British Government Securities, Consols and New 3 per Cents ...	888,082	9	10
Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and City of London Bonds ...	100,425	0	0
Loans on Municipal and other Rates	1,357,012	16	7
Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	1,118,013	19	11
Freehold and Leasehold Property ...	483,899	0	10
Indian, Colonial, and Foreign Government Securities ...	135,054	8	3
Reversions	154,886	4	0
Railway and other Debentures ...	581,500	2	8
Railway and other Shares ...	20,411	1	1
Mortgages	482,391	13	8
Loans on the Company's Policies ...	44,774	19	10
Furniture and Fittings ...	21,500	0	0
Loans upon Personal Security ...	809	6	3
Outstanding Premiums ...	149,379	9	5
Cash in hands of Superintendents and Agents' Balances	32,629	14	3
Outstanding Interest and Rents ...	58,366	0	5
Cash—On deposit, on current account, and in hand	73,725	18	11
	£5,702,862	5	11

THOMAS C. DEWEY, WILLIAM HUGHES, } Managers.
W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

EDGAR HORNE, Chairman.
HENRY HARBEN, ROBERT CROSS, } Directors.

SUPERINTENDENT FOR NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT:
ALBERT A. LORD, Hutton Chambers, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT:
MR. NICHOLSON, 4, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 789v

MUSIC LESSONS given. Pianos, Harmoniums, and American Organs Tuned and Repaired. Dealer in Harmoniums, &c.—T. JONES, 4, Gibson Street, near Co-operative Store, Consett. 742v

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COUNTY PALATINE OF DURHAM.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT.

THE TEMPORARY SWINE FEVER DISTRICTS ORDER OF FEBRUARY, 1886 (No. 3369).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that no Public or Private Sale of Swine, Fat or Store, can be lawfully held in the District of the Local Authority of this County after the 31st January inst., except as expressly authorised by the above-named Order.

Licenses for holding Public Sales of Fat Swine may be obtained on application at the Offices of the undersigned, at the Exchequer Buildings, Durham.

Public or Private Sales of Fat or Store Swine may be held without License in places free from disease, if the Swine be themselves also free from disease, and if each Animal has been for 28 days on the Farm or Premises where it is offered for Sale.

Dated this 28th January, 1886.

RALPH SIMEY,
651v Clerk of the Peace.

CONSETT RELIEF FUND.

THE SOUP KITCHEN in connection with this Fund is being vigorously, yet judiciously, carried on; but, as the Cost per Week amounts to about £20, further assistance from the philanthropically-disposed residents in the neighbourhood is earnestly solicited.

The following Subscriptions have been received and promised:—

FOURTH SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged - -	91	12	7
Consett Iron Company Limited, 3rd Weekly Subscription - - - - -	10	0	0
Consett Blast Furnacemen, per Mr. B. Mullen - - - - -	6	6	9
Consett Millmen, per Messrs. T. Williams and William Maund - - -	5	13	9
Consett Engine Shed and Locomotive Department Men, per Mr. J. Hardy	0	10	9
Consett Brickworks Men, per Mr. Thomas Greener - - - - -	0	9	6
Carrhouse Stable Men, per Mr. T. Williams	0	2	6
Mr. James Hardy, Templetown - -	0	2	6
Mr. D. Donnely, Consett, two Weekly Subscriptions - - - -	0	2	0
	£114	19	7

Subscriptions in Money or Kind will be thankfully received by

Rev. F. STEGGALL,
Vicar of Consett, Chairman, or
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A.,
805v Town Hall, Consett, Secretary.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

PERSONS desiring to join this Association may do so on application to the Secretary of any of the Polling Districts as follows:—

Benfieldside—Mr. JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM, Blackhill.
Burnopfield—Mr. B. MASON, The Hobson.
Castleside—Mr. THOMAS DUCKWORTH, Castleside.
Catchgate—Mr. R. TINDALE, South Pontop.
Consett—Mr. C. ROUTLEDGE, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.
Cornsay—Mr. EDWARD HANDY, Cornsay Colliery, or Mr. J. W. COOK, East Hedleyhope.
Dipton—Mr. J. W. TAYLOR, Wesley Terrace, Dipton.
Edmondbyers—Mr. HENRY BELL, Edmondbyers, or Mr. WM. PEARS, Jeffrie's Rake.
Stanley and Holmside—Mr. WM. INDIAN, West Stanley.
Lanchester—Mr. HENRY DIXON, Lanchester.
Langley Park—Mr. JOHN CLARK, Esh Road, Langley Park.
Leadgate—Mr. THOMAS HALL, East Castle Colliery, or Mr. THOMAS BARRON, Leadgate.
Medomsley—Mr. WILSON CLAYTON, Allendale Cottages.
Ushaw and Quebec—Mr. ERNEST FOSTER, Esh Winning.
Satley—Mr. ROBERT HEDLEY, Satley Villa.
Tanfield.—Mr. WILLIAM BULMER, Tanfield Lea.
West Kyo—Mr. J. W. MACKAY, Catchgate.
White-le-Head—Mr. WILLIAM HARDY, White-le-Head, or to

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Town Hall, Consett,
Secretary and Registration Agent. 676v

YE QUEEN MARY
BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD RECEIPES,

Containing Fifty Ancient and Valuable Receipes of our Ancestors (over Three Hundred Years old). Every Housekeeper in the United Kingdom should have a copy who believes in the good old Remedies of our ancestors. Post Free ONE SHILLING, direct from the Publisher and Proprietor, J. MAGUIRE, St. John's Cottage Partridge Green, Sussex. 560v

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Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Bradley Lodge, Dipton.—Wednesday, March 17th, 1886.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by the Executors of the late R. DICKINSON, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place and date, a large quantity of HARNESS, CARTS, HORSE, AND OFFICE FURNITURE, comprising—50 Sets of Pit Harness and belongings; 3 Coup Carts; 2 Long Carts; 4 Sets of Cart Harness; 2 Large Water Barrels; Winnowing Machine; Useful Black Horse, "Sam," 9 years old; 6 Quarter Sheets; Corn Bin, &c.

Also, OFFICE FURNITURE.—Drawing Table; Office Table; Office Safe; 6 Office Chairs; Copying Press and Stand; Office Cupboard; Oil Cloth, &c.

Also, for Mr. MURRAY, and Others—Useful Cow, due at time of Sale; 3 Pit Ponies; Useful Trap Harness; 6 Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs; Mahogany Hair-seated Easy Chair; Mahogany Sofa; Capital Piano, in Rosewood; 2 Splendid Cases of Birds; 2 Mirrors; Half-Tester Iron Bedstead; Down Bed and Pillows; Camera, and a host of other lots too numerous to specify. See Bills.

Sale to begin at One o'clock prompt. 783v

CHEAP EMIGRATION.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FARES TO AMERICA, QUEENSLAND, &c.

Liverpool to America, £3 16s. and £4, by the best Lines.

To Australian Colonies at the Lowest Rates.

For reliable information, apply to

269u A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer Dipton.

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

No. 17, Wood Rows, Annfield Plain.—Saturday, 20th day of March, 1886.

MR. G. R. HOBSON, instructed by Mr. ROBT. SIMPSON, who is about to Emigrate to Australia, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, all the Valuable Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS. For particulars see Posters.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.
Sale Office, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 792v

GEORGE R. HOBSON,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER.
OFFICES:—
CATCHGATE, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN. 220v

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

LIVE STOCK SALES WEEKLY.

THERE WILL BE SOLD, at the above Mart every Monday, a Choice Collection of DAIRY COWS, FAT, AND STORE CATTLE, AND SHEEP. Sale at 12·30.

1 Roan S. H. Bull, 18 months old.
1 Black Mare (Draught), 16 hands.
Trucks at Station.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 789v

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

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Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Monday, March 15th, 1886.—Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett.—Conclusion of the Sale of the Linen and Woollen Drapery Stock of a Tradesman leaving the district.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed to SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett, on Monday, March 15th, the whole of the remainder of the Valuable DRAPERY STOCK, including Woollen Cloths, Scotch and Irish Tweeds, Worsted Coatings, Dress Goods, Cotton Sheets, &c.

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock p.m. 776v

ADAM BRODIE & ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, Consett, undertake the Sale by Public Auction or otherwise, of Houses and Land, Farming Stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, or other Effects, on reasonable terms. Valuations for Probate Dissolution of Partnership, and Settlement of Claims under Fire Insurances, or in disputes. Fire, Life, and Accident Assurances arranged without delay. Shares of every description Bought and Sold on Commission. The Victoria Sale-Rooms are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale.

Postal address—ADAM BRODIE & ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

25, Cutlers' Hall.

MR. JOS. OLEY, honoured with instructions from Mr. JOSEPH BROWN, who is about to Emigrate, will SELL the whole of his Valuable FURNITURE, at his Residence, 25, Cutlers' Hall, on Saturday, March 20th, 1886, at Two o'clock p.m. For particulars see Handbills. 813v

☞ JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, MARCH 15th, 1886.

18 Fat Cattle.
1 Prime Fat Bull.
55 Fat Sheep.
2 Veal Calves.
12 Cows, including 3 Prime Young S.H. Cows from Weardale.
6 Tons of Prime Well-won Old-land Hay. Bulk to be seen at Station.
50 Sacks of Boxings.
6 Tons of Swede Turnips.
1 New Coup Cart.
1 Chaff Cutter.
Horse Sheets, Rugs, Bridles, Poultry, Hams, Bacon, &c.

Sale at One o'clock.
NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

THE SPECIAL SALE OF STORE CATTLE will be held on Thursday, March 25th.

Early Entries solicited, to be advertised in next week's *Guardian*.

810v. NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket.
The Oldest Established in the City.

SALES BY AUCTION OF HORSES, CARRIAGES, and SADDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, at Two o'clock.

Entries respectfully Solicited.
A. T. CROW, Auctioneer.
JOHN PEEL, Proprietor.

Business Announcements.

SAFETY BICYCLES SAFETY BICYCLES!

THE Latest Novelty in Safety Bicycles is the—"NORTHERN,"

Manufactured by the NORTH OF ENGLAND BICYCLE Co., 44, High Bridge, Newcastle. Send for Price List FREE. Second-hand Bicycles from £2 0s. 0d.

We are Clearing out our present Stock to make room for our New "Northern" Bicycles and Humber Pattern Tandem and Crypto Tricycles. 416v

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THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.

428u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT

Is now recommended by the Leading Medical Men in the North, as being

THE MOST SUITABLE WINE
FOR
SICK PERSONS AND INVALIDS.

☞ 36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Bottle. Carriage Paid on 6 Bottles and upwards.

W. GLENDENNING,
WINE MERCHANT,
9, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE.

MOST MONEY LENT

On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &c., &c., at

J. & E. WILSON'S,

The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Businessin the North of England.
Established 1780.

12, PILGRIM STREET

FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET),
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold & Silver GUARDS, ALBERTS, &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.

HIGH CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL
SURGEON DENTIST,
8, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE.

☞ ARTIFICIAL TEETH AT REASONABLE PRICES

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET
From 30s. to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS OR SINGLE TEETH
From 3s. to 10s. per Tooth.

Every Set is adapted to the mouth on the most improved principles, without extraction of Stumps or other painful operation, guaranteed to fit perfectly and warranted.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas.

Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed, and all charges strictly moderate.

☞ Country Patients visiting Mr. CAMPBELL'S Establishment in Newcastle will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, and, whenever possible, will be allowed their railway fare

---

Business Announcements.

DRUGS AND PATENT MEDICINES AT STORE PRICES.

"ROBERTS,"
NEW BRIDGE STREET, AND
97, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12TH, 1886.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

There has been quite a tempest in a teapot at Lanchester. Briefly told, it would appear that the master of the "big house" in that sequestered valley had an eye to business; and an opportunity arising he, like a sensible fellow, made an effort to better himself. This much is known; but the ways and means employed did not quite meet with the approval of certain members of the Board of Guardians, who seem to hinge just a shade too much on their own importance. The Vicar of Satley seems to be a very sensitive gentleman and considerate withal. The fact that the Croydon Board were put to the enormous expense of a dinner to Mr Brotherhood, and a railway ride across country, quite appalled the rev. gentleman. Certainly, changes so extraordinary ought to have been duly chronicled at the Satley observatory. Canon Kearney put the matter just as it stood; and in a very gentlemanly way, without going out of his latitude to revel among fine phrases, intended obviously to *pose* as polished wit. "Was the Chairman a sort of father confessor to Mr Brotherhood?" is the best specimen of Satley satire extant; but emanating from such a quarter, and under the particular circumstances, it loses its pristine lustre and falls a shade flat. In giving so worthy a servant a character, the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Board did not surely commit an unpardonable sin, nor did it serve any good purpose for the Vicar of Satley to ring the changes of wounded vanity so persistently as he did. The rev. gentleman had his revenge in another way. If his candid friends at Lanchester did not care to show their hand, the Croydon Guardians, in whose purse strings he seems to have a family interest, have compensated for the slight by requesting him, as he says, to confirm the characters given by the parties complained of. This was something like a victory, and ought to have acted like oil upon the troubled waters; but there are Shylocks to be met with in every walk of life, who will insist upon clutching the last pound of flesh.

I am glad—and I am pretty confident that the public share in that feeling—that Mr Brotherhood did not accept the appointment at Croydon. If ever there was a man fitted by nature and instruction for one post more than another, it is the Master of Lanchester Workhouse. He is what the world denominates—the right man in the right place, and I am sure that half his excellencies have never been told. I never read—and hardly a week passes without one reading—about scenes in Workhouses, but what my memory turns to Lanchester. I have been behind the scenes, and consequently know more than those who have never had the same opportunities of seeing and believing. It is very easy for people to make fine speeches, and assert that if Mr So-and-So takes it into his head to apply for a situation at Croydon, or elsewhere, it is his bounden duty to take us into the secret. That system of procedure may look plausible in theory, but it works badly in practice. Looking after "fresh fields and pastures new" is usually regarded as the most private of all transactions, and men usually keep their own council as far as practicable. The very fact of a man applying for another situation is calculated to exert an influence for evil, by giving rise to a spirit of apprehension on the part of his employer. Whether true or false that feeling is wide spread, and I never yet met with the man who did not make it is business to keep his employer as long in the dark as possible. Hence, there is nothing really startling in what transpired at Lanchester. Two gentlemen did another "fellow mortal" a friendly turn in a quiet way, and the facts getting noised abroad, the cry was raised by one or two petulant compeers, that the thing was'nt Parliamentary. The offending parties made no attempt to implicate anybody but themselves, for, like Burns, they "made an open fair confession, they scorned to lee." I have no doubt but they are sorry for their sins, although they did'nt say so; and altogether quite enough has been done to re-build the breech in the citadel of honour.

To bar the way against future troubles, such as those referred to above, the Lanchester Board of Guardians ought to raise the salary paid to Mr Brotherhood; and so secure the permanent services of a really first-class man. I don't know exactly how the thing stands; but it seems as if the Croydon people paid a better "screw" for services rendered than our fiery friends at Lanchester. That, I presume, was the ruling agent, or motive power in this case, as it usually is in most of the turning points in the lives of men.

The Consett magistrates did a very good thing on Monday when, instead of inflicting a fine on parents who can ill afford to pay cash down for the delinquencies of their erring children, dismissed the case against the parents, conditionally that they—the parents—gave the young knaves a good thumping before they left the precincts of the Court. One of the exasperated fathers seems to have set the Court into a fit of laughter by the eagerness with which he essayed to mete out magisterial justice there and then. It appears that one of the policemen within the Court sported an official cane of unusual proportions; and this the zealous parent wished to borrow, *pro tem*. The report does not state whether the policeman obliged the gentleman, or whether he was provided with a less formidable rod. The order seems to have been duly carried out at any rate; and the urchins have a chance to remember their p's and q's for some time to come. It is not a little curious to find the Consett Bench following in the wake of so standard a judge of the requirements of human nature as Solomon himself. Could that grand old man—not our modern one—again "visit the glimpses of the moon," his heart would leap to see his wisdom bearing so fragrant a blossom after so long a time.

The Chester-le-Street Liberal Club, owing to the large increase in membership, contemplate the erection of a club-house,

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The Rev George Eddy is still continuing his evangelist mission in the Wesleyan Chapel, Consett, the whole of the services being numerously attended.

74th Starr-Bowkett Society.—This flourishing society held its fourth appropriation last (Thursday) night, in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett. The number drawn was 9, that of Mrs Emma Eladon, Delves Lane, who holds two shares, and is therefore entitled to £200 free of interest for 12½ years.

A Bullock in a Chemist's Shop.—We often hear the remark, "A Bull in a China Shop," and this week we have to chronicle a somewhat similar incident. On Tuesday afternoon, as a bullock was being driven through the streets of Consett, it made a sudden rush into the shop of Mr Thomas Milner, chemist. Fortunately, the driver managed to get hold of the animal by the tail, turn the beast round inside the shop, and land it outside without the breakage of a single thing. Considering that bottles and various other proprietary articles, &c., are displayed at every coign of vantage, it was a remarkable feat to turn the bullock right about in such a small space and steer it clear out of the doorway without the slightest damage. Probably the animal was desirous of experimenting upon physics or studying the art of chemistry; but upon this point our information is deficient.

Emigration to Queensland.—At the present time, when the prevailing depression in trade is causing so much suffering throughout the North of England, including our own district, we have been surprised that so few of our neighbours seem inclined to avail themselves of the facilities offered by the Queensland Government for securing the free and assisted passages which they are prepared to grant to farm labourers, female domestic servants, mechanics, coal-hewers, and others. As will be seen from our advertising columns, Mr A. Brodie, of the Town Hall, Consett, who is, we are informed, the only authorised Government agent in the North-Western Division of the county, and one of the oldest-established in the North of England, would, we have no doubt, be happy to give our readers any information they may require as to the prospects open to persons desiring to emigrate or supply them with the papers requiring to be filled up by those intending to leave their native land. The opening now offered in this flourishing colony, which has been aptly called "The Queen of the Colonies," is especially favourable, as farm labourers and domestic servants can be sent out free.

BLACKHILL.

Amateur Theatricals.—A dramatic representation of "The Gamester" was given in the Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside (kindly granted by Mr R. Murray), on Monday evening, by the members of St. Mary's Amateur Dramatic Society. The piece was faultlessly reproduced; but we regret to say that the attendance was very meagre. The proceeds, if any, are intended to be devoted to the Consett Relief Fund.

First Shotley Bridge and District 370th Starr-Bowkett Building Society.—This society made its 31st appropriation in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Monday night, under the presidency of Mr Mark Noble. Messrs W. Reed and J. J. Allan were elected as scrutineers. The number drawn was 149, held by Mr J. H. Coupland, Westwood House, Ebchester, who becomes entitled to a loan of £100, free of interest, for 12½ years.

Benfieldside Stock Auction Mart.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray had forward on Monday 36 fat cattle (including 4 fat bulls), 103 fat sheep, 1 veal calf, 14 calving cows and Heifers. Fat cattle, from £9 to £20 10s. Fat sheep: Hoggs up to 57s 6d, from Mr E. Dixon, Ebchester. Calving cows and heifers, £9 to £16 10s. Calf, 47s. One horse, harness, poultry, &c., were sold. Beef made from 6s 6d to 8s per stone; mutton hogs, 9½d per lb; ewes and tups, 6d to 8d per lb. The company was not as large as usual. The stock sold at satisfactory prices.

The Late Rev Thomas Brodie.—Primitive Methodism has sustained a further loss in the death of the Rev Thomas Brodie, of Blackhill. Superannuated in the fortieth year of his age, after travelling 19 years, he concluded his course of itinerant labours in Newcastle-on-Tyne first at the Tunstall Conference of 1884. Entering this station at the July change of 1881, his failing health then necessitated him to retire from the regular work. Indeed his work was seriously interrupted the greater part of his Newcastle appointment, and during which the circuit authorities not only supplied and paid for the assistant, but in addition to paying their sick minister his usual salary, defrayed the expense of his winter's residence in the Isle of Wight. It may also be mentioned as evincing the esteem in which he was held in the district, a sum amounting to nearly £209 was contributed by his fellow-ministers and the laymen on the Northern Circuits. Besides Newcastle, Mr Brodie likewise travelled in Hartlepool, South Shields, Stanley, Barrow-in-Furness, Brough, and Penrith stations, in each of which he occupied the position of first minister, being specially acceptable. Mr Brodie was sent in the ministry in 1865 by, and at the recommendation of, the Shotley Bridge Circuit during the superintendency of the Rev W. Saul. His progressively useful course was only arrested by the break-down in his health. After he had been four or five years in the ministry he was received into the approved list at the Grimsby Conference. Subsequently he married one of the daughters of the Rev Edward Rush, of Crook. His father, John Brodie, of Shotley Bridge, was one of the oldest local preachers and members in the Connexion in the Consett district, as were also, and are, other members of the Brodie family, whose native place was Ingoe, on the north side of the Tyne.—"Elfin" in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

LEADGATE.

Longevity.—Mrs Margaret Tempest Dunn (commonly known as "Lady Dunn"), of the Low Brooms, Leadgate, completed the 91st year of her age yesterday (Thursday), being born on the 11th day of March, 1795. She keeps wonderfully well, and has a good appetite considering her great age, and seems quite likely to live some years longer.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Miscellaneous Entertainment.—On Saturday night, a miscellaneous concert and entertainment was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allendale Cottages, by a select party from Burradon. Songs, duetts, &c., were given by Messrs R. Atkinson, J. Foster, J. Elliott, Chas. Brodie, and M. Kennedy, whilst Mr W. R. Cook, Westwood, contributed a reading, all of which were rendered in an efficient manner. Mr J. Clark, Westwood, ably presided. The proceeds were in aid of Mr J. Cook, of Burradon, who some time happened an accident which has resulted in the loss of his eyesight. The building was crowded, and at the close the sum of £8 3s was handed by the officials towards the fund.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

St. Cuthbert's Parish Magazine for March contains the intimation of parish records, and of local events during the past month, as well as interesting articles on some facts about Old England, Confirmation, Heligoland, also "Mark's Promise; a tale of sea life."

Smart Capture of Thieves.—About five o'clock on Tuesday evening, a Portugese, named *Joseph Silber*, and an Irishwoman, called *Ann Silber*, general hawkers, who are travelling about the country as man and wife, were apprehended at Shotley Bridge by P.C. Jewitt, of the Northumberland County Constabulary, on charges of larceny and larceny as bailee at Boltsburn, Weardale, on the 11th February. The prisoners had decamped with a large quantity of household and wearing apparel, valued at about £2, which they had stolen from a lodging-house they had been staying at, on the night in question. The pair, who had the goods in their possession, were locked up at Consett on Tuesday night, and on Wednesday morning were handed over to the Stanhope Divisional Police.

WITTON GILBERT.

At Durham on Wednesday, Fenwick Robson, innkeeper, Witton Gilbert, was fined £2 11s., including costs, for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises.

LANCHESTER.

A lecture was delivered in the National Schools, Lanchester, last Friday night, by Mr Wm. Logan, on behalf of the village improvement funds.

Triennial elections of Guardians for Lanchester Union are announced to take place this year in the townships of Cornsay, Esh, Hedleyhope, Lanchester, Langley, Muggleswick, and Satley.

A special meeting of the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board was convened to be held yesterday (Thursday) for the purpose of considering the question of appointing a caretaker for the new Infectious Hospital; but in consequence of the non-attendance of sufficient members, the matter was adjourned till the ordinary meeting.

A Dangerous Railway Bridge.—"Warner" writes as follows to a weekly periodical:—"Would you kindly draw attention to the very dangerous condition of a railway bridge—bridge, did I say? more like a birdcage from its appearance—which crosses the burn, running between Benfieldside and Lanchester on the Durham and Newcastle branch of the North-Eastern Railway. There is a kind of impression that the bridge is not safe, but I don't think that it is generally known that the wooden foundations are so rotten that you can stick a knife blade up to the hilt in any part of it, or break pieces off with your fingers, as I know to have been done only last week."

SOUTH MOOR.

Cricket Club.—A meeting was held on Monday night, at South Moor, when the following officers were chosen for the above club for the ensuing season:—President, Mr W. Welsh; vice-president, Mr J. Wilkinson; treasurer, Mr E. Wilkinson; captain, Mr N. Wills; vice-captain, Mr W. Broars; financial secretary, Mr W. Wills; hon. secretary, Mr J. Dixon.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.

Lecture on "Burns."—On Saturday night, a lecture on "Robert Burns" was delivered in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Hamsterley Colliery, by Mr Joshua Lax, of Shotley Bridge. Mr R. Chaytor—in the unavoidable absence of Mr H. W. Watson, owing to the death of his father—presided. Both chairman and lecturer spoke of the loss caused by the death of Dr Watson. The lecture was an excellent one, and at an interval Miss Turnbull rendered a song, entitled "It's a bonny, bonny ware that we're living in the hoo." There was a good attendance, and the lecturer was frequently applauded.

TOW LAW.

Auction Mart.—The ordinary weekly sale for store cattle, cows, &c., was held at Tow Law, on Monday. Forward: 20 fat cattle, £8 to £19 10s; 48 fat sheep, 27s to 44s; 14 cows, £12 10s to £18 10s. There was a very good attendance, and the whole of the fat stock were disposed of quickly at improved prices. Cows were a little better trade.

Visit of "General" Booth.—On Monday evening, "General" Booth addressed a meeting held at the Barracks, Tow Law, in connection with the local detachment of the Salvation Army. He dealt principally with the work of the Army in France and Switzerland, and also at home. He detailed the origin of the Army 21 years ago, and gave stastices proving the progress of the movement. A crowded audience was present.

The Street Band Nuisance.—General Booth having arrived at Tow Law to give an address on the worth of the army on the Continent, in the barracks, on Monday night, the Salvation Army Band proceeded through the streets prior to the lecture. Owing to the noise and crowd, a horse, to which was attached a cart, became restive, and rushing along the High Street, knocked down a youth named Dawson, breaking one of his arms and one of his legs, and seriously hurting him in other parts.

Coming-of-Age Rejoicing.—A birthday party was held at Tow Law, on Monday, on the occasion of Mr Joseph Watson attaining his majority and receiving a legacy of £80. Amongst the company present were: Misses Dixon, Heslop, and Smith; Messrs Jos. Turner, Ed. Smith, George Elliott, and others. A song was given by Mr Joseph Dixon, recitations by Mr R. Wilkinson (butcher), Miss Mains, Mr Thomas Hall, and Miss Collingwood; songs by Mr H. Drummond and Miss Bond; duets by Mr George Emerson, Misses Elliott, Mr Joseph Noble, Mr Geo. and Miss Sherrintor; and songs by Mr and Mrs Ellison. At the ball, Mr and Mrs Richards acted as M.C's. The musician was Mr McDonald, the piper and fiddler being a well-known minister. The gathering was a brilliant success.

GATESHEAD.

Scarcity of Magistrates.—At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Tuesday, there was only one magistrate—Mr W. W. Pattinson—to try the cases on the charge sheet. Two charges of cruelty to animals came on for hearing, but Inspector Fair, R.S.P.C.A., objected to them being dealt with by one magistrate.

SWALWELL.

Band of Hope.—A meeting in connection with the Swalwell Band of Hope was held in the School on Monday night. Songs and duets were sung by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Misses Cartner, Hails, and Isa Guthrie; Messrs. J. Weightman, C. Watson, Master J. Peel, Burliston, and Master J. Errington. Misses Isa Newton, T. Shield, and Mary Shield also took part. Mr W. Thompson, of Newcastle, occupied the chair, and Mr W. R. Lumley presided at the piano.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

"Ryton's Hope" Lodge of Good Templars.—A successful temperance mission, considering the severe weather, was conducted during last week in connection with the above lodge, in the Congregational Hall, Ryton, by Mr E. W. Bailey, of London, whose powerful addresses were highly appreciated. Mr Bailey is a very earnest, thoughtful, and eloquent speaker. Messrs. J. Scott, J. A. Macintyre, W. Forster, J. Cocks, John Holmes, and Rev. R. M. McClumpha acted as chairmen at the meetings.

WINLATON.

Startling Death of a Schoolboy.—An inquest was held at Winlaton on Wednesday on the body of Robert Plender, the boy who it will be remembered was struck in the eye with a stick during a snowball fight between the Newcastle Grammar School and St. Mary's School, on the 23rd February, and subsequently died from an attack of tetanus, or lockjaw, in consequence. The jury returned a verdict of death from tetanus, caused by misadventure, and the Coroner pointed out the necessity of the Grammar School Committee making a full inquiry into the matter.

BLANCHLAND.

A Valuable Cow Strangled.—On Monday, a valuable milch cow belonging to Mrs Hannah Oliver, of Bridge End, Blanchland, was accidentally hanged in the byre that she occupied. The animal was "tied up" to a stake in a chain band, which went round the stake, and getting her horn entangled in the shackle of the band at the bottom was thrown down and strangled to death. Only a few days previous the cow had calved, the calf being also found dead. Much sympathy is felt for the owner, who is a poor widow over 80 years of age.

STOCKSFIELD.

The Burglary at Newton Hall.—The Rev. Theophilus Bennett, The Rectory, Newton Hall, Stocksfield-on-Tyne, writes as under:—Having obtained permission from the writer to give publicity to the following letter, I hope you will favour me by inserting it, as it proves beyond a doubt that Baker, Budge, and Martin, who were executed this day month at Carlisle, were the very men who committed the crime of breaking into Newton Hall on the 9th of last October. J. Dunne, Esq., Chief-Constable of Cumberland and Westmoreland, has favoured me with the following:—"Chief-Constable's Office, Carlisle, 3rd March, 1886. My Dear Sir,—In reply to your note of the 1st instant, I beg to inform you that the prisoner Baker admitted to Supt. Sempill and other officers that he and his companions, Budge and Martin, were the persons who committed the burglary at Newton Hall on the 9th October last. One of them even identified your son as one of the gentlemen they saw at Newton Hall at the time of the burglary. This and other statements can leave no doubt whatever that they were the men who committed the crime referred to in your note.—Believe me always, very truly yours, J. Dunne." No more mischief can be perpetrated by Baker, Rudge, and Martin, and this thought is in itself reassuring.

WOLSINGHAM.

Weardale District Highway Board.—The monthly meeting was held at Wolsingham on Tuesday.—Mr Wooler in the chair.—Cheques were signed for last month's accounts, as follows:—Main roads, £68 1s 5d; district roads, £127 5s 2d. Of these sums £143 3s 6d was for snow-cutting. Cheques were also signed for salaries, £52 10s 9d. It was reported that £500 had been received from the county, being half the cost of the maintenance of main roads during the current year, and £232 11s 11d from the Local Government Board, being one-fourth the cost of main roads during last year.

Choral Society.—On Friday night, the oratorio, "Christ and His Soldiers," by J. Farmer, was given in the Town Hall, Wolsingham, by the above society, assisted by the Wolsingham String Band—conductor, the Rev T. E. Espin. Chancellor Espin presided. The choralists number over 70, and the rendering of the piece was excellent. The soloists were—Miss Dent, Witton Park, soprano; Mrs Collins, Wolsingham, contralto; Mr Hughes, Tow Law, tenor; and Mr Milburn, Crook, bass. The proceeds are to be devoted to church work. The concert was repeated on Monday evening.

The Polytechnic Exhibition.—A meeting of the committee was held on Thursday se'nnight in the Mechanics' Institute, Wolsingham. The chair was taken by the Rev Chancellor Espin, rector. The Chairman read the accounts. The expenditure was £34 18s 1d, leaving a balance of £104 14s 6d. A resolution passing the accounts was proposed by Mr A. Pickard, and seconded by Mr S. Haigh. Mr R. G. Wooler proposed that the expenses be reduced to £25, as a certain amount of expenditure had been incurred without the sanction of the committee. Mr T. Lacy seconded this amendment. Mr Pickard said that it was impossible to call a meeting of the committee to settle everything. Mr Thompson said 12s was agreed to be paid Mr Twinkler for bringing and taking his goods to and from Stanhope. Mr R. G. Wooler said as to the remarks from Mr Pickard that that gentleman was entirely wrong. Meetings were called to settle minor points, but major points were settled with those who were members of the institute, and not by the committee, as they ought to have been. The reduction fee for the entrance to the hall and printing of bills were not sanctioned by the Polytechnic Committee, who were the responsible parties. The institute had nothing, Mr Wooler contended, to do with it until the balance of the proceeds was handed over to them.—The original resolution was carried.

PELTON FELL.

Accident on the Durham Road.—On Saturday night James Gallagher, miner, of Pelton Fell, was proceeding on foot towards the Low Fell from Gateshead, when he was by some means knocked to the ground and very seriously injured. He was lifted into a tramcar, and was afterwards conveyed to the Newcastle Infirmary where he lies in a very precarious condition. The unfortunate man stated that he was knocked down by a tramcar, but other persons who were present allege that he was run over by a cart which was going towards Gateshead.

CATCHGATE.

United Methodist Free Church.—The anniversary of the above place of worship was celebrated at Catchgate as follows:—On Saturday afternoon, Feb. 27th, a public tea was held, when a goodly number sat down. The following ladies attended to the wants of the company, viz:—Mrs Down, Mrs Picke, Mrs Callicott, and Mrs Hoaken. After the good things provided had been enjoyed heartily to the satisfaction of all present, a public meeting was held, when Mr Charles Frederick Cook, of Annfield Plain, ably presided in a pleasing way. In his opening remarks he said he was glad to be present with them on the occasion of their anniversary, and as a trustee for their present handsome chapel, he remarked that it carried his mind back to the time when the formation of a chapel was considered for the Free Methodist people to worship in. He thought that they deserved a stone building, but as the state of the funds could not afford one, they had to erect an iron building. He wished the society every success in the future, and hoped the work of the Lord would prosper amongst them.—Mr William Rutherford read the report, which congratulated the society on the success of the past year, as several repairs which were very much needed, had been very satisfactorily carried out at a cost of £51 1s 1½d. Income from re-opening services and bazaars, £59 15s 9d, after paying the amount for repairs, left a balance of £8 14s 8½d to be devoted to the trust fund.—The report was heartily accepted as encouraging under the circumstances.—Mr W. Harkinson followed with a most interesting address on "Christianity and its predestination."—The Rev George Lord, circuit minister, congratulated the chairman on having the pleasure of meeting with him on a public platform, and trusted it would not be the last time they would come in contact with each other on a like occasion. The rev. gentleman delivered a most pithy address, and thought there would be considerably more good accomplished if the churches of God would work more in co-operation with each other.—The Rev T. W. Symous endorsed the remarks of the former speaker in heart and action in the good work of trying to save men and women from sin and vice, and turn their feet into the narrow path and become useful men in the cause of God.—On Sunday, the Rev T. W. Symons occupied the rostrum morning and evening, and Mr John Taylor, of Dipton, preached in the afternoon. The services were well-attended, and were largely successful. Mr John Cassell, conductor, Mr S. Armstrong, harmoniumist, and the choir attended all the services, at which collections were taken in aid of the trust fund. At the public meeting the best thanks were given to all who took part in the same.

DERWENT COTTAGES.

Wesleyan Chapel.—A miscellaneous concert was given in the above place of worship at Derwent Cottages on Monday evening, by the chapel choir and sol-fa class, assisted by several friends from Leadgate. The programme was as follows:—Anthem, "Wake, the song of jubilee," the choir; reading, Mr J. Harbottle; temperance song, Mr J. Pearson; duet (with chorus), "When I can read my title clear," Miss Edgar and Mr J. Postle; anthem, "Glory be to God, the choir; solo, "Ah never, ah no," Miss M. Wilkinson; part song, "The sailors' chorus," Mr R. Jones and party; solo, "The lighted valley," Miss E. Pattison; solo, "Land of my Father," Mr Jones; anthem, "The Lord is King," the choir; solo, "Beautiful land," Miss R. Morgan; temperance song, "Seeing double," Mr J. Pearson, who also gave in response to an *encore*, "The washing day;" solo, "Gathering shells by the sea," Mr J. Postle; anthem, "Wake the song," the choir; solo, "Life is a river," Mr W. H. Lewis (Consett); reading, "The Irish schoolmaster," Mr J. Harbottle; song, "Call John," Messrs Jones, J. Postle, W. Henderson, and J. Robinson; anthem, "Loud, through the world proclaim," the choir; solo (with quartett and chorus), "Saviour breathe an evening blessing," Mr W. Henderson. The programme was ably gone through under the leadership of Mr R. Jones, of Leadgate, who has, during the past six months, had the teaching of a sol-fa class at Derwent Cottages, and this being the first concert it was a success. Mr J. H. Morris, mining engineer, of Medomsley, filled the office of chairman very ably, keeping the audience alive with humorous speeches, and reciting "Doctor Puff Stuff." The harmoniumist was Mr J. Harbottle. After the usual vote of thanks, the company dispersed to their homes satisfied that they had spent a pleasant evening.

PRUDHOE.

Supper at Prudhoe.—On Monday evening, a beef pie supper was provided in the United Methodist Free Church School-room, Prudhoe, and was largely attended. The duties of carvers were discharged by the Rev F. Raine, Messrs J. Crown, H. Jameson, and J. Aiston. After supper, the Rev F. Raine, who occupied the chair, in proposing the health of the Queen and members of the Royal Family, referred to the illustrious reign of Her Majesty, and affirmed that many of her most loyal and attached subjects were found in the ranks of Nonconformity. Mr J. Aiston, who occupied the vice-chair, seconded the proposition, which was received with heartiness. The other toast was that of the Bishop and Ministers of all Denominations. The proceeds of the supper were applied to the Circuit Fund.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

Sudden Death in a Coal Mine.—Geo. Nevin Beck, 19 years of age, was on Monday morning found lying dead near the furnace in Cornsay Colliery. Deceased, who went to his work apparently all right, was seen on Sunday night about half-past ten, and at the time seemed well.—An inquest was held on Tuesday before Mr Coroner Dean, coroner for Darlington Ward, at the house of Mrs Lakey, on the body of Beck. The evidence showed that the deceased went to work at six o'clock on Sunday night, and was seen at 11·30 p.m. by Christopher Lowes still following his employment. He was found dead in the pit at 12·30 a.m. by Lowes.—A verdict of "Accidentally suffocated" was returned.

CORBRIDGE.

Ruridecanal Conference at Bywell.—On Friday, the annual meeting of the Corbridge Rural Deanery Conference was held at Bywell, the Lord Bishop of the diocese being present and assisting. At 10·45 a.m. Holy Communion was celebrated in Bywell St. Andrew's Church, after which the members of the Conference met at Bywell St. Peter's Vicarage for discussion on the following subjects:—The Diocesan Society, Constitution of the Rural Deanery Conference, Confirmation Centres for 1877, Church Music (introduced by papers by Rev H. Slater and Rev C. W. James). Church Defence and Church Reform (introduced by a paper by Mr C. H. James). Six clergymen and six laymen were elected to represent the Rural Deanery at the Diocesan Conference to be held in Newcastle during the ensuing year, namely:—Clergy: Rev J. L. Low, vicar of Whittonstall; Rev H. Slater, vicar of Bywell St. Andrew's; Rev A. Johnson, vicar of Healey; Rev J. C. Maughan, vicar of Prudhoe; Rev W. M. Wray, vicar of Ovingham; and Rev W. L. J. Cooley, vicar of Ponteland. (Laity: Mr C. H. James, of Rutchester, Mr D. O. Drewitt, of Riding Mill, Mr Rose Fuller, of Riding Mill, Mr C. Ollier, of Riding Mill, Mr T. Reed, Corbridge; and Mr M. Bevan, Prudhoe. Owing to the state of the roads, many of the members of the Conference were unable to attend. Those present were—The Rev Canen Dwarris, rural dean; the Rev A. Johnson, secretary; the Rev H. Slater, vicar of Bywell St. Andrew's; the Rev J. C. Maughan, vicar of Prudhoe; the Rev T. Bennet, rector of Newton; the Rev C. W. James, curate of Ovingham; the Rev C. Taylor, curate of Prudhoe; Mr C. H. James, of Rutchester; Mr C. Ollier, of Riding Mill; Mr J. W. Tene, of Bywell; Mr T. Reed, of Corbridge; Mr M. Bevan, of Prudhoe; Mr M. Jewitt of Healey. The bishop and the clergy and laity were hospitably entertained at luncheon by Canon and Mrs Dwarris.

MARLEY HILL.

Wesleyan Methodist Band of Hope.—The Marley Hill Socity gave another of their grand and successful entertainmeets in the United Methodist Free Church, Causey Row, on Saturday evening. Mr R. Lawson presided, and Mr J. Smith officiated at the organ. A programme, consisting of solos, recitations, and dialogues, was gone through in the most splendid manner, and closed with the "Irish Schoolmaster" and singing of the doxology.

WEST PELTON.

Sad Accident.—A serious pit accident occurred at Band-on-Hold, West Pelton, to James Storey, aged 16, son of the engineer, who, it appears, was about to descend the shaft, where masons were employed repairing the furnace. He was in a horse-loop, but by some mismanagement of the brakesman (John Simpson) he drew him up to the pulleys, causing both his legs to be broken. He was removed from his perilous position by some workmen on the spot.

EDMONDSLEY.

The Late Mr John Turnbull.—On Sunday evening, 28th ult., a special sermon was delivered by the Rev J. Taylor, Chester-le-Street, in reference to the late Mr J. Turnbull. The chapel was crowded, and the service was a very interesting one. The rev gentleman took for his text, Acts ii, 22, "A man of God approved among you," which was a true expression when applied to the deceased. His life was not a flickering one, moved about by every wind of doctrine, but a steady and consistent life of good Christian work. He and his devoted wife were the founders of a chapel at Edmondsley. When the society was small and feeble, he was offered a situation as a city missionary, but he resolved to remain and build up a Church for God. Deceased was very strongly attached to the Church of his choice. On one occasion, when he was connected with the Sunderland Society, a dispute arose among the officers, a meeting was held, when it was agreed to sever themselves from the Church. Just at the time John Turnbull entered the vestry, and on learning what had been done, remarked, "Not a man of us will leave;" and by his help the matter was settled. He was born at Bishopwearmouth, on September 17th, 1806, and his parents were Presbyterians. When about 16, he left home to be a gardener at Lambton Castle. At some revival services, held at Chatershaugh, in the year 1823, he was converted to God, and for upwards of 62 years he laboured in the Primitive Connexion as class leader, local preacher, and in numerous other offices. The work of gardening greatly interfered with his preaching engagements, and wanting more liberty he removed to Edmondsley in 1853, where he established a society in a dwelling house. Its meetings were afterwards held in a school-room, and now a fine chapel remains as a monument of his earnestness.

WHICKHAM.

Cruel Treatment of Horses.—At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Tuesday, *James Snowball* was charged with causing a horse to be cruelly treated, and *Joseph Maughan* and *John Dand* were jointly charged with cruelly ill-treating a horse, on the 19th of last month, at Whickham Colliery.—Inspector Fair, R.S.P.C.A., proved the case, and stated that the horse in question was attached to a cart, when he noticed it walked lame. On examination, he found that altogether the animal was suffering from ten sores, all of which were discharging matter.—Snowball was fined £5 and costs, the other two defendants being each fined 10s and costs.—*James Snowball* was further charged with unlawfully causing a second horse to be ill-treated, and *Thomas Usher* with cruelly ill-treating it.—Snowball pleaded not guilty and Usher guilty.—Evidence having been given by Inspector Fair, the case against Snowball was dismissed, while Usher was fined 10s and costs.

DIPTON.

Collierley School Board.—The monthly meeting took place at the Dipton Board Schools, on Wednesday afternoon, under the presidency of Mr J. T. Curry (chairman). Also present: Messrs W. Robson, M. Martin, C. Holmes, and Mr William Thompson, jun. (acting as assistant clerk in the absence of his father through illness).—The Attendance Officer (Mr David Mole) reported that, acting upon instructions received at the last meeting, he had ascertained the number of parents working at South Medomsley Colliery, who with their families were living in the owners' houses at High Stables Row. There were 46 children under school age (13 years)—16 boys, 15 girls, and 15 infants. He had questioned the parents, and the reason they gave for their children's non-attendance at school was that they had been sent and refused admission by the Master (Mr Prevell) when he discovered who they were. Mr Mole declared that these statements were quite untrue; and the Master stated they were false. Other parents positively refused to cause their children to attend school.—The members of the Board considered that if the parties still neglected their duty, they would have to take steps to enforce the attendance of their children at school.—The Head Master reported that the attendance had been exceedingly moderate, and last week, owing to the severe storm, the schools were only opened one day. He enquired what was to be done in regard to the school fees, and the Board decided that they should be remitted.—Some new desks were ordered to be obtained for the infants' department, in accordance with the suggestion of Her Majesty's Inspector at his last examination.—It was stated that a man named George Herron, of the North Pit, was living with his wife and family in a filthy hovel, and the Chairman was directed to bring the nuisance under the notice of Mr Rounthwaite, Inspector for the Rural Sanitary Authority.—After considering some unimportant items of business, and signing the monthly cheques, the Board adjourned.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Police Cases.—*John Watson* and *John Henderson* were charged at Chester-le-Street Police Court, on Wednesday, with being drunk and trespassing on the railway near Gateshead. A police-officer from Gateshead proved the case, and said it was a very dangerous place, and defendants had been repeatedly cautioned.—They were fined 10s, including costs.——*Andrew Golden* and *Geo. Golden* were fined 10s and costs each for stealing coals, the property of James Joicey and Co., at Urpeth, on the 20th Feb.——*Thomas Thompson* was fined 2s 6d and costs for obstructing Mr Scott, of Edmondsley, on the public highway, on the 20th ult. The defendant and another person caught hold of the cart and endeavoured to throw complainant and his brother out.

A Curiosity of the Post Office.—A few days ago an incident occurred in the Chester-le-Street Post Office which shows the need of education even in the nineteenth century. A lady entered and roundly abused the postal authorities for not forwarding a money order which she had procured some time previously. Growing more excited, she said they could not get over her. She had paid the money and had taken good care to preserve the receipt, and opening her purse she took out a paper, and excitedly placing it on the counter said, there is the receipt; you cannot get over your own signature. The paper proved to be the missing money order, which the lady had kept in her purse. It was some time before the irate lady could be persuaded that the fault rested with herself. When she become convinced she apologised for her conduct, and said, "Why, hinney, I never had an order before in my life, and knew nowt about them."

Board of Guardians.—The usual fortnightly meeting was held at the Board Room, Chester-le-Street, on Thursday se'nnight, Mr T. Robson presiding. The condition of the roads in the district prevented many members from attending.—The Workhouse Master's report showed that at present there were 113 inmates in the house, an increase of 12 in the number for the corresponding period of last year. There had been 171 vagrants relieved during the past fortnight, which was a reduction of 8 against last year. The relieving officers reported that £65 0s. 5d. had been expended for relief purposes in the Biddick district, and £60 15s. 9d. in the Harraton district of the Union. The business of the Rural Sanitary Authority was then proceeded with. A letter from the engineer of the Water Company was read. He said he expected that the pipes would be laid down within four weeks, and they would be glad if the Board would then pay them the sum of £750, which would at that time be due. The Board thought the request a reasonable one, and it was agreed upon.—The Medical Officer reported that since the smallpox epidemic had raged at Birtley, over three hundred persons had been re-vaccinated.—The report of the Inspector showed a gratifying diminution in the smallpox epidemic, only three fresh cases having been admitted to the Birtley Hospital during the fortnight just elapsed, whereas nine were admitted in the previous fortnight. Five patients had been discharged from the hospital as convalescent since last meeting, leaving only nine cases at present under treatment there. The expenditure for the hospital during the last two weeks reached a total of £18 5s., and that amount was ordered to be paid.

ESH COLLIERY.

Social.—Mr Thos. Brown, of the Cross Keys Hotel, Esh Village, entertained a numerous gathering of his friends to a sumptuous supper on Tuesday night. Mr H. Morin was voted to the chair. Some splendid songs and recitations were rendered, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

STANHOPE.

Miss Cosbey, daughter of the Rev. J. Cosbey, curate of Stanhope, has successfully passed the Cambridge Local Examination (junior). She was distinguished for Scripture knowledge.

PRESENTATIONS TO A CATCHGATE RESIDENT.

The *Peterborough Advertiser and South Midland Times* last Saturday contains accounts of presentations to the Rev W. O. Leadbitter (son of Mr G. Leadbitter, of Catchgate), at Peterborough, in St. Mark's Working-men's Club. A tea and entertainment were held, and Alderman J. Thompson presided. The *Advertiser* goes on to say that the occasion was taken to publicly present the rev. gentleman with a testimonial on his leaving the parish to go to the vicarage of Denford-cum-Ringstead. The presentation, which was made by the Vicar (Rev J. H. Molesworth), took the form of an address engrossed on vellum, was signed by 70 very representative names, and was accompanied by a purse of gold. It has been said that "Nature creates merit, and fortune brings it into play," and if ever there was an undoubted instance of natural merit it is in the case of the new Vicar of Ringstead. Though he has been curate of St. Mark's barely eight months, he has won the unstinted esteem of every parishoner with whom it was possible to be brought in contact during that comparatively brief period, and his name has become almost a household word, not only in the parish, but throughout Church circles generally in Peterboro'. Possessing extraordinary tact in matters parochial, he is a skilful and absorbing preacher, and during his curacy he has done much to cement the relations of Church and Nonconformity. Though he has already shown so much merit, yet Fortune has conspired at an early period of his career to place him in a more responsible position, where he will have greater opportunities of bringing it into play as the head of a parish, and much may yet be expected. St. Mark's deeply regrets her loss, Ringstead with Denton may rejoice at their gain.

The Rev W. O. Leadbitter, in accepting the gifts, addressed those present as his dear friends, and proceeded: I must not detain you long to-night in thanking you for the manner you have chosen to show your appreciation of any little work I have been able to do amongst you. I go from you with feelings of great regret, because I know this, and I think I have great proof of it to-night, that I have increased my small circle of friends very considerably during my stay in Peterboro'. I am exceedingly gateful to the Vicar for the way he has spoken of my efforts; I leave him with the sincerest feelings of regret, because I have always found him not only an exemplary and kind superior, but one who has acted in every way the part of a friend and brother. I am heartily sorry to leave, too, so noble a band of church workers which exist in St. Mark's. I leave with all the more regret knowing that we have such a vicar, who is "bad to beat," and a band of church workers working together in amnity, and working together so indefatigably for the great cause and object we have all at heart—the work of the extension of our Redeemer's Kingdom. I do not intend to make a speech, it is not in my line, you may choke a flea with a brick-bat (laughter), or you may make a strong-minded woman hold her tongue (renewed laughter) sooner than you can get a speech from me. (Applause.) In conclusion I thank you again for the present you have given me, the money will be very useful to me in my home. Dean Swift has said that the wise man ought to have money in his head, but with all due deference to him, it is a good thing to have it in your pocket likewise. (Laughter.) I shall prize this purse and this address you have given me very much. I hope to retain them as a memeto of the many loving friends I have in Peterborough, and whilst they will arouse me to further efforts amongst my new parishoners, they will always be pleasant reminiscences of past associations. (Applause.)

Last Sunday Mr Stanyon, on behalf of St. Mark's Men's Bible Class, presented the Rev W. O. Leadbitter with Conybeare and Howson's "Life of Christ" (two volumes). Mr Leadbitter, in thanking his class for their kindness introduced Mr Ald. John Thompson as their future teacher.

The rev. gentleman left Peterboro' on Thursday week, and was inducted the same evening into the vicarage of Denford-cum-Ringstead.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The monthly meeting took place at Lanchester yesterday (Thursday) afternoon—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., presiding. Present: Messrs W. Logan, J. A. Curry, W. Cumming, J. Lax, R. Clark, T. J. Muse, H. Hornsby, the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), and the inspector (Mr J. W. Rounthwaite).

IMPORTANT EXPLANATION BY MR. ROUNTHWAITE.

The Inspector, with the permission of the Chairman, proceeded to offer some explanation concerning certain statements made at the special meeting a fortnight ago, during his absence. It was not only on his own account, but it was due to the people living in the district, that these mistakes should be corrected. He was sorry that the gentlemen who uttered them were not present that day. He observed, from the report in the last issue of the *Consett Guardian*, that Mr Siddell stated that he had offices in Sunderland, &c. He had no offices in Sunderland, and never had since he came there six years ago. Further, Mr Buckham stated that he was credibly informed that at present Mr Rounthwaite had a large contract in hand at Sunderland; and Mr Eltringham made a similar remark, adding that he was deriving a large revenue from his private practice. That was quite a misapprehension.

The Chairman: With regard to this business in Sunderland?

The Inspector: I have no contract in Sunderland, and have not had for more than a year. At the time that I had the last contract, the subject was fully discussed by this Board. When I had work there, it did not take me away from the district, except on Saturdays and holidays, not half-a-day per week, let alone two days, as alleged by Mr Buckham. I had no private work in 1885 worth mentioning at all, except half-a-dozen cottage houses at Burnopfield. I have always been exceptionally careful not to allow any other duties to interfere with my work under the Sanitary Authority.

The Chairman: You cannot be over particular in that respect.

The Inspector: In fact, they could not have selected a time when I had less private work in hand, and was more exclusively devoting my time to the work of the Authority. There is also the impression among many people in the district—at least I have been told so to-day—that this question of assistant is the result of an application from me. This is entirely erroneous. I have never suggested such a thing. I believe Dr Page first made such a recommendation, and the idea of getting an assistant emanated from the Joint Hospital Committee, in reference to the appointment of a caretaker for the new Hospital.

Mr Logan stated that he endeavoured to make it perfectly clear that day fortnight that Mr Rounthwaite never asked for any assistance—that the Hospital Board were really making the recommendation.

The Chairman: Have you not a brass-plate upon a door at Sunderland?

The Inspector replied in the affirmative. It was exceedingly useful for him for obtaining contracts and prices from manufacturers, &c.

Mr Clark: Why don't you affix the plate upon your private residence?

Mr Rounthwaite replied that perhaps the members of the Authority would not like him to be advertising himself as an architect and surveyor in this district. It was merely a plate attached to his mother's residence, which was very useful for him as an enquiry office.

Mr Curry expressed his satisfaction at the Inspector's explanation, and said it was quite right that these matters should be cleared up.

The Authority then entered upon the usual business.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Rounthwaite) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,—Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the contractor has pushed on with and completed the Nook branch of the Lanchester sewer; some of the private connections are also made.

I have endeavoured to obtain the consent of the persons holding the land adjoining the Carrmires Quarry to the outlet drain being re-laid, but without success, one of the parties interested refusing to allow the work to proceed.

The following houses are without any proper privy and ashpit as required by the Public Health Act, viz:—

One house at Shield Row, occupied by Elizabeth Peacock.

One house at Tanfield, occupied by Mary A. Watson.

In accordance with your instructions, plan has been prepared for the works ordered to be carried out in connection with the Langley Park sewers, and if approved of, tenders may either be advertised for or obtained by private invitation without further delay.

From information received at my last visit to West Stanley on the 9th inst., I am glad to be able to report that no further cases of smallpox have occurred since last meeting.

For the execution of sewerage works at Esh, five tenders have been received, schedule of which is annexed on page 3.

Nuisance notices served during the month	24
Letters written with regard to nuisances, &c.	26
Plan approval notices sent out	2
Plans received and examined	2
Habitation certificates issued	—
Villages and namlets inspected	15

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. W. Rounthwaite.
Lanchester, March 11th 1886.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

March 11th, 1886.

Your Committee recommend that the plan (640) submitted by Miss Alice Clark, for house and shop at Annfield Plain be approved, subject to the matters marked thereon being attended to; and that the plan (641) submitted by Mr Thomas Grey, for sub-division of property at Esh Colliery, be adjourned until the Surveyor has obtained further particulars.

List of tenders received for sewerage works at Esh:—

	£	s.	d.
George Robson, Newcastle	176	16	0
Edward Rutter, Esh	154	16	9
George Snowdon, Jarrow	153	6	0
John T. Simpson, Newcastle	125	12	3
John Carrick, Durham	108	0	0

NUISANCES.

Notices ordered to be served on the owners of houses at Shield Row and Tanfield to provide proper privy and ashpit in each case.

LANGLEY PARK SEWERAGE.

Tenders were ordered to be obtained for Sewerage Works at Langley Park.

THE OLD QUARRY AT CATCHGATE.

No further steps to be taken with regard to outlet drain from Carrmires Quarry.

ESH SEWERAGE SCHEME.

The tender of Mr John Carrick, of Durham, was accepted for Sewerage Works at Esh, subject to satisfactory arrangements being made with the Surveyor with respect to schedule prices and sureties.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The Medical Officers submitted the following reports:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

Lanchester District.

Gentlemen,—Since my last report, the following are the fresh cases of catching diseases that have appeared in this district:—

Fifteen cases of whooping cough at Hamsteels Colliery.

Sixteen cases of whooping cough, one of scarlet fever, and one of typhoid fever at Quebec.

One case of scarlet fever at Cornsay Colliery, and six cases at Ushaw Farm.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
John Wilson.
Lanchester, March 11th, 1886.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

Medomsley District.

Gentlemen,—Since my last report no fresh cases of infectious disease have come under my notice, either in the district of Ebchester or Medomsley.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant, W. T. Bolton.
March 10th, 1886.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

Eastern District.

Gentlemen,—Since my last report there have been two more cases of smallpox; one occurred in the already infected house, and the other in the house adjoining. As nearly four weeks have elapsed since the last case was attacked, I am in hopes no further spread will take place.

The condition of the district with regard to other zymotic diseases is improving, only four cases of whooping cough and three of scarlatina, are all that have come under my notice.

The mortality for the month is much below the average. 19 deaths were registered, being equal to an annual ratio of 13·4 per 1000. Infectious diseases caused three deaths, viz: Smallpox, 1; whooping cough, 2.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. Benson.
March 10th, 1886.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

MISCHIEVOUS JOEY.

"Joey" was a monkey, and, like most monkeys, was the very incarnation of mischief and drollery. We are introduced to him through the mediumship of that delightful writer for children, Lady Barker, and the following is the account she gives of some of his doings: Joey belonged to someone else in the house, but attached himself to me from the moment he arrived, as his friend and protectress, and I never saw any animal so fond of a human being as Joey was. It was, however, impossible to make a pet of him on account of his incurably dirty habits, and his unceasing mischief. He was never still for a second, and always doing something wrong, and yet he was so inexpressibly ridiculous that no one had the heart to punish him; he quite understood that he had been naughty but he had a way of scratching his head when we were scolding him, and looking at us as much as to say, "Well, now, really, I didn't think that was any harm." Our home at that time was in the country, so Joey had a wide field for mischief; and as he arrived whilst it was still summer, he commenced some extensive gardening operations of his own at once, which resulted in depriving me of every leaf and blossom on my creepers. No chain could keep him confined; it was merely a question of time. Joey sat down to consider how to get rid of every attempt to fasten him up, and his little clever fingers always contrived to free himself. I had to watch him incessantly on account of his love of hearing the crash china made in falling; the cook could not keep a cup or plate on the dresser—they had to be stowed away in drawers, and for several weeks Joey tried to get at a thermometer, which hung outside the house; it baffled him for some time, but at last he discovered a projecting nail, round which he curled his long tail, swung himself up, and had the great satisfaction of making a splendid smash of it.

One day I heard extraordinary sounds of choking proceeding from a bedroom as I passed it; the door was closed but not fastened, so I first knocked, and then, as no one answered, looked in. There was Joey seated on the dressing-table, with his head back, waving his long arms, his eyes starting out of his head, and at the last gasp for want of breath. I found he was trying to swallow a large signet ring which he had found, and it had stuck in his throat; there was enough of it in his mouth for me to take hold of, and I got it up with much difficulty, but that was very nearly Joey's last trick, for if someone had not passed he must have died soon. He had previously put everything in the room which could be squeezed down its neck into the water-jug; the soap and sponges were there, so were several trinkets lying about, and a small pin-cushion; the candles (he had broken the candlesticks) and a slipper were sticking out at the top.

I must tell you one more amusement of Joey's, and that will be the last about him—for a wonder it was not destructive mischief. I missed him one morning, and spent at least two hours in hunting for him, feeling sure he was doing something very naughty by his being so quiet. I searched the house first, then the stables, even the coal shed, looked into the washhouse without seeing him, when just as I was leaving the last place I heard a very gentle chirrup proceeding from behind a pile of empty boxes, and I immediately went softly to see what he was doing. In one of the boxes was a quantity of feathers, and on these the old cat and her kitten had lain down to have a quiet sleep. Joey had found them out, and as they would not wake up and play with him, he amused himself as well as he could by covering them up with feathers; he had succeeded in hiding the kitten completely, and the cat's ear was the only part of her to be seen. Joey was doing his best to hide this also, but however gently he laid a small feather on it, the cat twitched her ear and the feather came off. Joey hunted among the boxful for a still lighter feather and tried again, laying it down with the utmost care, but in vain. After many attempts he brought me one and made me try, but my clumsy touch had no chance if his tiny paw had failed. I left him still trying to cover that restless ear.

A PARROT'S MEMORY OF THE PAST.

Nothing we have once felt, or thought, or known, can ever be quite lost. Though forgotten for years, in some nook or corner of the brain it still lurks, till at last an incident occurs which serves to bring it back to our recollection. To some extent this would seem to be true also of other creatures beside man, if we may judge from a story told of a parrot brought from Spain to the Isle of Mull, where it learned English, and forgot the language which it had been taught first. One of our poets (Thomas Campbell) has put the tale into verse:—

A parrot from the Spanish main,
Full young, and early caged, came o'er,
With bright wings, to the bleak domain
Of Mulla's shore.

To spicy groves, where he had won
His plumage of resplendent hue,
His native fruits and skies and sun
He bade adieu.

For these he changed the smoke of turf,
A heathery land, and misty sky,
And turned on rocks and raging surf
His golden eye.

But fretted, in our climate cold,
He lived and chattered many a day,
Until with age from green and gold
His wings grew grey.

At last, when blind and seeming dumb,
He scolded, laughed, and spoke no more,
A Spanish stranger chanced to come
To Mulla's shore.

He hailed the bird in Spanish speech,
The bird in Spanish speech replied,
Flapped round the cage with joyous screech,
Dropped down, and died.

THE BIRD'S VISIT.

That elegant and accomplished German writer, Dr. Krummacher, relates a beautiful incident which occurred in his neighbourhood, in which a poor man, who owed a debt he was unable to pay, was delivered out of his distress by a song-bird.

The man was sitting, early in the morning, at his house door, expecting an officer to come and distrain him for a small debt; and whilst sitting thus, with his heavy heart, a little bird flew through the street, fluttering up and down, as if in distress, until, at length, quick as an arrow, it flew over the man's head into his cottage, and perched itself within an empty cupboard.

The man closed the door, caught the bird, and placed it in a cage, were it immediately began to sing very sweetly.

Suddenly someone knocked at the door.

"Ah, it is the officer!" thought the man.

But no; it was the servant of a respectable lady, who said that the neighbours had seen a bird fly into this house, and she wished to know if he had caught it.

"Oh yes; here it is!" And the bird was carried away.

A few minutes after, the servant came again.

"You have done my mistress a great service," she said; "she values the bird highly. She is much obliged to you, and requests you to accept this trifle with her thanks."

It proved to be the exact sum he owed; and when the officer came, he said, "Here is your money; now leave me in peace, for God has sent it me."

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—Eight letters. My 7, 2, 3, 4 is water; my 3, 2, 6, 7 is a mineral; so is my 7, 8, 6, 5; my 1, 8, 5 is a colour; and my whole is a town.

2.—In adamant hard I chance may be found,
But I won't this affirm on the strongest of ground;
Yet you and myself must about us always
Carry me ever through life's longest days.
I may be quite beautiful, clearest of blue,
Dark, too, perhaps; but not when part of you.
All life I pervade—the assertion is right.
My presence is felt in the darkness of night.
Without me there is not a leaf ever seen
That on plant or tree would be pretty or green.
In working a pattern, in muslin, or lace,
Fair ladies oft form me, no doubt in right place;
But their power to do this depends upon me,
And this, when you guess me, you will clearly see.

3.—In the morning and evening I rest. I am the middle of end and the beginning of nature. I am in thorns, and I find a place in the pin-cushion. What am I? 4.—Two words combined denote three pretty creatures, Each loved, yet differing each in form and features.

DIAMONDS.—5.—A letter; a fool; toots; a soldier; cash; to attend; a letter.

6.—A letter; done; superfluous; a Christian name; one of Dickens's heroes; a conjunction; a letter.

7.—A musical note; part of the foot; part of the hand; a messenger; a lady's name; a ruler; a letter.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Night-light. 2. Pan-dora. 3. Juniper. 4. A-bust dance. 5. St. Lawrence. 6. Neptune.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats" clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles chipmunks, gophers. 7½d. and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

Business Announcements.

TO THE WEARY.

"Throw Physic to the dogs,
I'll none of it."—*Shakespeare.*

DO

TRUTH. READ THIS. TRUTH

No Person Need Despair of

A SPEEDY RESTORATION TO HEALTH AND STRENGTH,

If he or she will carefully peruse the following, and learn that the great

SELF-RESTORER,

OR

DR. BELL

PATENT VOLTAIC BELT

IS the safest, grandest, and most certain discovery ever known for the cure of all bodily ailments arising from indiscretion and other causes. To those afflicted with Nervousness, Nervous Debility, Loss of Physical Power, Weakness of Body and Mind, &c., this invention presents a means of cure of so unfailing a character that the greatest sufferers from any of the above distressing complaints may, with confidence, rely upon being quickly restored to a sound state of health and strength. In fact, the many marvellous cures performed by the "Self-Restorer" (UNDENIABLE PROOF OF WHICH CAN BE GIVEN) at once places these extraordinary Instruments far beyond anything of the kind hitherto offered to the public. In order to prove that these Belts are all they claim to be, it would be as well to mention the following circumstance:—

"IN the High Court of Justice (Queen's Bench Division) an injunction was granted on January 24th, 1884, restraining several unprincipled persons from selling any colourable imitations of the 'Self-Restorer' Belt, the Jury giving the proprietor a verdict with costs and damage, for such infringement." The belt was also explained, and its Electrical powers fully tested in open Court, both before Mr. Justice Hawkins and the Jury, upon the same occasion.

CAN *any other Manufacturer of Electric Belt produce evidence of* SO SEVERE A TEST. Surely, after such a proof as this, the most sceptical will believe that it really possesses the great restorative powers ascribed to it.

IT may be as well to mention that the action of the "Self-Restorer" is gentle but exceeding effective. The mild, but beneficial current generated by its use, braces the system, and by its benign influence gradually builds up the frame until the mind begins to get brighter, the natural functions become stronger, the elastic spirit of youth once more apparent, and so the progress towards recovery steadily goes on until the patient ultimately realises the fact that he is *once more young.* In cases of weakness, arising from any of the before-mentioned causes, these Belts are at once the most simple and at the same time the most certain remedy ever invented or discovered. They are entirely self-acting, and NO ACIDS being required, can be worn at any time without any wetting process or inconvenience to the patient, the salt contained in the insensible perspiration being sufficient to keep it in action.

THE Cures performed are not of a fleeting character, but permanent, providing the instructions sent with each instrument are carefully adhered to. It speedily removes the most miserable feeling, "lowness of spirits," so often experienced; and, after being worn a short time, enables a man to look at the future in a more hopeful light, as the certainty of a rapid cure relieve the mind of a great burthen.

HOW many persons who, by living too generously, have become prematurely old, and consequently have these wretched, morbid feelings? They have an idea that nature is decaying, and the pleasures of life have departed. In nine cases out of ten this is far from being the fact. Nature has not decayed: it is simply lying dormant, and needs but a little assistance to once more assert its presence. "The creaking gate requires oil, or it will continue to creak." So it is with the human frame. Assist it where weak, put it in a position to recover itself, and you will find that after all life has its pleasures, and you the restored inclination to partake of them.

THE beneficial action of these truly life-giving Belts upon the human frame has been proved so conclusively, by thousands of unsolicited testimonials, that no shadow of doubt remains as to their extraordinary efficacy. They can be worn by either sex with the greatest ease and comfort, without fear of discovery, and by a delicate arrangement can be adjusted to act directly upon the weakened parts, so that immediately upon contact with the body an electric current is at once produced of a mild, but withal of so efficacious a character, that an almost instantaneous improvement becomes noticeable. The heavy hanging feeling wears off, the eye becomes brighter, the brain clearer, until at last the patient feels in his own mind that he is once more in the possession of the greatest blessing upon earth, viz, HEALTH, STRENGTH, ENERGY, and MANLY VIGOUR.

IN cases of Gout, Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c., there is no cure in the world to be compared to these Belts. Nature requires assistance in all these complaints, and that assistance to be thoroughly effective, must be obtained from Nature herself—thus, by calling into operation Electricity, a natural ally, congenial to all constitutions, is obtained, and the result is, in almost every case, permanent cures are effected. Again in case of Consumption, these belts have been the SOLE MEANS of restoring thousands of both sexes to a healthy and vigorous existence when that fell disease "Consumption" had in the opinion of many eminent medical men, marked them as its victims. These are facts which can be proved to be absolutely true.

TO persons desirous of further information, instructions will be given away, in 130 pp. pamphlet, showing sufferers how they may be restored to Health, Strength, and Manly Vigour, without the *Aid of Medicine,* or will be sent, post free, together with all particulars as to regimen, diet, &c. Address—W. WRIGHT, Esq., Secretary, Volta House, 175, Wardour Street, Oxford Street, London W.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS MAY BE SEEN AT THE ESTABLISHMENT.

The Prices of Dr. BELL'S MEDICO-MAGNETIC or VOLTA BELTS are

£2 2s., £3 3s., AND £5 5s EACH,

According to Power.

The instrument can be sent to any part of the known world, through the Post, securely packed, upon receipt of remittance. P.O.O made payable to Mr W. Wright, at the Charing Cross Post Office, London.

Measurement round the body, just below the hips, must in all cases be sent.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

VOLTA HOUSE,

175, WARDOUR STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Having been asked upon many occasions how it is that our Belts are higher priced than those now being advertised by new firms (with whom we have no connection whatever) we beg to call attention to following:

This Appliance is POSITIVELY WHAT IT PROFESSES TO BE—an "ELECTRIC BELT," which may be proved before purchasing by the Galvano meter, &c. It was explained and fully tested before Mr Justice Hawkins and a Jury in the Court of Queen's Bench, January the 24th, 1884. Moreover, it ENTIRELY DIFFERS from anything of the kind advertised.

A perusal of which will at once show the most dubious that our Belts are without doubt, infinitely superior to anything of a like character extant, and are as beneficial to exhausted nature as represented. They having stood the test for 30 years, as still further guarantee of their genuineness. 708v

LADIES' COLUMN.

The Exhibition of the Lady Artists' Society, alluded to last week as to open to the public on the 22nd inst., at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, is in every respect a success. The walls, unfortunately, afford rather too limited space for the works crowded upon them, some pictures being skied, and others floored; but the light is good, and the situation, in the best of the West-end thoroughfares, all that can be desired to attract visitors. It is only now that the real results of allowing women full privileges to study art are shewing themselves. The earlier students, who struggled to obtain entrance to life schools and opportunities of study such as men enjoy, were necessarily cramped in their best years. They had to fight down prejudices, to emancipate themselves from the traditionary standard that some flowers or very weak landscapes were all that custom expected of women artists. Girls of a later generation have reaped the fruits of the earlier workers. They started with higher conceptions and fuller opportunities, with, in fact, their ambitions ready-made for them. This year's exhibition shews a marked advance, not only in conception but in execution. Great care seems to have been exercised in the selection of the works hung, and the new president and secretary are to be congratulated on the success of their first year of office.

In the same building, on the same day, the Dudley Society opened its exhibition. On the invitation day, last Saturday, critics passed from one gallery to the other. Newer societies have arisen, and other galleries have come into life, to take the front place once accorded to the Dudley Gallery. It is no longer a great feather in an artist's cap to have his picture admitted there. It is now merely one more place where those who are struggling, almost vainly, to get to the front and find buyers, have a chance of displaying their wares. Nor can it be said that genius presides over the walls this year. There is much work that is fairly good, some almost bad, but a surplus of mediocrity. Like all other markets the art market is overstocked. Pictures are luxuries and can be done without, consequently few can afford to buy them. The effort to make sales is lowering prices all round. By the time the artist pays for the frame, the canvas, and the commission for selling, a very paltry sum must remain for his own time and labour, the rent of studio, not to speak of interest on the capital invested in his education.

The new play at the Princess's Theatre is attracting large audiences. To call "The Lord Harry" a historical drama is to frighten away that excellent, but numerous, class of the public which does not desire to be improved by recollections of school days and a liberal delivery of high moral sentiments. To class the play with what is known as melodrama is equally erroneous, though it is full of unexpected situations, with a hero who performs prodigies of valour far beyond the achievements of the ordinary mortal. The Cromwellian period of history is still, and always will be, a rich mine for the novelist. With imposing modern stage effects it is going to yield wealth to the dramatist. Lord Harry Bendish is, of course, a Royalist, and by prescriptive custom young, dashing, valiant. As a matter of course he falls in love with a Puritan maiden, the daughter of one of Cromwell's colonels, but one of the high-minded type. The hypocritical, long-haired, long-speeched, canting roundhead, indispensable where a certain amount of villainy is required for the plot, is one Ezra Promise by name, who has designs upon the young lady's hand. The interest in the play is sustained by the intrigues of Ezra Promise always to keep on the winning side, changing his principles to suit each emergency, but through all trying to secure the young lady for himself by hunting down her lover. A serving-maid, who has also a lover, a follower of Colonel Primrose, supplies a comic element to the piece. Unlike most modern plays "The Lord Harry" owes nothing to the brilliancy of the dresses of the female parts, Esther being most simply attired in a white dress and brownish tippet, and in the sober drab laid down by Puritan creeds and canons. This is certainly good art. The life and movement depend altogether on the part played by Mr. Wilson Barrett himself as Lord Harry Bendish, who always turns up at the right moment, when the Puritanical atmosphere tends to dulness, and by his accomplished realisation of his part gives the action movement. The last scene, a highly sensational one, shews Esther rushing between her lover and the villain, and receiving the shots intended for the former. The first night Miss Eastlake's professional zeal led her to sprain her ankle when flinging herself into the *mêlée*, but the part has been ably played by Mrs. Willard for the few nights necessary for Miss Eastlake's recovery.

Girton College, Cambridge, last year received an unexpected bequest under the will of Miss Gamble, a wealthy lady, for many years resident in Portland-place. In making her will, this lady had no relative to whom she felt such strong attachment as to constitute him or her residuary legatee. After a few specific bequests to individuals, and some benevolences, Miss Gamble had Girton College inserted as legatee of the remainder. Not that she herself had ever been a student, or in any way connected with the institution, but it seemed good in her eyes. The executors in discharge of their trust sold last week at Messrs Christie and Manson's, the lace, shawls, brocades furs, fans, and miniatures belonging to Miss Gamble, and the sale attracted a good many curious people to the well-known sale rooms in St. James's. The sale commenced with a variety of small articles, some sold singly, some in lots—pendants, brooches, lockets, buckles, scent bottles, chains, buttons, pins, pencil-cases, rings, seals, neckiets, &c., in upwards of 50 lots, bringing moderate prices. The first article that caused any interest was a blue enamel bracelet with six brilliants, and diamond loops, and with heart-shaped blue enamel and diamond locket, which fetched £49. The next was a pendant with an emerald surrounded by brilliants and with large emerald drop, for which £102 was given. Lot 59 went far ahead of this last. A necklace formed of twenty-six square graduated emeralds and twenty-six brilliants brought no less than £940. A single collet brilliant necklace formed of forty-six graduated brilliants, £820. A group of small brooches in the shape of flowers of brilliants, rosebuds, &c., were sold separately, but in reality formed a suite to set in a frame and form a tiara; the seven parts sold for £107. A large brilliant brooch, of scroll design, with cluster centre and drop, suitable for wearing with the tiara, brought £211. One stone was missing from the brooch. The miniatures were only eight in number, none of them remarkable. The black lace consisted of Chantilly and Spanish, in scarves, flounces, mantillas, &c. The white lace was miscellaneous, some very fine Alençon, and some very ordinary Maltese; a good many collars, varying in quality, and a few lace-bordered handkerchiefs. The small lengths of point d'Alençon were very delicate and valuable. But the best specimens were the Venetian and Spanish point laces, of the old needle point, which a few years ago could occasionally be met with on the Continent, now to be more readily met with in London. Interest centred in one lot consisting of a flounce and berthe of 17th century old Venetian point, said to have been upon the wedding-dress of Marie Antoinette. The design consisted of figures, coats of arms, and letters worked in, M.A. The flounce was 134 inches long, 24 inches deep; the berthe 48 inches long by 8½ deep. The price given for the two pieces was £236 5s. A flounce of old Spanish point, four yards long, £18 18s.; an old Spanish point apron, £27 6s.; an old point de Genes flounce, 3½ yards long, and 25 inches deep, £22 11s. 6d.; and a point de Milan flounce, four yards long and 18 inches deep, £20.; two pieces of reticella, measuring six yards, £17 6s. 6d. These were the principal pieces of lace sold, at least those that realised the best prices. The shawls were less remarkable, a few Indian, some Turkish, and some China silk shawls. The furs sold were of comparative unimportance; probably some had been bequeathed specially, for those sold were chiefly in skins, not made up, excepting some ermine and grebe.

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.

GORDON'S EXTRACT

Is as much a Curative for Dyspepsia (Indigestion), Liver Complaint, and Kidney Diseases, as Bread for Hunger, or Water for Thirst.

Cures Coated Tongue, Dizzy Head, Bilious Vomit, Stomach Miseries, Agonies after Food, Accidental Indigestion, Chronic Dyspepsia, and a Hundred other Disagreeable and Painful Symptoms. "Gordon's Extract," Two Shillings, at all Chemists.

"GORDON'S EXTRACT" saved her children from being motherless as well as fatherless.

November 29, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—I write to thank you for the two bottles of "Gordon's Extract" you so kindly gave me, and I am happy to say I am much better. I was suffering from a dreadful form of indigestion. I could not drink a drop of tea or coffee for months, if I did I suffered dreadful with the wind. At times I have been almost choked, continually belching up wind until my throat swelled so much I have had to struggle for my breath. Then I was seized with a dreadful trembling in my inside and all my limbs, with an awful sensation as though I was going out of my mind, and kept bursting into tears. I felt afraid to be left alone. No one but the Lord and myself knows what I have suffered; I also got very irritable. I am happy to say the above symptoms I have described have nearly all disappeared, and I have only taken one bottle and half the second bottle, and I do hope by the time I have finished taking that I shall be quite well, but if I had the means, I should always keep some by me, for this is the second attack I have had, and the second time your valuable medicine, "Gordon's Extract," has saved my life. I can now take a cup of tea and enjoy it without feeling any pain. I have given all your books away, and have and shall continue to recommend it to every one I know. You are quite welcome to make what use you like of this letter, or anyone can come and see me or write to me, and I will tell them that your "Gordon's Extract" has twice saved my life, and my poor children from being left motherless as well as fatherless.

Yours truly grateful,
MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREYS.
3, Briggs Row, Lower Richmond Road, Putney.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A SONG.

When the summer sun was shining
In the lovely azure sky,
And the flowers were blooming brightly,
Then they took me home to die.

Thinking ere the flowers were faded,
Or the summer on the wane,
Quiet and for ever silent
I should be released from pain.

Little knowing "Gordon's Extract"
Would renew my life once more,
And the boy they loved and cherished,
Should be merry as of yore.

Thanking God for every mercy,
And the heaven-sent cure renowned,
Which restored the life fast waning,
Making me both strong and sound.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

What a Ladies' Fashion Journal, of large circulation, says:—

"'Gordon's Extract' has been highly commended to me by a friend who appears to have derived great benefit from it, and who, having arrived at the last hour of despair of ever curing a long course of sick headache, took the 'Extract' without any faith in its efficacy at first. This opinion, however, was speedily changed, as a gradual but steady return to health testified to the genuine good done by a regular course of the medicine. At present my friend cannot speak too highly of the excellence of 'Gordon's Extract' in curing sick headache and biliousness. It also appears to be beneficial for many of the complaints to which flesh is heir, but which are not so serious as to need the doctor's aid. The 'Extract' is sold by all chemists at 2s. per bottle, and is by no means disagreeable to the taste."—*Myra's Journal* (*The Silkworm*), August, 1885.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A CASE.

They said that he was dying.
I watched him day and night.
I fancied every moment
The spirit would take flight.
His life was hanging merely
Upon the faintest breath,
Physicians told me sadly
It was the approach of death.
But a dear friend I cherish
A medicine famed did bring:
He soon began to flourish,
To bloom as flowers in spring.
'Twas "Gordon's splendid Extract,"
Which I now gladly bless,
Restoring life and health to him,
To me true happiness.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

LUMPS AS LARGE AS A MUSSEL-SHELL.

34, King George Street, Greenwich, S.E.
November 11th, 1885.

DEAR SIRS,—May I be allowed to add humble testimony in praise of your valuable "Extract," which by God's blessing did me more good than all the medicine I got from two hospitals and three other doctors. I was suffering from extreme weakness, which brought on skin eruption, and on some parts of my body rose up in lumps as large as a great mussel-shell, that I could not bear myself for irritation. After suffering some months I read of a man who had suffered from a similar complaint. I had not taken half of one bottle before I found great relief. Before I had the "Extract" I was constantly rubbing myself with ointment, but since taking it have not wanted to use it. I have since bought and taken two bottles, and am happy to say I am so far well to be able to work.—I am, dear sirs, Yours respectfully,

CHAS. PARKES.

CURIOUS CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

What's in a name? Very much, sometimes. As an instance it transpires that a Judgment was recently given in a County Court against Messrs. P. & P. Campbell, proprietors of the Perth Dye Works (whose Head London Office is at 39, New Oxford Street), whereas they were in no way implicated in the matter, and no summons was even served upon them.

It appears that two New Firms of Dyers have lately adopted titles so nearly alike to Messrs. P. & P. Campbell's, that the Plaintiff in an action against one of these, thinking he had been dealing with the justly celebrated firm, P. & P. Campbell, sued them instead of one of these New Companies, and the chain of blunders was completed by the County Court official delivering Summons at a wrong address, where it had been thrown aside.

As the "Court Circular" of Feb. 27th, says:—"It is rather hard on this well-known and old-established Firm, whose name is as familiar as household words, that they should have to meet a claim due by others, but it clearly indicates that their Firm is above all others the most noted."

AN aged coloured man, hastening home from church, was asked why he was in such a hurry. "Oh, nothin' pestiklar, boss," was his answer; "only I jes heerd at Conf'rence dat Sam Johnson's fell f'm grace, an' I thought I'd get right home 's soon 's I could an' lock up my chickens! Dat's all."

ON board a steamboat an old lady said to a very pompous-looking gentleman who was talking about a communication: "Pray, sir, what is steam?" "Steam, ma'am, is ah—steam is—eh! ah!—steam is steam." "I knew that chap couldn't tell ye," said a rough-looking fellow standing by, "but steam is a bucket of water in a tremendous perspiration."

INJURIOUS INSECTS.—The second of Mr. Charles Whitehead's reports on insects injurious to agricultural crops has been issued by the Agricultural Department. The first report referred to insects injurious to the hop crop, and it was originally intended to confine the second to the pests which prey upon corn crops; but it has been found desirable to include the most important of the insects which attack pulse crops, grass, and clover. The report, which is illustrated, is very interesting and instructive, the life history and means of prevention and destruction of each insect described being given.

ARTIFICIAL MANURES.—As the time for the application of artificial manures is approaching, a comparison instituted by Professor Church between sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda as sources of nitrogen is particularly seasonable. The former manure is much more generally used by farmers than the latter, because it has been for a longer period placed before them at a moderate price. But the extensive manufacture of sulphate of ammonia in gas-works has lately reduced the price greatly, and in Professor Church's opinion it is now cheaper than the rival manure as a source of nitrogen. That this opinion is probably being circulated in the interest of gas companies should not raise a prejudice against it; for, apart from the fact that Professor Church stakes his high reputation upon his statements, any farmer may easily verify the facts and figures put before him. Sulphate of ammonia is made at home, while nitrate of soda is imported; and that fact alone is sufficient to justify an attempt to popularise the use of a comparatively neglected manure. If at the present time the home-made manure is cheaper in proportion to intrinsic value than the foreign one, its use may fairly be recommended until the position is reversed—a result easily to be ascertained by the figures supplied by Professor Church. At Rothamsted nitrate of soda applied to wheat has had the best of it in comparative trials; but this the professor believes to be accounted for by the application of the sulphate in autumn, and a consequent loss during the rainy season of winter; while the nitrate has been applied in spring, when there is less chance of loss. At Woburn, where both manures have been applied in spring, it is stated that sulphate of ammonia has given the better results. Each manure has its particular advantages and disadvantages, and there is probably no appreciable difference between the value of a given quantity of nitrogen in the one and the same amount in the other. If that be the case, the sulphate is unquestionably the cheaper manure at present prices. Nitrate of soda, of good quality, contains nitrogen equal to 19 per cent. of ammonia, while sulphate of ammonia contains at least 24 per cent. Thus there is as much ammonia in 1 ton of the sulphate as in 1 ton 5¼ cwt. of the nitrate, and as the current price of the latter is £11 5s per ton, the equivalent price of the sulphate would be £14 4s., whereas it is only £12 5s. Moreover, the sulphate is much less liable to adulteration than the nitrate. In this connection it will be useful to inform buyers that there is a very simple test for the purity of sulphate of ammonia. A pinch of it thrown on a red-hot tile or iron shovel will wholly disappear if it be genuine.

FARM CHANGES IN THE DISTRICT.—The farm of Dilston Mill has been let to Mr Thompson, of Broomhaugh, Riding Mill; and Prospect Hill Farm has been let to Mr Osborne, of Shotley.

"RUPTURES."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Picadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

PROPOSED TOWN HALL.—A public meeting was held in the School-room of the United Methodist Free Church, on Friday night, in connection with the proposal to build a Town Hall for Corbridge Dr McLean presided.—It was moved by Mr E Sisterton, and seconded by Mr Grabham, and carried, that it is desirable to have a Town Hall for Corbridge.—Mr C. G. Young then moved that a limited liability company be formed, with a capital not to exceed £2,000, *i.e.*, a thousand shares at £2 each.—Mr T. Reed seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.—A Provisional Committee was appointed. — Mr H. Fenwick had offered to take shares to the amount of £100, Mr J. C. Straker, Mr Jos. Straker, and Mr F. M. Laing, £50 each, and several gentlemen £25 each.—The usual votes of thanks closed the meeting.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Gout.—These purifying and soothing remedies demand the earnest attention of all persons liable to gout, sciatica, or other painful affections of the muscles, nerves, or joints. The Ointment should be applied after the affected parts have been patiently fomented with warm water, when the unguent should be diligently rubbed upon the adjacent skin, unless the friction should cause pain. Holloway's Pills should be simultaneously taken to reduce inflammation and to purify the blood. This treatment abates the violence, and lessens the frequency of gout, rheumatism, and all spasmodic diseases, which spring from hereditary predisposition, or from any accidental weakness of constitution. This Ointment checks the local mischief. The Pills restore the vital powers.

A MAN may be bold in business, brave in battle, and courageous in time of danger, but the small brother of the girl he is courting will often knock him out in one round.

"MISS, what is your exact age?" asked a gentleman of a young lady at a soiree. "When I go out with my papa, I am 15 years of age; when I am with mamma, only 12."

DROPS of water falling continuously upon a two-inch oak plank would wear a hole through it in about thirty-five years. Moral: Drink beer.

"WHAT is the matter with the baby?" asked a lady of a little girl whose baby brother she had understood to be ailing. "Oh, nothin' much," was the answer; "he's only hatchin' teeth."

AT a college-examination a professor asked, "Does the question embarrass you?" "Not at all, sir," replied the student—"not at all. It's quite clear. It is the answer that bothers me!"

ARTISTIC Fever and the Cause.—"Looking at your drawing imbues me with an artistic fever," remarked Smyth to Miss Lulu. "I thought so; it's sketching," quietly replied Miss Lulu.

"IS anybody waiting on you?" said a polite salesman to a young lady from the country. "Yes, sir," replied the blushing damsel. "That's my young man outside; he wouldn't come into the shop."

IN these hard times it is well for housekeepers to remember the remark of the great mustard maker, who said that he made his money not out of the mustard eaten, but out of the mustard left on the plates.

A WORD TO THE WISE

Being Warnings and Counsel to Young Men on Marriage, the Cause and Cure of Consumption, Loss of Flesh, Spitting of Blood, Weakness, Local Debility, Loss of Memory, Lassitude, Lowness of Spirits, Languidness, Incapacity for Exertion, Study, or Business, the Mind Irritable and Desponding, Palpitation of the Heart upon the least excitement, want of Vital Energy, Nervous Debility, Dimness of Sight, Premature Decay, and other fatal Diseases, which generally result from unskilful treatment and ignorance of nature's laws, with clear instructions to regain robust health and vigorous manhood. Sent free on receipt of 4 stamps. Address, Messrs. WILKINSON & Co., 8, Baker's Hill, Fitzalan Square, Sheffield, Eng.

1830. ESTABLISHED 1830.

10 TO 15 PERCENT. Bona-fide INVESTMENTS. For SECURITIES for Prompt SALE obtainable to pay above.—Address, CROSBY, Auctioneer, West Hartlepool.

THE SOUTHWARK LEAD & GLASS Co., Rose Alley Warehouses, Park St., London, S.E. LOWEST CASH PRICES to the Trade for Sheet Lead and Pipe, Sheet Zinc, Tin, Solder, British and Foreign Glass, White Lead, Oils, Colours, Varnishes, Plumbers' Brass Work, Wrought Iron Tubing, Rain Water Castings, &c. Prices Current on application.

DR G. H. JONES SURGEON-DENTIST. Pamphlet, with list of Awards, Diplomas, Gold and Silver Medals, by post. Consultation free.

SODA WATER MACHINE. Easy Terms—Two Years. A LIVING FOR A TRIFLE. WILCOCK'S Celebrated Soda Water, Lemonade, and Ginger Beer Machine. Makes all the mineral and aerated drinks. With the valuable recipes and directions sent any one can work it, it is so simple. Transactions are strictly private; no gazette registration required. Successfully carried out for some years on a large and liberal scale. I can satisfy the customer by the testimony of hundreds in the trade, that in dealing with me he will obtain just and honest treatment, and that the machinery I supply is of the soundest materials, constructed with the highest skill, made from the newest patterns, and well finished. Model factory on show at Bath in work. Particulars of E. G. WILCOCKS, BACK ST., BATH. [545

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS & LIVER PILLS. THE SAFEST MEDICINE. THE MOST EFFECTUAL MEDICINE. PREPARED WITHOUT MERCURY.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS & LIVER PILLS. CURE HEADACHE AND SICKNESS. CURE FLATULENCE AND HEARTBURN. CURE ALL BILIOUS AFFECTIONS.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS & LIVER PILLS. ARE A TONIC PURIFIER. STRENGTHEN THE WHOLE SYSTEM. INDUCE CHEERFULNESS.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS & LIVER PILLS. Some unscrupulous persons, for the sake of making a larger profit, may try to persuade you to buy some preparation of their own. Do not do so, but insist on having Dr. Scott's Bilious and Liver Pills, which are wrapped in a square green package bearing the name of the proprietor, W. LAMBERT, 173, Seymour Place, London, W., by post for 14 or 36 stamps. [54

NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION FOR MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE. FOUNDED 1835. FUNDS, £4,180,000. Claims Paid, £6,500,000. Profits Declared, £3,400,000. IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS. *Economical Management. Liberal Conditions. Large Bonuses.* 48, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON. AGENTS WANTED WHERE NOT REPRESENTED.

UNION LINE, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, NATAL AND EAST AFRICAN STEAMERS.—The Union S. S. Company's Mail Packets sail from SOUTHAMPTON every alternate Thursday, and from Plymouth the following day. For Passage or Freight apply at the Company's Offices, Oriental Place, Southampton; or 11, Leadenhall Street, London.

DENT'S PATENT GLOVE CLASP. BUTTONS SUPERSEDED. The difficulty in buttoning the second Glove when the first is on the hand is overcome by this Fastening. For Driving and heavy Leather Gloves it is invaluable. Each Clasp acts as a lever, drawing the Glove closely round the wrist and arm. Does not catch in other articles of dress. *Retail of Hosiers, Glovers, and Drapers everywhere.* WHOLESALE ONLY, 27, WOOD ST., LONDON. See that each Clasp bears the word "DENT."

REX COAL IGNITER. 864 FIRES can be quickly lighted without either wood or paper for Fifteen Shillings. No dirt or smell. Forwarded carriage paid and case free to any part of the United Kingdom. Send cash or reference with order to THE PATENT FUEL Co., 27, Cannon Street, Manchester.

8/6 TROUSERS to Order.



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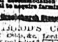
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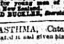
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LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting took place on Wednesday afternoon, at the new Public Offices in Front Street, Leadgate, under the presidency of Mr R. W. Shaw (chairman). The members present were Messrs G. Nicholson, Wm. Brown, H. Kinleside, J. Davison, E. Todd, J. J. Hedley, M. Robson, L. Nicholson, Thos. Lammonby, J. H. Hudson, the clerk (Mr M. Coupland), and the surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff).

THE PUBLIC RECREATION GROUND.

The amended agreement entered into between the Board and the Consett Iron Company for the transfer of a large field at Redwell Hills for the purposes of a recreation ground for the use of the inhabitants of Leadgate, was read over by the Clerk.

Mr G. Nicholson thought it advisable for to have extracts from the agreement, together with bye laws, printed in pamphlet form, so that the public could see the terms upon which the ground was transferred by the Company to the Board.

In the course of the discussion that followed, Mr G. Nicholson said the field would not be allowed for public meetings, especially political gatherings.

Mr Hudson thought they might permit religious services and camp-meetings to be held in the field.

Mr L. Nicholson and Mr Robson urged that they ought not to allow meetings of any description to take place in the field.

The Clerk said the agreement debarred them from permitting any public meetings in the recreation ground.

Mr Geo. Nicholson considered that Sunday scholars' treats and festivals might be held therein.

Mr Robson objected, on the ground that the field was for the use of the inhabitants to walk about and roll over in at their leisure.

Mr Hudson explained that, if it was really a recreation ground, there would be football and cricket matches, horse and foot racing, wrestling, and other sports allowed.

Mr Lammonby protested against the ground being used for sporting purposes, if religious gatherings, such as Sunday-school treats and camp-meetings, were not permitted.

Mr L. Nicholson stated that there was once a Sunday scholars' festival held in that field, and a very pleasant and enjoyable day they spent.

Mr Brown: It would have to be a very calm day, or all the hair would be blown off their heads. (Laughter.)

Mr Robson, for one, would certainly object to cricket and football matches, and such-like sports, being played therein.

Mr Hudson explained that the ground was granted to the Board for recreative purposes, and if they conformed to the provisions of the agreement, they must allow harmless sports to be held in the ground. The place was for school children and grown-up young fellows to disport themselves therein. If not for this object, what was the ground for?

Mr Lammonby: If religious gatherings are not permitted to take place in the ground, I certainly would not allow sports, which would tend to do more harm than good. The argument cuts both ways; one class of people have as much right to the use of the ground as the other.

Mr G. Nicholson pointed out that if they allowed a camp-meeting to be held in the field, some people of opposite convictions might get in their midst, and a discordant element might be introduced, which might cause some little disturbance.

Mr Lammonby was not the least afraid of such a result.

Mr G. Nicholson stated that there could not be any harm in allowing schools treat, and letting the children play and romp about, or even addressed by the clergy and ministers.

The discussion was protracted for some time longer, the Chairman remarking that it was a most interesting conversation.

Eventually, it was decided to seal the agreement.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT: THE SNOWSTORM.

The Surveyor (Mr Longstaff) submitted the subjoined report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—Since your last monthly meeting, the undermentioned work has been done, and accounts for the same will be laid before you to-day:—

Durham Main Road.—About 15 tons of limestone laid on, at the west end of the road, and the other manual labour for a fortnight at the beginning of the month was hacking up, shovelling snow, &c.

Other Roads.—The same remark applies to the other roads. Burnhouse, and Iveston Village and Bank: I have had 40 yards carted and laid on. Watling Street: Your day road-workmen have broken part slag, and I have taken a few small lots of slag from different parties who had it already broken, and had the same carted and laid on; also for your footpaths in the streets of Leadgate, your day-workmen have been getting small slag, &c., in the heaps in frosty weather. An account will be before you for snow shovelling during last week, which money I have paid.

I think it is many a year since I saw so much snow fall in so short a time. All the roads were more or less blocked up. The whole length of Durham Main Road was to cut out. Near the Iveston New Inn and towards the pit the snow was lying from four to nine feet deep. At the north end of Watling Street there is a deep cutting; and the snow lay principally on the roads from north to south. I had the snow-plough out on Tuesday, March 2nd, and a very rough journey we had, and exceedingly heavy work for the horses; but fortunately we had six very powerful animals attached to the plough. The total cost from the 2nd to the 5th March for cutting and snow-ploughing was under £15.

Annexed are the monthly pay-bills (which include snow-cutting and ploughing):—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Durham Main Road:						
Manual labour	9	1	4			
Team do.	1	4	9			
				10	6	1
Other roads:						
Manual labour	14	6	11			
Team do.	5	3	3			
				19	10	2
Total				29	16	3

The report was adopted, Mr L. Nicholson and Mr Hudson remarking that the greatest credit was due to the Surveyor for the expeditious manner in which he had managed to get the roads opened and the snow accumulations cleared away.

Mr Brown thought it ought to be inscribed on the history of the annals of Leadgate the testimony of an old man like the Surveyor regarding the snowstorm. (Laughter.)

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—As regards the sanitary state of your district, I have seen very little of it this month in consequence of the snow. In the middle of February part ashes and manure were carried away; but since last week no refuse I think will have been carted out, on account of the yards being blocked up. Gas burnt in February, 178 hours. The gas has been burning very badly on account of the frost. I do not know whether the frosty weather is beneficial to the Gas Company or not, but at all events, it has not been good for the people, as the lights have been burning exceedingly badly of late, and part of the lamps were not burning at all.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

T. Longstaff.

The Surveyor stated, in answer to the members, that nine of the lamps were not burning for a fortnight; and the feeling of the Board appeared to be that the Gas Company should make some arrangement for this defect, it being stated that the whole of the lamps shed a very poor light during the prevelance of the severe weather.

After some discussion, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr G. Nicholson, and seconded by Mr Robson, that the Gas Committee make a general inspection of the lamps in the district, and report at the next meeting.

The Clerk in the meantime was instructed to write and ask the Shotley Bridge Gas Company either to make some reduction on account of the nine lamps not being kept burning for a fortnight, or to undertake to prolong the period for lighting the district.

The Clerk referred to the agreement, and ascertained that no allowance was made for lamps blown out during tempestuous weather; and Mr Brown said it could hardly be expected that the lamps could withstand the recent storm.

FURNISHING THE NEW BOARD-ROOM.

The Chairman produced Mr T. Raine's account for furnishing and decorating the Board-room. The original contract was £21 10s; but the "extras" had increased that amount to £33 9s 7½d.

Mr Hudson considered that the extras were "something fearful." He thought that the Committee had not much knowledge of what they had been about.

Mr G. Nicholson explained that it was in consequence of various items which were unforeseen when the contract was let, after which period certain matters cropped up which had to be attended to. The affair was quite new to them, and he confessed that they had been a little ignorant on the point. The work, however, had been executed exceedingly well, and he did not think there was anything exorbitant in the account.

Mr Robson said the bill was very reasonable, and if the whole of the work had been let by contract, he did not suppose it could have been done any cheaper or better.

Mr G. Nicholson, replying to Mr Hudson, stated that he had scrutinised the account.

Mr L. Nicholson moved that the bill be paid, and likewise that the best thanks be tendered to the Committee for the excellent arrangements made for their accommodation.

This was seconded by Mr Lammonby, and the motion was adopted.

Mr G. Nicholson briefly acknowledged the compliment.

THE FINANCES.

The Clerk announced that he had received £17 16s 5d as Government grant towards the Inspector's salary, the sum of £2 3s 7d having been deducted for two months that elapsed between the expiration of the Inspector's term of office and his re-appointment. There was in the treasurer's hands at present £125 15s 10d; and their liabilities during the present month—including £45 for the officers' salaries, which must be paid, according to the instructions of the Auditor, before the 25th of March—would leave them with £12 to be carried forward to the ensuing month. There was only about £1 outstanding on account of the General District Rae.

The members thought that £12 was insufficient to meeting the expenditure for March, especially if another storm came on, which would entail additional snow-cutting, and some suggested that Mr Raine's account stand over for another month; but Mr G. Nicholson stated that the man was pressing for his money.

Ultimately, it was resolved to pay the whole of the accounts, and carry the £12 forward to another month, even if the Board were obliged to overdraw their account in the bank to meet their requirements.

NEW RATE.

It was further agreed on the proposition of Mr Hudson, seconded by Mr Robson, to levy a rate of 8d in the pound for the next half-year—the Clerk being of opinion that this sum would cover the expenditure, the rateable value having slightly increased during the past six months—and that the same be sealed at a special meeting of the Board to be held on the 23rd inst.

THE ANNUAL CONTEST.

The four members retiring by rotation are Messrs L. Nicholson, J. J. Hedley, J. H. Hudson, and M. Robson.

The Chairman, as Returning Officer, was empowered to employ the necessary assistance for carrying out the election.

There was no other business before the meeting.

THE LATE DR WATSON, OF BURNOPFIELD.

The public will regret to hear of the death of H. W. Watson, Esq., of Burnopfield House. The deceased gentleman was a native of Burnopfield, and for a number of years practised as a medical man in Burnopfield, and the surrounding districts of Tanfield, Marley Hill, Whickham, Spen Colliery, &c., and was one of the few whose advice and assistance was eagerly sought from all parts of the country, and during which time he gained, by his straightforward and manly character, the respect of all who knew him.

It is, however, as a coalowner that we wish to make reference to him here. He leased Hamsterley about the year 1866, and after surmounting numerous difficulties, he, by dint of perseverance, succeeded in establishing Hamsterley Colliery, which has done so much to enrich the district, and provide employment for hundreds of working men, who deeply lament the loss of so esteemed and respected a master.

He devoted the whole of his time to the study and development of his colliery and the welfare of his workmen, and his greatest pleasure and delight being to work peaceably and on friendly terms with his men, and to provide, as far as possible, constant and steady employment, and this he did in a manner which will make his name long to be remembered.

Trade disputes sometimes ending in strikes—which in many cases have done so much harm and created so much bad feeling between masters and workmen—were a thing unknown at Hamsterley Colliery. When anything required to be settled, he always preferred to meet his men face to face, and discuss their grievances, which discussion always resulted in a friendly settlement. Perhaps the kind manner in which he treated his workmen had not a little to do with this. There was no bullying; the workmen were not made to feel that they were in the presence of some august authority, but of a man like themselves, they were made to feel that their interests were identical, and that the prosperity of the one meant the welfare and comfort of the other.

After a long and protracted illness, he died at his residence at Burnopfield, on Thursday morning, at the age of 65 years. The announcement of his death was received at the colliery with deep expressions of regret, especially by Mr W. Allan, the manager, who had been in his employ for a number of years, and to whom he had been not only a good master, but a kind friend.

The funeral of the late Mr H. W. Watson, took place on Monday in the parish churchyard. The officiating clergymen were the Rev Canon Lintot and the Rev T. Stirrup, vicar of the parish. The whole of the family of the deceased were present. The funeral was entirely of a private nature, no invitations having been issued. In spite of this, however, large numbers attended to show a last token of respect to one who was so highly respected in the neighbourhood. Amongst those present were the Revs W. Cockin and F. Marriner, Medomsley; Rev T. H. Archdall, Tanfield; the Hon. Mr Vereker and Miss Surtees, Hamsterley Hall; Mr C. W. Mitchell, Jesmond Towers; Mr W. M. Annandale, Lintz Ford; Mr R. Clark, Lintz Green House; Mr Strange, R.A., Mr Balleny, Ebchester; Mr P. M. Brutton and Mr F. Priestman, Shotley Bridge; Dr Wicks, and many others The service was choral. The coffin was entirely covered with beautiful wreaths from relatives and friends, the centre being one sent by the officials of Hamsterley Colliery, and the coffin was borne to the grave by 12 of the oldest workmen.

For some time past the superintendence of the colliery has been in the hands of his son, Mr H. W. Watson. The earnest hope of the workmen is that the same good feeling which has existed heretofore may still continue.

Two Salvation "lasses" are holding meetings nightly in te clubroom of a Crook public-house.

School Board.—The monthly meeting was held in the Board Room, Crook, on Monday, the chair being occupied by Mr J. Gowland. The officer's report stated that there had been a marked improvement in the attendance during the month of February as compared with the previous month, especially in the senior schools. At Sunnybrow on Feb. 23rd, 45 children down with measles, and the school has since been closed for a fortnight. Number of children on the books:—Crook Board School, 904; Roman Catholic, 330; Helmington Row, 270; Sunnybrow, 322; Billy Row, 308; Stanley British, 362; Sunniside, 292; total, 2,788. Average attendance:—Crook Board Schools, 752; Roman Catholic, 236; Helmington Row, 232; Sunnybrew, 232; Billy Row, 233; Stanley, 305; Sunniside, 210; total, 2,200.

Mission services have been conducted at Lumley Thicks by Mr Nairn, the Scottish Evangelist. Notwithstanding the snowstorm, good congregations have attended, and success has been realised.

On Tuesday afternoon, the annual Shrovetide football match took place at Chester-le-Street. The play was up and down the street, and a vast number of people from the district all round took part in the game.

ACCIDENT AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE PAPER MILLS.

At Shotley Grove Paper Mills, late on Monday night, whilst Andrew Darrie, one of the firemen, was thawing a frozen steam-gauge, he was caught by a shaft for driving the mechanical stokers. The coupling bolts clutched his jacket, and swung him round and round. The shaft, however, revolves at a moderate speed, so that he had time to make efforts to liberate himself. He shouted for assistance, but his cries were in vain; no one working near to him. There seemed no alternative but a struggle on betwixt life and death. In going round the shaft, his legs caught a gas bracket and broke it, the escaping gas being very nauseous. His feet also broke the water-gauge glass; fortunately the steam did not come freely out, or he might have been scalded to death. Sometimes his legs became entangled in the machinery; but by a desperate effort he managed to get them free again. With thus struggling, his linen jacket gave way, but the moleskin waistcoat meanwhile caught in the couplers, and he was obliged to struggle on till these also gave way. Unfortunately, the luckless man was not free yet; for behold! his shirts had attached themselves on to the smooth part of the shaft further along. He was able, however, to prevent himself from being whirled around. The smooth part of the shaft slipped in the shirt, but he was tightly wrenched up to the shaft, which was working close to his chin. He was now afraid that he was going to be choked, but his shirt button gave way, and the strain came upon his shoulders. The steam was getting low, and stopped some part of the machinery. When the firemen came to see the cause, they found Darrie in this perilous position, quite sensible. He directed them to run and stop the engine, after which he was cut off and relieved, being three-quarter's-of-an-hour in the frightful position. Happily, he is possessed of a strong constitution, as ordinary people would in all probability have succumbed during the struggle, and he never lost consciousness all the time. Dr Richards was promptly in attendance, and found, as far as a superficial examination could be made, no serious injury, but there was a severe shock to the system. One of his legs was much swollen. The docter advised the workmen to make Darrie as warm and comfortable as possible, and get him conveyed home when daylight appeared. Nothing was spared in carrying out these orders. On the following morning, he was conveyed home in a long cart with abundance of soft woollen felts to keep him warm, and a squad of men to cut a road through the snow-drifts. He appears to be doing well, and has not, to all appearances, received permanent injury.

PERFORMANCE OF "THE MESSIAH" AT CONSETT.

The members of the Consett and District Choral Society, which was in the height of its prosperity at no distant period, but has remained in partial obscurity—so far as public concerts have been concerned—for the past year or two, made their *debut* this season, by giving a grand performance of Handel's "Messiah" in the New Town Hall, Consett, last (Thursday) night, and we are happy to state that the event proved to be a brilliant success, whether regarded as a musical or simply as a financial venture. The rehearsal of such a composition as "The Messiah" during the Lenten season may perhaps be averse to the susceptibilities of strict-going Church people, the piece being pre-eminently adapted to Christmas or Eastertide; but the promoters originally fixed the date of the concert for Shrove Tuesday, and were obliged to postpone it in consequence of the leading artists having secured engagements for that particular day. The committee, however, are to be congratulated upon making such a happy selection in the choice of their principal vocalists; and the names of the singers announced to appear were sufficient to guarantee a "bumping" house, independent of the intrinsic merits of the piece or pieces to be reproduced; but when the composition selected is Handel's masterpiece, the issue of such an undertaking is doubly assured. The beautiful and entrancing music introduced in "The Messiah" is sufficiently popular to all classes that it would be a superfluous task for us to sound its praises; but this much we may perhaps be permitted to say, that it is only once in a lifetime that the inhabitants of this region have had such a golden opportunity afforded them of hearing this piece so admirably rehearsed in their midst as it was executed on the present occasion. The result is due, to a great extent, to the well-known capabilities of the first-class soloists; but the effect would not have been so harmonious if the choruses had not apparently been rendered to the satisfaction of the most searching *critique*. In the present instance, the members of the choral class, in order that there should be no failure in this respect, have laboured with unceasing energy to attain the height of perfection; and this is mainly owing to the persevering efforts of their worthy conductor, Mr C. Stephenson, who is one of the most prominent and enterprising of our local musicians, and deserves the utmost credit for so efficiently and effectively discharging the duties appertaining to his arduous position. The manner in which the Choral Society sustained their respective parts evoked the warmest encomiums. The several artistes who appeared last night were Madame Emelie Clarke, of the Crystal Palace Concerts (soprano); Madame Hall-Atkin (the eminent contralto); Mr D. S. Macdonald (tenor) and Mr C. Goodhead (bass), both of Durham Cathedral Choir. These artistes, who are alone a host in themselves, were supplemented by a full chorus, composed of about 150 voices, arranged and conducted by Mr Stephenson. A powerful and effective orchestral band was also stationed on the platform, and was under the able direction of Mr J. H. Beers. The performers, mostly belonging to this locality, assisted by a few professionals, were as follows:—First violins—Messrs W. H. Beers (principal), Liddle, Thos. Nixon, and E. Williams; second violins—Messrs Percy Lax, F. Eltringham, and Horsley; violin—Mr George Irons; cellos—Messrs George Baker and Magall; contra basso—Mr J. H. Amers; flutes—Messrs A. W. Arlom and Jon. Stephenson; clarionet—Mr R. Smith; solo trumpet—Mr J. Monkhouse; oboe—Mr F. E. Thorpe; basson—Mr G. Cunningham; tympani—Mr W. Heslop; American organ—Mr John Surtees. It is not our intention to speak of the numerous items set forth the programme in *seriatim*; suffice it to say that Madame Clarke and Madame Hall-Atkin rendered their pieces in a most accomplished and acceptable style, being rewarded with the enrapturous plaudits of a delighted audience, and likewise succeeded in gaining several *encores*. Too much praise, moreover, cannot be bestowed upon Mr MacDonald, who appeared to be it excellent trim; and the beautiful singing of Mr Goodhead was greatly admired and appreciated, both gentlemen being greeted with rounds of deafening applause. The choral class even excelled all their preceding efforts; whilst the orchestral accompaniments and instrumental selections were faultlessly rendered. The spacious Hall was crowded to excess prior to the opening of the concert, and many people, we understand, were turned away from the doors for want of space. This may be accounted for by the fact that the prices of admission were so low as to be within the range of all classes of the community. The front seats were occupied by a fashionable company, comprised of the *elite* of Consett, Shotley Bridge, and the surrounding neighbourhood. The following was the programme:—Part I.: Overture, the band; recitative, "Comfort ye my people," and air, "Ev'ry valley," Mr Macdonald; chorus, "And the glory," the choir; recitative, "Thus said the Lord," and air, "But who may abide," Mr Goodhead; chorus, "And He shall purify," choir; recitative, "Behold a virgin," and air and chorus, "O Thou that tellest," Madame Hall-Atkin; recitative, "For behold darkness," and air, "The people that walked," Mr Goodhead; chorus, "For unto us a Child is born," the choir; pastoral symphony, the band; recitatives, "There were shepherds," "And, lo! the angel of the Lord," "And the angel said," and "And suddenly there was," Madame Clarke; chorus, "Glory to God," the choir; air, "Rejoice greatly," Madame Clarke; recitative, "Then shall the eyes," and air, "He shall feed His flock," Madame Hall-Atkin; chorus, "His yoke is easy," the choir. Part II.—Chorus, "Behold the Lamb," the choir; air, "He was despised," Madame Hall-Atkin; chorus, "Surely He hath borne," the choir; chorus, "All we like sheep," choir; recitative, "All they that see Him," Mr Macdonald; chorus, "He trusted in God," choir; recitative, "Thy rebuke hath broken his heart," air, "Behold and see," recitative, "He was cut off," and air, "But Thou didst not leave," Mr Macdonald; chorus, "Lift up your heads," choir. (An interval of five minutes.) Recitative, "Unto which of the angels," Mr Macdonald; chorus, "Let all the angels," choir; air, "How beautiful are the feet," Madame Clarke; air, "Why do the nation?" Mr Goodhead; chorus, "Let us break their bonds asunder," choir; recitative, "He that dwelleth," and air, "Thou shalt break them," Mr Macdonald; chorus "Hallelujah," choir. Part III: Air, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," Madame Clarke; choruses, "Since by man came death," "By man came also," "For as in Adam all die," and "Even so in Christ," choir; recitative, "Behold I tell you a mystery," and air, "The trumpet shall sound," Mr Goodhead (with trumpet obligato by Mr J. Monkhouse); choruses, "Worthy is the Lamb" and "Amen," choir. No one can gainsay that the *piece de resistance* of the evening was the renowned "Hallelujah" chorus, which was performed with much vigour and spirit, the more refined pieces being exceedingly sweet and effective. It was anticipated that the programme would have been exhausted by 10·30 p.m., but what with the *encores* and the flattering reception accorded the whole of the singers—either individually or collectively—the concert did not terminate until eleven o'clock. The performance passed off exceptionally well, and the committee deserve the heartiest thanks of all for the admirable arrangements made and carried out under their supervision.

POLITE PATTERSON.

"Dead men tell no tales. Humph! I know better. Never believe such an absurd assertion, madam."

It was a tall, thin gentleman, with a gloomy countenance and a hat of the wideawake style, who made this remark to me; and he came upon me in the woods between L—— and S——, very much as though he had been a ghost. Of course it was not consistent with the laws of etiquette that he should speak, or that I should answer him, but I scarcely think that if Mrs Grundy herself should encounter in the woods a gentleman with such wild eyes, and such a curious way of rolling them about, that she would think of anything but mollifying him. Certainly I did not. I at once agreed with the stranger, and walked rather faster than before.

"I trust you are not afraid of *me*, madam," said the stranger, noticing this latter fact. "I sincerely trust that my abrupt address has not alarmed you. I have been so long exiled from society that I scarcely know how to address its fair ornaments. I have no card; no matter. You're not alarmed, madam?"

I said I was not.

"As I saw you pass the spot where I lay under the trees, madam, it struck me that you were exactly the person I desired to confide in. I consequently hastened after you. Perhaps, too, I may have desired to warn you that if you desire to be rid of a troublesome person, the very worst way is to kill him. Shut him up if you can; chain him in some black dungeon; but *don't kill* him. If you do, you never can get rid of him again—never, I assure you; never. You can lock and bar a living person out, but dead ones come to you in your most private rooms, and stand at your bedside when you wake in the night, sit at your table, follow you wherever you go." Here he looked over his shoulder, and I involuntarily looked over mine. "If you're jealous of any one, madam, don't kill her—no, no, no; it's very foolish."

"Nothing," I instantly agreed with him, "could be more foolish than to kill any one." And I was glad to know he held to this belief, and hoped he would continue to hold it until I reached the farm house of the Simpkinses.

"I am glad that we agree so well," said the stranger. "Madam, excuse my want of courtesy. Shall I offer you my arm over this rough pathway?"

I replied in a voice that sounded to my own ears like the bleating of a very meek young lamb, that, if he pleased, he must excuse me. I was obliged to hold up my dress.

He instantly assured me that my word was his law.

"Before I made my grand mistake, I was known as Polite Patterson in the elegant circles in which I moved," he added; "but since then I've become a recluse. It was a grand mistake. Yes, yes, I never should have killed him, never."

I involuntarily gave a small shriek.

"You realise at once how very foolish it was," said the tall gentleman, twisting his wideawake, and lifting his eyebrows higher than I ever saw any man lift them before; "but—yes—I killed him. I was very fond of her. Her name was Pamela Peyton—a beauty—a belle—an heiress—that however was nothing to me. I loved her for herself; and she smiled upon me until—*he* came, and he was younger, handsomer, better than I. Ah, yes, much better, much better. A pattern young man. Mothers begged their sons to imitate him; and I—Well, I confess, madam that besides being called Polite Patterson I had been called Wild Patterson. Yes, yes, it was the mamma who forced her to send me away, I know, and who encouraged him. Pamela liked me—poor Pamela; but I was driven away like a dog; and I saw her walking with him, talking with him. Once, yes, once I saw *him* kiss her. At that moment something happened to my brain. I've never mentioned it to any one, but I tell you now in confidence. I heard it snap. That is how I temporarily lost my judgment and killed him. Beg pardon. *Did* I step on your dress?"

I said, "Oh no, not at all," in a much meeker bleat than the previous one.

"It was said of me in those old days, before my grand mistake, that I never trod on a lady's dress; but all is altered now," said the gentleman, resuming the wideawake, which he had snatched off as he bowed his apologies.

"Yes, yes. In my native town there is a long street well shaded with trees, which is known as Long-road. One evening, just in the gloaming, I saw him walking along it. I walked a little behind him. He took his hat off, that the breeze might cool his head, I suppose. Oh, what beautiful curls he had! How well he walked. On his little finger was a ring—a diamond. I knew he had bought it for her, that he would give it to her that night. I began to hate him as I never hated him before. I began to make my grand mistake, by believing that if he were dead he would be out of my way.

"I carried, in those days, a pocket-knife. I drew it from its hiding-place. It was sharp. It glittered in the light. I walked a little faster. I was close behind him, but I had trodden so softly that he had not heard me. He was humming a little tune, the tune of a French love song. The knife I plunged into his back stopped a note in the middle and completed my mistake."

If only I could see the red roof of the farm-house. If only the sun were not sinking so fast, I thought. But the vista of leafy shadow spread long before me, and I dared not even hasten my steps.

"Yes, a great mistake," he said; "a *very* great mistake. He lay on his face there in the moonlight, and I heard him moan once or twice, and then gasp for breath. After a while he was still. Then I stooped and touched him. How cold he was! On the little finger of the hand that had clutched a tuft of soft, spring grass in his dying agonies, her ring glittered. It looked up at me in the moonlight, like a demon's eye. I rushed away and left him lying there. No one would ever know that I had killed him. Where do you think I went, madam? Straight to Pamela's house. I had not been there before for months, but I strode straight past the servant and into the parlour. The window was open. There were no lights in the room, but the moon fell across the floor, whiter and brighter than I had ever seen it before. Near the window sat Pamela; but before I could speak, I saw that we were not alone. Some one had entered at the door with me, and passed before me now, and sat down besider her. It was the man I had just left lying dead in Long-road. I saw his sunny curls, his handsome face, the ring on his little finger. I saw him take the ring off and put it on her finger, and as he turned to do so, I saw the knife I stabbed him with sticking out of his back, and saw that he was white and stiff as dead men are.

"I don't know any more about it. I don't know what I said. There was a trial in court, and a prison, and I saw him lying in a coffin, and five minutes after sitting on a chair beside me. I've seen him ever since, just when I did not want to see him. For instance, now. *There he comes!* Excuse me for leaving you. I used to be called Polite Patterson in my youth. I know I should escort you to your door; but I can't introduce a dead man with a knife sticking out of his back to you—to any lady. Adieu."

To my great relief he snatched off his wideawake, made a low bow, and dashed away into the woods again; while I ran the other way as I never ran before in all my life. In five minutes I met little Tommy Simpkins driving home the cows, and in five minutes more was safe within the farmhouse, where I narrated my adventure.

"Good gracious!" said Mrs. Simpkins. "I wonder you're alive. Why, that's the loony gentleman that lives in the hollow. He must have got away from the man that watches him. I believe he did kill a young man who cut him out with his girl twenty years ago, and he would have been hung only they found out he was crazy. He was in an asylum a long while, but his folks are rich, and they have him kept here now. I believe he's not dangerous, but he's rather queery."

At the time, I considered this a mild description of Mr. Patterson.

Market Reports.

Newcastle Flour, Saturday—Prices:—Hungarian 2s 0d; American, 1s 9d; No. 1 superfines, 1s 8d; superfines, 0s 0d; fines, 1s 6d; households, 1s 4d; seconds, 0s 0d; ryemeal, 1s 6d; wheatmeal, 1s 6d. Oatmeals—English, 2s 2d; Scotch, 2s 0d per stone; 4lb loaf, 6d.

Newcastle Fruit and Potato, Saturday.—Prices: Scotch potatoes, 6d to 8d; onions, 10d to 1s per stone; figs, 4d to 8d per lb; cauliflowers, 1½d to 2½d each; pears, 2d to 4d per lb; apples, 1s to 1s 8d per stone; green grapes, 6d per lb; cabbages, Roots, and other classes at late rates.

Newcastle Meat and Poultry, Saturday—

	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Prime large beef	0	9	to	0	11	Pigeons, per couple	1		to	2	6
Prime mutton	0	11		1	0	Turkeys, per lb.	1	2		0	0
Small Pork	0	9		0	11	Turkeys, poult	0	0		0	0
Veal	0	8		0	9	Partridge, brace	2	6		3	0
Lamb per lb	0	10		0	11	Pheasants	7	6		8	0
American beef	0	2½		0	6	Geese, per lb	0	10		0	0
" mutton	0	5		0	9	Goslings, each	0	0		0	0
" lamb	0	0		0	0	Hares, each	3	6		4	0
" veal	0	7		0	9½	[illegible]	2	6		3	6
" pork	0	8		0	9	Rabbits, couple	2	6		3	6
Hens, each	1	0		1	9	Ptarmigan, couple	0	0		0	0
Ducks, per couple	6	0		7	0	Black Game, brace	5	0		6	0
Ducklings, per cp.	0	0		0	0	English fresh butter, per lb.	1	3		1	6
Chickens	5	6		6	6	Fresh eggs 12 for	1s				
Wild ducks, brace	0	0		0	0	Salmon, per lb.	0	0		0	0
Quails, per couple	0	0		0	0	[illegible] trout	0	0		0	0
Grouse, per couple	0	0		0	0						

Durham Provision, Saturday.—Beef, 6d to 9d.; mutton, 6½d to 7d; veal, 6½d to 9½d; bacon, 3d to 5d; ham, 5d to 6d; cheese, 6d to 7d; lard, 5d to 6d per lb; Chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s; ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; turkeys, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; guinea fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; hares, 3s 6d to 4s each; pigeons, 1s to 1s 4d per couple; rabbits, 2s 9d to 3s 6d per couple; butter, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; do. salt, 1s to 1s 2d; butterine, 9d to 10d per lb; eggs, 7 to 8 for 1s; grapes, foreign, 4d to 8d; pears, 2d to 0d; tomatoes, 9d to 1s per lb; figs, 4d to 5d; prunes, 4d per lb; pomegranets, 1s 6d to 2s; apples, 2s to 2s 8d; onions, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; potatoes, 6d to 8d per stone.

Hexham Provisions, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb; eggs, 9 to 10 for 1s; potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone; lemons, 0d; pears, 0d to 0d per lb; apples, 2s to 0s 0d per st.; onions, 1s to 1s 6d per stone; carrots, 8d per stone; oranges, 6d to 1s per dozen; cabbages, 1d each; cucumbers, 8d to 10d each; chickens, 2s 9d to 3s 0d each; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d each; geese, 9d to 10d per lb; rabbits, 2s 8d to 3s per couple; leverets, 3s to 3s 6d; hares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each; partridges, 3s to 3s 3d per brace.

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £4 10s to £5 10s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s; new land hay, £5 0s to £6 6s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s per ton; clover hay, £0 0s to £0; wheat straw, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; barley straw, 2s 0d to 2s 2d; oat straw, 2s 4d to 2s 10d per thrave; carts of hay at market, 98; straw, 37.

Newcastle Corn, Tuesday.—Arrivals into Newcastle week ending March 5th, 1886:—Coast and rail—Wheat, 9,079; maize, —; barley, 962; oats, 355; beans, 285; peas, 106; flour, 1,745. Foreign—Wheat, —; maize, 5,875; barley, 200; oats, 60; rye, —; flour, 1,448 qrs. Wheat very slow, and sale prices are easier than last week. Maize also has a downward tendency. Scotch oats are firm and 3d dearer, while the foreign quality has advanced 6d per quarter in price. Malting barley meets with little or no demand. Peas and beans are at about late rates, while flour is dull, and rather less is taken than at last Saturday's market. The corn trade is generally quiet.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 74 head of cattle and 316 pigs from Aberdeen and the North-East Coast of Scotland, 75 beasts and — pigs from Ireland; 49 beasts, — calves, and 22 sheep from foreign countries.

Respecting quality, every description of stock was a good, seasonable average.

21 head of cattle went south yesterday to Manchester, and 4 to Wakefield.

The supply of beef comprised 2,190 head. The beef trade was dull, and there was a fair good demand for the South, and at the close a bad clearance was effected.

The number of sheep shown was 5 020. The mutton trade was steady, and nearly all changed hands; at the finish a few lots were over.

Pigs: 435 were shown. There is no change to note in the pork trade to-day.

PRICES FOR THIS DAY, SINKING THE OFFAL.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Beasts, prime heifers, per stone	7s	6d	to	7s	9d
Secondary sorts	7s	0d		7s	3d
Good steers	7s	3d		7s	6d
Middling Sorts	6s	9d		7s	0d
Cows and inferior	6s	0d		6s	6d
Pigs	4s	6d		8s	2d
Sheep, small, per lb.	0s	8½d		0s	8½d
Sheep, large fat, per lb.	0s	7½d		0s	8d
Tups and Ewes	0s	6d		0s	7d

Nos. shown:—Cattle, 2,190; sheep, 5,020; pigs, 435.

Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH.

Stations.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE Dep.	6·10	9·40	11·0	12·20	2·30	5·33	7·30
Scotswood "	6·17	9·47	11·7	12·27	2·37	5·37	7·37
Swalwell "	6·24	9·54	11·14	12·34	2·43	5·42	7·41
Rowlands Gill "	6·34	10·4	11·24	12·44	2·58	5·51	7·54
Lintz Green "	6·40	10·10	11·30	12·50	2·59	5·57	8·0
Ebchester "	6·53	10·20	11·40	1·0	3·12	6·6	8·13
Shotley Bridge "	6·59	10·24	11·44	1·4	3·18	6·10	8·19
CONSETT Arr.	7·5	10·30	11·50	1·10	3·23	6·15	8·25
CONSETT Dep.	7·10	10·32	...	1·12	3·25	6·23	
Knitsley	7·21	10·43	...	1·23	3·36	6·44	
Lanchester	7·30	10·53	...	1·32	3·45	6·53	
Witton Gilbert	7·38	11·1	...	1·40	3·53	7·1	
Aldin Grange	7·45	11·9	...	1·47	4·0	7·9	
DURHAM Arr.	7·50	11·15	...	1·52	4·5	7·15	
DURHAM Dep.	7·25	...	11·45	2·35	...	5·25	8·10
Aldin Grange "	7·32	...	11·52	2·41	...	5·32	8·17
Witton Gilbert "	7·40	...	12·0	2·48	...	5·40	8·25
Lanchester "	7·50	...	12·10	2·58	...	5·50	8·35
Knitsley "	8·2	...	12·20	3·8	...	6·0	8·45
CONSETT Arr.	8·12	...	12·30	3·18	...	6·10	8·55
CONSETT Dep.	8·15	9·10	12·33	3·25	...	6·15	9·2
Shotley Bridge "	8·20	9·15	12·38	3·30	...	6·19	9·7
Ebchester "	8·24	9·19	12·42	3·34	...	6·23	9·12
Lintz Green "	8·34	9·29	12·50	3·44	...	6·32	9·22
Rowlands Gill "	8·39	9·34	12·55	3·50	...	6·36	9·28
Swalwell "	8·47	9·42	1·3	3·57	...	6·41	9·36
Scotswood "	8·54	9·49	1·9	4·4	...	6·48	9·43
NEWCASTLE Ar	9·5	10·0	1·20	4·15	...	7·0	9·53

SUNDAYS.

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE	7·20	7·20	CONSETT dep.	8·33	8·20
Scotswood	7·27	7·27	Shotley Bridge	8·40	8·25
Swalwell	7·44	7·34	Ebchester	8·44	8·27
Rowlands Gill	7·54	7·44	Lintz Green	8·54	8·39
Lintz Green	8·0	7·50	Rowlands Gill	8·59	8·44
Ebchester	8·13	8·0	Swalwell	9·8	8·53
Shotley Bridge	8·19	8·4	Scotswood	9·14	8·59
CONSETT arr.	8·25	8·10	NEWCASTLE ar.	9·25	9·10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

First second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains:—

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.
NEWCASTLE	7·10	4·18	DURHAM dep.	7·55
Scotswood	7·17	4·22	Aldin Grange	8·1
Swalwell	7·24	4·30	Witton Gilbert	8·9
Rowlands Gill	7·34	4·40	Lanchester	8·20
Lintz Green	7·40	4·46	Knitsley	8·32
Ebchester	7·53	4·58	CONSETT and BLACKHILL a	8·45
Shotley Bridge	7·59	5·5	CONSETT and BLACKHILL d	8·50
CONSETT and BLACKHILL a	8·5	5·12	Shotley Bridge	8·55
CONSETT and BLACKHILL d	9·20	...	Ebchester	8·59
Knitsley	9·32	...	Lintz Green	9·9
Lanchester	9·41	...	Rowlands Gill	9·15
Witton Gilbert	9·50	...	Swalwell	9·22
Aldin Grange	9·59	...	Scotswood	9·29
DURHAM arr	10·5	...	NEWCASTLE dp	9·40

SALTBURN, STOCKTON, & DARLINGTON BRANCH

Stations.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE dep.	...	6·10	...	...	12·20	...	5·30
CONSETT	...	8·20	...	...	2·0	...	6·20
Rowley	...	8·30	...	...	2·10	...	6·29
Burnhill	...	8·40	...	...	2·20	...	6·38
Tow Law	7·20	[illegible]	...	12.50	2·33	...	6·51
CROOK arr.	7·32	[illegible]	...	1·2	2·45	...	7·3
" dep.	7·35	9·7	11·23	1·5	2·52	5·30	7·8
Bishop Auckland	8·0	9·31	11·43	1·29	3·12	6·3	7·32
Darlington	8·30	10·0	12·10	2·0	3·45	6·45	8·5
Stockton	8·56	10·31	12·40	2·29	4·13	7·18	8·32
Middlesbro'	9·5	10·41	12·50	2·38	4·22	7·31	8·51
SALTBURN	10·10	11·15	1·25	3·12	4·57	8·5	9·24

Stations.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
SALTBURN dp.	5·50	8·5	9·52	...	1·40	3·45	5·40
Middlesbro'	6·27	8·40	10·25	12·50	2·13	4·18	6·15
Stockton	6·37	8.48	10·32	12·57	2·21	4·26	6·22
Darlington	7·20	9·20	10·55	1·30	3·0	5·5	7·20
Bishop Aukland	7·49	9·46	11·21	1·56	3·26	5·33	7·48
CROOK arr.	8·10	10·6	11·42	2·16	3·47	5·55	8·10
" dep.	8·13	...	11·49	2·20	...	6·0	...
Tow Law	8·25	...	12·1	2·32	...	6·15	...
Burnhill	8·40	...	...	2·45	...	6·30	...
Rowley	8·50	...	...	2·55	...	6·40	...
CONSETT arr.	9·0	...	...	3·5	...	6·50	...
N'WCASTLE	10·0	...	...	4·15	...	9·53	...

Throat Affections and Hoarseness.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by John I. Brown & Sons, Boston, U.S. European depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

THE SOUTH MEDOMSLEY EVICTIONS

STATEMENTS BY MR CHILDERS.

In the House of Commons last (Thursday) night, Mr A. E. Pease asked the Secretary of State whether there was any truth in the account published in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* of 5th March, of several pitmen, with their families, being evicted from their cottages at the village of South Medomsley, during the snowstorm of Tuesday last; whether it is a fact that the bailiffs were assisted in carrying out the evictions by the county police; and whether, in the event of the account being a correct one, her Majesty's Government can take any action to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

Mr J. Wilson: Before the right hon. gentleman answers the question, I will also ask him whether, according to the statements made by some of the leading tradesmen of the place, the police used insulting language to all the people, and brutal conduct to a great many of them, and did serious damage to the furniture of those evicted by pitching it out into the snow? (Irish cheers.)

Mr Childers: The hon. member should have given notice of that question. It is impossible for me to have any information on it or for the Home Office to have any information, which would enable me, on the spot, to reply to it. In answer to the question on the paper, I have to say that the accounts which have been published do not give all the material facts of the case. The men had been on strike for upwards of three months, and I am informed that they had ample time after the usual legal notices to remove their families and furniture to houses provided for them within five minutes' walk. As a matter of fact, the warrants, which were issued on 4th February, were not executed until a day before the statutory time, which, I think, is a month, had expired. The police authorities report to me that the men had been advised to remove peaceably, but that their chief representatives declined to allow them to do so, and declared their determination to put the county to all the expense and trouble they could. Under these circumstances, it was, no doubt, unfortunate that the last day allowed was a stormy one; but the fault was clearly with the miners. The police were present to preserve order, and no complaint was made of their conduct. They appear to me to have behaved well. My hon. friend is aware that I have no authority whatever over county police, and still less over bailiffs executing a civil process.

Mr J. Wilson: I beg to give notice that I shall, on the first fitting opportunity, draw the attention of the House to the proceedings at Medomsley. (Irish cheers.)

Mr A. O'Connor: May I ask the right hon. gentleman if he will inquire into the allegation made in the paper referred to, to the effect that one of the candymen was removing the goods from one of the pitmen's houses he became disgusted with the work, and would not proceed with it any longer, but that he was prevented from leaving the house by one of the policemen, who insisted that he could not be allowed to leave until Supt. Oliver had arrived, and whether the police have any right to insist in a case of this kind upon the bailiffs proceeding with an eviction? (Irish cheers.)

Mr Childers: I must say again that I have no authority whatever over county or borough police, and it is practically out of my power to take action in the direction which the hon. member suggests. What I can do, of course, is to make application to the Chief Constable or head of the police. Then if the question is asked I can answer it. If the hon. gentleman will put the question on the paper, I will do my best to get the information he wants.

Mr A. O'Connor: May I ask who have authority over the police if the Home Secretary has not?

Mr Childers: The persons who have authority over the police are the Court of Quarter Sessions, that is the Justices in their entirety.

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BIRTHS.

Benfieldside.—St. Cuthbert's Terrace, 5th inst., the wife of J. R. Taylor, of a daughter.

Shotley Bridge.—St. Cuthbert's, 10th inst., the wife of Philip Merlin Brutton, of a daughter.

Dunston.—7th inst., the wife of G. W. Livingston, of a daughter.

Whickham.—Whickham Park, 7th inst., the wife of A. C. Coning, Esq., of a son.

Ryton.—6, Wallace Terrace, 7th inst., the wife of Thomas Metcalf, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Lanchester.—Register Office, 6th inst., William Heppell to Jane Ann James, both of Hamsterley Colliery.—Same day, Edward Anderson, Catchgate, to Ellen Metchael, Kyo.

Wolsingham.—Register Office, 6th inst., Thos. Laybourn, of Elm Park, to Jane Wilson, of Fir Tree.—Same day, Edward Close, of North Cottages, Tow Law, to Elizabeth Ann Iley, of Inkermann.—Same day, Richard Blythman Henderson to Phoebe Rutter, both of Wolsingham.

Newburn.—9th inst., by the Vicar, John Brown, of Manor Buildings, Newburn, to Mary Jane, only daughter of the late Henry Smith.

DEATHS.

Consett.—25, Front Street, on the 6th inst., Sarah Elizabeth, aged 3 years and 10 months, youngest daughter of Thomas and Ann Allison; also, on the 12th inst., Charlotte, aged 13 years, second daughter of the above. To be interred on Saturday first, at Benfieldside Cemetery, at Half-past Two o'clock. Friends, please to accept this intimation. 809v

Blackhill.—31, Derwent Street, on the 10th inst., aged 12 years, Rachel Jane Anderson, the beloved daughter of John and Elizabeth Anderson. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Saturday, at Two o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation. 806v

Oxhill.—South Tanfield Colliery, 5th inst., aged 30, Catherine, wife of Robert Kay.

Victoria Garesfield Colliery.—8th inst., aged 65, Jane Ann, wife of Joseph Emmerson.

High Spen.—11th inst., in his 80th year, Thomas Bullerwell, farmer.

Swalwell.—7th inst., aged 27, George, son of Thos. Mudd.

Wylam.—5th inst., Mary, wife of Thomas Carr.

Perkinsville, near Chester-le-Street.—6th inst., aged 24, Elizabeth, wife of Wm. Bates.

Lambton Park.—11th inst., Mary Airey.

Ryton.—6, Wallace Terrace, 11th inst., aged 40, Catherine Gray, wife of Thomas Metcalf.

Winlaton.—8th inst., aged 14, Robert, son of Wm. Fleeder, draper, Blaydon.

Blaydon.—Stella House (at the residence of her father), 7th inst., aged 34, Isabella, wife of Wm. Belke.

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