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The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,756. Registered for Transmission Abroad. FRIDAY EVENING, April 27th 1894. PRICE ONE PENNY.

DOWSON'S
MANTLES
AND
JACKETS.

Lost.

LOST, on Sunday last, at Shotley Bridge, a Black Springer BITCH Finder will be rewarded at 24, Palmerston Street, Consett. Detention after this date will incur prosecution. 947n

Found.

FOUND, near Blackhill, a Pair of SPECTACLES. Owner on giving description can get them at Messrs Marshall, Watchmakers, Blackhill, within a week.

Wanted.

WANTED, TWO MASONS — Apply to W Whitfield, on the Job at Snows Green

WANTED, a Good GENERAL SERVANT—Apply 31, Newmarket Street, Consett

WANTED, a few STINTS, either Horses or Cattle.—Apply High Hermitage, Tow Law.

WANTED, a strong, active GIRL as General Servant. References.—Apply, Mrs. Thos Swainston, 39, Sherburn Terrace, Consett

WANTED, a Strong GIRL, age not under 20, must be able to wash and bake.—Apply W. Vickers, 32, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain. 972n

WANTED, a Strong, Steady GIRL, about 18, as General. Country Girl preferred.—Apply *Guardian* Office, Consett 970n

WANTED, a respectable GIRL, 18 or 20, as General Servant, good home—Apply *Guardian* Office

BANDS.—WANTED, TENDERS to PLAY at the Medomsley Flower Show, Sports, and Ball, Saturday, August 25th, 1894. Tenders received up to Monday, April 30th.—W. E. and R. Charlton Secretaries. 962n

WANTED, HOUSEKEEPER to Working man three of family, youngest 8 months old, must be steady, industrious, good cook, and needlewoman, knowledge and fond of children indispensable—Apply by letter in the first instance with reference to *Guardian* Office

COLLIERLEY BOARD SCHOOLS. BOYS' DEPARTMENT. WANTED for the above, a P.T. Candidate, not under thirteen years of age. Applications will be received by the undersigned up till Tuesday, May 15th.—D. Mole, Clerk to the Board, Dipton. 974n

WANTED, a MAN to act as Foreman and Buyer in the Grocery Department, by the Consett Industrial and Provident Society, Limited. Wages 35s per week. Applications to be sent in not later than April 28th, 1894, stating age and present occupation and containing copies of not more than two recent testimonials.—Edw. Huntley, Secretary. 968n

WANTED, an experienced General SERVANT, who can bake and understands plain cooking, who also can wash and get up linen. None but thoroughly experienced persons need apply.—Applications to be made personally between 3 and 4 o'clock p.m. any day except Saturday Stanley Hall, West Stanley, Durham.

AGENCY.—For good GENERAL SERVANTS apply at the Servants' Registry Office, 13, Front Street, Consett. 23k

COLLIERY OFFICIALS and MINERS of all ranks and ages. Lessons by Post. The surest road to promotion. Send Penny Stamp for Syllabus. —T. A. Southern, M.E., late H.M. Inspector of Mines, the Universal Mining School, Derby. 184m

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TENTS TO LET in different Sizes.—For Terms apply, George Hunter, Medomsley. 888n

TO LET, 7-roomed HOUSE, in Rose Mount, Consett—Apply Messrs Hodgkin, Barnett, and Co, Bankers, Consett 951n

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LANGDALE BROTHERS
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HORSE CLOTHING, RUGS, STABLE SHEETS, WATERPROOF CART & WAGGON COVERS, LOIN COVERS, GIG APRONS, GIG LAMPS, CLIPPING MACHINES, and all kinds of Stable Requisites.
SURPLUS SALE FOR 30 DAYS.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE to all who suffer from Weak or Inflamed Eyes, Impaired Vision, Specks, or Cataracts—Use Jeffrey's Patented Drops, Bottles, 2s 6d, carriage paid. A cure will soon be effected Thousands can testify to this It is unequalled and perfectly harmless Jeffrey, Castleside, by Blackhill 8m

NOTICE—JOHN ROUTLEDGE, Joiner and Cabinet-maker, Shakespeare Street, Consett, begs to inform the Public that he has commenced BUSINESS as a JOINER and HOUSE FURNISHING IRONMONGER in the Premises lately occupied as a Post Office, at the Corner of Shakespeare Street, Consett, and will be glad to receive a share of their custom, which he hopes to merit by moderate prices and prompt attention to Orders.

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All kinds of Clocks, Watches, and Jewellery cleaned and repaired on the premises at moderate charges Orders by Post punctually attended to 994a

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DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,
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FOR
FINEST COD LIVER OIL,
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Extract of Malt and Cod Liver Oil.
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SEE SPECIAL LIST FOR SHEEP DIPS.
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A Derwent Farmer says "I have used your Farm Bottle for several years for Horses, Sheep, and Cattle, and always recommend it."
Price 1s, and 2s 6d Per Bottle.
Postal Orders Promptly Attended to.

NOTICE !

HENRY WOOD,

(Late with Messrs Bunn & Dick, Newcastle)

Begs to inform the Inhabitants of CONSETT AND DISTRICT that he has COMMENCED BUSINESS as a CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER AND SILVERSMITH, AT 30, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. And trusts by executing all Orders promptly, and at a Reasonable Price, to merit a share of their Patronage.

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AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 8lbs. 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.

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FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
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THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
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Beg to inform their numerous friends and patrons that their

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COMPRISE ALL THE NOVELTIES OF THE SEASON.
Great attention has been paid to every Department in the Drapery Trade.
NOVELTIES IN DRESSES, MANTLES, LADIES' CAPES AND JACKETS.
Dressmakers, Milliners, and Tailors kept on the premises.
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HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH SILVER LEVER WATCHES, £3 6s. 0d. BEST MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.
SILVER LEVER WATCHES FROM 30s. ALL WARRANTED
OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.
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TRY THEIR ORIGINAL
OPTIMUS HORSE MIXTURE,
Which is perfectly cleaned by special machinery. Do not be led away by other and cheaper Mixtures claiming to be the same.

ORDERS TAKEN FOR
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ALL KINDS OF BREAD AND CONFECTIONERY FRESH DAILY.

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Do not be misled by old patterns or poor imitations.

"FACTS ARE STUBBORN THINGS," and the Humber Safety and the Dunlop Tyre hold the English Mile Record.

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BEFORE GIVING THEIR ORDERS ELSEWHERE WILL DO WELL TO INSPECT

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LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF

ALL KINDS OF SEEDS,

OF THE VERY BEST QUALITY, AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

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PATENT BROADCAST HAND SEED SOWER!

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W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett, Stanley, and surrounding District that he visits as usual at MRS. JONES', 10, Mount Pleasant, Consett, every MONDAY, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, Stanley, every FRIDAY from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

Made with all the Latest Improvements, at the Lowest Possible Price that Good Teeth can be made for with the Best Materials. Old Sets Re-made and Repaired on his own system, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new.

All Teeth Extracted Painlessly by his recent discovery, which is perfectly harmless, thus avoiding the danger of the old system by the use of Cocaine.

W. T. Smith thoroughly guarantees all his work for 5 years, and a written guarantee will be given when required, and as he has now been practising in Newcastle and District for 15 years, it will be seen that he has a permanent Address at 19, Eldon Square, where he can always be found, as guarantees are of no value from others who have no permanent place, but simply visit the district for a time and leave no address. Train Fare will be allowed to all Patients desiring to come to Newcastle, where they can, at times, consult me personally.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESSES—

MRS. JONES'S, 10, Mount Pleasant, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY from 11 to 5.
AND AT
MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, STANLEY, EVERY FRIDAY, from 11 to 5

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
S. H. HORSEY.

105, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

ATTENDS
CONSETT every Saturday, at Mr Brown's, 8, Newmarket Street, 1 till 5.
STANLEY every Monday, at Mr Thomas Armstrong's, Front Street, 1 till 5.
CRAGHEAD every Thursday, at Mr Hope's, Grocer, 10.30 till 11.30.
WEST PELTON every Thursday, at Mr Buglass, 10, High-Hold, 12 till 1.30.
PELTON FELL every Thursday, at Mr Joseph Young's, 32, North Row, 3 till 4.30.

English and American ARTIFICIAL TEETH at moderate prices, and all work guaranteed.
TEETH PAINLESSLY EXTRACTED, 1s.

S. H. HORSEY takes this opportunity of stating that he is in no way connected with any other firm, and all patients may rely on seeing him personally and not inexperienced assistants. 301n

S. A. FAIRLESS,

PLAIN AND FANCY BREAD BAKER AND CONFECTIONER

Committees of School Boards, Bands of Hope, Clubs, etc., should call for Estimates when arranging for Teas, Pic-Nics, Garden Parties, or Suppers.
Balls Specially Catered For. Tennis Parties Supplied.
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Every Description of Plain and Ornamental Cakes. Brides' Cake, from 2s. 6d. made to order.
Try our Noted PIES, 2d. each. Boilers, Urns, and Ware on Hire.

Note the Address :—
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TAKE NOTICE THAT

JOSEPH MURRAY'S NEW PREMISES AT HIGH SPEN ARE NOW OPEN

WITH A LARGE STOCK OF GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, FLOUR, AND FEEDING STUFFS AT SPECIALLY REDUCED PRICES.
See Small Bills.

THE OLD PREMISES

WILL BE CONTINUED AS A
BOOT, SHOE, AND SLIPPER ESTABLISHMENT,
WHEN WILL BE OFFERED A VERY LARGE STOCK OF THE ABOVE, BOUGHT SPECIALLY FOR THE EASTER TRADE.
COME, SEE, AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES. SPLENDID BARGAINS.

JOSEPH MURRAY,

CONSETT, AND SPEN.

THOMAS SWAINSTON,

HAY AND POTATOE MERCHANT,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
HAS FOR SALE

20 TONS SUTTON'S ABUNDANCE ...
20 TONS SPECIAL BRUCE ... ...
AND A LARGE QUANTITY OF MAGNUMS
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The Sutton's Abundance and Bruce are very suitable for Seed, besides being a SPLENDID TABLE POTATOE.

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PNEUMATIC TYRES, AND ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS,
CASH £10 10s. 0d. AND UPWARDS.

CUSHION TYRED "CLAYTON" £8 8s. 0d.

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THE POPULAR CYCLE DEPOT,
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MACHINES EXCHANGED. REPAIRS.

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Have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDALS and other AWARDS at EXHIBITIONS for the EXCELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS.

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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.)

CORRESPONDENTS are requested to enclose their names and addresses on a separate slip or paper.

LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than Wednesday mornings.

CHURCH AND STATE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—It is but a few weeks ago since Mr Neasham found himself under the necessity of taking bearings as to his whereabouts. I gave him the true indication of his position by pointing out that he was "floundering in the Serbonian bog of his own inky mire." I now regret to find Mr Bridges in the same disreputable position. His letter of last week shows that the parson has followed the blind guidance of his lay brother, and has fallen headlong into the same filthy slough. Unable to refute my statements, he resorts to violent language. Unable to reply to my historical facts, he indulges in coarse abuse. Billingsgate vulgarity is polite language compared with the utterances of parson Bridges. "Idiocy, rot, trash, drivel, bosh, braying of asses" may be strong speech; but it is an indication of weakness on the part of the one who uses it. When an uneven tempered man fails to prove his case by argument, he invariably turns to language more forcible than choice, and more passionate than rational. Parson Bridges has utterly failed to prove his case by argument; he now loses his temper, and begins to rave. Let me assure him that "bellowing like a bull of Bashan" has no terrors for me. Mr Neasham tried it, and failed; where Mr Neasham failed Mr Bridges will not succeed. From the passion, invective, and Billingsgate vulgarity of Mr Bridges, thoughtful readers will not fail to draw their own conclusions.

My reply to him this week need not necessarily be long. He advances nothing new; what he formerly advanced against my proposition had in it nothing true. I proved that the sixteen quotations he advanced against my proposition did not touch it in the slightest; that what Lord Salisbury said was what I have said in every article from my pen—viz., that the clergy draw their incomes from ancient endowments given to the Church. But Lord Salisbury does not say who gave the endowments. I said the State gave those endowments; and Lord Salisbury does not say anything in opposition to my statement. How then can Lord Salisbury be advanced in opposition to my proposition. I also proved that Mr Gladstone's words, "the clergy are not State paid," only mean that the clergy are not paid by the Chancellor of the Exchequer directly out of the Parliamentary funds; but are paid by the Ecclesiastical Commission, which is a Parliamentary Committee, elected by and responsible to the House of Commons. Only last week the Committee gave in to Parliament a report of its dealings with Queen Anne's Bounty. We all admit with Mr Gladstone that the clergy are not paid by direct Parliamentary grants, and that is all Mr Gladstone meant when he said the clergy were not State paid. From his own interpretation of his words, and surely we are bound to take a man's own interpretation of his words, Mr Gladstone admits that Church property is national property. In Disestablishing the Irish Church in 1868 he dealt with the Church property as public property. How then can Mr Bridges honestly use Mr Gladstone's words against my proposition. In tinsel eloquence Mr Bridges says that "Mr Gladstone's words are written and engraved upon the history of the day, and all the manipulation, all the manœuvring in the world will never efface them." True; O Daniel come to judgment; quite true; I thank thee for that word. Mr Gladstone's words *are* there; *and also his interpretation of them;* and all your manipulation and manœuvring to wrest those words to another meaning than that he himself gives will only result in your own confusion and shame. Yet again, by two self-contradictory passages I proved Prof. Freeman, the Churchman, to be in opposition to Prof. Freeman, the historian. But as far from "dropping with indecorous haste" Freeman, the historian, I quote him again and again. It is Freeman the Churchman I drop. I will again quote the historian Freeman in answer to Mr Bridges's *ironical*, "Who is Kemble?" To conceal his ignorance Mr Bridges says he asked the question ironically; then asserts that Green considered Kemble to have been the least important out of a dozen or twenty authorities. Mr Bridges must excuse me for not taking his word for granted on this matter. I must trouble him to tell me where Green says that. Whilst he is seeking up the passage I will supply him with Freeman's opinion. The historian of the "Norman Conquest" (vol. I., pref.) says, "I now follow the example of scholars like Kemble." Again (vol. I., p. 68), "Among many other works two stand out conspicuously, Sir Francis Palgrave's 'History of the English Commonwealth' and Mr Kemble's 'Saxons in England'. I think I shall be commonly found maintaining the same constitutional views as Mr Kemble." In dozens of footnotes Bishop Stubbs (Con. History, 3 vols) refers to Kemble as his authority; on almost every page of Freeman's "Norman Conquest" (vol. I) Kemble is quoted both in the text and in the footnotes. Yet Mr Bridges asks—ironically of course—who Kemble is, and asserts that Green regards him as of little authority. Then so much the worse for Green. But frankly, I do not believe the statement, and call upon Mr Bridges to quote the words and the place where they are to be found. I furthermore charged Mr Bridges with a false quotation from Stubbs, and asked him to give me the place where found. He replies he cannot substantiate his *misquotation* (mark the word) because he is at Tynemouth and is without his books. It is only one book he wants (vol. I), and parcels post could have brought him, for a few coppers, the book he wanted. But no! His honour as a parson is not of sufficient importance to warrant the trouble of sending for the book; so he allows me to publicly convict him of a literary dishonesty without attempting to clear his character. Can the public be surprised if I decline to take his word for granted?

In a long paragraph of utter bathos, having nothing whatever to do with the subject under discussion, Mr Bridges makes a deliberate bid for the sympathy of the working-classes. The paragraph, however, is but a sentimental whine. The working-men and women want more from a Church parson than a grandiloquent rhodomontade about fanatical socialism, red republicanism, Hyde Park agitation, and the rest of the gush. They want no patting on the back and being called splendid, proud, independent, and noble. They want their rights, of which the parsons have for ages defrauded them. It is too late in the day for parsons to assume the patronising air to the working-man. The working-man of to-day wants neither the parson nor his patronage, and as for mother Church, Carlyle long ago said, "She is a superannuated step-mother, whose lessons go unregarded."

In his conclusion, Mr Bridges summarises thirteen points, and supposes I come to grief over them. The wish is father to the thought. On examination many of these points turn out to be mine, stolen by Mr Bridges (true to his ecclesiastical apostolical succession) and wrested from my meaning to suit his purpose. I will point these points once more against Mr Bridges, and prove him in the wrong at every point. Thus by thirteen points I shall "point the moral and adorn the tale." (To save Mr Neasham any trouble that quotation is from a poem on Charles the Twelfth of Sweden, and the moral has to do not with Church Establishment, but something else.) Now to the baker's dozen of thirteen points.

Point one—I quoted charters to prove the State endowments of the Church. Those charters, says Mr Bridges, prove that these endowments were private and voluntary. What evidence does Mr Bridges advance to support his statement? Absolutely none. We are expected to take his word for it. Not very likely; especially seeing that we have a weight of evidence of the highest authority in opposition to Mr Bridges's statement. Against Mr Bridges's unsupported statement that the charters endowing the Church were private, I will quote the following authorities:—Freeman, Stubbs, and Kemble, selected from many others.

"This process of turning public property into private went on largely in later times. The alienation was now commonly made by a document in writing, under the signatures of the King and his Witan. Land so granted was therefore said to be booked to the grantee, and was known as bookland. Portions of the folkland were thus cut off from the public ownership, and were booked to private individuals or corporations. The greater portion of the existing ancient charters consists of grants of this kind. *A vast number are of course in favour of the Church;* but those which are made to the King's faithful thegns are hardly less numerous. In either case portions of the folkland are alienated, booked to private use, with the consent of the Witan."—(Freeman's "Norman Conquest, I, p. 93.)

"Another meeting of the Witan was held the next year at Cealchyth (Chelsea) and a more important one the year after at Calne, which after a few days transferred its sittings to Wantage. Here *besides the usual business of confirming the King's grants of lands or privileges to Church*, a code of laws was drawn up.—(Freeman, I, p. 292-3.)

"The Witan met in the course of this year (1001) in an assembly which confirmed a grant of the King to the Abbey of Shaftesbury."—(Freeman, I, p. 310.) Now, if this property was the King's private property why could he not give it without asking the consent and confirmation of his Parliament. The very fact that the Witan had to confirm the gift proves the property was public. Freeman shows this.

"The folkland, the common property of the State, was of course at the disposal of the State, and of the State only. It was granted by the King, but only by the consent and authority of the Witan. That is to say, in modern language, the change of folkland into bookland required an Act of Parliament. But, Acts to that effect were passed constantly and without difficulty. The folkland belonged to the nation and not to the King. The King was only its chief administrator, enjoying its use, so far as he enjoyed it, only as the head and representative of the nation.—(Freeman, I, p. 94.)

"Nothing can be more true than that they (the charters) conveyed large portions of folkland, or national property, to the (ecclesiastical) corporations." Freeman's "Con. Review," Feb., 1891, p. 189.)

"After the conversion it (folkland, national property) furnished the stock from which the monasteries were endowed; and by grants to them and to individuals it was much diminished."—Stubbs, "Con. History," c. 5, p. 79.

"When King Edgar confirmed the Bishop of Worcester in the possession of his estates, he made up the amount of land by new grants (of folkland) to the extent of three hundred (up to 36,000 acres)."—(Stubbs, c. 5, p. 118.)

"The great majority of the charters are gifts to Churches."—(Stubbs, c. 6, p. 146.)

"According to Bede, the pretended Church endowments, pseudo-monasteries of his day had so far encroached on the available stock (of folkland) as to be a public evil."—(Stubbs, c. 6, p. 171.)

"At a very early period it became a practice to carve hereditary estates out of the folkland, which, thus became the private property of the individual. The pretext upon which these conversions of folkland into bookland were made at first, was the erection and endowment of a religious house upon the land."—Kemble's "Saxons in England," vol. I, p. 301.)

Against these emphatic and clear testimonies of eminent historians we have the bare word of Mr Bridges. The question resolves itself into a very simple one. On the one hand, Mr Bridges, without any authority to support him, says the charters are deeds of private gifts. On the other hand, I maintain the charters, signed by the King and his Witan, are deeds of gift of the public land. The above historical quotations support my contentions. If Mr Bridges be right, then Freeman, Stubbs, Kemble, and I are wrong. If Mr Bridges be wrong, then Freeman, Stubbs, Kemble, and I are right. On which side is there the greatest weight of evidence? On one side Mr Bridges alone; on the other side the greatest historians of our times. I claim point one as mine.

Point two—I charged the Church with robbing the poor. Mr Bridges says history proves this to be false, and also that I say "the poor had their share." I did not say the poor had their share in the distribution, but in the allotment. It is one thing to have a share allotted, another thing to get it. The poor had a share of the tithe allotted, but the poor seldom had their share distributed to them. Mr Bridges must be reduced to a sorry plight to wrest my words from their plain meaning. It shows he is hard up for a case. Further, so far from history proving my statement false that the poor had a right to a third of the tithe, all reliable historians prove my statement correct. I challenge Mr Bridges to quote a reliable historian who says the opposite. Here are a few who say with me the poor had a right to a third of the tithe.

The tithe was usually divided into three portions, one for the maintenance of the Church, the second for the poor, the third for the clergy. (Milman Latin Christianity, book 5, c. 1.)

Tithe was first received by the Bishop, and distributed by him in three or four portions; to himself, to the clergy, for the fabric of the Churches, for the poor. (Milman book 14, c. 1.)

Tithes are mentioned by Theodore in the genuine penitentials, in a way that proves the duty of making the payment, but not the right of the clergy to the sole use of them. Tithe is not legitimately distributed except to the poor and wandering. (Stubbs Con. History book 2, 14.)

The Bishop usually divided it (tithe) between the Church, the clergy, and the poor. (Stubbs, c. 8, page 248.)

A third portion of the tithe belonged to the Church was to go to God's poor and to the needy ones in thraldom. (Stubbs, c 21, p 619-20.)

This (obligation to repair chancel out of the tithe) is a remnant of the tripartite division of the tithes. (Freeman.)

According to the view of the Anglo-Saxon Church ratified by the express enactment of the Witan, a third of the tithe was the absolute property of the poor. (Kemble Saxons in England vol 2 p 505.)

History then proves the poor to have had a legal right to a share in the tithe. They have been defrauded of that right by the parsons of the Church. I claim point two as mine.

Point three—I objected to Mr Neasham's statements that my authorities were conflicting. I proved my authorities to be in harmony. They all utter one truth, and neither Mr Bridges, nor Mr Neasham, has been able to show any conflict. It is true as I pointed out, Freeman the Churchman contradicts Freeman the historian, but Freeman the historian nowhere contradicts but everywhere supports the other historians whom I quoted. I claim point three as mine.

Point four—I based a fundamental part of my case upon the writings. What writings pray? Prof. Freeman's! If this is what Mr Bridges means let me tell him I reject none of his writings I have quoted. I accept and use Freeman's historical works, but not his Church partisan pamphlets. So I claim point four as mine.

Point five—I quoted the Statute of Mortmain to prove robbery on the part of the Anglican Church. I did no such thing, for when the statute was passed there was no Anglican Church. The Established Church in England of that day was the Roman Church. But what the Roman Church stole, the later Anglican Church received. In English law the receiver of stolen goods is as bad, sometimes worse, than the theif. I claim point five as mine.

Point six—I quoted Wycliffe on a point over which he was no authority, and now admit that Wycliffe was in the dark. I do neither the one nor the other. Wycliffe was a great authority on all matters pertaining to civil and ecclesiastical law. It was by his profound knowledge of these things he was able to defeat the purposes of Rome. John Wycliffe *was* an authority on the tithe question, and he maintained that the poor had been robbed of their portion. I never admitted he was in the dark on the question. I simply stated, what I now repeat, I would rather be in the dark with John Wycliffe, than be in the light with Mr Bridges. But saying this is a very long way from admitting that Wycliffe was in the dark. I claim point six as mine.

Point seven—I struck a proposition against all comers, 16 were produced against me. In analysing these 16 quotations I showed that more than half did not touch my proposition, inasmuch as I could say precisely the same thing, that one fourth of the remaining half did not come against me at all, as for example the words of Gladstone and Salisbury. That the remaining fourth of 16 comers were mere legal opinions, unsupported by any historical facts, and contradicted by our leading historians. I therefore claim point seven as mine.

Point eight—I said that every ton of coal raised in Co Durham paid a tax to the Church. I have proved that my original statement, that the miners of Durham contribute £242,080 a year to the Ecclesiastical Commission is correct. Admitting that not every ton, but only one ton in every three (and this is below the average) pays the tax, yet the total amount remains as I stated £240,000. I claim point eight as mine.

Point nine—I confounded English usages with Continental legislation. By quoting English Charters and English legislation I proved that there was no such confusion. I also asked Mr Bridges whether or no Continental ecclesiastical legislation obtained in England from the 8th to the 16th century. In reply Mr Bridges says most emphatically such legislation *did not* prevail in England. What evidence does he adduce? Again absolutely none. We are expected to take his word for it that what he says is infallibly correct. I beg to decline, and in opposition to Mr Bridges statement that such legislation *did not* prevail in England I will set the declaration of a wiser man than he. Bishop Stubbs says "except in the rare case of collision with national law, the general legislation of Christendom, whether by pope or council, was accepted (in England) a matter of course." (c 19, p 334.) I claim point nine as mine.

Point ten—I misquoted the amount paid in the way of royalty rents to the Commissioners. I did no such thing. I quoted the return for one year, and instead of being above I was below the mark. I quoted £240,000, in 1891 the amount was £240,194 1s 8d. I claim point ten as mine.

Point eleven—I failed to confirm any isolated fact with the truth of a context. In other words, much as I have quoted, I have not quoted enough. Perhaps Mr Bridges wants the whole book. I am inclined to think that I have already quoted far too much for Mr Bridges comfort. Would it not be as well if he also would give us the benefit of some reliable authority than his own mere *ipse dixit*. If history proves me to be wrong, as Mr Bridges asserts, why does he not produce his historians to prove me wrong? Are we to suppose he does not because he cannot? The authorities I have quoted prove my case, and if Mr Bridges can find from their contexts that I have misquoted, why does he not expose such misquotations? I claim point eleven as mine.

Point twelve—He considered parliamentary grants fatal to the Church. I said nothing about such grants being fatal to the Church. Mr Bridges and Mr Neasham both challenged the production of proofs of such grants. What I did was to accept the challenge, and produce the grants. In doing so, I proved my statement was correct, the Church was State endowed. As to parliamentary grants to some dissenting bodies, I admitted it, but proved that two blacks don't make one white. The dissenting bodies removed the blackness from them by getting the grants abolished, the Established Church still remains black. I claim point twelve as mine.

Point thirteen—I tried to make a case by asking questions utterly unfounded upon any fact or historical occurrence. I asked one question not to make a case, but to elicit a declaration from Mr Bridges of his view about early English legislation. He said there was no such legislation, asked whoever heard of legislation in the 8th century. He now climbs down from that absurd and dangerous position, admits there was such early legislation, but says it was not the legislation obtaining on the Continent. In opposition to him I have quoted in point nine a Bishop of his own Church who emphatically affirms that the general legislation of Christendom prevailed in England. I claim point thirteen as mine.

Having disposed of Mr Bridges and taken from him the whole of his thirteen points, I now turn to a brief notice of Mr Arthur Holdsworth of the Church Defence Institution. This correspondent has nothing new to say; he is a mere parrot repetition of the other defenders of the Church. Like the rest he takes up the Durham royalty rent question and contents himself with the mere denial of all coal paying a tax, and remains discreetly silent about the fact that a tax is paid. A clear case of straining at a gnat, and swallowing a camel. I affirmed and I affirm still, that the miners of Durham pay an unwilling contribution to the Established Church of £240,000. In the return ordered by the House of Commons, June 23rd, 1891, the revenues of the Church of England (p 14) the income of the Ecclesiastical Commission from mineral property in Durham is put down as £240,194 1s 8d. Let Mr Holdsworth and the Church Defenders in general deal with that fact, which not one of them so far has had the courage to grapple with.

Mr Holdsworth goes into the taxation of London after the great fire in 1666, and proves, as did Mr Bridges and Mr Neasham, that London was taxed for the Established Church, that out of the proceeds of the tax Churches were built, and St. Paul's Cathedral built and adorned. Why does Mr Holdsworth not refer to the taxation for raising the incomes of city clergy? Like Mr Bridges and Mr Neasham he avoids dangerous subjects. Then Mr Holdsworth supplies us with a clear instance of how the Church party twist a man's words from their true meaning to suit their partisan purposes. He tells us he had a debate with Mr Fisher, Secretary of Liberation Society, and that Mr Fisher "acknowledged the identity of the Church of England before the Reformation with the Church of England after the Reformation." Doubting whether Mr Fisher ever did acknowledge any such thing I wrote him, and received an answer which clearly proves that Mr Holdsworth has entirely misrepresented the words of Mr Fisher. Here are Mr Fisher's own words (letter April 16th, 1894) "my admission had reference to the Church *regarded as an Establishment*. The Church was gradually bit by bit, as Freeman puts it, established from the time of Augustine, and has continued (as an establishment) until now. At the time of the Reformation, this Established Church *ceased to be a part of the Church of Rome and became the Church of England*. I think without any further words of explanation, I can safely leave the point to the judgment of a discerning public. Mr Holdsworth next tries to show that the Reformation made no change in the identity of the Church; that the Church after was the same identical Church as the Church before the Reformation. A very nice theory for Churchmen to hold, quite as nice as its twin sister, the theory of apostolic succession; but unfortunately for the theory, there are seven or eight centuries of history, teeming with facts in opposition to any such theory. From the eight to the sixteenth century the Church in England was a branch of the Church of Rome, paid tribute to Rome during a great portion of the time, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, was a Roman Cardinal and a legate of the pope; all the Bishops on taking office swore allegiance to the pope and the Roman Church; and the English Parliament in 1378 declared Urban VI to be the true pope in opposition to the anti-pope supported by France. Whether or no the Reformation effected any change in the character and constitution of the Church in England I will leave Bishop Stubbs to determine. He says the Reformation "brought about a crisis which overthrew the papal power in England, and altered for all time to come the relations of Church and State" (Vol 3, p 310). In his concluding paragraph Mr Holdsworth argues that though the Church is "by law established" she yet is *not* established by law. Let me remind Mr Holdsworth of an elementary maxim in logic, viz: a thing cannot both be, and not be, at the same time. Either the Church is established by law, or it is not established by law. Will Mr Holdsworth tell us which position he accepts? Awaiting his reply, I remain yours, &c,

ALFRED BROMLEY.

THE DISMISSAL OF A SPEN SCHOOLMASTER.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—As a rule I do not think it worth while to notice such rambling effusions as have hitherto constituted "Paul Pry's" contribution to this controversy. If his letters bore any evidence of a sincere desire to serve the public good, one would be only too glad to discuss the matter with him. I can, however, discern only one object in all he says, and that is, to rescue his friend Mr Tucker, by any means, no matter how questionable, from the dilemma in which his own folly and ill-feeling have placed him. To this end "Paul Pry" tries to obscure the real issue by violent attacks upon Primitive Methodist preachers, and by repeated complaints that Mr Tucker's meeting at Spen was unfairly reported. I am in no way concerned with the defence of Primitive Methodist or other preachers against the onslaughts of such as "Paul Pry."

In this connection I will only venture to ask "Paul Pry," or Mr Tucker, to point out to your readers what sacrifices of money, time, or energy *they* have made for the cause of education in Spen that they feel entitled to criticise those who have, for so many years "borne the burden and heat of the day."

With respect to the report of Mr Tucker's meeting I think the less said by "Paul Pry" the better.

If that meeting had been reported *verbatim*, with a commentary by a smart descriptive writer, so that your readers could have formed an adequate idea of Mr Tucker's long and wearisome repetitions, his malicious allusions to the teacher whose livelihood he was, and is, trying to destroy, his vulgar winks and knowing nods, I venture to think that gentleman's "defence" would have appeared still more ridiculous and contemptible than it did with these natural adornments mercifully suppressed.

If Mr Tucker thinks anything to his advantage was omitted, I am sure, sir, you will not refuse to permit him to repair the omission in your columns.

"Paul Pry" wishes to know why Mr Ben Tillett's lecture, at which I took the chair, was not reported. I may tell him that Mr Tillett's remarks were so much to my taste that I should have been only too delighted to have had the address most fully reported, and I certainly would have sent you a report myself had I not that week been overburdened with work. But Mr Tillett said not one word that could, by any stretch of imagination, or any ingenuity of manipulation, be put forward in support of Mr Tucker or "Paul Pry's" attitude on the Spen Dismissal Case. On the contrary Mr Tillett, in private conversation with me, expressed himself quite as strongly as even I could desire in denunciation of the treatment accorded to Mr Armstrong, and his utter contempt for the "blackleg" schoolmaster, and all those who had part or lot in bringing him to Spen.

I am expecting to see Mr Tillet this week-end, and I am sure he will be amused to learn that his services have been enlisted on behalf of Mr Tucker and his friend "Paul Pry."—Yours, &c.

A. E. HAYES.

Dipton, April 24th, 1894.

CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD GRIEVANCE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I see in your columns some correspondence anent Chopwell School Board grievance between two correspondents, namely, "Observer," and "Paul Pry," it being rumoured that I am one of the correspondents, and if the person who can prove that I have anything to do with either one or the other's letters will kindly answer, either in person or in public, he will oblige, yours &c.,

ED. STOKER.

Spen, 23rd April, 1894.

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BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

On Wednesday se'nnight, the ordinary meeting of this Board was held in the Board-room of the Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge, Coun. Jas. Annandale, J.P., presiding *pro tem*. The other members present were: Messrs F. Priestman, J.P., R. G. Barclay, J.P., Jos. Eltringham, J. Dowson, G. J. Robinson, the Clerk (Mr J. Booth), and the Surveyor (Mr John Dixon).

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr ELTRINGHAM moved that Coun. J. Annandale be re-appointed chairman until the coming into force of the Parish Councils Bill.

Mr ROBINSON seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN accordingly returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, and remarked that it would be the last time he would act in the capacity as chairman of a Local Board.

THE ENCROACHMENT IN PROSPECT PLACE.

With respect to alleged encroachment in this street, the following letter was read from the Consett Iron Company:—

We are in receipt of your favour of the 3rd ult., respecting an alleged encroachment at Prospect Place, Blackhill.

From the report of our architect, who had met your Surveyor on the ground in question, we fail to see that we have made any encroachment by enclosing by a wooden fence land belonging to the Company, and which is abutting a street which, we understand, has not yet been taken over by your Board.

Under these circumstances we fail to see why your should ask us to pay an acknowledgement.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said it was no use the Company talking like that. According to the Board's place, there was really an encroachment by enclosing the land that should be made into a footpath. The reason the street was not taken over by the Board was owing to the fact that the same had not been made to the satisfaction of the Board.

The Clerk said if the Company wished to have Prospect Place dedicated as a public street they would have to set back the fence so as to give the requisite width for a footpath.

Mr ELTRINGHAM stated that if the land had not been intended for a footpath there would not have been any kerbing and channelling.

The Clerk: According to the minutes the application to have the street taken over was made in 1881.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that at that time they found the Highway Committee reported that the street could not be taken over, because it had not been made to the instructions of the Board.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said at that time there were a great many objections to the street being taken over. The Company were distinctly told they would not be asked to do anything to this footpath, providing the conveniences were removed to a site decided upon by the Board.

The CHAIRMAN: Did the Company consent to this?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: No. The ashpits, &c., are still there.

The Clerk pointed out that the only thing he saw anent the encroachment was that it was an obstruction to the public, providing they had the right to use the land.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said he firmly believed they were going to take away land that was intended for a footpath.

The Clerk: Well, if we pull the fencing down we will only liable ourselves to an action. Let us wait and see if we cannot make some arrangement with the Company so as to remove the encroachment.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Though the encroachment there is a considerable number of feet taken off the street.

Mr PRIESTMAN: I think the question ought to stand in abeyance till the necessary information with respect to the street is forthcoming.

Eventually, the question was left with the Clerk for consideration, and to report on the same at the next meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Vouchers for last month were examined and found correct.

The following accounts were recommended to be paid:—

	£	s	d
Surveyor's monthly pay-sheet	33	4	8
Mr J. Booth: Salary, &c.	45	17	0
F. and J. Christopher	8	2	6
Consett Water Company	0	8	7
W. T. Eltringham	4	2	8
W. T. Eltringham	3	3	0
W. Ramsay	0	7	2
	£95	5	7

On the motion of Mr DOWSON, seconded by Mr ROBINSON, the cheques were ordered to be signed.

NEW SEWERAGE WORKS.

The Surveyor reported that the plans for the new sewerage works were not completed, but he expected they would be ready shortly.

Mr PRIESTMAN said this scheme should be pushed on with. The sewer was in a very bad state.

The Surveyor: The plans will be ready in a few days.

Mr BARCLAY: I am afraid if we begin to neglect this scheme we will incur ourselves in an action for damages.

Mr ROBINSON: I don't think so. There seems to be a difference of opinion upon the subject.

The matter then dropped.

THE MAKING OF RITSON'S ROAD: SHOULD THERE BE A CEMENTED FOOTPATH?

The Highway Committee reported as follows:—

Mr R. Murray met the committee to confer about the making of Ritson's Road. Mr Murray offered that if the footpath be reduced to six feet he will make half of the western half of the road, the Board making the remaining half (*i.e.*, one-quarter of the whole road) as representing their footpath. This being an advantageous offer to the Board, the committee recommend that it be accepted.

The CHAIRMAN: Is it necessary that the footpath on both sides of the road should be cemented?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I don't think so.

The Clerk: If one side is cemented next to the houses, you will have to do the other side.

Mr DOWSON said the footpath got into a wretched condition in winter time.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: If you do that, you will have to cement the footpath down to Benfieldside Edge Road.

Mr DOWSON: We will do so when there are houses built on the land.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: There are no houses where you intend to have a cemented footpath.

Mr DOWSON: Oh, yes, there are.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I quite understand there are houses on the opposite side of the road.

The Surveyor stated that at this place there would have to be a retaining wall built, so as to keep the footpath good.

The Clerk: I find this is going to be a heavy cost for the Board; something like £110 will have to be expended.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: There are plenty of other footpaths in the district of more importance that require cementing.

Mr BARCLAY said it was the unanimous conclusion of the committee that this footpath should be made.

The Clerk stated that if they did anything at all it would be better to reduce the width of the footpath, and widen the road. This particular road was used a great deal by the public, because they had an impression that it was a "short cut" to Blackhill.

Mr PRIESTMAN: I think it will be better to let the question stand over for a month, so as to have Mr Murray's opinion.

Eventually, it was decided to let the question remain in abeyance for a month.

TEAM WORK.

The Finance Committee reported that three tenders for team work for the ensuing year had been examined, and they recommended the tender of Mr Geo. J. Christopher for acceptance by the Board, his being the lowest.

On the proposition of Mr PRIESTMAN, seconded by Mr BARCLAY, the tender of Mr Christopher was accepted.

THE MAKING OF BACK STREETS.

The Surveyor intimated, as requested at last meeting, he had served notices on the proprietors abutting Back Dale Street South, Back Derwent Street West, and Back Prospect Place, to have such streets made.

The CHAIRMAN: The notices will not have yet expired?

The Surveyor: No.

KENNEDY'S LODGING-HOUSE.

The Clerk stated that he wrote the proprietor of Kennedy's lodging-house, embodying the recommendations of the Sanitary Committee, and pointing out that before any more lodgers could be taken in, the house would have to be registered, and put into a satisfactory condition.

The Surveyor: They are busy with the alterations.

A NEW RATE.

Mr PRIESTMAN moved that the rate of 1s 2d in the pound on houses, and 3½d in the pound on land, be sealed and collected forthwith.

This was seconded by Mr BARCLAY.

Carried.

THE MAKING OF QUEEN STREET.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr BARCLAY, seconded by Mr DOWSON, that the Clerk should take the necessary proceedings to recover from the North-Eastern Railway Company the interest on the expenditure incurred by the Board in the making of the Company's portion of Queen Street.

BUILDING AND SANITARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Plan for alterations to the Wesleyan Chapel at Blackhill. The drainage is shown to go into a sewer or drain that was put in at the back of the chapel by Mr Robinson to drain his cottages, and arrangements will have to be made for leave to connect. The ashes will have to be thrown on to the footpath in Wesleyan Street which is a main street 36 feet wide, and is very objectionable. These are questions for the consideration of the Board.

Plans for eight houses for Mr John George Murray intended to be built in Thomas Street. We would like to point out that the end street which is a continuance of Wesley Street, would be better if carried through 36 feet wide. There is no objection to the plan for the houses.

A plan for alterations to house and shop at Snow's Green for Messrs Priestman, we recommend to be passed, subject to the alterations of footpath at the end of the house where the entrance to the shop is being done to the surveyor's instructions; the present plans showing the footpath above the level of the floor requiring two steps to go down.

A plan for new offices for houses at Snows Green for Messrs Priestman we recommend to be passed.

THE BLACKHILL WESLEYANS AND THEIR IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said the drainage was shown to go into a drain put in at the back of the chapel by Mr Robinson at his own expense, and he failed to see why other people should be allowed to take advantage of the same.

Mr ROBINSON said it was not necessary for the Wesleyan Society to do this portion of drainage, as they had at that time a perfect drain of their own, which was meeting their requirements. As the sewer complained of was now a public one, they had a perfect right to drain into the same.

The Clerk: Does Mr W. Robinson claim this as a private sewer.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Mr Robinson put the drain in at his own cost.

Mr ROBINSON: He has never said so. The street will in all probability be taken over by the Board.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I will take good care that I don't put a drain down other people's land, so as to allow other people to drain into the same.

Mr ROBINSON: Mind you carry it out.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I will watch myself. I think it is a very hard case for Mr W. Robinson.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that when Mr Robinson required this drain for the drainage of his cottages, the Wesleyan body had a perfect drain of their own.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Providing such was the case, it was the duty of the owners of property abutting the land together with the Board who should have put the drain in, if the Wesleyan body refused to do so. There was another objection to the plans. All the refuse from the buildings would have to come out on to a main street.

Mr ROBINSON: The ashes were only from the heating apparatus. The way the land was laid out it would be a decided improvement.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Yes, that might be, to the Wesleyan body. All the refuse from the place would come out on to the main street. I contend that the proper place for conveniences is in the back street.

Mr ROBINSON stated it was a side street, and no one was living very near the place. Besides, there would not be the least nuisance.

The Clerk explained that he could not see how the drain could be a private one, when it was laid down a back street.

Mr ETRINGHAM: If it is a thing that Mr W. Robinson cannot get any renumeration for, he ought never to have been called upon to put the drain in.

Mr BARCLAY: Why should the conveniences and the class-room not change places.

Mr ROBINSON said such could not be done. They required the class room as part of a large room to be used for public meetings. They could not get any more land.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Mr W. Robinson will sell the Wesleyans six houses and then they will get plenty of land.

Mr ROBINSON: I don't think Mr Robinson will do anything of the kind. I am of opinion that he will have no objections to the Wesleyans connecting their sewer to the drain.

After further discussion, Mr ROBINSON moved that the plans be stamped.

This was seconded by Mr DOWSON.

Mr ELTRINGHAM accordingly moved an amendment to the effect that the plans be referred back to the architect, so as to have the conveniences removed to the back street.

This was seconded by Mr PRIESTMAN and carried, Messrs Eltringham, Priestman, and Barclay voting for the same.

A COMPLAINT.

Mr W. Wallace, of 2, Dixon Street, Blackfine, wrote calling attention to the disgraceful state of the footpath from his house to Durham Road.

The question was referred to the Surveyor.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr John Dixon) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district, watertabling, gathering loose stones and dressing up.

During the month I was requested to meet the Consett Iron Company's Agent (Mr Oliver) at Prospect Place, and pointed out to him the encroachment complained of by the Board. Mr Oliver said the Company would write the Board on the matter.

The footpath at Snow's Green has now been completed. The lamps will be re arranged shortly.

I have met Mr Booth with regard to a portion of land belonging to him near Snow's Green. Mr Booth has kindly consented to give the Board this land to widen the road. It will make a very great improvement when done. He also recommends the Board to kerb and channel a portion of this road.

During the month your Highway Committee met Mr Richard Murray with regard to Ritson's Road. The committee will report on this meeting.

As instructed at last meeting I advertised for tenders for team work. These tenders were laid before your Highway Committee and they will report on same.

I would suggest that the horse-scraper and slopcart be got as soon as possible.

With regard to the kerb and channels at Blackfine, agreed upon by this Board and the County Council, I would suggest that this work be advertised for.

The lamps in your district were collected in on Monday, 16th inst. The lighting has been very satisfactory during the season.

During the month I have collected and paid to the treasurer the following sums:—

	£	s	d
General District Rate	30	19	8
From other sources	1	1	6

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN DIXON.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr J. Dixon submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month I have inspected your district, and find the ashpits well cleaned out. Your main drains are all in good working order, and I consider your district in a very good sanitary condition.

Since your Sanitary Committee made their inspection of a portion of your district, I have served the notices that were required for alterations and improvements and for abatement of nuisances. I expect to have this work carried out shortly.

I would suggest that your Sanitary Committe have another inspection during this next month.

Plans for new sewerage works are not completed yet. I expect they will be ready shortly.

A number of plans have been stamped, duplicates having been supplied.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN DIXON.

The reports were adopted.

This was all the business of importance.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, fleas bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 1s. and 6½d. boxes.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, by unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

"BUCHU-PAIBA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. Of Chemists. F. NEWBERY, and SONS, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

OAKEY'S LILYWHITES v BRANDON ROVERS.—The Lilywhites finish their season to-morrow by travelling to Brandon to meet the strong Rovers' team. The Lilywhites' team will be as follows:—Goal, R. Palmer; backs, R. Cunningham and J. Watson; half-backs, E. Nicholson, G. Whitfield, and M. Cunningham; forwards, Ben Coxon and J. Cunningham, right wing; Wm. Gibson, centre; J. Masterman and H. Bolam, left wing.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

FINAL TIE

AXWELL ROVERS (SWALWELL) v. WOLSINGHAM.

The following team will represent Axwell in the final tie for the above trophy to-morrow:—Goal, A. Jameson; backs, J. Graham (or J. Newton) and M. Burn; half-backs, J. Hepple, R. Bruce, and J. Bruce; forwards, J. Dixon (capt.) and J. Briggs, right wing; W. Errington, centre; T. Shield and J. Roscamp, left wing.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

OPENING OF A NEW ORGAN.

The members of the Consett Primitive Methodist Society have, with commendable spirit and energy, furnished their newly decorated chapel with a new organ, which has been built by Messrs Blackett and Howden, of Newcastle, at a cost of about £200. The opening ceremony took place on Wednesday week, when a grand recital was given by Mr Geo. Dodds, jun., of Newcastle (organist of St. Andrew's Church, Corbridge). The instrument is entirely new with the exception of a small portion of an organ, formerly belonging to St Aidan's Church, South Shields, having been worked in. It has two manuals, 19 stops, and no less than 746 pipes. Subjoined is a description of the organ:—

Compass, C C to G, 56 notes.
Pedal Compass, C C C to F, 30 notes.

GREAT ORGAN C C TO G 56 NOTES.			
1 Open Diapason	8 feet	56 notes.	
2 Stop Diapason bass	8 ,,	12 ,,	
3 Clarabella	8 ,,	44 ,,	
4 Dulciana	8 ,,	56 ,,	
5 Principal	4 ,,	56 ,,	
6 Flute	4 ,,	56 ,,	
7 Twelfth	2⅔ ,,	56 ,,	
8 Fifteenth	2 ,,	56 ,,	
SWELL ORGAN C C TO G 56 NOTES.			
9 Lieblich Bourdon	16 feet	56 notes.	
10 Gamba	8 ,,	56 ,,	
11 Rohr Flote	8 ,,	56 ,,	
12 Gemshorn	4 ,,	56 ,,	
13 Horn	8 ,,	56 ,,	
14 Oboe	8 ,,	44 ,,	
15 Tremulant			
PEDAL ORGAN C C C TO F 30 NOTES.			
16 Bourdon.			
COUPLERS.			
17 Swell to Great			
18 Great to Pedals			
19 Swell to Pedals			

There is no unnecessary ornamentation about the exterior of the instrument, but its tone is particularly fine and sweet, and its construction reflects great credit upon the makers, this being the first organ that Messrs Blackett and Howden have built for the Consett district. A large and appreciative audience assembled at the inauguration of the organ. Rev R. B Hanley (Consett) offered up prayer, and Rev W. Raistrick, supt. minister, (Blackhill) briefly introduced the Chairman (Mr George Ainsworth, of Selby Lodge, and also thanked the company on behalf of the trustees for attending in such large numbers. They hoped, he said, that the opening services would be successful, and they wanted the services of their place of worship to be as bright and attractive as possible.

The CHAIRMAN stated that reference had been made to the fact that he was a member of another church, but he trusted that he would always have broad sympathies and broad views, and not confine himself to one particular church alone, but as long as he remained in Consett he would try to assist every church which was striving to do good in the place. (Applause.) In some quarters there seemed to be some doubts expressed as to whether organs were desirable in places of worship. It was argued that such instruments were apt to cause people to go to church or chapel simply for the music alone. That was a mistaken idea. If people attended a place of worship only for the sake of the music, and nothing more, then he did not think they would go at all. Moreover, if people did attend on purpose to listen to the music, probably they might hear something else which would do them good, and besides they would take no harm in coming to chapel. (Laughter and applause.) Perhaps they might go to the extreme in the other direction, and make their services too classical. The safest way, therefore, was to take a medium course. He learnt that their old organ had been sold for £20. Well the best musician in the world could not produce sweet music from such an instrument. They had not lavished their funds on any excessive ornamentation; but had obtained a neat, plain, and substantial looking instrument. After hearing Mr Dodds play they would doubtless be able to form an opinion of the qualities of the organ. (Applause.)

Mr Dodds performed the following pieces on the instrument:—Overture, "Zampa," (*Herald*), Intermezzo, "Rustic Chivalry," Sonate No. 1 (*Mendelssohn*); Offertoire, "Deux Noels," introducing "Adeste Fideles," *Mendelssohn's* Wedding March, "Midsummer Night's Dream," air, "With Verdure clad," (*Haydn*); fantasia with variations to the tune of "St. Alphege," Savote, "Mignon," and the "Hallelujah Chorus" as the grand *finale*. With such a various selection from the works of the best and greatest masters of the age, Mr Dodds, who displayed considerable ability in the manipulation of the instrument, was enabled, in spite of the natural stiffness of the mechanism, to demonstrate to the satisfaction of all present the most admirable properties and powers of the organ. Its tone is melodious and beautiful, and it is wholly free from that harsh and rasping sound which characterises some of the new organs of the present day; and the trustees may congratulate themselves upon having acquired one of the best instruments to be found in the district. The swells were carefully introduced, the different expressions finely modulated, and the pedals were worked with great effect. The organ is nicely finished, and the workmanship seems to be of the best possible description. Mr Dodds's efforts were rewarded with repeated outbursts of enthusiasm. Vocal selections were contributed at intervals, Miss Williams, Blackhill, singing "The Toilers," and "The holy city," in a singularly touching manner. Mr J. Mathieson, also of Blackhill, rendered "Calvary," and "The lights across the river," exceptionally well, both artistes being well applauded.

Votes of thanks terminated this part of the proceedings; and at the close a good many persons sat down to a supper, which was provided in the adjoining schoolroom.

In connection with the opening of the new organ the services were conducted by County Councillor T. R. Dodd, of Lemington. In the afternoon, a recital on the organ was given by Mr N. Coulson, of Ryton, (organist of Riding Mill Church). Mr G. T. Hyden, schoolmaster, Consett, presided, and gave an address on "Music in the churches." There were large congregations.

DRUNKENNESS CURED.—A Wealthy American Lady whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression and Exhausted Vitality, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying all known remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Anyone suffering or desiring to help others in this worthy cause, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr James Holland, 25 Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will recieve all information, free of charge. Mention this paper

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year, more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1,000 a week more in wages, and large numbers of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

Thursday, April 19th.—Before Lieut-Colonel E. Leadbitter-Smith, (presiding), W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., Wm Logan, Esq., and Edmund Ballent.

A DISTURBANCE AT WEST STANLEY.

Thomas Pearce, Bart. Clough, and *Thomas English*, miners, were charged by Sergt. Waller with being drunk and disorderly at West Stanley, on the 8th inst.—The officer said that the men were causing a disturbance in front of the Commercial Hotel. They were making a match, and Pearce wanted to fight any man in the place. When witness ordered him to go home he refused.—P.C. Ferguson corroborated.—Albert Megginson, Robert Clough, and other witnesses proved that there was no disorder, although a bowling match was made, but nothing said about fighting. The sergeant roughly caught hold of Pearce and pushed him down.—Sergt. Waller said that he got hold of Pearce to move him on, and he was so tipsy that immediately after he released the man, he fell down.—Defendant were each fined 5s and costs.

Albert Megginson and *Thomas English*, for fighting at West Stanley on the same date, were each bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and ordered to pay the costs.

NON-PAYMENT OF POOR RATE.

George W. Livingstone, of Stade House, Ebchester, was summoned for the non-payment of 36s, due as poor rate in the parish of Ebchester made in October last.—It was stated that defendant sent 18s, but Mr J. T. Middleton, the assistant-overseer, declined to accept that amount.—The Bench issued a warrant for the full sum owing.

CHARGE OF WORRYING A LAMB.

Frederick Aldsworth a labourer, was summoned for being the owner of a dog which killed a lamb, belonging to George Alder, registrar of births and deaths, of Old Cornsay, on March 27th, the prosecutor claiming £1 as damages.

Mr Alder admitted that the lamb was only a day or two old, and called Mrs Thompson, who deposed that she was sent to look after the sheep and lambs, and missed one of the latter. On looking round, she perceived the defendant's dog, a black retriever, worrying a lamb. It was riving the body to pieces, and witness had to throw stones at the animal before she could get it away, and he growled at her. Eventually, the dog bounded off with a leg of the lamb in its mouth. The animal ran straight away to the defendant's house, and witness followed it without losing sight of the beast. She saw defendant's son outside, and while speaking to the mother, the son and daughter and the dog were busy covering up the remains with dust.

Defendant denied that it was his dog that killed the lamb.

Wm. Aldsworth, defendant's son, said the dog had just been loosed when Mr Alder's housekeeper passed him. She returned immediately, and said that a big dog had worried a lamb, but she said that she did not know the dog. Seeing the large retriever standing, the housekeeper said that that was the dog. Mrs Thompson did not follow the dog direct, as there was a stone wall, 4ft high, which witness did not climb, but went through the farmyard. Moreover, their next door neighbour kept a dangerous retriever dog.

Mrs Aldsworth, the mother, was called, but she talked so volubly that the Chairman repeatedly told her to shut up.

The daughter said the dog was watched during the few minutes it was let loose. It had since been destroyed.

The Magistrates disbelieved the evidence for the defence, and ordered Aldsworth to pay £1 damages and 12s costs.

Defendant said he had nothing to pay with.

DRUNK AT HIS SISTER'S FUNERAL.

William Pattinson, of Darlington, who failed to appear, was charged by P.C. Robinson with being drunk at Lanchester, on the 15th inst.—Inspector Daly said that the defendant came to attend his sister's funeral at Lanchester and got drunk. When admitted to bail he said that he would not appear.—He was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment.

THE NON-PAYMENT OF POLICE COURT FINES: A HEAVY DEFICIT.

A very large number of cases of drunkenness were heard, the fines imposed ranging from 2s 6d to 10s and costs.—A great many of the offenders asked for "time" to pay the penalties.—The Chairman said they would not allow "time" in any cases unless the police were sure of getting the money. There had been a loss of more than £100 during the past year or so in that division in the non-payment of fines, and the County Council had been making a bother about the matter.

CURIOUS HUSBAND AND WIFE CASE.

Ralph Mordue, miner, of South Medomsley, was summoned for not contributing towards the maintenance of his wife, who became chargeable to the Lanchester Union on March 8th.

Mr Ralph Walton, relieving officer, asked for an order for 8s a week from defendant.

Mrs Mordue was brought from the Workhouse, and said that in February defendant turned her out of the house with only her night-gown on. She went home to her mother's. They had been married 14 months, and defendant had often struck at her. She was afraid to live with him any longer.

Joseph Vine spoke to his married sister being turned out of the house, and coming to their house.

In answer to Mr Welford (who defended), witness said he did not cause the defendant to be apprehended, but admitted telling Mr Walton that the man was a "slippery character," and so he was. (Laughter.)

Mr Welford produced witness to prove that the woman left the house on her own accord, and therefore defendant was not bound to maintain her. He frequently came from work and found his wife out and no meals prepared for him. She wanted him to go and live at his mother's, and he would not. The husband was charged with the same offence before the Consett Bench, but the Magistrates dismissed the case. His client, it was said, was going to run away to Scotland, and a warrant was taken out for his arrest, but he never had any intention of running away, and was still about the place.

Mrs Witty, who lived below the defendant's rooms, spoke to the wife leaving the house as soon as her husband had gone to the pit, and when he returned home there was no fire in the grate, and no meals prepared for him. Defendant did not turn the woman out of the house, but she left of her own accord.

P.C. Curtis also gave evidence for the defendant, alleging that the wife neglected her household duties.

The Justices said that they could not make an order upon such evidence, and dismissed the summons.

SECOND COURT.

Before E. W. E. Ballent (chairman) and W. Logan, Esqs.

POACHING PREVENTION ACT.

Joseph Perry, John Little, Edward Gibson, and *Robert Winter*, all belonging to Consett, were charged by P.C. Carruthers, under the above Act, with coming off land for an unlawful purpose.—The officer found them on the Templetown Road, on April 2nd, and suspecting that they came from land in the neighbourhood of Knitsley, he searched the men and found a rabbit in their possession.—Defendants, who denied the charge, were fined £1 each and costs.

NO DOG LICENSE.

Edward Gibson, of Consett, was prosecuted by P.C. Carruthers for keeping a dog without a license, and was fined 7s 6d and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Robert Wilson and *James Henderson* were summoned by P.C. Vitty for damaging property at South Moor, on the 9th inst.—Fined 10s, 1d damage, and costs.

Michael McSweeney, charged by P.C. Walker with doing damage to the property of Messrs Joicey and Co., at Tanfield on 11th April, was mulcted in a penalty of 5s, 1d damages, and expenses.

John Metcalfe and *Thomas Ferguson* were prosecuted by P.C. Lewis for causing damage to property at West Kyo, and were fined 5s, 1d damage, and costs.

Joseph Bignall, Ralph Proudlock, and *Joseph Armstrong* were charged by P.C. Vitty with doing damage to the property of the South Moor Coal Company, on the 8th inst., and were fined 5s and costs.

PITCH AND TOSS

George Todd, Thomas Clough, Joseph Savage, Wm. Bryant, Roger Gilles, Wm. Williamson, Edward Purvis, Thomas Beckett, and *Hugh Ingleby*, of West Stanley, were proceeded against by P.C. Stubbs for playing at pitch and toss at South Moor, on the 7th inst.—Todd was absent; Savage, Bryant, and Beckett pleaded guilty, while the rest denied the charge.—Todd was fined 7s 6d and costs, and the remainder 5s and expenses.

COKE-OVEN DWELLERS.

Joseph Hetherington, Wm. Wilson, Robt. Johnson, William Smith, William Tweddle, James Gallagher, Michael Creighton, Patherick McGurk, Bernard Murray, and *John Gallagher* were charged by P.C.'s Robinson and Stubbs with sleeping in the coke ovens in the neighbourhood of Annfield Plain and West Stanley, on the 18th inst.—Hetherington, Tweddle, and Gallagher were sentenced to 28 days' imprisonment; Smith was acquitted, while the rest got 14 days' hard labour.

THEFT AT ESH.

James Milburn was summoned by Wm. Fracker, a gamewatcher, with stealing a rabbit trap at Esh, on the 7th April.—Fined 10s and costs.

VAGRANCY.

George Leybourne, a tramp, was found guilty, on the evidence of Sergt. Mitchell, of being found without an visible means of subsistence at Consett, early on Monday morning.—Accused was committed for 14 days' hard labour.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

Monday, April 23rd.—Before Coun. Jas. Annandale, J. W. Walton-Wilson, W. B. Van Haansbergen, F. Priestman, J. F. Potts, Hon. J. G. P. Vereker, and E. W. E. Ballent, Esqs.

AS IT SHOULD BE!

Both in the first and second court, notice was given from the Bench that this would be the last day the magistrates would allow time for fines to be paid. In future parties convicted must pay the penalties, or take the alternative, and that meant imprisonment. In the past, through the system of "allowing time," a considerable amount had been lost to the county, and the magistrates were now going to take steps so as to put a stop to the practice by having all fines paid on the day on which they were inflicted.

HIGHWAY ACT.

Thomas Oswald, butcher, was summoned for allowing his horse and cart to stand on the highway at Burnopfield on the 14th inst.—P.C. Wall deposed that defendant's horse and trap stood on the highway in front of a public-house for fully 20 minutes, without anyone in charge of the same.—Defendant said that when he left the house there was a party had charge of the same.—The Bench found defendant guilty, and fined him 5s and 6s costs.

A RAID ON TRAMPS.

A batch of tramps named *Robert Douglass, John Murphy, Patrick Feeney, Robert Turnbull, George Wilson*, and *John Murphy* were brought up charged with sleeping in and about coke ovens connected with the Pontop Colliery at Annfield Plain on the previous (Sunday) night.—Sergt. Mitchell and P.C. Humphrey adduced to apprehending the men.—All the prisoners, with the exception of Douglass were sent to gaol for 7 days with hard labour.—The charge against Douglass was dismissed on account of his old age.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Joseph Quinn, a youth, of Harvey Street, Consett, was proceeded against for cruelty to a pony by working the same in an unfit state, on the 17th inst. Defendant pleaded guilty.—P.C. Carruthers averred that he saw the pony attached to a cart in Medomsley Road, and it seemed to be suffering pain. He had the animal brought to the Police Station, where he removed the saddle and found an old sore about 1½ inches in length, covered by an old rag.—The Chairman: What does the defendant do?—Officer: He is employed by his father, and hawks paraffin oil.—Defendant told him that they had had the pony 9 days, and the sore was there when they got it.—Defendant was fined 5s and 7s costs.

WOUNDING AT CONSETT.

Edward Wilkinson, labourer, of William Street, Consett, was brought up charged with unlawfully wounding his wife, Alice Wilkinson, on the 21st inst. Prisoner pleaded not guilty. Complainant said she was the worse for liquor at the time. Prisoner gave her a shove, and she tripped herself up with the hearthrug, and fell against the fender. She saw the blood, and then ran for the police so as to get her husband locked up.—The Chairman: Do you want to let your husband off now? Complainant: There is no call to ask you to let him off when he did not commit the offence.—The magistrates clerk (Mr Granger): You got your husband locked up through you accusing him of causing the wound on your forehead.—Complainant: I know I did, but I was drunk at the time.—P.C. Carruthers said that he apprehended the prisoner and charged with unlawfully wounding his wife. Prisoner replied: "I am not guilty, I gave her a shove and she fell." Afterwards, he visited Dr Renton's surgery at Cansett, and found complainant had a severe cut on the forehead, which was dressed by Dr Shannon.—The magistrates accordingly dismissed the case.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED RAPE AT BLACKHILL.

A BEASTLY FELLOW.

Robert Aynsley, alias "Bob the Wolf," was brought up on remand, charged with a most serious offence by attempting to commit a rape upon a little girl, named Isabella Green, aged five years, at Blackhill, on the 14th inst.

Mary McGurk said she was a married woman, and lived in Park Road, Blackhill. About 12 o'clock on Friday, April 13th, she went through the gardens to hang clothes up, and when near Thomas Batey's pigstye she heard a child crying "oh ma, oh ma." Witness looked through a hole in the disused pig-sty, when she saw the prisoner on his knees inside with his trousers loosed down. The little girl was standing in front of him, and he had his hand up her clothes, she heard him using nasty expressions to her. She called Sarah Batey out of her house and they returned to the place. The child was still sobbing and crying, "oh ma, oh ma." She called the prisoner to come out, but he would not do so till he adjusted himself. Witness dragged him out, and he then ran away. She took the child out, who was very much distressed.

Sarah Ann Batey adduced she was a married woman, and resided in Railway Place, Blackhill. About 12 o'clock on this particular day she was in the house, when she heard Mary McGurk shouting of her to come to the disused sty. She hurried up the path to the place, when she heard the child crying "oh ma, oh ma." Mary McGurk shouted to the prisoner, "come out you villain," and eventually dragged him out and he ran away. The little girl then came out of the pig-sty. She was sobbing and crying and very much distressed. Witness told the child to go home and tell her mother what the prisoner had done to her.

Mary Green said she lived at 15, Bessemer Street, Blackhill. About 12·15 p.m. on April 13th, her little daughter, aged five years, was brought home by a man named Michael Hobday. She was crying, and said the man had given her a penny, and other words which led her to believe that something wrong had taken place. She examined her but found nothing wrong.

Sergt. John Tones said from information received he proceeded next day to Newcastle and Gateshead, and succeeded in tracing the prisoner to Sunderland, where he apprehended him in High Street. He escorted prisoner to Consett Police Station, where he charged him with attempting to commit a rape on Isabella Green, aged five years, at 12 o'clock on the previous day, in a disused pig sty, at Blackhill. Prisoner replied "I was in the pig sty with the girl, but I did nothing."

Prisoner, in reply to the charge, said he would reserve his defence.

The magistrates accordingly committed prisoner to take his trial at the Durham Sessions.

A MOST DISGRACEFUL CASE FROM THE LINTZ.

IS THE PRESENT GENERATION DETERIORATING.

Another disgraceful case came up for hearing in which *George Henderson*, farm servant, of Lintz Hall, was charged with committing a rape upon Elizabeth Armstrong, servant at the same place on the 20th inst. Mr J. McCartan (Consett) prosecuted, whilst Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) defended.

Prosecutrix attested that she was 18 years old and had been a domestic servant with Mr Henderson, farmer, at Lintz Hall, since the November term. The prisoner was also a servant at the same place. On Friday last she was in the kitchen about ten minutes past six in the morning. Prisoner had his breakfast with her. After breakfast she was going to do the house work, and was taking the ashes up when prisoner put his arms round her waist and threw her down on to the floor. They struggled, and she got up; but prisoner finally succeeded in putting her into an old arm chair. She took the poker up, and then he said he would put a knife into her. She shouted, and said that she would bring him up. When in the chair he had connections with her, but not with her consent. No one else was in the house, with the exception of the master and mistress, who were in bed. After he had connections with her, the mistress came downstairs shortly afterwards. She was crying and the mistress asked her what was the matter, and she made the complaint. Prisoner by this time had gone to his work. The master came downstairs, and she made a statement. Prisoner did not come into the house till dinner time. On other occasions she had made complaints about the prisoner attempting to take liberties with her. The master and mistress had checked prisoner repeatedly for his conduct. She was examined by a doctor, and the police were informed of what had occurred.

Cross-examined by Mr Welford: A man named Hall did live in the house. She had complained of the prisoner attempting to take liberties with her. The mistress never said she was worse than the lads. Hall and witness never had connections. They had often been in the byre together. On this particular morning she got prisoner his ten o'clock, after the offence was committed. She had never misconducted herself in the presence of the prisoner. This offence took place in the easy chair. She never laid her head against the prisoner's shoulder.

By the Chairman: She was never lying on the box that was in the kitchen.

Joseph Henderson, farmer, of Lintz Hall, said the prisoner and complainant were in his service, and had been since the November term. Witness said that he had to take Hall and prisoner through hands for their conduct. The girl had complained of mis-conduct in the byre. He remembered this particular morning, when his wife made a statement to him about what the prisoner had done to the girl. When he accused the prisoner of the offence he did not deny the same. When his wife and himself were in the room above the kitchen they could not hear anything that was going on downstairs.

By Mr Welford: They did not hear anything that morning. He could not say that his wife had told the girl not to run after the lads. He had never seen anything wrong with the prosecutrix.

Dr Macintyre, practicing at Consett, said that he examined the girl on the same day, who was brought to his surgery by Inspector Mabon. He found no marks of violence, but there were traces of recent connection.

P. J. Pemberton averred that from information received he apprehended the prisoner, and charged him with the offence. He replied: "She was as keen as I was."

Prisoner, in answer to the charge, replied that he was not guilty.

Mr Welford said if the Bench considered there was any case to answer, he was prepared to call evidence, which would show the character of prosecutrix.

The Chairman: Your had better call your evidence.

John Hall adduced that he formerly lived as a servant at this farm. He had seen the complainant misconduct herself on several occasions. He never threatened to put a knife into the girl. He left his employment because the girl told a lot of lies about him. It was a fact that on more occasions than one the prosecutrix had conducted herself in an unbecoming manner towards the prisoner and himself.

The Bench dismissed the case.

A BRUTAL HUSBAND.

TWICE SEPARATED FROM HIS WIFE.

Thomas Hanson, miner, of Middle Friarside, near Lintz Green, was charged with committing an aggravated assault upon his wife, Sarah Hanson, on April 2nd.

Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) prosecuted, and called evidence to prove that during the 18 years they had been married the husband had treated his wife in a brutal manner, and had also beaten and kicked his eldest boy till the mother was afraid that he would kill the lad. About four years ago defendant was sentenced to one month's hard labour for an aggravated assault on his wife, and the Bench granted a separation order. On his release from prison, however, defendant enticed his wife to return, but since then she had been obliged to leave him three or four times in consequence of his brutal conduct.

Prosecutrix deposed that she had been married to defendant 18 years. There had been a family of eight, but one of the children was dead. Through the defendant's misconduct and ill-usage she had had to leave him a few times. On the 2nd April, defendant came in just before dinner time, and laid himself down on the floor. After sleeping for a time he woke up and accused her of taking 15s out of his pockets. She denied the offence, and then he commenced to belabour her in a mad fashion. Defendant dealt her several blows on the face, inflicting a cut over the eye, which commenced to bleed, and became discoloured. He also struck her on the jaw, breast, and shoulders. After getting away from defendant she went upstairs, where she remained for a short time. On coming into the room again, her husband attacked her and ill-used her shamefully, and at last she took refuge in a neighbour's house till defendant had retired to rest. When she went into the house, Hanson declared that "he would give it to her yet." She stayed with him till the Saturday, when he commenced to kick and thrash the lad, and she accordingly interfered. He had battered her head upon the table, and caused her to become deaf.

By the defendant: Prosecutrix said Hanson never touched her on the Saturday night.

In answer to the Chairman, prosecutrix said she got a separation order when defendant battered her head on the table, and he was sent to prison. The Magistrates allowed her 12s per week. She was away from her husband seven weeks, but he persuaded her to go back and live peaceably with him. (Laughter.)

John W. Hanson, the eldest son, corroborated, and declared that his father brutally assaulted his mother. It was perfectly true that defendant attacked her on the Saturday night, through which his mother and the family left the house.

Defendant: Have you not frequently run away from home?—Witness: Yes, but it was through your ill-usage.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr Grainger): No wonder the lad ran away.

The Chairman: Was your father at work on April 2nd?—Witness: No.

Have you ever been charged with committing any offence?—Witness: No.

Mr Welford: I think it most unfair and unkind of any father to hand the Bench a letter so as to make them believe that his own son is everything that is bad.

George Hanson adduced similar testimony.

Defendant: Did you not bring some water so as to bathe my head?—Witness: Yes, but it was on account of your head being bad that such was done.

Elizabeth Hinegan spoke to the condition of complainant after the assault.

Defendant said that the squabble arose through him accusing his wife of taking the money. She knew all the time where it was, because on the Thursday she told him.

In answer to the Chairman, prosecutrix said she knew nothing about the money.

Defendant made a long, rambling statement as to the conduct of his wife and family, but never denied the assault.

The Magistrates fined defendant £2 and costs, or six weeks' imprisonment in default. They granted a judicial separation, gave the wife the custody of the four children under ten years, and ordered him to pay 13s a week towards their maintenance.

The two eldest boys sobbed bitterly in Court, and protested that they dared not live with their father any longer, as he ill-treated them so much.

The Magistrates then gave Mrs Hanson charge of the whole family.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

John Ramsay, George Moore, John Reed, William Reed, Joseph Heaton, Thomas Rennison, and *Robert Nichol*, youths, were charged with doing wilful damage to grass at Mountsett, the property of Mr David Kirkup, farmer, Upper Lintz, on the 1st inst.—P.C. Curtis spoke to seeing the defendants playing football on Mountsett Fell. When he accused the youths of trespassing they said they could not get a field off Mr Kirkup, and they considered they were doing no harm.—Mr J. McCartan, who defended, raised one or two objections to the section under which the defendants were summoned, and contended that the land on which the defendants were playing football was quarry right.—Mr Kirkup assessed the damage at 1d each.—The Magistrates adjourned the case for 14 days, in order to give them time to consider the objections raised.

SECOND COURT.

Before J. W. Walton-Wilson (presiding), and E. W. E. Ballent, Esqs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Thomas Crawley and *John Aitken*, youths, were summoned by P.C. Pattison for fighting at Consett, on the 31st ult.—Defendants were bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for six months, and defray 7s 6d each costs.

For a similar offence, *Samuel Bloomfield* and *Alice Bolam*, of Dipton, were bound over to keep the peace for six months, and defray the costs.

DRUNKENNESS.

There were a large number of cases of drunkenness ried, and the usual fines were imposed.

Human Life.—Fifty years' record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Disease and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D.; author of "Patriarchal Longevity Reasonable," "Earth-Life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every Sufferer. Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 18, Theobald's Road, Holborn, London, W.N.

'CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints cured by Bucha-parba." At Chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agent King Edward Street, London E.C.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, [illegible] boxes at Chemists.

Dr Bardsley's Antibilious Pills.—For eradicating 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.

INDEPENDENT UNITED ORDER OF MECHANICS.

GRAND COUNCIL AT BLACKHILL.

The Grand Council of the Independent United Order of Mechanics' Friendly Society began its annual sittings on Tuesday at the Commercial Hotel, Blackhill. The retiring Grand Master (Brother William Eastham, of Preston, Lancashire) presided in the first instance, and after the GM-elect (Brother Ralph Walton, of Blackhill) had been duly installed, he accepted that position and delivered the presidential address. Delegates from the eleven or twelve districts of the Order in this country were present and the sittings lasted three days. The representatives arrived during Monday, and at night the Grand Council was entertained by the Blackhill district to a complimentary dinner at the Commercial Hotel. A sumptuous repast was provided by the host (Mr Stewart). Mr Joseph Elstringham presided, while Brother Eastham, the retiring WM, filled the vice-chair. About 40 members of the Grand Council and local brethren were present.

The Chairman, in giving the toast of "The Queen," said that they had a most successful period under the monarchial form of government, and considered a monarchial far superior to a Republican Government. (Applause.) He also submitted "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family."

Both toasts were pledged with loyal enthusiasm.

The Chairman was exceedingly glad to welcome strangers from a distance visiting that little town of theirs. They had nothing much to boast of at Blackhill except the steelworks, paper mills, and the natural beauties of the Derwent Valley, but whatever there was they were welcome to see it, and they always liked to make the most of visitors. (Applause.) He hoped they would enjoy themselves while they were there. (Applause.)

The Vice-Chairman proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces of the United Kingdom," and said he could appreciate the great services the Army and Navy had rendered to the country. (Applause.)

Brother Sergt. Henderson (Kendal district) in replying, felt proud to be connected with the Reserve Forces.

Brother Sergt. Baxondale (Bolton district) also replied.

Brother Graham (Maryport) next gave "The Bishop and Clergy of the diocese and the ministers of all denominations." He observed that they in the County of Durham ought to be congratulated upon having such an excellent bishop like Dr Westcott. His lordship not only looked after their spiritual welfare, but their temporal interests as well. The Bishop of Durham was instrumental in settling the unfortunate dispute they had in the coal trade in that county some time ago; and his efforts to form a Conciliation Board for the adjustment of all industrial disputes would commend him to all classes. (Applause.) He also spoke of the noble work done by the clergy and ministers of all sects.

Brother Simpson replied in a very humorous speech remarking that he had been closely allied with the Dissenting Ministers for the past 40 years, and knew that they worked extremely hard. (Applause.)

Brother Walton, the GM-elect, on rising to move the toast of the evening "Success to the Independent United Order of Mechanics," explained that they were met in connection with the chief meeting of the Order, that gathering preceding the first day's sitting. The business that came before them was of a mixed and varied character. Those who studied the reports of their Order year after year would see that an agenda paper was sent out, and it was the duty of the DGM's to consult their constituents after September in each year, and to come to the Grand Council, prepared to give an opinion, and express their views on the various subjects on that agenda. That system was common to most friendly societies. Their Order had to take a back seat as regarded their members, but they did not stand in the background in reference to the good work they were doing in relation to the number of members. The delegates sent to the central meeting were supposed to give voice to the feelings and sentiments of their members. It was wonderful to see the rapid development of the Friendly Society movement during latter years. Forty or fifty years ago they would not see the business conducted in such an efficient and able manner as it was at the present day. This was very much owing to the schoolmaster having been abroad in earlier times With the improved educational faculties the members they got into their lodges now were as capable of discussing the affairs of other lodges, and the districts of the order as many of the officers were placed in that position merely because it was necessary that they should have some ornamental figure heads. (Laughter.) They must attribute the increased usefulness of friendly societies to the rank and file of their lodges. They had opposition to meet in the shape of insurance societies whose agent, collected subscriptions from door to door, many people preferring to pay pence in this way rather than come to their lodge meetings. They were threatened with another opposition in the form of old age pensions—a scheme which was looming in the distance, and was looked upon with fear by members of friendly societies, and it was felt to be another blow at their cause they had at heart. He did not think, however, even if the scheme became law that there was anything in the old age pensions that they need be afraid of; but he failed to see why the government should put expensive machinery into operation to work the old age system considering it might be managed by the friendly societies throughout the country, with advantage to themselves as well as for the benefit of the community at large. (Applause.) They should look at the scheme in a business-like view, and let them adopt their societies to harmonise in accordance with the scheme. (Applause.)

The vice-chairman, in acknowledgment of the trust, declared that in his opinion no friendly society in England equalled that of the I.U.O. (Applause.) He had given very careful study of the government and constitution of the various societies existing in this country in this country and he had not seen any society that equalled their own. (Renewed applause.) He had been mixed up with different societies but he asserted that none offered the same benefits as the I.U.O. according to the contributions that were paid. (Applause.) They might talk about oddfellowship, forestership, druidship, or any other ship that sailed, but none offered the advantages and privileges that the I.U.O. did that day. He was sorry that they had not made greater progress, but in his opinion as Grand Master they had reached the lowest possible ebb, and there was a happy and prosperous future for the Mechanics. (Applause.) He agreed with D. G. M. Simpson that they had passed through their depression, and he believed that if a few of the so-called leaders who had lately seceded from the society had left years before, the I.U.O would have been in a far better position than it stood. (Applause.) Having gone through their orders and reports, he was sorry to have to say that the unfortunate position they were now placed in was due to the action of some improper leaders in days gone by, but with their present leadership he felt convinced that the order would go on and flourish exceedingly well. (Applause.) That was the third grand council he had attended, so that he was a young man to some of the older brethren present. He would urge upon the Grand Council to attain one ideal—to do their very best for their brothers, and let good feeling and fellowship exist at their councils. (Hear, hear.) Let them not consider the interests of particular lodges or individuals, but work for the welfare of the order as a whole. Let them unite, so that there should be one common brotherhood amongst them, be generous and charitable in all their deeds and actions, and the future success of the Order was perfectly assured. (Cheers.)

Brother Edwards (Liverpool district) likewise spoke to the toast, and said that having been connected with the Order for 35 years, he cordially endorsed all that the Grand Master had uttered as to the desirability of preserving unity in their order. For some years past there had been too much personal feeling in connection with their Councils; but they had passed through all this bitterness and were on the road to success. (Applause.)

Brother John Orr (Blackhill district) giving "The guests," while acknowledging the great benefits to be derived from the Order, in providing for the help and sustenance of working men by sick and funeral benefits, pointed out that the DGM's in the past had not paid proper attention to the accumulation of funds they had in hand that day. He believed the strength of the IUO lay in the fact that the money was to be utilised to the best possible advantage, and the Order economically and efficiently managed. He deprecated the practice of having 4 or 5 millions doing nothing at all, and urged that the money should be soundly and judiciously invested for the benefit of the Order, alway leaving sufficient to meet all claims for benefits. (Applause.)

Mr Thompson Siddell (Blackhill district), in supporting, regretted that since the Grand Council met at Blackhill in 1884, two districts had been severed from the Order. He thought the Grand Council had trespassed on the interests of private members in the manner of dealing with the sick allowance, and he considered it preferable to increase their monthly subscriptions, rather than curtail the sick benefits. Their district had stood loyally to this plan, and he believed they would agree to a further increase of the monthly subscriptions rather than have their sick allowance reduced by a single penny. (Applause.)

Brothers Baxendale (Bolton district) and Anderson (Burnopfield district) responded to the toast.

The Vice-Chairman, answering the stricture of Brothers Orr and Siddell, stated that the reason the two districts seceded from the Order was because the delegates of these places wished to have their own way; but the Grand Council showed them that it had a will of its own. It would have been better for the Society had these districts gone sooner for all the good they did. They were merely working for their own selfish ends. The Grand Councils would not keep funds accummulated to a greater extent than was absolutely necessary. Several districts had called upon the Order to meet the deficiency in their funeral benefits, but as the Society prospered they hoped they would ere long be in a position to repay these amounts. (Applause.)

Other toasts followed, and songs were sung during the evening by Messrs Jonathan Stephenson (Blackhill), Mr Redshaw (Consett), the Vice-chairman, and others. Mr George Stephenson officiated at the pianoforte.

THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The annual Grand Council sitting commenced on Tuesday morning at the Commercial Hotel, Brother William Eastham, Grand Master, Preston (Lancashire), presiding, while Brother Simpson, D.G.M., Border Union district, was in the vice-chair. The following districts were represented:—Brothers R. Walton, G.M.-elect (Blackhill district), Henderson (Kendal district), White (Newcastle districts), Edwards (Liverpool district), Anderson (Burnopfield district), Graham (Dalston district), Phillipson (Bishop Auckland district), Baxendale (Bolton district), and Wilkinson (Upholland district).

ALLOWANCES TO MEMBERS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTES.

A long and animated discussion arose from the minutes regarding the payment of sick allowances to members who were lodged in lunatic asylums. The Bishop Auckland district having acted contrary to the rules, and the instructions of the Executive Committee. Several proposals were submitted to the meeting, and eventually it was agreed to instruct the lodges and officers that rule 52 debarring sick allowance to members taken to a workhouse or an asylum be enforced.

The Vice-Chairman considered that the rule in question ought to be expunged; inasmuch as if anybody ever needed their sympathy and assistance, it was when they were confined in these institutions.

Brother Walton pointed out that the rules could not be altered without due notice being given.

A VOTE OF THANKS.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Preston Executive for their labours during the past year.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

The Chairman then vacated the chair, and in so doing, said he looked back upon the 12 months he had acted as Grand Master of the I.U.O. with feelings of very great pleasure, and he hoped that Bro. Walton would be able to say the same thing at the expiration of his term of office. It was a position of high honour; and he only trusted that Brother Walton would have health and strength to fulfil that post with credit to himself, and with advantage to the Order generally. (Applause.)

Brother Walton was then duly installed G.M. for the ensuing year.

The Grand Master-elect in returning thanks, said that looking back 10 years when he occupied a similar position, the time seemed short, but the ten years services had been freely and willingly given for the benefit of their district and their Order. Glancing back 14, 15, or 16 years, the work of the Order formed a very instructive retrospect, and they saw that great changes had taken place. They were not so strong in numbers as they might be, but the members seemed to be bashful in coming forward, and letting the public know the benefits and advantages derived from being identified with the Order. They relied too much upon the value of their cause, and the privileges it offered, as being sufficient to make its benefits known to the public, forgetting that a great many people were not aware of the existence of such a society. The question of juvenile branches of the Order was one that ought to be taken up in earnest if they desired to augment the membership of their Order. They once started a juvenile branch in the Blackhill district, which gave the lodge a spirit for the time being, but as soon as the members grew up and joined the lodge itself, there was no influx of members in the juvenile branch to follow them. The reason for the collapse was, he thought, the fact that their branch was worked by the officers of the lodge. He suggested that a better plan would be for the juvenile branch to be managed separately and distinctly, and have a special set of officers. They would then evince a deeper interest in the juvenile members, and could provide them with a treat in the summer time by taking the young members into the country. (Applause.) The task in connection with the revision and amendment of the rules had been completed, with the exception of the Liverpool district, and he anticipated they would be ready next year. He thought they might reasonably allow the rules to remain as they now existed for a few years without further alteration. (Applause.)

Bros. Graham and Eastham both stated that juvenile branches were being successfully worked in connection with their lodges; but they followed the plan of having separate organisations. Bro. Eastham remarked that they had several hundred members, with a sick benefit fund of close upon £1,000, and they provided a doctor for those requiring medical attention. (Applause.)

Bro. Wilkinson was voted to the vice chair.

THE POSITION OF THE ORDER.

It was reported that the number of members connected with the Order was 7,965; the amount of sick fund in the various districts, on Dec. 31st, 1893, was £22,096 18s 4d. There had been paid to sick members this half-year, £3,622 12s 1d.

Bro. Anderson, on behalf of the auditors, certified that the balance in hand of the Grand Master was £289 2s 8½d, and this money was handed over to Bro. Walton.

The Council then adjourned for luncheon.

GRANTS TO LODGES.

On re-assembling after luncheon, the Council took into consideration the various claims from embarrassed lodges, which were all conceded, the total amount disbursed in this manner amounting to £387 19s 9d.

The next subject on the agenda was the applications for grants from the lodges for sick members in lieu of sick payment in the future, the total sum granted for this purpose representing £235.

At this stage, a telegram was received from Mr Robinson, of Sunningdale Park, Berkshire, congratulating the Council, and wishing the members success in their week's work.

A LODGE'S REMOVAL APPLICATION.

A lengthy debate took place anent the question of the application of the "Samson" Lodge, Skelmersdale, to leave the Upholland District, and to be affiliated with Liverpool instead.

After considerable correspondence had been read bearing on the matter, and produced by Bro. Edwards (Liverpool District), Bro. Wilkinson (Upholland District) opposed the application on the ground that the arrangement was not a mutual one, by reason of the way the whole business had been transacted.

The Grand Master announced that the Council had got the groundwork of the whole business, and the subject was deferred till the following morning.

The Council then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Council resumed its sittings on Wednesday morning at 9 30 prompt, Bro. Walton, presiding, and Bro. Wilkinson, D.G.M., in the vice-chair.

The question of giving permission to the "Samson" Lodge, Skelmersdale, (Upholland district), to affiliate with the Liverpool district, was again discussed.

Bro. D G M. Simpson moved that the permission of the Council be given to the "Samson" Lodge so as to allow them to affiliate with the Liverpool district.

Bro. D.G.M. Henderson, seconded.

Bro. D G M. Phillipson proposed an amendment to the effect that the question be referred back to the Lodge, so as to all them an opportunity of making a proper application to the Upholland district for a transfer.

Bro. D.G.M. Baxendale seconded.

The Grand Master considered if the lodge had only done this at first, the question would never have come to the Council. He did not think it was wisdom for the Council to interfere with these petty differences. Let this lodge do its business in a proper way, and he had no doubt the D.G.M. of that district would take a favourable view of the question.

Bro. D.G.M. Eastham said that he agreed with the Grand Master. If they began to take notice of these petty differences the Council would never know the end of them. He understood that Bro. Wilkinson was not altogether opposed to this lodge being transferred to the Liverpool district; yet he stood to his principle, and they, as a Council could not blame him for doing so. (Hear, hear.) He had great pleasure in supporting the amendment.

Bro. D.G.M. Wilkinson stated that if this lodge had done what was right at first he would not have opposed the transfer. He considered that throughout the whole business there had been a considerable amount of underhand work. The way the officers of the lodge had treated the D.G.M. of the district was not good enough. However, if the Council said this lodge should have a clearance he was quite willing. If the lodge at first had asked for a transfer it would have been granted.

Bro. D.G.M. Baxendale said if such had been done it would have come with better grace.

Bro. D.G.M. Simpson said that in moving the motion he considered they were throwing more blame on the "Samson" lodge than was really necessary.

Bro. D G.M. Wilkinson intimated that prior to Bro. Edwards visiting this lodge, he never received a notice of secession. He contended that he should have been the first to have been consulted on the question, and not Bro. Edwards who belonged to another district.

Bro. D G.M. Simpson: If such is the case I am under a wrong impression

Bro. D.G.M. Phillipson: I move a vote of censure on Bro. Wilkinson for not imparting this information before now. (Laughter.)

Bro. D.G.M. Simpson stated, after hearing the explanation from Bro. Wilkinson, and mistaken the dates of the letters he would withdraw the motion.

Bro. Henderson said, as seconder of the motion, he was willing that such should be done.

Bro. D.G.M. Edwards stated that he bore no malice towards the Upholland district. What he had done was what he considered for the best, and to avoid as far as possible secessions from the Order.

Bro. D.G.M. Phillipson intimated that if the proper application was made it would be granted.

The Grand Master again pointed out that the Council had no right to force any district to grant these applications. They, as a Council, should not tamper with such business. However, he understood if the "Samson" lodge made a proper application for a transfer, Bro. Wilkinson would not object to the same.

Eventually the motion was put, and 10 voted for the same, and one against.

Several of the brethren stated that it should be clearly understood that the Council did not cast any reflection upon Bro. Edwards for the action he had taken in the matter.

The Grand Master said that he did not agree with the sentiments just uttered. He considered that Brother Edwards had made a mistake in visiting this lodge, when it was in the Upholland district, and he hoped he would not do so again.

A similar application was made by the Grand Master for a transfer of the "Pride of Durham" Lodge, from the Bishop Auckland District to the Blackhill district.

The application was accordingly granted providing certain conditions were carried out.

Bro. D.G.M. Phillipson gave an explanation why "Hope of Westgate" Lodge had left the Order.

D.G.M. Bro Phillipson (Bishop Auckland district), proposed "That the clause in the Friendly Societies' Act referring to limiting the benefits to £200 be inserted in our rules. He contended if this was done it would be understood by the various lodges, and satisfactory to all concerned.

The Grand Master said the clause might be read.

Bro. D.G.M. Anderson read the clause as follows:—

Limitation of Benefits—"No member of a registered friendly society, nor any person claiming through a member, shall be entitled to receive more than £200 by way of gross sum, together with any bonuses or additions, declared upon assurances, and exceeding that amount, or (except as provided by section 6 of the Act), £50 a year by way of community from any one or more such societies, and such society may require a member to make and sign a statutory declaration that a total amount to which such member or person is entitled from one or more such societies does not exceed the sums aforesaid and any person knowingly making a false or fraudulent declaration as in the matter shall be guilty of a misdeamour."

Bro. Eastman, D.G.M. (Preston District), proposed that "all young members joining the society from 16 to 21 years of age shall pay to the sick fund of his lodge 1s 1d per month instead of 1s 3d as at present, and that all members joining from 30 to 35 years of age to pay 1s 5d to the sick fund, instead of 1s 3d as at present."—As the notice did not appear on the September agenda paper of the order, and some of the lodges had not been consulted on the subject. Bro. Eastham withdrew his proposition, but the chairman pointed out that Bro. Eastham was at liberty to give notice that his motion could be placed on the agenda paper in September next, and allow the members of the lodges to express their opinion concerning the point.

Bro. Baxendale (Blackburn district) had the subjoined proposition on the agenda:—"That all members who joined under the old rules be paid permanent sick pay; but all members joining under the new rules accept the terms of the two years limit for full sick pay."—It was agreed, however, to let the resolution stand over till another notice of motion in the name of the chairman had been settled, viz.—"Seeing that our members agree to pay 3d extra per month to maintain permanent sick pay, and that there has not been sufficient time elapsed to test whether this extra payment is sufficient, the resolution passed by Grand Council in 1893, limiting full sick pay for two years be rescinded."

The Chairman desired to alter the latter part of his resolution, and to substitute for the words "limiting sick pay for two years" that "the matter be carried forward for 12 months till the valuation of the Order had been ascertained."

Several delegates, however, objected to this course, on the ground that it was not in accordance with the rules of the Order.

The Chairman, in submitting the motion, said that all the lodges in the Blackhill district (with one exception) felt very strongly on the subject. The members were adverse to sick pay being limited or reduced; and would prefer to pay an increased subscription rather than this should be done. Besides many of their members had joined under the old conditions. Sufficient time had not elapsed to ascertain how the present system was working, seeing that they had already increased subscriptions by 3d per month, and there would be no harm in postponing the matter for one or two years, till the valuations of the Order had been received, inasmuch as they were getting increased subscriptions far deyond what the valuation last year showed what was the decrease.

Bro. Eastham, D.G.M., seconded.

Bro. Phillipson moved that the matter be swept off the board. It was not necessary, he said, to rescind a motion that had never been properly carried. It was only passed by a majority of three members of the Order, and he contended that such a rule could only be altered by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

Bro. Graham pointed out that they had 431 fewer members now, and £12,036 less money.

Bro. Eastham explained that on two instances wealthy lodges had seceded from them.

Bro. White spoke in favour, and Bro. Graham against the motion.

Bro. Simpson proposed an amendment, "That instead of rescinding that resolution, we allow the matter to stand in abeyance for another year."

Bro. Henderson seconded the amendment, and after some discussion it was carried.

Bro. Baxendale, in view of the passage of this resolution, thereupon withdrew his proposition as above.

Bro. Wilkinson proposed "that we call the attention of the Grand Council to G.C. rule 36, and propose that Feb. 15th be inserted in the place of December 31st, and August 15th in the place of June 30th." This rule had reference to the transmission of funeral returns to the Grand Master for the time being, and in the subsequent discussion it was argued that Bro. Wilkinson's proposal would not be carried into effect.

The motion was rejected, and the Council adjourned for luncheon.

On resuming, it was agreed to hold the next Grand Council at Burnopfield in April, 1895.

It was decided to give £7 7s 0d to the Preston Executive for their service during the past year, and also to give Bro. Baxendale a grant of £2 10s 0d for extra labour during his term of office as Grand Master.

It was further agreed to remunerate the Grand Secretary at the same rate as the Grand Council members.

The Council thereafter adjourned, and had a very pleasant "outing" to Edmondbyers and Blanchland.

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health [illegible] remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion, impotence of mind, limb, or vital function, [illegible] physical decline. At Chemists.

Business Announcements.

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Public Notices.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

STANLEY DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD.

ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 25TH, 1893.

Dr. RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
From General District Rate ...	1136	4	0
„ Overseers of Tanfield Parish } Proportion of Balance of Gen. Sanitary Rate from May 25th, 1892	45	6	8
„ Overseers of Kyo Township } 1892 ...	16	10	0
„ Fire Brigade	5	0	0
	1203	0	8
Balance Due to Surveyor... ...	7	1	3½
Total	£1210	1	11½

Cr. EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sewerage Works				158	6	0
Repairs to Roads and Footpaths ...				704	19	4½
Removing Snow				3	18	4
Public Lighting				84	11	2
Public Offices...				3	0	6
Street Improvements (Green and Bridge)				60	0	0
Public Conveniences...				1	12	7
Election Expenses				40	14	8
Salaries—						
Treasurer	2	6	1			
Collector	9	4	7			
Medical Officer	11	18	5			
Surveyor	31	10	9			
Inspector	16	3	1			
Clerk	16	3	0			
				87	5	11
Establishment Charges				61	14	7
				1206	3	1½
Balance in Treasurer's hands ...				3	18	10
Total				£1210	1	11½

Published in pursuance of Section 247 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

April, 1894. JOHN GEO. RIDLEY, Clerk to the said Local Board.

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TO CONTRACTORS.

CONTRACTORS wishful to TENDER for the ERECTION of BLOCK of TENEMENT DWELLINGS, at Tantobie, for Mr W. GARBE, Tantobie.

Names to be sent by, or on, May 8th, 1894, to

T. ERNEST CROSSLING,
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TO CONTRACTORS.

CONTRACTORS wishing to TENDER in the ERECTION of EIGHT TENEMENT DWELLING-HOUSES, at the Hobson, (Pickering Nook) Burnopfield, for Messrs E. WIGHAM and Co., Low Barcus Close, Burnopfield. Are to send in their names on or before May 8th, 1894, to

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Drawings, Specifications and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender obtained at our office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders to be delivered at the above office, on or before 4 p m on Thursday, the 3rd day of May, 1894.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
April 18th, 1894. 879n

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE above Society are desirous of receiving TENDERS for NEW SHOP FRONTS at Annfield Plain.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender obtained at our office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders to be delivered at the above office, on or before 4 p.m. on Thursday, the 3rd day of May, 1894.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH & SON,
April 18th, 1894. Architects.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for KERBING, CHANNELLING and CEMENTING FOOTPATHS in Victoria Street, Church Street, and Shakespeare Street.

Plan, Sections, and Specifications may be seen at the Local Board Office, on and after Saturday, 14th April.

The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Tenders must be sent to me, the undersigned, not later than Tuesday, the 1st May, 1894, endorsed "Tenders."

A bond will be required for the due performance of the work.

Forms of Tender will be supplied on application, and no Tender will be regarded which is not in the prescribed form.

By Order of the Board.
THOS. WM. WELFORD, Clerk.
9th April, 1894. 801n

LANCHESTER UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

TENDERS are Invited for the Construction of about 1,250 Yards of IRON and STONEWARE PIPESEWERS with Manholes, Lampholes, &c., at Burnopfield.

Plans may be seen and quantities, and further particulars obtained on application to Mr J. E. PARKER, C.E., Union Offices, Lanchester, from May 2nd to May 5th inclusive, on payment of a deposit of 10s 6d; which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender.

Sealed Tenders marked "Burnopfield Sewerage" must be delivered to the undersigned not later than 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 10th.

The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

W. H. RITSON,
Clerk to the Authority.
Union Offices, Lanchester, April 26th, 1894. 3a

Public Notices.

FOR SERVICE Pure Bred Pedigree Yorkshire WHITE BOAR—Apply to M ADAMSON, The Leazes, Burnopfield 717n

LOOK OUT for TOW LAW CATHOLIC SPORTS, Saturday, June 30th, 1894.—P. ROCK, Secretary. 546n

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FROSTERLEY DOG, POULTRY, PIGEON, RABBIT, CAVY, INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, and BRASS BAND CONTEST. Also, Grand Bicycle Parade, Saturday, April 28th. For Excursions see Small Bills. Schedules, &c., apply, CHAPMAN AND RUTTER, Secretaries. 875n

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NOTICE.

J. WILSON,

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£120 GIVEN IN STAKES.

Entries close not later than 27th April, 1894.

Entry forms and further particulars apply JOHN DOUGLAS, ROYAL HOTEL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE; or SECRETARY.

Course three-quarter mile distant from Consett, and half-mile from Knitsley Station.

Special trains see Railway handbills.

JOHN G. MURRAY,
730n Secretary, Consett.

DIPTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

ORGAN OPENING SERVICES.

THE SERVICES will be CONTINUED as follows:—On SUNDAY, April 29th, the Rev J. CRAWSHAW will Preach—morning and evening.—Organist, Mr G. DRYDEN, A L C M, Consett. SOLO at the Evening Service by Madame BELLAS-DRYDEN, of Consett

On SUNDAY, May 6th, Mr G H EAST, of Newcastle, will Preach Morning and Evening Organist Mr J DAVISON, of Leadgate Solo at the Evening Service by Mr J STEWART, of Leadgate

On SUNDAY, May 13th, Mr T E FENWICK, of Wolsingham, will Preach Morning and Evening Organist, Mr J W HEDLEY, of Leadgate Solo at the Evening Service by Mr R FRANKLAND, of Dipton. A Collection will be taken at each Preaching Service in aid of Organ and Renovation Fund. 811n

Public Notices.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE HIRINGS will be held on WEDNESDAY, MAY 9th, 1894 991n

81 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Hearthrug Raffled for at Leadgate, on Monday, 23rd inst.

34 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Bicycle Draw for at Minsteracres. 940n

219 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Roast Jack raffled for at Flint Hill

OAK COTTAGE (formerly of Poplar Cottage) Shotley Bridge—DAY SCHOOL for GIRLS and LITTLE BOYS. Principal: Miss SHAW. Summer Term Commences on May 2nd.

PARISH OF BEAMISH VESTRY MEETING on Wednesday, 2nd May, at 7 o'clock p.m., to receive Burial Board Accounts, to Elect Three Members on the Board, to appoint Auditors, &c.
JOHN CRENNELL.

NOTICE

A MEETING will be held in the Vestry, Ebchester, on WEDNESDAY FIRST, at 4 p m, to consider a scheme for Levelling the Churchyard All interested are requested to attend P CAMERON, Rector

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

ON WEDNESDAY Night First, Rev. S. T. BOSWARD, B.A., of Gateshead, will deliver his POPULAR LECTURE, on "The Good Time Coming." Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock. Admission Tickets, 6d. and 3d. each.

SILVER MEDAL COMPETITION FOR ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

12 SPLENDID SILVER MEDALS will be given by J. SNAITH, Esq., for Competition, commencing May 12th, 1894. Entrance, 2s. 6d. each Team, close May 8th, to JOHN SNAITH, Queen's Head, Leadgate.

CATHOLIC DRAMATIC SOCIETY, STANLEY

REPETITION ENTERTAINMENT

Of Drama, "MICHAEL ERLE," and Farce, "TURN HIM OUT,"
On WEDNESDAY, MAY 3rd, in Catholic School, Stanley. "A most popular success on April 11th." Reserved Seats, 1s; First, 9d; Second, 6d.

OPENING SERVICE.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION, STANLEY.

SUNDAY Evening First, April 29th, Public Service will be held in the STANLEY BOARD SCHOOLS, at 6 p.m. Preacher, Rev. A. BAILLIE, Presbyterian Minister, Blackhill. Offertory taken in aid of Mission Fund. 945n

JOHN DOVE AND CO., BUILDERS' MERCHANTS and LATHRENDERS, are prepared to TENDER for the best Portland Cement, Plaster, Laths, Hair, Crushed Bricks and Granite, Chimney Tops, Sanitary Pipes, Chimney Pieces, Asphalte, &c. New Offices, 5, St. Nicholas' Buildings (next door to Post Office); Warehouse and Works, 35, Close, Newcastle. Telephones: P.O., No. 618; National, No. 1,122. Telegrams, Dove, Newcastle. Established 40 years. 948n

4th DERWENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

THE SECOND SUBSCRIPTION MEETING of this Society will be held on May 9th, 1894, at the Station Hotel, Blackhill, from 7 to 8 o'clock, when New Members can be enrolled. Entrance Fee 2s. per Share. Subscriptions 10s. 6d. per Month for £120. After which, a SALE OF SHARE, or SHARES, as required, will take place.
JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM, Secretary.
Office—17, Hawthorne Terrace, Blackhill.
Open Daily.

PARISH OF TANFIELD.

A MEETING OF RATEPAYERS will be held in Tanfield Church Vestry, on Tuesday, the 1st May, 1894, at Seven p.m., to sanction the payment to the Collector for Levying and Collecting a Special Sanitary, Burial Board, and Highway Rate; also to consider the terms of the Local Government Act, 1894, as affecting this Parish, and take such steps and pass such resolutions in regard thereto as may be deemed expedient.
JOSEPH WATSON, } Overseers.
GEORGE RIDLEY, }

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, CASTLESIDE

NEW ORGAN OPENING SERVICES Saturday, May 12th, ORGAN RECITAL. Organist: Miss Temperley, Stanhope; Soloists: Madame Tankerville, Newcastle; and Mr E Robinson, Blackhill

Sunday, May 13th, Preacher, J COWARD, Esq, JP, Durham

Sunday, May 20th, Preacher, Rev JOHN RICHARDSON, North Shields

Sunday, May 27th, Preacher, Rev W RAISTRICK, Blackhill A Collection at each Service 984n

PRIMITIVE METHODIST DISTRICT MEETING

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH, SUNDAY, APRIL 29TH
10-30 a m, - REV J HALLAM
6 p m, - REV R G GRAHAM
At 2 p m,
A SPECIAL EVANGELISTIC SERVICE
To be conducted by Councillor J Gowland Speakers: Revs A T Guttery, James Young, assisted by the Choir and Band
A Public MEETING on Monday Night at 7 o'clock See Bills 990n

Look out for ST. MARY'S BLACKILL CATHOLIC

SPORTS

ON WHIT-MONDAY, MAY 14th, 1894,
To be held in a Field, situated in Blackfine. During the afternoon a FOOTBALL COMPETITION will be played. First Prize, £3; Second Prize, £1; Entrance 2s 6d each team; also, 120 yards HANDICAP FLAT RACE. First Prize, £3; Second Prize, £1; Third Prize, 10s; Entrance 1s each, to be made to the Secretary, T CAIN, 60, Princess Street, Consett, or the Handicapper, W MCKIE, 11, Bertha Street, Consett Football Competition to commence at 2 o'clock prompt 969n

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT. 1875.

SECTION 32

THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR of the LANCHESTER UNION, being the RURAL AUTHORITY for the said Union, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that they intend, in pursuance of the Public Health Act, 1875, to make SEWERS for the SEWERAGE of the western portion of Burnopfield, in the Parish of Tanfield, and a portion of such Sewers, being 15 chains or thereabouts in length, and 9 inches diameter, with ventilating manholes and lampholes, will be constructed under and upon a portion of the road at Busty Bank, Burnopfield, situate in the Township and Parish of Whickham, and within the Sanitary District of the Whickham Local Board, and terminating at the north end at the boundary of the said Township and Parish where it crosses the road, and at the south-east end by the entrance to the footpath between Busty Bank Road and Byer Moor.

A Plan of the intended work is open for inspection, at the Board Room, Lanchester
WM H RITSON,
Clerk to the Authority
Union Office, Lanchester, April 26th, 1894 4o

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

The Lessees of these Grounds (Messrs. WILSON BROS.) beg to announce that they have made the following arrangements for the above holidays.

GRAND CRICKET MATCHES.

MONDAY—Consett and District v. Elswick Works. Wickets pitched at 2 o'clock.

TUESDAY—Consett and District v. Rockcliffe. Wickets pitched at 2 o'clock.

Two Performances each day by
THE THREE BROTHERS ORMONDE,
Marvellous Lightning Acrobats; introducing the Greatest Chair Vaulting, &c., ever witnessed.

The Wonder of all Wonders.
MONS. FENBOW AND PUPIL
In their Great Japanese Perch Performance.

MUSIC.
Two Grand Popular Concerts each day, by the
NEWCASTLE MILITARY BAND,
On Monday; and the
ABBOT MEMORIAL SCHOOL BAND,
On Tuesday. Bandmaster, Mr. R. SMITH.

ADMISSION:—Adults, 6d.; Children, under 12, 2d

Public Notices.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TO LONDON.

ON MONDAY, 30th of April, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave NEWCASTLE at 12·5 a.m. (with Bookings from Kelso, Berwick, Alnwick, Morpeth, Tynemouth, North and South Shields, &c.), for LONDON (King's Cross), for Two and Four Days.

For further particulars see Bills, copies of which may be obtained at the District Passenger Superintendent's Office, Central Station, Newcastle.
GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.
York, April, 1894.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

FOOTBALL MATCH AT BISHOP AUCKLAND SWALWELL AXWELL ROVERS v WOLSINGHAM

ON SATURDAY, the 28th of April an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Swalwell at 1·25 p.m. (with bookings from Lintz Green, and Consett and Blackhill) for BISHOP AUCKLAND

For further particulars, see Bills, copies of which may be obtained at the District Passenger Superintendent's Office, Central Station, Newcastle.
GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.
York, April, 1894. 975n

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

THE
ANNIVERSARY SERVICES
Of this Church will be held
ON SUNDAY, MAY 6th, 1894,
WHEN THE

REV. R. TAYLOR

Of Upper Norwood, London, will Preach in the Morning at 10·30, and in the Evening at 6.
A Collection at close of each Service in aid of Church Funds.

On Monday Evening, 7th May, the REV. ROBT. TAYLOR will deliver his Popular LECTURE, entitled—"Temper: what it is, and how to manage it." Chairman, Rev. A. BAILLIE. Doors open at 7 p.m., to commence at 7·30. Silver Collection.

On Monday Afternoon, 7th May, a STALL for the SALE OF USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL WORK will be Opened at 2 o'clock in the Schoolroom attached to the Church.

TEA will be provided during the Afternoon at 6d. each.

On the same Evening, a TEA AND COFFEE SUPPER will be provided. Supper on Tables at 9 o'clock Tickets, 9d. each. All are invited.

THE BLACKHILL BRASS

BAND CONTEST

AND GALA
Will be held on
WHIT SATURDAY, MAY 12th, 1894.

In Fields kindly granted by Richard Murray, Esq., C.C., Mr John Lovat, and Mr George Christopher, Blackhill; situated past Queen Street, 3 minutes walk from the Consett and Blackhill Station.

CASH £50 PRIZES.
1st Prize, £25. 2nd Prize, £14.
3rd Prize, £8. 4th Prize, £3.
JUDGE, RICHARD STEAD, Esq., SLAITHWAITE.

It is also intended to have a GRAND BICYCLE MEET. Full particulars on Bills.

A Silver-plated BUGLE, valued £3, will be given by the Committee to the largest Meet on the ground of any Bicycle Club, each member to wear his badge.

Band Contest will commence at 2 o'clock.
ADMISSION, 6d.; CHILDREN, Half-price.

Application for Stands, &c., should be made to the Secretary, J. STEPHENSON, Derwent Street, Blackhill.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. T. Swainston.

TO LET BY PUBLIC AUCTION.

MR THOMAS SWAINSTON, Auctioneer, Consett, will LET by PUBLIC AUCTION, at 4 o'clock, prompt, on THURSDAY, MAY 10th, 1894, on the Local Board Sewerage Farm, Stanniforda m, Consett, the following

GRASS PARKS:—

16 acres	Bog Field
9 ,,	Bank
2½ ,,	New Land
6 ,,	Middle
6 ,,	Road
3½ ,,	Meadow
5 ,,	Standpipe

In all 48 acres. 1000n

By Mr. Robert Flowers.

To Hotel Keepers, Restaurant Proprietors, and others. Sale by Auction of Superior Restaurant Fixtures, Mirrors, Trade Utensils, &c., on the Premises, Middle Street, Consett, on Wednesday, May 13th, at 12 o'clock, prompt, and without reserve.

MR ROBT. FLOWERS, F.A.I., instructed by Geo. Dalgleish, Esq., whose Lease has expired, will SELL BY AUCTION, on the Premises, Middle Street, Consett, on WEDNESDAY, MAY 16th, at Twelve o'clock prompt, the whole of the Superior FITTINGS AND FURNISHINGS OF THE RESTAURANT, comprising—A 32 Gallon Copper Boiler, 4 Copper Urns, Tea Mashers and Cans, Crockery Ware, Table Cruets, Cutlery, 2 Pair Scales and Weights, Galvanized Wash-up Sinks and Utensils, Floor-cloths and Linoleum, Sugar Basin, Coffee Mill, Pair Steps, 2 Clapton Lights, W.C. and Cistern, Blinds, 30 Polished Forms with Metal Standards, 24 Marble Top Tables, 4 Dozen Bentwood Chairs, Table Cloths, 17-feet Marble Top Panelled Counter, Excellent Recess Counter with 3 large Mirror Plates at back, Window Fitting with Mirror Plate, Partitions around Shop, Cupboards, and General Items.

By Mr. William Raw.

Prospect House, Leadgate.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having been instructed, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of the Valuable Household FURNITURE, belonging to the late Mr. RICHARD CARR, on Saturday, May 5th, 1894, without reserve.

PARLOUR.—30 Hours' Clock, in beautiful High Mahogany Case; Mahogany Centre Table; Mahogany Press; Easy Chair, in Hair-seating; 6 Small Chairs, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Arm Chair; Rocking Chair; Carpet, Hearthrug, &c.; 2 Cornice Poles and Rings; Fender and Fire-irons.

SITTING-ROOM.—Beautiful Rosewood Centre Table; Mahogany Press and Bookcase; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; 6 Small Mahogany Chairs; Mahogany Tea Table; Carpet and Hearthrug; Kidderminster Carpet, 17 yds; Hearthrug; 2 Cornice Poles and Rings; Window Blinds; Fender and Fire-irons.

BED-ROOMS.—Very Fine Mahogany Half-Tester Bedstead, with Mattress and Hangings; Mahogany Drawers; Washstand and Dressing Table; 3 Chairs; Towel Rail; Chamber Ware; 3 Mahogany Swing Glasses; Carpet and Hearthrug; 2 Iron Bedsteads; Washstand and Dressing Table; Mahogany Drawers; Stair Carpets, Rods, and Mats; a very good Reading Lamp; Stuffed Fox, in Case; 9 Cases of Stuffed Birds and Squirrels, artistically finished; 2 Oil-paintings; and a number of Pictures.

KITCHEN.—Press; Sofa, in Hair-seating; 2 Small Tables; Sewing Machine; Flour Chest; Very good Kitchen Fender and Fire-irons; Tidy; Large Brass Pan; Copper Kettle; Filter; Ware Bread Mug; Stuffed Goat's Head; Wringing and Mangling Machine, nearly new; Poss, Washing and other Tubs; Pans; Glass and Ware; 2 Full Sets of China; and other numerous Lots; Down Bed; Flock Bed; Wool Mattress.

BOOKS.—Royal Dictionary; Encyclopædia, in 30 2s. unbound parts; Goldsmiths' History; Burns' Works, and other Valuable Books.

Wheelbarrow; Greenhouse, and Glass Case; 15 Pure Leghorn Hens; and other Lots; Good Gun.
Sale to commence at 12 o'clock prompt.
Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham.

WILLIAM RAW, AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, Land, House, and Commission Agent. Auction Sales conducted with experience, activity, and care. Prompt Payments. Appointed by His Honour, Judge Meynell, to levy Distress for Rent under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Also, Architect and Surveyor. Plans for Houses Designed, and Building carried out for Convenience, Ease, and Comfort. Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill, 465m

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

John Crawford's Sale Rooms, Victoria Street, Consett

MR JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on Monday, May 7th, a large Consignment of New and Second-hand FURNITURE, MILLINERY STOCK, &c
Sale at One o'clock

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

By Messrs Green and Dowson.

—Lanchester Auction Mart.

NEXT SALE OF COWS, FAT CATTLE, and SHEEP, will be held on Monday, May 7th, 1894, and in conjunction will be held a May Day Special for all classes of Grazing Stock. A large number of Good Cattle and Ewes and Lambs are already entered, and as the managers anticipate a big day, they are desirous that all Entries should be sent not later than May 2nd, to
J. GREEN, Satley.

By Mr James Turnbull.

ALTERATION OF DATE OF FORD GRASS PARK LET.

Annual Let of 170 Acres in 11 Lots.
THE FORD, Near LANCHESTER.

THE ANNUAL LET by PUBLIC AUCTION of the above Parks is
ALTERED TO TUESDAY MAY 1st, 1894.
Luncheon at Ford Buildings, 1-45 p.m.; Letting at 2 15 p.m. JAMES TURNBULL, Auctioneer.
896n

Red Rose Hall Farm, Chester-le-Street.

MR. JAMES TURNBULL, honoured with the confidence of Mr J. S. Barker, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, May 2nd, 1894, the undermentioned FARMING STOCK, HORSES, IMPLEMENTS, &c., as under:—

3 HORSES.

Bay Mare, 8 years old, 16·2 h.h., quiet, and a good worker in all yokes; Three-year-old Filly, 16·1 h.h., broken to all yokes; Three-year-old Harness Colt, been yoked and went well.

15 S.H. CATTLE.

2 Fat Heifers, 1 Fat Cow, 1 Geld Cow; 3 In-calvers, dates at sale; 2 new calved Cows, milking well; 4 two-year-old S.H. Heifers, nearly fat; 2 Heifer Stirks.

SHEEP AND PIGS.

9 Three-parts-bred Ewes and 13 Lambs; 1 Sow, gilt.

24 Head of POULTRY.

POTATOES AND TURNIPS.

4 Tons Seed Potatoes, Champions; Quantity of Turnips.

Also a large field of the usual Agricultural Implements in good condition; Carts and Plough Harness, &c., &c.

Full particulars see bills.
Sale at One p.m. 982

Loosing Hill Farm, Streetgate, Whickham.

MR. JAMES TURNBULL, honoured with the confidence of Mr M. Watson, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Thursday, May 3rd, 1894, the whole of his Valuable FARMING STOCK, HORSES, IMPLEMENTS, &c., as under:—

3 DRAUGHT HORSES.

Bay Mare, 8 years old, 15·3 h.h.
Black Mare, aged, 16 h.h.
Bay Horse, aged, 16·3 h.h.
All quiet and good workers in all yokes.
Also, Brown Horse, 6 years old, 15 h.h., quiet, and a good worker.

20 HEAD OF S.H. CATTLE.

2 Cows, calved in February and March.
2 In-calvers, due May 20th and June 3rd.
2 do. Heifers, time up at sale.
1 Young Geld Cow.
6 S.H. Steers, 1½ to 2 years old.
7 S.H. Heifers, 1½ to 2 years old.

SHEEP AND PIGS.

15 Three-parts-bred Ewes and 26 Lambs; 2 H.B. Ewes and 4 Lambs; 8 Three-parts-bred Keeping Hoggs; 1 Sow, in pig, due May 31st.
30 Head of POULTRY.

IMPLEMENTS.

2 Coup Carts, one with shelvings; Water Cart; Pickaley Horse Hay Rake; Nicholson's Horse Hay Rake; Turnip Drill; Kearsley's Combined Reaper, nearly new; 2 Pair Zigzag Harrows; Seed Harrows; Drag Harrows; Chain Harrows; Ransom and Sims', Swing, Wheel, and D.M.B. Ploughs; 2 Scrubbers; Scuffler; Turnip Slicer; Sheep and Cattle Troughs; 2 Short Ladders; 1 Long Ladder; Wheelbarrow; Sack Barrow; Corn Bins; 2 Scythes, Forks, Shovels, &c., &c. Also Cart, Plough, and Trace Harness for 3 Draughts, in capital condition.
Sale at One p.m.

The Horses are a useful lot; the Cattle are all well bred; the Ewes are a desirable lot; and the Implements are in capital order. 983n

By Mr John S. Murray.

SALES BY AUCTION BY J S MURRAY.
Monday, April 30th—Royal Auction Mart, Benfieldside
Wednesday, May 9th—Farm Stock, Implements, &c, Crookhall.—Mr A Smith
May 11—Mr Storey's Farm Stock, Mount Pleasant
May—Consett—Property at Consett and Blackhill.
May—Let of Greencroft Grass Parks
May—Medomsley—Furniture.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY APRIL 30TH, 1894,
15 Prime Fat Cattle
70 Fat Sheep
3 Fat Lambs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
Dairy Cows and Heifers
Spring Cart, Harness, Blocks, Chains, Shovels, Poultry, &c.
986n Sale at 12 o'clock prompt
JOHN S. MURRAY

Crookhall.

FARM STOCK SALE on Wednesday, May 9th, 1894, belonging Mr Andrew Smith, who is retiring from farming.
Mr J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.
30 HEAD OF CATTLE.
16 Cows.
14 Young Cattle.
9 Horses and 1 Pony.
38 H.B. Hoggs.
50 Head of Poultry.
A large Field of Implements. The whole of the Harness, Dairy Utensils, and part of the Household Furniture.
Full Inventory next week and in Posters.
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

SURPLUS STOCK SALE in conjunction with Mr Story's Sale of Farm Stock, Implements, &c., at Mount Pleasant, near Cold Rowley Station, on Friday, May 11th, 1894.
Present entries—
1 Five-year-old Draught-Horse.
1 Cob, 3 years old, 14 h.h.
7 Cows.
5 Geld Cows.
15 Young Cattle.
30 Leicester, half-bred, and Mule Ewes and Lambs.
20 Hens.
10 Ducks.
6 Pigs, seven weeks old on day of sale.
With the whole of the Farm Implements and part of Household Furniture.
Further entries expected and solicited in time for publication in next week's issue.
J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
THE
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
ROYAL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE, BENFIELDSIDE.
Appointed by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
T. D. DRYDEN, AUCTIONEER, FRONTSTREET, CONSETT.
Sales, Commissions, Valuations, and Auctioneering in all its Branches, at Moderate Charges, and Quick Settlements. T. D. D. has been commissioned by Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress Warrants under the Agricultural Holdings' Act Authorised Emigration Agent for the Allan, American, Guion, and Other Lines.
OFFICES—67, FRONT STREET, CONSETT
(Next Door to North-Eastern Bank.)

Sales by Auction.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

BAXTON BURN, BENFIELDSIDE.

SALE OF
VALUABLE COTTAGE PROPERTY.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Commercial Inn, Shotley Bridge, on WEDNESDAY, MAY 2nd, 1894, at 3 for 4 o'clock in the afternoon prompt,

MR JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer,

(In one or more Lots as may be agreed upon at the time of Sale), all those

COPYHOLD COTTAGES,
Situate at Baxton Burn, Benfieldside,

Held of the Manor of Lanchester, and in the respective occupations of Mrs. Robson, Mr. Anthony Brown, Mr. Robert Shield, Mrs. Judy Marshall, Mr. Thomas Thompson, Mr. Joseph Stephenson, and Mrs. Dunn, as Weekly Tenants.

Also, a

LARGE PLOT OF BUILDING GROUND,

Behind 1, 2, and 3 Cottages, and now occupied by Mr. A. Brown, as a Garden, in which there is a Well of pure Spring Water, with a Pump to draw the water.

As Cottage Property in this neighbourhood is in great demand, the above affords a good opportunity for a Safe and Profitable Investment.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer; or to MR BOOTH,
894n Solicitor, Shotley Bridge.

By Messrs. R. & W. Mack.

Important Sale of Residential and Cottage Property at Shotley Bridge, Consett, Castleside, and Catchgate, in the County of Durham.

MESSRS. R. and W. MACK are instructed to offer for SALE BY AUCTION at the Crown and Sword Commercial Hotel, Shotley Bridge, on Monday, the 30th April, 1894, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the following desirable Properties in the following Lots.

Lot 1.—All that substantially-built and well-arranged FAMILY RESIDENCE, known as Belle Vue House, with the Stables, Coach House, Fernery, Conservatories, and Gardens attached thereto, the whole of which was, until her death, in the occupation of the late Mrs Sarah Dickinson, but is now unoccupied.

Lot 2.—All that semi-detached VILLA RESIDENCE with Coach House, Stable, Outbuildings, Offices and Garden, situate at Shotley Bridge, and until recently in the occupation of William Dickinson, Esq., but now unoccupied.

Lot 3.—All that semi-detached VILLA RESIDENCE, adjoining Lot 2, with the offices, outbuildings, and gardens, at present in the occupation of Miss Wheldon as tenant from year to year.

Lot 4.—All that DWELLING-HOUSE situate in The Terrace, Shotley Bridge, in the occupation of Mrs Taylor, as tenant from year to year.

Lot 5.—All those Five COTTAGES, situate and being Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, Trafalgar Street, Consett, of which No. 11 Trafalgar Street is used as a Dwelling-House and Shop, and the remainder as private Dwelling-Houses, and all of which are in the occupation of weekly tenants.

Lot 6.—All those Nine Cottages situate and being Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, Pitt Street, Consett, all of which are in the occupation of weekly tenants.

Lot 7.—All those Six COTTAGES situate at Castleside, and adjoining the road leading from Consett to Castleside, all of which are in the occupation of weekly tenants.

Lot 8.—All those Thirteen COTTAGES situate at Catchgate, near Lintz Green, and adjoining the road leading from Consett to Catchgate, all of which are let to the owners of South Derwent Colliery, as tenants from year to year.

Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7, are Copyhold of the Manor of Lanchester; Lots 5, 6, and 8, are Freehold.

Further particulars can be obtained on application to Messrs Clayton and Gibson, Solicitors, The Guildhall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, or to the Auctioneers, 73, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 813m

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for Cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Office—Front Street, Dipton by Lintz Green Station

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
W. AYNSLEY, Esq. }
JAMES OLIVER, Esq. } Trustees.
HEDLEY NICHOLSON, Esq. }

The next MEETING for receiving Subscriptions and Loans will be held in the Small Hall of the NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, between 7 and 8 o'clock on MONDAY, 7th May, and every Fortnight afterwards at the same time and place. Loans received at 4 Per Cent. Interest, Repayable on 14 Days' Notice.

NEWCASTLE BUSINESS COLLEGE AND SCHOOL OF
SHORTHAND.
SMART & CO.,
42, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
(Branch, 42, Fawcett Street, Sunderland).
Open Daily from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m. (Saturday 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.)

WRITING.—By Smart & Co's renowned system of Instruction the worst style of writing is transformed into a good Business hand in a single Course of Lessons. Success guaranteed. Fee, One Guinea.

BOOKKEEPING by Single and Double Entry. Students are taken through a complete course of study, adapted to their requirements, for a fixed Fee, without limit to lessons.

SHORTHAND.—Pitman's Phonography, Elementary and Advanced. Unlimited facilities are afforded for acquiring a practical knowledge. Tuition and speed practice all day, from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m.

TYPEWRITING, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Composition, and all the Branches of a sound, Commercial Education taught individually by specialists.

Private Rooms for Ladies. 640m

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF & MALT WINE
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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"POLLY THOMPSON."—Your letter is unsuitable.

LETTERS from Mr G. Nessham, "Observer," John Robinson, and "An Amused Layman" will appear next week.

A HARD CASE.—In our report of Tanfield School Board, under this heading, last week, it was stated that the woman's name was Mable, of Tantobie. The name should have been Neville, of Lintz Colliery.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, APRIL 27TH, 1894.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGNO."]

VALE OF DERWENT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

The seventh annual balance-sheet issued by this commendable association has just been forwarded to the members, together with a very neatly-printed fixture-card with full list of the names of the officers and members, dates and names of places at which the field meetings will be held in the summer months, and other interesting details. Prudhoe, celebrated for its ruined castle and shady groves, will first be visited, and next the historical town of Alnwick, to be followed by a journey to Morpeth, noted for its walks and the ruins of its ancient abbey. A visit to Gibside in the end of August gives the finishing touches to the programme for the season, unless knowledge should reach the members in the interim of the whereabouts of some unexplored El Dorado or New Atlantis. Should such good news reach them, why then they have the pleasant month of September all to themselves. My readers will be pleased to learn that the society is growing in affluence and increasing in membership, a number of distinguished naturalists being now on the roll, and every successive year adding to their number. There is still, however, room for many more, and some of the more thoughtful of my readers might well throw in their lot with the club to advantage. To men of a meditative turn of mind an afternoon with the club constitutes a genuine treat, as entertaining as it is refreshing and instructive.

DRAWING THE LINE.

The editor has at length drawn the line, and expressed his intention of, in future, giving measure for measure, as Shakespeare would phrase it, or in other words week and week about to the rival champions in connection with the gigantic "Church and State" controversy. It is really no marvel that the editor should have come to such a decision, seeing that last week more than a full page of the *Guardian* was devoted to that subject alone. Both sides cannot very well be in the right, and yet the rival champions can, and do, support their contentions by letters full cloth-yard long. The subject is one that will have to be dealt with in the not very far distant future with the most powerful minds in the land, and hence the controversy is seasonable enough when restricted to reasonable limits, but then it should, of course, never be forgotten that too much of one thing is good for nobody, and hence the ruling of the editor will doubtless meet with general approval.

NO THOUGHT FOR THE REPORTERS.

It appears that no fewer than three open-air meetings were held the other Sunday in the streets of Consett, under the auspices of the Consett branch of the Independent Labour Party. Large companies are said to have been present, the subject on the *tapis* being "Poverty; its cause and cure." It seems that the representatives of the faction named either care not, or have no thought for, the reporters, seeing that they choose such a day for their demonstrations. In the instance under note, however, the press men appear to have looked after their own interests, and thus reaped the reward following in the train of those who help themselves. It may have been, however, that the members of the Consett I.L.P. had no desire to give currency to their antidote for all the ills of many-sided poverty. If that was their wish it is much to be regretted, seeing that they had to propound methods so pure, and questions so weighty that they had purposed to give them wing on the Sabbath day.

THE CONSETT WESLEYANS.

The Consett Wesleyans seem to recognise the truth of the axiom that there is no standing still in this world, whatever there may be in the next They have recently built a church equal to standing the test of wind and weather for a thousand years to come, and now they are again in harness with the view of erecting Sunday-schools, together with the usual compliment of class-rooms and other apartments in keeping with the progressive spirit of the age. The new church, built as it is of massive blocks of stone, is a credit to the Wesleyan body, and knowing what they are capable of achieving they put their hands to the plough, and their shoulders to the wheel; a year or two will no doubt witness the complete execution of the building scheme, which was so nobly begun and so far continued.

MIND THE BOYS.

Mr A. E. Hayes, a headmaster under the jurisdiction of the Collierley School Board, has taken a commendable stand in connection with the moral training of school boys. Mr Hayes does not err very far when he points out that not more than about one boy out of every seven pursue their studies after they leave school, the others taking the left hand road. In accordance with the concurrence of the Board, Mr Hayes has drawn up a syllabus of religious and moral instruction for his department. The gentleman named has based his deductions of the baneful influence of the routine of the streets by what transpires in the villages in that quarter of the country, nor is there any good reason for supposing that things are more pure elsewhere. Mr Hayes means well and depend upon it that he will get his reward, as no man ever yet laboured on these lines in vain. It think it well to mention this phase of the question, because men are not rewarded so much for what they accomplish in this line of thought and action as for what they strive to do.

NOTES FROM THE SPEN DISTRICT.

[BY "PAUL PRY."]

CHOPWELL (SPEN) SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

A meeting was held in the Miners' Hall on Saturday evening, for the purpose of nominating candidates favourable to the appointment of Mr T. Armstrong as headmaster of the new schools. Mr Hayes, of Dipton, addressed the meeting on the course to be pursued prior to the election taking place. He hoped they would chose the most intelligent, *bona-fide* working-men there were at the Spen to represent them on the next School Board. Men who would not be tied down by any party whatever. He apparently forgot that he was advocating the cause of a party. Mr Hayes ought to be consistent and logical in his declarations. The candidates nominated by the meeting were Mr James Robinson, miner; and Mr R. Armstrong, draper.

THE SPEN MINERS' LODGE MEMBERS

Intend running two candidates, also on independent lines, and pledged to do justice to their constituents on purely educational lines, irrespective of the N.U.T.,—the candidates being Messrs Ed. Stoker, checkweighman, and Mr Jos. Robson, miner. I hear that Mr William Richardson is to have an opponent from Blackhall Mill side for a seat on the School Board this time. I was under the impression that Mr Richardson was not likely to have an opponent, as he suited the people very well as their representative.

THE NEW SCHOOLS

Are now partially occupied by infant scholars, the average attendance being over 130. It is expected that the whole of the children will be attending these schools next week. They are beautifully situated south-west of the Bute Arms, on the slope of the field in which they stand. The scenery by which they are surrounded is beautiful, and is the most picturesque part of the locality, and also the most healthy. The exterior of the schools is surrounded by a low wall, upon which is metal palisading. The main entrance is at the west side. On the left, as you enter, is the Board-room, which is neatly furnished; on the right is the boys' cloak-room and lavatory. Next is the central hall where the children assemble when the school opens and are also dismissed to the four class-rooms. Each is built to accommodate 60 scholars, two of which open on the right side of hall, and one at each end. These rooms are galleried, ceiled with pine and varnished; the walls are of glazed bricks and plaster coloured. The windows are fitted with patent fasteners, and blinds with patent rollers. The girls' entrance is by a lobby from which opens cloak-rooms and teachers' sitting-room, besides these there are other rooms for teaching laundry-work and cookery. In the latter is fitted an excellent range for culinary purposes. The infant school consists of entrance, lobby, with cloak-room and lavatory, also, teachers' sitting room, and three more rooms—one large room for collective lessons and drill; No. 2 room is for infants; and No. 3 for older children. The whole are light, and are well ventilated. There is a first-class heating apparatus; a large playground, and the usual out-offices.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE

"[BY CASTLESIDEITE]."

The many readers of your widely circulated paper (and of this column) must forgive me if my notes are of a short and pointed character this week, as we are in the throes of a School Board election, and, being a candidate, we may be excused commenting at length on passing events.

The last monthly meeting of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board (as constituted during the past three years) was held on Monday, April 23rd. There were present Councillor Muse, Messrs M. Lee, W. Pattinson, and J. Proud (clerk.) The business was of a formal character, such as signing of cheques, masters, and attendance officers reports. The children were granted two days' holiday at Whitsuntide. After a few remarks in their chances at the coming election, and hand-shaking with the clerk, master, and caretaker, they laid aside their officialism wishing each other success for the future, hoping to meet again. The chairman and his good lady entertained the retiring Board to tea on Saturday, as has been his practice for many years past.

The bachelors connected with the Wesleyan Church gave an entertainment and supper a fortnight ago, which was largely attended, and realised £7 10s 0d; but the young ladies of the Church far eclipsed the bachelors on Monday night in their effort. They had an excellent programme. The singing of the Misses Williams, Blackhill, was much appreciated. Mrs Muse occupied the chair, and the nice sum of £12 12s 0d was handed over to the building fund.

The supper given a fortnight ago by Mr R. Jewitt, in the Primitive Methodist school-room, raised the sum of £3 1s 0d, and on Saturday night the supper given by Mr J. Harker, in the above place, raised the sum of £2, both of which are on behalf of the New Organ Fund.

The entertainment in the Board School, in aid of the Graveyard Improvement Scheme, was a success; the net proceeds being £5 12s 0d.

The Floral, Horticultural, and Industrial Societys sub-committee met on Saturday night in the Board Schools, for the purpose of appointing judges for the different exhibits. It was also decided to continue the dog show.

Another old and much respected resident and neighbour has passed away in the person of Mrs Ann Hopper, widow of the late Mr Joseph Hopper, of Wharnley Burn, and mother of Mrs W. Metcalf, of 17, Cort Street, Blackhill. The old lady had reached the advanced age of 93 years. For many years she had lived with her daughter, previous to their removal to Blackhill. She was interred at Castleside. The service in the church was conducted by the Vicar (Rev J. Wallis), and at the grave by the vicar of Muggleswick (Rev Mr Ingram.) A severe thunderstorm passed over the village during the time the service was going on in the Church. The lightning was very vivid, the thunder was loud, and was accompanied by a heavy down-pour of rain and hail.

It has been said "that everything is fair in love or war." I expect, or at least hope, that I may not be considered "unfair" in taking this opportunity in saying a few things in this column respecting the coming election, of which I am a candidate, and in so doing ask the interest and support of the electors of Healyfield and Rowley School Board district. Let me say that I have redeemed or fulfilled every promise or pledge, made three years ago, to the best of my knowledge and ability. I have attended every monthly meeting, besides special meetings. I advocated and voted for the admission of the "press" to all our meetings, and the right of the people to know all the doings of the Board as a public institution and as servants of the public. Having failed to secure the admission of the "press," I have reported the doings of the Board in a condensed form each month, either in this column or in the local column, which is over and above what I promised when seeking the suffrage of the electors; and I am prepared to give a fuller account of my stewardship at a public meeting. I again ask for your sympathy and support on the 30th inst. I have been told that many have been offended by this column, but the ballot-box will determine whether or not; if so, I will know in future how to act as your honorary scribe.

NOTES FROM STANLEY DISTRICT.

[By "Observer."]

We still continue to have very changeable weather. The sunshine at times makes us realise that we are in midsummer. Then suddenly we are subject to intensely cold, dull, and even frosty mornings. Seed germs are in jeopardy, and it requires close attention to be on the safe side. We are also liable to allow chills to endanger our health. Coughs, colds, and influenza are the fruits of weather changes.

Stanley was a busy thoroughfare last week-end. Special attractions were on the grounds—a hippodrome and fancy fair, shooting galleries, rocking merry-go-rounds, swingboats, daring feats performed by actors; and the Victoria Theatre was packed to hear and see the popular play, *East Lynne*. Very many people have read this account, and can follow it to a nicety. It is a faithful picture of the transgressor's hard path—so real and graphic that the emotional portion of an audience cannot refrain from tears. And it ought to prove a warning to all those who may be tempted in a similar way.

The Stanley auction mart has been re-commenced by Messrs Lowes and Hobson. I hope it will prove successful, and meet with the patronage of business men in this district. I don't see why it should not be as good as the one at Chester-le-Street. Some business was done on Monday last, but it needs further development to make it a success.

A pawnbroker's establishment is another new feature in Stanley.

Under the auspices of the Pit Hill Polling District Liberal Association in the Chester-le-Street Division, a public meeting was held in the Beamish Colliery School-room, on the 18th inst., which was addressed by Messrs J. Phillips and R. Ferrier, B.Sc., of Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr Robt. Radcliffe, President of the Association, occupied the chair. The speakers were conversant with their subject, and gave proof of their ability, in a practical and efficient manner, to an appreciative audience.

The D Company (West Pelton) of the V.B.D.L.I. held a social evening in the West Pelton School-room, on April 18th, when the annual presentations were made to the best marksmen in order of merit. Mr J. Grundy secured a beautiful marble timepiece, with a pair of elegant ornaments to match, which were given by Major Wm. Joicey. Mrs John Humble's donation of two guineas was awarded to Mr Goundry. Various other sums were distributed to others, in due proportion. Major Humble made the presentations, and in a few choice sentences urged the company to further developments. During the evening, several of the members sang songs, solos, and duets, and toasts were given in favour of the liberal donors who had helped them to raise funds. This company has a fame of its own for possessing in a great degree methodical arrangement, and their efficient condition bespeaks an excellent, intelligent training, which is due to the zeal and skill of Major Humble. The usual votes of thanks brought a pleasant and enjoyable meeting to a close.

An accident of a singular nature occurred on the Annfield Plain new railway branch on April 18th. A miner named John Nesbitt was travelling home from Stanley to Beamish, and as the railway was the nearest cut, he took advantage of it. When near to what is termed "Hell's Hole," the last passenger train, which runs about 9 p.m., came down behind him, and in some way or other he was knocked down by it, receiving such injuries that one of his arms was nearly severed from his body. This limb has since the accident been amputated. The injured man is progressing favourably. A wife and five young children depend upon him for bread.

The United Methodist Free Church held their Sunday school anniversary on Sunday last, in the Co-operative Store Hall. The children recited portions of scripture, dialogues, and poetry, and also sang a choice selection of hymns. A service of song was rendered in the afternoon, entitled "Charles Coulson," by the society's choir. Miss Connell, of Gateshead, was the preacher. The whole of the proceedings, which included a public tea on the Saturday, were fairly well conducted and patronised. The services are to be continued next Sunday.

LEAVES AND PAGES FROM AUSTRALIAN HISTORY.

By J. W. Fawcett, Townsville, New Zealand. Author of "From the Land of the Sunny South" "The wild white man of North Queensland," "Three weeks' holiday in New Guinea.

20. The First Religious Service in Australia.

"On the Sunday after our landing, divine service was performed under a great tree, by the Rev Mr Johnson, chaplain of the settlement, in the presence of the troops and convicts, whose behaviour on the occasion was equally regular and attentive."—*Captain Tench.*

"Was there no act of contrition, no act of gratitude, which it had been becoming on such an occasion for Englishmen to offer to the God of their fathers upon the erection of the National flag of England upon this distant land?

"How different might have been the effect upon the minds of the poor convicts, if the day of their first landing in a new world had been solemnly marked as the beginning of a new life under God by an act of confession and prayer."—*Judge Burton, State of Religion and Education in New South Wales.*

21. Establishment of Regular Government.

"The solemn ceremony of establishing a regular Government in the newly-founded colony was performed on the 7th of February, 1788. On that day, a sufficient space having been cleared for the tents and stores, the people were all landed on the shores of Sydney Cove, and assembled on the western side of the cove, then named Point Maskelyne, but afterwards known as Dawes' Battery; the military were drawn up under arms; the prisoners stationed apart; and, near the person of the governor, the gentlemen who were to fill the principal offices. The Royal Commission was then read by the Judge Advocate [David Collins]; afterwards, the Act of Parliament authorizing the establishment of the Courts of Judicature; and lastly, the patents under the Great Seal empowering the proper officers to convene and hold these courts. Three rounds of musketry concluded this part of the ceremony." *Blair's History of Australasia.*

22. Governor Phillip addressed the Convicts.

"Governor Phillip then advanced and addressed the soldiers, thanking them for their steady, good conduct. Turning to the prisoners, he explained to them the nature of their position. He reminded them that they were now so placed that by industry and good behaviour they might soon regain the advantages which, for a time, they had forfeited, and promised that every encouragement should be held out to induce them to make the effort to regain that place in the estimation of society, of which they had deprived themselves by their offences. To all offenders against the law he promised no mercy; and in order to promote as much as possible the cause of morality, he recommended marriage to as many as were in a position to enter into the state of matrimony, promising every kind of countenance and assistance to those who took [illegible] course, so likely to promote the cause of good order and the well-being of the community. He concluded by declaring his earnest desire to promote the welfare and happiness of all who were placed under his control; and his determination, with the help of the Almighty, to render the [illegible] of New South Wales advantageous to [illegible] country."—*Blair.*

The recommendation of Governor Phillip of marriage to the convicts, speedily had some good effect, for, during the ensuing week, no fewer than fourteen marriages were solemnized amongst the convicts.

23. Erection of Buildings.

After the establishment [illegible] Government, energetic means were [illegible] for the erection of buildings [illegible] not sick—for sickness had already [illegible] itself—or disabled, were set to work [illegible] of storehouses, and such other [illegible] were most urgently required for the [illegible] people, and the safety and preservation of [illegible] amount of provisions, seeds, animals, and implements, which had been sent out for the use of the settlement. Slowly but surely rose houses for the officers, barracks for the soldiers, huts for the convicts, storehouses for the provisions, and a hospital for the sick. Amongst the earliest of the public buildings was an observatory on the western point of the cove, which was constructed by, and placed under, the direction of Lieutenant Dawes.

24. Impediments in the Works.

The work of constructing the necessary buildings was very much impeded by various causes. So little care had been given to the expedition by the Home Government that, amongst those fit to work, very few had any mechanical qualifications. Of skilled mechanics there were almost none, whilst the materials for building were neither abundant, nor were there any suitable appliances in the way of machinery and implements, for turning those that were available to profitable use.

25. First Criminal Court.

On February 11th, the Criminal Court was first convened in the settlement of New South Wales, when one person was sentenced to receive 150 lashes, and another to be confined on Pinchgut Island, in Port Jackson, for a week on bread and water. This island was so called because the convicts sent thither were exposed day and night to the weather, and fed on a scanty supply of bread and water.

26. Commencement of Colonial Farming.

Governor Phillip was, after a while, dissatisfied with the situation of the farm which he had formed adjoining Farm Cove (the site of the present Botanical gardens), and sowed wheat and maize, and in the middle of February removed most of the men employed in clearing land for cultivation to a spot about fifteen miles distant, at the head of the navigation of the harbour. The new farm was at first named The Crescent, and afterwards Rose Hill, by the Governor, but the native name of *Parra-mat ta*, signifying "Head of the waters," was retained by the people, and officially adopted

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[By the "Old Crow".]

Reverting once again to the matter of teetotalism as advocated by Mr Tomlinson and his followers, I beg to disagree with his attempt to show that no liberties are affected by the proposed Veto Bill. I look upon it as an infringment of liberty of the most distinct kind for any man or body of men to set themselves up as my censors and arrogate to themselves the right to indicate what I shall eat or what I shall drink, altogether regardless of whether their ideas are in conformity with my own views. The teetotal man says drink is bad and therefore the sale of it must be stopped by hook or by crook. And because he says this and feels it all, he cannot tolerate any opposite opinion. "My dear sir," he will say, "look at the misery drink is causing, the tens of thousands of homes it is making desolate every week and the crime which it propogates in every quarter of the globe." "Yes," one answers, let it be allowed that in some instances sad results follow on the excessive use of alcohol and some means want devising by which these may be reduced to a minimum; but the method suggested should not, either directly or indirectly, prevent the man who drinks a glass of beer soberly, and, because he benefits from it, taking a glass when and how he choses. This is interfering with the liberty of the subject."

Very many temperance drinks are recognised as pernicious in their effects on the system, but what drinker of beer or spirit would turn round on a teetotal man for partaking of these unwholesome beverages with any sense of seriousness? If the moderate drinker could only be left alone, and spared the exaggerated opinions of the fanatical temperance reformer, the latter would not be greatly tormented, for if there is one thing characteristic of the average beer-drinker it is a desire to be at peace with all men—temperance advocates into the bargain. But when his freedom is attacked his fists are up and he is quickly on the defensive.

Here is something of the sort of thing that quickly rouses their ire when they hear of it:—

"Now and again," says *To-Day*, "some entertainment or jollification is arranged for in a hotel or restaurant; when this is the case an extension of time is usually granted, which removes the necessity of the party being broken up and hustled out of the place before they are well settled down for the evening. Sir Wilfrid Lawson, with the customary petty spite of his kind, seeing the opportunity of depriving a few of his fellow-countrymen of a little of their pleasure, is begging Sir William Harcourt to take steps to prevent the practice. How these good people do hate their fellow-men."

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

Friday, April 20th.—Before C. J. Backhouse (chairman), Ald. Livingstone, V. A. Rippon, Stanhope, and J. W. Roddam, Esq.

BREACH OF HIGHWAY ACT.

James Wilson and *John Girling*, of Crook neighbourhood, were charged with riding their bicycles on the footpath between Stanhope and Frosterley, to the danger of the public.—Fined 10s each.

ASSAULT.

Jonathan Armstrong was charged with assaulting Thomas Gleeson, in Upper Weardale, in one of the lead mines.—Fined 6d and 16s costs.

VAGRANCY.

Ellen Ray, an old woman of the tramp class, was charged by P.C. Pryde, with begging at St. John's Chapel, and at the same time being drunk.—She was sent to prison for 14 days.

Wm. Brown, a tramp, was charged with sleeping in a hay-shed at Stanhope.—He was also sent to prison for 14 days.

Thomas Galloway, a lad of some 15 or 16 years of age, was also charged with vagrancy, and sleeping in out-houses, sheds, or similar places. He was questioned by Dr Livingstone rather severely. "Where do you belong?" said the Doctor. "Sterling," said the lad.—"Where have you come from?" Leeds.—Where are you going? Leeds.—Have you any parents? I've a father.—Where is he? I don't know.—What is he? He tramps about.—How old are you? 14.—Come up here. Open your mouth. The boy opened it partly. Open it wide. Dr Livingstone looked in at his back teeth amid titters of laughter in the Court. People are accustomed to see horse dealers open the mouths of horses to ascertain their age, but this was something new. Did you ever go to school? Yes, sir.—Where? In Scotland.—When? A good while since.—How long? Ten years ago.—That will do my lad, you are too old for me.—It was decided to take him to the workhouse, and Superintendent Snowdon was directed to make enquiries respecting him, and try to ascertain the whereabouts of his father, with a view to getting him into some industrial school or similar institution. The lad seemed a sharp, active fellow, and in such an institution might develope into a sharp, active youth, instead of being allowed to drift into the loafing tramp class with which the country is now glutted.

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 favoured 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, by grocers, labelled—"James Epps & Co., Limited, Homoeopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Cocoaine or Nib-Extract: Tea-like. 86m

An exciting football match was played at Wolsingham, on Saturday, between Rise Carr, (Darlington), and Wolsingham teams, resulting in a splendid victory for the home team by 3 to the visitors nil. An excursion was run from Darlington to witness the match.

"How to Behave," price sixpence.—To be had o Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Steet, Consett.

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

Volunteer Intelligence.

4th V. B. D. L. I.: WEST PELTON DETACHMENT.

The annual presentation of prizes to the members of the above company, took place on Wednesday evening last, in the Schoolroom at West Pelton, when prizes to £23 0s 0d were given. The following ladies and gentlemen kindly give prizes annually:—Mrs W J Joicey, £5 5s; Thos D Eden, Esq, £5 5s; Mrs Humble, £2 2s; and others. Major Humble occupied the chair, and was supported by Lieutenants W Ridley, E A Humble, Dr Collinson, Mr E Nicholson, and others.—The chairman, in presenting the prizes, congratulated the winners upon their success, and hoped they would continue their shooting practices and keep up the good name already held by this company as one of the best shooting companies in the county.—The following were the principal winners:—First prize, marble timepiece and ornaments, value £5 5s, won by Corporal John Grundy; 2, £2 2, Private Goundry; 3, £1 1s, Corporal Kay; 4, £1 1s, Private Jackson; 5, 10s, Private Stephenson; 6, 10s, Private Clough; 7, 10s, Sergeant Johnson; 8, 10s, Private M. Pattinson; 9, 10s, Sergeant Thomas Wrangham; 10, 10s, Private Eland. Major Humble also presented to Corporal Grundy the Challenge Cup won by him at the annual battalion shooting at Durham, in August last.

After the presentation of prizes, Major Humble entertained those present to a smoking concert, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. Sergt. George Pinkney (one of the oldest Volunteers) proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had so kindly subscribed to the prize fund, to which Major Humble replied.

Sporting Items.

Pigeon Flying at Consett.—On Saturday, a match for £10 a-side was decided from Newcastle to the respective dovecotes, a distance of about 14 miles, between J Wilkinson's Silver King, of Consett, and J Robinson's Checker, of Blackhill. Robinson's bird won easily.

Pigeon Flying at Dipton.—A pigeon flying handicap, which secured 22 entries, came off on Saturday afternoon between Leadgate and J Hoult's Red Ox Inn, Dipton, a distance of three miles. The result was that J Sanderson's bird won, Jos Bland taking second and third prizes.

Fives Matches at Blackhall Mill.—Two double ball matches were set for decision at the Ship Inn Alley, Blackhall Mill, on Saturday afternoon, a great number of people being present. In the first match B Brown and D Kirkley, both of Hamsterley Colliery, beat John Brown and John Armstrong, also of Hamsterley Colliery. In the second game, George and William Curry, of Hamsterley Colliery, defeated Samuel and Joseph Curry, of Hamsterley Colliery, Mr James Briggs, of Hamsterley Colliery, acted as referee.

Funeral of a Noted Weardale Wrestler.—The body of George Allison, aged about 30 years, of Crawleyside, near Stanhope, a noted Weardale wrestler, was interred on Friday afternoon, in the presence of a large concourse of mourners. Deceased was the son of Mr Joseph Allison, who died a few years ago, and who distinguished himself in the wrestling ring, and was well-known in the North. George (the son) was also a good wrestler, and was looked upon as a formidable antagonist wherever he went. He had been ailing more or less for several months, and succumbed in the early part of the week. Deceased was well respected, and his death at so early a period in life is greatly deplored by a large circle of friends.

WESTWOOD COLLIERY BAND SPORTS.

On Saturday afternoon, the members of the Westwood Colliery Brass Band held their second annual picnic and sports in a field, granted by Mr John Davison, of Byerside Farm, near Westwood. The day was exceedingly fine, and these being the first sports held in the district this season, a very large crowd of spectators assembled. The chief interest was centred in the football competitions, in which some exciting games were witnessed. The tea, provided in a large tent by the committee, was well patronised, as was also the ball at night. The Westwood Brass Band played suitable selections of music, under the leadership of Mr Luke Harker. Details of the various events are appended:—

120 Yards Foot Race Handicap.—Heat 1—J Hansom, Leadgate, 8 yds, 1; F Johnson, Winlaton, 1, 2; A Daley, Consett, 2, 0; won by a yard. Heat 2—W Dixon, West Wylam, 8, 1; Geo McAdams, Allendale Cottages, 22, 2; Wallace, Milkwell Burn, 21, 0; won by half-a-yard. Heat 3—A Rogers, Winlaton, 5, 1; W Wilson, Consett, 10, 2; J Dodds, Milkwell Burn, 22, 3; won by a yard. Heat 4—F Swinburn, Cutlers' Hall, 8½ [illegible] Miller, Consett, 12, 2; J Black, Leadgate, 11, [illegible] won by a yard. Heat 5—Vasey, Ebchester, 23, 1; Graham, Milkwell Burn, 22, 2; Geo Dodds, Westwood, 20, 3; won by half-a-yard. Heat 6—Hobday, Blackhill, 9, † 1; Hall, Cutlers' Hall, 12, † 2; won after a dead heat, by half-a-yard. Final—Vasey, 1; Swinburn, 2; Dixon, 3; Harrison, 4; Hobday, 0; Rogers, 0; won by three yards, a foot separating second and third, the fourth man being close behind. Referees, Mr W McKenny, Westwood, and Mr A Daley, Consett; handicapper, T Milburn, Allendale Cottages; and starter, W Walton, Milkwell Burn.

Quoit Handicap.—8 to 11 yards on the sward; 36 entries.—Result—W Embleton, Kyo, 1; Jos Anderson, Milkwell Burn, 2; David Clare, Dipton, 3. Handicapper and referee, Joe Anderson, Milkwell Burn.

Association Football Competition (for senior teams) for 12 silver medals.—First round—Caxton (Newcastle) beat Allendale Park by 3 goals to none; Lintzford beat Consett Town Reserve by 3 to 2; Burnopfield Temperance beat Hamsterley United by 3 to none; Gateshead St. Cuthbert's beat Spen Albion (after playing two drawn games) by 3 to 2; Lizzie Celtic, a bye. Second round—Lizzie Celtic beat Lintzford by 1 to none; Caxton beat Gateshead St. Cuthbert's by 2 to 1. Being now almost dark, further play in this competition had to be postponed to a future date, to be duly advertised in the *Consett Guardian*.

Association Football Competition (for junior teams).—First round—West Stanley Athletic beat Hamsterley United II. by 3 to none; Allendale Juniors beat Lintz Nomads by 3 to 2; Spen Albion II. and Consett Shamrocks played a draw; nothing being scored; Milkwell Burn Violets, a bye. At this stage, the second and final ties of this contest had to be deferred. Referee, Mr G. W. Hedley Medomsley.

The girls' skipping competition and the 100 yards footrace for youths did not take place.

£5,000 Bonus would not be thought too large an amount to pay for the blessing of health by many wretched sufferers who by day and night are tortured with the racking pains peculiar to gout and rheumatism. Relief, however, can be procured at a much less cost by the aid of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. The former are of so purifying a nature, that a few doses taken in time are an effectual preventive against an attack of either. The Ointment should be thoroughly rubbed into the parts affected at least twice a day after they have been sufficiently fomented with warm water, which opens the pores and facilitates the introduction of the Ointment to the glands.

ESH.

Dearness Valley Sunday-school Association.—A very successful and enjoyable Convention was celebrated on Saturday last, in the Baptist Chapel, Durham Road, when an excellent and instructive paper was given by Mr Jas. Fitzpatrick, on "The influence of the Bible on the formation of our national life." A discussion followed when the following gentlemen took part—Messrs J. Robson, Jos. Stephenson, J. Wilkinson, J. Barron, John Stephenson, and the president (Mr Aaron Richardson.) At five o'clock, a teachers' tea was provided by the Baptist friends. In the evening, a public meeting was held in the same place of worship, presided over by Mr A. Richardson. The secretary (Mr J. Barron), gave his report, and intimated that eight meetings had been held in the district, and that Waterhouses Wesleyans had withdrawn from the association. Excellent addresses were given by Mr Fred. Wharton, on "Why I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ," and Mr Jas Wilkinson, on "Observation. The Misses Raw rendered some beautiful music, assisted by the choir. Votes of thanks to all who took part concluded a very pleasant and profitable evening.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight. Mr G. Ridley presided, and there were also present Messrs J. Crawford, P. Oswald, J. Mitchell, J. M. Snowdon, T. Langton, J. Witherspoon, E. Nicholson, B. E. Smith, D. W. Robson, A. Humble, F. Berkley, R. J. Coxon, and Mr R. Dickinson (clerk).

THE CHAIRMAN RE-ELECTED.

Mr G. Ridley was re-elected chairman of the Guardians for the remaining term of office. Messrs John Kirkup and John Morgan were re-elected vice-chairmen.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

Mr J. Armstrong, relieving officer for Chester-le-Street sub-district, reported the expenditure of £56 1s 6d in relieving 360 persons during the fortnight. Mr J. McKay, relieving officer for the Harraton sub-district, reported an expenditure of £58 6s 1d for the same purpose.

THE MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The master (Mr Aikman), reported the number of inmates to be 132, as compared with 102 in the corresponding week of last year. During the fortnight 96 vagrants had been relieved, as against 107 in the corresponding period of 1894. There were three cases of measles at the workhouse.—The chairman: Have measles broken out at the house?—The master: The children have contracted the illness at school.—The chairman: You will have them in the infirmary.—The master: They are isolated.

The members sat as the

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr Witherspoon moved Mr G. Ridley be re-appointed chairman of the Authority.—Mr Mitchell seconded the motion, which was carried.—The chairman thanked the members for the additional honour they had conferred upon him, and said he would conduct the business to the best of his ability.

THE HOSPITAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Hospital committee reported that a meeting had been held on the 5th April, at which there were present Messrs G. Ridley (chairman), J. Mitchell, B. E. Smith, and R. J. Coxon, in pursuance of the resolution of the Authority, they inspected the various wards, and recommended that to prevent rain getting in, the ridges of the roofs should be cowled; that the sides should be canvassed, papered, and varnished to prevent draught, and several other alterations made. The committee also recommended that no further payment be made to Messrs Humphreys until some arrangement is come to with regard to the cost of the work, and that a disinfector be ordered forthwith.—The report of the committee was adopted, with the exception of the purchase of the disinfector, which, it was stated, would cost about £700. This matter, after some discussion, was allowed to stand over.

THE WATER CART.

In regard to the repairs of the water cart, the Clerk read a letter from the firm that provided it, stating they were sorry to hear that it had been broken in transit, which had occurred no doubt through the carelessness of the company's servants. The letter asked the Authority to have the repairs done, and send them the account, which they must claim from the company.—In reply to a question, the chairman said the price of it was £46.—Mr Mitchell said the cart was very little better than a toy.—The members decided to inspect the cart, and see what was best to be done.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Medical Officer (Dr Duncan), reported that there had been 45 deaths and 93 births, giving a death-rate of 22·2, and a birth-rate of 46·5. He had received 16 notifications of infectious disease, eight of scarlet fever, six of typhoid, and two of erysipelas. Three of the scarlet fever cases occurred at Sacriston in one house. A number of houses were reported as defective at Witton Gilbert, and it was decided to serve notices on the owners.

THE QUESTION OF WAY-LEAVE.

A committee, after consulting with Messrs Turnbull, agents for Messrs Fenwick, recommended that the tenant at Grange Villa be compensated for any damage done when breaking up the ground for the sewer, and that £1 a-year be paid for way-leave, instead of 30s, which they asked for, and that the Authority provide water in the various fields which had been done away with in making the drain. Messrs Fenwicks' agents were willing, on those conditions, to waive any further claim for damage, or any complaint of polluting the stream lower down.—With regard to the land which the Authority wish to purchase at Craghead, Messrs Turnbull were willing to sell the ground for £250 an acre, and the trees at a valuation. The committee would not recommend the Authority to pay such a sum, and thought they should go to arbitration.—It was stated that similar land had been purchased in the vicinity for £105 per acre.—It was ultimately agreed to ask the engineer (Mr Balfour) to report on the advisability of adopting chemicals, and coupled with the resolution was the expression of the opinion of the committee that the offer made by Messrs Fenwicks' agents was outrageous.—The other portion of the report was adopted.

THE PROPOSED NEW INFIRMARY.

Mr Robson said, in connection with the proposal to purchase a piece of land on the south-east of the workhouse for the erection of an infirmary, there were two factors involved. It was necessary to show that a new infirmary was imperatively necessary, and the land was the best that could be obtained to erect the buildings. The workhouse, he said, had been for a time in a chronic state of overcrowding, and argued the land was the best procurable. He moved that they purchase the land consisting of over three acres and three roods, at £320 per acre.—Mr Smith pointed out that they had plenty of ground to erect an infirmary on near the workhouse. He protested against wasting public money.—The chairman pointed out the overcrowding at the house that had existed, and the scarcity of land they had for the purposes required. If not taken now the opportunity might not come again. Over the whole union the cost would be about a sixteenth of a penny in the £.—Mr Smith proposed the matter be adjourned, as many of the members had left the room.—Mr Robson said they had all received notice.—The matter was allowed to stand over.—Mr Robson: I will not bring it on again.

This concluded the business.

CONSETT CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS.

On Thursday se'nnight, a meeting of the parishioners of Christ Church, Consett, was held in the National Schoolroom, under the presidency of the vicar (Rev F. Steggall), to take into consideration the best plan for raising over £700, which is required to re-roof and re-seat the Church, and to provide a new organ, a portion of the old instrument to be worked therein. There was a very good attendance of ladies and gentlemen.—The chairman explained that the church council had decided that all these matters should be carried into effect. A cheque for £100 had been forwarded by Mr Thos. Spencer, of Ryton—(applause)—£50 being for the organ, and the other £50 for the heating apparatus and the roof, and he expected a substantial donation from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the next meeting of that body being fixed for the 2nd May. He read a letter received from the secretary, asking to be furnished with the names of the subscribers towards these objects. He would be able to inform the Commissioners that the landowners and other residents had subscribed very handsomely, and the Consett Iron Co. had been very liberal in contributing towards the schools. He asked the parishioners to be as generous as possible, because that would probably be the last time he would be calling upon them to subscribe anything towards the church.—Subscriptions were then promised, the following being the chief amounts:—The vicar, £5 5s; Rev C. S. Wilson (curate), £5 5s; Mr W. Aynsley, £10 10s; Mr C. P. Douglas, £10 (for roof and heating apparatus); Mr W. Thompson, £5; Mr Jos. Surtees, £5, and various smaller amounts representing a total of £67.—It was decided to hold a bazaar and polytechnic in the schools in the coming autumn, and the lady members of the congregation promised to get up sewing meetings and teas towards the object in view.—The first sewing meeting took place at the Vicarage, on Monday afternoon, and with the encouraging tone of the meeting there is every prospect of the undertaking being speedily brought to a successful issue.

SHROUDED IN MYSTERY;

OR,

WHICH GIRL DID HE MARRY?

A LEGEND OF TWO CONSETT GIRLS

BY SKIPP BORLASE,

Author of "Darker than Death," "Riches to Ruin "An Ocean Secret," "Recalled to Life," "Who Killed John Cameron?" "The Police Minister "For True Love's Sake," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XLIX.

The Thunder Cloud Looms Darker Than Ever. Lady Howarth's Desperate Resolve.

"I don't think she accepted my advances very graciously, and I cannot imagine that she has quite forgiven me either," said Lady Howarth to her husband when the housekeeper had closed the door behind her.

"Oh, nonsense; it is only her way, my dear. Rheumatism, spasms, and a disordered digestion, all go to make the old much less amiable than the young. In nine cases out of ten they are so, and hug a grievance as tenaciously as a child does a new toy. It's no good fighting against nature, and as you've made the amende honorable you've done quite as much as you ought to do, or that I'd consent to your doing either; wherefore trouble your head no more about her. I'll tell you what it is, my love, you want a thorough good rousing, and nothing will do that so effectually as good company; wherefore, with your permission, I'd like to have a slap-up dinner party. I know a good many jolly yet gentlemanly fellows who would gladly come, and you'd of course grace the board—until we at all events uncorked our second round of bottles."

"What, with only gentlemen present?"

"Why, certainly, my love; for, as long as one is cheered, what matters it who 'tis by—when, of course, a husband is present?"

"I fancy that members of my own sex would be able to cheer me very much more effectually. Isn't is very strange that not one of the neighbouring families has called on me yet?"

"It's more than strange. It's insulting—that's what I call it. I suppose it's in this way: They didn't call on my first wife because most of them were very well aware that the time had been when she went bare-headed and bare-footed in the forest after the goats and pigs, though not a single proud dame of them all had a daughter who could match her in beauty even whilst she was labouring under such obvious disadvantages. Remembering, however, their conduct in the past, they may not have called on you lest I should have resented it; or, perhaps, some of them, from the better motive of not liking, by so doing, to cast a sort of slight upon the dead. Those who think in that way I can forgive, but the others I'll be hanged if I will."

"Perhaps your more charitable supposition may be the correct one in all cases, and if so I can do very well without their calling on me."

"Bravely spoken. And you do not object to my supper party?"

"Whatever will give you pleasure shall also give me pleasure."

"Now that's something like a wife; but I shan't ask a single fellow who has either wife or daughters who should have called upon you, don't think it. There are plenty of bachelors and widowers about, so we can dispense with the Benedicts. Let me see, I must have a parson amongst them, if only because the ladies are so fond of the cloth. There's Dick Bellos, who married us, our worthy vicar, and a better mouth for a bottle, or a firmer seat on the pigskin, was never known. He will come, I'll vouch for it—aye, and he'll sing us a comic song as well that would make you laugh though the family spectre was looking over your shoulder the while and you were perfectly aware of the fact. Why, wench, why don't you laugh at the very anticipation of such merry-making? Ah, it's because you are still worrying yourself about that rascal, Greenwood, that I feel very sure of."

This sudden and unexpected reverting, on Sir Harry's part, to the man and the theme which now almost alone worried and alarmed her, caused Lady Howarth to start in her chair and give utterance to a faint gasp.

"There, I knew that it was so," retorted the baronet, as though positively pleased at the shrewdness of his guess. "But, my dear, you must henceforth snap your fingers at that scurvy rascal, for be assured that he could never make me believe that black was white, after reading the letter you wrote him; and if he ever dares to show up at Derwent Hall, I'll first of all thrash him to within an inch of his life, and then set the dogs at him and hunt him right off my grounds. He'll never come near the place again after that I'll be bound; and as for his daring to any further persecute his unhappy wife, she has but to throw herself into the arms of the law, and it'll not only protect her, but also cast him into prison, which would be by far the most fitting place for him. The great mistake that you made was to attempt to purchase his future good behaviour with a bribe, for it was a regular playing into his hands, and, the system once commenced, the more you gave the more he'd demand."

"I believe that you are quite right and I'm thankful, now, that my letter and its contents fell into your hands. But, as the deception that I practised in order to obtain the money from you pains me very deeply even to think of, do, pray, be merciful, and not let us talk either of it or him any more," pleaded Lady Howarth, in quite pitiful tones.

"I'm only too thankful, darling, to forget both; and happily, here comes supper by way of a diversion, and I propose that afterwards we have a game at cribbage."

* * * * * *

Well, a storm is generally followed by a calm, and here we've got to the calm at last.

But it is destined to be a very brief one.

To Lady Howarth it never indeed for a single instant partook of the nature of one, for she felt that Dame Dorothy would continue to be her bitter foe, no matter what she might do to appease her enmity and her wrath; and she felt equally sure that Halcamus Greenwood was not a man whom she could afford to snap her fingers at, as her husband (and very naturally) seemed to suppose. "Ah," she reflected, "but then he didn't know all, or he would have been able to come to no such comforting conclusion," and that all, by no fault of her's now, she was further off from telling him than she had ever been.

"What would Halcamus do," she wondered, "on non-receipt of the fifty pounds which he had demanded from her courteously, it is true, yet, for all that, in such a way that she should know the velvet glove on the extended hand was drawn over an iron gauntlet?

He would probably wait two or three days beyond the time of its anticipated receipt, but what then? Alas! she dared not even think, for she felt that she would never more be allowed the means or the chance of bribing him to silence; and when enraged by disappointed greed he was a wretch capable of almost anything.

It was, nevertheless, something to know that her present and lawful husband (for the reader must not forget that the law of that day rendered her marriage with Greenwood null and void on account of the false names that he had, chiefly through vanity, wedded her under—a false surname be it understood, for a wrong Christian name only would not have been sufficient to invalidate it—and the lying oaths and declarations he had made as to age, parental consent, and so forth) was not a murderer, and had not got his first wife shut up as a maniac prisoner in the north wing; for, no longer believing either to be the case, she felt that she could, in time, teach herself to love and honour him, and she inwardly resolved that she would strive her very hardest to do both.

Before long, however, she found herself beginning to doubt him afresh—for why, she argued, should he have told her all that there apparently was to be told about the north wing, and yet keep it as carefully guarded from all possible invasion on her part as he had ever done?

It was certainly very strange, to say the least, and what made it yet stranger was that Dame Dorothy had daily access thereto—in order to feed the bird, of course—but then, our heroine argued, if a servant, why not a wife? and why, moreover, should the housekeeper be instructed, as her conduct went to prove, to transfer the key from the outside to the inside of the black communicating door, in order to keep it fast locked during the always brief period that she spent in the north wing?

She did not like to risk disturbing the harmony and domestic felicity which now existed between Sir Harry and herself by any fresh reference to the north wing and its horrors, real or imaginary; but, whenever he was out of the way, she found herself involuntarily watching Dame Dorothy's movements, and taking secret note them; and when wandering in the garden, her interest in the row of dust-begrimed cobweb-hung upper windows, which for some time had abated, revived in almost full force.

Perhaps the darkly scheming housekeeper noticed this also, and determined to make her mistress's curiosity minister to her own eagerly longed for vengeance, and gratify her intense hate.

Whether that was so or not, she certainly did all that in her lay to work up Lady Howarth's curiosity to a yet higher pitch, and she succeeded in her object even beyond her utmost hopes.

On one occasion she suffered her mistress to detect her carrying food which could not have been intended for a bird, or even for an animal, into the north wing, and pretended to be very confused and put about by the "recontre;" and another time, when Sir Harry was away, and Lady Howarth secretly prying into the old beldame's movements, as usual, she heard a terrible screaming that was most unmistakably human coming from within the north wing, and presently Dame Dorothy issued forth, shifted the key from the inside to the outside of the communicating door in what appeared to be an alarmed and breathless hurry, than double locked the door, and hurried towards her master's dressing room, evidently in order to restore the key to the secret drawer of the bureau, as she always did; and her concealed mistress observed, with a thrill of horror, as she on this occasion passed her close by, that she carried an empty basket on her left arm, that her dress and cap were torn, her grey locks all dishevelled, and looking as though some of them had been torn out by the roots, and her face ploughed up here and there by deep and evidently just received scratches.

"A pleasant charge—a nice responsibility—an agreeable situation, truly—with a devil on one side of the door, and a spy on the other—ugh—ugh—ugh!" she grunted rather than muttered as she passed close to where her lady was standing just within her own dress-ing-room door, a fact of which the scheming and malevolent old hag was thoroughly aware.

Five minutes later Ruth was pacing up and down the polished oak floor of her favourite sitting-room in as great a state of doubt and misgiving as she had ever yet suffered from, and murmuring to herself the while:

"I will know the worst, in some way or other. I will accept nothing short of the evidence of my own eyes and ears in this matter. Ah, I know what I will do. The twice postponed supper party is to come off to-morrow evening for certain, and I am expected to withdraw at the uncorking of the first relay of bottles. I'll do more than withdraw; for I'll seize upon the opportunity to penetrate into and thoroughly explore the north wing, at all hazards. My husband will not, of course, quit his guests, Dame Dorothy always goes to bed early, all the other servants will be as busy as can be downstairs, and I'm next to certain that I know how to open that secret drawer now. Then, if I find anything in those terrible and mysterious chambers, which ought to be revealed, I will return and proclaim it aloud before all my husband's assembled guests, and throw myself on their protection in order to escape the possible consequences."

[To Be Continued.]

A BENSON'S PLASTER

Is a scientifically Medicated Porous Plaster—not a mere strengthening Plaster, which ordinarily is sold under the title of "porous plasters." Benson's is a reliable household remedy, superior to all other Porous Plasters or liniments for external use. Whilst affording mechanical support, possesses a combination of medicinal qualities which brings immediate and permanent relief in Chest Colds, Pains in the Chest arising from Cold, Torpid or Inactic Liver. Removes the pain immediately from the weak and aching back and sides, soothing and stimulating in its effects. 5,000 Physicians and Chemists have testified to their superiority. Over forty medals and highest awards received for reliability and excellence of manufacture.

Price 1/1½, of all Chemists, or post free on receipt of price, together with a copy of the "Home Nurse," from the Wholesale Depot, FASSETT & JOHNSON, 32, & 33, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE

It is now about four years since this marvellous medicine has been introduced to the public, and all have a good name for it, who have taken it for Consumption, Tumours, Lupus, Cancer, Influenza: anyone can satisfy themselves of the fact by going to any of G. Handyside's shops, and hearing what the people say who have taken it. But, when the lungs are nearly all eaten away with Consumption it will not put new lungs in, therefore, when the lungs are gone, it will only ease the cough.

The BLOOD FOOD prepared by G. Handyside, is simply a vegetable extract, and thereby God's natural remedy for building up the body, and when the body is strong it defies all disease. It contains no medicine, and therefore cannot ruin the constitution as doctors' medicines do. Everyone should take it for Indigestion, Costiveness, Sleeplessness, Dizziness of the Head, Fits, Asthma, Bronchitis, Change of Life, and it is a most marvellous thing for Influenza. Delicate people should take it for ever.

HANDYSIDE'S RHEUMATIC CURE does not fail once in a hundred cases, when it is applied according to directions. 20,000 people have been rubbed at Handyside's Rooms, and 99 out of every 100 have been cured, but a good many who rub themselves have failed, because they did not go by the directions. Whenever it fails they should communicate with Mr Handyside.

The Pills prepared by Mr. Handyside, are a highly concentrated vegetable extract, they contain no medicine, therefore cannot ruin the constitution as most other medicines do. They build up the body by their easy digestion and highly nutritive properties. They have only been known to the public for 6 months, and some of my agents sell at the rate of 20,000 boxes of these pills per annum and as each box contains four times the quantity of the average of other makers, makes the sales fully 80,000 boxes per annum for one agent to sell out of one shop. They are not much advertised, as the people who take them advertise them. Some people who first take them are astonished that they do not purge. This is their great value: they do not weaken the constitution by purging. This is a very different result from that of medicine, as medicine never fails to ruin the constitution, and everyone who has taken it will bear this out. These pills invigorate the constitution, strengthen the digestion, thereby build up the body and guard it against all diseases. They will be sent without the money, carriage paid, to any one on trial. If they do not do more good than any other pills, no money is required. If you cannot get them from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Football.

*** Secretaries of football clubs would greatly oblige us by despatching their reports so that they may reach our office not later than *Tuesday* morning.

ASSOCIATION.

South Moor Albions beat East Castle by three goals to two.

Hedley Hill Terrace Rangers v West Stanley United.—Played on the former's ground, and ended in a very easy victory for the Rangers by seven goals to nil.

East Castle Wanderers Reserve v South Medomsley Argyle.—Played on the former's ground, and after a very fast and exciting game resulted in a draw of three goals each. H. Lax, T. Gladders, and H. Young played well for the home team, as did the two Thompsons for the visitors.

Oakey's Lilywhites v Leadgate Exiles Scratch.—These teams met on the former's ground at Stanley before a good muster of onlookers. The Lilywhites scored twice in the first half by the aid of Bolam and Gibson. On resuming, the Exiles took up the attack, and O'Neil scored No. 1, the same player adding a second from a corner. The game became very fast, both sides trying to get the winning point. The home team played a splendid game, and Whitfield scored for them amidst much excitement. McGee, Monaghan, and O'Neil played a good game for the visitors. Result—

Lilywhites..........................Three goals
Exiles..........................Two goals

Lintz Rovers Reserve v Langley Park Albion.—This fixture was brought off on the Rovers' ground in fine weather. P. Hughes (the home captain) won the toss, and Lamb started the leather for the visitors, who immediately got into the Lintz territory, but were sent back by a long kick from R. Urwin. The Rovers got possession, and gave the Albion defence a warm time of it. J. Gannon worked the ball out of a scrimmage, and shot across the goal-mouth, enabling P. Hughes to score the first goal for the home team. Not long afterwards the same player added a second point. The visitors' left broke away with a good run, but were pulled up, and at the interval the score read as under—

Lintz..........................Two goals
Langley Park..........................Nil

On crossing over, the visitors now had the breeze in their favour, and fully expected to wipe off the score standing against them. However, the Rovers always held the upper hand of their opponents, and never let them have a chance of scoring. Time arrived with the score—

Lintz..........................Two goals
Langley Park..........................Nil

TOW LAW v. NEWCASTLE ALBION.

These teams met at Tow Law in delightful weather, and brought together a large crowd, doubtless owing to the good reputation of the visitors. Throughout a good game was witnessed, and the result was declared as follows—

Tow Law..........................Five goals
Albion..........................Two goals

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

DIPTON WANDERERS v. SOUTHWICK.

These teams met at Southwick in fine weather to play their return Alliance match. Winning the toss, the home team decided to take advantage of a useful breeze. The leather had not been long started before Southwick, breaking somewhat smartly away, got into the Wanderers' territory. The backs permitted the home forwards to get close in, and Passman securing possession shot well in. Ellis fumbled with the ball, and allowed it to slip through. Even play ensued for a while, and once Walker nearly equalised with a grand shot, the globe bounding off the cross-bar. The game continued to be very open, the leather at times travelling from end to end very rapidly. It was not often, however, that either set of forwards got within shooting distance. Southwick were rather more dangerous than their opponents, several abortive corners falling to their lot. Once Jackson tried a long shot, and the ball just slipped over the top of the bar. The home team now began to attack strongly, and Potts and Passman each shot a trifle wide, while Ridley put over the top. Dipton now asserted themselves, and the forwards got away with a rush and beat the home backs in a sprint up. Walker sent in a splendid shot, which completely beat Harvey, and the scores were equalised. This was a very clever piece of play, but was evidently not relished by the spectators. Score at half-time—

Dipton..........................One goal
Southwick..........................One goal

Most of the play in the second half took place in the Southwick portion of the field. The visitors now had the wind behind them, and soon made their presence felt. However, the teams were exceedingly well matched, but the Wanderers undoubtedly showed the best form. It was very seldom that the forwards on either side got sufficiently near to the posts to put on any further points. The backs were too watchful and safe to allow of this. Though the game was so closely contested, it was not one of the most interesting kind. The dearth of good passing and the paucity of shots accounted greatly for this. Towards the close Southwick looked dangerous, but the ball was removed out of danger. It speedily travelled to the opposite goal, and Walker once more did the needful for Dipton with a beautiful shot. Final score—

Dipton..........................Two goals
Southwick..........................One goal

The Wanderers were represented by the following team:—Goal, Ellis; backs, Bolton and Thos. Rowell; half-backs, W. Parker, E. Buck, and R. Coates; forwards, F. Harle and S. Gardiner, right wing; M. Temple, centre; D. Crozier and T. Walker, left wing.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

SEMI-FINALS.

WOLSINGHAM v. RISE CARR RANGERS.

This re-played tie took place on the ground of the Wolsingham club before an immense assemblage of spectators, of whom a large number travelled by the excursion from Darlington. The match, as expected, turned out to be a hardly-contested one, the teams having last week, as is well-known, played a draw of three goals each on the Rangers' ground. The visitors commenced the game with the sun at their backs, and though each goal was frequently threatened, the defence on both sides was good, and half-time found the score standing—

Wolsingham..........................Nil
Rangers..........................Nil

On changing ends, it was soon seen that the homesters were possessed of the greater staying powers. Only two minutes had elapsed when Muse, by a long kick, registered the first goal for the home team, for which he was awarded a prolonged cheer. This infused new strength into the players, and for some minutes play was fast. Another goal was secured for Wolsingham by Weston within ten minutes of the re-start. After this the visitors fell off considerably, and the most of the play was in their half. A few minutes before the finish, Williams sent in a nice shot which struck one of the Rangers' backs and went through. The final result of the game, which was greatly enjoyed by the spectators, was—

Wolsingham..........................Three goals
Rangers..........................Nil

AXWELL ROVERS (SWALWELL) v. MONKWEARMOUTH.

The above tie was decided on the former's ground at Swalwell in beautiful weather, and before nearly 4,000 spectators. The home team were without Newton, his place being taken by Graham, of the reserve. The Rovers won the toss, and elected to play with the wind in their favour. Trenholm started the game for the visitors, but Shield obtained possession and gave to Roscamp, who centred well, and Dixon scored the first goal for Axwell. The home team continued to press, and Knowles cleared finely. The Rovers were not to be kept out, and working their way up gained a free kick for hands close in. Hepple sent in a low, swift shot, which glanced off Hunter and scored the second goal. Play was in midfield for some time, and then a miskick by Graham let in Ormston, who headed through for the "Monks." Axwell came away with a neat combined run, and Briggs was enabled to score No. 3. This was soon followed by another from the foot of Errington, and shortly after R. Bruce sent in a clinker which no goalkeeper could stop. Half-time score—

Axwell..........................Five goals
Monkwearmouth..........................One goal

On resuming, it was seen that R. Bruce had gone back and Graham forward. The visitors were soon invading the home territory, but could not break down the defence, Jameson, R. Bruce, and Burn saving well. The Rovers ran down, and Graham had a good shot, which Tyndall had to fist out. The "Monks" again pressed, but were repulsed in a splendid manner, and when the whistle blew the homesters were victorious as under—

Axwell..........................Five goals
Monkwearmouth..........................One goal

Swalwell team—Goal, A. Jamieson; backs, Graham and M. Burn; half-backs, J. Bruce, R. Bruce, and R. Hepple; forwards, Dixon, Briggs, Errington, Shield, and Roscamp. Linesman, E. Watson. Monkwearmouth—Goal, Tyndall; backs, Knowles and Hunter; half-backs, Harkness, Lindsay, and Black; forwards, Hunter, Ormston, Trenholm, Brown, and Thompson. Referee, Mr J. R. Douglas.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "Off-side."]

AXWELL ROVERS IN THE FINAL.

To say that the result of the tie between Axwell Rovers and Monkwearmouth came as a surprise would be but to put it mildly. I was, unfortunately, unable to be present to witness the game, and when I heard the score on Saturday evening I put it down as a hoax. Five goals to one is a decisive enough beating in all conscience, and I am totally unable to account for it. Either the Rovers must have improved to an extraordinary extent, or else the "Monks," as they are familiarly termed, must have felt the effects of their hard games on the same ground on the two preceding Saturdays. However, Axwell are entitled to great credit for having reached the final, more especially as this is, I believe, the first time they have entered for the cup. They are a team that never ceases trying till the whistle has sounded.

—o—

Reverting to last Saturday's match, it may be said that Tyndall played well in goal for the visitors, and could not be blamed for the shots that went past him. Knowles and Hunter are a good pair of backs, especially the former. Black and Lindsay worked very hard at half, but could do very little with the Rovers' forwards. Trenholm, Thompson, and Ormston were the pick of the attack. Jameson showed splendid form between the sticks for Axwell, some of his saves being remarkable. Burn and Graham both did well, particularly the former, who has never been seen to greater advantage this season. Graham was slightly nervous, but with practice will develope into a capital back. The halves, as usual, played grandly to a man, while the forwards passed and combined in splendid style. As may be easily imagined, the victory sent the Swalwell folks almost mad with delight.

—o—

LEADGATE EXILES A.F.C.

"There were sounds of revelry by night" in the Brooms School, on Monday evening, on the occasion of a social and supper held by the above popular and well-known club, to wind up the season. A most splendid repast was placed upon the tables by the Misses McCurley, Consett, to which ample justice was done by the assembled guests, who numbered about 200. After supper, a few appropriate words were addressed to those present by Father Magill, the popular and highly-esteemed pastor of the Brooms Church. Dancing and singing were then indulged in, very excellent music being supplied by Miss M. McCurley (piano), Messrs Makepeace (violin), J. Anderson (cornet), and G. Robinson (piccolo.) Some excellent songs were contributed by Miss Fiddes, Miss A. Clare, Messrs J. Monaghan, W. Costello, Agnew, and McCue. Special mention must be made of the singing of Miss Fiddes, who rendered "The song that reached my heart" and "Bonnie Mary of Argyle" in really splendid fashion. The general arrangements were admirably carried out by the committee, ably assisted by the hard-working secretary (Mr John Costello), who also efficiently discharged the duties of M.C., and generally did his best to make everyone enjoy themselves, in which task he was well backed up by Father Magill and Father O'Kelly. The very successful proceedings terminated at twelve o'clock, all present declaring the evening to be one of the most enjoyable they had ever spent.

—o—

WATERHOUSES v. LANGLEY PARK.

Dear Sir,—In looking through your valuable "notes," I was rather surprised to find such an exaggerated account of the above game, and I think Mr Agar has been wrongly informed as to what took place. In the first place, he accuses Waterhouses of rough play. Now, sir, if the play was rough or unfair, why did not the Langley players appeal? They never once appealed for a foul, nor was there one given for either side. Again, he says that Waterhouses got a goal after the Langley goalkeeper had been "winded." This, sir, is untrue, as the ball was through before the man was "winded." He also accuses me of not giving my decisions upon the field. I would like to ask Mr Agar how he knows, seeing that he was not within three or four miles of the field where the game was played; and, more, I would like to ask him who gave them all those corners he talks about in his letter? He knows nothing about the game except what he has heard from some of his own team. I would advise Langley to try and be manly, and if they are beat to take their defeat like sportsmen, and not like so many children crying over spilt milk. There is no disgrace in being beaten fairly and upon your merits, but I must say a worse set of losers than the Rovers I never saw. No doubt it is bad to bear being beaten by the team that only a few weeks before Langley thought and said were not class enough for them. As a referee I always try to do my duty, but as an observer of the games I must say I am pleased that the Rovers have had to go down a bit.—Yours, &c.,

J. W. Jackson, Waterhouses,
Referee in above match.

—o—

NORTHERN ALLIANCE

The following are the results of the Northern Alliance Competition up to Saturday:—

	Plyd	Won	Lst	Drn	Goals For	Goals Agst	Pts
Sunderland A	18	13	4	1	50	25	27
Gateshead N.E.R.	18	10	5	3	53	38	23
Rendel	18	9	4	5	53	30	23
Hebburn Argyle	18	10	6	2	48	31	22
Willington Athletic	18	8	5	5	33	28	21
Blyth	18	10	7	1	43	29	21
Shankhouse	18	6	7	5	35	48	17
Newcastle United A	18	5	9	4	36	45	14
Dipton Wanderers	18	4	12	2	27	46	10
Southwick	18	1	15	2	22	72	4

MEMS:

Wolsingham, as I fully expected would be the case, easily accounted for Rise Carr Rangers on their own ground.

Axwell Rovers and Wolsingham are therefore left to fight for the possession of the Junior Cup.

Wolsingham are strong favourites for the event, but they must not hold their opponents too cheaply, as the latter have accomplished several notable surprises, and might easily bring off another one to-morrow.

—o—

THE END.

Once more it becomes my duty to bid my football readers *au revoir* till next September. The past season has, perhaps, scarcely come up to expectations, but then we are going ahead at such a rapid pace that nothing but football of the best quality seems to satisfy us. We have, unfortunately, not been able to bring the Senior Cup into the district, and I doubt we never shall until the competition is confined to amateurs. As long as the present rules remain in force, Sunderland will always be able to put a team into the field sufficiently strong to win the cup. To all who have assisted me in compiling these "Jottings" week after week I tender my hearty thanks, and without their kind help I can certainly say that my task would have been a much harder one than it has been.

Cycling Notes.

Blackhill Brass Band Contest.—In addition to other attractions, the committee of the above contest have arranged, as will be seen from an advertisement in another column, to hold a bicycle meet in connection with the contest. In order to encourage clubs to attend, the committee have decided to offer a handsome silver bugle, value £3, to the club having the largest number of members present. That celebrated maker, Besson, of London, will supply the bugle, for which, no doubt, there will be a very keen competition.

A Card. — An Important Discovery is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, kidney diseases, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the description free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper

Cricket.

Our contributor, "L.B.W.," will next week supply his first instalment of "Cricket Notes" for the present season. "L.B.W." will at all times be pleased to hear from secretaries, enclosing a few notes on the several games played by their respective clubs, and also any items likely to prove interesting to our readers. All such communications should reach our office not later than Tuesday in each week.

Burnhope 2nd v Craghead 2nd.—Played on neutral ground, and resulted in a win for Burnhope, for whom J. Dyson scored 24, whilst G. Hunter got 27 for Craghead. Score:—Burnhope, 52; Craghead, 45

BURNHOPE v. LITTLEBURN.

Played on the former's ground, and resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—

BURNHOPE.		LITTLEBURN.	
C Smith b Furnival	21	W Bailes c & b Heckels	2
J Gair c Grant b Willans	3	H Young b Heckels	10
J Ironsides b Willans	1	W Furnival b Robinson	3
G Posts run out	9	J Willans l b w b Heckels	13
J Hunter c Simpson b Willans	1	W Simpson b Heckels	0
A Heckels b Furnival	15	J Peel b Heckels	0
J Robinson c Young b Willans	4	T Grant b Robinson	12
W Goundy b Willans	0	W Paley b Heckels	0
M Liddle c Carter b Willans	0	W Roxborough b Robinson	7
H Burnett not out	3	T Carter not out	4
E Webster c Bailes b Furnival	0	J Herron b Robinson	0
Extras	8	Extras	1
Total	65	Total	53

SACRISTON v. LANCHESTER.

Played at Sacriston, and resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—

SACRISTON.		LANCHESTER.	
W Swindle b Jackson	1	J Ross b Waite	7
J Green b Ramsay	10	J Ward c Waite b Robson	7
F Robson c Ramsay b Jackson	30	J McHatton b Waite	1
J Taylor run out	6	W Jackson b Robson	0
M Winn c Ramsay b Jackson	3	H Parker b Robson	0
T Henderson b Jacks'n	3	J Thompson b Waite	0
A Waite b Ramsay	0	H Dixon c Henderson	5
W Dent b Jackson	0	J Sinton b Robson	9
A Evans not out	5	R McHatton not out	0
J Walton run out	0	W Ramsay b Robson	3
R Taylor b Jackson	0	G W Wilson b Robson	0
Extras	6	Extras	5
Total	66	Total	37

OXHILL v. TANTOBIE.

Played at Oxhill, the home team winning by 36 runs. Score:—

TANTOBIE.		OXHILL.	
J Harrison b Raine	8	S Smith b Morton	2
W Armstrong c Middlemast b Raine	8	G Clarkson c Brown b Morton	2
W Charlton c Thompson b Raine	6	F Thompson run out	42
T Morson b Raine	6	M Ledger c Armstrong b Rockett	8
J Brown run out	0	J W Backton c Morton b Rockett	0
F Rockett c Palmer b Middlemast	7	W Raine b Morton	9
J Gibbon b Middlem'st	0	G Collin b Armstrong	3
A Rockett c Tindale b Middlemast	3	J Middlemast c Morton b Rockett	12
E Foster not out	5	T Tindale c Armstrong b Rockett	3
W Hodgson b Raine	4	R Palmer c Armstrong b Rockett	1
W Hall c Ledger b Middlemast	0	R Henderson not out	0
Extras	5	Extras	0
Total	46	Total	82

TEMPLETOWN v. CONSETT Y.M.C.A.

Played at Templetown, and ended in a win for the home team. Score:—

TEMPLETOWN.		Y.M.C.A.	
G Charlton b Hull	3	J Wilson b T Charlton	5
T Charlton b Hull	1	T Wood run out	11
C Lowes c Maddison b Hull	1	F Siddle b T Charlton	0
T Dunn b Siddle	0	J Borrow c and b T Charlton	0
J Lowes b Hull	6	J Maddison b T Charlton	0
M Lowes b Hull	3	J Hull b C Lowes	0
J Lowden b Hull	10	J Colling b T Charlton	8
J W Batey b Hull	4	J Smith not out	8
T Colling b Siddle	7	H Symington b J Lowes	0
R Lowes b Siddle	1	H Philipson c C Lowes b T Charlton	0
F Thornton not out	10	J Heslop st Batey	5
Extras	1	Extras	1
Total	47	Total	38

STANLEY AND DISTRICT C.C.—R. KNOX'S TEAM v. JOS. DIXON'S TEAM.

The above club opened their season with a match between these teams, and after a good and exciting game Mr Knox's team were victorious by five runs. Score:—

R. KNOX'S TEAM.		J. DIXON'S TEAM.	
Bennett b Clough	5	Lee b Jewitt	10
Siddle b Clough	3	J Benfold b Rutherford	2
R Knox b Clough	0	Curry b Jewitt	0
Beckwith retired	20	Gibson b Beckwith	18
Rutherford run out	11	Jos Dixon st Bennett b Rutherford	0
T Jewitt b Gibson	7	W Brown not out	28
Simpson b Armitage	8	J Davison st Bennett b Jewitt	3
Henderson b Clough	18	G Clough b Beckwith	0
Teasdale b Benfold	2	W Dodd b Rutherford	8
H Fothergill b Benfold	1	John Dixon b Rutherford	0
J Mackinlay c Lee b Clough	0	R Walker c Siddle b Rutherford	4
Hammond c Curry b Clough	1	C Armitage b Jewitt	0
Davison c Benfold b Smith	1	M Smith absent	0
Benfold not out	0	Lonsdale b Rutherford	0
Extras	8	Extras	12
Total	90	Total	85

OXHILL 2ND v. TANTOBIE 2ND.

Played at Tantobie, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. Score:—

TANTOBIE.		OXHILL.	
G Keilor b Middlemast	2	J Rix lbw b Tyson	0
G Harrison lbw b Rix	0	J Wilson c Tyson b Keilor	0
T Keilor b Rix	0	J Middlemast b Tyson	0
J Tyson c Ledger b Middlemast	1	J G Lumley st	0
R Keilor b Middlemast	0	J Ledger st	0
H Webster b Middlemast	4	W Thorne c Tyson b Keilor	1
C Cook b Rix	0	J Palmer run out	4
N Atthey not out	1	H Middlemast st	3
B Hannett b Middlemast	0	G Kent not out	5
W Hunter b Middlemast	2	J Cockburn b Tyson	1
A Arkless b Middlemast	0	J Shipley run out	0
Extras	3	Extras	1
Total	13	Total	15

BIRTLEY v. BEAMISH.

Played at Birtley, and resulted in an easy win for the home team. Score:—

BEAMISH.		BIRTLEY.	
J Lee c Armitage	6	R Pettifor b Mason	5
C Laverick run out	2	D Shepherd l b w b Finlay	0
W Stoddart b Poole	8	B Potter b Finlay	3
R Dorling b Armitage	2	A Standley c Stoddart	4
A Kerr b Poole	0	F Armitage b Laybourne	3
M Laybourne b Poole	0	R Pearson b Finlay	2
G Finlay b Armitage	2	P Coates not out	22
F Mole not out	1	A Hunn b Laybourne	3
J Brown b Armitage	0	W Poole b Laybourne	8
F Harvey b Poole	3	F Potter b Mason	1
L Mason b Armitage	0	J Henderson b Mason	4
Extras	2	Extras	6
Total	26	Total	56

CONSETT TULIPS v. HARE LAW WANDERERS.

Played on the latter's ground, and ended in a win for the visitors by 19 runs. Score:—

HARE LAW.		TULIPS.	
H Armstrong c Little b Grace	0	J Richards b Riddle	4
J Reynolds run out	8	W Walton c Armstrong b Curry	11
J Connor b Grace	9	W Grace c Reynolds b Curry	0
B Curry c Bainbridge b Walton	6	W Little c Riddle b Close	12
J Riddle run out	8	A Bainbridge b Curry	5
J Westgarth c Little b Walton	0	T Wilkinson b Curry	0
J Urwin c Richards b Walton	4	S Wood b Close	0
J Close c and b Walton	1	G Jefferson c Curry b Close	0
J Armstrong c Walton b Grace	2	J Cuthbertson c Riddle b Close	1
J Kirton b Walton	0	J Pratt b Curry	0
F Graham not out	3	G Urwin not out	0
Extras	5	Extras	18
Total	32	Total	51

BEAMISH 2ND v. BIRTLEY 2ND.

Played on the former's ground on a good wicket, and resulted in a somewhat easy victory for the home team. Score:—

BIRTLEY.		BEAMISH.	
A Bolam b D Laverick	0	G Wilkinson b Stobbs	4
G Bell b Cara	6	C Laverick b Stobbs	2
W Stobbs b D Laverick	0	R Carr b Ryle	7
R Wilson b D Laverick	0	D Laverick b Stobbs	0
J Atkinson c Turnbull b Laverick	0	H Theobald b Ryle	9
J Moralee b Carr	0	R Brown b Stobbs	2
R Ryle b D Laverick	0	H Dixon b Stobbs	8
J Lumley c Martin b Laverick	0	R Turnbull l b w b Stobbs	7
R Edgar not out	2	D Soulsby b Stobbs	0
F Goundry st Theobald b Laverick	0	J Martin b Stobbs	1
R Prondlock b Laverick	4	R Curry not out	5
Extras	3	Extras	4
Total	15	Total	42

THE MIRACLE AT OSSETT.

AN IMPARTIAL DESCRIPTION.

Ossett is ringing with the fame of a "miracle." Readers at a distance might be excused a little scepticism on the subject, had not a leading Yorkshire newspaper, the *Dewsbury Chronicle*, taken up the matter, with a view to a formal investigation and an authoritative statement, aye or nay, as to the truth of the report.

The means adopted by our contemporary preclude all doubt as to the facts. If any exaggeration or deception existed it must have been exposed. A special commissioner from the *Chronicle* went straight to the address where the miracle was reported—Manor Lane, Ossett,—and interviewed the actual subject of the report, a Mrs Mark Chappell. The narrative thus sifted at first hand proved to be both interesting and remarkable.

"I had been ill for several years," Mrs Chappell said. "My face was as yellow as a guinea. The pains across my stomach were very bad, and my body used to swell up fearfully. I had pains in my legs, across my chest, and betwixt my shoulders, and I have had palpitation of the heart for many years; it used to prevent me from getting to sleep. What with one thing and what with another, I began to feel as if I should never get better. I have been so bad that I couldn't wash myself."

Questioned as to whether she had not obtained medical aid, Mrs Chappell explained that she had; she had taken (in her own words) "enough medicine to drown a horse," and was steadily getting worse. "Three months ago," she said, "the pain across my chest, shoulders, and stomach was so bad that I didn't know what to do. I bore it as best I could, but it got worse and worse." Nevertheless, she was now perfectly well; the diseased heart sound, the yellow jaundiced skin pink and healthy. How then was this undoubted miracle effected?

By very simple means, naturally. The "miracle," in short, was only one of the miracles of science; there was nothing supernatural about it. Medicine will cure now what was incurable a year or two ago. A new discovery has placed extraordinary healing in the power of science; and the new drug is already in general sale, under the quaint name of Dr Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. Mrs Chappell heard of the extraordinary cures effected by these pills, procured a supply on the advice of a neighbour, whose family had already benefited by the same valuable discovery, and before four doses had been taken was on the high road to health! Four two-and-ninepenny boxes of Dr. Williams' Pills restored this sick and wretched woman to perfect health. She was seen by the reporter active and content, and her story was gladly confirmed in his hearing by her husband. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have a truly miraculous efficacy. They are a perfect blood builder and nerve restorer, and an unfailing cure for rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxy, St. Vitus' dance, nervous headache, prostration, etc. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills restore pale and sallow complexions to the glow of health, and are a specific for all the troubles peculiar to the female sex; while in the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of whatever nature.

The Pills are sold by all chemists, or may be had direct from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, of 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, at 2s 9d a box, or six boxes for 13s 9d. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are never sold loose, and a dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud; the wooden box must be in a pink wrapper bearing the *full name*, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

EVENING CONCERT AT CONSETT.

On Monday evening, an exceedingly enjoyable concert was given in the New Town Hall, Consett, under the auspices of the original Blackhill Ethiopian Minstrel Troupe. The occasion was interesting for more reasons than one, and the promoters did all in their power to provide an excellent programme of music. The hall was comfortably filled; but there was not the rush for seats that might have been expected. The artistes were Madame Bellas-Dryden, contralto, Consett; Miss Sneath, soprano, Newcastle; Miss A. C. Harker, mandolinist and violinist, Blackhill; Mr Jos. Siddle, tenor, Consett; Mr J. Mathieson, bass, Blackhill; Mr Symington, baritone, Benfieldside; Mr T. D. Dales, Medomsley; Messrs F. W. Brodie, A. D. Wood, and M. Hobday, humorists, Blackhill. The music was of a nature to appeal to the understanding of one and all. The orchestra of the troupe, under the leadership of Mr G. A. Williams, Consett, opened the programme with a very creditable performance of the overture, "Carnavalia," and they were greatly applauded. Mr J. Symington followed with "The bugler," which he executed with pleasing effect, and gave a masterly interpretation of the song. Of the singers in this district none is more popular than Madame Bellas-Dryden. Her beautiful contralto voice possesses wonderful charms; it is full and mellow throughout its long compass; tender, strong, and natural. On making her appearance to render "Heaven and earth" she was cordially received. Her rendition of this song was all that could be desired, and her efforts were much appreciated. Mr Siddle sang very sweetly "C[illegible] threshold," with marked success. The [illegible] solo, "Zitella," by Miss Harker, was exceptionally well done. This was one of the most pleasing features of the concert. The artiste was loudly cheered and an *encore* was given. Mr Mathieson sang "Come back to me" fairly well, and was followed by Miss Sneath, with "Bouquetière," and it was considered a pronounced success inasmuch as the audience persisted in an *encore*. Mr Dales created much merriment with the rendition of "The comical story," and was awarded an *encore*, which he acknowledged by giving "Pat's voyage" with equal success. After a short interval, the second portion of the programme was proceeded with. All the artistes did exceedingly well. An admirable concert concluded with the musical sketch, "Who'll shut the door. The characters represented were:—

Husband..........................Mr M. Hobday.
Wife..........................Mr A. D. Wood.
Traveller..........................Mr F. W. Brodie.

This was followed by the "grand evolutionary display" of the "awkward squad," by the whole strength of the troupe. This performance created roars of laughter. The accompanist was Mr Williams, who acquitted himself satisfactorily, and proved himself an accomplished musician.

Business Announcements.

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Trade Notes.

LABOUR PROSPECTS IN WEARDALE.

A large number of the workmen of the Weardale Lead Company at Greenlaws, Sedling Vein, Killhope and Grove Rake have been turned off. No reason is assigned, and no mention is made of this action being temporary or otherwise. A good number of the unemployed have got work on the new railway, where wages have been reduced above Eastgate 2d per day.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Tow Law.—Mr Vickers had forward 50 dairy cows and heifers, 30 fat cattle, 18 store cattle, and 14 calves. Cows, made up to £18 10s; fat cattle, to £20; store cattle, to £13 10s; calves, 38s; fat hoggs, from 40s to 45s, from Mr T. Suddes, Click-em-in; 45s to 49s 6d, Mr J. Liddle, Kimblesworth; 44s 6d to 47s, Mr R. Burdon, Bargate, Lanchester; 45s, Mr Sanderson, Littlewhite; 31s to 40s 6d, Mr G. Alder, Cornsay. Fat lambs, to 30s 6d—top, Messrs Bell Bros., Ltd., Lowfield, Yarm. Cows were a slow and sluggish sale. Fat met with a fairly good trade.

Stanley.—Messrs Lowes and Hobson had forward at their usual fortnightly sale on Monday, 19 fat cattle, 10 fat sheep, 6 cows calved and to calve, 15 BF ewes, 1 calf, 4 store cattle, 2 spring carts, 1 set SM harness. There was a great demand for fat cattle. Bullocks made from £13 10s to £18; heifers, from £14 to £18 5s. There was a good attendance of buyers from all parts.

Benfieldside.—Mr Murray had forward on Monday, 23 fat cattle, 127 fat sheep, 4 calves, 5 geld cows, 7 dairy cows, 2 stirks, 16 head of poultry, 2 ponies, and a quantity of chains, household furniture, &c. A large company was present, and a fairly good sale resulted at satisfactory prices. Fat heifers, to £18 10s, Messrs Annandale, Lintzford; bullocks, to £17 2s 6d for 2 sucklers from the Derwent Flour Mill farm; fat cows, to £15, Mr Miller, Panshield; cows, to £13 17s 6d, Mr White, Low Brooms. Shearling sheep to 60s Mr Copeland, Muggleswick; hoggs in [illegible] to 58s 6d Messrs Annandale; clips, to 47s. Calves, to 28s. A fat bull was offered, but was withdrawn at £17 5s. The other stock was sold out.

Lanchester.—Messrs Green and Dowson had forward on Monday, 11 cows, 5 fat cattle, 13 store cattle, 1 colt, 33 fat sheep, and 10 [illegible] ewes and lambs. Cows and other stock made late rates; store cattle in favour of the sellers. Cows up to £10 15s; fat cattle up to £18—top, U. A. Rason, Esq.; fat hoggs up to 48s—top, J. Green, Satley; b.f. ewes and lambs, 21s a-head; also a quantity of ropes and halters, which made fair prices. It will be seen from the advertisement columns that the May-day special is to be held on May 7th, and the manager hopes that all entries will be sent not later than May 2nd, to ensure due publication.

"How to Debate."—This is handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of sixpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson's bookseller, Front Street and 20 Newmarket Street, Consett.

HEALTH RESTORED Remedy Free.—A late sufferer from Nervousness, Weakness, &c., having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple self-cure which he will send free to his fellow sufferers.—Address, W. Fox, 1, York Street South Park London, S.E

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WORLD-FAMED
BLOOD MIXTURE

For Cleansing and clearing the blood from all impurities, it cannot be too highly recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and sores of all kinds its effects are marvellous. It
Cures Old Sores.
Cures Sores on the Neck.
Cures Sore Legs.
Cures Pimples on the Face.
Cures Scurvy.
Cures Eczema.
Cures Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.
Cures the Blood from all Impure Matter.
From whatever cause arising.
It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains. It removes the cause from the blood and bones.

As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, the proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

"We have seen hosts of letters from people who have received great benefit from the use of Clarke's Blood Mixture. It cannot be too highly estimated, for it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, which goes on further to say: "It is the finest Blood Purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can with the utmost confidence recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

"Just a few lines in reference to a wonderful cure that Clarke's Blood Mixture has effected. I have been a sufferer for over three years with a bad leg. I have had several doctors, and tried dozens of receipts from people who professed to know what would do it good, but I never received any relief until I tried Clarke's Blood Mixture. I should also add that I was recommended by one doctor to go to the infirmary as he could do me no good, but a friend of mine asked me to try your blood mixture. I did so and after using two 11s. bottles my leg was completely cured. It would be impossible to tell you how many wounds I had on my leg; it was completely black as far as the knee. My friends were alarmed, and I thought that I should lose my leg but now it is all right. You may use this letter as you please. Make it as public as you please and I shall recommend your blood mixture wherever I go.

"Jessie Smith,
"54, Jane [illegible], Hetton Downs,
"County of Durham, Jan. 16th, 1894."

Sold in bottles, 2s. 9d. each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s.—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases.—By all CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the World, or sent to any address for 33 or 132 stamps by the proprietors, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, LINCOLN.

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TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES, quickly correct all irregularities, remove all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes [illegible] [illegible] of all [illegible] stamps by [illegible] E. T. Towle, Chemist, [illegible] Beware of imitations.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

On Wednesday night, Miss Temperley, of Stanhope, gave a recital on the new organ in the Consett Primitive Methodist Church.

The Local Government Act, 1894, (Parish Councils) may now be had at Robert Jackson's *Guardian* Office, Consett.

Irish National League.—At a meeting of the Consett Branch of the Irish National League, held on Sunday evening, at the Mount Pleasant Hotel, Mr John O'Connor, presiding, it was resolved to forward £8 to the London Executive.—The question of registration and alteration of rules is to be dealt with at a public meeting to be held in the Theatre Royal, and it was resolved to invite Mr Ryan, district organiser, to attend.

BLACKHILL.

The inaugural meeting of guarantors in connection with the Blackhill Brass Band contest, was held in the committee room of the Royal Hotel, Blackhill, on the 10th inst. There was a good attendance, and amongst others were present:—Messrs E. G. Kirkhouse, Thompson Siddell, T. Green, W. S. Macteggan, J. A. Jacks, Wm. Shell, J. E. Thorpe, Wm. Richardson, H. H. Wattsford, T. Robinson, Wm. Green, G. Wattsford, A. Wallace, C. Herbert, and D. Dawson. Mr T. Green was voted to the chair, and business preceded with much spirit.—Mr Jonathan Stephenson, of Blackhill, was elected hon. secretary, while the post of treasurer was assigned to Mr T. Robinson, also of Blackhill.—The hearing of the Black Star Minstrel Troupe and the late contest committee formed interesting points of discussion. A motion was made and adopted to the effect that the guarantors resolve themselves into a private firm.—A strong working committee was then selected, the secretary and treasurer to be members *ex-officio*. The various questions as to advertising, hiring of fields, band entries, railway excursions, &c., were brought forward, and thoroughness with which they were dealt, the arrangements promise to be most complete. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting. There is every likelihood of the contest being a brilliant success, as some of the premier bands of the North of England are expected; and the committee are also offering a silver-plated bugle for the largest meet on the ground of any bicycle club, which should, weather permitting bring a large crowd together.

LEADGATE.

A concert was given on Monday evening in the Brooms Roman Catholic School-room, Leadgate.

We beg to remind our readers of the lecture in the Leadgate Wesleyan Chapel, on Wednesday night first, by Rev S. T. Bosward, B.A., Gateshead. Mr Bosward is a very popular and eloquent lecturer, and deserves a crowded audience. See bills and advt.

EAST CASTLE.

Entertainment.—On Monday, the Leadgate Primitive Methodist Band of Hope Choir gave an excellent entertainment to a large company in the Wesleyan Chapel, East Castle, consisting of solos, by Miss Rogerson, Miss Dickinson, and Miss Kennedy, also Mr C. Morgan, and J. T. Haddon; recitations, by Miss Stobbs, S. J. Bell, S. Coates, and Joseph Stobbs, and also two humorous dialogues were rendered in beautiful style by several of the choir. Several pieces were sung by the choir, one of which was a treat in itself, entitled, "Boat Ahoy," under the leadership of Mr C. Morgan. The harmonium was ably presided over by Mr Daglish. Proceeds were in aid of a charitable purpose.

CASTLESIDE.

Healeyfield and Rowley School Board Election.—Since the issue of the list of candidates nominated, and published in last week's *Guardian*, the undermentioned gentlemen have withdrawn from the contest—Messrs John Brown, stocktaker; Henry Clark, miner; Thos. Milner, woodkeeper; and John Thompson, agent. There are still nine candidates for the five seats, and the poll will be conducted on Monday next, at the Castleside Board Schools.

WITTON GILBERT.

Mrs Bainbridge, wife of Richard Bainbridge, blacksmith, of Witton Gilbert, while working in a field near that place, on Saturday afternoon, discovered a spade guinea in good preservation.

BURNHOPE.

Cricket Club.—It being a fine day on Saturday a great number of people visited Burnhope to see the cricket match between the cupholders and the strong Littleburn team. The home team won by 12 runs. After the match, a pie supper and tea were provided in the schools, when about 200 people did justice to the good things provided. It shows what a great deal of interest the good people of Burnhope have in the cricket club, for everything was given by them, the pies, &c., being excellent. Great credit is due to the waiters for the able manner they looked after the tables. About £8 was realised, which will be a great help to the club.

BLANCHLAND.

Vestry Meeting.—The annual meeting of the ecclesiastical district of Blanchland was held in the schools on Monday evening. The vicar presided. Mr Jabez Oliver, one of the churchwardens, presenting the accounts for the year ending Easter, 1894, reported a balance on the right side. The accounts were settled. Mr Jabez Oliver was re-appointed vicar's warden, and Mr John Pickering people's warden. Messrs Robert Hutchinson, W. Southern, E. Oliver, and Thos. Hutchinson, elected sidesmen, Mr Wm. Southern was again chosen to represent the parish at the Diocesan Conference, and Messrs John Pickering, Jabez Oliver, R. Hutchinson, and W. Southern were appointed representatives at the Ruridecanal Conference. Miss M. Taylor was re-elected secretary for the S. P.G., Mrs M. Imison secretary for the Waifs and Strays Society, Miss Lizzie Patrick librarian, and Miss B. Oliver treasurer to the library. The voluntary contributions were stated to have been about £160. The organ accounts were presented and passed. A standing committee (for general purposes) of fourteen members, with power to add to their number, was appointed.

TANTOBIE.

Co-operative Society.—A full meeting of the members of the Tanfield Co-operative Society was held in the Hall, Tantobie, on Saturday night last, Mr J. Harrison presiding. The meeting was called for the purpose of further considering the disposing of 10 new cottages at Tantobie. After a lengthy and lively meeting, the conditions and agreement drawn up by the committee were agreed to, and the ballot will take place on Monday night first at 6 30. The following three scales of payments were agreed to:—6¼, 12½, and 18¾ years. Each house is estimated to cost about £165. With such easy terms of payment, the members are availing themselves of this opportunity to obtain a house. There is over 50 applications. The committee purpose erecting more cottages on the same principle.

WEARDALE.

Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., has forwarded a cheque to the Wm. Vickers, of Howl John testimonial fund, and a letter regretting his leaving the farm and the circumstances in connection with it.

WEST PELTON.

On Tuesday week, the marriage of Arthur C. Darley, R.N., of New Brompton, and Fanny Hebden, of Newcastle, took place in the above parish church, Mr G. H. Walton, R.N., attending as groomsman. The officiating clergy were the Rev. Canon Mathwin, brother-in-law of the bride, and the Rev. C. Tweedie. A good many of the inhabitants assembled to witness the ceremony. The bride was given away by her brother-in-law Mr B. North, of Leeds, and was attended by four bridesmaids, two being her nieces—the Misses North, Miss Darley sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Payne. The bride was attired in a charming costume of white corduroy velvet, a tulle veil with wreath of orange blossoms, the same being used on the bodice of her dress. The bridesmaids wore very pretty dresses of grey creponne, trimmed with pink, and large picture hats of grey straw trimmed with grey and pink heather; they each wore a brooch in the shape of an anchor, a cable set with pearls the gift of the bridegroom. While the bridal party were leaving the church, Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," was played upon the organ by Miss Sherbourn. The bride went away in a dress of grey amazon cloth with a large hat to match. The wedding party drove to Chester-le-Street station to see the newly married pair off for Helmsley, where the honeymoon will be spent.

LANCHESTER.

Confirmation.—At the old parish church of Lanchester, on Wednesday afternoon, last week, the Right Rev Dr Westcott, Lord Bishop of Durham, conducted a confirmation service. There was a large congregation. His Lordship administered the solemn rite to 193 candidates from the following parishes:—Lanchester, 12 males and 20 females; Esh, 14 males, 26 females; Holmside, 16 males, 32 females; Hamsteels, 28 males and 45 females. Amongst the clergy present were:—Rev G. Jepson, vicar of Lanchester, Rev R. Brent, vicar of Holmside, Rev F. G. Wesley, vicar of Hamsteels, Rev W. S. White, vicar of Esh, Rev J. Dent, Rev M. Robinson, Rev F. W. Westgarth, Rev E. Adams, and the Rev J. Michael.

TOW LAW.

The united Sunday-school teachers' quarterly conference was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Tuesday evening last, the Rev G. Samuel, M.A., in the chair. The meeting was opened by singing Sankey's hymn, "Hold the fort," after which Rev M. Cuthbert engaged in prayer. There was a very large attendance of Wesleyans, Presbyterians, Primitives, members of the Established Church, and Salvation Army. The President gave all a hearty welcome, and said that such a representative gathering spoke well for the future of the place. The secretary, Mr James Vickers, then read the minutes of the last quarterly and committee meetings, which were confirmed. During the quarter, an exchange of visits to the schools had been made. Miss Heslop, Wesleyan, reported her visit to the Primitive Methodist School; Mr T. Newby, Presbyterian, his visit to the Wesleyan school, and Mr G. Watson, Primitive, his visit to the Presbyterian school. Each visitor pointed out the bad as well as the good they saw. Rev G. E. Startup, Wesleyan, then read his paper on "The missing link between the church and the Sunday-school." The chief points in the paper were that the church had not sufficient interest or hold on the young people; that they were neglected most at the very time they should be looked after, viz., from their teens to their twenties; from the poverty of our public services, which had nothing to attract or interest young life; the want of sympathy with the young in their recreation and play. A long and interesting discussion took place, in which the following took part, some of whom opposed, while others supported Mr Startup in his views:—Messrs Gradon, Vickers, Morgan, Brewer, Baxter, Smith, Cook, Bell, Cuthbert, and Captain Clough. Mr Startup replied, after which a vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation, was presented to him for his very able, interesting, and instructive paper. The next conference will be held in the Presbyterian Church. Mr J. E. Dixon was appointed to write the next paper, the subject to be selected by the committee. Rev Mr Startup closed, with prayer, one of the best and most enthusiastic conferences of Sunday-school teachers held in Tow Law.

DIPTON.

A new organ, built by Messrs Blackett and Hurden, Newcastle, was opened on Wednesday afternoon in the Dipton Wesleyan Chapel.

STANHOPE.

Public Meeting.—A public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Stanhope, on Friday evening, called by the Bishop of Richmond, to take into consideration the purchase of a new town's clock for the church tower. It was suggested to purchase a good one, and one which could be lit up at night, and chime the hours and half-hours, &c. A committee was appointed to collect subscriptions, &c.

WEARDALE.

Agricultural Society.—The annual meeting was held at St. John's Chapel on Saturday—Mr T. Pentland, Ireshopeburn, in the chair.—The balance-sheet, which showed an increase of over £11 on the previous balance in hand, was, after discussing the desirability of retrenching the cost of judges at the show, passed.—Mr James Sparke, sen., Wearhead, was re-elected president of the society, and a letter of thanks and sympathy in his enforced absence through enfeebled health directed to be sent, as was one of condolence with Mrs Wm. Watson, Hill Top, in her bereavement.—The secretary (Mr G. Watson, Daddry Shield), was re-appointed, with Mr George Stephenson, Swinhope House. Mr Ralph Watson, Irestone, and Mr Joseph Roddam, Welf Cleugh, were chosen vice-presidents. The revision of the prize-lists brought no material change for this year's show on the last Saturday in August.—Hearty votes of thanks to the retiring treasurer and the chairman brought one of the pleasantest and best business-like meetings ever held to a close.

WEST STANLEY.

The Stanley Catholic Dramatic Club have been requested to give, next Wednesday evening, May 2nd, a repetition, in their schools, of the drama, "Michael Erle," and the farce, "Turn Him Out," which proved such a popular success a fortnight ago, being the best performance ever given by them. The proceeds are for repairs to school. The Very Rev Canon Waterton, Carlisle, is expected to be present, and to deliver one of his popular addresses. The same company will play at Sacriston on Saturday, May 5th.

At a special session of magistrates held at Consett on Monday, the new Police Station, at West Stanley, was appointed an occasional Court-house, under the Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1879.

Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society.—On Wednesday night, a meeting of the local committee in connection with the annual show, to be held at West Stanley, on the 15th August next, took place at the house of Miss Foster, Stanley Inn, to make such arrangements as may be deemed expedient for promoting the success of the annual show, and the prize fund. The site was considered, and other business transacted.

Presbyterian Mission.—The great progress West Stanley is making is shown in many ways, and not the least is the religious element. The latest in this way is the commencement, by the Rev A. Baillie, of Blackhill, of a Presbyterian Mission, to be held in the Board School. The first service will be held on Sunday first, the 28th inst. Mr Baillie seems to be a man of great activity, and we wish him and his friends at Stanley success.

EAST STANLEY.

Large Egg.—An egg weighing 4 ozs 7 drams, and measuring in diameter 8 inches, and circumference 6⅞ inches, is now in the possession of Mr T. Nicholson, sen., of East Stanley. The egg was laid by a cross from Minorca and Houdan of last year's hatching, and all that the hen has laid are above 3 ozs.

FROSTERLEY.

Lecture.—A lecture was delivered in the Wesleyan Chapel, Frosterley, on Friday evening, by the Rev T. House, a very popular Wesleyan minister, on "Bramble Principles." The chair was taken by V. A. Rippon, Esq., J.P., of Rogerly Hall. A good company was present. The lecture was a highly interesting one.

RAILWAY FATALITY AT LANGLEY PARK.

An inquest was held yesterday (Thursday) by Mr John Graham, coroner, at Langley Park, on the body of Arthur Murray, aged about 66 years, a retired workman living at Malton Colliery, who was found lying on the Consett Branch Railway between Lanchester and Witton Gilbert Stations, about three o'clock on Wednesday morning, with his right foot almost severed from his leg. Life was not extinct however, and the man was at once conveyed to Witton Gilbert Station, where he died at six a.m. It is supposed that the poor fellow had been run over by the 8 20 passenger train from Durham to Consett on Tuesday night.—The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of "accidentally killed while trespassing on the Consett Branch of the North-Eastern Railway."

Throat Irritation and Cough.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d, tins 1s 1½d., labelled "James Epps & Co., Ltd., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Dr. Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."

CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

PUBLIC MEETING.

On Saturday evening last, a public meeting was held in the Miners' Hall, Spen, for the purpose of selecting for the forthcoming School Board election two candidates favourable to the recently dismissed headmaster, Mr T. Armstrong.

Mr Wm. Richardson, having been voted to the chair, declared the object of the meeting, and severely criticised the action of the present Board, and particularly the methods employed by some members to create an adverse opinion. He refuted, by examples quoted from his own personal knowledge, the statement assiduously circulated that Mr Armstrong's pupils never got through the upper standards.

A resolution was then unanimously passed in favour of justice being done to Mr Armstrong.

The Chairman then called upon Mr Hayes, of Dipton (N.U.T. deputation), to address the meeting.

Mr Hayes said they were met, not for speech-making, but for the purpose of taking the first practical step in the organisation of their forces for the impending struggle—viz., the selection of their candidates. He asked their permission to take part in their deliberations. If they would permit him to make a suggestion he would venture to advise the selection of two candidates only for the Spen portion of the township, leaving the people of Blackhall Mill to select one for that portion at a meeting which he hoped would be called next week. Mr Hayes then made an earnest and spirited appeal for absolute unity, and for perfect loyalty to the great end they had in view. When their candidates were chosen he trusted that all personal feelings and predilections would be subordinated to the general aim and object they were met to promote.

At the conclusion of Mr Hayes's remarks, the Chairman called for nominations.

The following gentlemen were proposed and seconded:—

Mr James Robinson, miner.

Mr R. Armstrong, draper.

Mr Joseph Emmerson, back-overman.

Mr Emmerson begged to withdraw his name, and in a few remarks, couched in an excellent spirit, declared his determination to do his utmost in the coming fight. He withdrew his name merely to prevent any division in their ranks.

The other two gentlemen were then chosen by unanimous votes.

A committee of eighteen, with power to add to their number, was then formed, Mr T. Armstrong being appointed convener.

After votes of thanks to the chairman and Mr Hayes, the meeting dispersed.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[By "Stanhope."]

Consett, this week, will have had a specimen of Stanhope talent in the music line. Miss Temperley, one of the best lady musicians Weardale has yet produced, will have given an organ recital at the fell top iron town.

There was a public meeting at Stanhope, on Friday night, to take into consideration the purchase of a new town's clock. It was decided to have an illuminated one so as the people might see the time at night. If one could be got to chime the half-hours and quarters it would be all the better.

The Rev T. House, a very popular Wesleyan minister, visited Weardale on Friday, and at night delivered a highly interesting lecture on "Bramble principles." Mr V. A. Rippon, J.P., of Rogerly Hall, presided. In introducing the lecturer, he said he could have understood the lecture better if it had been reversed—"Principles of brambles" instead of "Bramble principles." Mr House wondered why the bills announced the lecture as a popular lecture, when that was the first time it had ever been given; but he does not know the robins of the north.

The Rev J. Ashworth, author of "Strange tales," visited Weardale this week, and preached and lectured for the Primitives at Frosterley and Stanhope. He has been 58 years in the ministry. He stated at Stanhope, on Tuesday evening, that he had spent his 70th birthday in Jerusalem. His lectures on the "Holy Land" were interesting. Like his Master, he rode into Jerusalem on an ass. He visited most of the places of interest in Palestine, of which he gave a graphic description.

I had the collectors for the William Vickers, Howl John, testimonial this week. They are succeeding well. Sir Joseph Pease, M.P., has headed the list. I have often been asked what has he done. As I attend most of the Board meetings, I may be allowed to speak on his behalf from what I have heard and seen of his conduct there. He has given his services to the public freely and ungrudgingly, and ever defended the rights of the poor and the working-classes at the Guardians' meetings, besides helping the farming class to keep down the rates as well.

Mr Vickers was a social reformer, and in this capacity did much to help forward the cause of progress and, at much inconvenience to himself, did much platform work. He has also done much to improve the breed of stock in the dale, and some splendid animals have been turned out from the Howl John Farm. He was a good judge of stock, and his services as a judge at both local and adjacent agricultural shows were in great request, and here he has served the public well He was no particular friend of mine, and never has been, so that my remarks are in no way biased respecting him. I hear that the public are responding right loyally, and something handsome will be presented to him in acknowledgement of his services to the public.

The Rev A. E. Burdekin, curate of Stanhope is leaving. He is a very popular clergyman, and that is something, as clergymen, as a rule, are very unpopular in Weardale. The squire and the parson are a nonentity in the dale; but somehow Mr Burdekin has the respect and esteem of most of the inhabitants of Stanhope. He has always taken a keen interest in the young, and spent many pounds over them, and there is general and widespread regret at his leaving. I hear he too is to be presented with a testimonial in recognition of his esteemed services. He has helped by his zeal and tact to augment the attendance at Church. He is the life and soul of a splendid choir at that place, and it seems a pity to allow him to go away; but in Church matters the people have no say. This is one of the defects of Church polity, and one that will help largely to bring either disestablishment or reform in the Church sooner or later.

Some eight or nine bands have entered the lists for competition at the band contest at the Frosterley Poultry Show, on Saturday. There are also upwards of 900 hundred entries, and there is a prospect of a capital show.

A splendid article, written by Mr Jos. Collinson, of Wolsingham, appears in this month's *Herald of Health*.

The Wolsingham football team came off victorious on Saturday, beating the Rise Carr team properly. They gave them a good beating. In fact, the team from the quaker town never chalked, while Wolsingham scored three goals. Well done, Wolsingham!

There is now a Railway Hotel at Westgate. An enterprising man has taken a public-house and renovated it, and erected large sign boards with big letters announcing it as the Railway Hotel. He had provided accommodation for visitors, and has everything up to date excepting the railway itself, and that will be there shortly.

A committee of the Weardale Guardians visited Sedgefield Asylum on Monday, to look after and enquire into the comfort of the Weardale patients. It comprised V. A. Rippon, Esq., J. W. Roddam, Esq., W. Love, Esq., Dr. Livingstone, and Mr J. G. Bainbridge.

STANLEY LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary monthly meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon in the New Board-room, Front Street, West Stanley, Mr Geo. Forster presiding *pro tem*. The other members present were: Messrs G. Ridley, M. G. Armstrong, Jos. Watson, J. Green, J. Smith, J. Robinson, T. W. W. Ritson, the Clerk (Mr J. G. Ridley, the Surveyor (Mr J. Routledge) and the Collector.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

On the proposition of Mr Ritson, seconded by Mr Ridley, Mr Forster was unanimously elected to remain in as chairman till November next.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES.

Mr Robinson moved that the constitution of the committees remain as before, with the exception that Mr Green be appointed on the Highway Committee.

This was seconded by Mr Smith.

Carried.

APPOINTING A FIRE BRIGADE FOR THE DISTRICT.

The Highway Committee recommended the following persons to constitute the Fire Brigade for the district:—

Captain, Mr Jos. Routledge (surveyor), Messrs T. S. Lumley, Robson Bates, Ed. Fawcett, J. T. Palmer, W. Nevins, A. Parker, J. Simpson, Thos. Hagon, J. Whitfield, Jos. Storey, Geo. Harvey, D. Logan, J. Moar, and C. Chesters.

Mr Green suggested that a notice board, with the word "Fireman" painted upon it, should be affixed above the doorway of each member of the brigade, so as to let the inhabitants know where to apply to when a outbreak of fire occurred. He further suggested that another member should be added to the brigade for the locality of South Moor.

It was agreed to leave these two matters in the hands of the Surveyor.

The recommendation of the Committee was approved of.

The Surveyor was accordingly informed that he had been appointed captain of the brigade, and when the members assembled for practice they would be paid at the rate of 9d per hour.

On the motion of Mr Armstrong, seconded by Mr Ridley, the Surveyor was requested to fill any vacancies that might occur in the brigade.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr Jos. Routledge) submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Stanley Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the month, your roadmen have principally been engaged making the footpaths at Kyo Lane and West Shield Row, planting the beds at the outfall works, South Moor, and laying on stones for the steam-roller.

The roller commenced on the 16th inst. I think it will take about six weeks to put the roads into good order.

I beg to call the attention of the Board to the necessity of having another fire-plug fixed at the bottom of Shield Row Road or near to Kyo Hill for road watering purposes.

The road water-course that is undeneath the railway at Oxhill is choked up. I think the railway company ought to have notice to assist in opening it out, as the water from the railway goes through the same pipe. If a thunderstorm was to come the whole place would be flooded.

During the month, I have been engaged preparing plans for the improvements of the roads and footpaths in your district, and I anticipate the plans and estimate for this work, and the chemical precipitant tanks at South Moor in a fortnight or three week's time.

Plans of 28 houses, &c., have been laid before your Building Committee, and they will report thereon.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Jos. Routledge.

THE WATER COURSE AT OXHILL.

Mr Ridley said that he always understood the North-Eastern Railway Company opened out the water course at Oxhill.

The Surveyor: Yes; but they refuse to do so now. They have an impression that it is as much the Board's as it is their duty to open out the water course.

Mr Ritson: I think the Clerk should write the Company asking them to assist the Board to get the course opened out.

The Chairman: I think if such was done it would meet the case.

Eventually, Mr Ridley proposed that the Clerk write the North-Eastern Railway Company asking them to assist the Surveyor so as to get the water course opened out.

This was seconded by Mr Ritson.

Agreed to.

A FIRE-PLUG FOR SHIELD ROW ROAD.

It was resolved that a fire-plug should be affixed in Shield Row Road, the cost of the same to be defrayed by the Board.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr J. Routledge) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of Stanley Local Board.

Gentlemen,—I have inspected the whole of your district during the month, and I still find it difficult to get some of the ashpits cleaned out. I think more pressure will have to be brought to bear upon those who refuse to clean them out.

I beg to call your attention especially to Messrs Turnbull and Aynsley's; also to Mr Cooper's, Front Street. I have given them several verbal notices, and they are still in a filthy condition.

The owners of the pond adjoining the road leading to Burnopfield Farm ought to have notice either to fill up the pond or do away with the nuisance arising from dogs, &c., being thrown into it.

The houses in Louisa Terrace are in a very damp insanitary condition. The water comes in at the roofs, and the walls are damp and moisty inside. There are no spouts to the houses. The floors and channels are in a very dilapidated condition.

The sewage from the two houses at Greenland, South Moor, belonging to Mr S. Hewitson, is causing a nuisance next to the lodging-house. The owner should have notice to connect his drain with the main.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant.

Jos. Routledge.

A STAGNANT POND.

Mr Ritson: There are many complaints about this pond.

Mr Smith: I thought the owners had to keep this pond clean.

Mr Green: How are they going to keep the pond clean? If it comes a dry season the pond is sure to become stagnant. I consider the place should be filled up.

The Chairman: The party concerned will do nothing of the kind.

Mr Ridley: We can deal with this the same as a nuisance, and I will move that the Surveyor be instructed to serve the usual notice to have the nuisance abated.

DILAPIDATED COTTAGES.

It was decided that notices should be served on the owners of Louisa Terrace, on account of the insanitary condition of the property.

A NUISANCE AT SOUTH MOOR.

On the motion of Mr Ritson, seconded by Mr Ridley, it was agreed that South Moor main drain should be extended to Daglish's Houses, so as to take in the sewage from Mr Hewison's property.

THE ASHPITS

On the proposition of Mr Ritson, seconded by Mr Green, it was decided that steps should be taken with a view of having all ashpits, &c., thoroughly cleaned out.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The Medical Officer (Dr Benson) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Stanley Urban Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,—In the beginning of the month, two cases of scarlatina were reported to me, both occupants of one house. The source of the outbreak was not traceable. Excepting the above-mentioned cases, I believe the district to be free from all diseases of an infectious character.

The mortality is remarkably light. Only five deaths were registered during the month, giving an annual ratio of 7·6 per 1,000 on the estimated population. None of the deaths were due to preventible disease.

I wish to call attention to the insanitary condition of Louisa Terrace, Oxhill. There are many defects both inside and outside the houses. All, however, have been carefully noted by your Inspector, who will furnish your Authority with full particulars.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

T. Benson, Medical Officer.

Stanley, April 24th, 1894.

The report was adopted.

THE ESTIMATE: A NEW RATE.

The Clerk presented the following estimate for the ensuing half-year:—

	£	s	d
Salaries	153	15	0
Highways	681	0	0
Lighting	120	0	0
Water for streets	5	0	0
Office furniture, &c.	70	0	0
Office: rent and rates	25	0	0
Legal expenses	20	0	0
Establishment charges	60	0	0
Elections	25	0	0
	£1159	15	0

The Finance Committee recommended a rate of 8d in the £ for the ensuing six months.

On the motion of Mr Green, seconded by Mr Smith, the Clerk was requested to prepare a rate of 8d in the £.

The Clerk pointed out that the cost of the proposed improvements to the outfall works at South Moor would come out of the loan.

BALANCE IN HAND.

The Clerk reported that the balance in hand amounted to £457 7s 6d.

ACCOUNTS.

Cheques were required for the following amounts:—

	£	s	d
Ord and Maddison	42	0	6
W. Copes, Contract	40	5	0
James Robinson	35	4	0
Fereos and Lowes, Sanitary Pipes	10	8	10
R. Robinson and Co., Printing, &c	11	7	11
Messrs J. Shaw and Sons, Stationery	11	4	8
Messrs Knight and Co, Books, &c	2	5	2
Local Government Board, Cost of Inquiry	1	8	9
Surveyor's Wages and Bills	71	2	3
Messrs Burns, Gas	40	14	4
Messrs Burns, Repairs	4	9	9
Wm. Johnson, Repairs	13	9	9
	£284	0	11

On the motion of Mr Ridley seconded by Mr Armstrong, the necessary cheques were signed.

THE RECENT AUDIT.

The following letter was read:—

Darlington,
April 14th, 1894.

To the Chairman and Members of the Local Board of the Local Government District of Stanley.

Gentlemen,—I have to inform you that I have concluded the audit of your accounts on the year to Lady Day, 1893. The only two points with which I need trouble you, in connection with the audit are:—"That I noticed the order check book had been kept by your Surveyor." This book is required to be kept by the Clerk, or other person duly authorised. The Local Government Board do not consider that the Surveyor can come under the designation of "other person duly authorised."

The other point is as to the date for making your rates. If you only make one during the year, I would strongly advise it being made early in April. If you make two, then make them early in April and early in October.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Chas. Luxmoore Hockin,
District Auditor.

PLANS.

The Building Committee reported as follows:—

It was recommended that the plan for two houses in Murray Street, Stanley, for Mr J. Palmer, be passed, subject to an amended plan being forthcoming in accordance with the bye-laws.

The plans for two houses in Linsey Street, Stanley, for Mr J. Whitfield, were recommended to be passed.

The plan of two houses in Mary Street, for Mr J. Taylor, was approved of.

The plans of Mrs Thompson and Mr J. Brown were recommended to be passed.

The plans for houses in Murray Street, Stanley, for Messrs Stalker, Routledge, Coxon, and Miss Iley were recommended to be passed, subject to the connection of sewers to be put in to the Surveyor's requirements.

The plan for Mr Thomas Duffy was approved of.

The plan of house to be erected in Beamish Street Stanley, for J. Davison, be passed, subject to the yard being cemented.

The plan for three houses in Murray Street, Stanley, for Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, be passed subject to yards being cemented.

A plan for a house in Beamish Street, for Mr A. Craigie, be passed subject to yard being cemented.

The plan for washhouse for the owners of West Stanley Colliery at Farney Pit, be passed.

The plan for house and stable in Beamish Street, for E. Cook, be rejected.

The plan for alterations to premises at South Moor, for R. Lumley, be passed.

The report was adopted, and the plans were stamped.

IMPROVEMENTS AT SOUTH MOOR.

A letter was read from Mr G. E. Simpson, contractor, Newcastle, pointing out that in connection with his tender for the erection of the bridge, and the making of the road at South Moor, he had calculated upon securing the stone from a quarry at South Moor, but had failed, and he had been obliged to negotiate with other quarries for the stone thereby making further addition to his tender. He could not see his way clear to do the work without the additional sum.

After a short discussion it was agreed that the tender from Mr W. Johnson of Hill Top, Dipton, should be accepted for the contract, as being the next lowest submitted to the Board.

THE SEWERAGE SCHEME FOR THE DISTRICT.

Plans were submitted from Mr D. Balfour, C.E., of the proposed sewerage scheme for the district, the work to cost something like £10,500.

It was pointed out that a rate of 4d in the £ would meet the total outlay.

Mr Robinson and Mr Green both stated that it was a splendid scheme, and would fully meet the requirements of the district. It certainly reflected great credit upon the engineer.

The plans were eventually approved of subject to several minor alterations.

This was all the business of importance.

NOTES FROM TOW LAW.

[By Tow Lawite.]

The greatest sympathy is felt here for Mr Jos. Bell who lost his wife suddenly. I was pleased to see so many attend the funeral, not only belonging Tow Law, but from the places round about. Mr Bell was a Primitive Methodist local preacher and class leader, and is well known outside Tow Law. There is a small family left behind. They have lost a good mother, who was also a member of the Primitive Methodist Church.

Several people were at a loss on Friday evening where to go. For twelve weeks they have attended the Health and Home Lectures, given by Miss Dunn, which have come to an end. How very fortunate it was that the vicar got to the last lecture to move, second and put to the meeting, a vote of thanks to Miss Dunn. There was no one present who could have done it.

I am very much amused at the milksellers here. I have just been informed that they have formed a club and that they intend to charge us for milk, three-halfpence per pint in summer, and twopence in winter. Cows don't pay—so they say. Yet they keep them. I expect the extra charge will be to help them to improve their cow byres, which, according to act to parliament, they are bound to carry out.

The Primitive Methodist magic lantern mission Band has just concluded their winter session. The committee—Messrs Vickers, Trelford, Wood, and Ward—have carried out the programme very satisfactorily. The lantern outfit was got from Riley Bros, Bradford, on the monthly pay system, to be paid for in six months, but was paid for in three months. Some good services have been given, and were well taken with by the large congregations who attended both at the chapel and Mechanics' Hall.

The members of the Primitive Methodist Church and congregation ought to be proud of their choirmaster, Mr John Willis. I went to the chapel the other night to hear the Sunday-school String Band, which is composed of young people, "male and female," from the Sunday-school. I am informed that Mr Willis has only had them about 12 months, with their violins, piccolos, 'cellos, bells, and triangles, and yet how nicely they can play. I am not a prophet, but I venture to say there is a bright future in store for this church and Sunday-school. May they go on and prosper.

The Wesleyan day-school anniversary sermons were preached on Sunday by the Rev M. Allen, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. He has a peculiar style of preaching, but apart from that, he gave some good lessons, which should be helpful. The infant-school children gave a choice selection of songs, recitations, and action songs at the public meeting, held in the chapel on Monday evening, under the leadership of Miss Heslop. The Revs Startup and Allen gave excellent addresses on the education question.

We have got a "Penny Barber" here, at least that is the name he has got. He came from Stanhope. He charges one penny for a shave and twopence for hair cutting. The other barbers charge three-half-pence and threepence. A good story is told of one of the old barbers who went to have a shave with the new barber. After he finished his work, the old barber put down three-half-pence, but got the halfpenny returned. He was told he was a big fool to charge only a penny, as both the other barbers charged three-half-pence. He is getting a good many customers, who say one penny is quite sufficient to pay any barber for a shave.

NOTICE.

CHANGE OF PROPRIETORSHIP IN THE OLD-ESTABLISHED POSTING BUSINESS AT BLACKHILL.

Telegraphic Address: Christopher, Blackhill.

Postal Address: Geo. J. Christopher, Blackhill.

HAVING taken over the above Business, which has been carried on successfully for this last Half-century by my deceased Father and Brother, I beg to intimate that it is my intention to carry on the Business as hitherto at the old Address, and by keeping good Horses and Conveyances, hope to be honoured with the confidence and patronage which has been so liberally bestowed upon my predecessors.

Hearses and Mourning Coaches, Carriages for Weddings, &c.; Brakes and Waggonettes for Pleasure Parties, and Posting in all its branches will be done upon the most reasonable terms.

A Competent Man will be in constant attendance at the Yard from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., where Orders may be left, which shall have prompt attention.

Special Terms to Undertakers.

GEO. J. CHRISTOPHER.

Blackhill, April 14th, 1894.

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 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 catalogue with testimonials & Prices to J. White and Co. (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell you imitations of our Moc-main. J White and Co. have not any agents.

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Special terms for Brakes for Trips during the Summer Months.

Coffins and every necessary supplied on the Shortest Notice. The strictest regard to Economy being specially observed.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Ebchester—Slade's House, 19th inst., Mrs G. W. Livingston, of a daughter.

Prudhoe—23rd inst., the wife of William Hall, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Medomsley—Parish Church, 23rd inst., by Rev W. Cockin, M.A., Allan Monkhouse, of York, to Elizabeth Mary, youngest daughter of the late Ambrose Cuthbertson, of High House, Medomsley. 942n

DEATHS.

Consett—Park Road, 20th inst., in his 83rd year, Thomas Bowman.

Blackhill—9, Durham Road, 23rd inst., aged 78, Jacob Urwin, sen.

Durham Road, on the 26th inst., aged 70 years, Barbara Snowdon. To be interred on Saturday, at Benfieldside, at 3 30 p.m. Friends please accept this intimation. 993n

17, Cort Street, on the 23rd inst., aged 93 years, Ann Hopper, the beloved wife of the late Joseph Hopper, of Wharnley Burn. 989n

Benfieldside—20, Baxton Burn, 16th inst., aged 10 years, Mary, also on the 24th inst., aged 23 years, William Thomas, beloved daughter and son of Anne Ward. Deeply lamented. 979n

Leadgate—Prospect House, 21st inst., in his 71st year, Richard, the dearly-beloved husband of the late Jane Carr, for 49 years in the service of N.E.R. Company. 976n

Dipton—Cooper's Cottages, 20th inst., aged 24 years, Isabella, wife of William Eltringham.

High Spen—20th inst., aged 1 year and 5 months, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Ann Wishart.

Swalwell—West View, 20th inst., aged 24 years, James, son of Michael and Susan Hackett.

Gateshead—42, Union Lane, 20th inst., in her 41st year, Jane, wife of Isaac Harle.

Prudhoe—18th inst., aged 46, Robert, husband of Jane Armstrong.

Beamish—Kay Cottage, 20th inst., aged 75, Peter Harkness.

White-le Head—Red Row, 23rd inst., aged 61, James Foreman. Deeply loved.

Marley Hill—24th inst., aged 50, Henry, husband of Elizabeth Cruddas.

Crawleyside—17th inst., aged 31, George Allison.

In loving memory of Francis, the beloved husband of Mary Ann Richardson, who died at No. 1, Eltringham Street, Blackhill, April 30th, 1893.

In loving memory of Forster, the dearly-beloved husband of Margaret Hall, who died at Toft Gate Farm, on April 25th, 1893.

"Had he asked, well we know,
We should cry, oh! spare this blow;
Yes, with streaming tears should pray,
Lord, we love him, let him stay." 946n

In loving memory of William Jackson, who died at the Coach and Horses Inn, Leadgate, April 29th, 1893.

"We loved him, ah! no tongue can tell,
How much we loved him and how well;
God loved him too, and thought it best
To take him to His heavenly rest."

From his loving brother and sister.

GEORGE AND J. HOPE
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