NORTH-WEST DURHAM EMIGRATION AGENCY.

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

TO PARTIES REMOVING OR LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND OTHERS.

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

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,343. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, April 30th, 1886. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

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

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

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

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

Money.

SPECIAL BRANCH.—M. L. ROSENBERG, 54 Westgate Road, Newcastle, advances MONEY on Reversionary Interest or Legacies under Wills, on Life Policies for £100 and upwards, on Building Society or other Shares, on Household Furniture without removal, and on deposit of Silver Plate, Jewellery, or any goods at a reasonable rate of interest, and on terms of repayment, all as arranged.—Established 1868. 739v

Contracts.

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR of the Lanchester Union invite TENDERS for the DRAPERIES, &c., required at the Lanchester Workhouse.

Forms of Tender, &c., may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom Tenders should be sent on or before Wednesday next.

WM. HENRY RITSON, Clerk.
Lanchester, April 28th, 1886. 45w

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the ERECTION OF TEACHER'S RESIDENCE and other WORKS, at Collierley School, for the Kyo Laws School Board.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and forms of Tender obtained at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge, on and after Tuesday, the 20th inst.

Tenders will be received by us till the 1st day of May, 1886.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

959v JOHN SMITH & SON, ARCHITECTS.

Lost.

LOST, on Monday, at Tow Law, a CUR DOG, Liver colour, White neck, answers to the name of "Spot."—Any one returning it to T. SUDDES, Click-em-in, near Esh, will be rewarded. 62w

Wanted.

ASSISTED PASSAGES to Queensland and Canada.—Apply, G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate.

WANTED, a Good, GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply for reference at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 38w

WANTED, APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply to M. A. THOMPSON, 13, Cort Street, Blackhill. 68w

WANTED, for a few months, a MAN to do Plain Painting and Whitewashing at the Lanchester Workhouse.—Apply to W. BROTHERHOOD, Workhouse Master. 42w

WANTED, at May Term, a respectable Girl as GENERAL SERVANT, for a small family; age about 20; must be cleanly, able to wash, bake, and have a good character.—Apply, Post Office, Shotley Bridge. 74w

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

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.

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

QUEENSLAND.—ASSISTED PASSAGES.—WANTED 500 Coal Miners, Farm Labourers, Railway Labourers, General Labourers, Quarrymen, Gardeners, and Female Domestic Servants for Queensland. Special Steamer leaves Glasgow 10th June. Assisted Passages granted at very low rates. Immediate employment on arrival at highest wages. Apply at once to A. Phillipson, Auctioneer, Dipton.

To Let.

TO LET, at Catchgate, May Term, 6 Roomed HOUSE.—Apply, Mr. LEADBITTER. 53w

TENTS TO LET, on Reasonable Terms, 120 feet x 30 feet, and 60 feet x 30 feet.—Apply to THOMAS CALVERT, grocer, Medomsley, Lintz Green.

COTTAGE and GARDEN to LET in Sawmill Wood, Woodlands.—Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 872v

A HOUSE and SHOP TO LET, in Front Street, Leadgate.—Apply to Mr. H. WHITE, High Brooms, Leadgate. Rent moderate. 816v

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, situate in Victoria Street, Consett, now in the occupation of Mr. James Fairley.—Apply to GEORGE HAWDON, Consett. 66w

TO LET, a COTTAGE of Three Rooms, with GARDEN, situate at Field Head, near Shotley Bridge. An out-worker preferred.—Apply to Mr. WILLIAM WOOD, Field Head. 912v

TO LET, with possession on the 13th May, a HOUSE containing 5 Rooms, situate in Victoria Terrace, Lanchester.—For Rent and other particulars apply to R. WHEATLEY, Catchgate. 827v

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

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, situate in Front Street Leadgate (next door to the Wesleyan Chapel). A good Business Site.—For particulars apply to ISAAC HETHERINGTON, Leadgate. 936v

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—HOUSE TO LET, pleasantly situated, with Four or Five Rooms, Washhouse, Garden, and all other Conveniences.—Apply to EDWARD WESTGARTH, 8, Derwent Street, Blackhill.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, BLACKHILL, available for Public Meetings, Balls, Teas, &c. Terms—Ten Shillings per day. Allowances made to Friendly Societies, &c.—RICHARD MURRAY, Proprietor. 58w

TO LET, a BUTCHER'S SHOP and ROOM above, situated at Ebchester, at present occupied by Mr. William Wheatley, and may be entered on at May term.—Apply to JOHN THIRLWELL, Shotley Bridge. 25w

TO LET, and Entered on the 13th May, 1886, the HOUSE AND SHOP and three-stalled Stable Situate at 28, Durham Road, Blackhill, now in the occupation of Mr Edward Telford. Apply to Wm. Raw, Auctioneer and Agent, Blackhill. 974v

TO LET, ROSE COTTAGE, Harelaw, with Front and Back Kitchen, Sitting-room, 2 Bedrooms, Stable, Coach House, Cow Byre, Piggery, &c. Good GARDEN well-stocked with Fruit Trees and Bushes. A piece of GRASS LAND, in good cultivation, to be entered upon 13th May. Also GROCERS' SHOP, at Kyo, and BUTCHERS' SHOP. These are good openings for pushing young men.—For particulars apply to W. WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate.

For Sale.

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

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

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

GARDEN SEEDS, GARDEN VEGETABLE SEEDS, POTATO SEEDS, and CABBAGE PLANTS, to be had at JOHN LEE'S, Seedsman, Front Street, Leadgate. 939v

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

For Sale.

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

AN IMPORTANT FACT.

£10 AND UPWARDS CAREFULLY INVESTED in Options on Stocks and shares is the safest and most popular way of rapidly making money on the Stock Exchange, by the non-liability system. Explanatory Book (sixth edition), giving full details, *Gratis and Post Free*.—Address, GEORGE EVANS & Co., Stockbrokers, Gresham House, London, E.C. 308v

Business Announcements.

ESTABLISHED 40 YEARS.

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

MINERAL TEETH FROM 5s. PER TOOTH.

UPPER OR LOWER SETS FROM £2 10s.

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

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

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

North-West Durham and South Northumberland Auctioneering and Commission Agency Offices, Shakespeare Street, Consett.

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AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS, HOUSE, ESTATE, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

SALES by Auction of every description conducted in Town and Country Expeditiously and on Liberal Terms. Valuations made for Probate, Transfer, and Legacy Duty. Inventories carefully Prepared, Mortgages Negociated, Rents Collected in Town and Country. Full particulars on application to

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EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

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

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

HENRY WALKER & SON
(LATE WALKER & EMLEY),
HEATING, VENTILATING, and SANITARY ENGINEERS,
IRONFOUNDERS, SMITHS, and PLUMBERS,
ELECTRIC and PNEUMATIC BELL-HANGERS,
GALLOWGATE IRON WORKS,
NEWCASTLE.

EXTENSIVE SHOW ROOMS
Will shortly be opened at 55, WESTGATE ROAD.

Pending the necessary alterations,

Builders and others are invited to inspect the Stock of English and Foreign CHIMNEY PIECES, KITCHEN RANGES, CABIN, TILE, and GAS STOVES, &c., at the Manufactory and Warerooms, Gallowgate.

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"PENNY DINNER COOKER."

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

CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

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

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCES.

AGENTS FOR THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OPTICAL ASSOCIATION.

SPECTACLES IN GREAT VARIETY.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

ALTERATIVE POWDER FOR HORSES

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

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

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

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
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SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

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OUR Stock is now complete with a Splendid Variety of New Goods bought in the best Markets, on the most advantageous terms, and which we offer at prices that cannot fail to please and to suit all taste

NEW DRESSES—Best Value ever offered. NEW MILLINERY—immense Variety. NEW MANTLES and JACKETS, (most Fashionable Materials and Shapes). NEW LACES, NEW TRIMMINGS, NEW APRONS, NEW FLOWERS, FEATHERS, and RIBBONS. NEW PRINTS, SHIRTINGS, CARPETS, CALICOES, &c.

Our BOYS' SUITS are unequalled. Our YOUTHS' and MEN'S SUITS cannot be beaten. Our Variety of HATS, CAPS, SHIRTS, COLLARS, is the largest offered. See our New Silk Handkerchiefs, Ties, Scarfs, &c.

FOR TAILORING and MEN'S UNDERWEAR WE REIGN SUPREME.

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR.

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

HALL'S for OIL CAKE and COTTON CAKE.
HALL'S for HORSE FEED.
HALL'S for CATTLE SPICE.
HALL'S for FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.
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HALL'S for FINEST NEW PROCESS FLOUR
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HALL'S is the RIGHT SHOP for all who want a good Article combined with Cheapness.

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

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE GROCER.
ANNFIELD PLAIN 280t

Business Announcements.

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AT
THE 2 W.'S HAT SHOP,
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VERY SPECIAL.
10 DOZENS MERINO PANTS AND VESTS TO BE CLEARED AT 1s. 11d. 344v

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

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

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED;
Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.
HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

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

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

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

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 427t

16th THOUSAND. 6d., BY POST 7 STAMPS.

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

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

For Lumbago, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Liver Complaints, &c.
INVIGORATORS for all Bronchial and Lung Complaints.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, &c.
KNEE CAPS for Sore and Weak Knees.
SOLES for Cold Feet.
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THESE UNRIVALLED MAGNETIC APPLIANCES are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour. They need no attention, give no shocks, are as comfortable to wear as an ordinary garment, and as they last for several years, and are RE-MAGNETISED FREE EVERY YEAR, they are without exception the most economical, effective, and pleasant remedy extant.

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

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

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

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

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

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

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

Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN JEFFERSON.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

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

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

Mr D. Lamont. GEORGE PRINGLE.

"IT HAS COMPLETELY CURED ME."

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

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

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

Mr D. Lamont. C. W. MASON.

THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 22s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., continue to give unbounded satisfaction. Sent Post Free on receipt of 21s.

CALL OR WRITE FOR PAMPHLET.
GRATIS AND POST FREE.

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

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PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

JOHN FREEK,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
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HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.

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

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

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

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

All business properly and carefully attended to.

SOMETHING FOR HARD TIMES.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE
IS NOW GOING ON.

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS IN THE PRICES OF
DRAPERY GOODS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING, &c.

SEE OUR SPECIAL
MEN'S BLACK WORSTED SUITS, AT 16s. 11d.
BOYS FROM 2s. 6d.

SOME RARE BARGAINS TO BE OBTAINED
AT
C. F. COOKE'S,
CHEAP DRAPERY WAREHOUSE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 865v

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

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

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

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

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

NORTH-WEST DIVISION OF DURHAM.

LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

MR ATHERLEY-JONES, M.P., ON HOME RULE.

On Saturday, the Liberals comprised in the Catchgate and Kyo polling districts in the North-West Division of Durham held a successful demonstration—which is intended to take place annually—at Annfield Plain. In the afternoon, a tea party was provided in the Co-operative Hall, and the repast was partaken of by about 200 people. The tea was not so largely patronised as was anticipated, but the dull aspect of the weather doubtless deterred many persons from attending the festival. The following ladies presided at the tables:—Miss Smith, Miss Orr, Miss Newton, Miss Bell, Miss Purvis, Miss Bullerwell, Miss Mason, and Miss Carr.

At night, there was a great public meeting in the same building, which was crowded to excess, the gallery being reserved for ladies. The chairman was Mr Philip Reay, the president of the Kyo Liberal Association, who was supported by Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P.; Mr Jonathan Priestman, J.P., Shotley Bridge; Mr J. Pumphrey, Elm Park; Mr John Orr, Annfield Plain; Mr R. G. Barclay, Shotley Bridge; Mr Adam Brodie, Liberal registration agent, Consett; Mr Ernest Forster, Esh Winning; Mr W. Fitzpatrick, Annfield Plain; Mr W. Tindall, Annfield Plain; Mr I. M'Kay, Catchgate; Mr T. Collinson, Catchgate; Mr W. Indian, West Stanley; Mr J. W. Taylor, Dipton; Mr W. Henderson, Catchgate; Mr M. Martin, Catchgate; and numerous others.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, read a telegram he had received from Mr L. Trotter (Durham Miners' Association) apologising for the non-attendance of Mr W. H. Patterson and himself, and expressing a hope that the meeting would strongly uphold Mr Gladstone's policy. (Applause.) Mr W. Jenkins, J.P. (Consett Hall), who was indisposed, wrote:—

"I am much disappointed in being unable to be at the Annfield Plain meeting this evening. I hope there will be a good meeting and unanimity as regards this great question of the day—that is, some definite measure of Home Rule, or home or domestic or social local Government, so that there will be no shadow of a chance of separation of Ireland in the Imperial control, which latter would be, in my humble opinion, the most serious disaster that can befall Ireland and England."

(Slight cheering.) Ald. Lucas, of Gateshead, was also announced to attend, but he failed to put in an appearance. Having spoken at some length in favour of Mr Gladstone's Home Rule and land measures, the Chairman called upon a select choir, conducted by Mr Lumley, to sing "Heart's of Oak."

Mr ORR moved the following resolution, and hoped it would embody the sentiments of everybody present at that gathering:—

"That this meeting of Liberals of Annfield Plain and district records its confidence in Mr Gladstone's Cabinet, recognises their noble efforts for the amelioration of the condition of the Irish people, and trusts they will receive the earnest support of the Liberal party in their measures now before Parliament for the better government of Ireland; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mr Gladstone."

(Loud cheers.) Mr Gladstone, he said, was the greatest statesman of the day, and this was an honest and faithful attempt to grapple with the Irish difficulties, which had smashed many Cabinets, and ruined many ministers.

Mr FITZPATRICK briefly seconded the motion, after which the choir rendered the song, "The Red, White, and Blue."

Mr FORSTER supported the resolution, and expressed his conviction that, now the question of Home Rule had been brought into the arena of practical politics, it would have to be dealt with in an effective and satisfactory manner, as Ireland had been mismanaged for many years past.

The song, "Scots wha ha," was now sung.

Mr J. PRIESTMAN, on rising to support the resolution, was received with prolonged cheers. He observed that the one standpoint that Conservatives had taken objection to with regard to this particular bill was that Mr Gladstone was a mad sort of fellow—(laughter)—and that what he proposed was hardly deserving of consideration. It was said that Mr Gladstone was proposing revolutionary schemes, but he (Mr Priestman) asked if the measures hitherto carried by Mr Gladstone had either been outrageous or had not answered in practice? All the measures which Mr Gladstone had, however, passed had proved to be both prudent and useful, and it was likely that the same would be hereafter said in regard to the Home Rule Bill. (Cheers.) The speaker then enumerated the various Acts of Parliament which Mr Gladstone had been instrumental in carrying since he commenced his political career in 1841 as a subordinate under Sir Robert Peel and Lord Palmerston until the present time, and showed that all had been useful and beneficial measures; the only act of Mr Gladstone with which he disagreed was embarking in the Egyptian War, which the Premier was forced to undertake. He concluded by advising young men not to be misled by the abusive utterances of the Conservative party when speaking of Mr Gladstone and his actions, and to weigh all matters carefully in their own minds. (Applause.)

After the march, "Men of Harlech," had been given by the choir,

Mr ATHERLEY-JONES, who was accorded a most enthusiastic reception, next delivered an able and vigorous address on the Irish question. After remarking that he had some pleasant recollections of his previous visits to Annfield Plain, and that he could count upon the inhabitants as being his warmest friends, he said there was one question above all others which was uppermost in their minds that night, and he felt it his duty, as the humble member for that constituency, to come and ask their counsel, and give his views, upon a question the importance of which cannot be overestimated. He must respectfully say to them, as electors, that it was their duty, as Englishmen, and Irishmen also, to consider well and deeply the step which for good or evil we were about to take. He had come to a decision in his own mind as to the right course to pursue, and he was glad to think that the county of Durham had given no uncertain answer to that question. (Applause.) He believed that with one single exception—that of his friend the member for South-East Durham—all the Liberal representatives for the county were in accord with Mr Gladstone's bills. (Loud applause.) Of course, it was impossible, as had been pointed out, for members to pledge themselves to all the details of these two measures. This was a gigantic and complex question, which had hitherto baffled the ingenuity of statesmen. He asked them to remember that they were not endeavouring to find out what would be the most fit form of government in which to place two islands which are associated in such close juxtaposition as Great Britain and Ireland. They were not starting anew on a clean sheet of paper to write a code of laws and constitution for countries so constituted, but, from the bitter experience of 600 years, they were endeavouring to find out with what minimum of danger to the Imperial interests of this great empire they might afford the maximum of self-government to a freedom-loving people. (Applause.) Therefore it was not for them to look with a jealous or criticising eye upon those measures which were produced by Mr Gladstone—(cheers)—but to view them in a broad and generous spirit. He must say with sorrow that there was considerable division among the Liberal party on this subject—(a voice: "More's the pity")—not only among the Liberal party, but among some of the most distinguished leaders of the Liberal party. It was with a certain amount of resignation and complacency that he viewed the action of Mr Goschen. Looking at that gentleman's political career during the past 15 years, he seemed to be one of those men who marched with the Liberal party in times of peace, but as soon as they were getting ready for battle, or as soon as they were actually engaged in warfare, so soon did Mr Goschen turn his back and run away. Mr Goschen, however, had hardly realised the truth of the old adage, "He that fights and runs away, lives to fight another day," because that "other day" in which he was to fight for the Liberal cause never comes. (Laughter.) There was another statesman—Lord Hartington—of whom he (Mr Jones) would speak with respect. He listened to the able Lord's great speech in the House of Commons with every attention, but not with much satisfaction. It was, however, with the exception of the speeches made by Mr Gladstone and Mr Whitbread, by far the most statesmanlike made upon this question. His Lordship was an extremely cautious man, and has taken (probably according to the noble Lord's ideas) a sensible view and statesmanlike line. He said: "We cannot make any more concession to Ireland." He (Mr Jones) regretted the defection of Lord Hartington, which was a great loss to the Liberal party. However, he was not tinged with any feeling of personal dissatisfaction in regard to the noble Lord. He believed that in future Lord Hartington would be found co-operating with Mr Gladstone in those great measures of domestic reform that before long—it depended on the length of time before the Irish question was disposed of—would be submitted to Parliament, and would once again take his place amongst the Liberal ranks. (Applause.) There was another man, a leading man, a distinguished man, a man whom they looked upon as destined to wear the cloak when in course of time it should fall from Mr Gladstone, and become the leader of the Liberal party. Mr Chamberlain's attitude he viewed with feelings of grief, which were shared by the major portion of the Liberal party; but added to that grief was a feeling of utter amazement. It was scarcely possible for one to conceive how a man, placing himself in the forefront of the Radical party of this country, should separate himself from him with whom he had been—for so many years—so intimately associated. It was sometimes said that Mr Chamberlain possessed a "municipal" mind—whatever that may mean. Probably it meant that, having been brought up in connection with the municipal institutions of Birmingham, he was unable to take a broad and comprehensive view of political affairs. He (Mr Jones) did not like to say that Mr Chamberlain had a municipal mind; but, without disrespect to the right hon. gentleman, he must certainly say that, as regards this great question, he had shown a microscopic mind. (Applause.) He said that because, as he had already intimated, this subject must not be looked at from its ordinary details, but in a broad, generous spirit, and we must ascertain how we shall best serve the interests of both kingdoms, and the interests of the Empire, by grappling with the Irish difficulty. Although he was amazed at the attitude of Mr Chamberlain, he was more and more amazed at his reasons for that attitude. What was the position taken up by Mr Chamberlain? Mr Gladstone, in the House of Commons, claimed that his scheme had "held the field." There was no other scheme brought forward that for one moment could hold the candle to his scheme. That was the challenge. Let them see how those luminaries of the Liberal party answered the challenge. Lord Hartington told them that he was in favour of a strong government for Ireland—that meant coercion. Mr Trevelyan was in favour of a strong government, *plus* the County Boards. Anybody who knew the position of the Irish question was perfectly well aware that County Boards would not prove satisfactory to the Irish party, nor anything like a final settlement of the question. Mr Chamberlain—to the astonishment of all who heard him—he (Mr Jones) hardly thought that Mr Chamberlain was fair—deprecated in the strongest language the finding of 50 millions of money, although there was not the slightest likelihood that the British taxpayer would be called upon to put his hands in his pocket for a single penny. Mr Trevelyan proposed that they should suspend evictions in Ireland for a period of six months, and for another six months a renewal of that suspension of evictions, and that the British taxpayer should pay the landlords the rents out of their own pockets. Mr Chamberlain, in his highly critical speech in the House, objected to Home Rule; but proposed instead to federate Ireland with England, the States having each independent Governments of their own, and binding themselves together for trading and for Imperial purposes. Mr Chamberlain's proposal must give each State a separate Government of Home Rule; therefore it did not require a magician to see that the scheme propounded by Mr Chamberlain, so far as its government is concerned, was in its essence precisely the same as that formulated by Mr Gladstone. (A Voice: "No such thing.") Well, he (Mr Jones) would like to know the distinction between a federation which gives a certain amount to a State and the scheme propounded by Mr Gladstone. It gave no more than self-government to a State. Mr Chamberlain's form of federalism was precisely identical with the constitution of the United States of America, and, if applied to Ireland, would concede far more than Mr Gladstone proposed to do. Therefore, he held that Mr Chamberlain's scheme was far more revolutionary and far more dangerous than Mr Gladstone's. (Applause.) Mr Chamberlain also objected to Mr Gladstone's scheme because it means the repeal of the Union. It was a seductive cry to make, "You are breaking up the Empire, and destroying the integrity of this great Power, which has been built up by the courage, perseverance, and industry of Englishmen." Mr Gladstone's scheme would not in the slightest degree involve anything like the repeal of the Union or the disintegration of the Empire. In support of this theory Mr Jones quoted from a speech delivered in 1832, by Lord Clare, the Conservative Lord Chancellor of Ireland, in favour of the Union. Lord Clare explained what position Ireland was in, and pointed out that she was distinctly a separate Sovereign State. Mr Gladstone had kept out of the hands of Ireland all things which Lord Clare affirmed went to make up a separate Government for Ireland. He (Mr Jones) was justified in asserting that what Mr Chamberlain had said was radically unsound and radically inaccurate. (Applause.) Mr Chamberlain, in entering into details when criticising the measure, seemed to be ignorant of what every student of political history is acquainted with. He took exception to the right of controlling trade and navigation being left in the hands of the Imperial power. We want (so Mr Chamberlain said) the Irish people to make their own bankruptcy laws. Other members, besides himself, were amused at Mr Chamberlain. They knew that "trade and navigation" meant the treaty arrangements and shipping trade between foreign and colonial countries, and had no reference to internal trade. Mr Chamberlain also asked why England should be called upon to pay 50 millions to the landlords? Why should they offer advantages to the Irish peasantry which they denied the poor Crofters in Scotland? He (Mr Jones) would say honestly, from the fact that these words might fall under the eye of Mr Chamberlain, that these statements are not fair statements to put in relation to this question. Why? Because they were not prepared to make compensation for the sake of the Irish landlords, but for the sake of the peasantry, and by these means confer an immeasurable boon upon the Irish people. (Applause.) He would confess that this question of giving 50 or 120 millions was not a pleasant one to himself; but he counselled his hearers not to be led astray by it. Through the ingenuity of Mr Gladstone, the British taxpayer would not be called upon to pay a penny of it. The total revenue of Ireland amounted to something like 10 millions, which is to be paid to the Receiver-General, and before a single penny of it can be applied to Irish purposes it has to be handed over to England. There is adequate security given in case the tenants refuse to pay their rents or cannot do so; as England retains in her hands the control of the Customs and Excise, which realise a sum more than ample for that purpose. Was there any reason, however, to suppose that the Irish people would not be true to their obligations? It struck him that whenever this question was argued upon this basis—that Irish people are the greatest criminals and greatest lunatics on the face of the earth—when Mr Trevelyan said in the Commons that men of the type of Ford, Egan, and Sheridan will constitute the Irish Parliament, and thus make it, instead of a House of Commons, a house of criminals—that the most vile and unwarrantable accusations were cast upon the Irish race. (Cheers.) Lord Spencer, a man who was much disliked by the Irish people—and very properly so—and was attacked by the Parnellites for the action he took in enforcing the Coercion Acts—Lord Spencer said in substance that he had confidence in the honesty and integrity of the party whom Mr Parnell leads in the House of Commons. (Applause.) This was conclusive testimony that we may trust Mr Parnell not to prostitute the Irish House of Commons that is to come to purposes of spoliation and robbery. It is said that the country is not prepared for the question; that the electors ought to be consulted again; and that we ought to have another general election. Well, he did not fear another contest, and he would not mind trying another battle with his friend Col. Wilbraham. (Loud cheers, and a voice: "That's a challenge.") For his own part, he could see no warrant for such assertions. It had been the doctrine of the British constitution—nearly as old as Parliament—that the House of Commons has power to fully and freely make and unmake all laws of this country. He did not wish to arrogate to members of Parliament too great powers. At the same time it came badly from Lord Randolph Churchill—(hisses)—and Lord Salisbury, who condemned the caucus and the theory that members of Parliament were delegates—it came badly from them who insist upon the independence of members of Parliament to say that Parliament has no right to deal with the question without the mandate of the country. Mr Jones quoted from the speech delivered by Pitt in 1802 to show that Parliament had sufficient powers to pass any measure if the political exigencies demanded it, and also enumerated several important measures passed without consulting the country. Mr Jones, however, proceeded to prove that the question was submitted to the country at the last general election, Mr Gladstone having mentioned it in his Midlothian manifesto; he (the speaker) also dwelt upon the subject in many of his speeches, and on the 6th, 12th, and 18th Nov. last Lord Hartington, at Rossendale, challenged Lord R. Churchill whether it was true or not that he had made a compact with the leaders of the Irish party to confer upon Ireland some measure of Home Rule. Lord Randolph was silent, and is silent now. He does not condemn the granting of Home Rule to Ireland. He only regrets that the measure should have been introduced by the leader of the Liberal party. (Laughter.) Mr Jones said that he had come to the conclusion, after careful thought and study, that the measure was just and right. (Applause.) There were details which would, doubtless, be amended. He would like to see representation given to the Irish people in the Imperial Parliament, but if the Irish people do not desire votes in the Imperial Parliament, then no one had anything to do with it. They, doubtless, think wisely that they will have enough to do to restore peace, happiness, and prosperity to their own country. After this task was accomplished then the Irish race could send their representatives to Westminster to assist in recording their votes on Imperial matters. Mr Gladstone had stated that his Home Rule scheme was not inseparable from his Land Purchase Bill. At the same time, people must bear in mind that there were great responsibilities in reference to Ireland, and they must stand shoulder to shoulder in granting this tardy measure of justice. He was in favour of the scheme, because he believed it would bring back peace, contentment, and prosperity to the Irish nation, it would reconcile the people of Ireland to the people of England, and it would still leave Ireland an essential part of the intricate strength of this vast empire. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

The resolution on being submitted to the meeting, was carried without a single dissentient amid the heartiest applause.

Song, "Rule Britannia."

Mr TINDALL proposed, and Mr McKAY seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr Jones for his excellent address.

This was also carried by acclamation.

Mr JONES briefly returned thanks, and proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies who prepared the tea, the chairman, speakers, and the singers.

This was seconded by Mr JOHN ORR, and received with approbation; Mr PRIESTMAN and Mr McKAY responding.

The company dispersed after singing the "National Anthem."

LIBLRAL MEETING AT CONSETT.

ADDRESS BY MR ATHERLEY-JONES, M.P.

On Monday afternoon, a meeting was held in the Consett Town Hall, to hear an address from Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., on the "Current political topics of the day," and despite the fact that the meeting had been hastily summoned, the fineness of the day and the numerous attractions elsewhere, a large and enthusiastic audience assembled. Mr William Jenkins, J.P., presided and amongst those present were Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., Messrs Jonathan Priestman, J.P., Lewis Priestman, R. G. Barclay, J. W. Rounthwaite, Henry Carss, John Brodie, Shotley Bridge; Thomas Williams, Thomas Davison, Thomas Carr, Jesse Hall, William Dodds, Daniel Smith, Thomas Dunne, leader of the Irish National party in the district; William Knox, Simon Rowe, Adam Brodie (secretary of the North-West Durham Liberal Registration Association); Thomas Featherstone, of Waskerley; Thomas Barron and Stephen Nicholson, Leadgate. There were also a number of ladies present.

The CHAIRMAN, on rising to open the meeting, was heartily received. He said it was to him a very great pleasure to be there on that beautiful Easter holiday to spend an hour on a matter so important to the people of this country as the consideration of the political topics of the day. He for one was so much absorbed in one great topic of the day that there was very little room for anything else, and that was the question of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) That question had overshadowed and overtopped everything else that could be thought of in politics. He had an idea that Ireland had not had that proper share of reasonable government, that proper share of freedom, at the hands of the English people that it ought to have had in times gone by. (Cheers.) He sometimes thought it was a great misfortune that Ireland was not subdued by the Conqueror. History taught them that when a country was conquered that country always got advantage by the presence of the conqueror in the progress of civilization; but it was not so with Ireland. The Celt had never mixed with the English colonists as the English had done with the Normans. Whether this conciliatory movement of Mr Gladstone succeeded, or whether for the moment it failed, he had given the keynote, whose vibrations would never be settled until they got something absolutely and definitely done for better rule in Ireland. (Cheers.) They had always failed to meet with and sympathise with the national sentiment of Irishmen. The question was whether now they were going to have another Cromwell, or whether they would have Gladstone? (Cries of "Gladstone," and cheers.) Were they to be followers of Cromwell or Gladstone? (Cheers.) Were they going to Ireland with a sword or with a peaceable document in their hand, and endeavour to do for the people of Ireland what they had done for themselves in England, Scotland, and Wales, as well as in many other countries? He contended that Home Rule as proposed would not mean disintegration of the empire, and that it was not the interest of Irishmen, nor did they wish to be separated. After alluding to the Land Bill, he called on

Mr WILLIAMS, ironworkers' delegate, to propose the first resolution, as follows:—

"That this meeting desires to express its confidence in Mr Gladstone, and in the measures proposed by him for the better government of Ireland, and trusts he will receive the support of the Liberal party in Parliament and throughout the country."

He said the last time they met in that room they were just on the fringe of a great battle between right and wrong, between oppression and conciliation, and now they were met to determine whether right and justice should be given to Ireland, and he was glad it had fallen to the lot of one of the greatest men this country had ever produced to give to Ireland those principles of justice and equity which rightfully belonged to her. (Cheers.) Whoever had faltered in the matter, the great commoner, William Ewart Gladstone, was still to the front, and nothing the aristocracy could do would move him from the great purpose he had in view, having the confidence and assurance that the great toiling population of the country was entwined round his heart, and there was no cause for doubt that the great measure of justice would be given to Ireland by the hands of Mr Gladstone. (Cheers.)

Mr ROUNTHWAITE seconded the motion; and Mr J. PRIESTMAN, who was loudly cheered, supported the motion.

Mr ATHERLEY-JONES, on rising to support the motion, was received with loud and prolonged cheers. In the course of an able and spirited address, he said he thought the paramount importance of the subject before them would be sufficient excuse for his so frequently addressing the electors of the division. (Cheers.) He was glad to see that the opinion that he had formed, and which he believed to be founded in truth and in equity, was the opinion which, by their cheers already at that meeting, they had recorded as the opinion of the Liberal electors of that division. (Cheers.) They had now come face to face with a difficulty that could no longer be trifled with, and something, whatever it might be, must be done. (Hear, hear.) This country must choose between coercion or conciliation and concession, and, for his part, he had no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the proper, the wise, that the just—nay, that the only possible course was that which led to concession and conciliation. (Cheers.) Coercion had been tried for 700 years, and was a course that could be no longer pursued. (Cheers.) That being so, the true course was that unfolded by Mr Gladstone, which conformed to the true spirit of democracy, which had its finest utterance in that sentence—"All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye also unto them." (Cheers.) That was the watchword of the policy which Mr Gladstone had inaugurated—(cheers)—and he had no hesitation in saying that, whatever the fate of the two bills, and if they were defeated—ignominiously defeated—they would be taken up again, he should not be surprised if the men most ready to accept them in the future should be found among those who were most ready to denounce them now. (Laughter and cheers.) With regard to the objections of Lord Hartington, Mr Trevelyan, and the Tories, that the Home Government Bill was tantamount to a repeal of the union, he said that Mr Gladstone's measure was free from every element in which the measure would be tantamount to repeal. (Cheers.) It was also urged that the Parliament ought to have been specially elected for the purpose of dealing with the question, and that the question had not been before the country at the general election. Well, for his part, the Irish question had to a very large extent been made a test question in that division. He would venture to go further, and say that Mr Gladstone himself, in his Midlothian campaign, declared in no doubtful language that the time had come when it would be in the power of the people of Ireland to declare what policy they desired should be pursued, and the people of Ireland had declared. Lord Harington had in three several speeches twitted Lord Randolph Churchill with being an advocate for Home Rule, and that statement was never contradicted by Lord Randolph Churchill. (Cheers.) But accepting the argument as well-founded, that it was not sufficiently before the country, it did not lie in the mouths of Conservatives like Lord Randolph Churchill, who flout and jibe at the caucus and at the Liberal associations, who taunted them with making Liberal members delegates, it did not lie in their mouths to go and deny the right of Parliament to exercise the power of making and unmaking laws. (Cheers.) If they looked at precedents—and he supposed as a lawyer he liked precedents—(laughter)—they would find that in the cases of giving representation to the Principality of Wales, and to the Counties Palatine of Durham and Lancashire, in settling the succession to the Throne, in the cases of the Union of Scotland and of the Union of Ireland, the people of England were never consulted and no mandate was given by them. (Cheers.) It might be that he should have occasion to come and consult that constituency through the action of the House of Lords, and not of the House of Commons, for he believed they would carry it there—(cheers)—but if he did, he felt no question, had not a shadow of doubt, that the constituency would support Mr Gladstone's proposition as the only practicable one. (Cheers.) Mr Gladstone had said that his scheme held the field. (Cheers.) Did it hold the field? (Cries of "Yes," and loud cheers.) They had seen defections in their ranks and defections of many of their leaders; they had found that peers from day to day were going wrong, but the people remained true. (Cheers.) He then dealt with the attitudes of Lord Hartington and the other Liberal seceders, and said he was not much surprised at Mr Goschen shivering at Mr Morley's utterances, as he (Mr Goschen) was what was known in politics as a "chilly man." (Loud laughter and cheers.) With all sincerity he did not reckon the opposition of Mr Goschen as much worth, and he would have been surprised and he must say disconcerted if he had turned in their favour. (Laughter.) He had opposed all great Liberal reforms, and he would have been inclined to think it an evil omen if he had favoured them. (Laughter.) Mr Jones then ably criticised the alternative schemes offered, and said that Mr Chamberlain was not acting in accordance with the principles of democracy. True democracy knew no other limits save the limits of the human race. (Cheers.) Democracy was cosmopolitan. If it was right to yield to the people of England the elements of freedom, Mr Chamberlain should not refuse them to the people of Ireland when they were justly and constitutionally demanded. (Cheers.) He then dealt with the Land Bill, and in conclusion made a powerful appeal to his audience to stand by the statesman who for 50 years had led them from victory to victory, who had done so much for the prosperity, liberty, and contentment of this country, and to trust the man who for 50 years had served them faithfully. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was then carried, with three hearty cheers, only two hands in the large audience being held up against it.

Mr H. CARSS next proposed:—

That a copy of the resolution now passed be forwarded to Mr Gladstone. (Cheers.)

Mr T. FEATHERSTONE seconded, and the proposal was also carried.

Mr T. DUNNE, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr Jones, explained that the attitude of the Irish party in supporting the Conservative candidate at the last election was not with any hostile feeling towards Mr Jones, but rather to mark their sense of disapprobation of the conduct of Mr Chamberlain and his followers. Now that the Liberal party was free from corruption, the Irish could heartily support them, and they were glad that Mr Atherley-Jones was in accord with them. (Cheers.)

The resolution having been carried by acclamation, Mr Jones, in reply, said he would go back strengthened in the belief that he was carrying out the mandate of his constituents in supporting Mr Gladstone. He also remarked that this North-West Division of Durham ought really to be called "Consett Division." (Loud cheers.)

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

MR. ATHERLEY-JONES ON THE CRISIS.

Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P., wrote to St. James's Hall meeting on Wednesday evening:—

"I need not say that I am heartily in accord with the spirit of both the resolutions you have favoured me with. There are no doubt some matters upon which most of us desire to see amendments, but at present the great object is to secure a second reading of the Home Rule Bill—(cheers)—and I sincerely hope that the unity and enthusiasm of your meeting in this view will be assured, so that Mr Gladstone—(renewed cheers)—may, in common with his followers, be strengthened in the conviction that the country is in favour of the concession of this tardy measure of justice to the Irish people."

LORD SALISBURY AND THE CONSETT PRIMROSE LEAGUE.

Mr John Booth, president of the North-West Durham Conservative Association, has received the following letter in reply to a resolution passed at a meeting of the Consett Habitation of the Primrose League, held on the 19th inst., in the Agricultural Hall, Blackhill:—

Hatfield House, Hatfield, Herts,
April 21st, 1886.

SIR,—I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to thank you for your letter of the 19th inst., and to say that he is much obliged for the resolution passed at a combined meeting of the North-West Durham Conservative Association and the Consett Habitation of the Primrose League which you have kindly sent him. I am to add that Lord Salisbury is much gratified to receive the assurance of the confidence of the meeting.—I am, your obedient servant,

John Booth, Esq. R. T. GUNTON.

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

RATEPAYERS' MEETING AT BENFIELDSIDE.

THE OVERSEERS AND THEIR ASSISTANT.

A lively and rather amusing meeting of the ratepayers of Blackhill and Shotley Bridge took place in the Board Schools, Benfieldside, on Thursday se'nnight. Mr Jas. Annandale, J.P. (Chairman of the Benfieldside Local Board) was voted to the chair.

The meeting was convened by the Overseers (Messrs R. Murray, W. Raw, and W. Wilson) by special requisition, signed by about 35 ratepayers, for the purpose of "revoking the appointment of the assistant-overseer, to fix the salary paid to the assistant-overseer, to appoint another assistant-overseer, and to define his duties." The spacious building was packed, and the adjacent class-rooms were also crowded. It appears that Mr Charles Luxmore Hockin at the recent audit of accounts took exception to the appointment of Mr Henry Carss as assistant-overseer, and objected to the allowance of 5s for every journey to Lanchester, stipulating that he should be paid in a lump sum. The overseers, however, raised the question before the Local Government Board as to whether the auditor had the right to veto the action of the vestry meeting, and object to the custom in vogue for 100 years. The Imperial authority replied that the matter would receive their consideration. Mr Carss, since the audit, had discovered the notice of his appointment, and also a copy of the minute passed at the vestry in 1880, appointing Mr Carss at a salary of £60 per annum, and allowing him 5s for every journey undertaken to Lanchester in respect to the duties of assistant-overseer.

After the CHAIRMAN had briefly opened the proceedings, Mr JON. PRIESTMAN, J.P., spoke at length in favour of Mr Carss's re-appointment, and stated that as far as he could learn Mr Carss had discharged his duties in such a way as to give no cause for complaint. He concluded by proposing "That the appointment of Mr Henry Carss as assistant-overseer remain as it is at present, and that the sum of £5 be paid to him in lieu of his journeys to Lanchester, the said sum of £5 being for the fulfilment of duties appertaining to township matters, extraordinary journeys being paid for accordingly."

Mr A. E. TURNER briefly seconded the resolution.

An animated discussion ensued between Mr RAW, Mr PRIESTMAN, and Mr WM. TURNER; Mr Raw becoming greatly agitated, he attacked Mr Priestman somewhat sharply.

Mr W. DICKINSON said he was not aware a letter had been received from the Local Government Board, and if so, the overseers ought to have acquainted the ratepayers of the fact.

Mr RAW (excitedly): The overseers had no chance. These gentlemen——

The CHAIRMAN: Don't get excited, Mr Raw.

Mr RAW (warmly): I am not going to be made a fool of. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: No one wants to make a fool of you. The Chairman proceeded to explain the order in which the business was specified in the notice convening the meeting, and also embodied in the ratepayers' petition, which he read. He also stated that although Mr Priestman's motion did not deal with the business in that order, still it covered the whole of the ground; and the business would be greatly facilitated if the resolution was submitted. At the request of Mr Raw, Mr Annandale read the subjoined "answer" from the Local Government Board addressed to the overseers:—

"I am directed by the Local Government Board to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., and to state that the subject to which it refers will receive the attention of the Board."

(Ironical cheers and laughter.) The Chairman said he did not call that an "answer;" it was merely an acknowledgement. (Hear.)

Mr DICKINSON: By whom was that letter written?

Mr CARSS: By me, at the instigation of the overseers.

Mr DICKINSON: What are the contents of the letter that will receive the attention of the Local Government Board?

Mr CARSS: I have not got a copy of the letter. But I can explain the purport of it.

Mr DICKINSON: Unless Mr Carss produces the letter, he had better not explain.

Mr R. MURRAY thought it proper that the assistant-overseer should explain the contents of the letter to a certain extent.

Mr DICKINSON: I have raised an objection to this; but am willing to submit to the ruling of the Chairman.

Mr CARSS: We have not kept a copy of the letter. We had no idea it would be required.

Mr DICKINSON said that this was a most important question. If Mr Raw had received an answer from the Local Government Board, he had left it at home. He would certainly say that a copy of the communication sent to the Local Government Board should be produced. It was not fair to the ratepayers. If he had given a little colony——

Mr RAW (interrupting): Will you allow me——(Cries of "No.")

Mr DICKINSON: I beg pardon. I am addressing the Chairman. I object to Mr Carss making any statement unless he produces the letter. He must have got it at home.

The CHAIRMAN stated that Mr Carss only wrote the letter on behalf of the overseers.

Mr DICKINSON: He wrote the letter, and the overseers are responsible for it, as they signed it. (Cries of "No.")

Mr CARSS: I wrote it for the overseers, but they stand as Godfathers and Godmothers of it. (Loud laughter.)

Mr DICKINSON was essaying to make further remarks when a voice exclaimed, "Don't let that man waste any more of your time."

Mr WM. WILSON suggested that the assistant-overseer should explain the contents of the letter, and then the overseers could correct him if he said anything false.

This idea being accepted by the meeting, Mr CARSS said the purport of the letter was that at the last audit of accounts for the township of Benfieldside, the auditor told the overseers and the assistant-overseer, that in future he would not allow the sum generally allowed for journeys, as it had been the custom in that township for something like 100 years. The overseers considered that the auditor had no power to veto an act of this vestry. If the vestry had the privilege to appoint an assistant-overseer, and to determine his salary and duties, they had a right to determine how, or in what shape or form, that salary should be paid; consequently the overseers instructed him to draw up a memorial to the Local Government Board, inquiring if the auditor had a right to veto the action of the vestry; and stating that as the overseers were wishful to conform to the law, they enquired of their lordships if this was right or wrong.

Mr RAW: That is the exact purport of the letter.

Mr DICKINSON insisted upon the business being transacted in the order set down on the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said the first business was to revoke the appointment of the assistant-overseer; but Mr PRIESTMAN objected to the appointment being revoked.

Mr JOS. ELTRINGHAM suggested that they should come to a proper understanding. At the last vestry meeting they were told that Mr Carss was not really and truly in office. If so, let them set to work and re-appoint him; and also pay him in a lump sum for his journeys to Lanchester, if the auditor objected to the payment in separate five shillingses. Perhaps Mr Carss had found his notice of appointment.

Another speaker would like to know, if Mr Carss had not been duly appointed, how it could be revoked? (Applause.)

Mr CARSS explained that he was careful to preserve his warrant of appointment amongst other documents he had received from the Local Government Board; but unfortunately he was unable to lay his finger upon the warrant when asked by the auditor. He had since found the document, and produced it. He also had a minute passed at a vestry meeting held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, signed by their present Chairman and his respected partner, the late Mr Annandale Town—(applause)—appointing him as assistant-overseer at a salary of £65 per annum, and allowing him 5s for every journey to Lanchester. He was glad Mr Eltringham had raised that question in a fair and equitable way, according to his own ideas. There was his appointment, and there was no need to revoke it. (Applause.)

Mr RAW stated that, according to the auditor, the last appointment was illegal, in allowing the assistant-overseer to collect the Imperial taxes. The auditor rightly contended that the parish had nothing to do with the Imperial taxes; the Government paid for collecting such themselves. Therefore, to put things in order, they must revoke and re-appoint an assistant-overseer. Whoever found fault must blame the auditor——

Mr CARSS: With the permission of the chairman I will read the following minute.

Mr RAW: Let me read it.

Mr CARSS (claiming possession of the minute-book): I have got permission to read it, if you will allow me. At a vestry meeting held at Shotley Bridge in 1880, it was resolved:

"That the salary of Mr Henry Carss, assistant-overseer, shall be £60 per annum, and the duties to be by him executed shall to be such as appertains to that office; the assistant-overseer being allowed in addition the sum of 5s for every journey to Lanchester; special journeys to be paid for extra according to circumstances. He was also to be allowed to collect the Income Tax and the Inhabited House Duties."

Prior to 1880 (Mr CARSS explained) any tradesman in the township could be called upon to collect these taxes, and it was a very unthankful office for some of them. In order to relieve the tradespeople from this responsibilty, he was appointed by the township to collect these taxes. (Cheers.)

Mr RAW said he was not present at that meeting, but he had been informed over and over again that the extra £10 was allowed for collecting the Imperial taxes. He (Mr Raw) had gathered these taxes for eight years, and never got a farthing from the township.

Mr W. TURNER undersood that the Surveyor of Taxes would not allow Mr Carss to collect the Imperial taxes, because he was so insulting. (Disorder.)

Mr CARSS (to Mr Turner): You are telling a falsehood now. (Sensation.) I'll bring you up for libel. (Uproar.)

Mr DICKINSON said it was quite illegal.

Mr RAW stated that the auditor told them that the minute was not legal.

Mr CARSS (severely): The auditor did not say so, sir. (Applause.)

Mr GEO. ELTRINGHAM, in the course of a long speech, and amid frequent interruptions, suggested that the business should be conducted *seriatim*. If the appointment of their assistant-overseer was valid, then the sooner there was a revocation the better, and Mr Carss or anybody else reinstated. (Cheers.) He begged to move that the appointment be revoked.

Mr M. RICHLEY, as one of the parties who signed the requisition, because he understood that Mr Carss's appointment was considered by the auditor to be illegal, seconded the proposition.

The CHAIRMAN: It is moved and seconded that the appointment of Mr Carss as assistant-overseer be revoked. (Interruption.)

Mr CARSS (dolefully): In other words to put me out. (Shouts of "No, no," and slight disturbance.)

The proposition was rejected by an overwhelming majority, not more than 30 hands being held up in favour thereof.

Mr Carss's countenance suddenly brightened up, and a voice exclaimed, "That maks thoo laugh, Harry." (Laughter.)

Mr ELTRINGHAM said the meeting could do nothing further; and Mr RAW suggested that no action should be taken until they heard from the Local Government Board.

A SPEAKER affirmed that the meeting could surely decide the question of salary independent of the Local Government Board. (A voice: "Where's Atherley-Jones?" Laughter.)

Mr RAW pointed out that whatever they might do at that meeting, would not in the least deter the Local Government Board from having their own sweet will. It was a most disgraceful way to transact business—first doing a thing and then undoing it.

The SPEAKER contended that the Local Government Board had no power to revoke any action of that meeting.

Mr RAW: They will soon let you know whether they can or not.

Mr DUFFY: If we cannot do anything without consulting the Local Government Board, what is the use of calling this meeting?

Mr RAW: The overseers were requested to do so.

Mr DICKINSON and others objected to Mr Carss speaking so much and dictating to the chairman, but Mr CARSS claimed the right, as an individual ratepayer, to speak. (A voice: "Gan on and speak ti'd." Laughter.)

It was moved by Mr DUFFY, and seconded by Mr J. GIBSON—

"That the salary of assistant-overseer be £65 per annum, this sum to include journeys to Lanchester, the duties to be defined by the Local Government Board."

Mr RAW said that £65 did not include everything; the salary of the assistant-overseer, with one thing and another, amounted to about £80 a-year. There was £10 for the registration of voters.

Mr GIBSON: But the vestry does not pay that.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Doesn't it?

Mr RAW: I signed the cheque for that sum on behalf of the ratepayers.

Mr CARSS explained that the £65 included the preparing and keeping of all the books. (Voice: "It's not over much.") The registration of voters, which might range from £10 to £20, was a Government affair, and was allowed by the Revising Barrister, according to the proportion of labour involved. Mr Raw was determined that he should be both judge and jury (laughter); and the feeling that gentleman had imported into this matter was certainly not very friendly towards him. (Cheers.)

Mr RAW: Now, you withdraw that.

Mr CARSS: You are spreading this dissension——

Mr RAW: Mr Chairman, you——

Mr CARSS: I am in possession of the meeting.

Mr RAW: Go on as long as you like. (Laughter.)

Mr CARSS observed that he had been allowed £20 instead of £15 this year for the revision lists.

Mr RAW (warmly): I have laid the plain facts before you. I have been told to-night that the auditor says the appointment of Mr Carss is illegal in allowing him to collect the Imperial taxes. If William Raw lives, he will see what the Local Government Board says about an assistant-overseer being allowed to collect both Property and Income Tax. (Cheers.)

Mr DICKINSON (to Mr Carss): Did you receive 2½ per cent. commission for collecting the Imperial taxes?

Mr CARSS: That has nothing to do with the business of the meeting.

Mr DICKINSON: Will you answer the question or not?

Mr CARSS: No. (A voice: "Answer the question.")

Mr GIBSON: Has this meeting power to affix the sum for making lists for the Revising Barrister?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Certainly not.

Mr RAW: I do not object to the payment of this money. I only want the ratepayers to know. (A voice: "You want the job." Laughter.)

Mr CARSS: Mr Raw has told you that I got £15 for the voters' lists, but he has forgot to inform you that the Government returned £6 back to the overseers. (Applause and cries of "Boo.")

Mr DICKINSON: It would be better for the ratepayers—(Interruption, and a voice: "Gan alang, Harry.")

Eventually, Mr Duffy's proposition was carried without opposition.

After some further discussion relative to the jury lists, &c., an exciting meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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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.)

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY AND SOUTH MEDOMSLEY DISPUTE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Will you allow me, through the medium of your paper, to convey our thanks to the Co-operative Society of Annfield Plain for the liberal grant of £50 given in aid of the strike hands of South Medomsley?—On behalf of the committee,

JOHN SPEEDING, Secretary.

CONSERVATISM AT WEST STANLEY.

LECTURE BY MR JOHN PYLE.

On Thursday evening in last week, a lecture was given in the long-room of Mr John Clarkson's Commercial Inn, West Stanley, by Mr John Pyle, of Pelton, a working miner, on the subject :—"Why I am a Conservative." The chair was occupied by Mr T. Colquhoun, vice-president of the Stanley Conservative Association; and amongst those present were Dr Mantle, Mr J. M. Wilson, Mr Jas. Dixon, Mr Bates, Mr M. Anderson, and a fair number of working men.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the great necessity there was for working men of all grades of political opinion to turn their attention seriously to the state of the county at the present crisis. The prospect was of the most alarming description, and it behoved everyone to come forward and give expression to their feelings, and let those at the head of affairs know that they are not going to accept any proposal simply because it is made by the great Liberal party. Mr Gladstone's proposals are of such a character that they will scarcely bear investigation, and we know that in spite of all the concessions made to the Parnellite party and the National League they are never satisfied, but still want more and more, and now that Home Rule is laid before them in a temporary way by Mr Gladstone, we find they demand the repeal of the Union. That is enough to make the Liberals turn away. Separation means the setting up of a separate kingdom entirely, and England will have to pay the greater part of the taxation to maintain it, because come what may England could never have a weak Ireland, and would have to pay extra cost for her defences. Do not let this great question pass unheeded, but think for themselves; and let all Conservatives come forward and speak out their minds. (Applause.)

The LECTURER, who was well received, said there were three classes of politicians—Radical, Liberal, and Conservative. It reminded him of three seasons of the year, spring, summer, and autumn. Radicalism reminded him of spring, when the trees were beginning to bud and blossom and show promising signs of life. He had no objection to wholesome Radicalism if it meant thorough investigation, sound argument, pure and lively agitation by legitimate means; but this was not carried out. The summer reminded him of Liberalism. There is something pretty about the word Liberalism, and he sometimes begrudged his opponents their title. It is like the flower, agreeable to look at and come in contact with for the time being—promising and flattering; but after all there is something promising and deceptive about it. Presently the bloom fades and it is gone. Such had been the case with the promises of Liberalism. Read them and compare their acts—they have promised bread and given a stone. (Applause.) The blossom is gone; but there is something else there superior to the blossom—there is the fruit in the autumn season—the trees heavily laden in all their glory, and he thus likened Conservatism and its leaders to that glorious season of the year. Their ideas are rich, words kind, deeds just, and whose hearts permeate with the truth in order to bless and benefit the nations of the earth. (Applause.) Lord Randolph Churchill—(applause)—was a brave man in speaking out his mind and standing up for the right; he was always ready to "toe the mark"—(applause)—and if the Liberals had only had him on their side, instead of being on ours, they would have crowned him king at once. (Laughter and applause.) Referring to the depression in trade, the lecturer urged upon his fellow-workmen to work honestly, and have the interests of the employer at heart, to try to put a shilling into the savings box, and then they could expect to get ninepence out to try and help on capital instead of impeding it, as we must rise or fall together. When we had the strike on the Tyne for the nine hours' movement German workmen were brought over to fill our men's places, but they did not succeed; but if our factories and workshops are not filled by foreign workmen we have their goods coming here in ship loads, which is just the same thing, and undermining our industries, and crippling our labour. He trusted that good would result from the inquiry of the Royal Commission, which was got up by the Conservative party. (Applause.) Things will be no better until we get the full and able report of the Commission, which will be most astounding, and will tell us how it is that trade is depressed. There is a cause why it is depressed, but there is no reason why it should be. Lord Churchill was scouted and scorned at because he suggested a Royal Commission, and Sir Stafford Northcote sent invitations out to the Liberal members of Parliament. He meant to those members who had been elected by working men to sit on the Council. He meant Mr Broadhurst and Mr Thomas Burt—the only two after the death of poor Mr McDonald. Mr Broadhurst scorned the idea, and wrote to the Trades' Union officials to bring influence against it and block the way of the Royal Commission, and did his best to stop others from serving on the Commission. (Shame.) This is the action of men who ought to have willingly taken office. For what the Conservatives wanted was to get information from all sources to get at the bottom of the depression in trade. (Loud applause.) It was admitted that the miners of other countries worked longer and had less wages than here, but although the English miner worked less hours his output was greater than that of the foreigner, therefore the working man has not much to fear on that account. (Loud applause.) He knew that they worked with a pluck and will in the county of Durham. (Hear.) There are men in the poorhouse to-day, or nearly so, who ought to be wielding the hammer if only they could obtain work. Employers are suffering too, and foreign nations alone are benefitting at our expense. (Shame.) Let them see what can be done in the master's service; go to our senators and call attention to the suffering humanity, and see whether the foreigner is to be allowed to take away what our children should have. (Loud applause.) Speaking of getting on harmoniously, the lecturer, referring to the Secretary of the Miners' Association, said Mr Crawford had once said that he (Mr Crawford) looked upon every colliery manager as a "tyrant," and upon every colliery owner as a "scoundrel;" but now Mr Crawford admitted that his views were changed. Such expressions and sentiment were not calculated to produce good feeling or harmony. He had often tried, but never could get "Billy" on a platform to argue out a question fairly, and when there is a question of difficulty let them meet and argue the matter without passion or prejudice. (Applause.) Conservatives have nothing to fear; we want scrutiny, we fear no foe. (Applause.) He had challenged Mr Crawford through the press, and had also challenged Messrs Wilson and Patterson, and was open to meet any man in the world on any platform in this or any other village in the two counties of Durham or Northumberland—(loud applause)—and defend his principles as a Conservative working man against his principles as a Liberal or Liberal politician. After touching upon other topics the lecturer was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his splendid lecture.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

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

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, April 21st.—Before Colonel SHEPPEE (chairman) and H. W. KERRICH-WALKER, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

William Moffatt, Marley Hill, charged with being drunk and disorderly in the township of Lamesley, on the 10th inst., fined 15s and costs.

John Hennesey was also charged with a similar offence at the same place.—Fined 7s 6d and costs.

George Willie, Marley Hill, charged with being drunk and disorderly at Lamesley, on the 10th inst., fined 5s and costs.

John Rockett was fined 5s and costs for a similar offence at the same place.

Patrick Cullens, for the same offence, was fined 10 and costs.

Joseph Hope was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Lamesley, on the 13th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

John Carling was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Birtley, on the 21st inst.—Fined 7s 6d and costs.

HIGHWAY ACT.

Richard Wilson was charged with a breach of the Highway Act by leaving his horse standing outside a public-house for over an hour.—Fined 10s, including costs.

CRUELTY TO A HORSE.

William Welsh was charged, at the instance of the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, with unlawfully ill-using a horse on April 24th, near Chester-le-Street, which was utterly unfit to work.—Inspector A. Greaotrex, of R.S.P.S.A., proved the charge, and said the horse had a sore upon its back beneath the saddle about the size of a five-shilling piece. The man Welsh admitted to him that he had travelled from Witton Gilbert to South Shields and back, a distance of 30 miles, that day. Matter was oozing out of the sore, and the animal was in a very wretched condition.—P.C. Wilkinson, Chester-le-Street, gave corroborative evidence.—The defendant denied the charge, and said he had not ill-used the horse.—Fined 5s and costs.

A CHILD BURNT TO DEATH AT BLACKHILL.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr Coroner Graham held an enquiry, at the house of Mrs Jameson, Commercial Inn, Blackhill, into the circumstances attending the death of Jane Ann Woods, aged six years, of 7, West Row, Blackhill, who expired on Saturday from the effects of burns received on the preceding Wednesday. After the jury had been sworn, the Coroner complimented Sergeant Cruickshank upon the efficient manner in which he always carried out the preliminaries of an inquest. The first witness called was

Francis Woods, the father, who said the child was six years old last birthday, and it died on Saturday last. He was at home in bed on the Wednesday previous, when the accident occurred, having been working on the "night shift." About 2·45 in the afternoon he was awakened by a girl calling him. He proceeded downstairs, and found that deceased had been scorched, but the fire was then extinguished. Part of her clothing had been burnt. After she was stripped, remedies were applied by Dr Passmore (Dr Renton's assistant). During the evening, the child told witness that she was lighting a stick at the fire, when a piece burnt off and fell on her frock, igniting her clothing.

Sarah McIvor, a girl, residing next door to Woods, said that on Wednesday last, about three p.m., she went into the house to fill the kettle for Woods, who is a widower, and has not kept a housekeeper for three years. Upon opening the door, she saw the deceased standing in the middle of the floor, and rubbing her eyes. The room was full of smoke, and the girl was almost suffocated. There was not any flame. When the smoke cleared away, witness observed that her clothing was smouldering. She called Mrs Dempsey, who wrapped the girl up. Deceased never told witness how the accident happened.

Margaret Dempsey, the wife of Andrew Dempsey, labourer, living in West Row, said that the last witness summoned her to Woods' house. She saw that deceased's clothing had been on fire, and her dress was burnt in front. She extinguished the flames with a mat. Witness saw the girl after she was washed and laid out, and she was extensively burnt in the lower part of the body, and her knees were also scorched. The dress was made of a woollen material.

The Coroner said it was a pitiable case. There was no one but the neighbours to look after the child. She would have been better at school. If it had not been for the girl McIvor going in at the moment, the deceased might have been charred to a cinder. The smoke would partially suffocate the child, and she would naturally be too frightened to raise any alarm.

The jury returned a verdict that death resulted from shock caused by her clothing having accidentally taken fire, and her body being burnt.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, BEAMISH.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR JOHN EDEN, OF BEAMISH PARK.

In consequence of the earnest desire which prevailed that there should be some memorial placed in this church to help to keep in memory the many munificent acts of the above gentleman, the authorities wisely decided that it should take the form of a much-needed cover for the font, and a most elaborote and handsome one has been erected, complete in every respect, and a great addition to the pretty little church, and certainly a credit to all concerned in the carrying out of the work. The design (which was supplied by the Rev J. G. Holt, the architect of the church), consists of an octagonal spire of oak framing, crocketted at the angles, with walnut panels made by Messrs Harrison and Harrison, of Durham, and surmounted by an oaken statnette of St. Andrew, the patron saint of the church, holding his cross, carved by Mr J. Caddy, of Brighton. On the four cardinal sides are paintings in opal, and burnt in, the work of Mr J. Connell, Low Fell, representing the scriptural allusions in the service for infant baptism in the prayer-book, "The flood and Noah's Ark," "Moses leading the Israelites through the Red Sea," "The Baptism of our Lord in the River Jordon," and "Our Lord blessing little children." The other sides contain the text from Titus, iii. chap., 5 verse—"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us. By the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost." The painting of the crown, shields, and texts are by Mr John Thirlwell, of Shotley Bridge. The cover is balanced by a metal crown, the work of Mr R. Grey, blacksmith, Oxhill, carried out under the direction of the Rev J. Crennell. The whole weighs nearly half a ton, and when the cover is raised during the carrying out of the Baptismal Service, the crown is then immediately over the head of the figure of St. Andrew, and presents a very beautiful appearance. Around the base is carved the following inscription :—"To the glory of God, and in memory of John Eden, of Beamish Park, one of the founders of this Church. A.D., 1885."

On Sunday last, before commencing his sermon, the vicar of the parish, Rev J. Crennell, solemnly dedicated the new font cover to the service of the Almighty, in the following words :—"By our services this day we didicate the new font cover to the service of Almighty God. By that I mean that it is henceforth withdrawn from all profane and common uses, and used only in the Church, where it becomes part of the permanent fittings of this House of God, and cannot be removed from it except by the same authority that placed it there. It is intended as a memorial of the late Mr Eden, of Beamish, one of the best, truest, and most onerous friends that this parish and church ever had. Indeed, but for the munificence of Mr Eden and the other two friends, for whom the reredos is a memorial, such a beautiful and well-fitted Church as this, in which it is our privilege to worship, would scarcely have been built on this hill top. We do well to remember our benefactors, and it is with the view of keeping before our minds the memory of Mr Eden, that this cover has been provided to be used in the Church for the purpose for which it is constructed, and no other."

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

Sporting Items.

RABBIT COURSING AT FLINT HILL.—A rabbit coursing sweepstakes, promoted by A. Harrison was run off near the house of John Bennet, Flint Hill, with the following results :—Final—Young Fov beat Shy Girl, and won. Anthony Harrison was pistol-firer, and E. Reay judge.

CONSETT QUOIT GROUNDS.—The quoit handicap promoted by Mr John Morgan, of Number One, Consett, commenced in the above grounds on Saturday afternoon, with the following results :—W. Parker, 1 start, beat Gilchrist, 2, by 4 points; Temple, 2, beat W. Elliott, 1, by 11 points; Thorpe, 2, beat Hogg, 5, by 4 points; Parker, 1, beat Rogerson, 5, by 5 points; Routledge, 1, beat Gilchrist, 2, by 10 points; Thorpe, 2, beat W. Elliott, 2, by ten points.

WOODLANDS STUD, KNITSLEY STATION.—Thundercloud by Thunderbolt, a bay filly by Claremont, and will be put to him again, and Mr W. I'Anson's Bonny Queen, sister to Vitarba—a filly by Claremont, and has been put to him again. Mr M. I'Anson's Bobbin Around—with filly by Wisdom—and has been put to Claremont. Mr C. Pott's Catherine Howard, by Victorious—Anna Bulleyn, with filly by Carnelion—and has been put to Claremont. Mr Jos. Straker's mare, in foal to Claremont will be put to him again. Mr J. Severs' mare by Macgregor—Secret Treasure—a chestnut colt by Claremont, has been put to him again. Arrived to Claremont:—Jealousy, by Underhand. Mr A. L. Maynard's mare by Macgregor—Finesse; Mr John Hunter's mare; Mr Page's mare.

LINTZ GROUNDS.—In presence of a large number of spectators, the final heats of W. J. Cawthorne's £20 110 yards handicap were run off. There was a fair amount of speculation, and some very close finishes were witnessed. Results :—Heat 1—J. Cassidy, Wallsend, 10½, 1; R. Finlay, Old Ravensworth, 11½, 2; J. T. Lang, Sunniside 12½, 3. Heat 2—J. Haggerstone, Leadgate, 17½ † 1; J. Field, Ferryhill, † 2; J. Bowman, Dipton, 14½, 3. Heat 3—W. Hopper, Spennymoor, 14, 1; R. Nevins, Lintz, 13, 2; R. Sherwood, Blaydon, 14½, 3. Heat 4—R. Oliver, Winlaton, 10½, 1; Hugh McLean, Dunston, 12, 2. Final—W. Hopper, 1, £15; J. Haggerstone, 2, £3; R. Oliver, 3, 30s.; R. Finlay, 4, 10. Won by half a yard; a foot between second and third, with the fourth close up.

ANGLING IN THE BROWNEY BURN.—The fish are having a bad time of it in the Browney. In the memory of that venerable individual, the "oldest inhabitant," the stream was famous for the number and quality of its trout, and there are men still living at Lanchester who remember killing their three and four dozen before breakfast. Things are changed now, however. Since the establishment of the mighty Cyclopean industry at Consett, and the consequent opening out of coal pits, the "pellucid streams" thereabouts, which stirred the Shotley Bridge muse to raptures, have assumed a Stygian hue. The river Styx, we are told, was so poisonous that it proved fatal to those who drank of its waters. The Browney has been transformed into a river similarly fatal to fish, whilst quadrupeds that first slaked their thirst in the limpid stream turn up their noses in disgust.—*Newcastle Leader.*

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Autumnal Remedies.—Towards the fall of the year countless causes are at work to lower the tone of the nervous system, which will be followed by ill-health unless proper means be employed to avert that evil. Holloway's far-famed preparations supply a faultless remedy for both external and internal complaints connected with changes of season. All affections of the skin, roughness, blotches, pimples, superficial and deeper-seated inflamations, erysipelas, rheumatic pains, and gouty pangs alike succumb to the exalted virtues of Holloway's Ointment and Pills; which will effect a happy revolution in the patient's condition, though the symptoms of his disorder are legion, and have obstinately withstood the best efforts of science to subdue them.

BICYCLING AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.—The opening of the the cycling season commenced on Good Friday at Annfield Plain. Over twenty members are enrolled in this club, and promises largely for its success. Some of its members are very promising riders, and there are some of middle age who are second to none in the North of England. Shortly before ten o'clock on Friday morning, eight of the members in connection with this club met at the Railway Gates for a ride. Each man seemed to be in first-rate trim in bodily appearance, with his machine well cleaned and in good order for the road; Durham being their destination. At the starting place, Mr John Ritson, bugler, gave the signal, and they started off in splendid style, the *route* being by West Stanley, where they were joined by other members of the club. They proceeded on to Chester-le-Street and rested for a short time. Afterwards, they proceeded on to Durham, and after partaking of refreshments, they visited this fine romantic city, its magnificent Cathedral, fine old Castle, University, Guildhall, and strolled out along some of the lovely walks by the side of the Wear, where everything in nature looked splendid in an April month, and the air was most exhilarating and pure to breathe. After thoroughly enjoying themselves, the whole of the company met and left the city at four o'clock in the afternoon, the homeward journey being *via* Witton Gilbert, where they called at a wayside inn, and were regaled with tea and cake. Continuing on by way of the Roman village of Lanchester, they finally reached home by eight o'clock, having experienced a thoroughly enjoyable day. This club having made such gigantic strides, they are negotiating for something like twelve acres of land for a park, and a cycling track is to be formed. For the purpose of carrying out all the arrangements of this great undertading, and formulating the scheme by which the whole of the park arrangements can be carried out, the following enterprising gentlemen have been appointed to the office, viz :—Mr Wm. Fitzpatrick, chairman; Mr George Moor, vice-chairman; Mr J. Smith, secretary; Mr R. Robinson, treasurer; with power to add to their number. Already 100 shares of £1 each have been taken up. When the arrangements for land, &c., are fully completed, a mining engineer has promised to take the levels for the cycling track. The committee propose having the park practically carried out and completed. There will be beautiful walks, richly adorned with shrubery, sweetly mixed with flowers, &c., and in the centre is to be a splendid band-stand for practice and musical contests, and pic-nic parties can gather and enjoy themselves. When the whole enterprise is completed, the North-Eastern Railway will surely see their way at once to open the new line out as a passenger line, as such a boon would add to the railway revenue financially. Annfield Plain ultimately will not be a whit behind some of our more enterprising towns shortly.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD SPORTS.

These subscription sports were held in a field kindly lent by the manager of the colliery on Easter Monday, when some good running, wrestling, skipping, three-legged racing was witnessed; also very close and exciting finishes. Messrs Wm. Noble and W. Tones's band was in attendance, and the dancing was kept up with spirit, and kiss-in-the-ring, jolly miller, &c., were enjoyed the whole time. Results of the sports :—

120 YARDS HANDICAP.—Heat 1.—Geo. Smith, 9 yards, 1st; Murray Laythen, 9, 2nd; R. Newton, 9, 3rd. A good race, Smith getting in front, won cleverly by a yard. Heat 2.—J. Walton, 1, 1st; G. Stobbs, 8, 2nd; Walton, 8, 3rd; resulting in an exciting run, but Walton gradually drew up and won from Stobbs by a foot, same distance between 2nd and 3rd. 3rd heat.—T. Joicey, 1, 1st; E. Farrie, 5, 2nd; M. Abbott, 10, 3rd. Abbott kept the lead all the way and won well. 4th Heat.—Scotty Knotts, 8, 1st; J. Bell, 10, 2nd; L. Musgrove, 1, 3rd. This was a well-contested race, Musgrove coming to terms with the other two men, but failed in the last stride, and the race was won by Scotty by six inches. 5th Heat.—J. Thompson, 10, 1st; E. Burton, scratch, 2nd; Wm. Tones, 12, 3rd. Burton gradually overhauled his men and won by a foot. Winners of heats.—E. Burton, J. Walton, Geo. Smith, Scotty Knotts, R. Abbott. The men kept well together until within the last ten yards, and a grand struggle for places resulted in Abbott beating Smith a short head; Burton, 3rd; six inches between Smith and Burton. Handicapper, R. Hood; starter, R. Liddle; and judge, Mr Hy. Hood.

80 YARDS HANDICAP (Boys).—1st heat.—R. Abbott, 1st; J. Laws, 2nd; T. Walton, 3rd. Abbott kept well in front, and won by a yard. 2nd heat.—W. Pull, 1st; T. Newton, 2nd; M. Laythen, 3rd. 3rd heat.—A. Dowson, 1st; Thos. Laythen, 2nd; R. Gardner, 3rd. A good race, but Dawson wore his opponents down, and won by one foot. 4th heat.—J. Walker, 1st; R. Campbell, 2nd; — Fidler, 3rd. This was the race of the day, the boys struggling the whole length of the course, but Walker, sprinting in the last 10 yards, got in by a short head; six inches between second and third. 5th heat.—J. Newton, 1st; A. Anderson, 2nd; J. Gardner, 3rd. A good race, Anderson struggling gamely, but failed to come up, and Newton just won. 6th heat.—J. Teasdale, 1st; J. Rust, 2nd; Wm. Wheatley, 3rd. Final heat.—The winners of heats were all set away together, and resulted in J. Newton being 1st; J. Walker, 2nd; J. Teasdale, 3rd.

SKIPPING CONTEST (Artistic) FOR GIRLS.—A. Stobbs, 13; L. Joicey, 16; Ellen Maddison, 12; Ellen Douse, 19; S. Stobbs, 17; S. McNalton, 14; E. Snowdon, 12; Polly Robson, 14; F. West, 25; Sarah Smith, 27. S. Smith, 1st; F. West, 2nd; E. Douse, 3rd.

SKIPPING CONTEST FOR MARRIED LADIES.—Mrs Grace Gardner, 21 points, 1st; Mrs Grace Scott, 12, 2nd; Mrs A. Gibson, 3rd.

70 YARDS RACE FOR MARRIED WOMEN.—Mrs Nevins, 1st; Mrs Grace Scott, 2nd; Mrs Kidd, 3rd. Won by six inches; one yard between second and third. Seven runners. Mr J. Tucker was judge.

BOYS' THREE-LEGGED RACE (DISTANCE 60 YARDS).—Thomas Walton and Thos. Ford 1st, Jos. Brown and Geo. Walton 2nd, and Thos. Teasdale and W. Laws 3rd.

GIRLS' RACE (DISTANCE 70 YARDS).—Miss West, 1st; Miss Henderson, 2nd; Miss Stobbs, 3rd; and Miss Douse, 4th.

15 MINUTES' GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE.—W. Noble, 1st; M. Laythem, 2nd; and Robt. Abbott, 3rd.

20 MINUTES' GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE.—This resulted in some of the best racing. There were 15 entries. The men ran well together for the first ten minutes, when they began to tail; Noddler Brown stretching out a quarter of a lap in front of R. Abbott, M. Laythem coming well up with P. Newton. When 15 minutes were over, an exciting race commenced between Noddler and Rob for 1st, and Manny and Pad for 2nd. In the last lap Noddler was nearly beaten by Rob, but putting on the steam managed to come in 1st by two yards; Rob, 2nd; and Manny came in 3rd, having left Pad on the grass broken down.

FOOTBALL.—Notts' team secured two goals to Abbott's team one.

WRESTLING (FOR ALL-COMERS).—1st round: M. Abbott threw H. Walton, George Smith threw R. Newton, Robt. Abbott threw H. Hood, Steadman Notts threw Isaac Musgrove, Paddison Newton threw Scotty Notts, Gip Teasdale threw Jno. Bell; 2nd round: Abbott threw Smith, Notts threw R. Abbott, Teasdale threw Newton; 3rd round: Abbott threw Notts, Teasdale a bye; 4th round: Abbott threw Teasdale; Final round: Teasdale threw Abbott twice and won.

WRESTLING (FOR 11-STONE MEN)—1st round: Jos. Laws threw H. Walton, Gip Teasdale threw R. Abbott, Steadman Notts threw P. Newton; 2nd round: Laws threw S. Notts, Teasdale a bye; 3rd round: Teasdale threw Laws; Final round: Laws threw Teasdale twice and won. Judge, Mr R. Hood.

Football.

KIMBLESWORTH TRUE BLUES v. LANGLEY PARK ROVERS.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by 1 goal to nil.

COMPETITION AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Encouraged by the fine spring day, and in the hope of seeing a spirited competition, in which they were not disappointed, a large number of people turned out on Good Friday to see the football competition promoted by the Chester-le-Street Excelsior Club. In the first round, Birtley 2nd beat Langley Park by one goal to nil; Birtley 1st beat Birnie's scratch team by five goals to nil; Chester-le-Street Excelsior beat Kimblesworth by two to one; and Edmondsley beat Chester Moor by one to nil. Second round—Birtley 2nd beat Edmondsley by one to nil; and Birtley 1st beat Chester-le-Street Excelsior after a spirited and gallantly-contested struggle by one to nil.

Cricket.

FIXTURES.

May 1.—Consett C. C. Married v. Single, at Consett.
,, 1.—South Moor v. Medomsley, at Medomsley.
,, 8.—Consett v. Marley Hill, at Consett.
,, 8.—South Moor v. Tanfield, at South Moor.
,, 15.—South Moor v. Ouston, at Ouston.
,, 29.—South Moor v. Ouston, at South Moor.

GREENSIDE JUNIORS v. PRUDHOE HALL JUNIORS—Played on Ryton Willows on Monday, and resulted in a victory for the former by 7 wickets. Score :—Greenside, 25 with 7 wickets to fall; Prudhoe Hall, 13.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v. TRINITY ASSOCIATION.

Played on Consett ground on Easter Monday, and resulted as follows. Score :—

TRINITY.		CONSETT.	
J. Geddes c Raw b I. Richards	5	J. Askew c and b Robson	5
J. C. Brumwell c and b I. Richards	18	W. Turnbull b Binks	3
J. Robson c Foggon b I. Richards	1	P. Gibson b Robson	2
C. G. Binks b I. Richards	1	I. Richards not out	25
G. Urwin c and b I. Richards	0	Dr Short b Robson	4
C. P. Ratcliffe b Raw	25	N. Raw run out	3
W. Watson run out	0	J. Richards c and b Geddes	9
R. Geddes not out	6	W. Foggon b Robson	6
A. E. Cameron b I. Richards	3	J. Power c Geddes b Robson	3
T. Welsh b Raw	2	T. Gibson b Binks	1
G. Clark b Raw	1	F. Heymer b Robson	6
Extras	4	Extras	5
Total	66	Total	72

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

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

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 6d. and 1s. boxes.

The MORNING ADVERTISER, of Feb. 22nd, 1886, has the following:—"Messrs. COX & CO., 41, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, London, have lately been instrumental in obtaining many large sums from the Chancery Paymasters. The prompt and cheap system adopted by Cox & Co. will greatly assist persons to obtain what legally belongs to them from the vast accumulated hoards in Chancery. It is surprising that the Court of Chancery does not receive many more applications than are already made, and there is no doubt that when the ease with which inquiries can be made, and rights established, through Messrs. Cox & Co.'s agency, is known, the number of those who secure what only awaits application from the rightful owners will be greatly increased."

ENORMOUS FORTUNES LIE BURIED in the COURT of CHANCERY, amounting to £100,000,000, which really belong to the people, including all classes of the community, from the peer to the peasant. WE EARNESTLY ENTREAT EVERYONE to send to Messrs. COX & CO., and obtain their list of Christian and Surnames in full of the 50,000 persons to whom all this vast wealth belongs. Price 1s. 6d.—postal order. And if they find their names, or those of any ancestors, they should obey the instruction it contains. A fortune may await them.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, &c., all are made to serve man, but 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 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

WEARDALE BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The newly-formed Board met on Saturday, the absentees being Messrs Ridley (2), Love, Curry, and Maddison.

Dr Livingstone (chairman) and Mr G. R. Wooler (vice-chairman) were unanimously re-elected, and the standing committees were reconstituted, that of Heathery Cleugh Cemetery to consist of Messrs Watson, G. Stephenson, and Featherstone, and the *ex-officio* ratepayers as before.

The North-Eastern Railway Company wrote to express the opinion that the depôt at Stanhope Kilns was quite sufficient for the coal requirements of the district, and regret that they see no way to make any other provision.

The Board felt they could proceed no further.

A discussion opened by Mr ROBINSON showed a disposition to reduce the poundage of the rate collection; but this, it appears, can only be done with the assent of the Local Government Board and the collectors themselves, and the Clerk was directed by resolution to ask each collector to reduce his poundage by a penny.

The Clerk pointed out that these assistant-overseers can only be dismissed for some serious offence.

During the year ended Lady Day, 1886, the Assessment Committee have held nine meetings to hear appeals. The valuation lists show a decrease, as compared with twelve months ago, of £3,733 in the gross estimated rental, and £2,031 in the rateable value. The gross estimated rental is £95,438, against 99,171 a year ago; the rateable value is £82,921, against £84,952. The Clerk's salary is £25, and other expenses have been £40 17s 11d, principally caused by the charges of Mr Hedley, valuer. The costs incurred in one appeal at Petty Sessions were £15 9s 10d. Assessments reduced on appeals, 85; no alteration on appeal, 3; total number of assessments objected to, 88; successful appeal against the committee's valuation, 1.

Dr Arnison, J.P., replaces the late Canon Gray, J.P., on the committee, and Dr Livingstone was elected chairman, Mr Snowball *vice.*

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

At the meeting of the Rural Sanitary Authority it was decided, in view of possible difficulties with the District Auditor by any other course, to abide the legal proceedings instituted against the Authority by some workmen whose employer had been unable to proceed with a drainage scheme at Frosterley. The men have given the Authority notice to produce all minutes, documents, and other correspondence bearing on the matter.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

Notwithstanding the numerous recreative attractions so largely provided in the neighbourhood at Easter season, the Beamish branch of the Church of England Temperance Society successfully held its own on Monday evening in the competition, the Stanley School-room being well filled, many fresh faces appearing amongst the audience. Whilst, however, these meetings are distinctly not concerts, and their main object not to amuse, but to win human trophies for the cause of gospel temperance, it certainly would not be fair in us to ignore the hugely beneficial character of the physical effects of these meetings, viewed from the entertainment standpoint. The temperance syllogism that "No kind of spirituous liquor ought to be drunk in excess, but water is no kind of spirituous liquor, therefore water ought to be drunk in excess," is quite eclipsed in the face of the evident improvement in the digestive apparatus of those who are in the habit of attending the exhilarating Beamish temperance meetings. Here all the intricacies and complexities of the nervous, vascular, and muscular systems are brought into healthy exercise, developing the normal appetites, and hence tending more or less directly to the improvement of trade. After the appeal made in the opening hymn to "rescue the perishing," and a few remarks from the Chairman, Mr J. Robson highly amused the audience in a reading, "Betty at Newcastle Police Court;" whilst Mr R. D. Grundy in his song, "Fill ye the glasses," shewed the improbability of water drinkers ever indulging to excess in that beverage. The recitation, "A young recruit," by Master A. Simpson, gave forth the true temperance ring, and was followed by the choir in stirring harmony denying self-confidence, and affirming that we are alone "Strong in Christ." Master J. Reay then awakened the pathetic emotions of those present by reciting the touching piece, entitled "Rosa's last words," being a dying appeal from a little girl to her drunken father. Eager attention was next depicted on every face as Mr R. Storey came forward with his Northumbrian pipes. A wave of risible emotion passed through the room at the whining or grunting tone of impatience or contentment expressed by the pipes in the process of adjustment, and when Mr Storey struck up the tune, "Old Towler," the most praiseworthy effort at self-control was displayed by the audience to avoid "keeping time, time, time in a beat of runic rhyme." "The Cameron men" was then played, and followed by the singularly exact imitation of a hen clucking, which never fails to excite in those present a universal and violent spasmodic action of the diaphragm. Mr T. Robson then, in a recitation, "The temperance boy," gave a forcibly ironical comment on the generosity of publicans to their customers when said customers' pockets are moneyless. Mr R. D. Grundy roused the British spirit by the manner in which he sang "The streamer of England." Rev L. M. Chesters followed with an address on "The value and uses of the blue badge," after which Mr R. Storey again laid his pipes under contribution for the common benefit, making them to announce—in varied and mingled tones from *pianissimo* to *fortissimo, legato*, and *staccato*—that "Willie brewed a peck o' malt," which the audience sincerely hoped did not lead to intemperance on Willie's part. As an *encore*, Mr Storey gave "A harvest home," and then Mr J. Robson brought a very pleasing programme to an end by reciting "Ask mamma," wherein a young lady lost her prospects of connubial bliss through referring her suitor to mamma for approval of his matrimonial advances, the widowed mamma herself accepting him in his literal obedience to the daughter's request. The accompanist was Mr G. Anderson, the choir instrumentalist. Two pledges were taken, and an after service was held, at which seven were initiated as new members.

TANFIELD BRANCH.

On Easter Monday was celebrated the first anniversary of the opening of this society. As the Chairman said, in his speech at the entertainment, the society had been a great success. It now numbered 86 members, and had held regular fortnightly meetings in the winter, and monthly meetings in the summer. On Monday afternoon, at four o'clock, there was a tea provided, of which about 140 persons partook. The ladies presiding at the tables were Misses B. Brewis, Pringle, G. Newell, and Robinson. At seven o'clock, a public entertainment was given. The chair was occupied by the president of the society (Rev T. H. Archdall), who addressed the meeting, and congratulated the society upon the successful work of the year past. Temperance addresses were also given by the Revs W. S. Reeman (vicar of Tatfield) and P. Hughes (curate of Burnopfield). The programme, although a long one, seemed to give general satisfaction. Much fun was caused by an amusing dialogue, entitled "Drinking on the sly," performed by Misses Brewis and Robinson, and Messrs R. Arkless, N. Wilkinson, and T. Brewis; and also by some good recitations given by Miss E. Burnup and Miss B. Brewis; whilst those who preferred to be soothed and delighted by the charms of music had their taste amply gratified by the efforts of Misses N. Davison, M. A. Hinckley, G. Newell, and Mr F. Lowe, who one and all acquitted themselves well in their respective songs. Mr Errington was responsible for two comic songs, which produced the usual uproarious applause. We must not forget to give a word of praise to two very beautiful quartettes sung by Misses M. A. Hinckley, G. Newell, Mr F. Lowe, and Rev G. H. Newman. Quartette singing is an advance into the higher regions of musical art, and should be more frequently attempted at these entertainments.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions, 6d. and 1s. bottles.

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

Trade Notes.

LEADMINING IN WEARDALE.—The development of the resources of these royalties, commenced by the Weardale Mining Company at Killhope and Daddry Mines, has now realised the most sanguine expectations. The number of workmen employed, already large, is being increased from the men thrown idle through the stoppage of the ironstone mines. Mr G. W. Richardson, chief-director, London, is again in the valley superintending the extensions in all departments, which are being rapidly pushed forward.

PELTON COLLIERY.—Twenty-four of the 141 men whose notices expired with the current week at Pelton colliery, were cavilled to places at the quarterly "cavilling" on Thursday week. The local lodge of the Union has decided to so far augment the usual allowance as to pay the remainder of the men 3s a-day, and the boys half that amount, for every day that the pit works during their unforced idleness. This, however, only applies to such members of the Union whose subscriptions are fully paid up.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The annual meeting of this body, held on Thursday se'nnight, was attended by the following Guardians:—Messrs Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., W. Logan, W. H. Hedley, J. Lax, H. Hornsby, N. Clark, J. Eltringham, R. Robson, W. Cumming, J. Collinson, George Hobson, T. Taylor Smith, J. A. Curry, Monsignor C. Gillow, Rev J. P. DePledge, and Mr W. H. Ritson (clerk).

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN.

Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, was again elected chairman, and Messrs W. Logan and John Wilkinson vice-chairmen for another year.

These gentlemen briefly returned thanks for the honour conferred upon them.

FORMATION OF COMMITTEES.

The appointment of the various committees resulted as under :—

Assessment Committee.—Ex-officio members:—Messrs Geo. G. Taylor Smith, M. Kearney, Rev J. P. De Pledge, and Major W. J. Joicey. Elected:—Messrs N. Clark, R. Clark, J. Collinson, W. H. Hedley, G. Hobson, W. Logan, J. Wilkinson, and Monsignor C. Gillow.

School Attendance Committee—Ex-officio:—Messrs M. Kearney, Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Rev J. P. De Pledge, and Major E. L. Smith. *Elected*:—Messrs J. Buckham, H. Hornsby, Rev Canon Kearney, Monsignor C. Gillow, W. Brown (Leadgate Local Board), T. Dunne (Consett Local Board), W. Logan, T. Pringle, T. Siddell, and J. Wilkinson.

Relief and School Fees Committee for Western District (Comprising the parishes of Benfieldside, Conside, Ebchester, Healeyfield, Iveston, Medomsley, and Muggleswick).—Messrs. W. Brown, J. Collinson, J. Eltringham, W. H. Hedley, J. Lax, T. J. Muse, R. Robson, W. Shell, T. Siddell, R. W. Shaw, and Canon Kearney.

Relief and School Fees Committee for Eastern District (Comprising the parishes of Collierley, Greencroft, Kyo, and Tanfield).—Messrs G. Humble, N. Clark, R. Clark, G. Hobson, J. A. Curry, R. Mitchinson, T. Pringle, W. Rutherford, T. Taylor Smith, J. Wilkinson, and Canon Kearney.

Finance and Workhouse Visiting Committee.—Messrs J. Buckham, J. Collinson, W. H. Hedley, H. Hornsby, Geo. Hobson, J. Lax, W. Logan, R. Mitchinson, T. Taylor Smith, W. Rutherford, Thos. Siddell, J. Wilkinson, and Canon Kearney.

The Rural Sanitary Authority is composed of exactly the same members as the Board of Guardians.

Building and Sewerage Committee.—Messrs W. Cumming, J. Buckham, W. Brown, J. Collinson, J. Eltringham, N. Clark, G. Humble, H. Hornsby, W. Logan, R. Mitchinson, T. J. Muse, J. Nicholson, W. Rutherford, Wm. Shell, Geo. G. Taylor Smith, T. Taylor Smith, J. A. Curry; Monsignor C. Gillow and Rev J. P. De Pledge.

Bye-Laws Committee.—Messrs Geo. G. Taylor Smith (convener), J. Buckham, G. Humble, J. Collinson, R. Clark, J. Eltringham, W. H. Hedley, Geo. Hobson, J. Lax, Wm. Logan, R. Mitchinson, Wm. Shell, T. Taylor Smith, R. W. Shaw, W. Rutherford, and Monsignor C. Gillow.

Joint Hospital Board.—Ex-officio: Messrs Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. (Rural Sanitary Authority); W. Jenkins, J.P. (Consett Local Board); J. Annandale, J.P. (Benfieldside Local Board); R. W. Shaw (Leadgate Local Board). *Elected*: Messrs J. Lax (Benfieldside), John Collinson (Consett), W. H. Hedley (Leadgate), R. Clark, G. Hobson, J. Wilkinson, W. Logan, T. Pringle, and Revs J. P. De Pledge, Canon Kearney, and Monsignor C. Gillow.

VERY SENSIBLE.

Mr BUCKHAM gave notice to propose at the next meeting that the ordinary Board meetings commence at 11 o'clock, instead of noon as heretofore.

RATHER "STIFF" FOR THE CHAIRMAN.

The Clerk reported that the new auditor (Mr C. L. Hockin) had surcharged the Chairman of the Board with £13 16s for monetary allowances to pauper inmates of the Workhouse, who act as shoemaker, tailor, lodge porters, attendants, &c.

In order to get over this difficulty in future, the Visiting Committee (per Mr Logan) recommended that these paupers should be regarded as officials of the Board, with a small remuneration averaging the sum paid to them hitherto.

The recommendation was adopted.

The other accounts connected with the Union were stated to have been satisfactory to the auditor.

DIVIDED PARISHES ENQUIRY.

The Clerk announced that at the Local Government Inquiry by Mr H. G. Kennedy, relative to the detached parishes in the Union, the Inspector had invariably accepted the scheme of the Guardians.

THE VACANCY IN TANFIELD TOWNSHIP.

A letter was read from Mr W. Johnson, Burnopfield, formally tendering to the Clerk his resignation as a Guardian for the parish of Tanfield.

The Board therefore instructed the Clerk to apprise the Local Government Board of the circumstance, and also to ask them to issue an order for a special election.

INMATES OF THE WORKHOUSE.

Week ending April 14th	172
Corresponding week of last year	157
Week ending April 21st	172
Corresponding week of last year	164
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	4
,, corresponding fortnight last year	9

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS.

The Clerk presented the subjoined statement which he had compiled showing the attendances of Guardians at the different meetings during the past year :—

	Guardians and R. S. A.	Assessment Committee.	School Attendance Committee.	Consett Relief Committee.	Kyo Relief Committee.
ELECTED:					
Eltringham, J.	22	—	—	6	—
Lax, J.	12	—	—	6	—
Brown, Wm.	10	—	7	7	—
Kearney, Canon	17	—	8	0	1
Curry, J. A.	20	—	—	—	10
Rutherford, W.	17	—	—	—	7
Collinson, J.	13	6	—	12	—
Siddell, T.	7	—	—	9	—
Gillow, Rev C.	11	2	1	—	—
Shell, Wm.	10	—	—	6	—
Cumming, W.	20	—	—	—	—
Hornsby, H.	14	—	3	—	—
Mitchinson, R.	6	—	—	—	0
Muse, T. J.	15	—	—	2	—
Smith, T. Taylor	16	—	—	—	2
Humble, G.	14	—	—	—	8
Hobson, G.	25	8	—	—	13
Buckham, J.	25	—	13	—	—
Wilkinson, J.	17	8	4	—	3
Logan, W.	22	8	8	—	—
Hedley, W. H.	20	8	—	3	—
Shaw, R. W.	2	—	—	5	—
Bowey, J.	3	—	—	2	—
Nicholson, J.	7	—	—	—	—
Johnson, W.	13	—	—	—	2
Clark, N.	7	2	—	—	6
Clark, R.	11	2	—	—	0
Pringle, T.	8	—	4	—	6
EX-OFFICIO:					
Smith, Geo. G. Taylor	25	7	7	—	—
De Pledge, Rev J. P.	24	1	—	—	—
Annandale, J.	6	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, A. B.	1	—	—	—	—
Kearney, M.	1	—	—	—	—
Smith, E. Taylor	—	—	—	—	—
Smith, H.	—	—	—	—	—
Priestman, J.	—	—	—	—	—
Jenkins, W.	—	—	—	—	—
Smith, Major E. L.	—	—	—	—	—
Joicey, Major	—	—	—	—	—
Hedley, G.	—	—	—	—	—
Ritson, U. A.	—	—	—	—	—

Explanation:—A dash indicates that the gentleman is not a member of that particular Committee; a cypher shows that he is a member, but has not made a single attendance during the past year.

Business Announcements.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 a.m., to 3 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

FRATER'S MAHOGANY VARNISH.

Moses! bring me a Bottle of Frater's Mahogany Varnish. We are going to CLEAN THE FURNITURE, and there is no other any use. For quantity, quality, and popularity, there is nothing like it in the Market.

GEORGE FRATER
PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

THE COVENTRY CYCLE CO., LIMITED,

WHITEFRIARS LANE, COVENTRY.

SOLE MAKERS OF THE COVENTRY IMPERIAL BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, SAFETIES, and TANDEMS.

ALL GUARANTEED MACHINES BEAR THE REGISTERED TRADE MARK OF THE COMPANY.

PRICE LISTS, 3 STAMPS. 875v

J. W. DAVISON,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

HAS ON SALE, CHEAP,

SEVERAL

THREE AND FOUR-LEAF SCREENS.

VIOLIN.

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

JAMES NIXON, CARRIAGE PAINTER.

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

YE QUEEN MARY

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

ROBERT JACKSON'S

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY

ESTABLISHMENTS,

50, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET

STREET, CONSETT.

☞ Agent for Dipton:—MR. THOMAS CLARK

South Medomsley Cottages.

QUEENSLAND.

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

☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

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

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

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

For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to William J. Johnson, Queensland Emigration Office, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; or to the Local Agent,

Adam Brodie,
529v Town Hall, Consett.

THOMAS MILNER,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,

☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT

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

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

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

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES.

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

MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

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

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

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

HAIR RESTORERS PERFUMES, POMADES.

TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr Lamont's Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c., &c.

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS

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

TAR ELIXIR PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP

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

PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for Bell & Riddle's, McDougall's, Little & Co.'s, Jeye's, Cooper's, and Wilson and Kitchen's Sheep Dips.

Alterative Condition Powders and Purging Balls for Horses.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

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

MILNER, Chemist,
Opposite the Post-Office Consett. 721v

G. AND W. PAIRMAN,

113 & 115, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

MANUFACTURERS OF SCALES, WEIGHING MACHINES, and all kinds of GROCERS' and BUTCHERS' FITTINGS.

☞ REPAIRS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION DONE ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

COFFEE MILLS RE-CUT EQUAL TO NEW

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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

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

Head Office in the District:—16, GRAINGER ST. WEST, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The only Manufacturers of Singers' Celebrated Sewing Machines. 622v

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

As they are unsurpassed for Fitting and Durability.

☞ A Well-selected Stock always on hand.

All Goods marked in plain figures, at Lowest Ready-Money Prices.

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

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

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

THE TYROLEAN MUSICAL BOX, 2s.,

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

EASTER EGGS
AT
HEPWORTH'S,
MIDDLE STREET,
CONSETT.

EGGS-ACTLY SUITED
TO
THE SEASON.
SHOPS CROWDED WITH GOODS
AND
CUSTOMERS.

EGGS-ACTLY SUITED
TO
THE POCKETS.

30 PER CENT. SAVED BY BUYING DIRECT FROM THE FACTORY TO THE PEOPLE.

60 SHOPS IN THE KINGDOM. 891v

Public Notices.

☞ NOTICE OF REMOVAL. GREAT BARGAINS.

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

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

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

COME EARLY, AND BUY CHEAP.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

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

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

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

THOMAS DOYLE

(Late with J. C. Halliday),

3, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE.

NOTE THE ADDRESS, AND SEE PRICES IN WINDOW.

H. GUTTERIDGE,

SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER,

BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.

Repairs done on the Shortest Notice.

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

CONSETT MAGIC SOAP DEPOT.

HARRISON'S

MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP.

Price only 3d. per lb.

FURNIVAL'S MAGIC WASHING FLUID.

Price 3d. and 6d. per Bottle.

PEAR'S RENOWNED SOAP at a Reduction of 25 per cent.

THE FINEST LONDON TOILET SOAPS always in Stock.

☞ Wholesale and Retail. The Trade Supplied.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

J. W. BERRY,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. 977v

LOOK OUT for BURNHOPE READING ROOM SPORTS June 26th, 1886. 10w

LOOK OUT for ANNFIELD PLAIN BRASS BAND CONTEST, which will be held June 12th, 1886, when £30 will be given in Prizes. 860v

THE WEST STANLEY REED BAND SPORTS will be held on May 15th, 1886.—E. Hughes, Secretary. 968v

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL TEA will be held on SATURDAY, MAY 15th, and at their LANGLEY PARK BRANCH, on SATURDAY, MAY 29th.

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

STALLIONS.

AT Lintz Green, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—Thoroughbred Entire Colt.—"EVEN," by Quits, dam Evelyn II, by Carnival; grandam Evelyn, by Bradalbane. Even is a dark brown colt, 3 years old, 15·3 hands high, with great power, and sound. His sire, Quits, was Mr. Drake's celebrated hunter by Restitution. A limited number of mares at 3 guineas. Groom's fee, 5s. *Bona-fide* tenant farmers' mares half-price.—Owner, Robert Clark.

"CLAREMONT" (Second in Derby) by Blair Athol from Coimbra by Kingston—Claremont is 16·1 h.h., immense bone and fine quality, is sire of several winners both on the Turf and in the Showyard.—Apply to Mr Haansbergen, Woodlands, Consett. 871v

"JACK'S DELIGHT" (Scotch Pony Sire), Prize-winner at Glasgow, &c., 14 h.h., Black, very powerful, beautiful action, very fast trotter.—Apply to Mr. Haansbergen, Woodlands, Consett. 32w

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

MAPPING BOOK.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

EXTRA LARGE SIZE
AS RECOMMENDED BY
SCHOOL TEACHERS.

TO BE HAD ONLY OF

ROBERT JACKSON,
GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET,
AND
9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

DECLARATION
OF THE
WAR
OF WITS.
WANTED
THOUSANDS OF
RECRUITS
TO JOIN
IN THE BLUE BANNER PRIZE POCKET PUZZLE COMPETITION.
HOSTILITIES

WILL BE COMMENCED IN THE "NEWCASTLE WEEKLY LEADER," THE "HEXHAM COURANT," AND THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN," ON SATURDAY, MAY 8TH.

£5: 0: 0

IN PRIZES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY.

5 PRIZES 10s. EACH.
10 DO. 5s. EACH.

The above Prizes will be awarded, according to merit, to fifteen competitors giving the greatest number of correct answers to the puzzles forming the subject of this competition.

In the event of there being more than fifteen competitors answering correctly the same number of puzzles, the total amount of prizes will be divided equally.

The answers and names of successful competitors will be published on Saturday, June 19th, in the *Newcastle Weekly Leader, Consett Guardian, Hexham Courant.*

CONDITIONS.

The answers published to be deemed correct and beyond appeal. For obvious reasons no correspondence with reference to the same can be entertained.

Answers, with the competitor's full name and address, to be forwarded prepaid not later than June 5th, addressed to

"Blue Banner Tea Depot,
Cloth Market,
Newcastle-on-Tyne."

Each competitor must enclose with the answers the outside wrapper of a packet of Blue Banner Tea.

Competitors may send more than one set of replies, provided a wrapper is enclosed with each set.

BLUE BANNER TEA

2s. 6d. PER LB. IS UNEQUALLED. 2s. 6d. PER LB.

SOLD IN QUARTER POUND PACKETS ONLY

LOOK OUT for the PRIMITIVE METHODIST DEMONSTRATION, at Burnopfield, on July 3rd, 1886. 24w

SHOTLEY BRIDGE HIRINGS will be held on Wednesday May 12th, 1886. 69w

LOOK OUT for the WEST STANLEY P. M. BAND OF HOPE FIELD-DAY, June 12th, 1886. Particulars see Bills. 35w

35 IS the WINNING NUMBER for Four-wheeled Dog Cart, Drawn at Burnopfield, April 22nd. 52w

239 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Fretwork Clock, Raffled for on the 22nd February. 67w

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.—The LIBRARY will be CLOSED until further notice. All Books must be sent in at the usual time on the Friday and Saturday Evenings. 46w

CONSETT FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL SHOW of the above Society will be held on Saturday, September 4th, 1886. Schedules may be obtained from

WM. SHELL, Jun., Blackhill, } Hon. Secs.
57w G. T. HYDEN, Consett. }

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

ON SATURDAY, May 1st, an Excursion Train will leave CONSETT at 2·0 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, &c.), for NEWCASTLE.

See Bills. 36w

BENFIELDSIDE (ST. CUTHBERT'S) SUNDAY SCHOOL.

A CONCERT, in aid of the Funds of the above Sunday School, will be given on Tuesday Evening, May 4th, 1886, at Eight o'clock, in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge. 73w

THE MEMBERS of the STANLEY RACE MEETING will hold their ANNUAL SPORTS on Whit-Monday, June 14th, when large Prizes will be given for STEEPLECHASE, LEAPING, FLAT RACING, &c. A Silver Cup, valued £5, with an additional sum of £1 10s. will be given for FOOLBALL PLAYING.—TENDERS FOR BAND WANTED.—Further particulars apply to R. Johnson, Secretary. 37w

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLOWER SHOW
AND
INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1886.

For Schedules apply
W. RAMSAY, Secretary.
6, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside. 909v

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND, BLACKHILL.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

The Rev W. D. Moffat of Edinburgh, will preach on Sunday, May 2nd, 1886, morning and evening, and lecture on Monday evening, May 3rd, at 7·30, subject:—"The Preparation for Church."

Admission:—Sixpence. See bills. 2w

NOTICE.

33rd APPROPRIATION BY BALLOT.

THE
FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370TH STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY,

WILL hold the above in the Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Monday, 24th May, at 7·15 p.m.—By order,
29w M. NOBLE, Chairman.

COMMENCEMENT OF A NEW TALE.

ON FRIDAY NEXT, MAY 7TH, 1886,
The first instalment of
MARK MAIN, MINER;
A TALE OF DIXON'S ROW,
WILL APPEAR IN OUR PAGES.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Down Hill Farm, West Bolden.

MR JOS. OLEY will hold the Sale of FARM STOCK, FAT SHEEP, &c., on the above Farm belonging to Mr Thos. Lowdon, on Monday, May 3rd, 1886, at One o'clock p.m. 6w

Low Waskerley, Shotley Bridge.

MR JOSEPH OLEY begs to announce that he is instructed by Mr G. Waugh, who is leaving the neighbourhood, to SELL the surplus of his Valuable FURNITURE, &c., on Monday the 10th day of May, 1886, at Low Waskerley, at One o'clock in the Afternoon, full particulars of which will be given in handbills and posters. 7w

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

By Mr. J. Vickers.

China Hall Farm, near Rowley Station, on the Consett Branch of the N. E. R.

JOSEPH VICKERS, appreciating the honour conferred upon him by Joseph Pumphrey Esq., who is relinquishing the above Farm, will SELL BY AUCTION as above, on Wednesday, May 5th, 1886, the whole of the VALUABLE FARMING STOCK on the above Farm, comprising:—

CATTLE.

Red S.H. Cow, due to calve May 19th.
Black Galloway do. due June 1st.
Half-bred do. in calf.
Roan S.H. Heifer, September calver.
1 Geld Cow.
2 S.H. Heifers, 2 years old.
4 Steers, do.
11 Stirks.
3 Finger Calves.

SHEEP.

50 Grand Mule Ewes and followers by Leicester Tup.

Mr Pumphrey being a noted Stock breeder, renders it unnecessary to comment superfluously on the merits of his Stock. The Cattle collectively are a good class and very fresh.—The same remark applies to the Ewes and Lambs. The Lambs are by a Tup from the celebrated herd of Messrs Annandale, of Shotley Bridge.

Sale to commence at One p.m.

Grove Villa, Tow Law. 9w

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

LIVE STOCK SALES WEEKLY.

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

Trucks at Station.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 945v

BAIN & CO.,
AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS, WAREHOUSEMEN, AND
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, CONSETT.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Saturday, May 1st, 1886.—Old Saw Mill Yard, Ritson's Road, Blackhill.—Sale of Builders' Plant and Material, including Scaffolding Poles and Battens, Masons' Trestles, Ladders, New and Old Timber, Doors, Two-ton patent Block, One-ton do., India Rubber Belting, Lead piping, Ropes and Chains, Tubs, Hoods, 2 Barrows, Bogey, Lime Screen, Tortoise-shell Stove, Step Ladders, Shovels and Hacks, Sanitary Pipes, Jack Roll, Short Jib, Joiner's Bench, Clerk of Works' Bench and Stool, and a quantity of other Material useful to Builders.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mr George Westgarth, builder, who is leaving the neighbourhood, to SELL BY AUCTION at the above time and place, the whole of his BUILDERS' PLANT and MATERIAL. Particulars in Posters.

Sale to commence at One o'clock p.m.

Monday, May 3rd, 1886.—R. Curry and Co., in the separate estate of J. T. Curry, in bankruptcy, on the premises East Parade, Consett. Sale of Superior Mahogany, Walnut, and other Household Furniture, including Beautiful Sideboard, with Plate Glass Back; Walnut Centre Table; Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Mantlepiece Mirror, in Black and Gold Frame; Mahogany, Easy, and other Chairs; Mahogany Tudor and Brass-mounted Bedsteads; Mahogany Drawers and Book Case; splendid Ash Wardrobe; Brussels and Kidderminster Carpets; Fine-toned Cottage Pianoforte, by Smith; excellent Harmonium, by De Bain; Valuable Oil Paintings and Steel Engravings, by Miss Thompson and other first-class artists; Domestic Sewing Machine; Ladies' Work Table; Fenders and Fireirons; superior Glass and China Ware and Cutlery; Mantle and other Ornaments; beautiful Timepiece, under glass shade; handsome Dressing and other Glasses; Toilet and Earthenware; Chandelier, and other Gas Fittings; Hall Lamp; and all the Kitchen and Culinary Utensils and Miscellaneous Effects. Also, a Valuable Selection of Well-bound Books, including the popular Encyclopedia, Imperial Gazeteer, Scott's Worthies, Popular Educator, and other useful works.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by J. M. Winter, Esq., the trustee in the estate, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on the premises, East Parade, on Monday, May 3rd, 1886, the whole of the Superior Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS. Particulars in posters.

Also, at the same time and place:—Handsome Blue Repp Suite; Washstand and Dressing Table; Longsettle; Half-Tester Iron Bedstead; Stained Lead ignts; Filter, &c., &c. 1w

Sale to commence at One o'clock exact time.

Wednesday, May 5th, 1886.—*Re* R. Curry & Co., in Bankruptcy.—Gibson Street, Consett.—To Grocers, Confectioners, Builders, Contractors, and Farmers.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by J. M. Winter, Esq., Trustee of the above Estate, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Warehouse, Gibson Street, Consett, on Wednesday, May 5th, 1886, the whole of the STOCK-IN-TRADE, OFFICE FURNITURE, & SUNDRY EFFECTS, as follows:—

Grocery, Confectionery, &c.—Grocery items of various kinds; Candles; Biscuits; Sweets; Composition Essence; Inks; Candle Wick; Matches; Pipe Clay, and Sundries.

Fire Clay and Builders' and Contractors' Goods.—Sanitary Pipes; Chimney Tops; Garden Edging; Fire Backs, for Glendinning's Ovens; Gutters; Sinks; Junctions; Bends; Elbows; Paris Plaster; Portland Cement; Hair; Laths; 70 Dog and Cattle Troughs.

Fixtures and Sundries.—Good Flat Cart; good Spring Cart; Sack Barrow; 2 Meres; Cart Cover; Hose Pipe; 2 Weighing Machines; Scales and Weights; Empty Oil Casks; Old Iron; and a large quantity of Timber and odd lots.

Office Furniture.—2 Office Tables and Slope; 4 Chairs; Copying Press and Cupboard; Damping Brush and Book; Safe, by Withers, with Stand; Fixtures and Hat Rack; Stationery, and Sundry Effects. Also, Large Wooden Stable and Cow Byre behind Harvey Street, in the occupation of Messrs. Graham and Wolff. Particulars in Bills.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock exactly. 999v

Monday, May 10th, 1886.—Puddlers' Arms Inn, Consett.—Sale of Superior Household Furniture, Fine-toned Cottage Pianoforte, Feather and Down Beds, and the whole of the Bar Utensils, Pots and Glasses, and Miscellaneous Effects.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mrs. Mary Daglish, who is declining business and leaving the neighbourhood, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Puddlers' Arms Inn, Consett, on Monday, May 10th, 1886, the Superior Household FURNITURE, BAR UTENSILS, and Miscellaneous EFFECTS, as follows—

Furniture, &c.—Handsome Mahogany Cheffioneer Bedstead; 2 Mahogany Centre Tables; Mahogany Folding Table; Couch, in Leather; 12 Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs; 12 Birch Chairs; 4 Arm Chairs; Smoking Chair; Ladies' Work Table; Tea Table; Noble Dresser and Delf Rack; Large Wardrobe; Walnut What-not; 2 Brass-mounted Bedsteads; Feather and Down Beds; Brussels and other Carpets; Linoleum and Oilcloths; Fenders and Fire Irons; Large Copper Kettle, with Brass Tap; Fireside Crane; Pictures; Corn Bin; Rakes and Forks; Gripe and Drag, and other Stable Utensils; Kitchen Utensils, including Pots, Pans, and Earthenware, and a quantity of Old Lead, Brass, and Iron; Plate Warmer; Pair Gig Lamps; Cart Ropes, and Sundries.

Bar Utensils and Sundries.—Spirit Kegs; Glass Spirit Jar; Ale and Spirit Measures; Decanters; Pots and Cans; a large quantity of Glasses of all kinds; Gallon and Half-gallon Basket Bottles; Five Gallon Jars; 5 Beer and 8 Spirit Taps; Standard Casks and Butts; 2 Gantries; 6 Spitoons; 2 Pairs Rams' Horns; Pot and Gill Spirit Flasks; and Sundry other Effects.

Also, Fine Full-toned Cottage Pianoforte, by Moore, equal to new: Superior Regulator Timepiece; American Spring Bagatelle Board; Set of Silver-Mounted Harness; good Coup Cart, &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

No Reserve. 71w

Monday, May 17th, 1886.—4, Rose Mount, Consett.—Sale of Excellent Mahogany Furniture, including Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Mahogany Tudor Bedstead and Hangings; Mahogany Night Commode; Mahogany Dining Table; Mahogany Couch; Mahogany Card Table; 6 Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs; Carpets and Oilcloths; Washstand and Dressing Table; 2 Feather Beds; 2 Down Beds; Wringing Machine; Vienna Regulator; Excellent Timepiece; Case of Stuffed Birds; Fenders and Fire Irons, and Miscellaneous Effects.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mrs. Turnbull, who is about to Emigrate, to SELL BY AUCTION, on the Premises, No. 4, Rose Mount, Consett, on Monday, May 17th, 1886, the whole of the Superior Mahogany and other FURNITURE. Particulars in Posters. 70w

Sale to commence at One o'clock. No Reserve.

Preliminary Notice.—Little Greencroft Farm, near Consett.—Eatage of Rich Grass Land to Let.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Edmund Ballent, Esq., TO LET, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Little Greencroft Farm, near Consett, about the middle of May, the EATAGE OF 86 ACRES, or thereabouts, of GOOD GRASS LAND, on the said Farm, up to November 23rd, as follows:—

Big Stockerley Field - - -	24 Acres.
Quarry Field - - - -	17 ,,
Hop Clover Field - - -	10 ,,
Horse Field - - - -	9 ,,
Low Far Field - - - -	14 ,,
Cottage Field - - - -	12 ,,
	86 Acres.

Terms of Payment—2½ per cent Discount for Cash, or Four Months' Approved Bills.

Time and Date of Sale in future Advertisements.

Auctioneer's Office, Town Hall, Consett. 952v

North Durham Stocking Factory.

TO Drapers, Hosiers, and Others.—To be SOLD BY TENDER, in consequence of the illness of the Proprietor, the STOCK IN TRADE of Superior Home Manufactured Hosiery, Wools and Yarns, and nearly New Machinery in and upon the premises known as the "North Durham Stocking Factory," at Leadgate, in three lots, as follows:—Hosiery, £364 7s. 4d.; Wools, Yarns, and Loose Fittings, £162 12s. 6d.; and Machinery £404 1s. 1d. The Lots may be viewed on the premises, and forms of Tender and conditions of Sale may be had from this date up to and including Thursday, May 13th, at 12 o'clock at noon, when the tenders will be opened at the Office of Mr Adam Brodie, Public Accountant, Town Hall, Consett.—The premises may be had by the Purchaser at a moderate rental. 995v

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Valuable Freehold Property for Sale at Consett.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to SELL the following Valuable PROPERTIES, well and pleasantly situate in Consett and neighbourhood, by Private Treaty:—

Convenient DWELLING-HOUSE, in East Parade, now occupied by Mr. J. T. Curry.

Pleasantly situate DWELLING-HOUSE of Five Rooms, No. 5, Rose Mount, occupied by Mr. John Brown.

Substantial DWELLING-HOUSE of Seven Rooms, No. 6, Rose Mount, occupied by Mr. Parnaby and another.

Four-Roomed HOUSE and GARDEN, 73, Blackfine, with Garden behind, occupied by Mr. Kelsey.

COTTAGE with Three Rooms, in Delves Lane, occupied by Mr. N. Foster.

☞ Particulars may be had from A. Brodie, Estate Agent, Town Hall, Consett. 72w

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

Postal address—Adam Brodie & Robert John Brodie, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

West Shield Row Villa, Saturday, May 1st, 1886.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr John James Dawson (who is leaving England for Australia), will Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, as above, all his very Superior Household FURNITURE, &c., the following being a brief summary—Mahogany Sofa in Hair Seating, 4 Mahogany Chairs in Hair Seating, Gentleman's Mahogany Chair in Hair Seating, 2 Rocking-chairs, Polished chairs, Mahogany Centre Table, Mantle Mirror in Gilt Frame, Mahogany Drawers, Kitchen Press, Book-case, Whatnot, 2 Half-teater Iron Bedsteads, Feather Bed and Pillows, Down do., Bed Hangings, Dressing-table and Wash-stand, 2 Mahogany Toilet Glasses, Kidderminster Carpet and Hearthrug to match, Drugget Carpet, Hearthrugs, Floor Oilcloth, Passage do., Landing do., Tall Cased Clock in Oak, Beautiful Lusters, Set Grand China, Magnificent Pictures and Ornaments, Kitchen and other Tables, Books and Music, Patent Wringer and Mangle, Hot-house Plants, Sitting-room and other Fenders and Irons, Coal Vaze, with a multitude of other Lots. See all particulars in Bills.

Sale to begin at Half-past Twelve o'clock.

N.B.—The whole of this large stock of Furniture is of a Superior Quality and Make, and in the Best of Preservation. 5w

241, Nelson Street, Leadgate.—Monday, May 3rd, 1886.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr John Lakey (who is emigrating), will Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, as above, all his Valuable Household FURNITURE and Sundry Effects. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 4w

Whitley Green, near Holmside.—Tuesday, May 4th, 1886.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by the Representatives of the late Robert Watson, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, as above, all the Valuable Household FURNITURE and other EFFECTS. See Bills for full particulars.

Sale to begin at Two o'clock. 39w

Maddison's Farm, Dipton.—Wednesday, May 12th, 1886.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. John Charlton and Mrs. Hall, who are emigrating, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place and date, the whole of their Valuable Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 40w

TO PARTIES EMIGRATING.

FREE AND ASSISTED PASSAGES TO QUEENSLAND.

CHEAP FARES TO AMERICA,

AND lowest possible fares to New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, Africa, China, and any other part of the world.

For the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply to

832v A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer Dipton.

By Mr. March.

On Friday, May 7th.—Lintz Hall Farm, near Lintz Green Station.—Highly attractive Sale of Fat and Farming Stock, Prize Brood Draught Mares and young Draught Horses, winners of several prizes.

MR. MARCH, retaining the confidence of the Executors of the late Richard Laycock, Esq., will submit to PUBLIC COMPETITION, at Lintz Hall Farm, on Friday, May 7th, the whole of the STOCK thereon, as understated:—

CATTLE.

16 Prime Fat S.H. Steers and Heifers.
3 S.H. young Cows, calved and to calve.
1 S.H. Roan Bull, two-years-old, fat or for use.
1 S.H. White Bull, one-and-a-half-year-old.
13 S.H. One-and-a-half-year-old Steers and Heifers.
5 S.H. Stirks.

SHEEP.

10 Mule Hoggs.

HORSES.

Brown Mare, "Jess," 9 years old, by Hamilton Jock.
Bay Mare, "Jip," 9 years old, by Hamilton Jock.
Brown Mare, "Jinny," 5 years old, by Lochnagar, dam Jess, with colt foal at foot by Topsman. This mare was winner of 1st Prize at Shotley Bridge.
Bay Horse, "Monarch," 5 years old, by Lochnagar, dam Jip. This horse is the winner of nine first prizes, and has never been beaten.
Bay Horse, "Farmer," 4 years old, by Lochnagar, dam Jip. This Horse won four prizes as a yearling.
Brown Horse "Punch," 4 years old, by Lochnagar, dam Jess. This horse has taken three first prizes.
Bay Horse, 3 years old, by Sovereign, dam Jess. This horse is the winner of a first and second prize.
Brown Colt, 2 years old, by Sovereign, dam Jess.
Bay Colt, 2 years old, by Sovereign, dam Jip.
Brown Filly, 1 year old, by Sovereign, dam Jess. This filly won first prize as a foal at Chester-le-Street.
Bay Filly, 1 year old, by Lochnagar, dam Jip.
Bay Filly, 1 year old, by Lochnagar, dam, a second prize winner at the Royal Show, Carlisle.

SWINE AND POULTRY.

A well-bred Sow and her litter of pigs.
Boar, 9 months old.
50 Barn-door Fowls.
Turkey Jock and Hen.

HAY.—About 20 tons of very prime well-won New Land Hay for removal.

IMPLEMENTS.—The whole of the implements, harness, and hand tools for a three-draught farm, including a cattle cart and harness.

Also a quantity of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

The Auctioneer emphatically declares the stud of Horses on this farm to be one of the best ever offered to the public.

Sale with the Implements at 11 o'clock. Dinner at one; bill, 2s; wine included.

Houghton-by-Wylam, April 21st, 1886. 60w

At Lough House Farm, near Lintz Green, on May 7th, 1886.

MR MARCH will SELL BY AUCTION, without the slightest reserve, on Friday, May 7th, the whole of the valuable FARMING STOCK, the property of Mr William Atkinson, who is declining farming, comprising:—

CATTLE.

1 S.H. Milk Cow; 2 S.H. Cows, near calving; 6 S.H. Steer and Heifer Stirks.

SHEEP.

29 Cheviot Ewes, with Lambs by a Leicester ram.

HORSES.

2 Very useful Draught Mares.

IMPLEMENTS AND HARNESS.

All new last year. 1 Long Cart; Coup Cart, and Frames; 2 Iron Swing Ploughs; Set of Zig-zag Harrows; Grubber; Scrubber; Scuffler; Metal Roller; Ladder; Winnowing Machine; 6 Hurdles; Full Set of Cart Shaft and Plough Harness for one Draught; all the Hand Tools and Sundries.

POULTRY.

40 Barn-door Fowls.

The sale will commence immediately after the conclusion of the Lintz Hall sale.

Houghton-by-Wylam, April 21st, 1886. 59w

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

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

Entries respectfully Solicited.

A. T. CROW, Auctioneer.
JOHN PEEL, Proprietor.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Raw.

"Lord Crewe" Arms Inn, Blanchland.

MR. WM. RAW, honoured with instructions from MISS FORSTER, who is leaving the above Inn, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION the whole of her FARMING STOCK, and a quantity of her Household FURNITURE, &c., on Wednesday, May 12th, 1886, comprising—2 Mahogany Dining Tables; Large Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; 2 Chests of Drawers; Chest and Drawers; 10 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; 15 Mahogany Bed-room and Cane-bottomed Chairs; 2 Mahogany Easy Chairs; 5 Arm Chairs; 18 Kitchen Chairs; 30 Forms; 16 Kitchen, Tea, and Work Tables; 3 Camp Bedsteads, Mattresses and Hangings; 3 Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses and Hangings; Iron Chair Bed; Mahogany Desk Bed; Feather Beds and Mattresses; 5 Washstands and Dressing Tables; several Mahogany Swing Looking Glasses; Child's Crib; Bedsteps; 3 Sponge and Hip Baths; several Sets of Chamber Ware; Towel Rails; Whatnot; Fenders and Fire-irons; Large quantity of Dinner Ware; over 20 Dozen Plates and Dishes; Soup Tureen; Willow Pattern; several Dozens of Knives and Forks; Mahogany Tray; Sets of Trays; Coffee and Teapots; Breakfast and Tea Ware; 8 Dish Covers of Britannia Metal; Longsettles; 2 Large Dressers and Shelves; 3 Fish Pans; Kettle Stand; Kettles; Pans; Jugs; and Pewter Pots; 8 Spirit Casks; Great quantity of Glass, Funnels, &c.; Flat Clothes Mangle; Wringing and Mangling Machine; Dairy Utensils; Knife Machine; Stair Carpets and Rods; together with numerous lots of Household Utensils, belonging to an old-established and respectable Inn.

CATTLE.

Roan Cow, 5 years old, newly calved; Roan Cow, 4 years old, newly calved; Roan Cow, 7 years old, to calve 12th June; Roan Heifer, 2 years old, newly calved; Roan Heifer, 18 months old; Roan Heifer, 10 months old; and 4 Calves; Corn Bin; Wheelbarrow, &c., &c.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock, as the lots will be very numerous.

Cattle will be sold at Three o'clock.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 44w

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, MAY 3rd, 1886.

45 Prime Fat Cattle.
85 Fat Sheep, including a consignment of 40 very Prime Fat Hoggs (clips) from Berwickshire, the others in wool.
4 Veal Calves.
10 to 15 Cows, including several very useful country Cows, new calvings.
Geld Cows and Store Cattle.
2 one-and-a-half-year-old Bulls.
Pork and Store Pigs.
40 Prime Young Hens.
2 Pairs Peacocks (young), splendid Birds.
Brown Pony, 3 years old, 13½ h.h., quiet to ride by either Lady or Gentleman, sound, and been in Harness.
Bacon, Hams, Boxings, &c.

Sale at One o'clock.

64w NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

ON MONDAY, May 10th, in conjunction with the Weekly Fat Stock Sale, will be held A SPECIAL for GRAZING CATTLE, EWES, and LAMBS, and KEEPING HOGGS, &c.

Early entries are respectfully solicited.

65w NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

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

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

Iveston, near Leadgate.

MR. G. R. HOBSON, commissioned by Mr. MATTHEW TURNBULL, who is declining housekeeping, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Saturday, May 1st, 1886, the whole of his FURNITURE and EFFECTS, comprising—Mahogany Eight-days' Clock; Small Mahogany Table; Strong Kitchen Table; 6 Kitchen Chairs; Chest and Frame; Fender and Fire Irons; and other Miscellaneous Lots.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock.

Sale Offices, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 34w

Flint Hill, Dipton, May 8th, 1886.

THE SALE OF MR. W. TAYLOR'S FURNITURE, &c., Advertised for the above place and date, WILL NOT TAKE PLACE.

G. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer and Valuer.

Sale Offices, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 33w

Prospect House, Catchgate.

MR. G. R. HOBSON, honoured with instructions from Mr. THOMAS THIRLWELL, who is removing, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Saturday, May 8th, 1886, a quantity of Surplus FURNITURE, including—a very large and useful Painted Wardrobe; Mahogany Tudor Bedstead and Mattresses, almost new; Walnut Cottage Piano; Sewing Machine; Wringer and Washer; and a large quantity of other lots. Full particulars in Posters.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock.

Sale Offices, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 50w

Fen Hall, Lanchester.

MR. G. R. HOBSON, honoured with instructions from GEORGE RITSON, Esq., who is declining housekeeping, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Monday, May 10th, 1886, a quantity of useful Household FURNITURE, good Churn, Tinkler's Patent, and other Dairy Utensils. Also, a Low Basket Phaeton, and a quantity of Harness; Paragon Grass Mower, by Hornsby, and other Miscellaneous Lots.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock.

Sale Offices, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 51w

GEORGE R. HOBSON, AUCTIONEER & VALUER.

OFFICES:— CATCHGATE, VIA LINTZ GREEN. 220v

By Mr. John Crawford.

Fox Inn, Collierley Dykes.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by Mrs. DARLING (Widow of the late W. Darling), who is leaving the Fox Inn, Collierley Dykes, will SELL the whole of her Valuable FURNITURE and EFFECTS, on Monday, May 10th, 1886. Full particulars in next issue.

Sale Office, 25 Victoria Street, Consett. 897v

50, Edith Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by Mr. JOHN WHITE, who is leaving for Australia, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, May 3rd, 1886, at the above place, the whole of his Valuable Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, comprising—Excellent Mahogany Drawers and Book-case; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; 6 Mahogany Balloon-backed Chairs, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Centre Table; Mahogany Folding Table; Walnut Whatnot; 4 Cases Stuffed Birds; 2 do. under Glass Shade; Large Pier Glass, 4ft. 9in. by 3ft. 6in.; Pair Handsome Lustres; Mantel Timepiece and Ornaments; 30 Valuable Pictures, including 18 Splendid Oil Paintings in Massive Gilt Frames, by Dawson, Johnson, and other first-class Artists, Oleographs and Steel Engravings; Brass Mounted Fender and Fire-irons; Carpet and Hearthrug; 2 Cornice Poles; Window Curtains; 2 Good Iron Bedsteads and Mattresses; Rabbit Down Bed, Pillows and Bolsters; Good Desk Bed; Child's Iron Crib; Mahogany Chest of Drawers; 2 Bookcases; Couch; Dressing Table and Washstand; Towel Rail; 2 Swing Glasses; Night Commode; Fenders and Fireirons; Carpet and Hearthrug; Large Kitchen Table; 2 Small Tables; Small Round Table; Longsettle; 7 Kitchen Chairs; Large Rocking Chair; Cane-back Rocking Chair; Smoking Chair; Child's Rocking Chair; Child's High Chair; Good Cradle; Good Eight-Day Clock; Zinc Blind; Good Box; Large Toy Elephant; 2 Kitchen Fenders and Fireirons; Tidy and Loose Bar; Brass Mantel Rod, with Fittings; Poss Tub and Staff; Large Washing Pan; Large Clothes Hamper; Counter Desk; Perambulator; Bird Cage; Oil Lamp; Window Rollers; Stair Rods; Kettle and Pans; Tins and Earthenware; Bake Board; Spade and Picks; a lot of good Books, including Medical and Biographies of Kitto, McCheyne, and other good men.

Also, a First-class Night and Day Telescope (Lord Bury's), with Leather Case and Strap.

Sale to commence at One o'clock precisely.

Sale Offices, 25, Victoria Street, and 2, Church Street, Consett. 45w

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

Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 801c

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

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

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

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT Is now recommended by the Leading Medical Men in the North, as being THE MOST SUITABLE WINE FOR SICK PERSONS AND INVALIDS.

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

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

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

J. & E. WILSON'S, The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England. Established 1780.

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

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

HIGH CLASS DENTISTRY.

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

ARTIFICIAL TEETH AT REASONABLE PRICES

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

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

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

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrou Oxide Gas.

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

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

DRUGS AND PATENT MEDICINES AT STORE PRICES.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

ALL Orders for Advertisements for insertion in the *Consett Guardian* must be WRITTEN, and sent in not later than NINE o'clock on Friday mornings to ensure publication.

WE use great care to secure the correct printing of advertisements; but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies nor from any consequences arising therefrom.

PARTIES making inquiries by letter respecting advertisements must enclose an addressed stamped envelope.

IT is contrary to Post-office Regulations for letters to be addressed to initials or fictitious names at any Post-office. Advertisers are desired to bear this in mind.

APPLICANTS for situations and others who reply to advertisements are recommended to forward copies of their testimonials, and not the original documents.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30TH, 1886.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

It will be seen by the advertising columns that the district Presbyterians intend celebrating the customary anniversary services in their beautiful little church at Blackhill, on Sunday and Monday next. An Edinburgh minister is announced to preach at both services, and complete the programme by the delivery of a popular lecture on Monday evening. Those of my readers who appreciate a good sermon will please make a note of this. I have not the pleasure of knowing anything about the preacher, although the name he bears is an honoured one, but I know full well that Mr Baillie is very particular who he brings to occupy his pulpit; and that fact is in itself a sufficient guarantee that the stranger from modern Athens will be well worth listening to. It is a good thing to introduce a fresh preacher into a district occasionally, especially if he chance to be a man of parts. There is an irrepressible charm in things new. We love change for itself alone; and giving wing to the inclination, lend a ready ear to the voice of the stranger. It is better thus than if we stopped our ears, and shut our eyes to fresh impressions from without. We should then become creatures of one idea; and our souls becoming shrivelled, would perish in the midst of plenty. Things are, however, more exquisitely arranged, and our very failings are made subservient to our lasting weal. I trust that the lecture on Monday evening will be a success. The title is novel, it is true; but it ought to be the more interesting on that account. The charge for admission seems framed to meet the exigencies of the times, and in the hands of a clever lecturer, the subject cannot be other than highly entertaining.

The member for North-West Durham posted northwards with commendable expedition to unfold his views on the topic of the hour. I failed to note anything very new or profound in his speeches, but that is not to be wondered at. The great luminaries have exhausted the *pros* and *cons* of the subject, as it now stands; and the rays emitted by the lesser lights are like stars twinkling in the night. Irishmen can now afford to rest on their oars; and to wait calmly for the rising of the tide. Remedial measures on a gigantic scale are now assured for Ireland, whatever party zealots may say or do to impede the ever-rolling current. Extreme Liberals may delude themselves, if it so please them, that Mr Gladstone is the only earth-born mortal who could have brought so sweeping a change about; but the more discerning section of mankind know right well that if ever the truism:—"God helps those who help themselves," had a literal application, it is in this remarkable epoch in the history of Ireland. What do Irishmen care for either Radicals or Tories. Call them not selfish if they hate the one as roundly as the other. They have toiled years for the silver lining which now gilds the no far distant horizon, and the dawn of the coming day will presently dispel the gloom, whether the fluctuating fortunes of the rival political factions rise or fall. There is no good reason why Irishmen should not enjoy the full measure of freedom and privilege that fall to the lot of other subjects of the crown. That is their right, it may be denominated Home Rule, or some other term quite as comprehensive, if not as sweet. Of course, it is understood that when these good things shall have come to pass, and Paddy tumbled into the lap of fortune, the world expects that he will do his duty. It will never do to brandish a bit of blackthorn and provoke somebody to tread on the tail of his coat in the days of millennium brightness. He will require to turn over a new leaf, and there is no doubt but he will be equal to the occasion in that respect, for he is a decent sort of a creature—if you don't stroke him against the hair.

The force of example is astonishing. Fancy, now! canny, douce, sedate Scotchmen already clamouring for Home Rule like so many spoiled children. Professor Blackie, who thinks nothing of favouring a Glasgow audience with a stanza or two of an old love song on a Sabbath afternoon, declares that he will never cease, "as long as life its term extends," to preach Home Rule from the pulpit. Well, now, for my part, I should like to hear the erratic sage preach from a more entertaining text. That it will "take" there need obviously be no misgiving. The majority of mankind prefer to acquire something rather than to give up anything—even their darling sins. Regarded from this standpoint, it may be taken for granted that the learned professor may calculate upon commanding a large and appreciative congregation. John Bull need not, however, go off his sleep in consequence. Sandy is an astute, but by no means a troublesome fellow; and John and he are not likely to part company for some time to come.

What a dreadful fright the lady of the period promises to be, when she gets rigged out in a pair of mongrel breeches, with legs wide enough to hold the body of a big Englishwoman. If there can be said to be a method in so whimsical a phase of fashion, this, the latest creation of the dandies, must be regarded as a direct infringement of men's rights. That may be a new cry, but these are strange times; and changes of so pronounced a type ought not to be regarded with indifference. I am not sure, but I am disposed to think, that these fancy pantaloons point to the extension of the Home Rule craze. Women have long been charged, rightly or wrongly, with having ulterior designs upon a certain garment sometimes known by the appellation "unmentionables," but she now throws off the mask, and enters on open competition for the coveted trophy—the breeches. There is no poetry about a pair of breeches, and if the sex persist in sporting the new outfit, they will lose prestige. There is much truth in the expressive lines penned by the author of the Seasons:—

"Loveliness
Needs not the foreign aid of ornaments,
But is, when unadorned, adorn'd the most."

The moral to be drawn from the life of Mr Edwards, the unassuming Banffshire naturalist, upon whose grave the cold sod has just been laid, is the precious truth, that while a king can make a belted knight, it is within the power of every individual man to make out for himself—not an aimless—but a thoroughly useful life. That is the only true way of enjoying life. Knowledge is more than power, it is happiness. Was this humble son of toil not a happier, as well as a better man, than the sot who spends his leisure hours in the false pleasure of pot and mug? In this case, too, perseverance brought its own reward. £50 per annum to a man in his position was a small fortune in its way. But, apart from the reward, which in itself was no mean consideration, there was much in Mr Edwards's life to paint a moral, if not to adorn a tale.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

MARK MAIN, MINER.—This is the title of a new tale of thrilling interest, the first chapters of which will appear in our next issue.

On Wednesday and yesterday (Thursday) mornings, snow fell at intervals in the neighbourhood of Consett, and the early part of the day was exceedingly cold and bitter. Towards afternoon in each day, however, the aspect of the weather changed considerably for the better.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—On Sunday, the annual sermons in connection with the Consett Branch of the above Society, were preached in the morning and evening, in the Parish Church, by the Rev J. G. Watson, M.A., Midland Counties' Secretary. In the afternoon, there was a missionary service of children.—On Easter Monday, a public tea was provided in the Infant School.

THE DISCOVERY OF THE "PETRIFIED GIANT."—"Robin Goodfellow" writes as follows in the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*:—"The story of the finding of what is said to be the body of a giant, deep down in the Saint Pit, at Consett, appears to be accepted as genuine by believers in ancient legends. These legends are indeed quoted as proofs that there were giants in those days. According to one authority on the subject, there existed in "the heroic ages of the Derwent," three gigantic brothers—Cor, Bês, and Con—who founded three existing towns, Corbridge, Benfieldside, and Consett. Tradition alleges that the brothers had a huge hammer in common, which each of them at a whistle could throw nine miles! The following verses have been quoted as further proof both of the accuracy of the legend and of the genuineness of the recent discovery:—

A hammer in common they had,
And the use of it easy to all;
Each whistled, each brother was glad
To throw it three leagues at his call.

When Con was approaching his end,
Deaf, blind, and beginning to rave,
With a ploughman he begged, as a friend,
To converse at the mouth of his cave.

This ploughman, as prudent men do,
Held his ploughshare, himself to escape;
Blind Con pinch'd his ploughshare in two,
And pronounced it the arm of an ape.

Where is the sceptic who will now have any doubts on the subject of the Consett giant?"

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BAND OF HOPE.—The monthly meeting and entertainment of the above was held in the Baptist Church, Consett, on Saturday night, under the presidency of the pastor (Rev T. Durant). There was a fair attendance, and the programme rendered was of a very lively and enjoyable character. After the opening hymn and prayer, the chairman gave a very interesting and stirring address on "The Dangers of Intemperance" which was well received. Melodies were rendered by Mr W. H. Lewis and Miss Gomer; readings by Messrs Geo. Farnsworth and W. S. Moss; recitation by Miss E. Emmerson. The whole were ably rendered, and well merited the applause which was given. After the meeting a coffee supper was held, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all present.

BLACKHILL.

The Rev George Lord, Free Methodist minister, Blackhill, leaves this district at the next assembly.

BENFIELDSIDE STOCK AUCTION MART SALE.—On account of the Easter holidays Messrs Nicholson and Murray had only a small supply at their mart on Monday, viz.:—15 fat cattle, 38 fat sheep, 9 cows, 7 calves, 4 geld cows, 1 pony, and 8 pigs. Prices:—Fat Cattle, £8 5s to £18. Cows, £9 7s 6d to £15. Fat Sheep, 20s to 74s. Pigs, 19s to 26s. Calves, 10s 6d to 31s. Turnips, 16s per ton. Pony, £10 15s. The next sale will be on Monday at one o'clock.

BURIAL BOARD.—The half-yearly meeting of ratepayers of St. Cuthbert's ecclesiastical district was held in the Low School-room, Blackhill, on Monday evening. Mr Wm. Turner occupied the chair.—The Clerk (Mr T. Whinney) presented the financial statement, showing: Balance in hand, £100 5s 5d; balance due on No. 1 Loan, £800; balance due on No. 2 Loan, £1375; liability of Burial Board, £2074 14s 7d.—The accounts were passed.

FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370TH STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.—This society made its 32nd appropriation in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of Mr M. Noble. Messrs J. W. Harker and Thos. Appleton were elected as scrutineers. The number drawn was 11, held by Mr Adolphus Welford, Hexham, who becomes entitled to a loan of £100, free of interest, for 12½ years.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Mr John Dixon, the Surveyor under the Benfieldside Local Board, reports that the total cost of snow-cutting, &c., during the late winter, was £23 9s, and not £150 as stated in last week's *Guardian*.

OCCASIONAL COURT.—At this Court, at Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday—before Mr Jas. Annandale, J.P.—*Ellen Murray* (48), a tramp, of Matthew's lodging-house, Consett, was brought up on a charge of drunkenness, the woman being so helplessly intoxicated that P.C. Newton was called in to eject her from the premises. She was committed to gaol for seven days.——Yesterday (Thursday), at the same Court, *Patrick Dickins* (37), another member of the tramping fraternity, was charged by P.C. Newton with being drunk and disorderly in the streets of Consett, at 10·30 on Wednesday night. Sentenced to seven days' imprisonment.

CATCHGATE.

LAW.—Mr J. L. Leadbitter, son of Mr George Leadbitter, of Catchgate, who is serving his articles of clerkship with Mr Edward Wooler, of Darlington, has successfully passed the intermediate examination held at the Incorporated Law Societies' Hall, Chancery Lane, London, on April 8th, 1886.

Re WILLIAM BELL.—This debtor was a farmer and Co-operative Society secretary at Catchgate, and attributed his failure to having let Messrs Curry have advances, and being bond for them. The examination was closed yesterday (Thursday), at the Newcastle Bankruptcy Court, before Mr Registrar Ingledew.

WEARDALE.

Mr James Sparke, Wearhead, vice-president of the Weardale Agricultural Society, has been elected a member of the Council for the Royal Agricultural Show of 1887.

A well-known Weardale gentleman, Joseph Thompson, Burtree House, Cowshill, has met with a serious accident. While Mr Thompson was climbing the steep ascent to his residence from Cowshill Bridge, on Wednesday week an embedded stone became loosened, causing him to fall heavily and breaking his leg.

A FAMILY COINCIDENCE.—Intelligence reached Weardale on Sunday from Edinburgh, that Robert son of Stephen Hodgson, Laneside, has had his leg amputated at the thigh. It is a painful family coincidence that his father has also lost a leg from accident.

FROSTERLEY POULTRY SHOW.—On Saturday, the 22nd annual exhibition of poultry, pigeons, dogs, rabbits, &c., was held at Mell Butts, Frosterley. The entries were: Poultry, 288; butter and eggs, 20; dogs, 108; rabbits, 44; cats, 18; pigeons, 37; and cage birds, 42; total, 564, being in excess of last year. In four classes of sheep dogs, the firsts were taken by Mr J. Bell, Edmondbyers; R. Layfield, Darlington; Thomas Cairns, Newcastle (two firsts). Mr Currah, in these classes, won first and second for the special prize given by Messrs Pickering and Stephenson, butchers, Frosterly, for the best sheep dog within five miles of Frosterley.

THE PROPOSED WEARDALE RAILWAY.—We are informed by the Rev R. Shepherd, M.A., vicar of St. John's Chapel, chairman of the committee, that they (the committee) are anxiously waiting for the survey of the proposed line to be made before taking any further steps. It will be remembered that Sir Joseph Pease said he would undertake to have the survey made at his own expense. It is suggested that the survey should be made as early as possible, so as not to interfere with the rising crops. In order to facilitate the making of a railway through Weardale, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have offered to give whatever land the line may require in their property.

IVESTON.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—In connection with the chapel at Iveston a service of song was held on Wednesday se'nnight, when the choir rendered a piece, entitled "His father's image." The chair was filled by Mr Thomas Johnston, of East Castle Colliery. Mr R. C. Foster (Consett) gave the connective readings; and Mr Jas. Shearer (Iveston) presided at the harmonium.—Afterwards a coffee supper was provided.

BURNHOPE.

SAD ACCIDENT TO A BICYCLIST.—On Tuesday night, two bicycle riders, named Teasdale and Rollins, proceeded from Burnhope Colliery as far as Annfield Plain for a little recreation. On remounting for the return journey, the latter fell and broke his arm; but with the kind assistance of one or two members of the A.P.B. Club, he was soon got home, where he was immediately attended to by Dr. Mantle, and he is now progressing favourably.

DURHAM.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—The first meeting of the newly elected Board of Guardians for the Durham Union was held on Saturday. Mr T. Crawford was re-elected chairman. Mr W. Johnson, Tudhoe, and the Rev J. Lawson, Brandon, were appointed vice-chairmen.

MICKLEY SQUARE.

SAD DEATH OF A MINER.—The deputy-coroner, Mr W. B. Elsdon, held an inquest at the Miners' Arms Inn, Mickley Square, on Monday, touching the body of Henry Hodgkiss, aged 62 years, a coal miner. Hodgkiss returned to his home shortly before eleven o'clock p.m., on the 22nd inst. in a state of intoxication. After sitting by the kitchen fireside for a while he proceeded to bed. He slept in an attic above the kitchen. He mounted the step-ladder, and in stepping from it on to the attic floor he slipped and fell to the bottom, alighting on his right shoulder. He was at once attended to by his landlady, who found a cut on his head, and that he was quite paralysed all down his right side. He was put to bed and medical assistance was called in on the following day. He never rallied, and died early on the 25th.—A verdict that Hodgkiss died from injuries accidentally received was returned.

WOLSINGHAM.

THE LATE MR C. BAINBRIDGE.—At the April meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Local Preachers' Mutual Aid Association, it was announced that the late Mr Cuthbert Bainbridge, Wolsingham, had left a legacy of £500, free of duty, to the association.

CORBRIDGE.

ARCHOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.—Messrs. Lawson and Turnbull, builders, Corbridge, have lately demolished an old building in Water Row, and in course of excavating the site for the erection of a new house they discovered at a depth of 7½ feet a Roman altar. On being carefully cleaned it was found to have suffered from exposure and subsequent mutilation for building purposes, and the lettering has consequently been almost entirely effaced. The inscription is now in the hands of gentlemen who will doubtless be able to decipher it. In course of the same excavation Messrs. Lawson and Turnbull unearthed a fragment from the shaft of a Saxon cross, and they have placed these relics under the care of the Society of Antiquaries, in whose museum they will be exhibited.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE VICAR.—On Sunday morning the inhabitants of Corbridge were startled on hearing of the death of their vicar, who died about eight o'clock at his residence, the Vicarage. The deceased gentleman had been ailing for some time, but was still able to fulfil his duties, and was seen on Saturday in the village going his rounds as usual. In the evening he ate a hearty supper, and retired to rest in good spirits, but while he was in the act of dressing on Sunday morning, Mrs Hodgson, who was in an adjoining room, heard a noise, and on entering her husband's room found he had fallen. Medical aid was immediately sent for, but before Dr McLean could be in attendance the unfortunate gentleman had breathed his last. The vicar was much respected in the village, and was always foremost in any good work, and his loss will be keenly felt. He was recently elected a member of the Hexham Board of Guardians.

LINTZ COLLIERY.

THE DISTRESS AT LINTZ AND GARESFIELD COLLIERIES.—The committee of the Relief Fund in connexion with these collieries, in acknowledging donations towards the Relief Fund (including Blaydon Co-operative Store £5, Tantobie Co-operative Store £2, and others), state that the assistance rendered has enabled the committee to distribute as follows:—On the first occasion, 5s worth of goods each to 35 families, and potted beef, &c.; on the second occasion, 3s worth of goods to heads of families, with an addition of 4d for each child. The committee having been creditably informed that impostors are going about the country collecting subscriptions on behalf of the above fund, and appropriating the same to their own use, warn the public against such imposters, as only sheets are genuine that bear the impression of the above collieries' stamps, and are signed by Messrs. T. Tally, president; P. Carling, treasurer; and W. Cunningham, secretary.

BEAMISH.

LECTURE.—On Monday evening, the Rev F. Church gave his popular lecture on "True Heroism," in the Beamish Wesleyan Chapel. Mr Joseph Simpson occupied the chair. The proceeds taken at the close of the lecture were in aid of the Sunday School.

TOW LAW.

DEATH OF A TRAMP FROM STARVATION.—An elderly man named Thomas Kishlow, who had from Weardale, was found on Wednesday se'nnight dying in a helpless state on the Ironworks Road, near Tow Law. He was carried into the house of Mr Learoyd, grocer, and restoratives were applied to him. A doctor was also got, but the man shortly afterwards expired. Death is attributed to exhaustion consequent on the want of proper support.

RECOVERY OF REMAINS IN A PIT.—The other day the workmen at the Black Prince Colliery, Tow Law, holed into the old workings of the Royal George Pit, and there found the remains of a pony that, 37 years ago broke loose when at work and ran away into some dip workings full of water and was drowned. Some parts of the harness, &c., were in pretty good condition, and others being destroyed.

TOW LAW AND WOLSINGHAM.—At the scholarship examination open to all schools of this district the Tow Law Wesleyan has carried off the palm. Successful candidates:—Hutton, Tow Law Wesleyan, 156 marks; Philipson, Tow Law Wesleyan, 138 marks; Pickering, Wolsingham Wesleyan, 132 marks; Harrison, Wolsingham Wesleyan, 128 marks.

DURHAM SUNDAY CLOSING BILL.—A very enthusiastic meeting of the inhabitants of Tow Law was held on Tuesday night in the Mechanics' Hall, for the purpose of petitioning the House of Lords to pass the Durham County Sunday Closing Bill. Alderman Swan, Sunderland, was present as a deputation from the Durham Sunday Closing Association, and gave a most able, logical, and convincing address, demolishing all objections, and carrying the audience with him. The various religious denominations were represented at the meeting, and the resolutions, including a vote of thanks to Mr Theodore Fry, M.P., and the rest of the supporters of the Durham Bill, were unanimously carried. The Rev T. C. Hughes, curate, presided over the meeting, which was arranged by the Good Templars.

LEADGATE.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The quarterly session of the Newcastle Grand Division was held on Saturday afternoon in the Miners' Hall, Leadgate—Bro. Matthew Hall, of South Shields, G.W.A., presiding. The officers reported a steady increase both in members and funds, there being now 2,396 members, with a capital including benefit and management funds of £8,850. The cadets number 281, with a funeral fund alone of £171. Bros. George Lowes, Consett; Clement W. Davenport, Newcastle; William Campbell, Shotley Bridge; James Gibson, Newcastle; John G. Tinkler, Broomhill; Thomas Dixon, Gateshead; M. Hall, South Shields; and Reuben J. Bird, Jarrow; were appointed representatives to the National Division at Sunderland in Whit week. At the conclusion of the business a public tea, after-meeting, and concert were held, Bro. J. Gibson, Newcastle, presiding at the latter, when addresses were delivered by Bros. Thomas Veitch, Newcastle, and R. J. Bird, Jarrow, the singing being ably rendered by Misses L. and M. Hall, Bros. Pearson, Wears, and others.

LANCHESTER.

PROPOSED CRICKET CLUB.—On Wednesday evening, a meeting was held in the School, of members of the Lanchester Institute, when it was decided to form a cricket club in connection with the institute. The officers were elected, and deputed to make the necessary arrangements for "taking the field"—that sounds rather military, but we wish this cricketing corps every success, and hope it will receive the support which it will especially need at first.

JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.—The usual meeting of the members of this Board was held on Thursday se'nnight—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., presiding—when the Clerk announced that five additional applications had been received for the office of caretaker and nurse for the Leadgate Infectious Hospital. The Board selected three suitable parties resident in the immediate district to attend the next meeting, when the appointments will be made.

THE POLLUTION OF A STREAM.—A largely attended meeting of the ratepayers of the inhabitants of Lanchester was held at Mr Towns's, Queen's Head Inn, on Wednesday se'nnight—Mr Matthew Kearney J.P., in the chair. It was unanimously resolved on the motion of Mr W. W. Thompson, seconded by Mr G. W. Wilson, to petition the Local Government Board to send an inspector down to investigate into the pollution of the Browney Beck, a stream which runs right through the village. The matter has been repeatedly brought under the notice of the Sanitary Authority, but no action has been taken thereanent. The river is so contaminated that the fish are destroyed, and even cattle refuse to drink the water.

WEST PELTON.

A very handsome altar cloth has just been presented to West Pelton Church by Mrs Joicey, of Urpeth Lodge. The cloth has been worked by ladies in London. The dedication took place on Easter Day.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE DANGEROUS QUARRIES.—The dangerous state of the quarry at Annfield Plain, alluded to in the columns of the *Guardian*, has now been fully remedied. The broken down wall is built up and made quite safe.—Catchgate quarry, which has of late been complained of in this journal, is receiving attention this week, the Sanitary Authority having commenced to put in large sewage pipes to drain the water out of this deep hole, and prevent any more accidents at this place.

HAMSTEELS.

On Saturday week, a concert, towards alleviating the distress at Hamsteels, was given by a number of amateurs, in the school-room. The parties instrumental in promoting the concert were Mr Hy. Hornsby, viewer at Hamsteels Colliery, and Mr Parkin, cashier, a large number of people, including the leading ladies and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, were present. The concert was a great success, and a good round sum will be realized. The programme was opened with a piano solo by Mr T. L. Rickaby, after which Mr Anderson gave a good rendering of comic song, "Where's that Bob?" Mr G. Hornsby, with his usual taste, "When the ship comes home," followed by "The tram-car," by Mr Yellow; "When sparrows build," by Mr Thompson, and a cornet solo by Mr Morrell. Mr Duncanson, who possesses a rich voice, sang "Anchored" in a creditable manner, for which he was *encored*. "The Blue Alsatian Mountains" was sung by Miss Walton, who received an *encore*. Miss Wetherell was well received in her song, "Robin Adair;" after which Miss Blueitt and Mr Allen sang "The happy policeman," and being *encored*, they sang with equal taste, "Keep to the middle of the road." The second part opened with a cornet solo by Mr Morrell. Mr Parkinson sang "Softly follow," charmingly. "List to the Convent Bells" was sung by Miss Blueitt and Miss Walton, who were *encored*. Mr Allen sang "The little hero;" Mr T. L. Rickaby gave a piano solo, and Mr J. Hardy caused great amusement by his characteristic rendering of comic song, "Vote for Mr Raffery." "The kelly dance" was given by Mr Thompson; "The whisping cap," by Miss Wetherell; and "All for the love of Sarah," by Mr Yellow. Mr Duncanson followed with Will-o'-the-Wisp," and was again *encored*.—Mr Hornsby proposed and Mr Johnson seconded, a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had volunteered their services. The concert ended with the singing of the National Anthem.—Mr T. L. Rickaby (Hamsteels), and Mr G. W. Richardson, (Durham) were accompanists.

MEDOMSLEY.

THE DROWNING CASE.—On Thursday se'nnight, Mr John Graham, coroner, held an inquest at Mr Samuel Mace's, Royal Oak Inn, touching the death of John Forster (16), mason. The evidence showed that deceased left his home about five o'clock on the morning of the 19th inst., with the intention of proceeding to the village of Medomsley. He was not seen again until two p.m., when the body was observed in a pond near to the Busty Pit. On being recovered, it was identified as that of John Forster.—The jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned," adding that there was no evidence to show how the man had got into the pond.

EDMONDSLEY.

PRESENTATION.—On Satuday evening, the officials and workmen of Edmondsley Colliery, gave a coffee supper in honour of the daughter of the manager (Mr J. Hodgson), on the occasion of her first visit to the villiage after her marriage with Mr Philip Kirkup, manager of Radcliffe Colliery, Northumberland. After supper there was an interesting social gathering, under the presidency of Mr Jos. Humble. Speeches were delivered by Messrs T. Clayton, B. Chipchase, and W. Scott, and Mr I. Ramsay, in the name of the officials and workmen, presented Mrs Kirkup with a chaste locket and chain, and Mr Kirkup with a pocket compass, thermometer, scale, and aneroid barometer, as a small token of the esteem, respect, and regard in which they were held by all who had known them from childhood upward, trusting that this memento would not be looked upon so much for its intrinsic value as prized for the deep respect it evidenced, and as a happy reminder of the pleasant memories of past association with Edmondsley people.—Mr Kirkup, in suitably replying, said that words failed to express their appreciation of the kindness shown, but they would look upon the beautiful presents as upon a mirror, to reflect the good feeling they had left behind.—Mr Hodgson, father of the bride, having expressed his desire that good feeling should always exist between masters, officials, and workmen, the remainder of the evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner.—Votes of thanks proposed by Mr G. Scott, seconded by Mr E. Smith, and supported by Mr F. Robson, and the singing of the National Anthem brought this interesting gathering to a close, amid good wishes for the newly-married pair.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

An inmate of the Chester-le-Street Workhouse has been arrested on the charge of attempting to stab the industrial trainer of the workhouse.

ENTERTAINMENT.—On Wednesday night, a grand temperance entertainment was given in the Chester-le-Street Primitive Methodist Chapel before a good audience. The programme was a very interesting one, and consisted of an adress by Mr Robert Hall; songs, recitations, and a humorous dialogue, entitled "The slaves of alcohol." Mr Joseph Crawford presided.

CHESTER-LE-STREET WESLEYAN MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.—On Wednesday night, the annual supper and concert of the above were held in the Wesleyan schoolroom. The proceedings were of an interesting kind, songs, duetts, recitations, &c., being admirably given by the members and friends. The supper was served in drawing-room fashion. The society has prospered from its commencement, and is doing a good work in educating the young men and women who attend. The Rev F. Church is the president.

WHICKHAM.

BAND OF HOPE.—An entertainment, the last of the season, was given on Tuesday night to a crowded audience, in the Spoor Memorial Chapel, Whickham. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Monkman, Whickham. Mr R. Potts, Gateshead, gave an interesting address. The soloists were Mr R. Cook, Mr J. Weightman, and Miss Dinsdale; a duet by Mr and Mrs Cook; recitations were given by Miss Spoor, Master W. Mowbray, Mr Stark, Fellside, Mr Armstrong, and Mr Smiles, Swalwell, Mr J. Dinsdale, jun., presided at the organ, and gave an organ solo.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

The waywardens held their annual meeting at Lanchester Union Workhouse on Thursday se'nnight. There were present—Monsignor Chas. Gillow, Messrs W. Logan, Geo. Ridley, J. Towns, W. Cumming, W. Fawcett, T. Longstaff, T. Copeland, J. Drummond, F. Rowland, the Clerk (Mr C. Maynard), and the Surveyor (Mr W. Dixon.)

SELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

For the ensuing year, Mr Geo. Alder was re-elected chairman and Mr W. Logan vice-chairman.

Mr LOGAN acknowledged the compliment on resuming the chair.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

On the motion of the Rev C. GILLOW, seconded by Mr CUMMING, the Finance Committee was constituted as last year.

The meetings of the Board were re-arranged as before.

CONTRACTS.

The Board were afterwards engaged for a considerable time in letting contracts for carting and breaking road material for the next twelve months.

The following is a list of waywardens for the ensuing year:—

Billingside—Mr W. Brown, Prospect House.
Benfieldside—Mr J. Drummond, Hole House.
Burnhope and Hamsteels—Mr Wm. Cumming, Esh Hall.
Butsfield and Satley—Mr W. Fawcett, Satley Grange.
Collierley and Pontop—Mr W. Rutherford, Catchgate, Lintz Green Station.
Conside and Knitsley—Mr T. R. Dolphin, Consett.
Cornsay—Mr Geo. Alder, Cornsay.
Ebchester—Mr M. Coupland, Ebchester.
Edmondbyers—Rev W. Featherstonhaugh, Edmondbyers Rectory.
Esh—Monsignor C. Gillow, Ushaw College.
Greencroft—Mr R. Mitchinson, jr., Catchgate, Lintz Green Station.
Healeyfield—Mr R. Robson, Castleside.
Hedleyhope—Mr J. G. Wild, Hedleyhope.
Holmside—Mr J. Wilkinson, Morrowfield.
Hunstanworth—Mr J. Stephenson, Newbeggin House.
Iveston—Mr T. Longstaff, Leadgate.
Kyo—Mr Geo. Hobson, Harperly Mill.
Lanchester—Mr J. Towns, Lanchester.
Langley—Mr W. Logan, Stobbilee House.
Medomsley—Mr W. H. Hedley, Medomsley.
Muggleswick—Mr T. Copeland, Coal Gate.
Rufside and Rowley—Mr G. Errington, Rowley; and Mr F. Rowland, Roughside.
Tanfield, Lintz Green, and Beamish—Mr G. Ridley, Stanley; Mr R. Clark, Lintz Green House; and Mr N. Clark, Beamish Park.

LATE CRICKET.—Esh Lillywhites, 37; Cornsay Raggy Lads, 18.—Leamside St. Mary's, 45; the Lillywhites, 12.—Ouston, 9; Kimbleswor 53.E,3s

THE MINER'S OATH.

BY DORA RUSSELL.

Author of "Footprints in the Snow," "The Vicar's Governess," "The Silent Watchers," &c., &c.

CHAPTER IV.—Nemesis.

When the first pale streaks of dawn were breaking, next morning, in the east, the two miners who loved this woman rose silently to go each to his daily labour. Both had spent sleepless nights; both, perhaps, had wished, in bitterness, that they had never seen her; but the one rose erect, resolute, and calm, looking out on the breaking day without fear or shrinking; while the other, pale, with trembling hands, for he had been drinking deeply the night before, crept to his accustomed toil, with bowed head and sullen countenance, and with hatred, jealousy, and *murder* hidden in his miserable heart.

They met near the shaft mouth, and Stevens looked up and nodded. His illwill to Bradshaw had vanished in those silent hours of pain and darkness which were just past, and he had given the blame where it was due, knowing that Nelly had played with the deep and passionate nature of this man's heart, and a feeling of pity passed through his mind when he saw the evident marks of pain and suffering written on Bradshaw's altered face.

With far different feelings, however, the fierce and jealous overman encountered his handsome rival. His sullen eyes followed him with the fugitive and vindictive glance of hatred. "He could bear it no more," he had sworn, and, desperate and resolute, he followed the unsuspecting miner down into the gloomy recesses of the pit, determined on his revenge.

Without one thought of danger, however, Stevens went on; his "board," or the place where he picked his coal, lay only a moderate distance in the working of the mine, and hither, silently and unseen, he was followed by the vindictive Bradshaw.

One of the most common and fatal accidents in coal-pits is caused by the fall of stones or coal from the roof, and as you pass the cottages of the miners you will frequently see some poor little cripple hobbling along on his crutch. "He got it by a fall," says the pale-faced mother, if you make inquiries; and yet more mournful cases of young men lying injured for life by some dreadful blow on the spine or head are well known to the medical men of the district.

With truly diabolical cruelty and ingenuity, Bradshaw had determined that his rival should appear to be the victim of one of these common accidents; so he crept quietly after Stevens, and, while giving his orders as usual, and inspecting as he went, his eyes were peering in the darkness to find something suitable for his murderous purpose.

At last he fixed on a heavy stone, but kicking it aside till the men were all fairly at work, he went through his ordinary duties, never, however, wavering from his determined revenge.

Then when he found himself at liberty, with no prying eyes to watch him, he stole silently back, and picking up the deadly missle which he meant to employ, he went by a more unsafe and circuitous route to the place where he would find Stevens lying at his toilsome labour.

So fierce and conflicting were the passions which agitated Bradshaw's breast, that he did not notice his "safety lamp" giving, by its change of colour, warning that he was passing through some dangerous gas; but, with his eyes fixed before him, he stole on, in the very face of a peril which, at any other time, he would have been the first to perceive and avoid.

As he approached Stevens' "board" he suddenly stumbled, and, slipping his foot, fell heavily into some water. His lamp falling beneath him was speedily extinguished, and he was thus left in complete darkness.

With a muttered curse he arose, and felt in his pockets for a match, never thinking of the frightful danger he was about to incur by striking an open light amid the deadly vapour by which he was surrounded.

He took one from its box, and struck it on its side, and the next moment there rang through the dismal workings of the mine one of those awful sounds, the very echo of which, even above ground, seems to fill all hearts with terror and dismay. With a scream of agony the miserable man was flung by the force of the explosion against the wall of the pit, while the fatal flame he had ignited passed on its destroying way.

Stephens heard the dreaded sound, and, springing from his work, flung himself on his face, and, covering it with his coat which lay near, crouched thus while the fire passed over him, leaving him uninjured, but exposed to the still more dangerous "after damp," a deadly gas which is almost invariably created by an explosion, and of which the victims are yet more numerous and more sure.

To escape this danger, well-known to every miner, Stevens now sought to hurry to the shaft, where, if the brattice were uninjured, he could obtain a current of air, and where he was most likely to find assistance and release.

As he ran and stumbled along in the darkness, the dread of instant death in his heart, he took by mistake the very way by which, but a few moments before, Bradshaw had come planning his murder, and as he went he suddenly struck his foot against something lying across his path, and, to his horror, discovered by the sounds that issued from this blackened, disfigured, and still burning mass, that the victim was his miserable rival.

Something—a memory, a message, perhaps—seemed to pass into Stevens' heart as he paused one moment over the unhappy man. "If thine enemy hunger, feed him—if he thirst, give him drink." Stooping down, he lifted Bradshaw's head on his bosom, and tried to pour some of the cold tea, which miners usually carry, between his scorched and blackened lips. The injured man moaned, and lifted his hand to his head, and as he did so, "Where am I?" he said, "where am I?"

"The pit has fired, Bradshaw," answered Stevens. "Thou must rouse thyself, and I will help thee to the shaft."

"Oh! my God, my God," groaned Bradshaw, as recollection, remorse, dread, rushed into his mind, and he found himself face to face with death, and knew that the man whose life he had sworn to take, whose love he had made a curse, was kneeling in kindness by his side.

"Leave me, and let me die," said he suddenly; "the pains of hell will not be worse than this."

"Hush, man," said Stevens, solemnly; "let's name naught now but God and His mercy to us all."

"There's none for me," said Bradshaw.

"None need say so," answered Stevens; and then, listening more closely over the prostrate man, he felt that the hand of death was indeed laid upon him, and it seemed but a sacred duty, to call on him to prepare.

"Thou'rt badly burnt," he said, "and if we bide here we're lost—thou best think on God."

"Shall I die?" asked Bradshaw, with sudden terror, and then, learning his answer by the other's silence, he groaned aloud. "I dare not die," he said, "I dare not die."

"Try to walk then," said Stevens, his own great peril returning to him, "and I will help thee along." And the dying man, by one of those strange efforts which expiring nature is capable of, lifted himself up, and dragged on his painful way.

What did they pass on that dreary journey? The dead, the dying, the terror-stricken, and the brave, huddled together in groups, some praying for mercy, some hurrying on in search of fresher air; while groans, oaths, and cries, resounded through the darkness and the gloom.

At last, just as they reached the shaft, Bradshaw fell heavily on his side.

"I can do no more," he said, and, after a moment's glance at him, Stevens—the love of live prevailing over his better nature—left him, and ran to the opening, and looked anxiously around.

But the prospect of immediate relief was gone. The explosion had utterly destroyed the cage, and the whole apparatus of ascent; and, with a sinking heart, Stevens turned away, for he knew now it would be hours before there could be any prospect of release.

"We are all dead men," he said, with momentary bitterness, and then knelt down, calling on his Maker, in that hour of darkness and danger, to save him. And, as he did so, the memory of his mother, and some hours of holy communion, which his soul of late had held, come back to him, bringing peace and courage to his heart.

"We are in Thy hands," he said, reverently, and rose and went back to his dying enemy, lifting him in his arms and carrying him closer to the open shaft.

Bradshaw opened his dim eyes as he did so, from which the light was now fast fading. "Is the cage all right?" he asked, for he was perfectly sensible.

"It's all blown away," replied Stevens, in a low, solemn tone. "It will be hours, Bradshaw, before they can get us up, and by that time——"

"It will all be over," said Bradshaw. "Ay, ay, speak up, man. Dost thou mean that?"

"Yes," said Stevens; "an unhurt man could scarce live in this stifling air, and thou art badly burnt."

"I feel but little now," said Bradshaw.

"Thy time is short, then," answered Stevens, reverently. "Oh! Bradshaw, pray to God. Try to save thy soul."

"I've been but a bad man, I fear."

"Most of us can say that," said Stevens; "but if thou hast any great sin on thy soul, think of it now, and ask for pardon."

Bradshaw groaned, and moved uneasily.

"That lass has ruined me," he said.

"Nelly Gray?" asked Stevens.

"Ay, curse her, curse her," continued Bradshaw, raising his voice; "she's made me what I am. She's driven me to my death in seeking thine."

"What do you mean?" said Stevens.

"I swore I'd have thy life," answered Bradshaw hoarsely; "and I meant to keep my oath. I said I'd see thee carried home this night, and God has brought it on my head."

"Thou meant to murder me!" asked Stevens, in a low tone of horror.

Bradshaw nodded his head. "I crept after thee," he said, presently. "I had the stone in my hand."

"It is the hand of God," answered Stevens, earnestly. "I pray that He may forgive thee freely as I do."

"She drove me wild," said Bradshaw. "Sh seemed so fond-like once, and then she changed. Just put thy hand into my breast, man, and look into the book thou'lt find there, if thou still doubts my word."

Silently Stevens complied, and took from the man's inner pocket his note-book, which was much burnt and shrivelled.

"Open that," said Bradshaw, and as Stevens obeyed him, a long lock of lovely golden hair, which the miner knew well, fell on the breast of the dying man.

"She gave it to me," he said, in a low gasping voice. "I was mad for her, Will," and with his poor burnt hands he felt for the hair, and held it fast.

"She promised to wed me," he continued painfully, as if making a sort of excuse; "and—and I—loved her—too much."

"Think of her no more," said Stevens, with a choking feeling in his throat, for he saw the man was fast sinking. "Think not of her, Bradshaw—she is not worthy of thy last thoughts."

"I—I—loved her—so—well," whispered Bradshaw, and then the deadly nature of his injuries, or the foul air, overcame him, for he closed his eyes, and with a slight shudder, and a smile, passed quietly away.

* * * * * * *

Among the first of the sufferers who were brought up to "bank," a few hours afterwards, was William Stevens. He was then nearly insensible, from the effect of the poisonous gas he had inhaled, but revived shortly after, and was able, in the course of the evening, to assist in removing some of the blackened and disfigured remains of those who had, but a few hours before, passed him with a careless jest or smile.

The living were all brought up first, and the sinking sun was just shedding its last beams on the weeping and terrified faces of the women who were standing near the pit shaft, waiting for their dead, when Stevens appeared amongst them. He was instantly surrounded by many eager inquirers.

"Did'st thou see naught of my little Bill?" asked one. "Oh! Willie, was Geordie safe?" said another, and amongst them was Mary Bradshaw.

"Willie, did'st thou see Jim?" she said; and Stevens stopped, looked at her tear-stained face, and as he did so, the memory of Bradshaw's last moments, and of Nelly's treachery and falsehood, rushed back into his mind, which till then had been somewhat confused and weakened by the poisonous gas he had inhaled.

"Come home, lass," he said, gently; and, taking one of Mary's cold, unresisting hands, he led her to their cottage door, shutting it behind them, and pointing to a seat.

"He is dead, then," said Mary, with a wail of sorrow. Stevens turned away his head, but held out his hand to the weeping woman.

"Tell me," sobbed Mary, "let me hear the worst. Is he dead?"

"He died in these arms," said Stevens, in a low voice; "he was among the first to die."

"Oh! Jim, Jim; Oh! Jim, it was too sudden," cried Mary.

"Thou came to me in my sorrow, Mary," said Stevens, laying his hand on her shoulder—"let me try to comfort thee now."

"He was the last—the last of us left but me," sobbed the poor girl.

"Do not grieve so," said Stevens, kindly; and then, stooping down, he half whispered, "we parted friends—he died with his hand in mine."

As he spoke they heard a tramping noise, and the sound of subdued voices outside, and then a hesitating knock.

"They are bringing him home," said Stevens, reverently taking off his cap and opening the door, where a group of men, bearing Bradshaw's body, decently covered with a sheet, stood waiting for admission.

"He's sorely burnt," said one of them to Stevens, in a low voice, as they carried him in, and, with a great cry of sorrow, Mary rose to receive her dead brother.

Late that night, when Stevens was sitting alone in his cottage, a little rap at the door disturbed his sad thoughts, and when he rose and opened it there was Nelly Gray, smiling and pretty as ever, standing before him.

"Oh! Willie, I'm so glad you are safe," she said; "so glad;" and then, coming towards him, she added, "I've just come from town, and didn't know the pit had fired till I got home; but I am glad you are safe."

"Yes, I am safe," replied Stevens, very gravely, not noticing, however, her out-stretched hand.

"And I'm glad, too, that odious Bradshaw is killed. Yes, I am glad."

"Thou's no call to say that," answered Stevens, sternly.

"Why not? I am. He was always bothering me."

"Dost thou know this?" said Stevens, opening his pocket-book and taking out the piece of golden hair which Bradshaw had shown him in the pit.

"It looks like mine," said Nelly, with affected carelessness, at the same time blushing deeply. "Yes, it looks like mine. Where did you get it?"

"He died with it in his hand," said Stevens. "Thou took his thoughts from God."

"He—he—told what was not true," said Nelly, hesitating.

"He told enough for me, anyway," answered Stevens. "When men stand face to face with death they mostly speak the truth."

"Then, I suppose, you believed him; perhaps made up your quarrel, and promised to be revenged upon me, eh?"

Stevens was silent, and, with a gesture of impatience, averted his head.

"Perhaps you don't mean to speak to me again, then?" said Nelly.

"Not willingly," answered Stevens; and, without another word, Nelly tossed her head, and walked out of the cottage, and Stevens was left alone, with the fair curl lying beside him.

Nearly a week afterwards (on the Sunday afternoon) a long procession left the cottages at Woodforth, and went on its slow and mournful way to the village churchyard. It was the funeral of the unfortunate miners who had perished in the explosion, and it was attended by nearly the whole of the workmen employed on the colliery. Among them was Stevens, who stood with bowed head and solemn face, as one after the other his early friends, and his dead enemy, were laid together, side by side, in one wide open grave.

To a thoughtless man, even, such an escape as Stevens had had from a sudden and violent death must have caused some serious reflections; but to him it seemed as though his life had been spared in direct answer to his dead mother's prayer, and the thought that he had been watched over and guarded in darkness and danger coloured his whole subsequent life, and made him what he now is, a serious and deeply religious man.

He kept his word, and never willingly spoke again to the faithless Nell. Indeed, she never gave him the chance, for she was excessively indignant at the way she had been treated by a mere pitman, and speedily entered into another love affair with a person of very superior rank to her own. How this will end remains to be proved. The gossips have it that the young gentleman is only amusing himself, but, at all events, he will not break Nelly's heart, for she is one of those happy people who always know how to take care of themselves, and whose strongest feelings are vanity and pride. Although in her inmost heart she bitterly repented, and, perhaps, even regretted the loss of her lover, she always gave out that she had rejected him, and she received the news of a quiet wedding, which took place some time after the explosion, with apparent unconcern.

How this came about it is very easy to understand. Stevens felt so utterly lonely and desolate in his cottage without his mother, that he naturally thought of the good and gentle woman who had come to comfort him in his sorrow, and whose character and conduct he could so thoroughly esteem.

When, therefore, he heard that poor Mary had to leave Woodforth, and was going to service, he made up his mind to offer her a home, scarcely conscious, however, of the deep and tender affection which for years she had given him.

She was sitting at her work as he came in one night full of his purpose, and as she held out her hand to welcome him, Stevens noticed that her eyes were red with weeping, and that her face was altered and pale.

"What's vexing thee, Mary?" he asked.

She turned her head away before she answered. "It—it—seems so hard to go away all among strangers."

"Thou musn't do that," said Stevens, laying his hand on her shoulder. "Stay among thy old friends—there's naught like them."

Mary shook her head. "I know that," she said, "but—but—I must work."

"Come and do it for one of them, then," answered Stevens, with a smile. "Come and be my wife, Mary, and I'll try to make thee happy."

The End.

LADIES' COLUMN.

Politics have been such an absorbing topic of conversation for the last ten days, and the subject one, unfortunately, upon which even relatives and intimate friends found themselves differing, that a common interest, even if it only concerned nothing better than bonnets and bows of ribbon, ought to be looked upon as a boon. The sun has given a little promise of more consistent shining, and the cruel north-east wind must have ere now blown itself out of all resources, and exhausted its stores. The trees are at last shewing a faint courage in the display of some tender green shoots. The lilacs and laburnums, declining to wait for signals from the almond blossoms, made a start a few weeks ago all on their own account, and now they are suffering for their impetuosity not a little in severe checks to progress.

An enthusiastic friend in a northern county writes of having seen a swallow on the 7th of this month. If the correspondent is correct her bird must be the proverbial one, as Calverley puts it, "Who found, with shame, he had not made a summer." Or like Gilbert White's, one that appeared at Selborne in 1770, on the 11th of April, found the country in frost and snow, and withdrew again. Jesse asserts that it is quite common for swallows to re-migrate, that is, if they come to this country and find the weather ungenial, they go away again for a short time.

Though we have grumbled over this ungenial season it might be useful, and do discontented people a great deal of good, to look back at the weather calendar of the last century, and see what our forefathers had to endure. 1776. To the 30th of May, dark, dry, harsh weather, with cold winds. 1778. To the end of April snow and ice. Fairly mild, early springs until 1783. Then to the 9th of May cold harsh winds (thick ice on 5th of May). 1784. To April 2nd, snow and hard frost. 1785. To April 7th, hard frost. 1786. On the 1st and 2nd of May, thick ice. 1787. To the end of June, mostly warm, with frequent showers, but on June 7th extreme cold, with ice as thick as a crown piece. This last was the latest date recorded for frost, though in 1790 the snow was deep up to April 15th, and ice up to the 21st.

Next week there will be a very unusual sight in two comets in the sky, not far apart from each other, and both visible to the naked eye. In the olden times such a sight would have filled the minds of the timid with fear, and the most terrible woes would have been predicted as likely, not to say certain, to follow. Those who are curious (and who would not be?) to see the comets ought to look out soon after sunset, (in fact, as soon as darkness makes the appearance possible, close to the north-western horizon. These comets are both very young friends, at least, to us, for they were only discovered last year, one by Fabry, in Paris, on December 1st, and the other in America, by Barnard, on December 3rd, and were then merely telescopic objects, though the astronomers assure us that now we shall be able to dispense with telescopes and see them for ourselves. The Paris comet as we call No. 1, for sake of distinction, is moving at a rapid pace. The American is going much slower, and will be longer in sight, after our French friend has disappeared into the Southern constellation Eridanus, for which, indeed, both comets are bound. Fabry's comet will pass close to the bright star, Beta Andromeda, on April 22nd, move on in a south-easterly direction, day by day, or rather night by night; it will appear to us, and disappear in the constellation about May 1st. Barnard's is moving more slowly, but in a northerly direction, and will pass Beta Andromeda on April 12th. On May 2nd the northern motion will cease, and the comet will move south, passing into Eridanus on May 24th, three weeks and three days later than Fabry's is expected to be lost to sight. Nothing could be more rash than for an unscientific writer to become responsible for the movements of comets, and to write down days and dates for their appearance and disappearance. For these pleasing anticipations I have aroused I am indebted to a friend who is always much better informed as to what is going on in the heavens above than among the politicians in the earth below; and I hope that these two young comets have not been so base as to deceive that confiding astronomer, and so lead me to raise the hopes of my readers that the sky will be clear and the comets come up to view punctually, not requiring telescopes for their discovery.

Yet many ladies have been and others now are distinguished for their knowledge of the starry heavens. Though Caroline Herschell is best known because of the assistance she gave her brother, other women, working entirely on their own account, have been phenomenal. The comet known as "Olber's" was discovered on the same day, at the same hour, and it may possibly have been at the same moment, by Frau Ramcker, in Hamburg, and by Mrs. Mary Mitchell of Boston. The great observatory at Rome was for many years directed by a woman, Katherina Scarpellini, who was also such a linguist that she was able to correspond on scientific subjects with all the learned societies of Europe. At Cambridge, even now, a lady is assistant at the Observatory, where first as merely a student she displayed such powers of observation, with the most mathematical exactness in her records of her work, that the result was her appointment up n professional lines to this honourable and very important post.

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A WORD TO THE WISE

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

1830. ESTABLISHED 1830.

Business Announcements

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

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

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

November 29, 1885.

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

Yours truly grateful,
MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREYS.

3, Briggs Row, Lower Richmond Road, Putney.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A SONG.

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

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

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

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

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

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

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

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A CASE.

They said that he was dying.
I watched him day and night.
I fancied every moment
The spirit would take flight.

His life was hanging merely
Upon the faintest breath,
Physicians told me sadly
It was the approach of death.

But a dear friend I cherish
A medicine famed did bring;
He soon began to flourish,
To bloom as flowers in spring.

'Twas "Gordon's splendid Extract,"
Which I now gladly bless,
Restoring life and health to him,
To me true happiness.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

LUMPS AS LARGE AS A MUSSEL-SHELL.

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

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

CHAS. PARKES.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

DROWNED WHALES.

The boy who pumped water on a frog "to drown it," was laughed at for his pains; but on the other hand, many forget that one's own element or habit of life may have death in it when deranged by a little violence. It would be strange to read of an eagle falling and breaking his neck, but the thing would be quite possible if the bird's wings were tied; and so if the gills of a fish are forced to a use opposite to nature, by forcing water up through them instead of down over them, the fish will "drown." It is still easier to drown a whale (which is not a fish), and some years ago a very curious exemplification of this fact occurred.

A whale had been harpooned, and had dived perpendicularly. The whale remaining below far beyond the usual time, the men thought that it must have died from its wound, and signalled for the ship. The line, after being passed on board, was carefully hauled up, and after a while up came the dead body of a whale. But there was no sign of the harpoon, and on further investigation, the line was found to be jammed at the back of the whale's mouth, and twisted round its body—whales will sometimes roll over and over when struck, just as an old and experienced salmon will do when hooked. After unrolling the whale from the line, the men found that no harpoon was attached to it, and that the rope after passing through the animal's mouth, hung downward, and quite taut.

Hauling again upon the line, they brought to the surface the whale which had been struck, and in whose body the harpoon still kept its hold. The fact was that both whales were drowned. After the first whale had descended, the second must have come across the line while feeding with open mouth. Then feeling the unexpected sensation of a rope at the back of its mouth, it instinctively closed its jaws, and tried to shake off the unknown intruder by rolling itself over and over.

In doing this, it would prevent the first whale from rising when its breath was exhausted, and so the animals managed to drown each other, and to afford their captors the unique spectacle of two dead whales hanging on a single line, one uninjured and the other without the infliction of a mortal wound.

FOREIGNERS' ENGLISH.

No doubt in our attempts to converse with foreigners in their own tongue, we make many a ludicrous mistake which they are too polite to notice, but we find it hard to keep our countenance when we hear foreigners struggling with our own language.

Moscheles, a French author, relates a droll blunder he made when in London, which "set the table in a roar": "One day I was asked at dessert what fruit I would have of those on the table. 'Some sneers,' I replied. The company were at first surprised, and then burst into laughter, perceiving the process by which I had arrived at the expression. I, who at that time had to construct my English out of guide-books and dictionaries, had found that 'not to care a fig' meant 'to sneer at a person.' So when I wanted some figs, I thought figs and sneers were the same."

Visitors from abroad may after some year's residence in this country attain a pretty fair mastery of the English language, and yet be imperfectly acquainted with some of the very slight variations that exist both in spelling and pronunciation between words of very different meanings. But its rather too bad to take advantage of that fact as was once done in the case of a German gentleman. Seeing an expression of incredulity on the face of an Englishman at some statement he had made, he exclaimed, "Do you doubt my veracity?" "*Voracity*," quietly corrected the Englishman. The other, knowing his friend's partiality for a joke, hesitated a moment, and glanced at the faces of the rest of the company, but as they all looked as serious as judges he fell into the trap, gravely asked the absurd question thus put into his mouth, and got in return the roguish assurance that they none of them in the least "doubted his voracity."

Being told that to squeeze and to press
In English meant both the same thing,
A Frenchman a friend thus addressed:
"Pray, squeeze that young lady to sing."

UNWILLING TO TELL.

It is well to be strictly truthful, even when the facts stated are not quite applicable to the occasion. The following story illustrates this truism:—

A country school-teacher had been telling her scholars about the seasons and their peculiarities, and to impress their minds with the facts, she questioned them upon the points she had given.

Several queries had been put, and she finally reached the stupid boy in the corner.

"Well, Johnny," she said, "have you been paying attention?"

"Yes'm," he answered, promptly.

"I'm glad to hear it. Now, can you tell me what there is in the spring?"

"Yes'm, I can, but I don't want to."

"Oh yes, you do. Don't be afraid. You have heard the other scholars. Be a good boy now, and tell us what there is in the spring."

"Wy—wy—mum, there's a frog an' a lizard an' a dead cat in it, but I didn't put 'em there. It was another boy, for I see him do it."

HER EXACT WORDS (?)

Indulgence in slang words and expressions is not only vulgar but unsafe. It would be well for us all if we could learn wisdom from the experience of a sea-captain, who was led by his devotion to nautical slang into rather an alarming misstatement.

A frigate commanded by him was chartered by Queen Charlotte to convey the Princess Royal to Germany. The captain was minutely instructed by the Queen as to the care he should take of his precious charge. When she had landed, he was to return immediately and report to his sovereign.

He did so, of course, and was closely questioned by her Majesty.

"Well, ma'am, yer Majesty," replied he, in some confusion, to the opening interrogation, "yes, she bore the voyage very well."

"Was there much wind?"

"Wind, ma'am, yer Majesty? Yes, there was a capful."

"Was her Royal Highness at all seasick?"

"Seasick! Oh yes, in course, a little. As we were going out of dock, she sent for me, ma'am, yer Majesty, into the cabin, and says she to me, says she,—

"'Captain, I'm afeard it do begin to blow.'

"So says I, 'O yer Royal Highness, it's nothing,' and nothing it was, ma'am, yer Majesty. Well, when we got past the Nore, it had come on a bit harder; so she sends for me into the cabin again, and says she—

"'Captain' says she, 'I'm sure it do blow now.'

"So I said it wasn't anything; it didn't blow at all. But when we got into the open sea, the wind did give us a bit of a tearer. So her Royal Highness sends for me again to the cabin, and says she to me, says she—

"'*Well, captain, shiver my timbers if it don't blow now!*'"

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—In Nellie, not in May.
In Minnie, not in Ray.
In Joseph, not in Bill.
In Phelix, not in Will.
In James, not in Phil.
In Peter, not in Saul.
In Andrew, not in Hal.
Just seven letters put aright disclose an animal.

2.—Rebus.
(What we all shall be.)
ABLE

OR

3.—My whole of paper oft are made,
Of various values it may be said;
Transposed, instead of paper, you
A mineral will bring to view.

4.—Whole, I am a sound, change my head and I become successively another sound, another sound, another sound, another sound, a governor, a fish, and to fly.

5.—A merry little village child
Was bounding o'er the green;
He wished to vault yon rustic stile,
But, oh! the sight between.
It was my first, and in his haste,
He did my second well,
And found a soft bed on my whole,
'Midst violet and bluebell.

6.—Curtail a multitude and leave a bird; merit and leave a plant; relish and leave a blast; secure and leave a tree; tart and leave a coin; a plank and leave an animal.

7.—I am a very well-known weight,
May be either heavy or light;
Behead, and I am often heard
In music, or, say, in a bird;
Curtail me now, and you will see
A heavy weight 'twill be.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Clove-n, craft-y, sever-e, badge-r, urban-e, hero-n, ban-k, bee-t. 2. Neck-lace. 3. Constantinople. 4. Just ice. 5. Iris, peony, aster, clematis, pink, dahlia, 6. Mat-tress. 7. Ocean, canoe.

Business Announcements

TO THE WEARY.

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

DO
TRUTH. READ THIS. TRUTH

No Person Need Despair

A SPEEDY RESTORATION TO HEALTH AND STRENGTH,

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

SELF-RESTORER,

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PATENT VOLTAIC BELT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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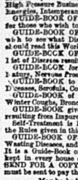
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CHEAP FISH for the MILLION DIRECT from the SEA.—I will send, any address, carriage paid, 7lb. Scarborough SOLES, cleaned for cooking, 4/- (four shillings), or 12lb. assorted Cod, Ling, Whiting, Haddock, Plaice, Skate, or Rock Salmon, buyers' selection, 4/6, cash with order. MAGEE BROTHERS, Fish Docks, Gt. Grimsby.

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DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE,
A few doses quite effectual. — Caution. — The extraordinary medical reports on the efficacy of Chlorodyne render it of vital importance that the public should obtain the genuine, which is protected by a Government stamp, bearing the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne." See decision of Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, the Times, July 16th, 1864.
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Sold in Bottles, 1/1½, 2/9, 4/6, by all Chemists.

WIT AND HUMOUR.

THE Chinese picture of ambition is "a mandarin trying to catch a comet, by putting salt on his tail."

WHAT cup is that which, although it never cheers or inebriates, sometimes arouses suspicion? It is hic-cup.

WOMEN who wear flounces on all occasions are often furbelow their sisters who are clad neatly but in plain attire.

AT a recent wedding the bridesmaids carried huge bunches of grapes instead of flowers. Sour grapes, of course!

PAWNBROKERS and hard drinkers often take pledges. We fear that the former generally keep them the longest.

A CERTAIN man says that one of his boys knows nothing, and the other does. The question is, which knows the most?

"MY dear sir, you have used my half of our case of champagne." "Oh, yes; you are my friend, and I always take your part."

A CONTEMPORARY speaks of "a lady" being detected in shoplifting! We shall hear next of "a gentleman" picking pockets.

AN editor states the cause of women having no whiskers to be the continual motion of the lower jaw, which is fatal to their growth.

Business Announcements.

LORD WOLSELEY
ON
HOME RULE.

"IT is through the courage, valor, and endurance of Her Majesty's soldiers and sailors, that this great Empire, now extending round the world, has been built up and cemented. We soldiers have given to the English people all that men can give—exertions, energies, and talents, and these have been directed by able men, able ministers, and able statesmen—to accomplish the work of solidifying this great Empire. We have done all that we can do, and we now look to the people of England to protect and save that Empire we have built up. Hitherto it has been our lot to face the foreign enemies of this country with arms in our hands; and hitherto the Army and the Navy, soldiers and seamen, have succeeded in keeping at a distance from our shores all foreign foes. Now we call upon you to do your duty and trample under foot enemies of a more serious description than those we have encountered abroad, because they are enemies within our civil boundaries. In conclusion, we call upon you all as one man, we call upon the nation with one voice to say 'Hands off' to that man, no matter what he may be, who would dare to break up and dismember this Empire, and in doing so ruthlessly destroy it."

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Good Friday and Eastertide.

STANHOPE.—The Salvation Army had a special "big tea" at the Barrack Room, on Good Friday, Staff Captains were present from Tow Law, Bishop Auckland, St. John's Chapel, &c. A good many visitors rambled about the village and neighbourhood.

WEARDALE.—The usual services in the several parishes were held on Good Friday, the Rev G. Monkhouse officiating at Heathery Cleugh, Rev R. Shepherd at St. John's Chapel, Rev J. Scholefield at Westgate, and Rev J. P. Shepperd at Rookhope. The Primitive Methodists at Lanehead held their chapel anniversary.

WESLEYAN METHODISM IN WEARDALE.—On Saturday, the bazaar and fancy fair in aid of the renovation of the Westgate Wesleyan Chapel were held in the Town Hall, St. John's Chapel, and were an unqualified success throughout. The superintendent-minister (Rev. H. Beeson) declared the bazaar open. Amongst the ladies presiding over the stalls were: Mesdames Lee, Elliot, Wearmouth, Martindale, Dalkin, Armstrong, Natrass, R. Martindale, Roddam, Furnace, assisted by Misses Moffat, Natrass, Beadle, Potts, Bostock, Auton, J. Moffat. An efficient choir, under the direction of Mr P. Walton, rendered selections at intervals.

CROOK.—As a special effort to reduce the debt on their chapel, the Primitive Methodists of Crook held a bazaar in their schoolroom on Good Friday, Mrs T. Parr, of Birmingham, assisted by the Rev T. Parr, M.A., being invited to perform the opening ceremony, the event being combined with the chapel anniversary. At night, the rev. gentleman delivered a lecture on "Uncrowned Kings in Common Life."

PELTON FELL.—On Good Friday, the Wesleyan Methodists held a very successful tea and public meeting. A sermon was preached in the afternoon by the Rev W. Henderson, Wolsingham, and in the evening a large public meeting was held, when addresses were given by the Revs W. Henderson, James Duff, Chester-le-Street, and other friends. The chair was occupied by Mr John Hodgson, Edmondsley.

ANNFIELD PLAIN PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The annual services were held as follows:—On Good Friday, a sermon was preached in the afternoon by Mrs Bertram, of Shotley Bridge Circuit. Afterwards a public tea was provided, the tables being presided over by Miss H. J. Reay, Miss M. Mason, Miss E. Purvis, and Miss J. Smith. A large number of persons partook of the good things provided. Tea over, a public meeting was convened in the evening, presided over by Mr C. Graham, who gave a rich tone to the meeting by his earnest address on "How to promote the work of God amongst us." Addresses were delivered by Mrs Bertram, Mr P. Reay, and the Rev John Waite. The addresses were of a highly elevating nature, and such as will do good to all who heard them. The choir under the leadership of Mr T. Pearson, rendered good service. Mr J. Bainbridge presided at the harmonium. Votes of thanks to the Chairman, speakers, tea-makers and waiters, and to the friends who had given the goods for making the tea, brought a most pleasant and interesting meeting to a close.—On Easter Sunday, sermons were preached in the morning and evening, by the Rev J. Moffatt, of Branch Terrace, Stocksfield, and in the afternoon by Mr J. Greenwood, of Blackhill. At the evening service, the power of God came down and believers were quickened, and one precious soul sought and obtained the blessing of pardon. Collections were taken at each service on behalf of the trust fund. The services were successful, and the proceeds in advance of last year.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—The Primitive Methodists celebrated their anniversary on Good Friday by holding a tea and lecture. A sermon was preached at 2·30 in the afternoon by the Rev Danzy Sheen, of Sunderland, before a good audience. Afterwards tea was held in the Wesleyan School room (kindly granted), and at night the Rev Danzy Sheen delivered a lecture on "Hugh Bourne, or the Father of English Camp Meetings." There was a capital attendance. Councillor S. Kent, of Gateshead, presided. The proceeds were in aid of the new schools and vestries about to be erected at the lower part of the town.—Business was generally suspended throughout this district on Easter Monday. The weather was most enjoyable, and the beautiful scenery was thoroughly appreciated by the numerous visitors who wandered at will by the River Wear. Quite a number of cyclists passed through the town.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.—The Ryton Barmoor Band of Hope held its annual meeting on Good Friday evening. About 350 parents and children sat down to an excellent tea, provided by Mr J. Hurman, of Bradney Villa, Ryton, who was in attendance at the gathering, accompanied by Mrs Hurman. After tea, appropriate addresses were delivered by Mr Hurman, Rev Mr McClumpha, Mr M. Westgarth, Mr J. Cox, and other friends. The children were highly gratified with their evening's enjoyment.—On Easter Monday large numbers of pleasure-seekers from Throckley, Walbottle, Newburn, Blaydon, Wylam, and various other places found their way to Ryton Willows. There was also a trip from Hebburn Colliery, accompanied by the Hebburn Colliery brass band, conducted by Mr Pearson, which played dance music. West Wylam brass band and Denton Burn reed band were also present. Football, quoits, and cricket were largely indulged in.

CORBRIDGE.—A sale of work was opened in the Methodist Free Church, Corbridge, by the Rev G. Thompson on Easter Monday afternoon, in order to clear off a bebt of £210, at present on the new chapel which was recently erected at a cost of £900, for the better accommodation of a large and inceasing congregation.

MICKLEY SQUARE.—On Good Friday afternoon, a bazaar was opened at the United Methodist Free Church, Mickley Square. The Rev F. Raine introduced Mr G. A. Fenwick, Bywell Hall, to open the undertaking. Mr Fenwick, who was greeted with loud applause, congratulated the friends on their noble efforts to remove the debt of £50 resting on the vestry. In referring to the political situation, he urged them to carefully consider the measures introduced for the improvement of Ireland before taking any decided action in the matter.—On the motion of Mr S. Little, seconded by Mr W. Crowe, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Fenwick, who gave a donation of £5 to the bazaar fund.—The bazaar was re-opened on Saturday afternoon by Mr M. MacInnes, M.P., for Hexham Division, and realised £50.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY CHURCH MISSION.—Most successful services were held on Good Friday and Easter Day, large congregations attending the frequent services. The building was beautifully decorated for Easter Day with flowers, evergreens, and texts. The service was conducted by the Rev Francis Marriner.

BLAYDON HAUGHS PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Good Friday, a bazaar was opened by Messrs M. Hawdon and Wm. Paxton, of Blaydon, in order to clear off a debt of £150. Over two months ago Mr Paxton offered £5 if the ladies could raise £20 by Good Friday. The ladies have worked hard to gain the amount, and after the opening ceremony they went eagerly to work in disposing of their goods. During the sale the choir sung solos, duets, quartettes, and anthems under the able leadership of Mr J. Forster. Instrumentalists, Master H. Baggot, Master J. W. Waggot, and J. W. Biggins. In the evening Mr R. Wood read the report, which showed that the society had raised nearly £40. The announcement gladdened the hearts of members and friends, who had no idea that they had raised such an amount in so short a time. After votes of thanks had been given to all who had taken part, the doxology was sung and a happy day brought to a close.

BLACKHILL CHRISTIAN MISSION.—A pic-nic and field-day was held at Whinney House, near Snows Green, kindly granted by Mr Charles Wilson, on Easter Monday. The band connected with the mission was followed by a large number of Christians of every denomination, and left Blackhill at two o'clock, marching to the *rendezvous* by way of Benfieldside Edge Road, where various innocent games were indulged in, agreeably interspersed by selections from the band conducted by Mr Jas. Palliser. A temperance meeting was also held, at which suitable addresses were delivered by Mr Robert Jones and Mr H. Carss. An excellent tea was provided by Mrs J. Jamieson and Mrs Palliser, the party, in true pic-nic fashion, supplying their own eatables. The company at the close of the day passed an unanimous vote of thanks to Mr Wilson.

BEAMISH.—The Flower of the Flock Lodge of Oddfellows (Beamish) on Easter Sunday assembled at their lodgeroom and marched to the Parish Church (St Andrew's).

The Consett Corps of the Salvation Army held a series of special services at their Barracks in Middle Street, on Good Friday, Saturday, Easter Sunday, and Monday.

HIGHGATE BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—On Good Friday, the Sunday-scholars were entertained to a free tea, after which a public tea was held in the School-room, and was attended by a large number of persons. The tables were presided over by the following young ladies, viz:—Miss Armstrong, Miss Thompson, Miss Egglestone, Miss Lancaster, Miss Turner, Miss Emma Turner, Miss Routledge, and Miss Watson, while Mrs Dowson, Mrs John Mackey, Mrs Jos. Mackey, and Mrs Turner superintended the preparations of the repast in the vestry. About 160 persons sat down at the tables; while over 200 scholars were fed. At the close a public meeting was held. Mr A. E. Turner, one of the superintendents, presided. The children recited portions of scripture, &c., under the management of Mr Jacob Dowson. Mr James Edwards, one of the oldest teachers, gave an interesting address. An earnest and stirring speech was delivered by the pastor (Rev E. W. Jenkins) on "Moral Courage: how to obtain it, how to retain it, and how to maintain it."—The anniversary services were continued on Easter Sunday, the Rev A. Graham Barton (Hamsterley) preaching in the morning and evening, and Mr W. A. Hoe (Blackhill) in the afternoon. The chapel was filled on all occasions. The selections of music by the scholars, under the leadership of Mr Mackey, were beautifully rendered.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.—In the Methodist New Connexion Chapel, on Good Friday, a sacred cantata, entitled "The captive maid of Israel," was performed by a chorus of 60 voices. The chair was occupied by Mr Charles Danson, colliery manager. There was a large attendance, and the entertainment passed over successfully.

STANHOPE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Monday night, the Wesleyan choir rendered in a very efficient manner the beautiful cantata, "The Lion of Judah." The interest shown by the audience speaks well for the conductor, Mr R. Ward. Miss Temperley presided at the harmonium. The chairman was the Rev C. Whitfield.—A coffee supper was held at the close, when a large number sat down to the good things provided.

WITTON GILBERT.—On Monday afternoon, the Wesleyans entertained their Sunday scholars to a tea in the old chapel. Afterwards, they adjourned to a field kindly lent by Mr Green. Here the time was cheerfully spent in all manner of games and amusements, the Sunday-school teachers and others quietly overlooking and heartily joining in the games.

BLAYDON WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—On Easter Monday, the annual gathering of this Sunday-school was held. Nearly 300 scholars and teachers paraded the principal streets, proceeding to a field granted for the occasion by Mr Martinson. After indulging in a number of games, they returned to the chapel, where they were regaled with a free tea. After the scholars' tea, a public tea and meeting were held, the latter being addressed by several of the teachers.

PRUDHOE.—On Easter Sunday, the anniversary of the United Methodist Free Church Sunday-school was celebrated, and was conducted by the Rev F. Raine, who preached in the morning. A service of song, entitled "Little Minnie," was given by the choir in the afternoon, and the evening service was taken up with recitations and dialogues by the scholars, and several pieces by the choir. The annual tea was provided on Monday afternoon, and an entertainment, presided over by Mr Kaine, was given in the evening. The congregations were large.

BALLS AT CONSETT.—The Prince of Wales Quadrille Party held another splendid ball in the New Lecture Hall, Consett, on Easter Monday night, upwards of fifty couples being present. Excellent music was supplied by Mr Alex. Parker's quadrille band. The waltzing contest was won by Mr J. Regan, of Stanley, and Miss S. Jackson, of Burnopfield; Mr J. T. Mellon, of Blackhill, and Miss M. Lister, of Shotley Bridge, being second. Messrs J. Melton and P. McDonald officiated as M.C.'s.—The same night, Mr P. McDonald's annual ball took place in the New Town Hall, Consett, when there was a good attendance. The League of the Cross Brass Band supplied the music. Mr J. Cooper officiated as M.C.

CASTLESIDE WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—On Good Friday, the usual tea-party was provided, and was very numerously patronised, visitors travelling from all directions to partake of the hospitality of the friends at Castleside. At night, a public meeting was held under the presidency of Mr Samuel Leybourne, of Shotley Bridge. Addresses were delivered by the Rev H. Parkes (superintendent minister), Mr T. C. Elliott (Dene Howle), Mr T. J. Muse (Castleside), and others. Some admirable recitations were contributed by the scholars, who also sang, with the assistance of the choir, a choice selection of appropriate hymns.—The anniversary was continued on Easter Sunday, Mr R. Browell, of Blyth, preaching in the afternoon and evening before large congregations. Collections were taken in aid of the school funds.

STANHOPE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday evening, a concert was given in the above chapel by the Primitive Methodist choir, under the leadership of Mr Temperley, to a large and appreciative audience. The following interesting programme was gone through in a very satisfactory manner:—Anthem, "O what beauty," choir; recitation, "Bingen on the Rhine," Mr W. Todd; quartett, "Incline thy ear," Misses Dawson, Watson, and Jacques, and Messrs Vickers and Temperley; song, "Jesus of Nazareth," Mr F. Vickers; organ recital, "Hallelujah chorus," Miss Temperley; anthem, "Lilies of the field," choir; anthem, "Resurrection," choir; quartett, "Come unto Me," Misses P. Vickers, Baintridge, Elliott, and Messrs F. Vickers and Temperley; anthem, "Gloria," choir; recitation, "The curfew shall not ring to-night," Miss Proud; anthem, "Praise the Lord," choir; song, "But thou didst not leave," Mr Joseph Vickers; organ recital, "Chorus of angels," Miss Temperley; duet, "O rest in the Lord," Messrs F. Vickers and Temperley; anthem, "The Lord is my shepherd," choir. The pieces, which were sung and recited with great precision, reflected great credit on the performers. Miss Temperley presided at the organ, and much praise is due to her for the excellent manner in which she performed the organ recitals. Rev E. Philipson was chairman.

TOW LAW.—The weather was considerably milder on Good Friday than for some days, and people in considerable numbers were enabled to move about outside. In the morning, services were held in the Parish Church and in the Wesleyan Chapel. In the afternoon, the annual Presbyterian tea meeting was held in the chapel, and a sale of goods left over from the recent bazaar also took place. At night, a public meeting in connection with the same place was held, and was addressed by the Revs Strang, Middlesbrough; Rentoul, Darlington; and the pastor, H. Slade. The Wolsingham Baptist Choir rendered several musical pieces during the evening.—On Good Friday evening the members of the Welcome Juvenile Temple gave their annual entertainment in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. A good programme, consisting of singing, reciting, and dialogues, was given by the young folks. Mr George Watson occupied the chair.—On Easter Sunday, two sermons were preached, and a Bible reading given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel by Mr M. Dixon, of Ushaw Moor. On Monday afternoon, a public tea was held in the chapel. All the good things were given, and the whole affair got up the ladies of the society, to whom great praise was given by the trustees and members. In the evening, a grand concert was given by the chapel choir, assisted by other friends. Leader, Mr H. Hobson (who took the place of his brother, who went to America last year); harmoniumist, Mr T. Raine. The Rev R. Gillender occupied the chair. Votes of thanks to the ladies and choir brought the meeting to a close. The proceeds, about £13, were for the trust fund.—The pleasure of the day was rather marred by a sad accident which happened to a little boy, aged 3½ years, the nephew of Mr T. Raine, harmoniumist. He was playing about the chapel door, and was accidentally tripped up, and broke his leg.—At the close of the season, the Tow Law Quadrille Party held a ball in the Mechanics Hall on Monday night.

KNITSLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Good Friday night, the Knitsley Primitive choir gave an entertainment, consisting of dialogues, readings, songs, &c., in aid of the circuit fund debt. Mr J. Shearer occupied the chair.

SUNNISIDE, TOW LAW.—The Sunniside Good Templars gave an entertainment in the Board School of that place, on Saturday night, Mr Douglas presiding. The musical and other portions of the programme were well sustained.—On Sunday week special sermons were preached in the Wesleyan Chapel to good congregations.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, COLLIERLEY.—On Easter Monday, a sale of work was opened in the Greencroft Board Schools, Catchgate, by Mr John Hall, of Annfield Plain, in aid of the organ fund of the above church. A tea party was afterwards held, and at night there was a concert of miscellaneous music.

BURNHOPE COLLIERY WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On the evening of Good Friday, a service of song, entitled "Song Memories of Bible Scenes," was rendered in the above-named place of worship by the Sunday-school children, assisted by a few friends. A coffee supper was afterwards provided. Both gatherings were largely attended. The proceeds will be devoted to the Sunday-school funds.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Good Friday afternoon, Mr B. Cawood preached a sermon, and at night delivered a lecture on "How to save men; or methods of mission work," in the above place of worship, in aid of the Wesleyan Day Schools at Bottle Bank, Leadgate. The chair was taken by Mr H. W. Lane, schoolmaster.—On Sunday (Easter Day), special sermons were preached in the morning and evening by Mr Joseph Innes, of Yarm-on-Tees.

CONCERT AT LANCHESTER.—A popular concert was given in the School-room, Lanchester, on Easter Monday, and the result was in every way a great success. The room being quite full, and the programme seeming to give every satisfaction to audience; the prominent vocalists were Messrs Burgess, Dunn, and Wiggam; their efforts and the playing of Miss White, and that of Mrs H. and Miss Dixon evidently were fully appreciated. Certain "Nursery rhymes," with some local additions, created much amusement.

WATERHOUSES.—The Wesleyan Methodists held their anniversary on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. On Good Friday two impressive sermons were preached, afternoon and evening, by Mr Wm. Elliott, Consett. A public tea was held in the afternoon, when a large number partook of an excellent repast. The tables were presided over by Misses Hodgson, Thompson, Johnson, and Daglish. On Easter Sunday, Rev S. Adcock preached twice to good congregations.

PELTON.—The Easter services at Pelton Church were particularly well-attended. There were 282 communicants, and these, with the sick and other communions, made a total of 300 persons. At evensong, the church was densely crowded. The anthem was "But thou didst not leave," sung by the Vicar, and the Hallelujah Chorus by the choir. Four brass instruments supplemented the organ, which was played by Mr H. Wilkins. The Vicar preached.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—These services were held on Sunday, Mr W. Knox, of Sunderland, being the special preacher. The afternoon and evening services were held in the New Town Hall. A children's festival was held in the afternoon.—On Easter Monday, a tea was provided for the public in the school-room, followed in the evening by a service of song called "The little captive," rendered by the scholars and choir. Rev H. Yooll occupied the chair, Mr J. L. Surtees acted as reader, Mr James Arnott as conductor, while Mr Thos. Jones was harmoniumist. There was a good audience, and the proceedings were of an entertaining character.

BAZAAR AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—On the afternoon of Easter Monday, a bazaar for the sale of useful and fancy articles, was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, in connection with the Wesleyan Methodists of that place. The opening ceremony was performed, at two o'clock in the afternoon, by Mr T. J. Muse, of Castleside House, in the presence of a large and fashionable company. The under-mentioned ladies assisted in promoting the bazaar, and in attending to the various stalls, which were well-filled with a large assortment of goods:—Mrs Douglass, Hawthorn Terrace; Mrs Richardson, West View House; Mrs Lax, The Terrace; Mrs Smith, Rose Cottage; Mrs Taylor, The Terrace; Mrs Leybourne, Poplar Cottage; Mrs N. Brown, Front Street; Mrs George Robson, The Mill; Mrs N. Oley, Wood Street; Mrs Geo. Brown, Front Street; Mrs Lamb, Shotley Bridge; Mrs W. Brown, Snows Green; Mrs Susan Wardhaugh, Baxton Burn; Mrs Brown, Benfieldside; Mrs C. Barron, Benfieldside; Misses Hunter, Derwent Villa; Miss Muir, Benfieldside. There was also a plentiful supply of refreshments. The proceeds were for the chapel trust funds.

AMUSING BALL AT LINTZFORD.—On Tuesday night, a strictly private ball was held in the "Grainary" at Lintzford, kindly granted by a respected gentleman. Mr John Reid, jun., presided as M.C., and very ably conducted the various dances. A select company were present, consisting of schoolmasters, ex-pupil teachers, farmers, drapers, pitmen, and paper-makers. The ladies consisted of schoolmistresses, dressmakers, &c. A very unlimited number of children were admitted without payment. During the course of the evening, the ladies were repeatedly served with "pop," while the gentlemen had something out of a very large bottle ("grey-hen"), which Mr Reid pulled across the dancing hall floor, greatly to the abject terror of the tender-hearted young schoolmistresses, not having seen anything of the like done before. With a few other sundry mistakes on behalf of the M.C., the ball was carried on to a late hour of the night. Mr John Linsay's string band was in attendance.

MEDOMSLEY WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—The anniversary services in connection with the above school were held on Good Friday and Easter Sunday under favourable circumstances, owing, no doubt, to the glorious weather that prevailed. On the former day, a public tea was held in the chapel. About 120 sat down to an excellent repast. The tables were gracefully presided over by the following young ladies:—Misses Teasdale, Henderson, Dent, Hogg, E. Robinson, and M. E. Hetherington. In the evening, a public meeting was held, the chapel being crowded to excess. After opening the meeting with a hymn and prayer, the chairman (Mr Wm. Hogg, Westwood) said he felt exceedingly glad to meet with them again at Medomsley. He believed that the Sunday-school work was a grand and noble cause, and urged upon the young men of that society to do whatever they could to further promote that cause. The Rev Wm. Douglass (Shotley Bridge) and Mr James Armstrong (Westwood) followed with excellent addresses on the same subject. The choir rendered a selection of hymns during the evening in capital style. After a vote of thanks had been proposed to the speakers by Mr B. T. Adamson (Medomsley), seconded by Mr J. Calvert, the meeting terminated by singing the Doxology.—On Sunday, services were continued, in the morning in the chapel, and in the afternoon and evening in the Templars' Hall, conducted by Mr R. C. Forster, Consett. The hall, at each service, was crowded in every part, many being unable to gain admission. In the afternoon, an examination of the scholars in scripture, dialogues, poetry, &c., was gone through, in which they rendered their different pieces admirably; while in the evening, after a dialogue on "Conversion" had been performed by eight of the scholars, and a chapter by the Testament class of boys, both of which were rendered in a praiseworthy manner, Mr Forster addressed the audience from the text, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

The famous Spa Grounds at Shotley Bridge have, during the propitious weather prevailing this Eastertide, been the popular resort of a vast number of pleasure-seekers. On Monday, it is estimated that about 6,000 people, from all parts of the district—by rail or otherwise—repaired to these magnificent grounds, where numerous attractions were provided by the lessees (Messrs Wilson Bros.) for their edification and amusement. The Consett Iron Company's Brass Band was in attendance, and performed instrumental selections. Many visitors were tempted to trip the "light fantastic toe" on the greensward, while others delighted themselves by rambling about and surveying the picturesque scenery which abounds on the banks of the Derwent. The principal feature of the day were two football matches, which engrossed the attention of a crowd of spectators. The first played off was between Medomsley and Rendel (Newcastle), which, after a close contest, resulted in favour of Rendel by three goals to their opponents' one goal and one disputed. The other contest was Consett *v.* North Shields, and this game ended, after a tough and exciting struggle, in favour of Consett, who scored three touches down against two touches down. An ample supply of refreshments were provided in the grounds. After dusk, there was a brilliant display of fireworks, by Brock and Co., of London.

Although the weather was more beautiful on Tuesday, there was a perceptible falling off in the attendance of visitors, the entertainment provided being precisely similar to the preceding day. A football match, played off between Consett and Tudhoe resulted, after a severe tussle, in a draw. The band was again present, and the proceedings wound up with a fireworks' display.

CONSETT LOCAL PARLIAMENT.

The members of the Consett and District Parliamentary Debating Society brought their second session to a fitting close on Tuesday night, by holding a conversazione in the National Schools, Consett (kindly granted by the Vicar). Both schools were utilised on this occasion, and the arrangements were so admirably carried out by the promoters, that the event was brought to a most successful issue. In the boys' school-room the entertainment was confined to speaking and singing, an excellent programme of a varied and instructive character being performed, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P. The girls' school-room was used for promenading purposes; and there was on view a number of interesting exhibits. There was a numerous and fashionable audience, composed of the *elite* of the district.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by delivering a speech of a semi-political nature, wherein he dilated upon the principles of Home Rule, Fair Trade, &c. He was followed by Mr Philip Teare ("The Speaker") who gave a *resume* of the operations of the society during the present Session, remarking that at the commencement the Conservatives were in power; but after retaining office for some time, they were ousted from their position, the Liberal party assuming the control of affairs. (Applause.) The financial statement indicated a balance of £4 in hand at the opening of the Session; but at present the funds in hand only amounted to £1 8s.

The programme was then contributed in the following order:—Part I.—Part-song, "In this hour of softened splendour," Misses Cairns and Lumsden, and Messrs C. Davison and P. Surtees; address by the Member for Newcastle-on-Tyne, the Prime Minister (Mr C. C. McColvin); song, "The children's home," Miss Harwood; flute solo, selections from "Martha," Mr C. Stelling; promenade of fifteen minutes; song, "Afton Water," Mr C. Davison; address by the member for City of London, Leader of the Opposition (Rev F. Steggall); song, "The powder monkey," Mr P. Surtees; selection by the Benfieldside String Band; recitation, "The dirty boy," Master Louis Kelly. The reciter, a little boy of five years, executed his piece so cleverly that he was rewarded with an *encore*. Promenade of 15 minutes.

Part II. was as follows:—Part song, "Of a' the airts the wind can blow," Misses Smith and Harwood, and Messrs Stelling and Lewis; address by the Member for Cork City, Leader of the Home Rule party (Mr T. Dunne); song, "The reign of the roses," Miss Cairns (*encored*). Promenade of 15 minutes. Song, "The sailor's grave," Mr C. Stelling (*encored*); song (humorous), "Songs of songs," Sergt. H. Murphy (*encored*). Promenade of 15 minutes. Finale, "Auld Lang Syne," The Company. The efforts of the several vocalists were highly appreciated, the singing being of a first-class order. The accompanists were Miss Petherick, Messrs C. Stelling and F. Brodie. The Benfieldside String Band, conducted by Mr M. Hobday, also enlivened the proceedings by giving selections at intervals.

In the Girls' Schools, a pair of Byng telephones, furnished by Messrs Mills and Sons, electricians, Newcastle, were in operation. There was also exhibited and explained by the Rev F. Steggall a Wymshurst's electrical machine, with brilliant experiments; an interesting collection of scientific and other objects, such as microscopes, stereocopes, kaliedoscopes, galvanic batteries, &c., were likewise on view. One of the principal objects of attention was the gigantic figure, known as the "petrified giant," which was discovered in the Saint Pit; and the Consett Company also sent a large case containing specimens of steel, &c.

In the ante-rooms a large supply of capital provisions were served up by Mr Hart, of the refreshment rooms, Consett.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, April 29th. — Before M. KEARNEY, Esq. (in the chair), Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE, and GEO. HEDLEY, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Young and *Matthew Gibbon* were summoned by Sergt. Nicholson for drunkenness near to the Hamsteels Colliery Inn, on the night of the 3rd inst.—Young failed to appear, and was fined 10s and costs; Gibbon admitted his guilt, and was mulcted in 5s and expenses.

Patrick Finnigan, charged by P.C. Thompson with being drunk and shouting and swearing, near to Greencroft Cottages, on April 14th, was also fined 5s and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Thomas Liddle and *John Linskey* were charged by Sergt. Nicholson with committing this offence by fighting at Cornsay Colliery, at 7·45 p.m. on the 3rd inst.—Linskey pleaded guilty, and was bound over in the sum of £5 for six months. A warrant was issued against Liddle, who did not respond to the summons.

SOMETHING MORE THAN A "LARK."

James May and *Samuel Trotter*, youths, were charged with assaulting Margaret McGarry, a girl, at Esh, on the 13th inst. Mr Oliver, Durham, defended.—The complainant stated that she met the defendants as she was carrying her brother's "bait" to the pit. They got hold of her, and one of the youths put his arms around her waist. (Laughter.) She gave him some "bullets" to induce him to leave her—(laughter)—but they did not do so, but kept on tormenting her until she stumbled down. They wanted to lift up her clothes.—The Rev J. P. De Pledge: Did they take off your shoes?—Complainant: No; something worse than that. (Laughter.)—Mr Oliver: It was not Easter-time then.—Cross-examined by Mr Oliver: Complainant admitted that she told the defendants that if they could find any "bullets" upon her, they could have them, and they accordingly searched her pockets. (Laughter.) She was "larking" on with a mason's labourer just before, but the defendants did more to her than the man did to her.—The Bench, at this stage, dismissed the summons, the Chairman remarking that they could not waste their time in listening to such a trivial charge.

AN INCIDENT OF THE LATE SNOWSTORM.

George Simpson and *William Bell*, employed as cartmen by Mr John Hall, grocer, Annfield Plain, were charged with doing wilful damage, on March 6th, to a stone wall, to the extent of 10s, the property of Messrs Hedley Brothers, of the Craghead and Holmside Collieries. The wall, which is situated near Jaw Blades, was pulled down during the recent snowstorm. — Defendant Simpson admitted his guilt, but urged that he was obliged to take down a portion of the wall in order to reach some houses to deliver groceries, as the ordinary roads were blocked with snow. He intended to put up the wall again, but had not been able to do so.—The charge was proved by Mr John Taylor, in the service of Mr Hedley.—The case was not pressed by Mr George Hedley, but the Chairman pointed out that they must have a conviction to stop this sort of thing. Defendants would have to pay 6d fine, 6d damage, and costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Samuel Littlewood, Martin Brett, Andrew Grant, Joseph Scofield, James and *Joseph Staley, Patrick* and *Luke Brett*, miners, pleaded guilty to a charge preferred against them by Sergt. Nicholson, of playing at pitch and toss in the Green Hill Quarry, situate between Quebec and Langley Park, at three o'clock on the afternoon of Sunday, 4th inst.—The Chairman said it was a curious thing that men should select Sundays for indulging in this improper practice of cheating one another, instead of amusing themselves in a rational way. They would be fined 2s each, and pay costs.

William Bayles, Martin Linskey, William and *Patrick Glennon, John Doyle, John McVey, Thomas Wanless*, and *Martin Forken*, youths, of ages varying from 13 to 19 years, were found guilty of a similar offence, committed at the same time and place.—The Chairman, in imposing a penalty of 2s and costs, remarked that it was bad enough for young lads to be guilty of this offence, but he considered that persons of much older years were much more to blame.

Blackett Richardson, William Robinson, Thomas Dawson, George Lee, and *William Proctor*, also youths, were summoned for the same offence. Defendants entirely repudiated the charge.—P.C.'s Robinson and Raine deposed to seeing the defendants gambling on Sunday afternoon, 11th April, on the highroad near to Esh Colliery.—The mother of Lee stated that her son was both deaf and dumb, and she stoutly denied that he was there at all.—Each offender was fined 2s and 5s 6d Court fees.

CLAIM FOR WAGES: SINGULAR DISPUTE.

John Ryans, fireman, summoned *Messrs James Joicey and Co.* (Limited), the owners of South Tanfield Colliery, Oxhill, for 19s 9d, in respect of wages unlawfully withheld from him.—Mr J. McCartan (Consett), represented the plaintiff; while Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) appeared in defence.—Mr Oliver, at the outset, took objection to the summons. He contended that it was not the Owners of South Tanfield Colliery, but a limited liability company, that ought to be sued.—The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger) suggested that the summons should be amended so as to sue Messrs Joicey and Company.—Mr Oliver did not object to amending the summons, providing the colliery owners were allowed to plead a set-off, that plaintiff had received the money from another man, and had been paid less that amount.—Mr McCartan protested against this, as they had not received any notice of this counter-claim. Moreover, the charge against his client, under the circumstances, amounted to a felony.—Mr Oliver: No, no.—The Bench decided to investigate the case, and Mr McCartan explained that proceedings were taken under section 4 of the Employer's and Workman's Act. It was the custom for one man to go to the pay office, and "draw" the wages of several workmen, and the money was subsequently divided amongst them. On the 2nd April, plaintiff proceeded to the office, and received the money out of a box at the window. When he counted it afterwards, he ascertained that there was 19s 9d short—that being the deficiency handed to him and the amount specified on the pay-ticket. Ryans complained to the bank manager next day, but did not receive any satisfaction.—Mr Oliver stated that he was over-paid 19s 9d—a sum which he was not entitled to. He suggested that it be found whether plaintiff got the 19s 9d or not.—The Chairman said the onus rested with the colliery owners to prove that plaintiff was overpaid.—Plaintiff, sworn, stated that he received £2 19s 8d for himself. The money was all right, except that he was 19s 9d short. He got the wages for three men. He never looked at the ticket, but took the money away in a handkerchief, thinking that it would be all right.—The Chairman: Then the man entitled to this 19s 9d was not there?—Plaintiff: No.—Rev J. P. De Pledge: Why did you not count the money when you got it?—Plaintiff: I never counted the money till I reached the fire-holes.—Mr Oliver explained that 19s 9d was paid to a man named Farrell, who left on the 19th March; and on the 2nd April plaintiff inadvertently received another 19s 9d for the same individual.—Mr De Pledge: That is not his fault. The blame rests with the owners in not keeping their books properly.—Mr Oliver pointed out that James Farrell left the colliery on the 19th April, and the officials not having been notified of the fact, this 19s 9d was again put into the box from which the plaintiff took out the wages on the 2nd April. The point was this: Ryans received £3 10s 10d on the 2nd April, and after paying Patrick Farrell his share of £2 11s 1d he had 19s 9d left over.—The Chairman observed that it appeared to be a question of honesty and dishonesty. He did not think it necessary for them to proceed further with the case.—Mr Oliver said he would call witnesses who would prove that defendant received 19s 9d over much.—Mr McCartan said it was quite possible there had been a mistake, as errors sometimes happened in paying the wages at this colliery.—Mr Black, inspector, said that James Farrell left the colliery on the 19th March. He received his wages due, and also 19s 9d "lying-on" money.—Mr Robert Kay, overman, proved that £3 10s 10d was counted and put into the box from which the plaintiff took the money on the 2nd April.—After another witness had been examined, the Chairman said it was evident the officials had a very lax method of keeping the books.—The Bench made an order for the payment of 19s 9d, with costs.

EASTER VESTRY MEETINGS.

ST. AIDAN'S, BLACKHILL.—The Easter vestry meeting of this parish was held on Monday evening—Rev T. J. Storey (vicar), in the chair. The Vicar re-appointed Mr Thompson Siddell as his warden, Mr John Moon being elected peoples' warden, and Messrs J. Lovatt, D. Hodkin, L. Wilson, and T. Nicholson, sidesmen. A special vote of thanks was passed by the vestry to Mr Jonathan Stephenson for the high state of efficiency which the choir had attained under his training. Mr Lindsay Wilson, superintendent of the Sunday school, stated that the number of scholars had outgrown their present accommodation in the Sons of Temperance Hall, and that Mr Richard Murray, of Benfieldside House, had kindly promised to place the Agricultural Hall at their disposal after the present quarter had ended. The churchwardens' accounts for the year showed a balance in hand of £17 5s 6d.

ST. CUTHBERT'S, BENFIELDSIDE.—The annual vestry meeting was held in St. Cuthbert's Sunday-school on Easter Tuesday, when the Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin (vicar) presided. The outgoing wardens, Messrs F. Priestman and J. Collinson presented their accounts, which showed a small balance in the bank, notwithstanding that there was a deficiency of £14 15s 1d at the commencement of the year. The Vicar appointed Mr John Collinson as his warden, and Mr P. M. Brutton was elected by the parishoners. Messrs A. B. Wilbraham, J. Thirlwell, Lewis Priestman, M. Richley, D. Ormerod, R. Hall, and G. Lowes were re-elected sidesmen, together with Mr F. Priestman, who takes the place of Mr Moon. Messrs T. Whinney and J. Kirsopp were re-elected as auditors. A special vote of thanks was accorded to the family of the late Dr Renton, Orchard House, for the beautiful east window which they have erected in the church. Hearty votes of thanks were also given to Messrs F. Priestman and J. Collinson for the efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties during the last five and six years respectively. A cordial vote of thanks to Mr Ross-Lewin for presiding terminated the proceedings.

LANCHESTER.—The annual vestry meeting was held on Easter Tuesday in the vestry of the parish church. Messrs Cumming, Leybourne, Logan, and R. Walton were elected churchwardens for the ensuing year. The churchwardens' accounts were found on a satisfactory footing, the receipts being able to meet the increased expenditure of the past year. A sub-committee of the vicar, churchwardens, and three other gentlemen were appointed to consider fully the question of improvements in the internal arrangements of the church, and to report to the select vestry.

ST. JOHN'S, WEARDALE.—The annual vestry meeting was held on Easter Monday—the Vicar (Rev R. Shepherd) in the chair. The outgoing churchwardens, Messrs T. Vickers and J. Potts, were re-elected; and Messrs J. Coulthard, J. Walton Watson, J. Featherstone, and J. Waugh were appointed sidesmen. John Hewison was appointed sexton, and Sarah Hewison care-taker of the church.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—The Easter vestry meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon in the Parish Church, the rector (Rev Canon Blunt) presiding. Mr J. Armstrong, retiring rector's warden, read a statement of accounts for the past year. The receipts amounted to £174 0s 1d, and the payment to £157 5s 4d. The accounts were passed.—The Rector expressed his thanks to Mr Armstrong, and to the retiring churchwardens. He nominated Mr E. E. Steele as his churchwarden. Messrs R. F. Gibson and Wm. Hall were elected peoples' churchwardens. The rector appointed R. Dickinson and J. North as his sidesmen, whilst Messrs Jas. Smith and A. McLure were chosen as parish sidesmen. The election of officers for the outlying places was proceeded with. For Pelton Fell, the rector nominated Mr Crawford as his sidesman, and Mr F. Musgrove was elected peoples' sidesman. Mr J. G. Bell was nominated as rector's sidesman, and J. D. Thompson as peoples' sidesman for the village of Plawsworth. For Waldridge Fell the rector chose Mr Holmes as sidesman, whilst Mr Afflick was elected as peoples' sidesman.

CORBRIDGE.—The annual vestry meeting was held on Monday night, Mr Carr (vicar's churchwarden) was voted to the chair.—The accounts showed a balance in hand of £17 6s 9d.—Mr Blandford was re-elected as a churchwarden.—Upon the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Blandford, a vote of condolence with the widow and family of the vicar (Rev G. C. Hodgson)—whose death had cast a gloom over the village—was unanimously agreed to.

THE IRONWORKERS' STRIKE AT CONSETT.

SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE.

A large meeting of the blastfurnacemen was held on Saturday morning at the Lecture Hall, Consett, to consider the wages dispute, when a deputation was appointed to wait on Mr Jenkins, general manager to the Consett Iron Company, to try and arrange for a settlement of the question. The interview lasted over two hours, and it was suggested that the men should submit to a reduction of 5 per cent., and that the question of tonnage that they have been allowed for the make of above 500 tons per furnace be referred to arbitration. These terms, which were laid before a subsequent meeting, were accepted by a very large majority of the men, and the agreement was signed. The arrangements for the arbitration were left in the hands of the manager, on behalf of the Consett Iron Company, and Mr Snow, secretary of the Blastfurnacemen's Association, on behalf of the men. The four following gentlemen were suggested to act as arbitrators in the case:—Mr Priestman (late manager of the Consett Iron Company), Mr Jos. Cowen, M.P., Mr David Dale, (Darlington), and Dr Spence Watson (Newcastle.) In view of the arrangement arrived at, work was resumed last Tuesday morning. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Snow for his action in bringing about a settlement.

WOODBURN.—SALE OF FARMING STOCK, &c.—Mr Joseph Vickers, of Tow Law, sold by auction, on Wednesday, the whole of the farming stock of Mr George Davison, who is retiring from farming. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and the whole of the lots were soon disposed of. The principal buyers were Messrs Keenleyside, of Dipton, Mr Johnson, Cote House, Blanchland, Mr Haansbergen, the whole all round realising fairly good prices.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CROOKHALL.—6, Red Row, 25th inst., the wife of James Walker, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Wesleyan Chapel, 22nd inst. (by license), by the Rev Wm. Douglass, John Cook, Whickham, to Miss Urwin, Hamsterley.

LANCHESTER.—At the Register Office, 17th inst., John Lowes to Ellen Ovington, both of Oxhill.—Same day, John Hunter, Consett, to Mary Tate, Blackhill.—Same day, Thomas R. Munn to Elizabeth Evans, both of Consett.—Same day, Frederick Gardiner to Hannah Sawers, both of South Moor.—19th inst., Thomas Tailford, Leadgate, to Elizabeth A. Hullah, Consett.—24th inst., John Wm. Kirkup, Blackhill, to Elizabeth Poole, Consett.—Same day, John Lunn to Jane Robinson, both of Langley Park.—Same day, John Mitchell to Ann Ledger, both of Quaking Houses.—Same day, George Peacock, Langley Park, to Mary J. Mason, Delves Lane.—Same day, Frederick Hinken to Helen Bell, both of Consett.

STANHOPE.—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 25th inst., Joseph Proud, farmer, Holly Hall, to Hannah Parmerley, Stanhope.

Wesleyan Chapel, 24th inst., Stephen Watson, mining agent, West Black Dean, to Phœbe Jane Longstaff, Low House, Westgate.—Same day, James Hodgson, mason, Boltsburn, to Mary I. Parker, Bankfoot, Rookhope.—Same day, Wm. Westgarth Forster, steelworker, Wolsingham, to Ellen Adamson, Boltsburn.

WOLSINGHAM.—Register Office, 24th inst., Thomas Trelford, Prince Street, Tow Law, to Eleanor Johnson, Dan's Castle.—Same day, Emerson Sanderson, moulder, to Mary Jane Williams, both of Wolsingham.

BIRTLEY.—St. John's, 28th inst., by the Rev W. S. Guest-Williams, M.A., Robert Kerr Wilson to Sarah, youngest daughter of the late Thos. Turnbull, builder, Birtley.

PRUDHOE.—United Methodist Free Church, 27th inst., by the Rev F. Raine, Mr P. Vickers to Annie, eldest daughter of Mr J. Leathard, of Prudhoe.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—22, Constance Street, 26th inst., aged 6 years, Henry Cyril, son of George and Mary Ann Hillman.

Delves Lane, 2, Forster Street, 26th inst., aged 9 years, Flora, the beloved daughter of William and Ann Grierson.

LEADGATE.—Iveston Lane, on the 24th inst., aged 67, Ellen Barrow.

KNITSLEY.—28th inst., aged 68 years, Ann Burton. To be interred on Saturday first.

BURNOPFIELD.—Leazes, 24th inst., aged 33, Thomas Armstrong.

STANHOPE.—Marton Street, 26th inst., aged 71, Hannah, wife of Michael Brown, retired merchant tailor.

WOLSINGHAM.—25th inst., aged 10 months, Annie Worth, daughter of Thos. Wardhaugh.

PELTON FELL.—26th inst., aged 90, James Turner.

WATERHOUSES.—27th inst., aged 34, Thomas, son of George Gray.

24th inst., aged 63, Walter Goodliffe, labourer.

24th inst., aged 20, Thomas Bowes, clerk.

BROOMLEY, near Stocksfield.—25th inst., in her 85th year, Miss Ann Batey.

WHICKHAM.—27th inst., aged 16 months, Lily, infant daughter of Thomas Willis.

BLAYDON.—Church Terrace (at the residence of his parents), 26th inst., aged 24, Matthew Watson.

RYTON.—Towneley Cottages, 22nd inst., aged 75, Joseph Maughan.

CORBRIDGE.—On Easter Day, the Rev G. C. Hodgson, vicar of Corbridge.

WEST WYLAM.—21st inst., aged 7 years, Mary Ann, daughter of Robt. Thompson.

29th inst., aged 41, Dinah, wife of Ralph Maughan.

DURHAM.—31, Old Elvet, 27th inst., aged 45 years, Holloway Walrond Hastings, Lieut.-Col. Madras Staff Corps, Deputy Commissioner of Lucknow.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Dock Inn, Bull Ring, 26th inst., aged 44, Hannah, relict of the late Thos. Young, formerly of Benfieldside.

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