The Consett Chronicle
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM ADVERTISER.

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Business Announcements.

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CELEBRATED PRIZE FIGHTS.

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

JACK RANDALL AND NED TURNER.

This celebrated battle was fought in March, 18[illegible].

ROUND 1. It is impossible to describe the anxiety impressed upon the countenances of the amateurs on the combatants shaking hands. The attitudes of both the men were interesting to the admirers of pugilism, and neither of them seemed wanting in condition. They eyed each other with all the acute precision of fencing-masters, and seemed positively almost to look into each other's hearts. It was dodging, dodging, and dodging again; and five minutes had elapsed before a blow had been made, touching the toes of each other all the time. At length, after some feints, Turner hit first, when the prime Irish boy laughed and got away. The latter, however, was not long in making a return, and he gave Turner a jawer and a ribber, but not heavily. More feints and dodging. Turner hit short with his right hand, when Randall rushed in and went to work. He tried to fib his opponent upon his old favourite system, and a severe struggle took place for the throw. Both down, but Turner undermost.

2. The same caution was manifest on both sides on commencing this round, and long sparring again occurred. Randall gave a bellier, and got away; he was not long in repeating it, and adding a facer. Long sparring. Turner endeavoured to give a tremendous hit with his left hand, but Jack was leary, and jumped back two yards. Very long sparring; in fact, it appeared so tedious to those who are only fond of downright milling, that many persons called out "When shall we get home?" Turner, with much dexterity, put in a good hit between Randall's guard. Great applause; "Go it, Neddy." The latter gave two facers, and plunged his way to work. The finish of this round was truly severe, fibbing and struggling till both went down. Twenty minutes had elapsed.

3 The mouth of Turner seemed to show some tinge of the claret, but there was doubt about it. He, however, appeared to breathe very quick, and rather distressed. The tactics of both the men were really of the first order of science, and it was viewed as astonishing by most of the old amateurs. Both of the men were so well prepared, that if the slightest mistake was made, it was not overlooked; and this may account for the extreme caution on both sides. Randall had never anything like such a customer to deal with before; and Turner had no borer-in to beat off-hand. This round took thirteen minutes, and the pauses were so unusually long that some of the jokers advised Tom Owen to have a pipe. Cribb wished for his nightcap, and talked of pepper. Old Caleb advised them to go to work, and hit each other's nobs off. After numerous feints, the round was finished well, Turner undermost, and Randall fell over him rather awkwardly upon his neck.

4. From the style of fighting displayed by both of the combatants, it was evident it must prove a long fight. Both anxious, and on the look out not to give half a chance away. Randall put in two body blows. Turner's left hand also told on his opponent's mouth. The hitting and stopping on both sides was masterly. Turner's nose was now bleeding copiously, and Randall's face was pinked. Both down.

5. In this round Randall took the lead; he fibbed his opponent severely, and then fell upon him heavily in going down.

6. To attempt to describe minutely the feints, the pauses, dodgings, &c., would fill a volume; after a considerable time. Randall spat blood, when Turner's left hand caught his opponent's nose, and the claret ran down into his mouth. A very long pause ensued, and it almost seemed that neither of the combatants wished to make a hit, so much caution was used. Fifty minutes had elapsed. Turner made a tremendous hit with his left hand, but Randall stopped its effect with fine skill. An exchange of blows. Turner aimed to do something with his right and left hands, but the blows were slight. Randall got away; the blood from his nose appeared rather troublesome to him. Trifling exchanges. Turner seemed tired, and put down his hands, but they were soon up again on Randall's offering to hit. Turner threw two blows away; when Randall put in a severe body blow. Another long pause. Randall now put down his hands, just for a moment's ease, when Turner ran in, not to lose an opportunity, but Randall laughed, and was prepared for him in an instant. Long pause. Several feints, but no hitting. Randall put in a heavy blow in the body, but got a sharp header in return. The Nonpariel seemed to be changing his mode of attack, and trying all for the body. Turner was so extremely awkward and dangerous to be got at that Randall displayed more than his usual caution. Turner stopped a heavy hit, and then hit Randall on the head; and he also endeavoured again to use his left hand with success, but Randall stopped him. Some fine science was again displayed, and in struggling for the throw, Randall was undermost. Turner was now bleeding copiously, and the claret was also running down from Randall's nose.

7. This was a tremendous round, and Turner seemed much distressed in coming to the scratch. After a few exchanges, Randall closed, and went sharp to work on the weaving system, till they both were down.

8. This was also a fighting round, and Turner's left hand got into his opponent's face; but Randall, in turn, put in a sharp bodier. In closing, Turner was thrown.

9. When time was called, Turner was about to commence play on Randall's side of the ring, when the latter said, "Keep your own side." This was a gallant round, and both fibbed each other in turn. In going down, Randall had the best of the fall.

10. This round was full of science; the hitting and stopping on both sides were of the finest order of the art. Turner complained that Randall had trod heavily upon his toe, and said, "Do you call that fair, Jack?" Randall, in reply, answered, "I did not." In struggling for the throw, Turner threw Randall over him.

11. The best judges were still between hopes and fears upon the subject. Randall seemed to have the best of it, but the goodness of Turner was so well known, that he did not even now want for plenty of backers. Randall got Turner into the sun, and put in a tremendous hit on his left eye, that made him wink again. He, however, recovered himself, and gave his opponent a severe one in the bread-basket. In going down, Turner received a hit which Owen said was foul, and called out to the umpires respecting it, but no notice was taken by the umpires, and it went off.

12. Turner hit his opponent right and left, but they did not appear heavy enough to alter the position of Randall, or reduce his strength. However, it was a most desperate round. 7 to 4 on Randall. Both down, and hard milling.

13. Randall put in a desperate snorter, that sent Turner's nob back, and the claret followed in torrents; he repeated it, and Turner went down. Randall had now got upon the head-work, and left pinking at the body. This was the first knock-down blow, and great shouting followed it.

14. It was really astonishing to witness the coolness with which Turner came up to the scratch after the tremendous punishment he had experienced in the last round. He also hit out right and left, and some severe exchanges occurred between them. In closing, Turner fibbed Randall with some effect, but the former went down. Randall for £100.

15. A very sharp round. Good fighting on both sides. In closing, Turner got Randall down, and also undermost.

16. A considerable pause before a blow was made. Turner at length let fly with his left hand on the body; but Randall put in so heavy a blow in Turner's mouth as nearly to dislodge his ivory, and the claret flowed profusely. In closing, Turner fibbed his opponent, but he fell rather weak.

17. In this round, in struggling for the throw, Turner threw Randall out of the ring, and stood up, leaning over the ropes.

18. Turner tried to use his left hand desperately, but was stopped. Randall rushed in to finish his man in style, but he missed his object. At length they both got into work, till Turner went down exhausted.

19. In this round Turner put in a sharp bodier; when Randall's old *forte* broke out with fresh energy; in closing, he peppered the face of his opponent, like a footman's stylish knock at a door, it was ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, till Turner went down. One hour and thirty-five minutes.

20. Turner came to his time undismayed, and hit left and right, which Randall not only stopped, but again planted a severe facer, that brought forth the claret in torrents. In closing, both down.

21. Turner hit with his left hand on Randall's nose, and he also went down from the force of his own blow. Randall seemed a little exhausted from the work he had to perform, and was also bleeding at the mouth. In fact, this blow seemed to have had more effect than any he had received during the fight.

22. Randall ran Turner down, after an exchange of a few blows.

23. Fibbing, and Turner a bad fall. The latter appeared getting weak, but still full of courage.

24. Turner came first to the scratch, with undiminished confidence, and put in a smart right-handed hit on Randall's mug. In the struggle, Turner also surprised the spectators with the strength that he possessed in throwing Randall with great violence. Two hours had now elapsed.

25. Turner astonished the ring by his coming up so cheerful, and some of the good judges did not know what to think of it, they said, and that it was not altogether so safe as many might imagine. Randall planted a slight hit, and slipped down.

26. Turner was first at the scratch, and hit Randall right and left, but the blows were not heavy. Randall gave a second knock-down blow.

27. Randall looked at his fallen foe, and stooped down, winking to his friends, as it were, that he thought it all right. This was a well-fought round, and Turner put in some good hits. In going down Randall was undermost. The water of life was here given to Randall. At this stage of the battle, upwards of two hours having elapsed, it was truly extraordinary to witness such exertions on both sides. Turner hit Randall right away from him, but the latter followed Turner up, till a terrible struggle took place in closing. Turner also stopped a severe blow aimed at him by Randall, and in return he planted a sharp hit on the Nonpariel's jaw.

28. Turner again nobbed his opponent with his left hand, but he was floored from a tremendous body hit.

29. Notwithstanding the heavy flooring hit Turner experienced in the last round, he came up to the scratch as cool as a cucumber. He commenced fighting, and endeavoured to do some execution with his left hand, but Randall stopped him. In a close, both down.

30. Turner left the knee of his second first, and quite satisfied the ring that the fight was not out of him. He made some good exchanges, till both went down.

31. The face of Turner was severely punished—it was all over claret, but his eyes were open, and he fought as cool as if he had only commenced the fight. "Take him away—he's too game," was the cry. Turner was again floored from a severe hit in the body. In this round a circumstance occurred which might have proved the overthrow of Randall, if it had not been prevented. Baxter offered to bet £5 upon Turner, when Oliver warmly observed that he would lay him £10 to £5 three times over, and was leaving his man to come and stake, but he was called upon by Randall's patron not to quit him for an instant. Jem Belcher lost the fight with Cribb in consequence of his second staking the money, thus giving time for Cribb to recover his wind.

32. The brave Turner, undismayed, again met his man, but went down from a blow. While on his second's knees, he was advised to give in, but his manly heart would not suffer him to say "No"; his tongue refused its utterance.

33. The state of Turner now appeared so piteous, and his bravery so great, that several persons cried out, "Do not let him fight any more." "Don't say that, gentlemen," replied Owen, "he is worth twenty beaten men!" Turner however, went down from a facer.

34 and last. The admiration of all the persons present was expressed in viewing Turner again come to the scratch; and, although in a state of exhaustion, yet fight cool, collected, and as game as a pebble. After some other hits, a blow on the left side of Turner's head floored him, and he could not come to time. Two hours, nineteen minutes, and thirty seconds had elapsed.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

OUR COUPON COMPETITION

A consolation prize of five shillings has been awarded between Messrs Geo. Pace, Prospect Terrace, Annfield Plain; and Thomas Cookson, Derwent Cottages, Medomsley.

LEADGATE PARK AGAIN NARROWLY BEATEN.

To be beaten again by a single goal, after a tough fight, is rather hard lines, and losing other two points, when sorely needed, is rather vexatious. A draw would have been infinitely more welcome, but a defeat of three to two is positively aggravating, to say the least of it. Personally, I did not think there would be much either way in the result of the game. Darlington certainly have a higher position in the League, and, generally, a better record on the season's exhibition, but, having in view the advantage of playing on the home pitch and a week's rest, I rather fancied the Leadgate lads giving the winners of the Durham Cup a hot time of it on Saturday. The visitors, like most teams from the South, maintained their established reputation for turning up late, and, consequently, the kick-off was delayed some three-quarters of an hour. Leadgate were fortunate in winning the toss, and, aided by a stiffish breeze, I thought this might very probably prove a strong factor in winning them the game, especially if the wind cooled towards the second period. My hopes of their ultimate success, however, were somewhat dispelled when half-time arrived without a score being effected by them, whilst the visitors managed to get through once against the wind. However, they made a better show in the second half, greatly to the surprise and satisfaction of the spectators, of whom there was a considerable sprinkling present. It seemed, in fact, at one time as though a drawn game would be effected, but it was not to be. The fates were evidently against the Park, and they had to retire beaten by a single goal. All praise is due, however, to the splendid way in which the Park played during the second period, for the Skernesiders are, without a doubt, a clever and skilful set of players, or they would not to-day be in the satisfactory position in which they are in local football circles, being winners of the County Cup, and second in the Northern League. Had the home men played during the first period as they did in the second, I rather fancy Darlington would have had to return to the Quaker Town badly beaten. Henderson is a fine goalkeeper, and very cool-headed, and to him may be ascribed the honours of success to the visitors, as the pungent way in which he repelled shot after shot in the first period, demonstrates clearly that the South Durham men had not things all their own way. The shooting of the Park forwards was lamentably weak, many opportunities being wasted thereby.

THE HOME DISPLAY.

Turning to the respective displays of the two teams, to single out the hero of the day on the home side is as easy as to say "Jack Robinson." Bob Forster was THE man on Saturday—everybody said so. I never saw him play better; pity that the spurt has come too late, Bob, but there's one thing, you can start on the same standard next season. Yes; the home centre-half was like a "fairy" (large size, six feet by three), here, there, and everywhere, but always where the ball was, either with one extremity or the other, if he wasn't kicking it he was heading, and *vice versa*. Crowther was fairly passable, and ought to have saved the third goal, it wasn't a "scorcher" by any means. Foreman was very reliable, and did some good, sound, strong kicking. Joe Wilson, although a good player in other positions, is a mis-fit at full-back, and "wants removing," not off the team, but farther up the field, half-back or forward. Cartmell did some good defensive work, but shot wretchedly—couldn't hit a ten-acre field on Saturday. "Tanner" Snowdon gave a good average display, but not as good as that exhibited against Middlesbrough. Of the forwards, I have not many encomiums to hand round. On the whole, I think Lock was the best, judging, dribbling, and shooting very fairly, and withal playing game up to the finish. Crute partnered him well, and was a bit more dashing, and tackled more fearlessly than usual. Thompson, in centre, was not a "shining light," but effected some good work at times. On the other wing, Milburn and Robson were sadly wanting in shooting propensities, particularly the latter, who, in the first half, like Cartmell, sent the ball flying sky-high over the cross-bar, with excellent opportunities to score. Robson, however, partly made amends for some of his rash play by "a flash in the pan" towards the finish of the game, when he ran away like a veritable demon from the centre-line, passed all blockades on the road, and whipped the second goal into the net in brilliant fashion, and came very nearly repeating the dose from the re-start. Milburn did fairly well for a "trial turn," and might with advantage be retained on the eleven.

THE VISITORS.

Respecting the visitors, the display exhibited was altogether of a very high order, and some clean football was shown by many of the players. Henderson in goal, in the first half especially, was a perfect treat as the Leadgate forwards will amply testify. Norris, of course, was the better of the full backs, and I think will safely bear comparison with any full back in the county. He is the *longest* kick that ever I have seen on the Park ground, in some instances sending the ball almost the full length of the field. In the half-back line Tommy Waites (of old renown) was despite his long service, still the best of the trio, whilst the forwards were best represented on the right wing by Boyle and Cansick who played a splendid game. Boyle especially, some of his centres being finely accurate and his shooting equally forcible and true. Lowes at centre was good all round, but not brilliant, feeding his wings with sound judgment, and effecting some good shots. I was rather disappointed in the display of the left wing, the pair of them exhibiting at times some pretty play, but showing a great amount of dilatoriness in the general character of play, particularly the outside man, Watson. If the ball came their way they would take it and treat the company to a bit of pretty passing, but if it didn't call round that way, it was a case of "Hookey Walker, I'm not going to run after yer." At any rate, they showed no sign of true aggressive play. Dunn was a trifle better than his partner, but was rather outweighted in the defence opposed to him. I was expecting the greatest things from this wing according to "rumour," but as they say that the "rumour" often lies, I am inclined to believe it for once.

STANLEY VICTORIOUS.

The Whites had an easy task on Saturday, when Willington Athletic travelled southwards to receive their quietus. The visitors were, unfortunately, only able to place ten men on the field, and one of these (the goalkeeper) was altogether out of his element. The game opened in a fairly interesting manner, the Willington backs and the four forwards showing up cleverly. They gave Morris one warm shot to contend with, and on another occasion, a rasping shot rebounded off the crossbar. Gradually the home boys found their feet, and having done so, though battling against the breeze, they quickly caused matters to assume a different aspect. The Athletic backs defended bravely, particularly Reed, but at length Jimmy Howe got past him, and neatly netted the ball. Jimmy, having got one goal asked, like Oliver Twist, for more. He demanded a second goal ere the initial half was ended on Saturday, and he got it, too. Half-time—Stanley, two goals, Willington, a duck. In the second half, matters were very frosty all through. Stanley were the stronger team, and had they worked hard, might have added a dozen goals. They did not, however, over exert themselves, and only scored thrice (through Wood, Fish, and Robson) thus winning by five goals to nil. It was a poor game throughout, and the end of the season is very welcome if many such games as Saturday's would otherwise be played.

THE PLAYERS.

The game was a thorough farce, and it would be wasting valuable space to go into detail over any portion of it. Morris practically had a holiday, and scarcely handled the ball half-a-dozen times during the game. Joyce was in great form, and Emmy played better than he has done for many a month. The veteran did yeoman service with his head. He can almost send the ball as far with his head, as he can with a kick. Neither Scotty nor the amiable ex-Tow Lawite were seriously pressed at any portion of the game. Tommy Fish was the best half-back on the field, with Dover a grand second. Nicholson also was in fair form. Jimmy Howe was the best of the front rank, playing a hard and dashing game throughout. At times, however, he appeared to forget that Jimmy Masterman was on the field. Thompson Robson also played a good game, though he had less work than usually falls to him. His heading was brilliant. Jake Dodds appeared stiff and slow, and Sammy Wood did no great deeds—save one. He shot a fine goal. Scott and Cummings were the pick of the Willington vanguard, and Knifton and Reed did good service in the full back division.

THE STRUGGLE FOR THE TYNESIDE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Monday's game at Annfield Plain produced a battle royal for the championship of the Tyneside League, and the draw, which resulted, adequately represented the merits of two capital teams. The first forty-five was contested at a terrific rate, the Hobsonites having slightly the best of the exchanges, but the final half was slower, and more favourable to the homesters. The result left things precisely as before, and the definite decision, as to where the Tyneside trophy should remain for the next twelve months, was left in abeyance till Wednesday night. The gate was a "record" for this season, about 1,500 being present.

THE GAME

was looked forward to with intense interest, and both teams placed strong elevens in the field. The Celts were re-inforced by Thompson Robson and Tommy Fish, of Oakeys, and Bob Coates also did duty for them. Captain Ellis was an enforced absentee. Bob Wilson, the Leadgate skipper, assisted the Wanderers. This method of seeking outside assistance is one which ought not to be allowed. If a club cannot win a trophy by their own ability, they should be content to lose it. What possible credit can there be attached to a victory won in such a manner? The game was of a most stubborn character, each team fighting desperately for "the one goal needful." But that point could not be obtained by either team, try as they would. McNeil effected some wonderful saves, and the Celtic had good reason to bless Neddy Lynap. One point in which the Hobsonites shone superior to the homesters was in heading. I have rarely seen a team do better than they do in this department.

THE CELTIC.

The Celts' forwards played one of their best games, and it was not for want of trying that they failed to lower the Hobson flag. "Douce" Whitfield played a splendid game, and twice at least he sent in shots which almost deserved to score. George is a hard and honest worker, and though he looks little, he is not particularly light. Thompson Robson, although never very conspicuous, also played a hard and useful game, and Bobby Forster gave frequent specimens of his centring abilities. The Allendale couple—Gillender and Lynap—did not strike me as being particularly capable, and, as a rule, Heslin proved too good for them. "Walloper" worked like a Turk as centre half, but he might, with advantage, use more judgment. He is not a success at taking free kicks, and his whole style of play is characterised by an excess of energy over discretion. At the same time, the genial Diptonian did a lot of useful work. Tommy Fish started badly, and thrice endangered his own goal by fouling, but, after the first fifteen minutes, he settled to his work, and "played up to the knocker." Bell also played a fine game. The backs were very moderate. Coates missed the ball as often as he kicked it, and Moore was far too fond of going for the man. Another fault of the Craghead lad is an over-weening desire for "gallery" play. If he is sensible, he will drop it. Neddy Lynap was never at fault between the sticks, and his kicking was clean and better than that of his backs.

THE HOBSON BOYS

are entitled to every credit for the game they played. During the first half, they had undoubtedly a slight pull, and, in the later stages, their defence was proved to be as true as steel. McNeil, friend Maddison assures me, is the best goalkeeper in North-West Durham. There are other claimants to that distinction, but I willingly acknowledge that none could have improved on the exhibition given by the Hobson custodian. He had some rasping shots to deal with, and more than once he saved his citadel from apparently inevitable downfall. Weedy and Liddle are a couple of brilliant backs, and they certainly bore most favourable comparison with those of the home team. Their kicking was very powerful and reliable, and their tackling was A 1. The halves were very strong, Heslin, who uses splendid judgment, and feeds his forwards well, being the best of the trio. Cullen did some magnificent heading during the first half, but he appeared to wear away afterwards, whilst Bob Wilson, on the contrary, did his best work in the second half. Bob has plenty of good football left in him yet. The forwards showed some neat passing, but appeared to tire early. Cullen is a big centre man; he can dodge very smartly for a player of such "elaphantine" proportions. Bell and Lown did some splendid work together, but the rightwingers were scarcely so good.

A COMPLAINT.

The representatives of the Press at the Annfield Plain v. Hobson match, on Monday night, were greatly inconvenienced owing to the Press-box having been invaded by a small army of spectators. Some of these spectators, not content with invading the premises, on which they had no right to be, pressed on to the reporters in such a manner as to render writing impossible, and chattered in a fashion which said little for their common-sense. I trust that next season the officials of the Annfield Plain Club will take steps to ensure that the Press-box is open to Pressmen only.

THE FOOTBALL SEASON.

It is safe to assert that enthusiasm in North-West Durham has reached a higher pitch than ever before. A great advancement has also been noticeable in the quality of the play shown, and there are now more fit and proper aspirants for county of first-class honours in this district than at any previous period, Leadgate Park, Stanley, Annfield Plain Celtic, and Hobson Wanderers are the four teams, who, in my judgment, are most deserving of congratulation for their past season's performances, but there are several other clubs, notably Tow Law, Leadgate Exiles, Tantobie, Shotley, Allendale Park, and Consett Swifts, who have given brilliant exhibitions time and time again. The

GOOD OLD PARK

have'nt won the Northern League, not by a long chalk, but their performance in running into the semi-final of the English Amateur Cup Competition, establishes a record for North-West Durham, and will for ever be worthy of a high place in the annal's of Leadgate football. Amongst the most brilliant performances of the club are their victories over Bishop Auckland, the holders of the English Amateur Cup, Shankhouse, Stockton (league), and St. Augustine's. Crowther has maintained his reputation as a capable custodian, and Tom Cartmell has made for himself a name as one of the best half-backs in the county. Charley Crute, late of Stanley and Boldon Star, Lock, and Thompson have repeatedly done excellent service in goalgetting.

STANLEY

have done as well in the Northern Alliance Competition as their most ambitious supporter could have hoped, and have finished on the right side of the centre of the table. The best performances of the club include their slaughter of Annfield Plain (cup), defeats of Leadgate Park (cup), Sunderland A, Tow Law (friendlies), Blyth (twice), Jarrow, Shankhouse, and Southwick (twice). At home, they have been well nigh invincible, losing only to United A, Hebburn, Gateshead, and Mickley, but their victories away from home have been few and far between, their only conquests being those over Southwick, Dipton, Axwell, and Blyth. Plenty of fresh blood has been tried, and the results of the trials have been varying. Morris has done some brilliant goalkeeping, and some that cannot be so described. The back division, weak at the onset, has become very strong, the heroes of that line being burley, "Scotty" Joyce, George Laws, and Billy Dover; with, now and again, a rattling display from that good old vet., Emmy Beckwith. The half-back line, throughout the season, has been a credit to the club. Business has caused Matty Cunningham to separate himself from the club for which he has fought so well, but his place has been well filled. Tommy Fish, Ned Nicholson, and Jacky Milburn have all been good and faithful servants, and they well deserve the thanks of all well wishers of the club. Teddy Buck has helped the team more than once, and his services should not be forgotten. In the forward line, Jimmy Howe has earned the title of champion goal-getter, but whilst according high praise to Jimmy, I must express the candid opinion that the best man in the whole bunch has been Thompson Robson. The old Celtic lad has played consistently well, and whilst he has scored a fair proportion of goals himself, he has been responsible for the obtaining of many more. Jimmy Howe is certainly entitled to the second post, and as both he and Thompson have youth on their side, the probability is that the great things they have done this season will be exceeded in the future. The veteran, Sam Wood, has played some good games, but he has, undoubtedly, "gone off" recently. Sammy informs me that he has finished his football career. Jimmy Masterman has also had a good share in the winning of several games, his speedy sprints having often been invaluable. "Douce" Whitfield, Charley Crute, Jake Dodds, and Peter O'Connor have also played well at times, the first-named, especially, having done consistently well when tried.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC

have surprised friend and foe alike by their splendid struggle for the Tyneside championship, and at the time of writing (Tuesday) there seems a good prospect that the Celts will bring home the much coveted trophy. Neddy Lynap has given every satisfaction as goalkeeper, and Moore, of Craghead, with Jimmy MacLatchie for his colleague, has borne the brunt of many a warm onslaught. "Walloper" has been more useful than ever before, and Bell has shown no signs of failing vigour. In the front rank, Ellis, Bobby Forster, J. Coyle, "Douce" Whitfield, Gillender, and Lynap have all done smart feats in goalgetting. Teddy Buck, the old Diptonite, has occasionally assisted the team.

HOBSON WANDERERS

have had another good season, having only been beaten once on their own ground, Leadgate Exiles, by the way, being the team to take them down. They vie with the Celts for the Tyneside championship, and thus improve materially on last season's position. Owing to Marley Hill having become defunct, the team were strengthened by the acquisition of the brothers Cullen. McNeil has kept his reputation as a prince of goalkeepers, and Liddle, Lown, Weedy, Heslin, and Hindhaugh are also deserving of mention for their consistently good play.

TOW LAW

have scarcely maintained their last season's form, and as a consequence they have lost the Durham Senior Cup, and occupy but a poor position in the Northern League. Temperley, Allison, and MacIntosh have been the mainstay of the team.

LEADGATE EXILES

have not been entered for either league or Alliance, and, as a consequence, vacant dates have been very numerous. Amongst the best performances of the season are the double victories over Blyth and Crook, the massacre of the erstwhile Oakey's Lilywhites, and victory over Hobson (away). Callighan has again rendered good service in time of need, and in his absence, Daley has made an efficient substitute. The two McGee's, Brannen, and Haley, have largely been responsible for the successes of the team.

DIPTON.

Dipton's glory has apparently departed and the record is a lamentable one. Defeat has followed defeat, with mournful consistency, and the position of wooden spoonists in the Northern Alliance has been well earned. The committee and the players have alike acted pluckily in keeping the whole of their engagements. For this reason alone, I hope that if the club again apply for admission to the Alliance, their request will not be refused.

THE DERWENT VALLEY

League has been stubbornly contested, and the championship lies between Allendale Park and Blaydon. Tantobie have made big strides, and Shotley are finishing in a good position. Stanley A, who started warm favourites for the league, dropped off in an unaccountable manner.

TOW LAW AT JARROW.

The Tow Law team journeyed to Jarrow, on Saturday last, to play the Tynesiders, on the Monkton ground. The visit of the famous West Durham eleven was keenly looked forward to by the people of Jarrow, as was proved by the large attendance—much larger than ever seen on the Ironworks' ground, at the "Law." The teams had not met since Tow Law upset Jarrow's designs, in the Durham Senior Cup, last season, and the hardy sons of the ship builders thirsted for their revenge. The Monkton ground is about a mile out of the town, and thither the spectators flocked in troops. The day was exceptional, and reminded one that summer, and with it, cricket, was fast approaching. Only another week or so, and football will be hidden for four months. Not very many yards off the Monkton ground, there was a cricket match in full swing.

"WHERE ARE THE BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE?"

Yes, where are they? That was the question the Jarrow men asked when they saw the remnant of the famous eleven. Where were McIntosh, Bob Wilson, Tommy Wilson, Coulson, Muse, Watson, and all the other veterans of that glorious band who went through the Durham Senior Cup, with flying colours, last season, and reached the semi-final stage in the present year? Only four took the field, namely, Allison, Temperley, Gilroy, and Simpson. All the rest were practically unknown reserves, Gash, Walton, Morland, Schofield, Hunter, and McGough, with Jacky Watson, who has played once or twice lately. Was it that the end of the season was so near? or was it injured legs? or was it bicycles? ladies? or fine weather? No one seemed to know. Any way, the team expected a ten to nill loss, and some wished that they had never left home.

A STIFF GAME.

The game, although in favour of Jarrow from start to finish, was very fast. Throughout the first half of the game, shots rained in upon Allison from all quarters. Appleton's goal was headed through, right out of the reach of the Tow Law keeper, but he never let another shot from head or foot get near the goal. Kennedy, McGraw, and Dickson kept up a continual fusilade, but Allison banged them away with fists, flat hands, and feet. In fact, in the opinion of some Jarrow spectators, a better exhibition has never been given by any custodian on their ground. It was worth paying entrance money to see Allison stopping the balls. He must have effected about fifty saves during the game. But the good work of Temperley must not be forgotten He, like Allison, was splendid in defence. In fact, Allison and Temperley are the saviours of the team. Gash did some really good work, considering this is the first time he has played for the Tow law first eleven this season. Walton and Morland, in the half-back line, did what they could, but they were nothing like the two Wilsons. Gilroy got a great deal of the hard work thrown on to his shoulders, which he pluckily got through. Schofield and Hunter, on the right, had all they could do. Hunter occasionally got away, but could do nothing against an old hand like "Ginger McGraw." By far the hardest work fell upon poor Simpson, who strove with all the vigour in his being to get to the Jarrow end, and equalise. Many were the lightning dashes which he made, but he got no support, except from J. Watson, none of the others being half fast enough for him. McGough, who played inside left, made some heroic attempts. To sum up, the team, such as it was, made a very creditable exhibition against such heavy odds, and kept the scoring down in a remarkable degree. In the second half, the Jarrow forwards were terrific, but never a ball, off-side or legitimate, passed between the sticks.

THE JARROW PLAYERS.

The Jarrow players were in rare condition. The team had evidently been especially picked. All the play being at the Tow Law end, Cassidy had no work on which to show his skill. Kent and Curry were in the same predicament, but they came down the field, and entered into the shooting with a will. O'Neil, Appleton, and Jones did the same. It was Appleton who got the only goal of the match. Kennedy was a flier, and Patterson was very smart. Thompson was nowhere with Simpson, but it was McGraw and Simpson who did the execution. If Tow Law's real team had beaten Darlington on that eventful March 6th, I have no hesitation in saying that they would easily have overcome Jarrow in the final.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE CELTS.

That well-known combination, Annfield Plain Celtic, gained another victory on Saturday, Wardley being their victims. The previous encounter between the teams ended a draw of two goals each, but Wardley have fallen off of late. The game was one of the slowest ever played on the Celtic enclosure, the Plainites playing a very bad game. The Celts were the first to score, Bell who had struck the crossbar, doing the needful, but Barkus equalised a couple of minutes off half-time. The second half opened in favour of Annfield Plain, who scored twice through Whitfield and Ellis, and ran out victors by three goals to one.

THE CELTS.

have just ended a successful season, having only lost a couple of League games. Mickley and Hexham were their superiors, although the former were very lucky in coming out of the ordeal successful. Neddy Lynap was not troubled very much on Saturday, but saved a couple of grand shots. He is second to no custodian in the district, and the spectators on Tyneside have applauded him time after time. He is as nimble as a kitten, and is a very safe kicker, Neddy is a great favourite with the Plain supporters. Moore, the [illegible] Craghead lad, or, as he is sometimes called, "Wingate" has done very well. Arthur occasionally gets excited, and this has a detrimental effect on his play. Moore is a splendid kick, and is not afraid to tackle. McLatchie and Coates have also rendered a good account of themselves in the back division. The latter has only played a few games, but has rendered good service to the Celts. Wee Jimmy has developed into one of the finest backs in the district, and he had the misfortune to sprain his knee at Wallsend on Easter Monday. Robinson Bell has improved a lot this season, and, taking into consideration that he was a forward, his display at half-back has been highly creditable. Parker distinguished himself in the away engage[illegible] by his tricky play. Bobby Forster and [illegible] worked splendidly together on [illegible] the former's centres being very [illegible] had to go half-back, and, in that [illegible] played well on several occasion[illegible] has finished up with a grand go[illegible] He has scored more goals than [illegible] on the team. Lynap and Gille[illegible] great acquisition to the Celts, [illegible] best left wings in North-We[illegible] is a grand tackler, while Bo[illegible] his sprinting powers. The [illegible] nothing undone to further [illegible] team, and the club is to be [illegible] ing such a hard-working [illegible] Thompson.

DERV[illegible]

CHAT ON LOCAL CRICKET.

[BY PLAYFAIR.]

STANLEY'S DOWNFALL.

Stanley cricketers commenced their League fixtures, on Saturday, by a game with their neighbours from Oxhill, or, more correctly, South Tanfield, and, to the general astonishment of local athletes, the colliery team gained an easy victory over their more famous opponents. To take the game seriously, as representative of the actual strength of the clubs, would scarcely be correct; for neither team was fully represented, and the players, more particularly on the Stanley side, showed themselves to be sorely in want of practice. At the same time, the Oxhill boys are entitled to every credit for their unexpected triumph, and it would be ungenerous to grudge them a little jubilation. They have certainly made a strong start in the Junior League competition, and I trust that they will go on and prosper.

THE WINNERS

have a couple of splendid bowlers in Raine and Middlemast. The latter, though only eighteen, uses excellent judgment, and has a very puzzling style; albeit, I thought that some of his deliveries were too high. At one time, he had seven wickets down for a couple of runs, and in the end, he came out with the splendid record of eight wickets for eleven runs. Captain Raine bowled well throughout, but his luck was not of the best, his single wicket costing 13 runs. The fielding of the team was fairly smart, considering that this was the opening game. With the exception of Jack Middlemast (35) and Dick Henderson (14), the batting was very feeble. Henderson plays a strong game, whilst Jack Middlemast, though very careful, hits the off balls with great vigour. He would be a credit to any team in North-West Durham.

THE STANLEY TEAM

gave a depressing batting exhibition, Jewitt alone evincing any hitting ability, and even he was twice let off, once by Wilson, and later by Raine. Jimmy Shield played very steadily, but appeared to me to carry his caution to excess. Jimmy also bowled with excellent effect, his fine wickets being obtained for less than 1½ runs per wicket. The committee might do much worse than give Jimmy a definite position on the premier eleven. Personally, I think that he is fully entitled to his position on the team. Jewitt also bowled successfully, half-a-dozen of his nine overs being maidens. Charlton, Stewart, and Rutherford, were, however, in poor bowling trim.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No particularly startling incident occurred during the game, except that Jimmy Benfold, after getting a wicket off a ball which was very nearly a wide, followed up the feat by bowling three wides in succession. Oh! Jimmy, don't put so much screw on. Jimmy Shield got a nasty cut on the forehead whilst batting, through a rising ball from Middlemast. Stewart missed a catch, off Benfold's bowling, but the Stanley skipper had a good excuse. He was so amused at Jimmy bowling wides, that he actually could not hold the ball. Another injustice to the Stanley second team's commander-in-chief. The only other noticeable incidents were that the weather was cold, and the players almost frozen. Playing cricket on Saturday was no enviable task. It may be mentioned than Stanley were without Sam Wood, Knox, Smith, and Bennett, but Oxhill also played four Reserve men. The result will be a great encouragement to the Colliery lads, and Stanley have no reason to be bitterly cast down. An opening game is notoriously likely to end sensationally.

LOW SCORING AT CRAGHEAD.

The cup-tie between the second elevens of Consett and Craghead proved productive of some very small scoring, the twenty wickets falling for less than 60 runs. Consett won the toss, but evinced a shyness to handle the willow, and deputed the Colliery lads to go in first, with the result that the whole team were dismissed for the scanty score of 44. Liddle, the captain, with 12, and Cummings with 9, were the only batsmen to cause any trouble, Reg. Higginbottom and Jack Linsley both of whom were expected to do great things, being run out. Raw was far the best bowler on the Consett team, his five wickets being obtained for 16 runs. What followed was something terrible, enough to make Secretary Ramsay quite wild. The whole strength of Consett 2nd managed the magnificent total of 11 runs amongst them. Smith with 3 was the highest scorer, and five of the team took duck eggs home. Every credit is due to Linsley and Cummings for their splendid bowling, but giving all due allowance to this, the fact remains that the Constt batting was dreadfully weak. Surely Consett can place a more powerful set of second-stringers on the field?

EPPLETON V. WASHINGTON.

Though the season is as yet scarcely started, the Durham Junior League has already provided a very exciting contest. I refer to the game between Eppleton and Washington, which resulted in a tie, the scores being—Eppleton 37 and 60; Washington 50 and 47. Ties are very rare occurrences at cricket, and for one to occur so early in the season is somewhat sensational.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT'S OPENING MATCH.

Consett and District began operations on their newly-laid ground on Saturday afternoon, when the homesters encountered an eleven, specially chosen by Lambert, the new match professional. The display, particularly of Consett and District, was exceptionally fine, affording a real treat to all lovers of the game. Both teams were, of course, out of practice, and this fact makes the result all the more striking and creditable. The home contingent batted first, and succeeded in carrying off the honours of the day by nearly three to one. This result augurs well for the future of the club, and even the gloomiest pessimist must certainly look forward to Consett and District's making a bold bid for high honours in the senior league. The hero of the game was

SIDDELL,

who topped the batting averages last season. His fifty-five were hit off in really brilliant fashion. He completely mastered the bowling, and batted with wonderful ease, never giving the shadow of a chance. I have seldom witnessed a finer exhibition of batting. His cutting was clean and low; his leg hits were placed with marked judgment, and his drives were altogether beyond the reach of the fielders. The county—which, by the way, should occupy a more prominent position in first-class cricket—might do worse than include Siddell in its eleven.

THE OTHER PLAYERS.

Richardson played well for his twenty-four, and Walton scored double figures, but at first the hitting of the latter player was remarkably tame. Williamson carried his bat out, but, as he was the ninth man in, he had no opportunity of displaying his ability. The fall of the Consett pro. was as disappointing as it was unexpected; and I hope that practice will work wonders in his play. Similarly, Dales was sent back before he had an opportunity of maintaining his reputation. Unfortunately, he hit his wicket, an accident that was keenly regretted by the onlookers. Shotton was the only member of the "scratch" eleven who attained double figures. Martin was remarkably "off" in his bowling, but Godfrey was in rare form. His average, 2·1 for seven wickets, was a most admirable performance. Robinson came next with an average of 2·6 for three wickets.

THE GROUND

is in the pink of condition. Every accommodation has been made for the onlookers, and if the gallant efforts which have been made by Mr Ramsay and his coadjutors, do not meet with an extended share of public patronage, it will be a disgrace to the residents of the district. Cricket is a healthy, delightful recreation, and in itself merits universal and loyal support.

A NEW BOWLING GREEN

has, I noticed on Saturday, been made, and this should supply a long-felt want. It is conveniently situated, and must have involved a large outlay of money. I hope the efforts, which have been put forth by the Consett and District Cricket Club, will reap a rich and thoroughly-deserved reward.

FOOTBALL.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC v. HOBSON WANDERERS.

[BY "THE BRADLEY BOY."]

These combinations met at Annfield Plain, on Monday night, before about 1,500 spectators. The last time the elevens faced each other was at the Hobson, when the game resulted in a draw of one goal each. Since that time neither of the elevens have lost a game, the Celts having beaten such teams as Wallsend Park Villa and Consett Swifts. The ground was in grand condition, a slight wind blowing across the field. The game was advertised to start at six o'clock, but half an hour before that time, crowds streamed into the enclosure. Hobson were the first to put in an appearance, being closely followed by the Celts. Five minutes after the advertised time for starting, the teams lined up in the following order:—

CELTS		HOBSON
E. Lynap	Goal	McNiel
Moore	Right back	Weedy
Coates	Left back	Liddle
[illegible]ish	Right half	Heslin
[illegible]arker	Centre half	E. Cullen
[illegible]ll	Left half	Wilson
[illegible]rster	Right outside	Hindhaugh
[illegible]hitfield	Right inside	Layton
[illegible]bson	Centre	Cullen
[illegible]ynap	Left inside	Lown
[illegible]ender	Left outside	J. T. Bell

Referee: Mr R. Glass, Newcastle.

[illegible]ill be seen from the above, that the Plain[illegible]re without their Captain and McLatchie, [illegible]ood down on account of injuries. Coates was fortunate in winning the toss, and elected to play towards the railway embankment. Cullen started the leather amidst great excitement. He gave to Lown, but the latter lost to Parker, and the ball eventually went out of play. A foul throw off Bell (Plain) let in the Hobson, but the kick, which was taken by Liddle, proved of little value. Forster eluded Wilson, and gave to Whitfield, who cleverly forced hands off Cullen. Moore was entrusted with the kick, and placed nicely, but Cullen headed out of play. The throw-in enabled Lynap to get down, but Liddle relieved, and Cullen got nicely up the field. Coates, however, checked his career, and Robson cantered down the field. Thompson drove the leather on to Whitfield, but E. Cullen intercepted the pass and a foul off Moore made matters rosy for the Hobsonites. A couple of free kicks were awarded each team in quick succession, and a foul off Fish, close in, gave Hobson a splendid chance of scoring. Wilson, the ex-Parkite, took the kick, but

LYNAP SAVED,

and Robson again led the front rank down the field. A mistake by Parker let in Bell (Hobson), who forced a corner. This was nicely placed, but Jacky Lynap got away, a corner resulting. Fish placed magnificently, and a short bully took place in the Hobson goal mouth, McNeil eventually saving. Cullen shot wide, and the next feature of the game was some fine play by Thompson Robson. He eluded Cullen, but shot into touch, and a foul throw off the Hobson lads let in the Plainites. This was placed weakly, and Fish drove past. Hobson retaliated, and Hindhaugh forced Lynap to handle. The home custodian cleared in his usual style, and the Celts again assumed the aggressive. Liddle relieved, and a free kick was awarded to the Hobson close in. Gillender headed away, and the ball was sent down the field, where Robson forced a corner. A free kick resulted, but Forster headed past, and

HOBSON PRESSED

awhile. A splendid kick by Moore again gave the Celts the advantage, and a tough scrimmage ensued in the goal mouth. Jacky Lynap shot in, but Lown headed away, and a foul throw improved the prospects of the homesters, who had now slightly the better of matters. Robinson Bell shot in grandly, and Forster just missed accepting a pass. Hobson played up better, but Lynap troubled their defence, and sent in a grand shot, which just failed to have the desired effect. Robson was again conspicuous for some fine work, and hands fell to the Celts, fifteen yards off the goal. Parker took the kick, and drove the ball high over the cross-bar, to the relief of the Hobson spectators. Whitfield gave a pass to Forster, but the latter sent the ball out of play. Another free kick to the Hobson lads improved their chances, and a mistake by Coates let in Hindhaugh. The Hobsonite centred, but

FISH CLEARED,

and the ball was again taken to the low goal Liddle, who was playing a grand game at back, again prevented the downfall of his club, and, being severely taxed, shot out of play. Moore placed nicely from a free kick, but nothing resulted. Play was very fast, and the excitement was intense. Hands, off Coates, gave Hobson another chance, but Heslin, who took the kick, shot past. Play ruled in midfield, but at length Robson got away, and gave to Lynap. Jacky passed on to Gillender, but Weedy saved in the nick of time by kicking out of play. Hands, off Cullen, nearly proved disastrous to the Hobson lads, but Weedy again cleared, and Bell got away on the left. His shot, however, went very wide, and Gillender next tried to lower the Hobson flag. McNeil was not to be beaten, and punted up the field, and a free kick had just been taken by Moore, when the whistle sounded for half-time, with the score standing—

Celts .... Nil
Hobson .... Nil

On resuming, Hobson got down, but Moore returned, and the Celts at once assumed the aggressive. Gillender got up, and centred, but Weedy cleared easily. Bell and Lown carried play to safer quarters, where Fish was conspicuous for some fine play. He gave to Forster, but the ball went out of play. The goal kick gave Hobson relief, and hands off Moore nearly proved disastrous to the Plain lads, but Coates rejected a hot shot from Cullen. Lown sprinted away, but only shot past, and a foul throw further improved the Hobson lads' chances. Mid-field play followed, and Gillender again got possession of the sphere. He eluded Heslin, and shot in, and a foul fell to the Celts. Fish took the kick, and placed nicely, and, after two or three exchanges,

McNEIL SAVED SPLENDIDLY,

at the expense of a corner. The kick was beautifully taken by Robinson Bell, but Whitfield shot past. Fish followed this example a minute later, and Coates shot in finely from a free kick. Hands off Heslin resulted, but Wilson kicked out of play in order to save. Wilson again shot out, and the Hobson goal was further endangered by a foul off E. Cullen. Moore took the kick, and scraped the cross-bar, and Lown got away to the other end. Hindhaugh gave him a nice pass, but the whistle sounded for a breach of the rules. The free kick drove the Hobsonites into their own quarters, and another foul fell to the Celts. Coates was this time entrusted with the kick, but Liddle relieved with a splendid kick. Fish returned strongly, and Lynap struck the net with a good shot. Bell was cantering nicely down the field, when Fish neatly dispossessed him, and placed the ball into the visiting goal mouth. The Celts had now decidedly

THE BETTER OF MATTERS,

the Hobson defence being severely tested. A couple of free kicks fell to the Celts in mid-field, but both proved fruitless. The Plainites still pressed, but could not break through the fine defence. The absence of Ellis was sorely felt, especially in the goal mouth. The excitement rose to fever heat, and Whitfield just grazed the upright with a daisy-cutter. A foul throw was placed nicely into the goal mouth, and "Douce" Whitfield sent in a hot shot, which McNiel saved in splendid style. A corner also proved abortive, and Coates dispossessed Hindhaugh in splendid fashion. Weedy saved at the expense of a corner, and

ROBSON JUST MISSED

by a couple of inches. A cry of "Goal!" went up, but proved a false alarm, as the ball passed outside the upright. Another corner fell to the Celts, but Forster headed over. The Celts still pressed, but a foul off Bell gave Hobson a little relief. Gillender, however, carried the ball to the other end, and Forster sent in a grand high shot from the left touch line, the ball landing on the top of the net. Jacky Lynap sent past, and

R. BELL TESTED McNEIL

with a scorcher. The Hobson custodian let the ball drop out of his hands, but, as I have before stated, Ellis was greatly missed at centre forward. McNiel cleared, and Lynap had to handle for the first time during this half. Fish shot past, and the Celts had the hardest of hard lines in not scoring. Play was raging in the Hobson half when the whistle sounded for the cessation of hostilities, after a hard-fought game, with the score—

CELTS .... Nil
HOBSON .... Nil

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC v. WARDLEY BLUE STAR.

[BY "THE BRADLEY BOY."]

These teams met at Annfield Plain to play off their return League engagement. The last meeting between the teams ended in a draw of two goals each, after a hard fought game. Wardley were at one time favourites for the League, but they have fallen off a great deal of late, and only occupy the seventh position. On the other hand, the Plain lads are now standing at the head of the League, having only lost a couple of matches. McLatchie, who was injured at Wallsend, was an absentee, his place being filled by Adam Bell, a reserve lad. A quarter of an hour after the advertised time of starting, the teams took the field as follows:—

CELTS		STAR
E. Lynap	Goal	Alston
A. Bell	Right back	Lindsay
Moore	Left back	Smith
Coyle	Right half	Kerridge
Parker	Centre half	Cain
R. Bell	Left half	College
Forster	Right outside	Barkus
Whitfield	Right inside	Batey
Ellis	Centre	Dennam
J. Lynap	Left inside	Houldsworth
Gillender	Left outside	Liddle

Referee: Mr Mitcheson.

Ellis won the toss, and elected to play with the sun at their backs. Dennam set the ball in motion, and Ellis receiving, broke away down the field, where, after some grand passing, Forster forced a corner. This was nicely placed by Coyle, but Smith headed away, and Dennam made tracks for the home goal. He drove the leather across to Barkus, and a mistake by Bell let in that player. He eluded Moore, and shot in, but Lynap saved without much difficulty. Midfield play followed for a short while, but at length Coyle got an opening, and sent in a terrific shot, which struck the side of the net. The goal kick gave Wardley a little advantage, and

A MISKICK BY PARKER

let in Dennam, who banged the leather out of play. The Wardley lads still kept up the pressure, and Barkus forced a corner. This was nicely placed, and Liddle missed a grand opening. The ball was sent over the centre line, and Ellis sprinted away. Smith dispossessed him, and banged the leather up the field, but A. Bell punted back. Hands to the Celts made matters rosy for them, and a short scrimmage ensued in the Wardley goal mouth. Lindsay cleared splendidly, and Parker let in Dennam. Moore relieved, and Ellis receiving, tricked Cain. He gave to Forster, who transferred to Whitfield, but "Douse" sent past. Dennam got nicely away, and was in a good position, when the whistle sounded for offside. The free kick was taken by Moore, but it proved of little advantage, as

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3).

FOOTBALL.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.)

BARKUS WAS CONSPICUOUS

by some fine play. Bell, however, checked his career, and gave to Gillender. Bob broke away, and centred, but Ellis was not in his position, and a grand chance was lost. Smith sent the leather up the field, and Little had another chance, but sent out of play. Parker was fouled by Houldsworth, and Moore was entrusted with the kick. Lynap received, but his shot went very wide. Houldsworth shot past at the other end, and a minute later, hands were awarded the homesters. This was nicely placed, but Aiston saved, and hands off Ellis let in Wardley. A free kick against Kerridge drove them back, but Moore shot high over the crossbar. Play became very uninteresting, and a little excitement was raised when both the Wardley backs missed the ball. The goalkeeper kicked weakly, and a short scrimmage ensued. Hands off Kerridge close in, gave the homesters a splendid chance, and Bell took the kick. A corner resulted, but this proved abortive, and immediately afterwards, R. Bell struck the crossbar with a hard shot. Lynap had to save at the high end, but the ball was returned to midfield, and

BELL SCORED

with a magnificent shot, Aiston making a grand attempt to clear. On centring, Wardley broke away, and a minute from half time, Barkus equalised the score. Half-time—

Celts	1 goal
Wardley	1 goal

On resuming, Wardley, who had now the sun at their backs, attacked vigorously, but Moore and Bell drove them back empty-handed, and the ball eventually went into touch. From the throw-in, Forster got up, but lost to Smith, and

LIDDLE GOT CLEAN AWAY.

He eluded Parker, and centred, but Moore came to the rescue, and saved grandly. A free kick was awarded to the Celts, twenty yards off the goal, and Parker took the kick. He shot nicely, and Coyle just missed scoring. Barkus responded with a tricky run down the right, but failed to pass Moore, and the latter tried to score a goal. Smith and Cain were conspicuous for their fine work, the latter, especially, being applauded for his cool play. Ellis tried to break away, but was beaten by Cain, who passed judiciously to Barkus. The Wardley right inside ran past Moore, and forced a corner. This was badly placed, and Gillender carried play to the visiting goal, where Ellis forced a corner. This was also badly taken, but the Celts retaliated, and forced another. Coyle placed grandly, and Ellis getting his head to work,

DROVE THE BALL INTO THE NET,

amid loud cheers. On centring, Wardley tried to lower the home defence, but A. Bell rejected a hot shot from Liddle. Whitfield and Forster got up on the right, and after a short bully in the Wardley goal mouth, Whitfield sent in a grand shot, which Aiston saved at the expense of a corner. This was badly placed, and Houldsworth and Liddle changed the scene of operations with a dashing run half the length of the field. The former overran the ball, and Coyle, who was playing a grand game at half-back, sent several times into the goal mouth, but the right wingers not being up, excellent chances were lost. A free kick fell to the Celts close in, and Robinson Bell took the kick. After a short scrimmage, Ellis headed over. The ball was sent well down the field, and Batey was conspicuous by some fine head work. Coyle returned, and sent in a hot shot, which Aiston saved with difficulty. Time was fast approaching, and both elevens tried hard to score. Gillender and Lynap were practically idle on the left wing, and it was not until the last few minutes that they got any work to do. The ball was brought into the Wardley goal mouth, where, after a tough scrimmage,

WHITFIELD SCORED A THIRD GOAL.

On centring, the Plain lads, who throughout the whole game had not over-exerted themselves, took matters easy, and appeared to be content with their lead. Barkus and Dennam looked like scoring, when Moore rushed in, and saved in splendid fashion. The ball was taken by Gillender to the high goal, where Ellis was again too slow in accepting a pass. Forster next tried to score, but his shot went over the bar, and the whistle sounded, after one of the slowest games ever played on the Celtic enclosure, with the score:

CELTS	3 goals
WARDLEY	1 goal

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

DIPTON WANDERERS v. GATESHEAD N.E.R.

Delightful weather prevailed on Saturday on the occasion of the visit of the railwaymen from Gateshead to the Dipton enclosure—indeed, it might be regarded as the finest Saturday since the advent of the football season eight months ago. The ground, moreover, was nice and dry, the turf not being too hard, and a fast and exciting game was the result. The teams were as follows—

DIPTON		N.E.R.
M. Evans	Goal	Atkinson
Thompson	Right back	Laws
Underwood	Left back	Redpath
Coates	Right half	Shaw
Cunningham	Centre half	Martin
Willey	Left half	Brown
Jordan	Right outside	Forsyth
S. Evans	Right inside	Smoult
W. Evans	Centre	McNee
H. Walker	Left outside	Dains
T. Walker	Left inside	Lavery

Referee, Mr R. Bland, Pelton Fell.

It will be observed that the visitors came with one of their strongest combinations, while Dipton played a team consisting wholly of local lads. Nearly 1,000 spectators stood around the ropes when the game was started, some thirty minutes late. Dipton lost the toss, and had the misfortune to begin operations with a fierce sun blazing in their eyes. However, the homesters immediately made tracks for the railway men's goal, and seemed likely to score straight off, only the ball was kicked out. Play was restricted for awhile in mid-field, and then Gateshead assumed the aggressive. A corner was obtained off Underwood, but nothing resulted. In the course of a brief, but exciting, struggle near the half-way line, Forsyth, with a well-directed high kick, despatched the leather home. The spectators disputed the fact that the ball ever rolled between the sticks, and, although the referee was at least thirty feet away, he awarded a goal. From the kick-off, the Wanderers got possession, and were fortunate enough to secure a foul close in. Willey took the kick, but W. Evans unluckily headed over the cross-bar. The Wanderers afterwards forced a corner, but T. Walker shot by. The Gateshead forwards next darted up the field, and appeared to be dangerous, but M. Evans kicked out just at the right moment. Another well-aimed shot was capitally saved by the same player. Lavery sent up from a corner, and McNee scored with a shot which it was utterly impossible for any goal-keeper to stop. After Dipton had pressed some time without getting through, Gateshead secured, and, making a rapid combined sprint to the opposite end, Smoult rushed the leather into the net with a very soft shot. The home men once more made headway, and W. Evans had some very easy chances, but erratic shooting nullified his efforts. The railway men, from a foul, got well up, and Redpath put in a couple of clinking shots, which, however, M. Evans fisted out with marvellous dexterity. Towards the finish, Dipton attacked severely. From a corner, the ball was played out, but Hy. Walker succeeded in landing it right into the net. The Wanderers continued the pressure, and it seemed as though the interval would never arrive. The referee was apparently so much absorbed in the play that he neglected to consult his watch, and it was only when the visitors' linesman called his attention to the time that it was ascertained the "half" had lasted five minutes too long. Half-time—

Gateshead	3 goals
Dipton	1 goal.

Crossing over, the Dipton men had the advantage of playing with the sun behind them. They stripped off their jerseys, and looked as if they really meant business. The Wanderers had undoubtedly the best of the play, and the goals scored could not in the slightest degree be regarded as any criterion of the respective merits of the teams. The visitors were rarely dangerous in the second part, but when they approached within measurable distance of the home goal, they were invariably lucky enough to score. On the other hand, Dipton lost several grand opportunities by their wild shooting. The second half had been in progress a quarter of an hour, when Brown scored with a good shot. A series of fouls were subsequently granted to both sides, but all attempts at goal proved abortive. The Wanderers now made a spirited endeavour to make up for lost time, and Coates banged the leather through splendidly. For some twenty minutes, the Diptonites made a vigorous onslaught on the visiting citadel, but Atkinson saved in an exceptionally able manner, a large number of dangerous shots, while others just missed their mark. Cunningham despatched a hot shot, but lifted the leather a few inches over the crossbar. Willey sent in a beautiful shot, which Atkinson managed to clear. Smoult again notched another point, a few moments before the whistle blew. Final—

GATESHEAD N.E.R.	5 goals
DIPTON WANDERERS	2 goals

STANLEY v. WILLINGTON ATHLETIC.

[BY "CROSS-BAR."]

This match, the last of the ordinary fixtures of the season, took place on the Stanley ground, on Saturday afternoon last, in the presence of a large gathering of spectators. The weather, from an on-looker's point of view, was delightful, and, with the exception of a slight breeze, was conducive to good football, in fact, an ideal football afternoon. The Willington men arrived somewhat late, with only ten men, and, when the referee called upon the teams to line up, they took the field as follows :—

STANLEY: Goal, Morris; backs, Joyce and Beckwith; half-backs, Dover, Nicholson, and Fish; forwards, Masterman, J. Howe, S. Wood, T. Robson, and Dodds.

WILLINGTON ATHLETIC: Goal, Kaley; backs, Knifton and Reed; half-backs, Lamb, Broadley, and Arnot; forwards, Cummings, Scott, Johnson, and Clupe.

Referee: Mr Conqueror, Southwick.

Willington won the toss, and Stanley kicked off against the wind. The visitors soon displayed their energy, and Arnot put in a good shot, which the home backs negotiated successfully. Coming down, Stanley assumed the aggressive, and Masterman exhibited his usual dash, but Broadley checked his onslaught. The home forwards, by dint of good dribbling, got well in the Willington territory, where a nice low shot from the left was placed out of danger by Reed, the Willington right back. Headed by Cummings, Willington paid a visit to the Stanley territory, and a dangerous shot by Clupe was finely headed out by Sammy Wood. The homesters then made a spurt up the field, and Joyce afforded some amusement by throwing himself at the ball. However, some good passing was here shown, and, getting into the Willington domains by means of dribbling and short passing, Howe put in a shot for the sticks, which secured for Stanley a soft goal, the first score of the match. From the centre-kick, Dodds made a fairly good attempt to get away, but was brought up by Arnot in neat style. Play then appeared to be of a lame character. After a period of rather desultory play, Sammy Wood gave signs of making tracks for goal, but the forward rank of Willington assumed the aggressive, and Sammy's contemplated goal was lost. Attacking with some spirit, the home forwards got dangerous, and a shot by Wood was sent in, but went much too high. The visitors coming up, Morris saved a clinking shot from Arnot. Another good shot from Johnson was successfully placed out of danger. The visitors attacked in fairly good style, and Howe, who was apparently bent upon goal-getting, put in a nice shot, which the Willington custodian handled, but afterwards let drop and roll past him, thus gaining for Stanley their second point. A minute or two later, the whistle sounded for half-time, the score standing—

Stanley	2 goals
Willington	Nil.

Resuming, play was of a very ordinary character, the homesters taking matters very easily. Howe put a good shot in for goal from the left, which went a trifle wide. Stanley got up, led by Masterman and Dover, and the ball being nicely placed, Wood shot into the net. Further pressure was relieved by Knifton, but Emmy Beckwith stopped the charge, and, thanks largely to the brilliant play of the veteran, the ball was sent in the direction of the Athletic citadel. Hands ensued right in the goal mouth, Reed heading out, but Tommy Fish met the ball, and smartly returned it into the net. Stanley still did most of the pressing, and Jake Dodds narrowly missed adding another point, whilst just later, Masterman, with a grand opening, placed over the bar. Cummings broke off up the right wing, but Emmy came for him, and dispossessed him, following it up by a rattling long shot, which Reed ejected. Fish sent the ball back, and Robson, cleverly tricking Reed, sent the fifth goal into the net. The visitors occasionally got past the centre line, and on one of these occasions, Johnson tried a long shot, which Morris easily ejected. Stanley now pressed, and had matters pretty much their own way. The players, however, were very careless, and did not add to the score. Result :—

STANLEY	5 goals
WILLINGTON	Nil

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK V. DARLINGTON.

This Northern League fixture was brought off on the Park enclosure, on Saturday last, before a large gathering of spectators. The weather was beautifully fine, and the turf in good condition. Although Darlington figure conspicuously in the second position of the League table, as opposed to that of Leadgate, still with the advantage of playing on the home ground, and the tight game experienced when playing Middlesborough a few weeks previously, it was generally supposed that the Park men would run the doughty county cup-holders a good race for supremacy, so far as the result of that day's play was concerned. Indeed, some of the more sanguine of the home Club's supporters were confident enough to prophesy other two points for the Park. The visitors arrived late, which fact is now somewhat of a foregone conclusion, so far as visiting teams to Leadgate are concerned. It is a long time since there was a punctual kick off, according to advertised time. It was something like three-quarters of an hour after the appointed time, therefore, when Mr Douglas whistled up the teams, which faced each other as under—

LEADGATE PARK.		DARLINGTON.
Crowther	Goal	Henderson
J Wilson	Right back	Norris
Foreman	Left back	Todd
Snowdon	Right half	McIntosh
Forster	Centre half	Waites
Cartmell	Left half	Bird
Robson	Right outside	Watson
Milburn	Right inside	Dunn
Thompson	Centre	Lowes
Lock	Left outside	Cansick
Crute	Left inside	Boyle

Linesmen :—Mr Graham (Leadgate), and Mr Furness (Darlington).

Referee—Mr Douglas (Gateshead).

Leadgate won the toss, and elected to play down the incline, and with the wind in their favour. Lowes set the sphere in motion for the visitors, but the ball was quickly returned by the homesters, who forthwith pressed. Hands off Bob Forster, however, checked their progress, and Norris sent the leather flying in the opposite direction with a huge kick. Watson secured possession, and dribbled finely, in conjunction with Dunn, to the opposite end. A judicious centre was accepted by Lowes, who

STRAIGHTWAY BEAT CROWTHER

with a low, swift grounder, thus opening the score for the visitors comparatively easily. This was rather an unexpected and early reverse to the Park supporters, and the ball was marched off to the centre line amid unbroken silence, and with true funereal solemnity. From the re-start, Leadgate broke away, and, aided by the wind, made things fairly hum round the visiting defending lines, Norris, Todd, and Henderson doing some sterling work in the capacity of defenders. Leadgate, however, were fearfully erratic in shooting propensities, numberless chances to score being thrown away by Robson, Milburn, and Cartmell. Thompson, too, missed one or two splendid openings. The only decent shooting exhibited was that by the two left wing players, Crute and Lock, but Henderson, the visiting custodian, was thoroughly well alive, and repelled, in smart and dexterous fashion, all attempts to lower his colours. The Park continued on the aggressive, but

NORRIS AND HENDERSON REPELLED

strongly, and sent out every time. Bob Forster sent in a splendid long shot from half-back, but Henderson reached it, and threw away in clever style. Crute also sent in a beauty, but again the Darlington custodian proved his efficiency, and punched it out with commendable promptitude. Waites, by a nice run, changed the venue, and a foul, off Thompson, gave the visitors a chance. Norris placed well, but Foreman returned, and then Robson missed badly again at the other end. Once again the scene was changed, and Dunn sent in a beauty at Crowther, the ball just topping the cross-bar, and falling upon the net. Waites next had a shy, but sent wide with a bad shot. A foul throw off Darlington created an opening for the homesters. Bob Forster took the kick, but Bird banged back, and once again the visitors broke away, Dunn sending over. Leadgate returned, and, with a stiff breeze in their favour, and good aggressive play, pinned the visitors into their own half continuously, more splendid work by Henderson being exhibited in the defence of his citadel. Leadgate maintained the attack, and gained several corners, but the visiting defence was superb, and all attempts to get through proved abortive, Henderson maintaining his charge intact till the arrival of half-time, when Darlington were leading to the tune of

ONE GOAL TO NIL.

Resuming, Waites sent down from the kick-off, but Foreman returned, and Crute propelled the leather further forward. From a pass Robson received, and with a good shot hit the corner of the crossbar and upright, but outside, the ball going bye. McIntosh next put in a nice long shot for the visitors, as did Bird immediately after, but both were successfully coped with by Crowther and Foreman respectively. Henderson next removed a dangerous intruder from the foot of Milburn at the opposite extremity, Todd repulsing likewise in fine style immediately after. Dunn got away down the left, and put over to Watson, but a favourable position was unappropriated through the latter lying too far back, and making no attempt to reach the sphere. Bird had another long shot from half-back, but J. Wilson transferred the leather back again.

CANSICK CAME AWAY

in dashing style, and made a good shot w[illegible] Crowther saved finely, Foreman doing the s[illegible] from the foot of Dunn immediately after. [illegible] lington were now making the pace, and kep[illegible] home back division thoroughly well on the [illegible] Boyle and Cansick came away, but Ca[illegible] intercepted only for Dunn to get possessi[illegible] latter player essaying a long shot. Cr[illegible] caught the ball, but handled clumsily, [illegible] letting through. He, however, recover[illegible] session in time, and threw away out of [illegible] Hands off Todd looked dangerous for [illegible] but a very impending calamity was [illegible] by Waites heading away smartly. A point was awarded Leadgate, the ball this time passing through untouched. Norris sent bye with a long kick, and then Crute and Lock got up the left, and after a smart bully in the Darlington goalmouth Milburn got the sphere over the line,

OPENING THE SCORE FOR LEADGATE

amid loud cheers. The teams were now once more upon a level, giving fresh interest to the game. Leadgate played for all they were worth, but failed to improve upon the score and to gain a lead. Darlington warmed up and attacked hotly, forcing a corner. McIntosh placed well, Wilson heading out. Boyle received on the right, and passed to Cansick who, although facing in the opposite direction to Crowther, got the ball between his legs, made an instant revolution of both body and ball, and banged the latter into the net, once more giving the visitors the lead. Darlington continued to press, and Boyle securing at the centre line made a splendid run and when apparently a score seemed inevitable overran the ball.

WILSON REMOVED THE DANGER.

A foul off Leadgate availed the visitors nothing, and Robson getting away up the right, put in a shot, but Todd rejected successfully. Back again came Darlington, and Waites put nicely over to Watson, who carelessly dribbled over the goal line at the corner. From the goal kick, McIntosh received, and passed forward to Boyle, who with a high shot beat Crowther for the third time. This reverse somewhat disheartened the home supporters, who were now giving up all hopes of a victory. Not so the players, however, as almost instantaneously from the kick-off, Robson seized the ball—with his feet, of course—and with lightning-like rapidity flew away to the other end, and before the visitors could scarcely realise it, had beaten Henderson with a sharp, low, diagonal shot, altogether beyond his reach. Three to two, now. "There's balm in Gilead yet," thought the Leadgate men, and no sooner had Lowes set the leather rolling once more, than Robson again got his toe to the leather, and was speeding away to the other end in grand style, but bitter experience is a splendid school in which to learn, and he was too well watched on this occasion to repeat the dose successfully, Todd bowling him over before he could get in his shot, and Norris sending back the leather with a long drive. Leadgate got a corner, but were unable to improve upon it. Boyle got away again, but his final effort went over the bar. Darlington secured a corner off Leadgate, but

CARTMELL SAVED WELL.

Leadgate tried hard to equalise, but were unable to get through. Darlington again attacked, Bob Forster saving several times in succession in fine style, doing, on the whole, as much work as any two men on the Leadgate side, and repelling attacks by Dunn, Watson, and Lowes in good style. He was here, there, and everywhere, but always where the ball was, and proved, without doubt, the saviour of the Park from a more severe defeat. Nothing further resulted on either side in the way of scoring, and the game terminated as under—

DARLINGTON	3 goals
LEADGATE PARK	2 goals

REMARKS.—The balance of play was fairly even, taken on the whole game, the even nature of the game being faithfully represented in the narrowness of the result. Neither team was represented by its maximum strength, Bell, R. Wilson, and Graham being absent from the home ranks, whilst Campbell, Johnson, and Tolson were the absentees from Darlington.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

ALLENDALE PARK v. SPEN ALBION.

[BY "UPRIGHT."]

This contest, in the above tournament, was brought off at Medomsley, before a large number of spectators. The Spen team is greatly improved by the new players they have received in their ranks. The homesters wore a black band round their left arms, out of respect for their late president, Mr Morris. The ground was in excellent condition. The following did duty for their respective teams—

ALLENDALE		SPEN
Stokoe	Goal	Aymers
M Walton	Right back	Soulsby
B. Taylor	Left back	Short
Forster	Right half	Bradley
Bowes	Centre half	J. Gibson
T. Walton	Left half	R. Robson
Jos. Walton	Right outside	Laing
Jno. Walton	Right inside	J. Urwin
Houston	Centre	W. Carnaffen
Robinson	Left inside	English
J. Grant	Left outside	McMan

Referee, Mr Osman, Dipton.

The Spen won the toss, and elected to play down the hill. Houston set the ball in motion for the Park, but Soulsby repulsed with a big kick. McMan received, but he was pulled up for being offside, and this relieved the Park citadel. Play afterwards raged in midfield. Jos. Walton broke away, but the Spen backs were on the alert, and Short made a rush at his opponent, but kicked the ball out. From the throw in, Joe Robinson was penalised for fouling. This let in the visitors, who were going in for the "kick and rush" game. Short took the kick, which he placed splendidly. A short scrimmage ensued, in which Forster gave a corner to save, but this was got away in admirable style. Some tricky play on the part of Carnaffen and English enabled the Albion to again get into the Park territory, when

CARNAFFEN SCORED.

This seemed to put the home lot on their mettle, for immediately on the restart, they made headway into the visitors' goal, but their progress was subdued by Short kicking out. The Park men retaliated, and Houston sent in a magnificent shot, which

SCRAPED THE CROSS-BAR.

The visiting left broke away from the goal kick, and, by the medium of some neat passing, they passed the backs, but Stokoe was too good to be beaten. A swift run was made up the wing by Grant, who landed the leather into Aymers' goal. As no one was in the goal but the custodian, he had no difficulty with the shot whatever. Half-time arrived with the score—

Spen	1 goal
Allendale	Nil

The home lads now showed much better form. A good run by Jos. Walton and his partner was much applauded by the spectators, who were beginning to get very excited. The leather, ultimately, was put over the bar. Play raged in midfield for awhile, and a series of free kicks were given to both teams. A well-aimed shot by English nearly had the desired effect, the ball just missing by a few inches. The Spen lads having been lucky to gain a goal in the first half, lost no time or play in trying to notch another point. A "kick and rush" run by the Spen (as was generally the play) got the leather into the home territory, but Mat. Walton sent it back with a huge kick. A free kick for the home lads put the Spen goal in danger, but, after a tough scrimmage,

AYMERS FISTED AWAY.

This disappointment did not daunt the hopes of the Medomsley lads in the slightest, and they still kept pegging away at their big opponents. A series of raids were made on the Spen citadel, but Aymers, who was playing in rare form, managed to avert all the difficulty. There were only about twenty minutes to go, and for Allendale to score two goals, and win, looked impossible, for the way in which Short and Soulsby kept up their defence was magnificent. After a brief passing run, Jos. Walton sent nicely over to Houston, who was on the alert, and that player put in a stinging shot, which Aymers had to concede a corner to save. This was nicely placed, and a hot scrimmage ensued, in which

HOUSTON SCORED

for the Park. This success was greeted with deafening cheers. It was now two minutes off time. On the restart, the Park again broke away, but were repulsed by the backs. No further scoring took place, and the result of a very fast and exciting game was—

ALLENDALE	1 goal
SPEN	1 goal

TOW LAW v. JARROW.

[BY "FULL BACK."]

These two teams met on the Monkton Ground, at Jarrow on Saturday afternoon last, in a friendly fixture. The two elevens are old opponents, but had never met this season. In 1895-6, it was Tow Law who put Jarrow out of the Durham Cup, and had the former club beaten Darlington, on March 6th of the present year, they would in all probability have had to play Jarrow in the final. The glorious uncertainty of the leather changed this little programme, and whilst Tow Law were knocked out in the semi-final, Jarrow went down in the final. The Jarrow committee were very anxious that the club should meet Tow Law before the end came, and so on a pressing invitation, the Tow Law team tried another on Saturday. But, alas! what a different eleven to that which beat Jarrow last year! There were only four of the regular players present. Against these Jarrow had a grand array of old standards. The weather was gloriously fine, and when the teams kicked off, [illegible] was a tremendous crowd of spectators [illegible] enclosure. The men responded to the [illegible]ons in the following order :—

[illegible]		JARROW
[illegible]	Goal	Cassidy
[illegible]	Right back	Kent
[illegible]	Left back	Curry
[illegible]	Right half	O'Neil
[illegible]	Centre half	Appleton
[illegible]	Left half	Jones
[illegible]	ight outside	Kennedy
[illegible]	ight inside	Patterson
[illegible]	Centre	Thompson
[illegible]	ft inside	McGraw
[illegible]	outside	Dickson

[illegible] rie, Newcastle.

Jarrow winning the toss, elected to play with the wind, and immediately McGraw got the ball, and made away at a great pace. Temperley cleared, but Jarrow again pressed, and forced two corners in quick succession, neither of which proved of any value. Thompson assumed the offensive, and racing away, gave Allison a hot shot, straight from the centre, but the Tow Law custodian fisted away in grand style. Dickson came away, and tried his luck with a hot shot, but Moreland was ready, and turned the sphere. Kennedy had a good chance, but was pulled up for a foul. Simpson got away, and looked like scoring, but Kennedy dispossessed him, and passing to Appleton, the latter sent in a shot, in saving which, Allison conceded a corner. Dickson took the kick, and Appleton headed beautifully

INTO THE NET.

making the first point for Jarrow. At the centre, Simpson made off. Hands was given against Tow Law, but the Jarrow men made nothing of the chance. Kennedy got in again, and gave Allison

A TREMENDOUS SHOT,

but Allison handed out right merrily, just in time to save himself from being charged through by Dickson. Kennedy returned like a hurricane, and once again tested Allison's mettle, but the Tow Law veteran was up to all tricks. Jarrow forced a corner kick, and Kent sent the ball over the cross-bar. A foul was given against Kennedy. Temperley took the kick, and put the ball

OVER THE CENTRE LINE,

but O'Neil, by a splendid header, sent the leather back to the Tow Law end. Jarrow got a corner which was put in by Kent. "Ginger" McGraw had another try, but Allison fisted away. A most extraordinary run was then made on the Tow Law goal. Temperley and Gash were very busy. Allison was called upon to stop shots at the rate of about

ONE BALL PER SECOND,

from McGraw, Kent, Kennedy, and Dickson. They came in so rapidly that Allison had hardly time to send them out before they were again sent in. Hands was given against Jarrow, and Simpson relieved the pressure by taking the ball down the field, followed by Watson, who took the leather, but was pulled up by Curry. Gilroy got the sphere, but kicked over the line. Patterson and Kennedy then made for the Tow Law goal. Thompson gave to Dickson, who had a clear field, but he kicked

A MILE TOO HIGH.

Simpson broke the scrimmage, and, aided by Watson, he dashed off, but McGraw saved, and, racing up to Allison's end, headed in again, but try as he would, he could not get past the Tow Law goal-keeper. Dickson and Thompson drove up again, and the Tow Law forwards never got a chance. Kennedy kicked out of touch, and from the throw-in,

HUNTER GAVE TO SIMPSON,

and the latter raced off, and passed to Watson, who was pulled up for off-side. Hands was given against Jarrow, and Gash took the free kick, but nothing resulted. McGraw gave Allison another tester, which the latter negotiated in capital style. Jarrow pressed up, and, being awarded a corner, Dickson put in, but availed nothing. Watson then got away, and made the first shot Tow Law got, which just went past the end of the net. Dickson got the ball, and made another rush, but

ALLISON SAVED AGAIN.

Some very fast play resulted at the Tow Law end. Temperley and Gash were playing for all they were worth, but Allison's defence was simply superb. Hunter rushed down the field, and Simpson got the centre, but failed to hold against Dickson. McGraw put in another shot, which hummed

LIKE A CANNON BALL,

but the old hand saved again, and in the three minutes previous to the interval, got rid of four more without disaster. Allison has seldom shown such rare pluck. When the whistle sounded on the interval, the score stood :—

Jarrow	1 goal
Tow Law	Nil

The teams retired for a few minutes, and on re-appearing, Tow Law had the wind in their favour. Jarrow soon assumed the upper hand, and the same old style of play began again at the Tow Law end. Thompson shot, but Temperley stopped, and sent out to mid-field, but McGraw brought back, and Thompson drove in, but Simpson stopped, and took away the ball in the Jarrow direction, making for Cassidy's quarters.

THE HOME CENTRE

shot, but the Jarrow custodian kicked out. Play returned to the Tow Law end, and Allison saved another hot "'un" off Dickson. Hands was given against Tow Law. Curry put in the free kick, but got nothing to the advantage of the Jarrow men. Simpson made away, and was supported by Hunter, who was showing some very good all round play. Dickson and McGraw came on again, and Allison and Gash each stopped heavy shots. Temperley cleared his citadel. A foul was awarded against Jarrow. Gash took the kick, and placed nicely, but O'Neil rushed in, and drove away. Temperley ran out, and stopped the shot. Curry did another run, but got nothing. Walton got the ball, and made a brilliant rush, and shot, but only got

A GOAL KICK.

Cassidy sent the ball away, and Thompson sent in another swift, low shot, but Temperley returned the leather, sending over the centre line. Hands was given off Hunter, and Kent took the kick. Simpson headed out, but it was returned. Walton kicked away, and Gilroy drove up to the Jarrow end, but McGraw and Dickson took down again, and raced for

TOW LAW'S STICKS.

Hunter, however, was ready, and turned the leather back to the Jarrow ground. Curry soon returned, but Gilroy put in some warm work. McGraw made another hot "'un," but got nothing, Allison fisting out again. The Tow Law custodian effected some truly remarkable saves. Simpson broke away, and, getting past Appleton and O'Neil, shot for the Jarrow citadel, and

MISSED HIS MARK.

Hunter sent up, but Cassidy threw out. McGraw had another go, but Temperley saved. Hunter got the ball, but failed to hold, and Appleton, getting the ball, made another drive. Temperley saved, and giving to Watson, the latter tried his hand, but was too hard pressed to do anything. Gilroy sent out of touch, and from the throw-in McGough and Schofield got away, and Walton made a plucky attempt. The Jarrow forwards, however, were much too strong, and took the ball back to

ALLISON'S GROUND.

Kennedy sent in a straight shot, which Allison handed. This was repeated twice. Schofield made a swift move, and was just getting nicely off, when the referee whistled off-side. Curry took the free kick, but it ended in nothing. Jarrow now pressed with all their might. Tow Law tried hard to get down to the other end. It was evident that if they could accomplish this they would score. But it was not to be so. Allison was still busy, and was eliciting the plaudits of the whole ground by his splendid behaviour in goal, repeatedly saving off Kennedy, McGraw, and Dickson. A very hot fire was still being showered upon the Tow Law goal, when the final whistle blew on the unaltered score :—

JARROW	1 goal
TOW LAW	Nil

JOTTINGS.

Neither Reed nor Macgregor, the Stanley pros, were playing cricket last Saturday.

Billy Gibson boldly announces that the Whites are capable of beating Stanley cricketers at their own game.

Bob Henderson, of Stanley A, intends joining Benfold, not in an expedition to Turkey, but to play for Stanley 2nd.

Miley Smith, on being requested to assist in fighting the Turks, remarked that he might demolish a good sized turkey, but did not wish to make the acquaintance of any Turk.

Jimmy Benfold commenced the cricket season in the usual manner, capturing a wicket with his first ball.

This is an annual event.

Emmy Beckwith played a champion game for the Whites against Willington, both kicking and heading in grand style.

He tried one shot at his own goal, and caused Morris to handle.

Neddy Nicholson requires further lessons in the art of heading.

I am afraid that tutor Ben Johnson will find him a hard nut to crack.

The Willington goalkeeper (Kailey) is, or ought to be, for sale.

What a gem of a custodian he is!

Tommy Fish has at length attained his ambition.

He scored a goal against Willington on Saturday.

Pickering Nook have an unbeaten record in the Sambotee Cup.

The Policemen v Stanley Wednesday game has been postponed.

It was rumoured last Saturday night that a sale of cricket utensils was to be held in connection with the Stanley Cricket Club.

I gladly give an official contradiction to the report.

The Press Cricketers open their engagements with Consett Swifts.

Joe Hamilton is hard at work getting his lads into form.

Benfold has not yet signed on for the Press, but he may play for them ere the season is concluded.

Mr H. C. Wood, chairman of the Tanfield District Council, is an ardent lover of cricket. Ditto the Rev. T. H. Archdall and Mr Wm. Bulmer.

Jack Charlton has resigned the post of goalkeeper for Stanley Wednesday.

Like Charley Lambton, he got no work to do.

Isaac Newton, the Stanley Wednesday custodian, spent his Easter holidays in receiving instruction in goalkeeping from Roger Ord, of Hebburn.

He gave a goalkeeping exhibition on the following Wednesday evening.

The exhibition was greatly admired by the spectators.

It was rumoured in Stanley that Jimmy Benfold had volunteered for active service in the Greek war.

Happily for the Turks and Stanley cricket, the rumour was unfounded.

The Celts were again victorious on Saturday.

They defeated Wardley in a league match by 3 to 1.

The Plainites were without [illegible], who is on the injured list.

Coyle and Bell were the pick of the halves, Parker being dead off.

Ellis played a moderate game in the centre, and seldom made any progress.

The left wing should be fed more often.

Robinson Bell played a good game against Bill Quay.

He struck the crossbar, and scored the best goal that has been noticed on the ground this season.

Jack Coyle played a fine game at back, sending in several good shots.

Annfield Plain and Hobson met for the championship on Monday.

The result was a draw one goal each.

The result represents the merits of the teams, each eleven having gained a point on their adversary's ground.

Lynap had only half a dozen shots to stop during the whole game.

He kicked away as many shots as he handled.

NcNiel saved several rasping shots, and it was mainly through his efforts that the Celts did not score.

Leadgate Exiles and Annfield Plain intend applying for admission to the Northern Alliance next season.

The Hobson team includes a number of clever headers.

"Walloper" seems as fond of fun as ever.

"Douce" Whitfield played a rattling game on Monday.

Both the Celtic and the Hobson have fine custodians.

Hexham Excelsior cannot raise a team to meet Annfield Plain on Friday.

Should Hobson defeat Wardley, they will win the League by goal average.

The Celts committee are busily engaged in making a new football ground.

The Press box at the Plain is used as a grand stand.

At the Hobson game on Monday night, the Press-box was invaded by a dozen spectators.

I hope the Committee will take some action in the matter.

Wilson, of Leadgate Park, assisted Hobson at last Monday's game.

The majority of the Celts are to be married in the cricket season.

Jimmy Benfold has been appointed pro for the Press eleven at a good salary.

I hear that the brothers Cullen have signed on for Leadgate Exiles next season.

Hebburn have won the Northern Alliance championship.

Sunderland and Notts County are the heroes of the test matches.

Consett and District have now one of the best grounds in the county.

Lambert was a treat behind the wickets, but scarcely distinguished himself with the willow.

Siddell's innings was really brilliant. He bats with excellent judgment.

Matt. Williamson, when not playing, was busily engaged reporting the match.

He declared that he was the representative of the *Athletic Times*.

Richardson also distinguished himself as a batsman.

Martin was altogether "off." Out of practice, probably.

He keeps the ground in splendid condition. I have seldom seen his equal as a groundsman.

FIXTURES.

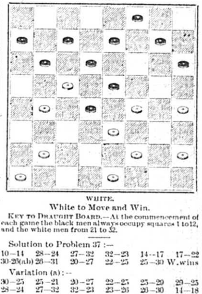
SOUTH DERWENT MECHANICS v. SHIELD ROW MECHANICS.—This match will be played on Saturday first, on the Annfield Plain Celtic ground, for the benefit of Mr John Hodgson, who has been off work for a considerable time, from the effects of an accident. Kick-off at 3 p.m. The teams are as follows:—South Derwent—Goal, James Gibson; backs, Wm Foster and Wm Robinson; half-backs, Jas Thompson, Robt Errington, and T E Rutherford; forwards, Jos Armstrong, Edw. Scott, Wm Jackson, Jno Pearson, and Jas Foggon; reserves, J Lumley, G Davison, and J Fisher. Shield Row—Goal, N Fawcett; backs, W Lumley and Geo Foggon; half-backs, J Lumley, G Lumley, and R Ridley; forwards, J E Harrison, W E Simpson, W Carr, I. Errington, and G Fawcett; reserves, J Urwin, W Turner, and W Neven. Referee, Mr Thomas Holmes.

DRAUGHTS.

PROBLEM 38.

[BY "WANDERER."]

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to Move and Win.

KEY TO DRAUGHT BOARD.—At the commencement of each game the black men always occupy squares 1 to 12, and the white men from 21 to 32.

Solution to Problem 37 :—

10–14	28–24	27–32	32–23	14–17	17–22
30-26(ab)	26–31	20–27	22–25	25–30	W. wins

Variation (a) :—

30–25	25–21	20–27	22–25	25–29	29–25
28–24	27–32	32–23	23–26	26–30	14–18
					White wins.

Variation (b) :—

22–25	25–29	20–25	25–18	20–27	20–23
28–24	14–17	17–22	27–32	32–14	14–18
					White wins.

Two interesting games played between "Wanderer" and a Friend :—

"Wanderer" Moved Bristol.

11–16	7–11	12–19	13–22	25–21	27–31
24–20	15–10	23–16	25– 9	10–14	19–15
16–19	6–24	1– 6	5–14	31–27	31–27
23–16	28–19	26–22	29–25	19–23	15–11
12–19	8–12	6–10	14–18	27–24	6–10
22–18	27–23	16–12	21–17	23–27	12– 8
10–14	9–13	11–16	16–19	32–23	10–15
18–15	30–26	20–11	17–13	18–27	8– 3
19–23	3– 7	7–16	2– 6	24–19	14–18
26–19	19–16	22–17			Drawn.

Friend Moved Kelso.

10–15	24–15	13–17	19–15	15–22	11– 7
21–17	11–25	19–15	10–19	14– 9	15–18
9–13	29–22	8–11	23–16	5–14	7– 2
17–14	12–16	15– 8	6–10	17–10	18–22
6–10	28–24	4–11	30–25	7–14	2– 6
25–21	16–20	23–19	10–15	26–10	25–30
10–17	24–19	6–10	25–22	11–15	32–27
21–14	1– 6	27–23	17–21	13–11	30–25
15–19	22–18	2– 6	22–17	21–25	27–24
					Drawn.

The draw for the third round of the Draughts Handicap, played at the Stanley Hotel, resulted as follows:—J. Speding against J. Alderdice, T. McLaren against P. Drugan, W. Thompson against H. Pendleton, G. Maines against F. Wilby, W. Harrison against R. Bell, P. Logan against R. Pendleton, P. Malone a bye. All players who have not played their heats in this round of the handicap are requested to do so on Saturday, May 1st, as the fourth round is to be drawn on that day.—Jas. Clark, handicapper.

A SUGGESTION TO PLAYERS.

TO THE DRAUGHTS EDITOR.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in your corner, in which to express the great pleasure with which I read the announcement that the proprietor of the *Consett Chronicle* has offered a gold medal to be competed for by clubs in North-West Durham. My immediate object in writing is to point out that if three or four gentlemen would join with Mr Neasham a really good cup might be provided, and won outright after a club had gained it three times in succession. This would make the draught players practice incessantly, in order that their clubs might have some chance of capturing the trophy. Subscriptions might also be raised to present each member of the victorious team with a medal. One gentleman, who is deeply interested in the game, informed me that he would be quite willing to subscribe his mite. I think that by the means I have suggested a *Consett Chronicle* Cup could be obtained, which would prove a stimulus to all players at the game. The League would, of course, be controlled in the usual fashion, by chairman, secretary, treasurer, and a committee composed of one representative from each club affiliated with it. I hope that, with the *Chronicle* always at our backs, the game will receive a fresh impetus, and attract general interest.—I am, yours truly,

GEORGE ELTRINGHAM.

Consett April, 27th, 1897.

Correspondents are requested to address their letters—"DRAUGHTS EDITOR," *Consett Chronicle*.

TOW LAW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the Tow Law Urban District Council was held on Thursday evening in last week, the members present being Mr John Graham (Chairman), Mr R. Sproates, Mr W. Atkinson, Mr G. Hildreth, Mr W. T. Brewer, Mr W. Robson, Mr J. T. Oliver, and Mr [illegible] Blenkiron.

NEW MEMBERS.

The four new members, Messrs Robson, Brewer, Blenkiron, and Oliver, made the customary declaration before taking their seats.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr OLIVER moved, and Mr BLENKIRON seconded, that Mr John Graham be the Chairman *pro. tem*.

Mr GRAHAM then took the chair, and announced that the first business was the election of a permanent Chairman for the next twelve months.

Mr BLENKIRON moved, and Mr HILDRETH seconded, that Mr Graham be the Chirman for the ensuing year.

Mr SPROATES asked if the gentleman elected to fill the chair would qualify as a magistrate? The town suffered greatly from want of a resident magistrate, and the police were put to great inconvenience in getting cases remanded. They had often to walk miles for a justice of the peace.

Mr GRAHAM said that in his opinion, whoever was elected Chairman, ought to qualify for the magistracy.

Mr BREWER asked if Mr Graham was prepared to qualify?

Mr GRAHAM replied in the affirmative.

Mr OLIVER next nominated Mr Brewer for the chair, but no one seconded.

The motion was put, and Mr Graham was elected, Messrs Brewer and Oliver abstaining from voting.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the members for again honouring him with their confidence. He understood, he said, that a chairman was to be appointed, who was not a member of the Council, and he was sorry that this suggestion had not been brought forward. As far as he himself was concerned, he would do his duty, and he hoped that they would have a pleasant year together. (Applause).

Mr SPROATES then moved that Mr Thos. Hall be elected vice-chairman.

Mr HILDRETH nominated Mr Atkinson, but that gentleman declined to stand.

Mr ATKINSON seconded Mr Sproates's motion.

Mr ROBSON moved, and Mr OLIVER seconded, Mr W. T. Brewer.

There being no other nominations, the motions were put, and Mr Hall was elected by four votes to two.

The election of the various committees was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows :—

Rates and Cemetery—Messrs Hildreth, Oliver, and Sproates.

Gas and Lighting—Messrs Atkinson, Brewer, and Robson.

Sanitary—Messrs Hall, Blenkiron, and Atkinson

Finance—Messrs Hildreth and Brewer.

Mr ATKINSON was also appointed to be the representative of the Council on the School Attendance Committee.

ELECTION OF MEDICAL OFFICER.

The Clerk (Mr Ed. Milburn) intimated that in reply to the advertisement for a new Medical Officer of Health, he had received one application, namely, that of Dr. William Tiplady. The Clerk read the application, and qualifications of the doctor, after which, on the motion of Mr ROBSON seconded by Mr SPROTES, Dr. Tiplady was unanimously adopted.

NEW BUILDINGS.

The plans for the building of the two new houses for Mr Ayton, in High Street, near the railway crossing, were referred to the Sanitary Committee.

THE CLOSE OF THE CARNIVAL.

From its commencement, the Easter Carnival, held in the Consett New Town Hall, maintained its popularity. Every evening, the spacious hall was thronged by a large crowd of patrons "on pleasure and enjoyment bent," and the stalls, ranged round the hall, carried on a thriving trade. The whole of the artistes engaged acquitted themselves admirably. Miss Cissie Clamp's performances on the banjo were greeted with loud expressions of approval; Professor Harper, and his amusing family evoked roars of laughter from the large audiences who had assembled. Professor Oliphant was warmly applauded for his Punch and Judy pantomime; Mr Pallister proved himself to be an able comedian, and Mr F. Weightman delighted his auditors by an able impersonation of the voice and bearing of the fairer sex. Nor must we omit to mention the splendid services rendered by the Consett Amateur Orchestra, which, under the conductorship of Mr G. A. Williams, discoursed rapturous and soul-inspiring music; the Bohemian Choir, too, sang with perfect harmony and delightful power, displaying evidences of long and careful training and earnest practice. The Consett Iron Company's Prize Brass Band, under the control of Mr M. Hobday, contributed a number of classic and thoroughly appreciated selections. The whole affair, indeed, is highly creditable to performers and promoters alike. To its very close, the stalls maintained their bright and cheery appearance, and were greatly admired by the numerous visitors. The result must have proved a big financial success, and we congratulate the committee of management upon the general excellence of the arrangements.

At an interval in the programme, on Saturday night, Messrs J. Hardy, J. Wildsmith, A. Broadbent, J. W. Winter, G. T. Broadbent, J. S. Kirkup, R. G. Heslop, N. Bell, J. Ellis, and J. E. Colling ascended the platform. Mr T. Carr occupied the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said he was sure that they would all agree with him when he said that the Carnival had succeeded beyond the highest expectations of the promoters. (Applause). The labours of the committee had met with a great and glorious return. The promoters had spared no expense to provide interesting entertainments, and their efforts in this direction had been keenly appreciated, the large Hall being densely crowded every night. (Applause).

Mr A. BROADBENT, on behalf of the Committee, thanked all who had contributed towards the arrangements. He hoped that the stall-holders would reap material benefit from the exhibition, and that any good which might have resulted would be permanent. He would also like to thank Mr James, the caretaker, for the very courteous manner in which he (Mr James) had carried out his exceedingly arduous duties. (Applause).

Mr BELL also spoke, and said that, in the words of a great writer, "All things had been done decently, and in order." (Applause).

Mr WINTER then addressed the audience, and said that, though it was a common saying that the Liberal party could do little else but talk, he thought that, by the efforts which had been made that week, they had proved that they were also able to work. The Carnival had proved a brilliant success, and he felt confident that the stall-holders had greatly benefitted, as a result of the assistance they had rendered the promoters. He had met a lady who was greatly elated at the success of the undertaking, and she had every reason to be gratified, inasmuch as it had been the means of bringing a long-expected event to come to pass, and a certain gentleman had been induced to purchase the ring. (Laughter). He hoped the Carnival would lead to other things; that people would have been induced to purchase bonnets and gloves from Misses Bell and Binning; groceries from Mr Aynsley; watches, clocks, and jewellery from Messrs Joseph Marshall and Son or Mr John Lowes; pianos from Mr Jones or Messrs Ramsden; furniture from Messrs Davison; paperhangings from Mr Sindle; flowers and fruits from Mr Hewitt; pictures from Mr Venice Dunn; boots from Messrs Tyler; linen from Mr R. C. Foster; medicines if required from Mr Milner; and bicycles through Mr Williams, of Blackhill. (Laughter and applause). Well, he thought he had exhausted the list, and, if not, he must proffer the humblest apologies to any who had been overlooked. After referring to the newspaper reports, Mr Winter went on to express the hope that the Consett Easter Carnival would become an annual event. (Applause).

The speaking then terminated, and the entertainment proceeded.

AUCTION MART SALES.

TOW LAW, April 23.—Mr Vickers had forward 60 dairy cows, 15 fat cattle, 11 store cattle, 12 calves, and 115 fat sheep and hoggs. Cows made up to £20 10s; fat heifers to £19 15s, from Messrs Pease and Partners', North Roddymoor Farm; store cattle to £6 10s. Fat sheep to 53s, top Mr James Hall, Harperley; fat hoggs from 37s to 51s, from Mr J. Thornton, Tribley; 42s 6d to 47s 3d, from Messrs Cochrane and Co., Limited, New Brancepeth; 35s 6d to 42s, from Mr G. Liddell, Kimblesworth; 40s 6d to 42s, from Mr B. Hedgson, Etherley; 35s to 38s, from Mr T. M. Reed, Pringle House; and North-country clipped hoggs, 44s to 47s.

BENFIELDSIDE, April 26.—Mr Murray had forward 24 fat cattle, 64 fat sheep, 3 lambs, 4 calves, 5 cows, 2 stirks, &c. There was an extra large company present, and a good sale for all classes of stock resulted. Fat bullocks to £23 5s, from Messrs Annandale; £18 7s 6d to £19 15s, from Mr R. Anderson, Mosswood; £15 15s to £19, Mrs Simpson, Bradley; bulls, £14 to £14 15s, Mr W. Taylor, Summerfield; heifers from Messrs Annandale, £16 15s to £17 5s; Mr J. Hunter, Medomsley, grazer, £15 15s to £17 15s; Miss Graham, £15 2s 6d to £15 12s 6d; from Mr George Graham, £14 15s to £19 10s; fat cows, Messrs Cowen, £19; Mr Martin, Ruffside, £16 2s 6d; Mr Arnison, Field Head, £17; others, £11 5s to £13 10s. Lambs from Low Waskerley, 32s each. Hoggs to 49s, Kipper Lynn; 48s, Whittonstall Hall Farm; 40s, Mr J. Hunter, Medomsley; 39s 6d, M. Thompson; 54s, Messrs Annandale; others, 25s to 35s. Calves 13s 6d to 33s; cows to £15; stirks, £6 each. Horses, 9 gs to 17gs; ponies, 2gs to 6gs. Many of the cattle were equal to those seen at a Christmas show.

Business Announcements.

M. FAWELL,

GROCER, PROVISION MERCHANT, TEA DEALER, AND DRAPER,

FRONT STREET & DELVES LANE,

OPPOSITE THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE" OFFICE.

CONSETT.

VANS CALL IN ALL PARTS OF THE DISTRICT.

ROBINSON'S LUMBAGO PILLS

Are a sure remedy for those distressing Complaints, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, &c., to which Miners are so liable. Read the following TESTIMONIAL:—

Victoria Garesfield,
February 14th, 1896.

DEAR SIR,

I'am a poor hand at expressing my feelings, but I should like to thank you. I have, since the year 1888, suffered from Lumbago. I remember being unable to follow my employment for six weeks during one heavy attack. The last attack was in December, 1895, which was more severe than any I have experienced. I tried almost everything people told me, but I never seemed to get any better, until I was informed, through your Agent, of your Lumbago Pills. I got a bottle, and, I can assure you, the first dose gave me great relief, and five days after I was able to go back to my work. The small bottle that I procured from you has done me more good than all the medicine I have taken. I have spoken, and still could speak, for hours of the efficiency of those Pills, and still leave many of their virtues unrecorded.—I am, yours truly,

JOHN MOFFITT LAWSON.

PREPARED ONLY BY
J. ROBINSON, Dispensing and Family Chemist,
STANLEY and ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Agent for Glendenning's Beef & Malt Wine.

CASH PROVISION STORES,

4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

G. D. POWELL

Offers Special Values in Groceries and Provisions.

Tons of HAMS, from 5½d. to 6d. per lb.
Tons of BACON „ 3½d. to 5d. „
BUTTER and LARD at Lowest Market Rates.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ANY PART.

CASH PROVISION STORES, 4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

People of all creeds and from all nations
Get their bills put up on my stations.

JAMES FROSDICK

IS the only BILLPOSTER that has rented Stations within the three districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills posted and Distributed at the lowest rates.

FOR
FIRST-CLASS GROCERIES
AND PROVISIONS,
GO TO

GEO. J. ROBINSON,

TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

A Large Assortment of
CHEESE, BUTTER, BACON, LARD, &c.,
always on hand.

WM. WHITFIELD

MAKES THE
BEST FURNITURE
In the District, at the Lowest Possible Prices.

TRY WHITFIELD'S BEFORE BUYING ELSEWHERE.

Note the Address:—
WHITFIELD'S,
STANLEY FURNITURE SHOP.

FINE ART GALLERY,

SADLER STREET, DURHAM.

T. RUSHWORTH & SON,

CARVERS AND GILDERS.

PICTURE FRAMES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION MADE TO ORDER.

CTURES CLEANED, LINED AND RESTORED.

HUDSPITH'S PILE PILLS.

HAVE no equal for PILES, ACHING KIDNEY and SCANTY high coloured URINE; weakness and pains in the BACK. Invaluable to Females and Miners. Absolutely free from Poison.

Supplied in Boxes at 1/1½ and 2/6 of most Chemists, Co-operative Stores, and Drug Store, or Post Free from T. HUDSPITH, Cert. Botanic and F.C. Sm. Lond., Botanist Dispensary, Langley Moor, Durham.

The above may be obtained of Mr. GEORGE PATTRICK, 5, Front Street, Consett.

DURHAM AUCTION MART, WESTERN HILL, DURHAM.

CHARLES TURNER,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.

SALES CONDUCTED IN TOWN OR COUNTRY. PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Household Furniture in Great Variety,
at 10, NORTH ROAD, DURHAM.

Dealer in Pianos and American Organs,
Wringing, Washing, and Sewing Machines.

P. & M. MATTHEWS,

REGISTERED CHIMNEY SWEEPS, BOILER AND FLUE CLEANERS, &c.,

5, GREEN STREET, CONSETT.

All orders punctually attended to.

THE LEADING NON-INTOXICANT.

KER'S ALE! KER'S ALE! KER'S ALE!

FOUR GOLD MEDALS,
HIGHEST AWARDS,
1895 and 1896 Exhibitions,
AWARDED TO

KERSHAW & SONS,

For their Superior

MINERAL WATERS AND NON-INTOXICATING DRINKS. KER'S ALE.

We are the only Makers of the
FAMOUS KER'S ALE,
and Guaranteed Bittered from the Best "Hops."
SOLD EVERYWHERE.

PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS:
J. KERSHAW AND SONS.
PLANTATION STREET, LEADGATE,
AND GATESHEAD.

ROYAL DUBLIN SHOW.
APRIL 20-23rd, 1897.

IN the Great Competition amongst the Irish Dairy Factory Proprietors at the above important Show this week, the advantage of using LISTER'S "ALEXANDRA" SEPARATOR, is strikingly demonstrated.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society of Manchester were awarded the Champion Prize, the Royal Dublin Society's Gold Medal and Cup, also the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Prizes in every competition entered for. In every case, the Butter was made from Cream separated by

LISTER'S "ALEXANDRA" SEPARATORS.

AGENT:—
G. HUNTER, MEDOMSLEY.

"JOHNNY, will you be quiet! else I shan't take you to

KIRKUP'S

(WEST STANLEY) for a new pair of Boots next Saturday." Johnny was dumb immediately. He'd had a pair before, and knew their value

Business Announcements.

J. H. COURTNEY,

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,

HAVELOCK STREET.

DINNERS, from 12 p.m. every day.
BALLS, PARTIES, and all other
Social Gatherings catered for
at reasonable rates.
Tea Boiler, Ware, &c., on hire.

ESTABLISHED 21 YEARS.

MATTHEW KIRKLAND

(Successor to MR. THOMAS BARRY),

HAIRDRESSER,

VICTORIA STREET,

CONSETT.

UMBRELLAS RE-COVERED & REPAIRED.

THE NEW WOMAN is very much in evidence at

KIRKUP'S

(WEST STANLEY) Cheap Boot and Shoe Mart. That's easily accounted for. She is a firm believer in having up-to-date value for money.

MARTIN BECK.

BILLPOSTER,
21, RAMSEY STREET, STANLEY,
GOOD PRIVATE STATIONS.

ROBERT MILBURN,

BUTCHER,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform his customers, and the public generally, that he is removing to newer and more commodious premises, adjoining Mrs. Christopher's Livery Stables, where he trusts to receive a continuation of the patronage which has been so liberally bestowed upon him in the past.

C. LUMLEY,

CLOTHIER AND DRAPER,

SHERBURN TERRACE,

CONSETT,

Has just effected extensive alterations to his premises. An inspection of his large Winter Stock is requested.

BLANKETS A SPECIALITY.

WHEN YOU ARE IN NEWCASTLE,

Call and see your old friend

T. HOFFMAN

(THE HUMORIST),
AT THE
THREE TUNS HOTEL,
NEWGATE STREET.

Ales and Wines of the Finest Quality.
Cigars of the Choicest Brands.

JAMES PALLISER,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

TEA MERCHANT,

47 & 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

THE NOTED GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS STORES AND FLOUR WAREHOUSE.

F. HODGSON,

HAIRDRESSER AND PERFUMER.
STRAWBRIDGE'S NEW UILDINGS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

F. HODGSON, who for some time carried on a successful Business at Blackhill, requests the favour of a trial.

SHAVING neatly and expeditiously performed.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,

THE
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER,
VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE,
BENFIELDSIDE.

Appointed by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

JOHN LOWES,

AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

Valuations effected for Probate. Auction Sales of every description undertaken on most reasonable Terms. RENTS AND DEBTS COLLECTED. Agent to Castle Line Shipping Company, also North British and Mercantile Insurance Company for Fire and Life and Ocean Accident Company.

JOHN CRAWFORD,

AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, COMMISSION AND EMIGRATION AGENT *AND HOUSE AGENT*

VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

ALL CLASSES OF SALES TAKEN.
PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

BAILIFF under the Law of Distress Amendment Act.

Sale and Emigration Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

W. LEE,

BUTCHER

(Late Manager to River Plate Co.),
Has commenced Business in
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT
(Next Door to Mr. Simon Rowe's),

AND invites Attention to his First-Class Stock of

PRIME BEEF, MUTTON, PORK, &c.

All Orders promptly attended to.

WILLIAM NICHOL,

SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

NEW PREMISES NOW OPEN.

ALL KINDS OF SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

REPAIRS NEATLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY EXECUTED.

Business Announcements.

FRED CABLE,

NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
WHOLESALE
MANUFACTURING TINSMITH.

LARGE STOCK of DAIRY GOODS and MILK BOTTLES, from 1 Gill to 20 Gallons, and all kinds of KITCHEN UTENSILS kept or Made to Order.

BAKERY GOODS Made to Order.

Established 1854. Workshops—130 Haymarket.

THOS. SWAINSTON,

Complete House Furnisher,

WISHES to Announce to all Furnishing or Replenishing their Homes for the Holidays, that he has a

LARGE STOCK
OF
SITTING ROOM SUITES
AND
BEDROOM FURNITURE,
Bedsteads, Mangles,
CARPETS,
HEARTHRUGS,
Oilcloths, Fenders,
BRASSES,
AND
General Furnishing Hardware,

At Lowest Prices and to suit all Classes.

ALL GOODS MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES.

2s. in the Pound Discount for Cash.

An Early Call and Inspection is Cordially Invited.

THE ROYAL BLEND WHISKY

As Supplied to his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, and the Officers of H.M. Army and Navy. Bottled under the authority of the Honourable H.M. Commissioners of Customs.

ALSO

THOMASON'S
FAMOUS CLENCADEUR.

THOMASON'S
CELEBRATED GLENLIVET.

RODERICK DHU WHISKY.

DREAMLAND,
OR SCOTCH CREAM,

COLERAINE,
As Supplied to the House of Commons.

DUNVILLE'S,
As Supplied to the House of Lords.

FAIRYLAND,
THE CREAM OF IRISH WHISKY,

VAUX'S BOTTTLED
ALE AND STOUT,
GILLS, 1s. 9d.; PINTS, 2s. 9d.

Sole Wholesale Agent for Consett and District.

JAMES DALY & CO.,

SPECIALITY:
OUR 3s. QUARTS, IRISH OR SCOTCH.

QUALITY AND STRENGTH GUARANTEED.

TO INVENTORS.
OFFICE FOR PATENTS.
ESTABLISHED 1879.

G. J. CLARKSON,

CHARTERED PATENT AGENT,
6, FINKLE STREET, STOCKTON-ON-TEES,
AND
7, CHESTNUT AVENUE, QUEEN'S ROAD, HULL.

Circular of Information Post Free.

F. H. REED,

GENERAL AND FANCY DRAPER,
POST OFFICE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

SOLE AGENT for the Celebrated "PLATINUM" ANTI-CORSET, and PULLARS' DYE WORKS.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S UNDER-CLOTHING.

Extensive and Varied Stock to Select from.

Business Announcements.

MR. E. J. SLOANE, MUS. BAC.,

L. Mus., National Gold Medallist, Organist of St. Mary's Church, Blackhill.
LESSONS ON ORGAN, PIANO, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, CANON, FUGUE, &c.
Pupils prepared for all Musical Examinations.
THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

Business Announcements.

NATHAN ELSDON,

MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURER,
ALE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
AND GENERAL AUCTIONEER,

THANKS his friends for past patronage, and, in soliciting a continuance of their confidence, assures them that it will always be his endeavour to give them the utmost satisfaction in all Branches of his Business.

SALES CONDUCTED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

OFFICE:—DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

JACKSON GREEN,

AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,

SATLEY, TOW LAW.

FURNITURE, STOCK, AND ALL CLASSES OF SALES TAKEN.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

MRS. BATES

(Successor to the Late Mrs. Spencer),
FANCY DRAPER AND HABERDASHER,
8, TIN MILL PLACE, BLACKHILL.

LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING in Great Variety.
PIANFORES, HOSIERY, &c.
MEN'S MERCERY.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

FOR GOOD VALUE IN
HOME-MADE FURNITURE BEST SHEFFIELD CUTLERY, and SILVER-PLATED GOODS, try

JOHN LOWES,

JOHN STREET SQUARE, CONSETT
(Back of British School, Medomsley Road).
The House for Musical Instruments by Best Makers.
PIANOS BY PFEIFFER, STRAUSS, LANGE, &c.
AMERICAN ORGANS BY STERLING.
MELODEONS from 4s. 6d. upwards.
A Large and Varied Stock of WALLPAPERS.

Five Minutes Walk from Consett Station.

To post your bills
Just take the train,
See GEORGE McNEAL
At Annfield Plain.

GEORGE McNEAL,
BILLPOSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND WEST STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
And don't you forget it!

HART'S DINING ROOMS,

12, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT
(Opposite Salvation Army Barracks),
HOT DINNERS DAILY.
Refreshments at Moderate Charges.
Good Accommodation.

Parties, Balls, &c., Catered for.

WEST STANLEY PEOPLE ARE CONTINUALLY ASKING, HOW CAN

KIRKUP

Afford to Sell his BOOTS AND SHOES so much Cheaper than others? Small profits and a big turn-over. That is the secret, my worthy friend.

"THE Apparel oft Proclaims the Man."—
Shakespeare.

To be Well Dressed is the OPEN SESAME to Good Society.

FOR GOOD QUALITY,
GREAT DURABILITY,
PREVAILING STYLE,
FINE FINISH, AND
DOWNRIGHT HONEST VALUE,

GO TO

J. L. BRODIE'S,

ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.
Near the Railway Station.

LADIES' COSTUMES BY EXPERIENCED HANDS.

VICTORIA DAIRY, CONSETT.

FRESH MILK, TWICE DAILY.
FRESH CREAM AND BUTTER, ALWAYS ON HAND.

G. T. ROBSON,

PROPRIETOR.

SENSATION AT DIPTON.

THE GREAT SALE OF THE SEASON NOW GOING ON.

SEIZE this Golden Opportunity, and pay a Visit to

THE NEWCASTLE DRAPERY AND CLOTHING STORES,
FRONT STREET, DIPTON.

Must be cleared prior to Stock-Taking.

STARTLING REDUCTIONS.

J. A. CASTLE, PROPRIETOR.

PAINTS, OILS, AND COLOURS.

GEO. PATTRICK,

CHEMIST, SEEDSMAN, WINE MERCHANT,
5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
IS THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE DISTRICT.

Paints, own make, 4d per lb, 4s per stone. All colours.
Tin Paints, 4d. per lb.
Varnishes, oak, 1s 6d; carriage, 2s; mahogany, 2s; Japan, 2s.
French Polish, 2s; Knotting, 1s 6d.
Brush Polish, 2s. All per pint.
All kinds of Stains, 6d. per bottle. Fir, 5d:
Aspinall's Enamels, 6d.
Dry Colours, blue and green 4d. per lb; red, yellow, and brown, 2d. per lb.
Paris White, 1s. per stone.
Brushes, Size, and all other Goods at Cheapest Rates.

JOS. BAINBRIDGE

FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD [illegible]

SEE LARGE STOCK [illegible]

WIRE NETTING, at Lowest [illegible] ING FELTING, GARDE[illegible] LARGE STOCK OF HOUS[illegible] Call and Examine our B[illegible] MINERS' PICKS AN[illegible] DRILLING MACH[illegible]

Large Stock of FENDERS, [illegible] GENERAL HARDWARE. [illegible] CLOCKS and JEWELLERY [illegible] WEDDING RINGS a Spec[illegible] to every Purchaser. Call and Ask for a List o[illegible] with our BONUS TEA.

Cheapest and Best H[illegible]

Large Stock of BEDSTE[illegible]

Business Announcements.

Ben Pickard

and all the Federation Leaders, if the question was submitted to them, would agree that **Kirkup**

STRIKES

the iron when it is hot. The public of West Stanley get the benefit of his wide-awake enterprise in Cheap and Reliable Boots and Shoes, such as

John Wilson

himself might wear in the House, and fee proud of his understandings.

Tuition.

MUSICAL TUITION.

MISS F. L. STELLING, A.L.C.M.,

GIVES LESSONS on the Pianoforte and in Theory. Pupils prepared for Examinations.

Terms on application.

ROGER STREET, BLACKHILL.

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,

4, JACKSON TERRACE ANNFIELD PLAIN.

PRINCIPAL, MISS GRAY.

PUPILS may enter at any time. Classes for Painting, Drawing, and Dancing. Music and French taught. Preparation for English and Music examinations. TERMS MODERATE.

MRS. J. STEPHENSON,

29, TOWNELEY STREET,
WEST STANLEY,

IS Prepared to receive Pupils in FLORAL and LANDSCAPE PAINTING, and LEATHER WORK.

TERMS MODERATE.

MUSICAL TUITION.

GEORGE DRYDEN, A.L.C.M., SILVER MEDALLIST (Organist of Medomsley Church), gives LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and THEORY OF MUSIC.

G.D. devotes particular attention to the Preparation of Candidates for Examinations, his Pupils having gained over 50 Certificates, including THE SILVER MEDALLIST for 1890; also FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD-CLASS HONOURS IN EVERY GRADE.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 40, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

VIOLIN PUPILS WANTED.

T. H. WOOD, CONDUCTOR,

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

FOR TERMS AND PARTICULARS
APPLY 29, TAYLOR STREET.

MISS JESSIE M. NEY

(Pupil of Mr. MCCONNELL WOOD),
NEWCASTLE,

GIVES LESSONS in VOICE PRODUCTION and SOLO SINGING, in CONSETT and BLACKHILL on FRIDAYS.

For Terms, apply to the *Consett Chronicle* Office.

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

DAY AND BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

Headmaster—MONTAGU V. STEGGALL, B.A., Cantab., Assisted by Mr. E. MIALL WILLIAMS (Lond. Univ.), Mr. A. THUBRON, F.N.P.S., and Mr. J. SURTEES.

Course of Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, and Music.

Next Term—May 3rd.

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, CONSETT.

PRINCIPAL, MISS TAIT.

THOROUGH modern education. Pupils prepared for the Oxford, Cambridge, College of Preceptors, and Music Examinations. A class for Drawing and Painting (oils, water-colours, and monochrome) is held on Saturday mornings, under a trained certificated mistress. Pupils prepared for the South Kensington Examinations in Freehand, Model, Geometry, Perspective, etc. Young ladies not attending the School may join this class. Prospectus on application.

New Term commences May 4th.

Sales by Auction.

LANCHESTER STOCK MART COMPANY, LIMITED.

MR. JACKSON GREEN, Auctioneer.

MONDAY, May 3rd, at 1-30 prompt.

5 Prime FAT CATTLE.
45 FAT HOGGS.
1 FAT LAMB.

The Fat Cattle include Consignments of Well-finished Cattle from Click-em-in and Satley.

The Fat Sheep include 40 grand Fat Hoggs from the North.

Further Entries expected to time of Sale.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12TH.

SPECIAL SALE for DAIRY COWS, STORE CATTLE, and KEEPING SHEEP

Early Entries to
JOHN GIBSON, SECRETARY.

DENE HOUSE, NEAR ROWLEY.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30TH, AT 1-30.

100 EWES and LAMBS. Mules, Cheviot, and Black-face.
30 B.F. Wether HOGGS.
40 Store CATTLE. All ages.
2 Autumn CALVERS.
1 Geld COW.

Further entries expected.
JACKSON GREEN, Auctioneer.

VICTORIA SALE ROOMS.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to Sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY FIRST, MAY 3RD,

50 Ready-made MEN'S and BOYS' SUITS, sizes from 3 to 7; also Drawers, Chairs, Tables in Mahogany, Press, Brass-mounted Bedsteads, and other Lots.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

CONSETT SEWERAGE FARM.

EATAGE OF GRASS PARKS.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed, by the Consett Urban District Council, to Let by Public Auction, on

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12TH, 1897,

the EATAGE of 30 Acres, in 5 Lots:—

	ACRES
Bog Field	7
Standpipe Field	5
Middle Field	6
Road and New Laid Field	8½
Meadow Field	3½
	30

Let at Six o'clock.

Three Months' Bill on approval. 2½ per cent. for Cash.

Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

ARSON BIRKS FARM, NEAR THE SPEN.

ALE of FARM STOCK, and IMPLEMENTS, &c., belonging to Mr Anderson,

ON MONDAY, MAY 10th.

JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer.

PRELIMINARY.

[illegible] be Sold by Public Auction, Freehold [illegible] BUSINESS PREMISES, situated in Front [illegible], Stanley. Particulars and date next week. [illegible] one having Property to dispose of can have [illegible] ered in this Sale.

JOHN LOWES,
[illegible] ley. Auctioneer.

Sales by Auction.

SPRING SALE APPOINTMENTS BY
J. S. MURRAY.

Saturday First, May 1.—Mrs. Elliott's FARM STOCK SALE at Edmondbyers.
May 3.—WEEKLY SALE at the Royal Auction Mart.
May 5.—Messrs. Potts' FARM STOCK, West Minster Acres.
May 8.—SPECIAL SALE at the Mart.
May 26.—Greencroft GRASS PARKS.

EDMONDBYERS.

SATURDAY, MAY 1ST, 1897.

MR. J. S. MURRAY, favoured with a Commission from Mrs Elliott, who is declining Farming, will Sell by Auction the whole of her FARM STOCK, and FELL SHEEP, IMPLEMENTS, &c.

5 HORSES.
9 COWS.
12 Young Grazing CATTLE.
197 SHEEP.
33 Young HENS.

The Whole of the IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY UTENSILS, CART and PLOUGH GEARS, and PART of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

Sale at Twelve o'clock.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, May 3rd, 1897.

15 to 20 Prime FAT CATTLE.
1 Grand FAT BULL.
60 SHEEP.
6 LAMBS.
Veal and Keeping CALVES.
DAIRY COWS and HEIFERS.
SPRING CART, PONY, HARNESS, and TRAP.
10 Bags of POTATOES, POULTRY, &c., &c.

Sale at One o'clock.

J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

WEST MINSTER ACRES.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5TH, 1897.

MR. J. S. MURRAY, favoured with a Commission from Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, who are leaving Minster Acres Farm, will Sell by Auction, on

WEDNESDAY NEXT, MAY 5TH—

150 B. F. EWES, with MULE LAMBS.
50 MULE HOGGS.
2 MILKING COWS.
1 GELD COW.
20 S.H. STEERS and HEIFERS,
1 PONY, 5 yrs. old, 1 HACKNEY, 3 yrs. old.
25 HURDLES.

J. S. MURRAY.

SATURDAY, MAY 5TH.

SPECIAL SALE for STORE STOCK, at the Mart.

Further Entries Solicited.

J. S. MURRAY.

MESSRS. JOS. AND WM. VICKERS'S SPRING SALE ENGAGEMENTS.

May 5th.—FARMING STOCK and 500 Black-Faced SHEEP, Park Farm, Allendale.
May 7th.—FARMING STOCK, &c., Rose Hill, Eastgate.

Mart Office, Tow Law.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.
MONDAY, May 3rd, 1897.

45 to 60 DAIRY COWS and HEIFERS.
28 FAT CATTLE, including consignments of prime Heifers from Messrs. the Weardale Iron and Coal Company Limited; also consignment of grand Bullocks from Mr. J. Allanson, Beechburn, and other noted feeders.
85 FAT SHEEP and HOGGS, among which are a consignment of North-country Hoggs.
5 STORE CATTLE.
12 FINGER CALVES.

Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10-30 a.m.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

NEXT SPECIAL SALE for STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, THURSDAY, May 6th. Early Entries solicited.

ROSE HILL, Near EASTGATE, WEARDALE.

ON FRIDAY, MAY 7TH, 1897.

The most Important Sale of Farming Stock to be held in the Valley this Season.

MR. WILLIAM VICKERS publicly announces under the esteemed patronage of Messrs. Stephenson, who are relinquishing the above Farm, that he will Submit for Public Competition the exceedingly Choice Herd of S. H. CATTLE and Flock of Black-faced SHEEP, Reared on this high and sound holding, each meriting the enviable reputation of being descended by much painstaking for generations from the most fashionably produced ancestors that ever browsed on the banks of the Wear.

The Inventory consists of—
6 HORSES.
35 Head of CATTLE.
305 SHEEP.—230 B. F. Ewes, from 2 to 5 y.o., with Followers by Leicester Tups; 30 B.F. Shearling Gimmers, with Followers by B.F Tups; 30 Gimmer Hoggs, 4 Young Mule Ewes and Followers, 11 Mule Gimmer Hoggs, 1 Goat in Kid, 2 good Sheep Dogs.

The Whole of the IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c.

Rose Hill is within One Mile from Eastgate Station, N.E.R.

Sale will commence at One o'clock.
TERMS, CASH.

Full particulars on circulars and posters, to be had of the Auctioneer.

Eastgate House, 17th April, 1897.

Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Property at Iveston and Tow Law in the county of Durham.

FOR SALE, by Public Auction, at the Station Hotel, Blackhill,

ON WEDNESDAY, THE 12th DAY OF MAY, 1897, At Four o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to such conditions as shall be then read.

MR. NATHAN ELSDON, AUCTIONEER.

LOT 1.—A copyhold FARM-HOUSE, with the Outbuildings thereto adjoining, situate at Iveston, with the Freehold and Copyhold closes of Grass Land, behind the same, containing 2a. 2r. and 23p., and being part of No. 325 on the Ordnance Map of the township of Iveston, and now in the occupation of Mr G. Stoker, as tenant thereof.

LOT 2.—All those copyhold closes of LAND, also situate at Iveston, containing 14 acres, or thereabouts, being Nos. 281 and 282 on the Ordnance Map of the township of Iveston, and now in the occupation of Mr G. Stoker, as tenant thereof.

LOT 3.—A Freehold CLOSE OF GROUND, also situate at Iveston, containing 2½ acres, or thereabouts, being No. 320 on the Ordnance Map of the township of Iveston, and now in the occupation of Mr G. Stoker at tenant thereof.

LOT 4.—All that Copyhold MESSUAGE, or DWELLING-HOUSE, with the Out-buildings belonging thereto, known as "Bank Top Farm," near Iveston, aforesaid, together with the Closes of Land thereto adjoining, and being numbered 322 and 344 on the Ordnance map of the township of Iveston, as now in the occupation of Mr John Best, as tenant thereof.

LOT 5.—All that Copyhold MESSUAGE, or DWELLING-HOUSE, known as "Ward's End," Tow Law, with the out-buildings thereto adjoining, together with the Small FIELD, behind the same.

The Property is Copyhold of the Manor of Wolsingham, and is Numbered 131 on the General Plan of the Tow Law Estate.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or to

MESSRS. BOOTH & LAZENBY,
Shotley Bridge. SOLICITORS.

ON MONDAY, MAY 10TH, SALE OF FURNITURE, &c., AT LANCHESTER.

MR. N. ELSDON, favoured with instructions from Mr Innes, Watchmaker, Front Street, Lanchester, who is removing into a smaller house, will Sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY, MAY 10TH, 1897,

his Surplus FURNITURE, comprising ½-Chest of Drawers, Secretary, Kitchen Press, Harmonium, Table Piano, solid mahogany, by Broadwood; 14-Day Marble Clock, 8-Day Clock, Trumpeter Clock, several Spring Clocks, 12 Kitchen Chairs, Square Table, 2 Couches, Kitchen Table, 4 Cornice Poles, Iron Bedstead, Hair and other Mattresses, Flock Bed, What-not, Washstand, Armchair, Counter, Lamps, Bath, Toilet Tables, Pair Steps, Coal Box, Wringing Machine, Round Table, Pictures, Rain Tubs, Quantity of Timber, 2 Cruets, 2 Sets of Calvers in Cases, Forks, Tea, Dessert, and Table Spoons, Pans, and other Sundry Lots; also 2 Silver Lever Watches and 1 Hay Rake.

Also Surplus FURNITURE from the Lodge, consisting of Mahogany Dining Table, Bedroom Furniture, &c., &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

Offices—Delves Lane, Consett.

Sales by Auction.

PELTON HOUSE, PELTON, CHESTER-LE-STREET.

MR JAMES TURNBULL, F.A.I., honoured with the confidence of J. Kirkup, Esq., will Sell by Public Auction, on WEDNESDAY, May 12th, 1897, his Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c. Full Particulars later.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AUCTION MART.

THE THIRD ANNUAL SPRING SALE of GRAZING CATTLE and SHEEP, YOUNG BULLS, GELD COWS, &c., will be held on May 21st, 1897.

Early entries are respectfully invited.

JAMES TURNBULL, AUCTIONEER.

BANESLEY LANE FARM, LADY PARK, GATESHEAD.

MR. JAMES TURNBULL, F.A.I., having received instructions from Mr. Thomas Grundy, who is declining farming, will SELL BY AUCTION, on THURSDAY, May 6th, 1897, the whole of his valuable FARMING STOCK, Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Implements, Straw, Corn, &c., as under:—

4 HORSES.—Brown Draught Horse, 9 years old, 16-3 h.h., quiet and a good worker; Grey Colt, 3 years old, 16-1 h.h., by Commander, dam by Omega, broken to saddle, and very quiet; Draught Filly, rising 2 years old, sire Bell Founder; Roan Half-bred Mare, 7 years old, 14-2 h.h., quiet and a good worker.

26 S. H. CATTLE.—3 Fat Heifers; Red Cow, calved March 28th, good milker; Red Cow, due to calve about time of sale, third calf; Roan Cow, two months calved, second calf; 3 Bullocks and Heifers, 2 years old; 5 Steers and Heifers, 1½ years old; 5 Roan Heifer Stirks, 9 months old; 3 Roan Heifer Calves.

45 Mule Keeping Hoggs, 2 Pork Pigs, 100 head of Poultry, Oats, Barley, and Straw.—100 bolls Barley, Golden Melon; 30 bolls Oats, about 8 or 10 loads of Barley Straw. Quantity of Main Crop Potatoes; and a large field of the usual Agricultural Implements, Harness, &c.

HARNESS.—Cart, Plough, and Trace Harness, for 1 draught; set of Spring Cart Harness, Riding Pad, Bridle, &c., &c.

DAIRY UTENSILS.—Large Barrel Churn, nearly new; Milk Bowls, Measures, Cans, &c., &c. Also a quantity of surplus HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., &c.

Sale at 1 p.m. with Implements.

The Cattle are a very select lot, being all home-bred and full of quality. The Sheep are very forward in condition.

Public Announcements.

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

COMMITTEE:

G. Ainsworth.
C. Parnaby.
W. S. Macfeggan.
R. Park.
R. Walton.
E. G. Kirkhouse.
J. Petherick.
J. Scott.
J. Hall.
J. W. Leybourne.
E. Whittaker.
A. Stoddart.
J. Daly.
J. Lowes.
J. Kidd.
T. L. Gledstone.
J. Wildsmith.
C. F. Scott.
G. Lowes.
J. Hardy.

Committee of the Consett Science and Art Classes.

W. Aynsley.
R. C. Foster.
Thos. Dunn.
G. D. Powell.
H. Holliday.

Representing the Consett Urban District Council.

W. S. DAVIES, Brynglas, Consett.
G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.
} Hon. Secs.

AT a Public Meeting, held in the Town Hall, Consett, it was unanimously resolved to recognise the Completion of the Sixtieth Year of Her Majesty's Reign in a manner befitting the occasion, and worthy of the District.

The want of a suitable building for carrying on the existing Science and Art Classes, and facilities for extending them, has long been felt, and it was decided that the Commemoration should take the form of a

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE,

to meet these requirements, and such as would be available for the establishment of an

ORGANISED DAY SCIENCE SCHOOL.

It is proposed in this manner to provide full and adequate opportunity for the youth of Consett, and of the whole of the surrounding neighbourhood, to obtain Technical and Scientific Instruction, and a *Secondary Education*, which would be a continuation of that received at the Elementary Schools.

The building which it is desired to erect will contain Chemical and Physical Laboratories, for tuition in practical work, and rooms properly fitted up for various branches of Drawing, together with others which would be used for teaching such subjects as Mathematics, Mechanics, Languages, &c.

It is also intended, in connection with the proposed Institute, to perpetuate the memory of the late General Manager of the Consett Iron Company, Mr William Jenkins, who so long, and so successfully, conducted the management of that Company, and who, at all times, took such an earnest and practical interest in matters pertaining to the general welfare of the District, and whose anxiety for the improvement of the means of Education was constantly manifested.

The estimated cost of the building, together with the site, furniture, fittings, &c, will be approximately £5,000.

Towards these objects, the Consett Iron Company has promised a donation of £1,000, and has also offered a gratuitous site in Park Road, Consett.

Grants towards the Building Fund are also expected from the Durham County Council, and the Government Science and Art Department.

The following is a List of Subscriptions which have already been promised:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. G. Ainsworth ...	20	0	0
,, H. Holliday ...	20	0	0
,, C. Parnaby ...	20	0	0
,, James Annandale	20	0	0
,, W. Aynsley ...	10	10	0
,, J. Scott ...	10	10	0
,, J. Petherick ...	10	10	0
,, G. T. Hyden ...	5	0	0
,, E. G. Kirkhouse	5	0	0
,, W. S. Macfeggan	5	0	0
,, R. Park ...	5	0	0
,, J. Kidd ...	5	0	0
,, T. L. Gledstone	5	0	0
,, John Lowes ...	5	0	0
,, G. D. Powell ...	5	0	0
,, N. Elsdon ...	5	0	0
,, A. Russell ...	2	2	0
,, W. S. Davies ...	2	2	0
,, J. Daly ...	2	2	0
,, C. F. Scott ...	2	2	0
,, J. Hardy ...	2	0	0
,, John Wildsmith	1	0	0
,, A. Stoddart ...	1	0	0
,, Jesse Hall, sen.	1	0	0
,, Geo. Lowes ...	1	0	0
,, E. Whittaker ...	1	0	0
,, J. W. Leybourne	1	0	0
,, R. Walton ...	1	0	0
,, J. Johnson ...	1	0	0
,, J. Kempson ...	1	0	0
,, T. Dunne ...	1	0	0

Further Subscriptions are solicited, and may be sent to

Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE,
North-Eastern Bank, Consett.

LOOK HERE!

THE GRAND

GALA AND SPORTS

Of the ODDFELLOWS, Langley Park,
Will be held on
JUNE 12TH, 1897.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLOWER SHOW.
(48th Annual).
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1897.

SCHEDULES ready shortly. A SPECIAL PRIZE of 30s. will be offered by Mr. A. Trotter, Florist and Seedsman, Blackhill, for Best Collection of Vegetables, to whom intending Exhibitors are requested to apply for conditions

W. RAMSAY, Secretary.
North-Eastern Bank, Blackhill.

LOOK OUT FOR
TOW LAW CATHOLIC SPORTS,
SATURDAY, JULY 3RD, 1897.
P. ROCK, Secretary.

LOOK OUT FOR
DIPTON ATHLETIC SPORTS,
JULY 10TH.
£15 FOR A 120 YARDS Foot HANDICAP and other Sports.

BROOMS SPORTS.

BROOMS SPORTS,
ON SATURDAY, JUNE 26TH, 1897.
J. COSTELLO, J. E. KINLESIDE, { Secretaries, Leadgate.

Public Announcements.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
Also of Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne,
Acting Manager and Scenic Artist, Mr H. SHARPE

Great Success and Positively the Last Three Nights of
HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
Splendid Scenery, and First-Class Variety Company.

MONDAY NEXT, MAY 3RD, 1897,
The most Important Engagement of the Season.
First Appearance here of
Messrs. MORELL and MOUILLOT'S Great London and America Drama,

"THE POWER OF GOLD."

This is without doubt the Greatest Production ever seen in Consett.

Popular Prices of Admission:—Private Boxes, £1 1s; Single Seats, 3s.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Side Circle, 1s.; Pit, 6d.; Gallery, 4d.

Early Doors Open at 6-45, Usual Doors at 7-15; Commence at 7-30. Plan of the Theatre may be seen, and seats booked, at A. Ramsden's Piano Warehouse, by letter or telegram.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.

LESSEE AND MANAGER......MARK H. LINDON.

MONDAY, MAY 3RD,
And Five Following Nights,
"STREETS OF LONDON."

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING,
SATURDAY, 1ST MAY, 1897,
IN THE
NATIONAL SCHOOLS, BURNOPFIELD.
Chair to be taken at 4-30, by
ALD. U. A. RITSON, J.P.

SPECIAL RETURN TRAIN (at ordinary fares), will leave Lintz Green Station at 10-30 o'clock p.m. for Witton Gilbert, calling at intermediate stations.

Conservatives and Unionists invited to attend.

Tickets of admission obtainable from

JOHN G. MURRAY,
Consett.

CATCHGATE & DISTRICT CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

ALL CONSERVATIVES are requested to Attend an IMPORTANT MEETING, which will be held at the Club Room on THURSDAY EVENING, May 6th.

R. ROBSON, SECRETARY.

SOUTH MOOR FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Plants, Flowers, Fruits, Vegetables, &c., to be held on SATURDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1897.

JOSEPH WILSON, SECRETARY.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

SUNDAY, MAY 2ND, 1897.
Morning, 10-30, MR. S. H. LIDDLE, Allendale.
Evening, 6-0, MR. T. WILLIAMS, Blackhill.

WEST STANLEY BAND CONTEST AND SPORTS.

WHIT-MONDAY.

TO OWNERS OF SHOWS, SHOOTING GALLERIES, ROUNDABOUTS, &c.

TO LET, a Large FIELD for the above on Whit-Monday, June 7th Tenders to be sent in to Mr. WM. INDIAN, Douglas Street, West Stanley, by SATURDAY, 8th May.

WM. INDIAN, SECRETARY.

Excursions.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

WEST HARTLEPOOL RACES.

ON SATURDAY, the 1st of MAY, an Excursion Train will leave BLACKHILL at 11-40 a.m. (with bookings from Knitsley, Lanchester, Witton Gilbert, Aldin Grange, West Cornforth, and Coxhoe Bridge), for WEST HARTLEPOOL; returning at 8-20 p.m. the same day.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 5TH of MAY, an Excursion Train will leave BLACKHILL, at 2-25 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, and Lintz Green), for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH; returning from Tynemouth at 8-45, and Newcastle at 9-10 p.m. the same day.

For further particulars see bills.

GEORGE S. GIBB,
York, April, 1897. General Manager.

Legal.

JOHN YOUNG, DECEASED.

ALL Persons having CLAIMS against the Estate of John Young, late of the Rose and Crown Inn, Blackhill, in the county of Durham, innkeeper, who died on the 20th day of April, 1897, are requested to send the same to us, the undersigned, within seven days from this date.

Dated this, 27th day, of April, 1897.

BOOTH & LAZENBY,
Shotley Bridge,
Solicitors to the Executor.

Election Addresses.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE PARISH OF TANFIELD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Owing to circumstances, which we all deeply regret, there are two vacancies in your Urban District Council.

At the Request of the Residents of Friarside and Lintz Colliery, I once again seek your support as a Candidate to fill one of the vacancies.

I am a strong advocate for the proper provision of Comfortable Houses for the Working Classes, and will, if elected, strenuously urge and support Sanitary Reform in every District where it is needed, especially endeavouring to obtain for everyone a pure and convenient Water Supply, and I heartily endorse the action of the present Council in Lighting up our Villages, and connecting them by suitable and very necessary Footpaths.

The action of the Council in widening the Road at Brian's Leap (where a short time ago a child was killed), by enclosing a strip of waste land, meets with my cordial approval, more especially when it is borne in mind that the Council have so managed that the improvement is a gift from the County Council to the District, and costs the Tanfield Ratepayers nothing.

Thorough economy I uphold, and I shall always endeavour, if returned, to bring to bear a free and impartial mind upon every question coming before the Council.

Trusting you will deem me a fit and proper person to act as your Representative,

I am, your Obedient Servant,

Burnopfield, R. ABBOTT.
23rd April, 1897.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ELECTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS
TO FILL TWO CASUAL VACANCIES.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—At the request of a large number of Electors, I have been nominated as a Candidate to fill one of the above vacancies.

It gives me every pleasure to state my willingness to stand, on these grounds: I have been a resident Ratepayer, and have lived amongst you for the last Forty Years.

Every Resident is a Ratepayer; therefore, watch how your money is spent.

I am fully acquainted with the whole District, and all other matters that are likely to conduce to your health and comfort, both in your homes and streets. Elect me, and your Interests shall have my best attention.

By the foregoing, you will conceive [illegible] make no particular, rash promises; but [illegible] support me, and I am Elected as one [illegible] Members of your Council, I shall know [illegible] Clique nor Party. My only endeavour wi[illegible] serve your interests, both individual[illegible] collectively, to the best of my ability, m[illegible] being—

JUSTICE TO ALL; FAVOUR TO NO[illegible]
Fair Play is an English Jewel[illegible]

Hoping for your Support on the [illegible] Election, MONDAY, May 3rd, 1897.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, [illegible]
Faithfully yours,
EDWARD W[illegible]

Election Addresses.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ELECTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—In response to numerous invitations, I beg to offer myself as a Candidate, and, should you honour me with your support, I will endeavour, by a faithful discharge of the duties, to merit your confidence.

I am fairly well acquainted with the needs and requirements of the District, and am prepared to support all measures calculated for the welfare of the inhabitants.

I am promised a large amount of support from influential Ratepayers in the Burnopfield Locality, and would ask for a share of support for Mr. ED. WIGHAM.

I remain, yours Faithfully,

JOHN WILLIAM ANDERSON.
East Tanfield.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I have been requested by a large number of Ratepayers to come forward as a Candidate for one of the vacant seats on your Council, and have decided to offer you my services. I have been for so many years resident in the district, that my views on Parochial matters are well-known to you all. I need, therefore, only say that, if you do me the honour to Elect me, I shall give an independent and thoroughly impartial vote on all matters brought before the Council, and shall try to prevent the Smaller Ratepayers being put upon, while the larger ones are let go free.

I am thoroughly progressive, but utterly opposed to uncalled for and useless spending of public money.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
Peacock Inn, Tanfield, RALPH JOHNSON.
April 17th, 1897.

HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—After twenty-one years' of service as one of your representatives on the above Board, I have again to solicit the honour of your suffrages and support. As you all know, I have always taken a keen, practical interest in the welfare of the children attending the School, and have not been unmindful of their welfare in after life. It has been a pleasure to me to assist many of the scholars—some 1,100—who have passed through the Schools to obtain suitable situations and to brighten their future prospects. Since the formation of the Board, 316 meetings have been held, and I have been present at 307 of them. It has been my earnest endeavour to manage the School as economically and efficiently as possible, and, if again elected, it will be my chief object to promote the welfare of the children, and to secure for them a sound and effective elementary education.—I am, yours faithfully,

T. J. MUSE.
Castleside House, April 28th, 1897.

HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—In response to the request of a large number of ratepayers, I have consented to offer myself as a Candidate for one of the seats now vacant upon the above Board.

I am strongly in favour of affording facilities to your children for a really useful education, such as will equip them for the battle of life.

An uncompromising Economist, I am strongly opposed to any needless expenditure of the Ratepayers' money. Should you honour me with your confidence, by electing me as one of your Representatives, I shall do my utmost to promote an efficient and thrifty management of your Schools.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
EDWARD WYLAM.
Smelters' Arms, Castleside,
April, 1897.

Tenders.

TENDERS are invited for the Erection and Completion of Resident Millhouse, Barden Mill-on-Tyne, for R. T. Pratt, Esq.

Plans and specification at the below address, or the Office, Front Street, Annfield Plain.

Tenders will be received by the Architect up till Noon, Monday, May 3rd.

Lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

D. M. SPENCE,
Hare Law, Annfield Plain, ARCHITECT.
April 22, 1897.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are required by the Owners of the West Stanley Colliery in the Erection of Two Blocks of Houses at Kettledrum and Manx Rows, Stanley, R.S.O., including Road-making and Kerbing.

Plans and Specifications may be seen, and all information required from the Architect, and to whom Tenders must be sent in on or before 6th day of May, 1897.

T. E. CROSSLING, F.I.A.S.,
Stanley, R.S.O. ARCHITECT.

To Let.

TENTS TO LET, at Reasonable Charges; all Carting done if required. Particulars on application. All orders punctually attended to by G. HUNTER and SONS, Medomsley, R.S.O.

TO LET, by the Week, LARGE ROOM, suitable for Sales, Bazaars, &c.—Terms on application to JOHN LOWES, Auctioneer, West Stanley.

TO LET.—SHOP, with double windows, in central position in Consett. For further particulars apply — North-Eastern Breweries, Limited, Blackhill.

TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP in Front Street, Stanley; excellent business position.—Apply, Mr. ROBINSON, Front Street, Stanley.

TO LET.—HOUSE AND SHOP.—Apply to Mrs Burns, Scotch Arms, Blackhill.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, Two Useful LIGHT RULLIES. Apply NORTH EASTERN BREWERIES, LTD., Blackhill.

PRIZE POULTRY FOR SALE.—Two Black HAMBURG COCKERALS; prize strain; parents winners at Crystal Palace, Birmingham, and Local Shows.—WILLIAM WATSON, Tanfield Grange, Tantobie, R.S.O.

FOR SALE, (by Private Treaty), FREEHOLD PREMISES in Front Street, Stanley, containing in the basement, wash-house, pantry, and coal-house; on the ground floor, shop, back shop, and kitchen; on the first floor, three bedrooms, and on the second floor, three bedrooms, together with stable, coach-house, and out offices. For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Nicholson and Martin, solicitors, Stanley, R.S.O.

SCHOOL DESKS FOR SALE.

IMPORTANT TO SCHOOL MANAGERS.

THE Medomsley School Board have FOR SALE 62 DUAL DESKS, suitable for Standards IV., V., VI., or VII.; also a HARMONIUM. They can be seen at any time, at the Westwood Board Schools, on application to the Head Master, and Offers in Writing will be received by the Undersigned up to the 19th of May.

J. HEDWORTH COUPLAND,
Shotley Bridge. Clerk to the Board.

FOR SALE. — FOUR APPROPRIATED SHARES (£400) in the Blackhill and Consett Model Building Society.—Offers received by W. RAMSAY, Blackhill.

Wanted.

WANTED, all the Liberals and Conservatives in Annfield Plain to visit C. F. COOKE's New Drapery Establishment.

[illegible]ED.—Every LADY to write to the [illegible]dford and Manchester Warehouse [illegible]alifax, Yorkshire, for PATTERNS [illegible] Summer Dress Materials, six yards, [illegible]h, for 3s 11d. Ladies' complete [illegible] 6d.

[illegible] everybody in North-west Durham [illegible]w that C. F. COOKE's Drapery [illegible]at Annfield Plain, is the Best [illegible] the Division.

[illegible]BAND, to Play at Burnopfield [illegible]ow on August 14th, 1897.— [illegible] on or before May 31st, to J. [illegible]y, Sheephill, Burnopfield.

Business Announcements.

Dales' GOLD MEDAL Dubbin

Makes Boots and Harness Waterproof as a Duck's Back and soft as velvet. Adds three times to the wear and allows polishing.

22 Exhibition Highest Awards.

Tins 2d, 6d, 1/-, & 2/6 of all Bootmakers Saddlers, &c.

PAINLESS DENTISTRY—Comfort and Fit Guaranteed — Prices Reasonable. Attendance every Saturday, 2 to 5-30. Mr. Townend, Dental Surgeon, at Cockburn's, Stationer, Front Street.

GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.

3/9 per Bottle. *2/- per Half-Bottle.*

Wm. Aynsley, Grocer & Wine Merchant, Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate, and Stanley.
T. Milner, Chemist, Consett.
Jos. Murray, Grocer & Wine Merchant, Consett.
Geo. Pattrick, Chemist, Consett.
Dryden & Co., Grocers & Wine Merchants, Consett.
N. Elsdon, Wine Merchant, Consett.
Richard Murray, Wine Merchant, Blackhill.
J. Smith, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester.
Mrs. Glendinning, King's Head Inn, Shotley Bridge.
Mrs. Temperley, Commercial Hotel, Leadgate.
Mrs. Cawthorne, Colliery Hotel, Hobson Colliery.
J. Irwin, Pack Horse, Tanfield.
T. Lumley, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain.
G. R. Hobson, Wine Merchant, Catchgate.
T. Armstrong, Wine Merchant, Blackhall Mill.
Turnbull Bros., Grocers, Burnopfield.
W. Wright, Burton House, Burnopfield.
T. Calvert, Grocer, Medomsley.
W. Dixon, Oak Inn, South Moor
J. Robinson, Chemist, Stanley & Annfield Plain.
R. Browell, Miner's Arms, Spen.
J. Moses, Post Office, Tow Law.
S. Leighton, Craghead Hotel, Craghead.
J. Whitfield, Forester's Arms, Frosterley.
W. Young, Red Lion Inn, Dipton.
J. Curry, Wine Merchant, Stanhope.
Dover & Co., Wine and Spirit Merchants, Belle Vue House, Dipton.
J. Gladders, Oak Tree Inn, Tantobie.
T. Gatiss, Earl Grey Inn, Kyo.
W. Oyston, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Esh.

THE
Consett Chronicle
FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1897.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A CHAIRMAN'S QUALIFICATIONS.

When Mr Muse speaks, he is invariably worth listening to. He is at once pithy, pointed, and practical. His speech, in moving Mr Logan's re-election to the chair of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, forms a striking instance of this. In defining the qualifications of an ideal Chairman, he very cleverly rung the changes on the letter "p." A chairman, he declared, should be present, persevering, and prompt, but not partial—a string of words that forcibly and succinctly describe the essential attributes of a model chairman. We might also add that gentlemen, who occupy such a position, should not be prosy. Long speeches from the chair—fortunately, a rare occurrence in our district—are not conducive to the quick and effective despatch of business. Mr Logan certainly possesses all the qualifications that one man could possibly possess to enable him to preside successfully over such an important body as the Lanchester Board of Guardians.

MR MUSE AND LONG SERVICE.

In the course of the speech, to which reference is made in the above paragraph, Mr Muse referred, with rich humour, to the value of long service. The lady members, he declared, amidst loud laughter, would give silver spoons to any servant that stayed with them for seven years. Such length of service, on the part of female service, must, from the nature of things, be somewhat rare. Since the advent of the "New Woman" of the most approved type, domestics seem to have grown restless, and to have developed a love for change. At any rate, such is the verdict of many mistresses, whose wailings over the scarcity of steady, hard-working, reliable girls are loud and bitter. Feminine ambition, interpreted in modern parlance by a piano and a pair of bloomers, has permeated the kitchen, and the family collection of silver spoons is undiminished. Mr Muse also gallantly remarked that the longer men lived with their wives the better they liked them, and illustrated his statement by a personal reference. "I have been married twenty-nine years," he said "and, though my wife was good when I led her to the altar, she grew better every day, and now she is the best wife in the country." The wonder is that this speech did not lead to something like a scene, as, doubtless, every member of the Board, who is married, considers his wife to be without a single rival for premier honours. In pointing his moral, Mr Muse went on to remark that in this fast age some people might say, "Change the Chairman, but he (Mr Muse) advised them to stick to a good man when they had one." This is philosophy, and eminently worthy of the speaker.

MR LOGAN.

Of Mr Logan, we have often spoken in these columns in the highest terms, and we can only now emphasise what we have previously said concerning him. Gifted with keen perception, he is able to at once grasp all questions which are submitted for consideration; possessed of rare experience, he is pre-eminently fitted to preside over and direct the deliberations of public bodies; ever courteous and impartial, his rulings may ever be regarded as just and disinterested. We unhesitatingly affirm that, if the country were scoured from John o' Groats to Lands' End, a fairer, abler, more conscientious chairman could not be found. We congratulate the Board upon retaining his services in the chair, and Mr Logan upon the well-merited distinction, which has again been conferred upon him.

MR T. J. MUSE.

Nor can we refrain from referring to the excellent service which Mr Muse has rendered to the public in connection with the Lanchester Board of Guardians. Nearly the whole of his time is spent in the interests of the ratepayers, and in no branch of public work has Mr Muse rendered more valuable service than as a Poor Law Guardian. The genial member of the Castleside district can boast of a practical acquaintance with the provisions of the Poor Laws, but, what is even more to be commended, he possesses a generous nature, and a heart full of sympathy for those whom misfortune has reduced to wretchedness and want. On Thursday week, Mr Muse completed the seventeenth year of uninterrupted service on the Lanchester Board.

THE FATHER OF THE GUARDIANS.

The Lanchester Board of Guardians have done well to elect Mr George Hobson as an outside member. Much regret was felt at his retirement, and in the course they have taken, the Board have conferred honour upon one who has the highest possible claim for such recognition at their hands. The good-natured, intelligent, honest face, and the burly form of the Father of the Guardians has been sorely missed. His absence meant the severance of another of the few remaining links that bind the present with the long, long past. As the Chairman remarked, Mr Hobson has for thirty years been a member of the Board, during which time he has rendered invaluable service to the public. Certain it is that Mr Hobson's re-appearance amongst them will be a source of satisfaction to all the members who have served with him in years that have gone by.

MR JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM.

At the last meeting of the Benfieldside Urban District Council, Mr Joseph Eltringham was unanimously elected to the chair, and we venture to assert that no member is more worthy of the honour. For nearly a quarter of a century he has served upon the local authority, and has ever evinced a warm interest in the welfare of the district. He possesses a practical acquaintance with the laws of sanitation, and has always endeavoured to check any attempts which have been made to obtain the Council's sanction to plans not in accordance with its bye-laws. Mr Eltringham has not sought the position to which he has been elected, and it is certain that he will fulfil its duties with dignity and despatch, ruling with firmness and impartiality. We also hope to see him take his place upon the magisterial bench to assist in the administration of justice.

THE LATE CHAIRMAN.

Mr Lax—than whom no gentleman in the district is more respected—has presided over the deliberations of the Benfieldside Council for two years in succession. He can claim the honour of being the first Chairman of that body—a distinction of which any public man might well be proud. By his unfailing courtesy, generous forbearance, and intellectual acumen, he has done much to render the Council an efficient and capable authority. Always disinterested, he has ever endeavoured to promote the health, happiness, and prosperity of the residents. Nor, we are glad to say, will his public service terminate with his vacating the chair. As a member, he will still continue to be of inestimable worth to the Council, which cannot fail to profit by his knowledge and experience.

THE MEETINGS.

The ordinary meetings of the Benfieldside Council begin at a very inconvenient hour. If the members could see their way to change either the date or the time, the result would doubtless be hailed with general satisfaction. Five o'clock is usually regarded as the season for rest and refreshment, and can scarcely be styled either afternoon or evening. It is on the border-line of both. The annual meeting was unusually prolonged, owing, largely, to a protracted discussion upon, and examination of, a number of plans which were submitted for approval. Yet, these same plans had been inspected, and dealt with, by the Building Committee. Is it, we may ask, the intention of the Council to pass a no-confidence vote upon their Building Committee? Certain it is that the recommendations of the latter are received with the greatest caution, almost, indeed, amounting to suspicion.

MR MUSE AND CASTLESIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

After twenty-three years' service on the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board, Mr Muse again seeks the confidence of the electors, and we shall be greatly surprised if he is not again returned triumphantly at the head of the poll. As is generally known, he devotes nerly the whole of his time to the service of the public. In connection with the School Board, however, his main efforts are centred. He carefully watches over the children, not only in their school life, but in their subsequent careers; and, when the result of the election is made known, we have no hesitation in prophesying that the name of Mr Muse will head the list.

CASTLESIDE NOTES.

[BY "THE SNEAP."]

A SOCIAL.

On Tuesday se'nnight, a very successful social was held in the Castleside Board Schools, which was provided by the Rev. J. Wallis, vicar of the parish. Dancing, to the music of the sweet strains of the violins, was the order of the evening, and a large number of couples participated in the amusement. Mr W. J. Scott, the Sycamores, Rowley, gave a reading. Light refreshment was provided at a nominal charge.

THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

I learn that Mr M. Lee, one of the gentlemen nominated for a seat on the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board, has retired from the contest, so that six gentlemen are now left to do battle for the five vacant seats, namely, the Rev. J. Wallis, and Messrs T. J. Muse, J. W. Golightly, W. Pattinson, T. C. Elliot, and E. Wylam. I must refrain from going into the merits or demerits of the various claimants for representative honours, because I think "a fair field and no favour" in a contest of this kind, is the right policy to adopt on the part of a newspaper correspondent. Perfect neutrality must be the ruling sentiment of your correspondent. It is surprising how little interest is manifested in the contest. The candidates themselves are, from outward appearances at least, taking things very calmly, and the public generally do not seem to manifest that interest which has hitherto characterised the election. There is time yet, however, and with the nearer approach of the polling day, we may see a marked change in the tactics of the candidates, and the public may indulge a little more freely in election gossip.

STANLEY & DISTRICT GOSSIP.

[BY OUR OWN REPORTER.]

A GRAND OLD MAN.

Grand old men are rather numerous in North-West Durham, but the whole division cannot find a better specimen of ripe old age than Mr Roger Mason, manager of Hobson Colliery. Mr Mason, who has worked for 46 years under the Marley Hill Coal Company, commenced colliery work on April 5th, 1823, being then about five and a half years old. He is still hearty and vigorous, and sticks to his employment like a Trojan. Mrs Mason, though not so robust as her husband, is also in good health. She is 81 years of age.

MR WILLIAM BULMER

did a good turn to the inhabitants of Tanfield Lea, at last week's Council meeting, by drawing attention to the state of the stile, near Tanfield Lea Colliery. His suggestion, that a wicket gate should be substituted for the present unsatisfactory arrangement, was a very sensible one, and I hope that Mr Heslop will see his way to carry it into effect.

AMBITIOUS STANLEY.

The Rev. T. H. Archdall appears to think that the members of the Stanley District Council have become possessed of the highly honourable desire to have the thriving town of Stanley formed into a borough, with a real, live mayor and corporation of its own; and, judging from his remarks at the annual gathering of Tanfield Councillors, he seems to have formed the opinion that, as a first step towards the attainment of this desirable object, the Stanley people are wishful to have the sittings of the Registration Court transferred from Tanfield to Stanley. The Tanfield Councillors are evidently a wee bit jealous of their progressive brethren at Stanley, for they have unanimously decided to offer strong opposition to the suggested change.

HAPPY COUNCILLORS.

Well may there be keen competition for the vacant seats on the Tanfield District Council, for the members of that body are going to have such a delightful outing on Whit Monday, as seldom fall to the lot even of Councillors. The members are going for a drive around the boundaries of their district. Mr Holmes is providing the horses and brake, and it is expected that Messrs Wood and Archdall will supply the dinner and lemonade. I have received an invitation, and, if possible, shall be there. Would that Whitsuntide were here now!

THE SCHOOL BOARD EXPENDITURE.

The enormous expenditure to which the Tanfield School Board has recently pledged itself, seems to have roused a strong feeling of opposition amongst a large proportion of the direct ratepayers in the district, and all sections of the community seem united in their determination to fight against what is considered to be unnecessary expense. Tuesday's meeting at Pickering Nook was highly representative, and the feeling there was certainly very strongly adverse to the contemplated expenditure. As Father Thompson said to the Board, a question of such importance ought to have been brought directly before the electorate. They have to pay the piper, and they ought to choose the tune. This view seemed to be held by the whole of those present at Tuesday's meeting, and it is one which the Board ought to accept. Though too late to prevent the Stanley alterations, there is still a possibility of preventing the erection of a new school at Tanfield Lea. If this can be done, and £2,000 thus saved the Tanfield Ratepayers' Association will not have been born in vain.

RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION FOR STANLEY.

A public meeting is to be held in St. Joseph's School, on Tuesday evening, to further consider the huge expenditure contemplated by the School Board, and as a result of it, I fancy that a branch of the Ratepayers' Association will be formed at Stanley. Such an Association, if properly managed, is capable of doing useful service. Mr Wigham's plant is growing steadily.

LEADGATE.

BRITAIN FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—A meeting of this Society was held on Friday night last, in the Sportsman's Arms, for the purpose of electing a committee and the transaction of other business in connection with the branch lodge at Leadgate, which has highly commended itself to the people—during its 12 months existence there—offering exceptionally good benefits in case of sickness, accident, or death. The meeting was presided over by Mr William Watson, district manager, Consett.

ESPERSHIELDS.

FARM STOCK SALE.—At Espershields, on Wednesday last, Mr J. S. Murray conducted the depleníshing sale of farm stock, &c., belonging to the Messrs Heppell, who, after a tenancy of about 100 years, are declining business. The day being fine, there was an immense company present, the whole of whom seemed intent on business, and the auctioneer had little else to do but accept the bids as they poured in upon him. The greater portion of the stock being in fine healthy condition, were their own recommendation. The sale commenced punctually at half past eleven, and was brought to a close by 5 o'clock. The numbers sold were 50 head of cattle, 6 horses, 53 head poultry, 450 sheep and lambs, 1 stack of hay, 2 stacks of corn, and 156 lots of implements, harness, &c., the whole making satisfactory prices, a few of which are appended. Fat cattle, £15 2s 6d to £18 5s; cows, £12 5s to £18 10s; grazing heifers, £10 10s to £16 10s; stirks, £5 7s 6d to £8 7s 6d; calves, 50s to 72s 6d; ewes and double lambs, to 57s; mule do. to 51s 6d; scotch do. to 31s 6d; Leicester tups, 38s to 51s; mule hoggs, 35s to 38s 6d; harness mare, £29; draught mare, £23 10s; do., £27 10s; filly, £19 10s; 2 aged mares, £3 and £8 5s. We beg to draw the attention of our readers to our advertising columns, where Mr Murray has another important announcement of a sale on Saturday first at Edmondbyers, and another on Wednesday next at West Minstreacres.

BLACKHILL.

INTERMENT OF THE LATE MR J. YOUNG.—The mortal remains of the late Mr John Young, whose lamented decease was announced in the last issue of the *Chronicle*, took place in the Benfieldside Cemetery, on Thursday afternoon in last week. The funeral was attended by a large company of friends of the deceased gentleman, who was held in the highest esteem. The principal mourners were:—Mrs Young (widow), Mr G. Young and Mr W. Young (sons), Miss J. Young, Miss M. A. Young, and Mrs M. Wilkinson (daughters), Mr and Mrs W. Young, Mr Blenkingopp, and Miss Sayers, Mr and Mrs Sayers, and Miss Blenkinsopp, Dipton; Mr and Mrs J. Wilson (Blyth), Mr R. Young (The Bantling), Mr J. Lumley, Mr J. Lumley, junr., and Miss M. Lumley, Beamish; and Mrs A. Arkless (Ryton). There were also present:—Messrs W. Moore (Bishop Auckland), J. Eltringham, J. Oliver, Supt. Benzies, Inspector Best, W. Ramsay, G. J. Robinson, Rutherford (Newcastle), England (Newcastle), Armstrong (Medomsley), Freick (Hill Top), J. Thirlwell, R. Calvert, T. Longstaffe, T. Batey, E. Wylam, F. Coltman, Mr G. McCann, Mr and Mrs Sloane, Mr White, Mr Freick (Blackhill), Mr Cancick, Sergeant Tones, Mr Tait (Bishop Auckland), Mr Hunter and Mr Bates, Witton Gilbert; Mrs Glendinning (Shotley Bridge), Revs Father Foran and Father Kelly, Mr Kempson, Mr S. Aynsley, Mr H. Turner, Mr P. Clark (Cromwell), Mr O. Clark (Allendale), Mr and Mrs Stokoe (Bearpark), Mr and Mrs Bowes (Wheatley Hill), Mr and Mrs Lee (Sunderland), Mr and Mrs Dodds (Dinnington), Mrs T. Lumley, Mrs S. Lumley, Mrs L. Lumley, Mr R. Lumley, and Mr C. Lumley (Oxhill); Mr G. Teasdale, Mr R. Graham, Mrs Kirkup, Mrs Harris, Mr Rutter, Mr G. Newmarch, Mr O. Gray, Mr W. Wigan, Mr R. Lumley (Langley Park), Mr G. Johnson, Mr G. Lumley (Annfield Plain), Mr and Mrs Whitfield (Stanley), Mrs B. Lumley, Mr J. Pearson, Mr T. Carter, Mr T. Whinney, Mr W. Barton, Mrs McCulloch, Mrs Burns, Mr Ford, Mr J. Hewitson, Mr Bennett, Mr and Mrs Aitchison, Mr Beattie, and Mr Harvey. Wreaths were sent from Mrs Young, Mr G. Young and the Misses Young, Mr and Mrs Wm. Young, Mr Sloane and family, Mr and Mrs M. Wilkinson, Mr Kirsopp, and the Consett Iron Company's Band. The bidders were Mr T. Kirkup, and Mr M. Kirkup, and the bearers were Messrs Jack, T. Johnson, Barnard, Rutter, Knight, and H. Douse. The coffin, which was of oak with brass mountings, bore the inscription "John Young, died April 20th, 1897, aged 46 years." The carriages were supplied by Mr J. G. Christopher, Blackhill. The Rev. J. Storey was the officiating clergyman.

CONSETT.

SALE OF CATTLE.—On Monday last, acting upon instructions received from Mr R. Hand, Mr Jackson Green, auctioneer, had forward, in Delves Lane, Consett, near the New Railway Station, 6 prime fat bullocks and 65 fat sheep and hoggs. There was a large company present, including all the principal butchers in the district. Trade was exceptionally brisk, and the following prices were realised—Bullocks to £17 12s 6d, north hoggs to 45s, and Iceland wethers to 35s.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."—Next week the patrons of the New Theatre will have a melodramatic treat, when this splendidly-mounted and well-acted play makes its appearance on Monday night. The sensation of two countries, it has been equally as successful in America as it has been in this country. It has drawn large and appreciative audiences in every town where it has been played. It is full of exciting situations, and crowded with heart interest and comedy. Its story is natural, but effective, enthralling spectators and auditors alike by its magnetism and sympathy. It teaches the lesson that the power of gold cannot overcome the power of love, and shows pictorially some of the most realistic views of London scenery, including the garret home of a workman, the exterior, of the Foundling Asylum, the interior of a Hyde Park mansion, the mad-house on the sunken marshes, the deserted toll-house on Regent's Canal. The company comprises a first-class selection of prominent London actors, including the author of the piece, Mr Walter Sanford, Mr William H. Lee, Mr Beresford Whitcomb, Mr Victor A. Mason, Miss Maggie Hunt, Miss Ethel Van Proag, Miss Olive Loftus Leyton, &c. There will be no advance in the prices, despite the excellence of the performance.

VESTRY MEETING.—The annual vestry meeting, in connection with Christ's Church, Consett, was held on Thursday evening last, the Vicar, the Rev. F. Steggall, presiding. Amongst those present were—The Rev. C. S. Wilson, and Messrs W. Aynsley, T. L. Gledstone, G. Pattrick, T. Milner, R. Harkness, Pearson, C. Weaver, and W. Eales.—The Chairman said that at the last meeting, it was decided to place a lamp at the entrance to the Church, and to renew the roof of the Church tower. The former resolution had been carried into effect, and the unfavourable condition of the weather alone had prevented the contractors from carrying out the improvement to the tower, which would receive attention as soon as possible.—Mr Aynsley then submitted a statement of the accounts for the year ending Easter, 1897. They commenced the year, he said, with a balance of 4s 7d. The receipts amounted to £162 9s 7d, and the expenditure to £121 8s 3d, so that there was a balance in hand of £41 14s.; £50 would be required for the repairing of the roof of the Church tower.—The report was considered satisfactory, and was unanimously adopted.—Mr Dawson moved, Mr Eales seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that Mr Gledstone be re-appointed people's warden.—The Chairman nominated Mr Aynsley as Vicar's warden, and, in so doing, remarked that he (Mr Aynsley) had for many years fulfilled the duties of that office, and if he were to refuse to accept the position, he (the Vicar) might almost leave the parish. (Laughter). When nominated for the first time, Mr Aynsley was a young man, but had ever since loyally and faithfully served the best interests of the Church and parish. (Applause).—On the motion of Mr Aynsley, seconded by Mr Gledstone, the whole of the sidesmen were re-elected, with the addition of Messrs Pattrick and Pearson.—The Chairman then referred to the proposed Church Hall, an account of which has already appeared in the columns of the *Consett Chronicle*, referring to the generosity of Mr Spencer, he remarked that when the new hall became an accomplished fact, that gentleman would have subscribed over £3,000 for parochial purposes. (Applause). Though the hall was to be erected in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, he was afraid that it would not be opened on that date.—Some discussion took place regarding the possibility of organising a treat for the children on the occasion of the completion of the sixtieth anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the throne, and it was finally resolved that the Consett Urban District Council should be requested to take the matter up.—The Chairman stated that a gentleman had offered to bear the expense of placing a clock in the Church tower, and Mr Aynsley was deputed to make the necessary enquiries as to the most suitable place in which to erect it.—Mr Aynsley was warmly congratulated by the Chairman upon his accession to the chair of the Consett Council, after which the meeting terminated with the customary votes of thanks.

LETTERS to the EDITOR.

As it is desired to make the *Consett Chronicle* a medium for intelligent discussion to its readers, Correspondence is invited from all who have useful information to communicate. But contributors must distinctly understand that all communications sent will be subject to the Editor's revision, and that all statements of a personal, offensive, or impolite character will be unhesitatingly expunged. Correspondents should always criticise the action or the practice complained of, and not the person whom they consider to be at fault. Communications from working men on matters of public interest are frequently the most valuable, and Correspondence of this class is especially invited. The Editor will most willingly revise the letters of those who favour him with their contributions.

The name and address of the writer must accompany all communications. These will not be given where the writer does not wish his identity to be known; nor will they, in any case, or under any circumstances whatever, be given to inquirers. Correspondents replying to letters which have appeared in the *Chronicle*, bearing the names and addresses of the writers, are expected to do so over their *bona-fide* names.

Letters ought to be forwarded as early in the week as possible. Communications of this description will be received up to nine o'clock on Wednesday morning, but on no account can they be inserted if sent after this hour.

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CONSETT TRADESMEN'S ASSOCIATION

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—As one of the secretaries of the above Association, I rely on your courtesy to be allowed to make some comments on the subject which was brought so prominently before the readers of your valuable paper last week by a "Consett Tradesman."

Before doing so, I wish it to be distinctly understood that I am not writing in any official capacity, but only as a private member of the above Association. I was very much pleased to see "Consett Tradesmen's" able, and out-spoken remarks, but would have liked him better had he had the courage and manliness to sign his real name and address to so important a document.

I quite agree with "Consett Tradesmen" when he says that "The members of the above Association have not accomplished anything like the amount of work they could and ought to have done . . . and that something must be radically wrong, and immediate steps ought to be taken to increase the usefulness and activity of this exceedingly disappointing combination." Yes, Sir, there is something radically wrong, and that something is that the committee and officers appointed by the members, and comprising twelve tradesmen of the district, have each worked very hard and done all that was within their power to promote and extend the usefulness, and the practical and beneficial operations for which the Association was formed some eighteen months ago. The labours of the Committee have not been altogether in vain, nor has their time been spent mainly in eating and drinking, but their labours have been productive of some good and practical results, of which your correspondent is not yet aware.

At the same time, I must say that a great amount of the earnest and patient work of the Committee and officers of the Association, has, to a very large extent been so far in vain, owing to no fault of theirs, but simply because they have not received that moral, financial, and practical support and encouragement from the members, and from other tradesmen who have not yet joined the Association, but have held aloof from it, as if it were an unclean thing. Now, Sir, before the Consett and District Tradesmen's Association can, or ever will, accomplish anything worthy of such an influential organisation, it is an imperative and absolute necessity that the officers and Committee of the Association be loyally assisted and supported by the great bulk of the traders of the district.

If every tradesman in Consett, Blackhill, and Leadgate, who has not yet joined the Association, would do so at once, and regularly attend its meetings, and take an active interest therein, then, Sir, it would not only become one of the most important and influential organisations in the neighbourhood, but one productive of much good to the mercantile classes of the district.

I am sure that I am expressing the true sentiment and wishes of every member of the Committee, when I earnestly and kindly ask Consett tradesmen, and all other tradesmen, living in the three above-mentioned towns, to attend the next general meeting of the Association, which will be held shortly (of the exact date they will receive due notice) and take an active and manly part therein, and thereby help to put the Association on a sounder and stronger foundation, so that its power for usefulness may be greatly increased.—I am, yours faithfully, JOSEPH E. ENGLISH.

Middle Street, Consett, April 28th, 1897.

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—I am glad to see that someone still takes an interest in the Consett Tradesmen's Association, as shown by your editorial note of a fortnight ago, and also by the letter in last week's issue from a "Consett Tradesman," to which I should liked to have seen a signature attached, as I think that anyone who has a grievance to air in the public press, should have the moral courage to append his, or her, name to the complaint.

The impression has gone abroad that the Consett Tradesmen's Association has done nothing beneficial for the town. In the first place, the price of gas has not at present been reduced, but, Sir, the Association has done its utmost, though it cannot compel the directors to grant any reduction; but we do not intend to let the matter drop, and the subject will be brought forward again shortly. Second—The question of the streets being better lighted was discussed, and a deputation appointed to wait upon the Council, with the result that during the late winter, none could complain of the streets being in darkness.

A tradesmen's holiday and trip were arranged, and I venture to say that anyone who was dissatisfied with the beautiful grounds of Rothbury—permission to view the same being granted as a special favour to the Association by Lord Armstrong—and the visit to Callaly Castle, must indeed be a misanthrope.

Then, the Tradesmen's supper was the means of bringing together many who would never otherwise have met, and if the *menu* was not altogether satisfactory, which was no fault of the Committee's, no one can say the post-prandial social was not a success. As you imply, Sir, eating and drinking do not constitute the *summum bonum* of one's whole life.

My motion for a Sunday despatch of letters was certainly defeated, but I do not take that as final, as there was only a small muster of members present. I shall bring the motion forward again at the next meeting, as I consider it to be necessary. Your correspondent says that many tradesmen hold aloof, because they have not confidence in the power of the Society, but if members, instead of grumbling and writing under *nom de plumes*, would attend the meetings, and bring forward any subject for the welfare of the town—not for trade matters alone—it would soon be acknowledged that the Consett Tradesmen's Association was not a power to be despised. Many, I know, think the Consett Tradesmen's Association was formed to promote early closing, but that is not the case, as that subject was eliminated from our programme when the Association was first formed.

In conclusion, I may say that we do not intend to be lulled into a state of quiescence, like a tired child, but will stick to the ship until she floats buoyantly over the troubled waters of criticism, &c.—I am, yours truly, GEO. PATTRICK.

Front Street, Consett, 27th April, 1897.

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IS SMOKING HARMFUL?

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—Having seen two letters in the *Consett Chronicle*, which appeared on the above subject, I beg to add a few observations. I, myself am of the opinion that smoking is harmful to the body and to the soul. First, let me point out the uncleanliness of the habit. The Scripture says—and that is the standard of all truth—"Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, whose Temple ye are." The central idea of the religion of Christ is purity, and it applies to the body as well as to the soul. Would any man offer a friend who came to visit him a filthy room to occupy? How much more then should we be careful to ensure that the temple in which God dwelleth, our own hearts, should be undefiled? We are told to present our bodies as living sacrifices, and to subdue carnal passions and affections. This is an injunction, surely, to give up any practice that would be opposed to the indwelling of the Divine Being. Tobacco clogs the brain, feeds the passions, fouls the breath, and I would ask how the habit of smoking can be reconciled with the purity required by the religion of Christ? To be filthy is to be wicked; and the use of tobacco is extremely filthy, and, therefore, sinful. We do, and have a right to, expect that those who profess to follow the Word of God should abstain from smoking. It may be lawful for a man to smoke or chew when it is essentially necessary for his health, but to that purpose alone ought the use of the weed to be restricted. Dr Coles and Dr Welsh have both spoken against the use of tobacco, which is both injudicious and impure.—I am, yours truly, ANTI-TOBACCONIST.

Blackhill, April 27th, 1897.

THE SITE FOR THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—I am surprised that there has not been some interest manifested in the matter of a site for the proposed Technical School. We are to have one for Consett—and I am extremely pleased to know it—but it should be in the town itself. It is all very well for the Consett Iron Company to offer a plot of land on the borders of Blackhill, on the plea that such a position affords extraordinary facilities by its proximity to a railway station, but I contend that if Consett is to pay, Consett should reap the benefit, and the building—which we may expect to be a handsome one—ought to be an adornment to the town. Mr Elsdon, I observe, mentioned the matter in his address. I shall watch the reports of the Council meetings to see what action he, and others, are intending to take. Trusting that you will insert this.—I am, yours truly, CONSISTENCY.

Medomsley Road, Consett, 26th April, 1897.

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THE CONTINUITY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—Both "English Catholic" and I may say what is untrue, from error or lack of full knowledge, but we cannot *lie* without saying what we *know* or *believe* to be untrue. If "English Catholic" indulges so freely in the use of the word "lie," should he not, Sir, put his name to the charge? I put mine. Again, I deny the charge, and, as a gentleman and a man of education—he quotes Latin—I ask him either to cease abuse or close the debate, which I never sought or desired, but which he began.

I write less in expectation of convincing such as "English Catholic," than in the hope of revealing the truth to the public, and getting them to study the history of Christianity, and of their Church, for themselves.

Now for the unsavoury task of dealing with my so-called lies. Lie No. 1—"The existing Church of England, 'by law established,' is continuous with the old Catholic Church in England before the Reformation." I deliberately and solemnly declare that to be the truth, and no lie; a solid historic fact, to the best of my belief. A man who reforms his life or habits, from vicious to Godly, from drunken to sober, may, figuratively, be called a new man, but he is actually the same, not another man. So the Church of England, after reformation, was identical with the Church of England before reformation. Under the Tudors, there was no struggle between *two* bodies, an old Church and a new, for superiority. The struggle was *within* the one existing Church as to whether it should reform its ways, or go on as of old, just as a man has a mental struggle within himself before he can reform his ways. It was asserted by the Convocations of our two provinces, in 1534, that the Bishop of Rome had no greater jurisdiction in this Kingdom given to him by God, in the Holy Scriptures, than any other foreign bishop. (Dixon i., 227-238). Plainly, the Church was reformed from within. I gave the case of the Prior of Durham, who fell asleep, Prior, December 31st, 1540, and woke Dean of Durham. His neighbours near and far did the like. The Church's corporate existence was continuous. That was the only physical change at the beginning of the Reformation under Henry and his son Edward. Under Mary, it went back (in part, see Dixon iv., 200-204) to its old ways, but it was the same Church that so relapsed, and that eagerly returned, under Elizabeth, to its reformed condition. All this while it was in communion with Rome, and good Bernard Gilpin, the Apostle of the North, held to his parish work through all these changes, as did many others. After the excommunication of Elizabeth, those members of the Church who refused to be reformed, took independent existence as *Dissenters* from the national will, and practically declared open war, May 15, 1570, by affixing the Papal Bull in St. Paul's Churchyard. (Flannagan, "History of Church," ii., 181). Out of that seed has grown the present Roman Catholic Church in England, which since 1850 has had its own *sees*, as well as bishops, through that real toleration, which so few people, except Englishmen, either feel or practise, and which Roman Catholics, even though Englishmen, never feel, though from circumstances of age and place they may find it expedient to practise, more or less. I could welcome a more tolerant spirit in my correspondent.

Lie No. 2—"Rome exercised no authority over the British bishops." When St. Augustine came, 597, he found a Christian Church in the west with customs and ceremonies *differing from those of Rome*, and wrote to Gregory for advice. How could the British Church be then, or before, under the authority of Rome? When, a few years later, he met 7 of the British bishops by the banks of the Severn, in conference, they denied his authority, and refused submission to Rome. When King Oswy cast in his lot with Wilfrid, 664, Colman, Bishop of Lindisfarne, retired, and, refusing submission to Rome, remained loyal to Iona, as Bede informs us. The Council of Arles, 314, was not summoned by the Bishop of Rome, but by the Emperor Constantine. No Roman missionary or Papal legate appeared in England, and no papal interference was heard of till 597. If "English Catholic" knows of any earlier let him produce it. The first known English appeal to Rome was that of Wilfrid 678, which availed him nothing, but led to his imprisonment. On a second appeal, King Alfrid refused to alter a sentence issued by himself, the Archbishop of Canterbury and all the dignitaries of the land, for any writings coming from the Apostolic see, Stephen Eddi tells us.

Up to the 9th century, Rome was naturally looked up to and respected, but no claim of supreme authority was made till 853. All the authority it held was spontaneously conceded. The British Church had never conceded it, because it got its Christianity from an eastern source, as its Liturgies, mode of tonsure, ceremony at baptism, and mode of reckoning Easter shew. On the other hand, the Church of England did gratefully concede it, but over and over again denied and disregarded it when demanded as a right (Freeman, Short history of Norman Conquest, p. 137), and finally, from its gross abuse, withdrew the concession altogether. As to oaths, the first was imposed by Gregory VII., 1073, upon the Archbishop of Ravenna (Gieseler iii, 168, &c.), so not only Parker but Augustine, Theodore, Dunstan, Lanfranc, Anselm, and hosts of other bishops and archbishops never took it.

Now for "English Catholic's" syllogism. 1st premise—"The Old Church or religion held certain doctrines identical with those of the present Church of Rome." This I emphatically deny. They cannot be *identical*, for many of them did not exist till after, and some long after, the Reformation. 2nd premise—"The present Church of England not only rejects most of these, but has others 'fondly invented,' *e.g.*, Royal supremacy in place of Papal supremacy." This I cannot grant, because, first, the Church of England could not reject what did not then exist; and, moreover, the word *most* should be *some*, and invented, *restored*. 3rd conclusion—"Therefore, she enjoys no claim to be continuous with the old Church of the land." Of course, refusing the premises, I must demur to the conclusion. I would displace his syllogism by this counter one. The Church of England before the Reformation (*Ecclesia Anglorum*) held certain doctrines held by the Apostles and Fathers. The reformed Church of England (by law established) holds no doctrine that was not held by the unreformed Church, and holds all that the ancient Church held. Therefore, it is in doctrine (as in corporate existence) a continuous Church. This I prove by reference to the doctrines held thus in common by the ancient Catholic and Apostolic Church, and by the present Church of England, as embodied by them, and accepted by us, in the three creeds of our Prayer Book, the Apostles, Nicene, and St. Athanasian. Queen Elizabeth justified her action thus—"England embraced no new or strange doctrine, but the same which Christ commanded, and what the Primitive and Catholic Church had received, and was approved by the ancient Fathers' (Strype i., 221). These constitute *all* our articles of belief, and certainly *most* of those held by the Church of Rome, at the Reformation, however it may be with them now.

The identity in *name*, "English Catholic" acknowledges. He disputes its identity in doctrine, whilst he claims that the doctrines of the old Church were *identical* with those of the present Church of Rome. How could they be identical, when the Reformation was completed, 1563, and it was the Council of Trent that adopted the creed of Pope Pius IV., 1564, which added twelve new articles to those of the Nicene Creed? And, mark you, it is in these new twelve articles that we find transubstantiation, the seven sacraments, and purgatory; whilst we must wait till 1870 for Papal Infallibility. If, therefore, the Church of England ceased to be continuous for casting out a few doctrines and practices which had been added to the ancient faith, the Church of Rome much more forfeited continuity by adding first twelve, and then two other, new ones. Besides this, the physical fact of corporate continuity is against them, and with us. As to one "fondly invented" royal supremacy, "English Catholic's" history is as much at fault, Sir, as your writer, who, last week, said the Rev. Father Magill had just returned from a visit to North Africa, and there "had the privilege of visiting the tomb of St. Augustine, *the great Apostle of England*." There were two Augustines, widely separated many ways, and the African Saint was certainly not the great Apostle of England, if, indeed, the other can be rightly so called. Royal supremacy was not *invented* at the Reformation; it was *restored*. It began with the beginning of our Church, both British and English, began with Constantine, re-commenced with Oswald, was upheld by William I. (Eadmer, Hist. Nov., Rolls Series, p. 10). Edward the Confessor's laws speak of him as "Vicar of the Most High King," that is God. (Schmid, Gesetze, 500). The shameful submission of King John, and the appeal of a Bishop of Durham to Rome 500 years ago, only prove that for awhile our Church lost its ancient independence, by the perversion and abuse of its generous reverence and gratitude to Rome, its foster-mother, for Iona is its natural mother.

"English Catholic's" argument on Transubstantiation, and his substitution of "The Mass" is an attempt to confuse two separate things, viz., the "Real Presence," and that special mode of being present known as "Transubstantiation." The "Real Presence" we acknowledge (English Holy Communion Service), but "Transubstantiation" we refuse. Let "English Catholic" give any reference to the idea, or to any use of the word "Transubstantiation" before 792, or to its enforcement as an article of faith before 1215 (Robertson vi, 131. Gieseler 2, ii, 435), if he can, rather than call me crazy and eccentric, or judge me capable of joking on such a subject as that blessed sacrament.

As to St. Aidan receiving his orders and mission from Iona and not Rome, let him read his Bede, and Adamnon's "Life of St. Columba," and study his own historian, Montalembert. He might, too, copy the example of toleration Bede showed, in writing—"Aidan's time of keeping Easter was patiently tolerated by all men. They knew that he could not act in a manner contrary to the custom *of those who sent him* to Northumbria, and they saw that he industriously laboured to practise all works of faith, piety, and love."

I did not "trump up" Bright; "English Catholic" quoted him, and I condemned "English Catholic" from his own selected authority, by completing his quotation. His sarcasms, too, about Saints, are no argument. No Church, no Pope, can make a Saint. The saint makes himself by the grace of God; and the Church of England is not without such. But fancy speaking of the canonization of Saints, as a *manufacture!*

Cannot "English Catholic" be candid, and own he was wrong? The 10 signatories to the Declaration I quoted were Roman Catholic bishops, and signed their names as such. They were not Vicars Apostolic; 6 of them were, 4 of them were not, but all 10 were bishops. Why does he still say the statement is dubious?

As to the gratuitous advice at the end, I hope that I am not a heretic, I think I am not blind, and I know I have no fear "the Romans will come and take my kingdom (my rectory, I suppose) from me. Our kingdom, as he calls it, was never given us by Rome, but by the children of the English Church. Rome knew well how to profit by their gifts, and for many a year despoiled our Church of thousands. Canon Browne says, "The Cardinals alone in Henry VIII's time, merely to expedite the Pope's Bulls, charged £32,000 of our money to a Bishop-elect of Durham, and £20,000 to one of Winchester."

If the Bishop of Rome claimed only to be Patriarch, it would be a very different thing from claiming to be Pope, though "English Catholic's" words would lead us to think they are one. The Bishop of Rome is rightly a Patriarch, but is wrongly Pope. ARTHUR WATTS.

Witton Gilbert Rectory,
24th April, 1897.

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Dear Sir,—It has been for many years recognised, as what your Romanist correspondent in the *Consett Chronicle* of the 9th instant would, no doubt, call an "historic truth," that, if you hold a guinea-pig up by its tail, its eyes will drop out. As a parallel to this interesting truth of natural history, we may take the said Romanist's assertion, that since the Reformation, "a new Church built on new doctrines" has been established by law, in this country, upon the views of the old Church, and, therefore, that new Church has no sort of identity with the old Church. Unfortunately—tho' not so for the guinea-pig—no specimen of that charming rodent has yet been subjected to the interesting gymnastic exercise mentioned, so as to produce the effects said to result. So, too, no amount of mental gymnastics has yet been able to produce the "historical truth" your correspondent contends for. Modern scientific research, doubtless after prolonged investigation, has been able to demonstrate that a guinea-pig has no tail. Equally it is now ascertained that no Act of Parliament, or official document of any kind, civil, or ecclesiastical, can be produced to show how, when, or where, the Church of England was "set up by law." True, there are many Acts of Parliament which treat of ecclesiastical matter, but they all, from the earliest Anglo-Saxon laws to the latest measure of Parliament, treat her as an already existing and completely organised body.

Now, since it is a condition precedent to a guinea-pig's eyes falling out, that it should have a tail to be held up by, it is also a condition precedent to a Church being set up by law, that there should be a law by which it is set up. Therefore, let your correspondent bring round to your office a guinea-pig with a real business tail, and the Act of Parliament or other official document which set up the new Church of England.

There is, of course, no break between the Church of England before the Reformation and the Church of England after the Reformation. The Church was established before the Reformation just as much as after it; it is, in all the essential of a true Catholic Church, the same body, and no record of the abolition of the old, and the setting up of the new Church, is capable of being produced. Continuity is a fact, not a matter for the opinion of your correspondent, who, like the proverbial ostrich—presumably unable to appreciate the proportion of things—buries its small head in the sand, in order to conceal its unproportionally larger body from its foes. He must know perfectly well that the opinion of the world of antiquity, that the earth was flat, really did not alter its shape, and that the opinion of the Roman Catholic world, maintained till comparatively recent times, that the sun moves round the earth, really did not alter the Divine order of the universe. So the expressed opinion of Queen Elizabeth—a lady, like most of her sex, of uncertain temper—could not make the Church of England a new Church any more than the opinions of Leo XIII., Bishop of Rome, and Cardinal Vaughan, can really affect, by one hair's breadth, the fact of the validity of Anglican orders. It really does not matter a brass farthing what the members of the Church of England are called in "common parlance" by Papalists all over the world, except, of course, so far as it tends to blind the eyes of the Roman Church to true facts.

Now, to come to close quarters with the details of your Romanist correspondent's letter.

1. Apart from the inaccuracy of saying that the Councils of Arles and Sardica were held "during the dawn of Christianity" in these islands, there is no evidence, whatever, that the Fathers at the Council of Sardica (343-4 *not* 347) held any approximation to the doctrine of Papal Supremacy, as laid down by the Vatican Council, *i.e.*, that the Pope is, by divine right, autocrat of the whole Church. Quite the contrary; at the Council of Sardica, a resolution was proposed, conferring on the Bishop of Rome, *for the first time*, a certain restricted right to act in a certain restricted way, when a Bishop wished to appeal from the judgment of a Provincial Synod. Up to this date, appeals had been taken to the Emperor (*i.e.*, from the time of Constantine). This course had no canonical authority for its support, so the Fathers at Sardica said let us honour the memory of the holy Apostle St. Peter (the primacy of honour), and *if it pleases* the assembly, grant this restricted power of hearing appeals to the Bishop of Rome, and the Council resolved that it *did* please them. Now, it is obvious that here was an entirely new function bestowed on the Bishop of Rome in the middle of the fourth century. Here was a difficult question, *i.e.*, the abuses that arose owing to the unauthorized practice of appealing to the civil power from ecclesiastical tribunals. If the Vatican Council expresses the mind of the Catholic Church of the fourth century on this question, then, there was always by divine right, an inherent power in the Bishop of Rome to entertain, and to decide, appeals on any matter of Church Government, and the decree of Sardica was a mere impertinence. Again, the representative British Bishops at Sardica could certainly never have acknowledged the Papal Supremacy in the sense of the Vatican decrees, or in anything approaching it, for if they had, they would have inculcated it on the British Church; and later on, when Augustine wanted to lord it over that Church, he would not have found that the right of the Pope to dictate to them was repudiated by the British Bishops as something entirely novel. One thing we do know about the British Church, and that is, its tenacity in adhering to its own customs handed down from previous times; and we may be quite sure that any sort of Papal dictatorial power was not one of their anciently accepted tenets, brought back by British bishops from the Council of Sardica, or any other Council. In truth, the Council of Sardica is a most interesting piece of evidence that the Papal power, as defined by the Vatican Council, owes its growth to certain easily-traced historical events, and cannot rest itself upon anything but human ordinances, and it is worth while noticing that this particular decree, dealing with appeals, was not accepted by the whole Church, the Easterns entirely rejecting it, and it is doubtful whether it was acted upon in the West till the 9th century.

2. As to Gregory's committal of the British bishops to Augustine's care, it would be indeed difficult to show—except on the principle of Papal Supremacy—that Gregory had any sort of right to hand over the Celtic bishops to Augustine's care. The law of the Church was that Suffragans should elect their own metropolitan, and the bestowal of the pall, as everyone knows, originally merely a sign of honour from the Emperor, was later on adopted by the Popes as a means of helping forward their usurped claim to be the fountain of all jurisdiction. It is clear, again, that Gregory did not mean to give any special power to the see of Canterbury. The bestowal on Augustine of the overseership of the British bishops was purely personal. Later on, Gregory had arranged that the Bishops of London and York (Canterbury being replaced by London) were to be equals—except as to their seniority—and it must further be remembered that the British Church never accepted Augustine or any of the Roman missionaries—till the Augustinian line became extinct, in 669—as their superiors.

3. So, too, S. Aidan undoubtedly owed nothing to Rome. The Scots-Irish Church, to which he owed his orders, would have nothing to do with Roman dictation or innovation. And as to his being a Saint, and therefore necessarily a Romanist, it must be remembered that the process of canonization—the hall-marking of Saints by the Roman See—did not begin till the 9th century, and I venture to think that Saints were venerated and churches dedicated to their honour, long before Rome took them under her care.

4. Nobody wants to deny that Augustine "said mass" at St. Martin's, Canterbury, but it is childish to argue that therefore he believed in Transubstantiation, as defined by modern Romanists. Holy mass is a great deal more than mere Transubstantiation, which is simply an opinion as to the *manner* of the Real Presence, invented in the ninth century, and made into an article of faith in the 16th, the word itself not being found in official documents of the Roman Church till the 13th century. There were great discussions in the ninth and eleventh centuries on this point, and certainly many bishops and other learned persons absolutely rejected it as contrary to scripture and the writings of the early fathers. The *manner* of the Real Presence is known only to the Holy Spirit, by whose operation, when invoked by the priest, the mystery is accomplished; and the ancient fathers would have shuddered with horror at Cardinal Vaughan's expression that the priests of the Roman Church claim "to produce the actual living Jesus Christ by Transubstantiation upon the altar." Compare the cardinal of the 19th century to St. Chrysostom of the 4th. "Before the bread is sanctified, we call it bread, but the Divine Grace sanctifying it, through the mediation of the priest, it is freed from the appellation of bread, and is thought worthy of the name of the Lord's body, although *the nature of bread has continued in it*." (Chrysot. ad Cæsar, contr. Apollinarem).

St. Anselm did introduce the feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary into the English Church, but it was not called the feast of the "Immaculate" Conception, and it still stands as a feast in the Calendar of the English Prayer Book. The Roman Church has made the Immaculate Conception into a dogma; it is at most but a pious opinion

Your Romanist correspondent says that King Alfwold sent Eaubuld to Pope Leo III. for a pall. King Alfwold died in 788 and Leo III. was not Pope till 795. Historical truth on the loose!!

But, enough! Mr Watts is no doubt revelling in answering this Romanist's letter, which is a striking instance of the vain attempt to make out identity between modern Rome and the primitive church at the expense of the English Church. Notwithstanding all her boasted certainty, that she alone holds the Catholic faith, when her votaries begin to test her modern beliefs by ancient Standards it is apparent, if not to them, at least to others, that "they don't know where they are?"

Meanwhile, I want that guinea-pig with a tail, and the Act of Parliament that abolished the old Church of England and set up a new one.—I am, yours truly, C.S.C.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILLEE.

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—I notice in nearly all places around us here, something is being done to commemorate the above event, and Tow Law, I hope, is not going to be behind all her neighbours around in the matter. Crook, I see, is to have a public park, and a grand Church steeple, with a peal of eight bells, costing upwards of £1200, and Consett is to have a new Parish Hall. I would, therefore, like to suggest for Tow Law that we erect a Public Town Hall, somewhere in a central position in the town, to be called the Diamond Jubilee Hall, a building consisting, say, of five or six committee rooms, with a lecture hall above, to be held in trust for the public of Tow Law and district, and to be controlled and governed by a committee, elected by the public for stated terms of office. The scheme could be arranged to make it repay itself in a few years, by letting the committe [illegible] for lodge meetings, miners', [illegible] benefit societies, &c. This wou[illegible] meetings out of the public-h[illegible] they are at present held, and [illegible] boon and blessing to the m[illegible] direction. Arise, then, all [illegible] loving-hearted residents of [illegible] to the front, and let us see i[illegible] up a memorial worthy of s[illegible] occasion, and one that wi[illegible] great service and lasting b[illegible] and district. Thanking [illegible] —I am, yours truly.

Tow Law, April 20th, [illegible]

CORNSAY COLLIERY WATER SUPPLY.

To the Editor of the "Consett Chronicle."

Sir,—Permit me to point out a slight inaccuracy appearing in your last issue, *re* the Cornsay Colliery workmen's water supply. In your report you say that "in droughty summer weather the Coal Company shut off the water supply from the village, and that sometimes for a whole day the water is turned off to allow the Company, who get their water from the same source, to replenish their exhausted reservoirs. . . . It was complained that the Company did this during the night time, but never during the day."

I might say that the water supply at the Colliery is generally good, but the chief objection the people have to the Colliery Company continuing to supply them with water, is that the Company refuse to put it into their houses, instead of, as at present, receiving it from stand taps, erected in the street, which necessitates some of them carrying it a considerable distance to their homes, for which they have to pay to the Colliery Company sixpence per fortnight. This is the principal reason why the people wish the Lanchester Rural District Council to request the Consett Water Company to supply the water. This would probably mean that the District Council would again have to subsidise the Water Company to the tune of, perhaps, one-half the cost of laying down the pipes.

To my mind, Mr Editor, if we are always to pay the Water Company large sums of money, taken from the pockets of the ratepayers, in order that the Company may extend their works, increase their dividend, and advance the price of their shares at the expense of the already over-burdened ratepayers, it can only be characterised as disgraceful. It would, in my opinion, be a better policy to ask the District Council to buy the Water Company out, and municipalise the supply of water in the district, because if we are to pay half of the cost, or even one-third of it, why not pay the whole, and allow the district to reap the benefit that the Water Company is getting, as is already done in some of our large towns?—I am, yours truly, ROBT. DOBINSON.

Cornsay Colliery, April 27th, 1897.

OBITUARY ANNALS

OF

NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

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In these papers it is proposed to give some account of the most remarkable occurrences in the whole area of the Lanchester Union during a period of sixty years. It is believed that they will be of interest to the readers of the *Chronicle*, and their co-operation is solicited in making the records as complete as possible. The utmost care has been taken to give nothing that would be likely to cause offence or give pain. Many of the events chronicled will be within the recollection of some of our older readers, and we shall be glad to receive additional facts relative to any of the events or people mentioned. The record has been compiled with great care, and the names and dates may be accepted as absolutely correct. With a view to making this department of the *Chronicle* interesting, the Editor will be glad to answer, free of charge, inquiries respecting the date of the death of any person in North-West Durham during the period covered by the record.

1850.

1 Jan., James Ayre, weaver, Lanchester, aged 85.

4 Jan., Barbara, widow of William Atkinson, teacher, West Lodge, Benfieldside, aged 75.

5 Jan., Rebecca, widow of Jonathan Postle, countryman, Baxton Burn Cottages, aged 76.

12 Jan., Michael Fenwick, labourer, Dipton, aged 76.

14 Jan., Isabella, widow of Leonard Hall, farmer, East Butsfield, aged 89.

16 Jan., Isabella, aged 9, daughter of Martin Thirlaway, shoemaker, Causey Row, died from burns received on the 8th January.

18 Jan., Ralph Little, blacksmith, West Butsfield, aged 70.

27 Jan., Francis, wife of Christopher Walker, farmer, Eddis Bridge, aged 44.

1 Feb., Thomas Gibson, pitman, Causey Row, aged 72.

13 Feb., Isabella, wife of Christopher Oley, tailor, Dipton, aged 48.

15 Feb., Thomas Fenwick, viewer, Dipton, aged 87.

16 Feb., Mary, widow of Andrew Holmes, banksman, Catchgate, aged 81.

17 Feb., Barbara, widow of William Ingleby, miner, Leadgate, aged 89.

20 Feb., John Southern, aged 32, pitman, killed at Hedleyhope Colliery, by a fall of stone.

20 Feb., John Southern, 32, pitman, killed at Hedley Hope Colliery by a fall of stone.

24 Feb., Mary, wife of Robert Urwin, cheesemonger, Collierley, aged 29.

1 March, Hannah, widow of George Watson, weaver, Satley, aged 79.

5 March, Martha, Ellerington, school-mistress, Burnopfield, aged 55.

11 March, Margaret, wife of William Phillipson, miller, Hamsterley Mill, aged 39.

17 March, Jane Forster, aged 16, domestic servant, High Ewehurst Head, died from burns received on the 28th February, by her clothes catching fire.

20 March, Nanney, wife of Joseph Sewell, joiner and cartwright, Conside Brick Works, aged 48.

21 March, Mary, wife of William Littlefair, Satley, aged 76.

23 March, William Middleton, farmer, Burnopfield, aged 74.

2 April, Sarah, widow of Fairbridge Hall, teacher, Cornsay Alms Houses, aged 83.

5 April, George Murray, aged 14, killed by a wagon of slag falling on him at Conside Iron Works.

19 April, William Brown, aged 46, deputy overman, killed in Tanfield Lea Pit.

19 April, Miss Elizabeth Harrison, Ebchester, aged 88.

19 April, Thomas Temperley, miner, Blackhill, aged 63.

20 April, John Kirk, clerk, Ushaw College, aged 63.

25 April, Peter Martin, 25, labourer, Blackhill, died from injuries received by being jambed at Conside Iron Works on the 22nd.

30 April, John Nicholson, farmer, Butsfield Burn, aged 64.

8 May, William Cowell, farmer, Whiteside, Holmside, aged 67.

18 May, Ann, wife of Thomas Crawford, pitman, Sheep Hill, aged 79.

30 May, Mary Hutchinson, widow, Cornsay Alms Houses, aged 77.

31 May, Mary, wife of Mark Hills, tailor, Leadgate, aged 68.

1 June, John Scurfield, pitman, Shield Row, aged 73.

1 June, John Jackson, mason, Annfield Plain, aged 75.

4 June, James Robinson, 16, driver, killed at Burnopfield Colliery by the cage being drawn up before he got safely into it.

5 June, Percival Turnbull, countryman, Holmside College, aged 65.

6 June, Mary, widow of William Ramsay, farmer, Dipton, aged 72.

11 June, Margaret, widow of William Middlemast, miner, Wagtail Cottages, Holmside, aged 65.

13 June, John Errington, farmer, Cold Rowley, aged 76.

13 June, Thomas White, woodman, Medomsley, aged 66.

17 June, Mary, wife of Peter Dunn, Hedleyhope Colliery, aged 66.

22 June, Alice, wife of Joseph Lock, miner, South Annfield, aged 61.

22 June, Hannah, wife of Cuthbert Surtees, wood valuer, Ebchester, aged 59.

(To be Continued).

NEW CHURCH AT SOUTH MOOR.

FOUNDATION STONE LAYING.

The village of South Moor has grown enormously of recent years, and for some time past there has been a great need for the erection of a church to meet the requirements of that portion of the parishioners of Holmside, residing at South Moor. The South Moor Colliery Company generously granted a site for a church and a burial ground, free of charge, and arrangements were speedily completed, by an energetic committee of church workers, for the erection of a building capable of seating 300 worshippers. Mr J. W. Thompson, Newcastle, is the architect for the building, and the contract is in the hands of Mr Routledge, Stanley. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone took place on Wednesday afternoon in the presence of a very large gathering. Amongst the company who assembled at the Colliery School were the Rev. W. C. Cooke, [illegible]car of Holmside, and Mrs Cooke; Rev. C. J. [illegible]y and Mrs Gray, South Moor; Rev. J. W. [illegible]ton, and Mrs Ashton, Craghead; Rev. F. W. [illegible]tgarth, curate of Eaglescliffe; Rev. A. [illegible]ts, vicar of Witton Gilbert; Rev. T. E. [illegible]son, Sacriston; Rev. H. R. Jecks, Medoms[illegible] Dr and Mrs Ingram-Johnson, Mr Joseph [illegible]son, Stanley; Mr A. Routledge, Major and [illegible]idley, Miss E. Fairley, Miss S. Fairley, Mr [illegible]Mrs Dawson, Mr Tom Welsh and Miss [illegible], Mr John Smith and the Misses Smith, [illegible]d Mrs Wilson, Mrs Armstrong, Miss [illegible]er, the Misses Wilkinson, Mr E. Smith, [illegible]am, Mr H. L. Burgess, Mr T. Gibson and [illegible] The company proceeded to the site in [illegible]ion, singing "We love the place, oh God."

After arrival at the site, prayers were offered by the Revs. C. J. Gray, J. W. Ashton, and W. C. Cooke, and the company sang the 84th Psalm and the hymn, "Blessed city, heavenly Salem," after which Mrs Ingram-Johnson gracefully laid the foundation stone. The Rev. A. Watts then read a lesson from Ezra, and the company sang "The Church's one foundation." After further prayer by the Rev. F. W. Westgarth, those present united in singing "In the name which earth and heaven," a collection being taken the while. The offertories amounted to £15. The company then proceeded back to the school singing the hymn, "O Lord of hosts, whose glory fills." A public meeting was held in the evening, the Rev. W. C. Cooke presiding. The speakers included the Rev. A. Watts, and the Rev. R. Tuson, Dipton.

The estimated cost of the entire building is £2,200, but it is not proposed to build the chancel at present, and the amount already subscribed—about £1,806—is expected to be sufficient for the part of the building which is now to be erected. Of course, efforts will shortly be made to raise the necessary funds for the completion of the building. Amongst the subscribers to the fund are the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £800; South Moor Colliery Co., £400; Mr Edward Joicey, £20; Miss Allgood, £12; Dr Ingram-Johnson, £5; Mrs Johnson, £5; Rev. W. C. Cooke, £5 5s; Mr J. Smith, £5; Mr T. D. Eden, £5; Mr T. Oxley, £5; Mrs Jobson and family, £5; Mr Gawthorne, £2 2s; Mr Kellett, £2 2s; Mr G. Bellerly, £2 2s; Mr D. Dawson, £2 2s; Mr G. Forster, £2 2s; Drs. Charles and Dewer, £2 2s; Rev C. J. Gray, £2 2s; Mr E Smith, £1 1s; Mr J. B. Armstrong, £1 1s; Mr W. Wilson, £1 1s; Mr W. Johnson, £1; Mr Trenberth, £1; Mr Jas. Joicey, £1; and others.

After the ceremony, a public tea was held in the Infant School-room, a very large company being present. The ladies present at the tables were Mesdames Ingram-Johnson, Gray, Dawson, Armstrong, Youll, Hill, Jobson, Oxley, Smith, and the Misses Wilkinson. Mr Johnson and Mr Dawson assisted in the cutting of the hams.

The Church was dedicated to St George, and, during the afternoon, Mr D. Dawson, churchwarden, presented Mrs Johnson with a handsome silver trowel on behalf of the trustees, the inscription on the trowel being, "Presented to Mrs Ingram-Johnson, on laying the foundation-stone of St. George's Church, South Moor, County of Durham, by the Building Committee, Rev. W. C. Cooke, vicar; Rev. C. J. Gray, secretary; April 21st, 1897."

In the evening, a public meeting was held in the Infant School, the Vicar (the Rev. W. C. Cooke) presiding over a large audience. He was supported on the platform by the Rev. A. Watts, Rector of Witton Gilbert; Rev. R. Tuson, Vicar of Dipton; Rev. Mr Johnson, of Sacriston; Rev. J. W. Ashton, Craghead; Rev. C. J. Gray, South Moor; and Messrs W. McIver (of Leadgate), D. Dawson (churchwarden), J. Smith, and others.

The proceedings were opened by the singing of the hymn, "All people that on earth do dwell," and, after prayer had been offered,

The Chairman made a short statement respecting the progress of the efforts for building the Church at South Moor. Just about a year ago, he said, a congregational tea and meeting was held in that room. He then expressed the hope that they would improve on that meeting, and he felt now that all must agree that the present was an improvement on the past. At that time all was uncertain as to the prospect of sufficient funds being raised for the erection of a Church, but now, though they were not able to complete their building, yet by the time that portion was finished, of which the foundation-stone had been laid that day, they would have enough to clear it of debt. (Applause). No one was more sorry than he that the chancel was not being built at the same time as the nave and transept, but he did not like the idea of God's house being in debt, and, therefore, he thought they were doing wisely in defering the building of the chancel until more money was raised, especially as they had to think of a Church for Craghead. They had already raised more than at first they thought they would need for the whole building, and, had the cost not exceeded their anticipation, the whole would have been built. However, he hoped that in the near future the chancel would be added. (Applause).

Mr Watts then delivered an interesting and able address, in which he pointed out that the work in which they were engaged was worthy of the past, and worthy of the grand old Church to which they belonged, and in which they were working—a Church whose mission was to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus to all classes, rich and poor alike. In that work now, as in the past, women were nobly taking a foremost part. He could not help but remember the great and noble part women had taken in the evangelisation of England, and especially in the North, in which connection the names of Bertha and Ethelburga would always be held in esteem. (Applause).

Mr McIver followed, and referred to the great progress of the Church in every part of England during the last fifteen or twenty years, both in town and country. This was due in a great measure to the devotion and self-denial of the clergy as a body, several instances of which had come under his notice. Whatever might be said of the past, it could not be denied that the church to-day was alive to her duty and no more devoted or harder-working class could be found than the clergy of the church to which they belonged.

Mr Tuson delivered a practical address in which he urged upon the necessity not only of building a church, but of filling it when it was built. It was a good thing to build a church, but their work had only then begun. They should be regular in their attendance, not only at the evening service, or entertainments, but also at the morning service, when their minds and hearts were fresh. They sometimes sung

New every morning is the love
Our waking and uprising prove.

Let them prove the sincerity of their belief in those words by attending to worship God, the Giver of all good in the early hours of the day. (Applause).

A vote of thanks was then moved by Mr Ashton to the speakers, and all who had contributed to the success of the day's proceedings, not forgetting the ladies, who had worked so hard for the last twelve months, coupling with them the name of Mrs Ingram-Johnson, whose work that day was representative of that which had been accomplished by them.

This having been seconded by Dr. Ingram-Johnson, and supported by Mr Dawson and Mr Gray, was carried by acclamation.

Dr. Ingram-Johnson then expressed his thanks, and that of his wife, for the honour which had been conferred on her by the request to lay the foundation stone of the Church, a task which it had been a great pleasure to her to perform.

During the evening, appropriate solos were admirably rendered by Miss Polly Smith and Dr. Ingram-Johnson, and were most warmly appreciated by the company. The choir, under the leadership of Mr W. Wilson, choir-master, sang the anthem, "The earth is the Lord's." After the singing of the hymn, "All hail the power of Jesus' name," the meeting was concluded with the benediction.

On Sunday, two special services were held in the Infant School. In the morning, the Rev. Canon Mathwin preached to a good congregation, while in the evening, a very large congregation was present. The preacher was the Rev. R. Tuson.

The total sum now raised towards the building fund is £1750.

WASKERLEY.

Sudden Death.—On Friday afternoon, Mrs Green, the wife of a "ganger" employed at the Consett Water Works' extensions near Waskerley, became suddenly ill, and died in a few hours. No inquest was deemed necessary.

HAMSTERLEY.

Christ's Church.—The annual Band of Hope entertainment, held in connection with the above Church, took place on Saturday and Monday evenings. On the Monday, the Vicar, the Rev. W. Cockin, M.A., occupied the chair. The chairman on Saturday was the Rev. H. R. Jecks, who filled that position in the place of Mr N. Berkley, who through the pressure of business was unable to be present. The Kinderspiel, the "May Queen," was beautifully rendered by the children, who were conducted by the Rev. G. V. Hellawell, and the Misses Neilson, of Derwent Cote House, who were assisted by Misses Whitfield and Yardley, and Mr A. Allan, and Mr John Chippington. The great care taken by Miss Neilson, who was the accompanist, and by Miss Elsie Neilson was highly praiseworthy. The principal characters were taken by Margaret Keenleyside, Margaret Ann Henderson, Robert Anderson, Maria Anderson, Sarah F. Coxford, Robert Patterson, John Howd, Sarah Jane Beskley, Mary Ann Howd, Sarah S. Weedy, Beatrice Mabel Whitfield, May Armstrong, John Kirtley, Jane Howcroft, Frances E. Coxford, and Lizzie Dixon. A nigger troupe, very ably conducted by Mr S. Hewitt, was made up of the following:—Ellis Hewitt, Robert Anderson, Sarah Jane Bushby, Mary J. Farbridge, Willie Hewitt, Edwin Whitfield, Florrie Hodgson, Mary E. Bushby, Robert Keenleyside, Hannah Bean, Maggie Allan, Jane Chippington, and Frances Pigg. The room was tastefully decorated by the Misses Neilson, and by Mr Bushby, Mr E. Keenleyside, Mr W. Keenleyside, Mr James Anderson, Mr John Anderson, and others, who had worked very hard. The flags for the decorations were kindly lent by Mr Potts, of Consett. Votes of thanks were given to all those who had contributed to the evening's enjoyment, and the annual event which so many people enjoy, was successfully brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

CRICKET.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v. T. LAMBERT'S ELEVEN.

The season was opened at Blackfine, on Saturday last, when an eleven, brought by T. Lambert, the match professional, opposed Consett and District. The ground has been capitally laid out, no expense having been spared to provide for the accommodation of spectators. There was only a moderate attendance, owing, probably, to the counter-attraction at Leadgate.

Martin and Siddell commenced operations, facing the bowling of Shotton and Hurst. The former's third ball saw the termination of Martin's innings. One for 0—not a very auspicous opening. Richardson now partnered Siddell, and, after receiving two balls, the over terminated. The first run of the match, which met with some applause, was scored by Siddell, off Hurst, and Richardson notched a trio off the last ball of the over. Shotton's next over was a maiden, but subsequently Siddell drove Hurst over the bank for three, and Richardson followed this up by cutting the same bowler for one. The last-named batsman then drove Shotton right out of the field for four. In the next over, Siddell cut Hurst for one, and afterwards Richardson repeated the performance, scoring two and three respectively. Siddell again obtained a single, and twenty went up off Shotton's succeeding over. A single was added by Richardson, off the same bowler, and a cut by Siddell added still another. A change was now effected in the bowling, J. Lee going on instead of Hurst. The first delivery resulted in a leg-bye, but Richardson cleverly cut the next for a couple. Soon afterwards, Siddell scored three, off Shotton, and again the same batsman lifted the ball to leg. Richardson drove Hurst for three, thirty going up. Siddell repeated the performance with remarkable ease, evidencing a complete mastery over the bowling. He then put Shotton to leg, and Richardson, amidst loud applause, drove him clean out of the field, and forty was hoisted. Bartram went on in place of Lee, but Siddell had no difficulty in placing his second delivery for a couple, and again hit him for a three. An unit followed to Siddell, and again a fine leg hit, off Shotton, for an equal number. This bowler's next delivery levelled Richardson's stumps, after the latter had played a brilliant innings for twenty-four runs. Two for 48. Dales now faced the music, and a trio off Bartram, by Siddell, sent fifty up. The Medomsley "crack" soon cut Bartram for one, and Siddell then drove him for three. Again Siddell hit Shotton to the boundary, and Dales scored another one off Bartram. After a single by Siddell, Dales was sent back through striking the wickets with his bat. Three for 59. Walton next defended, and Bartram sent Siddell through the slips for three. He drove the same bowler to the boundary, and Walton cut him for a couple. A single followed to the last-named batsman, who afterwards hit Bartram somewhat tamely for three, sixty going up. Hurst replaced Shotton, and Walton drove his fourth delivery for one. Shotton went on at the other end, and his first delivery was driven splendidly for three, and Siddell then hit the same bowler to leg for a similar score. Walton obtained a couple, and then hit Shotton to leg for other two. A beautiful hit to leg by Siddell elicited loud applause. This performance he followed up by hitting another boundary. Lee replaced Shotton, who was hit to leg by Siddell for two. Soppitt, for Hurst, was the next change, and his last ball was nicely placed by Walton for a single. Walton was splendidly caught off Lee by Bartram just on the boundary, the outgoing batsman having placed seventeen to his credit. Five for 92. Godfrey was the new-comer, and was bowled before he had scored off the last ball of the first over he received. Five for 92. Robinson took the vacant place, and Siddell made a big on-drive for three, off Lee, the next items being two couples for Robinson. Siddell cut Soppitt for two, and Robinson again drove Lee for the same number. Siddell brought his contribution up to fifty with a cut for two, this performance being greeted with loud cheers. In the next over, Robinson was easily caught by Lambert behind the wickets. Six for 105. Wood followed, and sent his second ball to the leg boundary for three, the next score being a two-bye. Another three to Siddell followed, and then another change of bowling was tried, Young replacing his club-mate, Lee. Wood saluted the new bowler by placing his second ball to leg for two, and supplemented this by a drive for one. In Soppitt's next over, Wood was caught at short leg by George, from a very tame stroke. Seven for 118. Lindsay came next, and opened his score with a big drive for three, off Young, but in the following over, was bowled without further increasing his contribution. Eight for 121. Williamson took the vacancy, and at once commenced his well-known safety strokes. The next wicket to fall was that of Siddell, who succumbed to a catch in the slips. The outgoing batsman was loudly applauded for his splendid score, which was made without the semblance of a chance. Nine for 121. Carr brought up the rear, and Williamson opened his account with a two off Soppitt, and this was followed by a single to Carr. His downfall came the next over, Young being the bowler, the not-out being Williamson.

The scratch eleven commenced their venture with Lee and Shotton, who were opposed by Godfrey and Martin. In the home captain's first over, Lee was well caught by Walton behind the wicket. One for 0. Shotton opened the scoring with a two off Martin, and drove his next delivery for three. He followed this with a fine cut for two, off Godfrey, whom he also drove for three. Bartram opposed Godfrey, and was sent back in a precisely similar manner to the first batsman. Two for 10. Young was the new-comer, and was almost immediately run out upon his arrival, but he despatched his third ball for two. The next score was a lofty on-drive to Shotton, off Godfrey, for three. Robinson was applauded for some good fielding at point, but Shotton again got one to the leg boundary for three. Shotton's career was cut short by a good catch at cover-slip, off Godfrey, the out-going batsman having contributed seventeen out of nineteen. Three for 19. Fawcett opened his account with a single through the slips, off the home Captain. This he supplemented with a single, off Martin, and a two off Godfrey, but was nearly bowled by the latter's last ball. Young cut Martin's second ball for two, and the next for a single, whilst Fawcett sent the last ball to the leg boundary for three. As a result of this punishment, Robinson was requisitioned, and with his third ball he yorked Fawcett. Four for 30. With his last ball, he repeated the feat, which was hailed with acclamation. Five for 30. Wickets continued to fall, as, with his third ball, Godfrey bowled Young. Six for 30. Hurst commenced with a single, and Blacklock followed with a couple off Robinson, whose last ball almost saw the dismissal of the latter. Godfrey secured another wicket—a catch in the slips, dismissing Hurst, who had only made a single. Seven for 33. Blacklock hit Robinson for three, and then Lambert scored a single, whilst the former again scored a three. Martin missed an easy chance of dismissing Lambert, who attempted a very shap run. With his next ball, however, Robinson bowled Blacklock, who played late at a good length ball. Eight for 43. Lambert's was the next wicket to fall, he playing across at a break-back from Godfrey. Nine for 43. Soppitt was caught by Robinson, off the next ball, this being the home Captain's seventh wicket. Score—

CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

J Siddell, c Shotton, b Young	55
Martin, b Shotton	0
F. Richardson, c and b Shotton	24
T D Dales, hit wkt b Bartram	2
G Walton, c Bartram, b Lee	17
A S Godfrey, b Soppith	0
J Robinson, c Lambert b Lee	6
A D Wood, c George b Soppitt	6
T Lindsay, b Soppitt	3
M Williamson, not out	3
J T Carr, b Young	1
Extras	8
Total	125

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
Shotton	12	3	32	2	16·
Hurst	6	0	23	0	—
Lee	9	0	26	2	13·
Bartram	5	0	20	1	20·
Soppitt	11	7	9	3	3·
Young	5	2	7	2	3·5

LAMBERT'S XI.

H Shotton, c Carr, b Godfrey	17
J Lee, c Walton b Godfrey	0
E C Bartram, c Walton b Godfrey	0
J Young, b Godfrey	5
R Fawcett, b Robinson	7
E George, b Robinson	0
A Hurst, c Williamson, b Godfrey	1
A Blacklock, b Robinson	8
Lambert, b Godfrey	3
M Soppitt, c Robinson, b Godfrey	0
J W Hornsby, not out	0
Extras	2
Total	43

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
Godfrey	15	5	15	7	2·1
Martin	5	0	18	0	—
Robinson	1	1	8	3	2·6

STANLEY V. SOUTH TANFIELD.

The cricket season was opened at Stanley, on Saturday, by a match between teams representative of Stanley and South Tanfield. The game was played in connection with the Durham Junior League, and prior to the game, the opinion was freely expressed that the homesters would retire victorious. Such however, did not prove to be the case. Stewart, the popular Stanley skipper, won the toss, and decided to bat, going in first himself, along with Dr Davis to the bowling of Raine and H. Middlemast. The wicket was soft, and appeared to suit Middlemast's curlies, and something very like a rot set in from the commencement. Stewart drove Raine for 3, but immediately later fell a victim to a high pitched ball from Middlemast. Joe Dixon framed well, but was badly run out after compiling 3, and Dr Davison had his pegs knocked down for a duck. Willie Rutherford also fell a victim to Middlemast, without disturbing the bowlers. "Richy" Gibson and W. Brown played together for some time, standing several overs, but neither of them troubled the scorers at all. "Richy" after playing Raine for several overs, got to the other end, and had a slog at Middlemast, with the result that he had to proceed in the direction of the pavilion. Jack Charlton knocked Middlemast for 2, but the next ball disturbed his stumps, and the veteran Noble, soon got the happy despatch. Tom Jewitt followed in, and enlivened the proceedings by a 4, 2, 3, and other hits, which brought the total to 26, half of which had been scored by the Tanfieldite. He then succumbed to Raine, and Jimmy Benfold whipped in. He never had an opportunity of distinguishing himself, however, for with the score unaltered, Jimmy Shield, who had batted with great patience, was bowled, and the innings concluded for the insignificant total of 26. J. Middlemast and R. Henderson started the South Tanfield innings to the bowling of Rutherford and Jewitt. Both batsmen shaped steadily, and runs came pretty freely, the Stanley total being passed ere a separation was effected. At 33, the veteran stonewaller, Henderson, succumbed to Jewitt for 14. Capt. Raine followed in, but after scoring a single, he also fell a victim to "Tom." Shield went on *vice* Rutherford, and Charlton tried a couple of overs without success. Matty Ledger scored 3, and fell to Jewitt, and Harry Middlemast only obtained a single. Siddle was nicely caught by Davis off Benfold's first ball, but Stewart mulled a chance by Middlemast, off the same bowler. Neither J. Wilson nor J. Ledger troubled the scorers, the former falling to Stewart, and the latter to Jimmy Shield. Middlemast was bowled by Shield after compiling a grand innings of 35, and the latter's wicket offering but slight opposition, the innings terminated for 65, leaving South Tanfield victorious by 39 runs. Scores—

STANLEY.

G Stewart, b H Middlemast	3
E Davis, b Middlemast	0
J. Dixon, run out	3
W Rutherford, b H Middlemast	0
W T Brown, c J, and b H Middlemast	0
R Gibson, b H Middlemast	0
J Charlton, b ,, ,,	2
J Shield, b ,, ,,	2
R Noble, b ,, ,,	0
T Jewitt, b W Raine	13
J H Benfold, not out	0
Extras	3
Total	26

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Middlemast	8	2	11	8
Raine	8	3	13	1

SOUTH TANFIELD.

J Middlemast, b Shield	35
R Henderson, b Jewitt	14
W Raine, b Jewitt	1
M Ledger, b Jewitt	3
H Middlemast, c Rutherford, b Shield	1
J Siddle, c Davis, b Benfold	3
J Wilson, b Stewart	0
J Ledger, b Shield	0
W Hunter, b Shield	2
W Wilson, not out	1
J Benfold, b Shield	0
Extras	5
Total	65

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Rutherford	7	1	15	0
Jewitt	9	6	7	3
Charlton	5	2	10	0
Shield	6	2	7	5
Stewart	5	0	17	1
Benfold	3	0	4	1

Craghead Colliery II v. Consett and District II.—Played at Craghead, on Saturday, in the Durham Challenge Cup Competition. The visiting captain won the toss, but elected to field, and the home team batting first, were dismissed for the very moderate score of 44, the only batsman to reach double figures being the home captain, Matt. Liddle, who made 12. Upon the visitors taking up the defensive, they gave a very feeble exhibiton against the bowling of Linsley and Cummings, and in the end the total only reached 11. Appended are the scores and analyses—

CRAGHEAD COLLIERY II.

M Dodds, b Raw	2
R Higginbottom, run out	0
Jno. Linsley, run out	4
W Wilkinson, c Siddle b Raw	3
J Cummings, b Raw	9
M Liddle, b Leybourne	12
N Sheraton, c Raw, b Lynn	4
R Hann, b Raw	2
J Johnson, not out	5
J Fairley, b Raw	2
M Whiteman, c Smith b Lynn	0
Extras	1
Total	44

CONSETT AND DISTRICT II.

T T Gray, b Cummings	1
T Lynn, b Cummings	2
J Hall, run out	0
T Hall, b Cummings	0
J J Raw, b Linsley	2
J Smith, run out	3
J Carr, st Liddle, b Linsley	0
F Siddell, hit wkt, b Cummings	2
W Leybourne, not out	1
J Eltringham, b Cummings	0
A Smith, b Linsley	0
Extras	0
Total	11

Bowling Analysis—Craghead's innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Leybourne	10	2	22	1
J J Raw	12·4	3	16	5
Lynn	3	0	6	2

Consett's Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
J Linsley	12	7	5	3
J Cummings	11	7	5	6

South Moor Church v. South Moor P.M.—Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the visitors, the P.M. compiling 32 runs, whilst the Church team only effected a total of 15.

TANFIELD RATEPAYERS' MEETING.

SPIRITED CRITICISM.

Under the auspices of the Tanfield District Ratepayers' and Property Owners' Association, a well-attended public meeting was held in the Pickering Nook Board School, on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the large expenditure contemplated by the Tanfield School Board. Mr Rogerson, President of the Association, presided, and amongst those present were:—Miss Surtees, Hamsterley; Father Thompson, Stanley; Father Wilson, Byer Moor; Councillors W. Holmes and W. G. Turnbull, Mr Jas. Turnbull, Mr Ben Mason, Mr A. H. Swinburn, Stanley; Mr A. T. Watson, Burnopfield; Mr E. Wigham, Mr Nicholas Wilkinson, and others.

The Chairman intimated that the object of the meeting was to take into consideration the proposed expenditure of about £6,000 by the Tanfield School Board, for the building of a new school at Tanfield Lea, and extensive alterations at West Stanley. They, as members of the Ratepayers' Association, considered that the expenditure was much larger than was necessary, and they wanted all present to put a stop to it. They believed that the school accommodation in the district was nearly sufficient. (Applause).

Mr Nicholas Wilkinson said that it was like throwing water on a duck's back—(laughter)—to tell him that the School Board intended spending £6,000. They hadn't it to spend, and if they had, they would think more of it. Their meeting that night was not so crowded as it might have been, and the reason for that was that the majority of the people in the district did not pay their rates directly. Therefore, they did not feel the injury which was being inflicted; they did not feel the pinch. He could see that the increase of rates was going to affect the people so that they would be compelled to

PAY THEIR RATES DIRECTLY.

When they elected members of Parliament, the member came round occasionally, and gave an account of his stewardship, but the School Board members or District Councillors did not even do that. Did they come and ask their constituents for permission to spend money? No; it was almost autocratic government. Their District Councils and School Boards did not seem to think that they had any responsibilities to constituents until election time—(laughter)—and then they were willing to do anything. When did they hear of members of these bodies coming forward, and saying publicly what they were going to do? They were put into office, and, when there, they acted as they themselves chose, and not as the people chose. (Shame). He hoped that they would make up their minds to bring something to bear on the School Board. He would be the last man in the world to speak against the people of this country being edu[illegible] He would not oppose money being reaso[illegible] expended on educating the working people. [illegible] others could educate themselves. (Hear, [illegible] People were all the better for education. [illegible] educated, they used their reason; whe[illegible] were without education, they were lit[illegible] moved from brutes, and they used brut[illegible] He was, therefore, in favour of educati[illegible] was strongly opposed to

MONEY BEING THROWN AWAY

on building schools as ornaments, or to t[illegible] money away for any purpose except [illegible] educating the children. They ought no[illegible]

TO BUILD PALACES

either as schools or for schoolmaster[illegible] hear). £6,000 was an enormous amount to be spent by a fellow who never had six shillings. (Laughter). He knew a school in the parish which was now standing empty, a place, too, with all necessary requirements. He asked the meeting to petition the School Board, asking that this £6,000 should not be spent. Their petition might be thrown aside, but at another meeting they could petition the County Council, and if they threw it away, they could then petition the Education Board; and if they demanded an enquiry they would get it. (Applause).

Mr Holmes said that he had taken notice of the large expenditure contemplated by the School Board, and had made up his mind that it would never be carried out, as he felt sure that the large ratepayers of the district would raise their voices in opposition. He was one of those unfortunate fellows who paid their own rates directly, and therefore on this subject, whilst attending to his own interests, he was also attending to the general interest of the public. £2,000 was to be spent on a new school at Tanfield Lea, and speaking as a person living in the immediate district, he could assure them that he was

PERSUADED IN HIS OWN MIND

that there was no need to expend that sum. They said that there was a lack of accommodation to the large tune of 10, and they had a school at Tanfield village belonging to the same Board, and another school within a narrow radius. They said that it was their intention to keep Tanfield school open for infants. When the first school was built at Tanfield Lea, the cry was that they could not have children walking the distance from the Lea to the village, especially as there was a railway crossing between the places. They incurred large expenses by building a school at Tanfield Lea, and now they were going to spend

ANOTHER £2,000.

He was afraid that £2,000 would not cover it. (Hear, hear). It was only the architect's estimate, and the builder's tender would probably be nearer £3,000 than £2,000. A problem which he had not been able to solve was whether it was any further distance from Tanfield Lea to Tanfield than from Tanfield to Tanfield Lea. (Laughter). The Board said that they would keep Tanfield school open for infants, which practically meant that people living in Tanfield village would have their children marched off to Tanfield Lea when about six years of age. One of the reasons for closing Tanfield schools was that it was too expensive, but surely it was no more expensive to keep a master there than at any other place. (Hear, hear). He was strongly opposed to building

ORNAMENTAL SCHOOLS.

He quite thought that with the increasing population it would be necessary to build in the future, but he did not believe in building now, because in four or five years, the increased population would demand it. (Hear, hear). Let it suffice for them to spend for the accommodation required at the present time. Why did not the School Board erect their schools so that they were capable of enlargement? In Pickering Nook they had enlargements recently, which cost nearly as much as a new school. The reason of this was that the schools were built in such ornamental fashion, the Board did not make any provision for alteration when needed. He believed in having the children comfortable, and having plenty of space, because they could not be well educated if cramped for space—(hear, hear)—but he was very much opposed to so much ornamentation. He was also opposed to this

CENTRAL CLASS BUSINESS.

They had under the Tanfield Board a central class, and paid a schoolmaster either £130 or £140 per year for educating pupil teachers. This took one or two pupils from every school every day, and this necessitated the Board having a much larger staff than would be needed if the teachers were left at their schools the whole of their time. They had just

AS GOOD RESULTS

before the establishment of this class. Flint Hill school was not under the Board, and was not supported by the rates, and only to a very small extent by voluntary subscriptions, yet Mr Hinckley succeeded in passing his teachers whenever they went for examination, which was not always the case with the Board teachers. (Applause).

Father Thompson commenced by observing that they could not charge the Tanfield School Board with being very extravagant in the matter of light—(laughter)—the oil lamp in the school being nearly out. As a member of the Board, he had certainly opposed, at a meeting a month ago, the expenditure against which this meeting objected. He opposed it emphatically, because he felt that,

AS AN ENGLISHMAN,

he was not to be cowed into submission. (Hear, hear). He, therefore, went against it, though he knew beforehand that he would be defeated. He had been asked that night to supply a statement regarding the expenditure of over £5000. £7000, he thought, would be nearer the mark. (Hear, hear). First of all, he would call their attention to the advertisement in the public press for a loan of £6000. The Chairman of the Board was well aware of what he was doing, when he suggested borrowing that amount. People were not in the habit of borrowing money to put away in a cupboard; when they borrowed £6000, they meant to spend £6300. (Hear, hear). First of all, there were the extensive alterations at West Stanley, which were to cost £3312, without including the furniture or extras. If they said £4000 in round numbers, they would be about the mark. Then there was to be a new school at Tanfield Lea, to cost £2100, and a master's house, to cost about £435. There was another master's house springing up at Causey, which was to cost £435 at the least. This gave a total of over £6300, exclusive of architects' fees, and not counting the tender of any particular builder. If £7000 was quoted, it would be nearer the figure. The West Stanley extensions would provide additional accommodation for about 480 children, making a total accommodation for 740. The deficiency of room in West Stanley last October was about 10, and the infants had an excess of accommodation of one. West Stanley had accommodation for 177, and the average attendance for the last quarter was 187. The infant department allowed for 100 children, and the average attendance was 99. Tanfield Lea would hold 149, and the average attendance was 150, leaving a want of accommodation for 10. From Tanfield Lea they went to Tanfield, and he asked them not to forget that the Board had spent something like £460 on the Tanfield School during the past three years. It had been freely hinted that Tanfield School was to be closed, save for the 28 infants who were there at present, the elder children, 87 in number, having to be sent to Tanfield Lea. This was practically closing a school on which £460 had been spent within the past three years. He looked upon it as extravagance. It seemed to be a case of gradual consumption. (Laughter). There was yet in the Tanfield School accommodation for 92 mixed, and for seven infants, making a total of 99. Therefore, if there was want of accommodation from the Tantobie side, let the children be drafted off to Tanfield School. (Hear, hear). As he understood, there was very little difference in the distance between the two places, and, as had been pointed out, the Education Department

HAD NEVER COMPLAINED

of overcrowding at Tanfield Lea School. The Board had taken the matter into its own hands, and said, "It must be done." They must dismiss these pretences, and discover the real motive, which was to establish a higher grade school. They had heard lately the big drum of favouritism struck, and the clashing cymbals of opposition sounded. He was greatly afraid that there was a large amount of regard

FOR FAMILY INTERESTS

involved in this movement for a higher grade school. (Applause). He did not wish to say more than that. It was a very unpleasant topic, and he did not wish to touch even slightly on personalities. It seemed to him that if there was to be a higher grade school, it would be for the benefit of the rich, who had the means to educate their own children elsewhere. The great burden would fall on the poor, who could not afford to send their children to a higher grade school. The people who would benefit were those who were able to educate their children with their own means. What a fine sight it would be—Tanfield Lea to have a higher grade school; the genteel young ladies sauntering past with white parasols—(laughter)—young ladies flirting with young men—(renewed laughter)—and those at the higher grade school not deigning to speak with the others. They might as well transfer the

HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT

from Westminster to Shield Row. (Laughter). This being so, he thought they had a perfect right to raise their voices in opposition. As ratepayers and supporters of voluntary schools, they were smarting under a double grievance—they had to support their own school, and the Board schools, too. As long as the wind blew, and the waters flowed, they would raise their voices against the

GLARING INJUSTICE

which was inflicted upon them. They ought to imitate the eminently sensible American, and assess each school upon those who sent their children to it. That would obviate the always proceeding war of friction. In conclusion, he contended that the electorate ought to be acquainted—(applause)—with the whole matter. [illegible]eemed not only a new departure, but a com[illegible]volution, and he trusted that the feelings [illegible] would be placed before the [illegible]hat the whole countryside would [illegible] and protest against the extrava[illegible] [illegible]as not condemning the ordinary [illegible] the Board, but, as a ratepayer, he [illegible] his voice against any extravagant expenditure. (Applause).

[illegible]n said that the way in which [illegible] stood up before the whole [illegible]hat he would be in a minority, [illegible] gentleman's credit. It re[illegible] of courage and principle to [illegible] his mind, and let everyone [illegible] was just. In doing so, [illegible]inions and the principles of [illegible] to that Board, but he (Father Wilson) must certainly say that the same could not be said of many members of that Board. He had been nineteen years in the district, and knew pretty well how the affairs of the Board had been conducted. The particular gentleman who brought forward the motion in favour of the Higher Grade School was the very gentleman who at the last election asked for his (Father Wilson's) influence. He gave him his support on the understanding that he would help to keep down the expenditure, and not increase it. (A Voice: "2d in the £.") But he knew in the future what measure to take of that man. He liked to see a man of principle, having good principles, and standing up for them when in the hour of need. (Applause). He did not like to see a man holding good principles, but in the hour of need going the other way. (Applause).

Mr T. Duffy, of Stanley, said that he objected to certain actions of the Board. They had had to build a new school at Causey, and, instead of placing it more in the direction of Tanfield, the Board, in their wisdom, placed it on the very

EDGE OF LAMESLEY,

and over 50 per cent of the children attending that school came from Lamesley parish, and the people of this district paid for the education of the Lamesley children. Father Thompson had pointed out that £435 was to be spent on a master's house. He would like to know how much of that amount, the School Board members had asked the people of Lamesley to contribute towards the erection either of the house or the school. (Hear, hear). Lamesley people were reaping the benefit, and Tanfield ratepayers were paying for it. Again, there was the extension at West Stanley. No doubt, it was a credit to have such an excellently situated School, but even there a large proportion of the children went down Tommy's Lane to South Moor, whilst the people of that village did not contribute towards the expenses. He maintained that it was a

DOWNRIGHT SHAME AND SCANDAL,

and the public ought not to tolerate it. Some time ago, the Board took over what was called the Darney School, at Stanley, and tranferred a great number of children from that School to West Stanley, and sent a number of children to "Darney's." If they had ten too many children at West Stanley, they had fifty vacant places at Mr Darney's School. This was a complete waste, and ought not to be passed over. He hoped that a similar meeting would be held at Stanley, and that a Ratepayers' Association would be formed at that place. If it was, he felt certain that it would lead to good results. (Applause).

Mr A. Watson suggested that the meeting should pass a motion, condemning the expenditure, and thus strengthen Father Thompson's hands on the Board.

Mr Wigham proposed, and Mr W. G. Turnbull seconded, "That this meeting protests against the proposed expenditure of £6,000, chiefly on an extension of West Stanley Board School, the erection of a new school at Tanfield Lea, and considers that the ratepayers ought to be consulted before such uncalled for expenditure is incurred."—The resolution was adopted unanimously.

At this stage, Mr Turnbull read a letter from the Hon. J. P. Vereker, expressing, on behalf of himself and Mrs Vereker, full sympathy with the objects of the meeting, and condemning strongly the extravagance of the Board.—It was decided to appoint three representatives to wait upon the Board in conjunction with three Stanley representatives, and the Hon. J. P. Vereker, Mr A. T. Watson, and Mr W. G. Turnbull were chosen for the duty.—It was arranged to hold a public meeting, at St. Joseph's School, Stanley, on Tuesday night, to enter a further protest, and generally to further the object of the Ratepayers' Association.—The meeting then terminated.

MASONIC FESTIVAL AT CONSETT.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 11th anniversary of the "Constance" Lodge of Freemasons (No. 2,135), was duly commemorated in the Masonic Hall, Front Street, Consett, in the presence of a fairly large assemblage of members and visiting brethren. Those present included Brothers Dr. George Renton, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; T. D. Dryden, W.M. of the Lodge; John Coulthard, I.P.M.; S. Compton, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., of Devon; J. W. Hill, "Hotspur" Lodge (1,626), S.D.; Richard H. Holme, "Prince of Wales" (2,520), P.M., D.C.; William Burke, "Edgeworth" (76), P.M.; Chas. Stephenson, S.W.; Jas. Hardy, J.W.; William Robinson, Chaplain; George J. Christopher, P.M., P.P.G.Std.B., Treasurer; George Murray, jun., Secretary; Michael Hobday, S.D.; William Eltringham, J.D.; George Dryden, jun., Organist; Thomas Milner, Almoner; W. D. Robson, I.G.; George Dryden, sen., Tyler; Ralph Calvert, Geo. Pattrick, Robert Marshall, Edward Lockey, Wm. Eales, L. Matthews, T. A. Coltman, William Greer, &c. Brother Dr. Renton, in accordance with the usual rites, performed the ceremony of installing Brother C. Stephenson as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year, and the new W.M. afterwards appointed and invested the following officers—Brothers T. D. Dryden I.P.M.; Jas. Hardy, S.W.; M. Hobday, J.W.; George J. Christopher, Treasurer; George Murray, jun., Secretary; William Robinson, Chaplain; George Pattrick, S.D.; W. D. Robson, J.D., J. W. Daniels, I.G; J. R. Brodie, S.S.; T. A. Coltman, J. S.; George Arkless, D.C.; T. Milner, Almoner; G. Dryden, jun., Organist; and G. Dryden, sen., Tyler. Later on, the festival of St. John, the Evangelist, was celebrated in the new Banquetting Hall, where a substantial repast was served up by Brother Dryden, sen. Brother C. Stephenson presided, and, in the course of the evening, Brother T. Dryden was presented with a pretty Past Master's jewel in recognition of the services he had rendered to the Lodge during his term of office.—Toasts and songs contributed to make a most enjoyable festival.

BENFIELDSIDE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held in the Board Room, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday evening in last week, Mr J. Lax occupying the chair *pro tem.* There were also present Messrs J. Eltringham, G. Eltringham, G. J. Robinson, R. Eccles, F. Priestman, W. Annandale, W. Telford, C. Parnaby, J. Heymer, E. Sloane, J. B. Lazenby (clerk), and T. Thirlwell (deputy surveyor).

THE ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr Parnaby moved that Mr J. Eltringham be elected to the chair. That, he remarked, was the understanding when, in the previous year, Mr Lax was placed in that position. He felt sure that Mr Eltringham would preside over the deliberations of the Council with energy and ability. (Applause). He expressed the hope that the decision given would be unanimous. (Applause).

Mr Telford seconded, and, after paying a glowing tribute to the work done by Mr Lax as Chairman of the Council, said that as the previous speaker had remarked there was last year a tacit understanding that Mr Eltringham should occupy the position for the next twelve months.

Mr Lax supported the resolution. He thought a year ago that Mr Eltringham was an excellent man for the position. There then seemed, however, to be a running in his (Mr Lax's) favour, and he accepted the post in deference to the wishes of the Council. Personally, he would have rather that Mr Eltringham had taken it last year. It was quite sufficient for him to have had the honour of being the first Chairman of the Council. They could not have hit upon a better, or an abler, man than the one proposed. Mr Eltringham had served the public for twenty-five years. He (Mr Lax) had worked with him as an overseer and in other offices, and had always found him to be capable and conscientious, and a man who had the courage of his convictions. They always found that he served the public faithfully, and he had great pleasure in supporting Mr Eltringham.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and Mr Eltringham took the chair, and briefly returned thanks for the honour he had received. He was not aware that he had served on the old Local Board for so long a period as Mr Lax had intimated (Mr Lax: I said "served the public.") Mr Eltringham (continuing) said that he thought he had been a member for nearly twenty-five years, besides having been connected with other public bodies. He would try to do his duty as Chairman, and thanked the members for the honour they had conferred upon him. (Applause).

THE VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP.

Mr Sloane said that he rose with great pleasure to propose that Mr Parnaby occupy the position of vice-chairman. He was a man of ability, and was in every way fitted for the post.

Mr Heymer seconded, and said that if the new Chairman were as punctual in his attendance at the meetings as the late Chairman had been, the vice-chairmanship would prove to be a very easy office. He had no doubt but, if elected, Mr Parnaby would, in the event of being called upon to act as Chairman, be found to be an able administrator.

Mr Robinson said that with no feeling whatever against Mr Parnaby, whom he had found to be a very active and capable member, he begged to propose Mr Telford for the office. He thought that, as the last-named gentleman had been a member longer than Mr Parnaby, he had a prior claim upon the Council. He was sure that they could not select a more suitable man, or one who would attend more assiduously to his duties.

Mr Eccles said that he had no party to consult. Whatever might have been the case with regard to others, he himself was quite at liberty to vote as he pleased. No one had consulted him, or requested his support for either of the nominees, but, after weighing the matter in his mind, he had decided to support Mr Telford. He thought that he (Mr Telford), as an older member, had a prior claim upon the Council. It was not, he thought, Mr Parnaby's time just yet. He had great pleasure in seconding Mr Telford's nomination.

Mr Lax said that it would have been better if the Council could be unanimous. Like Mr Eccles, he had thought the question over, and, believing that Mr Telford had stronger claims, he would support his nomination, though he wished it to understood that he had no feeling against Mr Parnaby.

A vote was then taken, and Mr Telford, receiving seven votes, was declared elected.

Mr Telford returned thanks, and said that he was sorry to have been thrown into competition with Mr Parnaby. He would try to do his utmost to carry out his duties to the best of his abilities. For over twenty years he had been a member of the old Local Board, and the more recent District Council. He hoped that the new Chairman would do his duty as well as Mr Lax had done his, in which case there would be very little work for him (Mr Telford) to do.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES.

The next business was the election of Committees, and the whole of the members were reappointed as before, with the exception that Mr G. Eltringham was placed on the Building and Sanitary Committee, in place of Mr Wheatley (deceased).—Mr Sloane was chosen to represent the Council on the Joint Hospital Board.—Mr Eccles was appointed to replace Mr Sloane on the Joint Burial Board.

ALTERATION OF POLLING ARRANGEMENTS.

Mr Robinson, in accordance with notice previously given, proposed that, with a view to the erection of three polling stations, one at Blackhill, another at Benfieldside, and a third at Shotley Bridge, the Clerk be instructed to obtain a six-inch ordnance plan, which should be submitted to the Building Committee, so that they could proceed to apportion the district.—The resolution was carried unanimously.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Building Committee recommended that plans be dealt with as follows:—Plan for six houses in John Street, Blackhill, for Mr Airey, be rejected, as there were no street plans deposited; plan for two small wash-houses to houses in Bessemer Street, for Mr G. J. Robinson, be passed; plans for five houses, to be built in Durham Road, Blackfine, for Mrs Philipson Stokoe, be passed, subject to certain conditions; plan for house in Bessemer Street, for Mr Joseph Eltringham, be passed; plan for wash-house in Prospect Street, for Mr G. Hammond, be passed. The Committee, with Mr C. Parnaby, had inspected various properties at Blackhill, and recommended that certain new streets be made. They had also seen Plantation Row, Middle Street, and William Street, and considered that they were not streets which could be ordered to be made, as they were only used as back yards to the houses.—The report was adopted.

THE DERWENT STREET NUISANCE.

Mr Jonathan Stephenson attended to complain of the nuisance to his property in Derwent Street. They would all, he declared, know why he was there. The nuisance, of which he had previously complained, was as bad, or even worse, than ever. It was a very serious matter for him, as, unless something were done, he would be unable to secure tenants. He was inclined to think that it was the duty of the Council to look into the matter. There were four public houses in the immediate neighbourhood, and no urinal had been erected.—Some discussion ensued, and it was ultimately decided to approach the owners of the adjoining property, Messrs W. B. Reid and Company, requesting them to effect some structural alterations to their premises, such as might render it impossible for the nuisance to be committed.

FREE PARCELS' DELIVERY FOR BLACKHILL.

A letter was read from the N. E. R. Company stating that the directors had considered the application of the Council for a free delivery of parcels in Blackhill, and had resolved to accede to the request.

The meeting, which had been unusually prolonged, was then adjourned for a fortnight, in order that the valuation list might be completed, and the rate sealed.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The annual meeting of this Board was held on Thursday, when the following members were present:—Messrs W. Logan, T. J. Muse, W. Gray, T. Collier, R. Burleigh, H. Greener, J. Pumphrey, W. Bulmer, J. Green, G. Forster, J. Hunter, W. Robinson, W. Indian, W. Fitzpatrick, A. Kuhlmann, U. A. Ritson, jun., J. W. Taylor, T. Wilkinson, H. C. Wood, G. Wailes, R. Kay, R. Mitchinson, P. H. Kirkup, J. Oliver, W. Aynsley, T. F. Longtaffe, T. Lowdon, E. J. Wardle, V. Dunn, E. Sloane, G. D. Powell, E. Wigham, G. J. Robinson, W. Johnson, the Rev. P. C. Fortin, the Rev. A. Magill, Miss Peile, Miss Gibson, and Mrs Piercey-Taylor-Smith.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr T. J. Muse took the chair, *pro. tem.*, and stated that for some years past, he had had the honour of proposing, or seconding, Mr William Logan as chairman of the Board, and he had great pleasure in again nominating Mr Logan for that post. There were chairmen and chairmen—(hear, hear)—and certain qualifications were essential to a really capable and successful one. A chairman of a body, such as the Board of Guardians, must be present, persevering, prompt, but not partial. (Hear, hear). Mr Logan had been a member of the Board for a long time; he had been vice-chairman a number of years, and chairman for a considerable period. They all liked long service. The lady members of the Board would give silver spoons to any servants that stayed for seven years with them—(laughter)—and the gentlemen members of the Board liked their wives better the longer they lived with them. (Laughter). He, himself had been married for 29 years. Mrs Muse was very good when he married her, but she grew better every day, and was now the best wife in the country. (Laughter). They might take the case of their noble Queen, who would have reigned for sixty years on June 22nd. Why, on that day, the whole country would ring with "God bless the Queen." Every one of them would say that. (Applause). In this fast age, some might say, "Change the chairman," but he said, "Stick to a good man when you have one." Therefore, he proposed the re-election of Mr Logan.

Father Fortin seconded, and the proposition was unanimously adopted.

Mr Logan said that he was grateful to the members for the high honour they had again conferred on him, in again electing him as their chairman. He had performed the duties, connected with the office, for several years, and had endeavoured to act with impartiality. He was glad that his efforts had given satisfaction. He had noticed a great many changes since the time that he first became connected with the Board; in fact, he was the only Guardian present who sat around that table twenty years ago. The only member of their last Board, who had been on the Board when he (Mr Logan) became a member, was Mr George Hobson, and that gentleman had not sought re-election. The Clerk (Mr Ritson) had preceded him (Mr Logan) by a few weeks, and they were the two oldest men in the room, if not in years, in service on the Board of Guardians. He would endeavour to be practical and impartial in all his dealings, especially when the poor came before them to solicit relief. (Applause). He welcomed the new Guardians, who had that day commenced their duties on the Board. He was sure that they would all give assistance in the work, and that they would find that there was something to do besides merely sitting round the table. There was practical work to do, and a good deal of consideration was required in the spending of the ratepayers' money, so that it should be expended with judgment and discretion. (Applause).

THE LATE MR MORRIS.

The Chairman said that he must express his very deep regret at the death of a Guardian, who, but for the hand of death, would have come amongst them that day as a re-elected representative for Medomsley. Mr John H. Morris was present at the meeting of the Rural District Council, but since then he had been suddenly called away. He (the Chairman) suggested that the Board should express their deep regret at Mr Morris's decease, and their sympathy with the bereaved wife and family.

Mr W. Gray seconded, and the vote was accorded in silence.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr Gray proposed, and Mr Wilkinson seconded, the re-election of Mr Muse as vice-chairman, the former remarking that Mr Muse had filled the position for several years in a highly satisfactory manner.—The proposal was unanimously adopted.

Mr Muse, in returning thanks, said that it was seventeen years that morning since he first took his seat on the Board. (Applause).

MR GEORGE HOBSON.

The Chairman said that it was suggested a month ago that, as a graceful tribute to their old friend, Mr George Hobson, they should elect him as an outside member of the Board, if they could legally do so. He (Mr Logan) had gone into the question, and thought that the Board had the power to make the election. Mr Hobson had been a member of the Board, continuously, for over thirty years. He had been a good member, and a faithful servant to the public. He proposed the election of Mr George Hobson, of Harperley Mills, as an outside member of the Board for the ensuing twelve months.

Father Fortin expressed great pleasure in seconding the proposition. Mr Hobson was the "Father of the Guardians," and it would not be right for his offspring to leave their father out in the cold. Many children turned their backs on their parents when the latter grew old, but the Board would not imitate that example.

Mr Muse supported, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE.

The Chairman suggested that the Assessment Committee, who had done a great deal of work during the past year, should be re-elected. Last year, the rateable value of the Board's area amounted to £293,988. Now, it was £302,550, being an increase of 23·51 per cent. Not the whole, but only a part of the increase was due to the action of the Assessment Committee, as there was a natural increase still proceeding in their rateable value, but the Committee had carefully revised the whole of the assessments in the Union. That remark applied not to one class of property alone, but to every class.

Mr Kirkup expressed disapproval at the suggestion to re-appoint the Committee *en bloc*, his objection being based on the ground that the southern district was not sufficiently represented. On a division being taken, the following twelve members were appointed:—Messrs Wm. Logan 33, T. J. Muse 32, Wm. Aynsley 28, Jas. Oliver 27, W. Gray 25, J. W. Taylor 23, J. Green 23, T. S. Longstaffe 23, H. C. Wood 22, G. Forster 20, G. Wailes 18, and P. Kirkup 17. The only alteration is the substitution of Mr Kirkup for Mr Hobson.

ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

The following members were re-elected on the School Attendance Committee:—Messrs P. C. Fortin, A. Magill, W. Aynsley, W. Collier, W. Gray, P. Kirkup, W. Logan, T. Lowdon, J. Oliver, and T. Wilkinson, Miss Gibson and Mrs Piercey-Taylor-Smith, Mr L. Nicholson, (Leadgate Council), and Mr G. D. Powell, (Consett Council).

RELIEF COMMITTEES.

Relief and School Fees Committees were appointed as below:—

Western District—The whole of the Guardians for the parishes of Benfieldside, Consett, Ebchester, Healeyfield, Iveston, Knitsley, Medomsley, and Muggleswick.

Eastern District — The Guardians for the parishes of Collierley, Greencroft, Kyo, Oxhill, South Moor, Stanley, and Tanfield.

Southern District—The Guardians of Cornsay, Esh, Heiley Hope, Lanchester, Langley, Satley, South Cornsay, Greencroft Without, and Craghead.

WORKHOUSE VISITING COMMITTEE.

The election of 11 members of the above committee resulted in the election of the following:—Miss Peile, 33; Miss Gibson, 32; Messrs Burleigh, 31; Father Fortin, 31; Collier, 29; Wilkinson, 26; Mrs Percy-Taylor-Smith, 25; Messrs J. W. Taylor, 21; Wood, 21; Pumphrey, 23; Aynsley, 20; Green, 20; Oliver, 19; Kay, 18; Father Magill, 18; Nicholson, 17; Sloane, 16; and Young, 16. Mr Sloane withdrew in favour of Mr Young.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen were appointed on the Finance committee:—Messrs Aynsley, Forster, Green, Kay, Kirkup, Lowdon, Wood, and G. J. Robinson.

TIME OF MEETING.

On the consideration of the standing orders, Father Fortin proposed that the meetings of the Board be held once a fortnight, instead of once a month. Miss Gibson seconded, but the proposition was defeated by a large majority, only 11 voting for, and 21 against. The standing orders were then confirmed. During the discussion, Father Fortin stated that it was a general practice of the Boards of Guardians throughout the country to hold their meetings weekly.

Mr Muse said that he had enquired into the matter, and found that the usual plan was to hold the meetings monthly, not weekly.

INFIRMARY BUILDINGS.

Father Fortin, as chairman of the committee, said that the total amount which Mr Rounthwaite proposed to spend on the alterations at the old building was £2000. Some people thought that he (Father Fortin) was fond of £2000. (Laughter). The £2000 was divided in this way—alterations to the old building, £1,300; building shed, £300; laying out grounds, walling, etc., £600. The chief difficulty of the committee was that they had received no exact, or distinct, statement as to what the particular items of expenditure would be, and they could not obtain these until tenders had been advertised for, after which they would go into the whole matter. The committee were against spending £300 on the shed for the workmen. If a shower of rain came on, they could easily take a rest.

Mr Longstaffe: That will not do them any harm.

Father Fortin: Not a bit. It will do them good. The committee thought that £600 was far too much to spend over re-building the place. They had plenty of men in the house who could do the work without any expense. They considered that about £150, instead of £600, would be sufficient for that part of the work. Until they had the exact tenders they could not present a proper report. Therefore, he proposed that advertisements be issued for tenders, for the alterations to the old infirmary, Mr Rounthwaite's estimate for which was £1,300.

Mr Green enquired what were the defects in the old building to require such a large expenditure to put it into order.

The Chairman said that the block was defective in several respects, especially in regard to the waterclosets and the staircases.

Mr Green suggested that the cost of putting in entirely new waterclosets and staircases ought not to amount to £1,300.

Mr Kay proposed, and Mr Wood seconded, a motion "that the matter be referred back to the building and visiting committees."

The Chairman said that by advertising for tenders, they were asking the public to estimate what it was the duty of their architect to do. There were other expenses likely to be incurred which they ought to face. The question of supplying proper offices for the officials, both of the Guardians and the Rural District Council, ought to be faced. He, therefore, suggested that they should defer the alteration to the old building for a time, and have plans prepared to bring the Union offices into proper condition. In case that they had to expend £3,000 or £4,000 let them borrow the money, and not put the whole of the expense upon the present ratepayers. They ought to look the whole expenditure fairly and squarely in the face.

Mr Wood: Would it not be better to discharge the whole question, settle up with Mr Rounthwaite, and allow us to be entirely free in the matter? We should not be bound to one architect, and ought not to draw Mr Rounthwaite into the large developments which are contemplated.

The Chairman scarcely agreed with Mr Wood. To some extent they were bound to allow Mr Rounthwaite to carry out the alterations at the infirmary. He quite thought that the specification sent in that morning ought to be amended.

Mr Green said that he should press the suggestion made by Mr Wood.

Father Fortin said that something ought to be done with the old infirmary. They were bound to take definite action.

Mr Oliver said that they ought to complete the old place, and then appoint a strong committee to consider the question of further enlargements.

Miss Gibson said that the suggestion to further adjourn the alterations was a foolish one. If the old block were not altered so as to work in with the other, they did not know what complications might arise. It was a most serious step to take. Gentlemen did not know what it was to have the washing for 300 people done in that wretched little building.

Mr Wood said that he heard a whisper that the staircases at the new Infirmary were not perfect.

Father Fortin agreed with that statement.

Mr Muse said that the doctor had told him that the staircases in the new Infirmary were of no use at all. They would need a lift to get patients upstairs. (Laughter).

Mr Kay said that the estimate was very unsatisfactory.

Mr Johnson remarked that the Local Government Board had twice santioned the altertions.

On a division, Mr Kay's amendment was carried by 21 votes to 17.

REMOVAL OF THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE.

A letter was received from Mr Neasham, Superintendent Registrar, stating that he was leaving Lanchester Lodge on May 13th, and asking permission to move the Register Office to Riverdale House, belonging to Mr Leybourne, which he had taken for the purpose. He intended building a commodious house at Lanchester, with Register Office attached, and until that was completed, he proposed to use the two front rooms at Riverside House, one for the Register Office, and the other for the safes and waiting room. He pointed out that the house was situated in the cenre of the village.

The Chairman said that the place was centrally situated.

Mr Lowdon: Is the Superintendent Registrar going to live at Lanchester?

Mr Gray: Yes. He says that he intends building a house in the place.

Father Fortin proposed that the Office be again fixed at Belle Vue, until Mr Neasham had provided a suitable place.—The proposition was carried.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

Father Fortin was appointed Chairman of the Visiting Committee, by Mr Logan's casting vote. Mr Muse was also nominated, each nominee receiving six votes.

This concluded the business, and the Council rose.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

A SPRING-TIDE MUSING.

(THE BLACKBIRD'S SONG).

I was wafted to-day to the woods away,
At a wave of the heavenly wand;
In my bosom my song for Summer long,
And my life in my Father's hand.
He told me to seek in the orchards sweet
For fruits which the Summer brings;
And water my throat to the tuneful note
Of the beautiful crystal springs.

Oh! Spring-tide hours give birth to the flowers,
And a deeper hue to the green,
While Orion beams refulgent streams
To bid hail to the Season's Queen.
Just lend your ear to the winds, and hear
Soft croonings of rapture and glee;
'Tis the echo of Spring on Glory's wing
From over the sunlit sea.

Uplift your eyes to the silvery skies
And drink of the teeming light,
That the moon pours forth o'er the joyous earth
In a shimmering cloud of white;
And wander along where the brooklet's song
Æolian-toned doth ring;
Then the heart that's gay shall know for aye,
There's music in everything.

Quebec, Durham. Wm. Strawbridge.

PROPERTY SALE AT CONSETT.

On Wednesday night, at Mr Edward Wylam's Freemasons' Arms Hotel, Consett, Mr Nathan Elsdon, auctioneer, offered for sale three lots of dwelling-house properties and some shares. There was a large attendance of prospective buyers, and bidding was of a very spirited description.

The first lot put up comprised two dwelling-houses, with two-stalled stable, and large wood shed, belonging to Mr Jos. Bell, at Medomsley Edge, and yielding an annual rental of £27 6s. The property stands on 400 square yards. The bidding was as follows:—Mr Brown, £170; Mr Weddle, £180; Mr Dodds, £190, £210, and £235; Mr W. Temperley, £230, £240, and £250; Mr Taylor, £220 and £250; and Mr Jewitt, £230.—Withdrawn.

The next lot was two cottages, in Havelock Street, Consett, with a bill-posting station at the end thereof, the annual rental being £22 16s. Bidding—Mr J. Heslop, £200 and £220; Mr Jas. Oliver, £210, £230, and £260; Mr Batey, £240; and Mr Edward Wylam, £250.—This lot was also withdrawn.

The third lot submitted was three newly-built five-roomed houses, at Number One, near Consett, belonging to Mr Elsdon, bringing in a yearly rent of £18 4s each. Bidding—Mr Ed. Wylam, £200, £220, £240, £265, £275, and £285; Mr Temperley, £230; Mr Moore, £250, £270, £280, and £290; Mr Heslop, £210 and £230. Mr Moore, Woodlands, became the buyer of the three at £290 apiece.

Four fully paid up shares in the Blackhill and District Starr-Bowket Building Society did not elicit a single offer.

Thirty fully paid up £1 shares in the Consett New Town Hall Company, Limited, were sold to Mr William Ettringham, Blackhill, at 21s each.

Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) acted as solicitor for the respective vendors.

LEADGATE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held on Wednesday evening last, Mr George Nicholson occupying the chair *pro. tem.* There were also present:—Messrs T. Keenleyside, J. W. Winter, W. F. Lane, W. Whitfield, W. Robson, W. McIver, M. D. Greener, L. Nicholson, H. Cheesemond, J. Costello, H. Palmer, J. H. Coupland (Clerk), and T. F. Longstaffe (Surveyor).

THE CHAIRMANSHIP.

Mr G. Nicholson said that that was their annual meeting. It was largely held for the purpose of re-arranging the management of the Council. Their first appointment, which they had to make, was that of Chairman. As they all knew it had been mooted, and almost unanimously agreed to, that they should ask Mr Palmer, Medomsley, to become the chairman of their Urban District Council. They thought that they were so much connected with the Consett Iron Company, especially with the colliery portion, that they deemed it desirable to take the course which had been agreed upon. They had come to regard the mining engineer as the authority of the Consett Iron Company, to which they could appeal. It was, therefore, generally considered that it would be an advantage to the Council and the ratepayers, if they were to elect Mr Palmer as their chairman. He had great pleasure in moving that that course be taken.

Mr Lane said that as he had had the pleasure of suggesting the advisability of electing a chairman from the outside, he was glad that his suggestion had been adopted, and carried through. He for one would give Mr Palmer a cordial welcome. He was a man of splendid business capacity and abilities of a high order, and would be an acquisition to the Council. He had heard many encomiums passed upon him, which he would heartily endorse. This was not mere flattery, but was really sincere. He had pleasure in seconding the nomination of Mr Palmer, and he hoped that that gentleman's year of office would be satisfactory to him, and to the members.

Mr Keenleyside supported, and said that many pleasant things had been said concerning Mr Palmer, and he had no doubt but they were all true. He hoped that they would prove themselves to be worthy of his presence, and that Mr Palmer would never regret having accepted the position.

Mr Costello also supported, and remarked that the Council was practically unanimous on the subject. He said this because it was rumoured that there was some opposition.

Mr Winter: I may, perhaps, be permitted to say a few words with regard to the position that I occupy on this question. I heartily endorse the eulogies which have been passed upon Mr Palmer. I can speak most highly of that gentleman, but not merely concerning his career since he came into this district. I am fairly acquainted with the district from which Mr Palmer came, and can assure you that the opinion there concerning him is equally favourable to those which have been already uttered. When elected two years ago, I pledged myself to vote against bringing in an outside member. I cannot, therefore, vote for Mr Palmer's election, but I can promise that no one will more loyally bow to Mr Palmer's ruling than myself. I have no doubt, however, but that, whilst we have heard many splendid things about Mr Palmer, he has heard many unfavourable things about us. (Laughter). I hope that he will eventually form as good an opinion of us as we have already gained concerning him.

The Chairman then took the chair, and thanked the members heartily for the very kind reception which they had given him. He had come in response to the request of Mr G. Nicholson and Mr Lane. He had certainly seen something before that in the newspapers, but that was his first official intimation. Well, the deputation explained the position in which the Council was placed. He asked for time in which to consider the matter, which was necessarily a weighty and important one, involving a position which ought not to be accepted without due thought. He at length promised to take the chair if the members wished him to do so, and were practically unanimous. He did not wish to poke his nose into other people's business, but wanted to be of real service to the district, and he trusted that for many years to come, he would be able to assist in promoting the welfare of the inhabitants. He trusted that in taking office, he would receive the support of all the members. One consideration that weighed with him was that his predecessor, Mr Hedley, was so long connected with the Council. He again thanked them for the honour they had done him. (Applause).

THE LATE CHAIRMAN.

On the motion of Mr Luke Nicholson, seconded by Mr Cheesemond, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the late Chairman for his conduct during the past year.

THE VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP.

On the motion of Mr Winter, seconded by Mr Costello, Mr G. Nicholson was appointed to the vice-chair.

THE LATE MR MORRIS.

Mr Costello moved, and Mr Cheesemond seconded, that a vote of condolence be passed to the widow and family of the late Mr J. H. Morris.

The Chairman, in supporting, said that though only coming recently into the district, he had had to appeal to Mr Morris for many things, and had always proved him to be a genial and able assistant. (Applause).

The vote was accorded in silence.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, AND REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS.

The above led to considerable discussion, the Committees ultimately being appointed *en bloc*, with the substitution of Mr Whitfield's name for that of Mr Dormand. The Standing Orders were not altered.

THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr Winter, in a humourous speech, proposed that, partly in order that fuller reports could be given in the local papers, the meetings be held on the second Thursday in each month, to commence at 7 p.m.—Mr McIver seconded, but the proposal was rejected.

SATURDAY EXCURSIONS.

A letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company, intimating that they would run occasional excursions from Leadgate to Newcastle on pay Saturdays.

SUNDAY TRAIN.

Mr Keenleyside moved, and Mr Cheesemond seconded, that the North-Eastern Railway Company be requested to run an ordinary train to and from Newcastle on Sundays.

Mr L. Nicholson and Mr Winter opposed the suggestion, on the ground that it would entail Sunday labour upon the men employed by the Company.

Mr Robson said that he did not wish people to get the impression that they were all very good on that Council, because he was afraid that they were not. (Laughter). He was sorry to say that people were losing the old-timed habit of walking. (Renewed laughter).

The Chairman said that he thought they might have a chance of getting a Sunday train round by Blackhill from Leadgate, but that the Team Valley line was closed every Sabbath, and he did not think that they could obtain any concession in that district.—The motion was rejected by five votes to three.

The Council then rose.

STANLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting took place on Wednesday afternoon, when there were present:—Messrs Jonathan Green, Geo. Ridley, Robert Kay, Wm. Indian, J. Smith, Jos. Robinson, T. W. W. Ritson, Geo. Forster, M. G. Armstrong, the Clerk (Mr G. R. Ridley), and the Surveyor (Mr Jos. Routledge). Mr M. G. Armstrong acted as Chairman *pro tem.*

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Two gentlemen were nominated for the office of chairman for the ensuing year, namely, Messrs Green (the late Chairman) and Kay (Vice-Chairman). The respective movers and seconders emphasised the qualifications of both gentlemen for the office, and described the able way in which they had fulfilled their duties in the past.

On being put to the meeting, five voted for Mr Green, and two for Mr Kay.

Mr Green being, therefore, again elected, resumed the chair, and thanked the members for the honour they had once more conferred upon him, and pointed out that he would endeavour to act as the Chairman of the Council in the same impartial manner as he had tried to do in the past. He trusted, moreover, that the business of the Board would be carried on in the same harmonious spirit as heretofore.

Mr Ritson proposed, and Mr Ridley seconded, that Mr Kay be vice-chairman, and this was unanimously passed.

Mr Kay tendered his thanks to his colleagues for reappointing him to that position. He did not think his duties in the past had been of a very arduous character, but if called upon, he would endeavour to fulfil the duties to the best of his ability. (Hear, hear).

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Building Committee—Messrs Forster, Kay, Armstrong, Ritson, and Indian.

Highways and Lighting Committee—Messrs Smith, Armstrong, Indian, Forster, and Ridley.

Finance and Special Sewerage Committee—Messrs Armstrong, Smith, Forster, Ridley, Indian, Kay, Ritson, and Robinson.

The Chairman of the Council is an *ex-officio* member of the foregoing Committees.

Joint Hospital Board Representatives—The Chairman and Mr Kay.

Rowland Wilkinson Charity—Messrs Smith and Indian.

The Burial Board Committee, it was decided, should be composed of the full Council.

Mr Ridley suggested that as there was so little business to be done every month, the meetings should be held quarterly in future, the Clerk being empowered to call interim meetings at any time whenever there was any special business to transact. He moved to that effect.

Mr Armstrong seconded; and the proposition was agreed to.

THE LEVEL CROSSING AT OXHILL.

No communication having been received from the North-Eastern Railway Company in reference to the request of the Council for the removal of the gates on the level crossing, at Oxhill, it was agreed, on the motion of the Chairman, that the Clerk be empowered to obtain the advice of Mr J. McCartan, solicitor, with a view of legal proceedings being instituted.

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Reported that plans for four houses and a tenemented house and shop, in Kettledrum Street, West Stanley, for the owners of the West Stanley Colliery, be passed, subject to certain modifications; the plans for various buildings, at Oxhill, were rejected; the plan of a house in Tempest Street, South Moor, for E. Stewart, be passed; the plan of Wood Shed, in West Stanley, for L. Irwin, be received; the plan of attics, in Front Street, West Stanley, for R. Walker, be passed; the plans for wood erection, at South Moor, for N. Bainbridge, be not received; the plans of two cottages, in Delacom Street, West Stanley, for N. Raw, be accepted, subject to the yards being cemented; the amended plan of out-offices, in Beamish Street, West Stanley, for Wm. Craven, be approved; the plans of house, in Front Street, East Stanley; the plan of wash-house, in Mary Street, West Stanley, for J. Pearson; the amended plan for attics and out-offices, in Tempest Street, South Moor, for J. Brown; and the plan for extension of billiard room, West Stanley, for T. Parker, should also be passed.—The report was adopted.

THE NAMING OF STREETS.

It was decided that Prospect Terrace should be re-named Jubilee Terrace, and that all streets in the district should have their designations posted up.

FIRE HOSING.

The Surveyor was empowered to purchase fifty yards of canvas hose with India rubber lining.

THE TRILBY POND.

Some discussion took place with reference to the condition of the above pond, and it was ultimately decided to request the owner (Mr Moore) either to fill it up, or to thoroughly cleanse it.

THE COMPLAINT AGAINST THE ROADMEN.

When the Surveyor's report was under review, Mr Ritson enquired if the Council intended to take cognizance of the charges against the roadmen, which appeared in the *Consett Chronicle* the week before last, of having neglected their work?

Mr Armstrong said they could not take any notice of the complaint, as nobody had made a charge against the roadmen.

Mr Ritson:—Oh, yes there is. The writer in the *Consett Chronicle* makes a very serious charge both against the roadmen and the Surveyor.

Mr Armstrong: It is only an anonymous letter, and the writer dare not sign his name thereto.

Mr Indian: The letter ought to be treated with the contempt it deserves.

Mr Armstrong: If the writer were a man, he ought to have come forward, and lodged the complaint with our Surveyor.

Mr Routledge stated that some of the road men had told him that the writer himself had divulged the fact that he wrote the complaint to the *Chronicle*.

The Chairman, (addressing the reporters) mentioned that a certain gentleman had made many complaints of this sort to himself. He (Mr Green) gave him the opportunity of either meeting the Council at a full meeting, or at a committee meeting, so that his allegations might be considered and investigated. However, the individual in question had not the courage to come forward and lay his complaint in the proper form, which he considered, ought to have been done in the first place. Having failed to do so, he (Mr Green) maintained that the Council should not take any notice of anonymous complaints.

Mr Armstrong: It is a great pity the poor man has nothing to do. It would perhaps be better to give him £5 to mind his own business. (Laughter).

Mr Indian averred that it would be more to the individual's credit if he would attend to his own business, and leave other people's affairs alone.

Mr Kay: Who is it?

Mr Indian: A ratepayer. (Laughter).

The subject then dropped.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

The Clerk strongly complained of the want of office accommodation. Neither the Surveyor nor himself could, under existing conditions, do any business, and there was often a noise caused by the tenants in the upper room. They could not leave their papers lying about, and water sometimes trickled through the ceiling. The Surveyor had had two plans destroyed in this way.

Mr Armstrong urged the necessity of the Surveyor spending a fixed time—say, an hour per day—when that official could be seen by those who had business with him, but the Chairman, and Messrs Ridley, Kay, and others contended that the plan was impracticable.

The Clerk said that they did try the practice of fixing a notice on the office window—"Surveyor in," or "Surveyor out." One day, however, when the legend "Surveyor out" was put on to the window, some waggish individual wrote on the outside of the window just below—"Surveyor drunk." (Roars of laughter).

Mr Ridley: It is very hard on a teetotaller. (Renewed laughter).

The Chairman: Its rather rough on anybody, whether a teetotaller or not. (Laughter).

It was decided to defer the subject of extending the Council Offices till the next meeting.

THE ENLARGEMENT AT WEST STANLEY SCHOOLS.

Permission was accorded to Mr Alfred Routledge, builder, to erect a hoarding, in Front Street, during the alterations to the West Stanley Board Schools.

PRIVATE STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Concerning the making of the back of Joicey's Square, the Highways' Committee was empowered to go into the matter at once, and the Surveyor authorised to prepare plans and specifications.

Mr Forster moved that the back streets be formed of the same strength as the front thoroughfares, with two foot six inches kerb and cement, footing, and twelve inches channel.

This was seconded by Mr Ritson, and carried.

The Council afterwards rose.

YOUNG HELPERS' LEAGUE.

FETE DAY IN CONSETT.

"The greatest thing in the world," declares a powerful writer, "is charity," not thereby implying the mere contribution of "goods to feed the poor," and the doling out of alms to the distressed, but a strong and active principle which finds practical expression in deeds of mercy and compassion. The aim and object of all true charity, whose source and centre is the grand, great principle of love, is to make the world better and brighter, to ameliorate human suffering, and to displace anguish and despair by happiness and hope. Exception has been taken to many of the philanthropic institutions which have been organised, either on the ground of their limited scope, or unsatisfactory government and administration. To the splendid scheme, promoted and maintained by Dr. Barnardo and his devoted, self-sacrificing, and energetic band of helpers, however, no exception can, we think, be taken by even the most critical and cautious amongst mortals. Charity to the "little ones" must ever commend itself to the public at large, more particularly when the administration is so excellent as in the case to which we are referring.

Dr. Barnardo's work is one of the most extensive, far-reaching, and all-embracing of its kind to be met with the wide world over. Its various ramifications reach down into the slums of the great Metropolis, and extend to all the large towns and cities of England. The only test for admission to its privileges is "destitution," and, we venture to say that, but for Dr. Barnardo and his noble army of assistants, thousands of children who are now clothed, fed, and instructed, would be wandering homeless and houseless, with no joy in the present, and no prospects for the future.

In connection with his rescue work, Dr. Barnardo has erected four hospitals for sick, destitute children, and, by their means, the closing hours of many a "Poor Joe" are brightened, whilst not a few, who would fade away like a tiny floweret crushed beneath the heel of a stray and thoughtless passer-by, are nursed and cherished into the full, perfect bloom of life, sweetness, and strength.

It is now nearly a year since, at the earnest solicitation of Miss Haslam—a daughter of the Rev. William Haslam, the popular evangelist—a branch of the Young Helpers' League was inaugurated in Consett, with the object of endowing and maintaining a "Consett Cot" in one of Dr. Barnardo's hospitals. The prime movers in, and originators of, the local branch were Mrs Gledstone, Mrs Steggall, Mrs Godfrey, Miss Tait, and Mrs Ridley. With highly commendable devotion and determination, these ladies have toiled, and now are about to witness the crowning and consummation of their labours, as it is expected that, after Wednesday's proceedings, the "Consett Cot" will be an accomplished fact.

Last Wednesday was the *fete* day of the "Young Helpers' League." The New Town Hall, Consett, was secured, and decorated by many willing hands, the material used for this purpose being lent by Mr J. T. Potts. Chairs, from Messrs Davisons' establishment and the National Schools, were placed around the room, and a piano, kindly supplied by Mr G. A. Williams, stood upon the platform. In the centre of the Hall was a capacious stall, tastefully draped, and bearing a choice collection of fancy and other goods, whilst a number of ladies eagerly and gracefully besought the visitors to purchase the articles, and thus assist in the glorious work Dr. Barnardo is accomplishing.

The articles offered for sale, we may say, are the handiwork of the members of the League, who, for a year past, met once every fortnight to engage in their labour of love. The members are divided into two classes, styled Senior and Junior Companions respectively, the latter all being under eighteen years of age. The following are the names of the Senior Companions—Mrs Steggall, Mrs Gledstone, Mrs Petherick, Mrs Ridley, Mrs Walton, Mrs D. Jones, Miss Potts, Miss M. Whitehead, Miss Holliwell, Miss Steggall, Miss Eva Foreman, Miss Ethel Ainsworth, Mrs Godfrey, Miss Knox, Miss L. M. Nicholson, Miss Gladys Jones, Rev. C. S. Wilson, and Mr T. L. Gledstone.

The Junior Companions are—Misses E. Powell, A. Henderson, E. B. Bryson, M. Eltringham, R. Powell, E. Wilson, G. Christopher, S. Rawes, A. Suddes, M. Collinson, A. Davison, M. Kidd, A. Park, N. Pattrick, E. Almond, E. Leybourne, C. Hyden, E. Hyden, B. Davison, E. Scott, I. Scott, N. Ainsworth, B. Surtees, I. Freek, B. Swainstone, I. Charlton, L. Liddle, G. Holliday, J. Holliday, F. Egglestone, E. Elliott, G. Jones, E. Morris, M. Liddle, M. E. Moreland, A. Hand, E. Hardcastle, N. Patterson, H. Potts, and Masters W. Ward, M. Wilson, F. F. Gledstone, H. R. Gledstone, J. Toward, G. Pattrick, M. Shell, W. A. Raw, F. Rawes, and G. Neasham.

The proceedings were opened by Miss Haslam, who was supported by the Revs. C. S. Wilson, T. Durant, and R. B. Hanley, Mrs M. Steggall, Mrs G. Ainsworth, Misses Ainsworth, Mrs and Miss Petherick, Mrs and the Misses Holliday, Mrs J. T. Potts, Mrs J. Scott, Mrs Kirkhouse, Mrs Davison, Mrs Godfrey, Mrs Hyden, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Ridley, Miss Keenan, Mrs T. D. Dryden, Miss Thompson, Mrs Hardcastle, Miss Jones, Mrs Rawes, Mr and Mrs Gledstone, Mr and Mrs Pattrick, Mr Ramsay, and Mr and Mrs Powell.

Mrs Steggall presided, and delivered an interesting and instructive address, specially to the young people who were present. There were, she said, two notable instances recorded in the Bible, in which Leagues were ratified. One was between Jonathan and David, and the other between Solomon and Hiram, King of Tyre. They were termed covenants, but were, in reality, leagues in which contracts of mutual love and help were the principal factors. The Young Helpers' League had been inaugurated to help on the work of polishing rough stones, and making them fit to adorn God's spiritual temple. The work was undertaken by the members because they loved God, and loved each other. (Applause).

Miss Haslam then rose to open the sale. The building of King Solomon's temple, she said, was peculiarly applicable in one way to the spirit in which the Consett Habitation of the Young Helpers' League had worked. They had in that room evidences that the Young Helpers of Consett had formed a League of love. The stall bore visible proof of really genuine hard work, and they wanted those present to show their sympathy and appreciation of the noble work which had been done on behalf of the little waifs and strays. Mrs Gledstone had set her mind upon making £30 that evening, and she (Miss Haslam) hoped that that ambition would be more than realised. (Applause). The speaker then went on to detail some of Dr Barnardo's work. She had seen him on the preceding Monday, and, though he was his own bright, happy self, his face wore a look of anxiety and care. There had been a considerable falling off in revenue, which might possibly be attributed to the fact that there had been a large demand for money to relieve the necessities of the sufferers in the Indian famine, and also to the general desire to contribute to various schemes, commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of their noble Queen's accession to the throne. Already, the amount received was £5000 short of the sum required. They wanted to lift the burden from Dr Barnardo's shoulders, and to assist him in the noble work he had been carrying on for the past thirty-three years. They would like to hear some particulars of that work. Well, during the period referred to, he had been the means of rescuing 32,000 children. (Applause). Of that vast number, she was pleased to be able to state that not three in a hundred ever proved failures. (Applause). With touching pathos and thrilling power, Miss Haslam went on to give instances of rescue work. Topsy, who when told to call the matron of the home, to which she was sent, by the name of mother, replied, "What! call you mother, why, I hate my mother"; the boy who, when bidden to call God his Father, replied, "If he's my father, he cannot be good"; the dying child, who, when the nurse kissed him, exclaimed, "What did you do that for? Nobody ever kissed me before"; Harry, the cripple, who had been rescued from beggary, and been taught a trade, were all graphically described, the contrast between the dreary past and the bright future being eloquently portrayed. One boy, said the speaker, who had been rescued by Dr Barnardo, would probably become one of the makers of history. He was now a barrister-at-law—and not by any means a briefless one—and was expected before long to become a candidate for national honours. Miss Haslam closed with a stirring appeal for financial assistance for Dr Barnardo in his noble work. (Applause).

The proceedings terminated with the customary votes of thanks.

In the evening, a grand concert was given, and thoroughly appreciated by a large audience.

THE TANFIELD ELECTION.

With eight candidates for the two seats vacant on the Tanfield Urban District Council, there is every probability of a warm contest next Monday, and the question as to who shall win seems exceedingly open. The candidates are all working hard, and the election fever is prevalent throughout the entire district. A few words respecting the various nominees may not be out of place.

Mr Richard Abbott, of Leazes, is a plucky gentleman, for though well-beaten at the last bye-election, he again returns smiling, and serenely confident, to the fray. His prospects appear to me to be fairly bright, as the workmen of South Garesfield Colliery have adopted him as their candidate, and intend doing their best in his behalf. Mr Abbott took a leading part in relieving the distress during the great strike five years ago, and his generosity and activity on that occasion will doubtless be remembered to his advantage in the battle at the polling booths.

Mr J. W. Anderson, of East Tanfield, has had no previous trial as a public man, but that, of course, does not imply that he is in any way lacking in ability. He has the confidence of the workmen at that colliery, and they may be relied on to support him.

Mr Watson Bell, deputy, Hobson, is again trying his luck, being a firm believer in the motto "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." He will have the powerful support of Mr H. C. Wood, and may be relied on to poll well.

Mr George Charlton, surveyor to the Tanfield Lea Colliery, will receive much support from that part of the division. His supporters are confident that he will secure a seat.

Mr Wm. Hall, engineman, Tantobie, has on a former occasion appealed to the electorate. He is secretary to the local Co-operative Society, and is personally very popular throughout the district.

Mr Ralph Johnson, "mine host" of the Peacock Inn, Tanfield, is well qualified for a position on the Council, and, if elected, he may be depended on to attend closely to his duties as a member. A well-known sportsman, Mr Johnson ought to be well supported by the sport-loving public of Tanfield and neighbourhood.

Mr Thos. Robinson, of Tanfield Leith farm, is a new aspirant for public office. He is a member of a family held in high esteem in the district, and is personally, well-fitted for the position he aspires to attain.

Mr Edward Wigham is the last on the list, but hopes to be at the other end when the numbers go up. Mr Wigham is a member of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, and attends regularly to his duties on the Board. At the last bye-election, he was beaten on the post for a position on the Tanfield Council, and this time, I fully expect that he will again poll very strongly. He is practically the founder of the Tanfield Ratepayers' Association, and will receive substantial support from that important body. Mr W. G. Turnbull is working energetically on Mr Wigham's behalf, and appears confident of securing his *protege's* return.

HEALEYFIELD SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

The triennial election of five members of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board is once more at hand, and, as usual, the prospect of a stiff encounter is causing abnormal excitement among the inhabitants of the quiet villages of Castleside and Rowley, where feeling, both in respect of Parliamentary or purely local elections, has always generated to a high tension. The nominations in the present instance are as follows—County Councillor T. J. Muse, Castleside House; Rev. John Wallis, M.A., Castleside Vicarage; Messrs William Pattinson, Castleside; J. W. Golightly, Castleside; Edward Wylam, Consett; and T. C. Elliott, Dene Howle. The first four are the retiring members. The fifth old member, Mr Matthew Lee, of Castleside, has been nominated, but has since withdrawn from the contest. We feel sure that Mr Lee's retirement from the School Board will be received by the residents generally with unfeigned regret, as he has proved himself an invaluable member, and a faithful and diligent servant of the public into teens of years. It is true that Mr Lee's name did not figure prominently in the reports of the meetings in the local press; he was not a long-winded orator, and one whose good intention invariably ended in smoke. On the contrary, Mr Lee would act in a quiet and unostentatious fashion, while others would do nothing but talk, and, when he did give utterance to his views, he was always listened to with respect, and his words often carried considerable sway with his colleagues.

Of the candidates seeking to woo the electors, first and foremost, of course, comes Mr Muse, who has continuously sat on the Board since its establishment, some twenty years ago, and has furthermore, we believe, most ably and impartially discharged the important office of Chairman since the commencement. He is a gentleman who has ever taken the deepest interest in the education of the young. He very frequently visits the schools, and gives kind words of encouragement to both teachers and pupils. Mr Muse knows the name of every boy and girl attending the School, and is extremely popular with the juvenile portion of the community. He is one of the most generous donors towards the annual treat to the scholars, and at the risk of cancelling his other numerous public engagements, he makes a point of attending their festivities, his beaming and genial countenance always inspiring confidence amongst the youngsters. No man in North-West Durham, we should say, is more conversant with, and has more closely followed, the various intricacies of the education code and its innumerable requirements than Mr Muse, and we trust the electors will follow the example of the past, and return him triumphantly at the head of the poll. Mr Muse not only looks after the welfare of the children whilst at the Schools, but keeps a watchful eye upon their movements in after life, and has ever exerted his influence, and secured the Castleside youths good positions in the various local industries, thus launching them on the threshold of life.

Next comes the respected Vicar of the parish, Mr Wallis, who, although the youngest member of the Board, has, during his few years stewardship, made himself an exceedingly useful representative. The reverend gentleman is not given to making long harrangues at the Board meetings, but, when he does voice his opinions, he speaks with no uncertain sound, and with an air of authority. Mr Wallis, as a village clergyman, is well liked by both Church people and Dissenters, and we should not be in the least surprised if he attains a high position on the poll.

Mr Pattinson, the working-man's candidate, has been a member of the Board for a long period, and has devoted considerable time and energy, in his spare moments, in the promotion of educational work in the parish. He is a fluent and effective speaker, and expresses his views after matured consideration, with much deliberation and forethought. Mr Pattinson is conscientious and upright in the strictest sense of the word.

Mr Golightly, although a comparatively young man, has seen three years service on the Board. He was originally a teacher in the Schools, but past experience has shown—for what reason we cannot say—that ex-teachers make the worst possible school managers that can be conceived. In Mr Golightly's case, however, the ratepayers have not made a mistake in selecting him to be one of their representatives. He is a good speaker, and a smart debater, and never misses an opportunity of expressing his opinions on the various questions which crop up at the meetings.

Mr Wylam, our townsman, very properly lays claim to being a most efficient business man. He is a large ratepayer in the parish, therefore, it will be to his interest to see that a thoroughly sound and efficient education is imparted without undue extravagance. He is an exceedingly able man, and well worthy of the confidence of the ratepayers. If the electors should appoint Mr Wylam on the Board, we feel sure they will have no cause to regret their selection.

Mr Elliott has had experience of public work on the Parish Council and other bodies. He is a man whose educational attainments are above the average. His speeches have a telling effect, and he is certain to have a large following. Mr Elliott will, if the ratepayers' choice fall upon him, make a capable and competent member of the Board.

The polling takes place in the Castleside Board Schools, on Monday next, when the village will, doubtless, be all bustle and activity during the afternoon. Mr W. H. Ritson, Clerk to the Union Authorities at Lanchester, is acting as Returning Officer.

HAMSTEELS.

The Miners' Lodge and Political Questions.—The subjoined resolutions were passed at the last meeting of the Hamsteels Colliery Lodge of the Durham Miners' Association, and have been forwarded to the miners' agents at Durham, with a view of appearing on the programme of business at the next Council meeting:—"That the following be a standing resolution of the Council namely—"That none of our agents or officials shall support any capitalist candidate in a Parliamentary election against a Labour, or a Trades Union, candidate." "That we ballot the county, to say whether we shall support the Eight Hours Bill in Parliament, or not."

TANFIELD.

Vestry Meeting.—The annual vestry meeting was held on Thursday evening, the Rev. T. H. Archdall presiding. The Vicar appointed Mr Smailes as his warden for the ensuing twelve months, and Mr Wm. Holmes was appointed peoples' warden. The following sidesmen were appointed—Messrs Hogarth, Watson, T. Robinson, and Wilkinson. Votes of thanks were accorded to the retiring officials, the bell-ringers, the choir, and the chairman.

School Board.—A meeting of the above Board was held on Thursday evening, Mr H. C. Wood presiding. There were also present—Messrs J. Green, T. H. Archdall, Wm. Bulmer, M. G. Armstrong, B. Mason, Jas. Thompson, W. Severs, and W. Thompson (Clerk).—The teachers' reports, due a fortnight ago, were considered, and several requests for necessary articles were granted.—It was decided that a rate of 4d in the £ should be issued for the ensuing half-year.

Urban District Council Election.—The following is a list of nominations for the two vacancies on the above Council:—Messrs J. W. Anderson, weigher, East Tanfield; Geo. Charlton, surveyor, Tanfield Lea; Ralph Johnson, innkeeper, Tanfield; Ed. Wigham, farmer, Barcus Close; Watson Bell, deputy, Hobson; W. Hall, engineman, Tantobie; and Richard Abbott, schoolmaster, Leazes. Mr Ben Mason, Hobson, was also nominated, thus leaving eight candidates for the two seats. The polling takes place on Monday next.

WATERHOUSES.

Baptist Chapel.—Evangelical services were held in the Baptist Chapel on Saturday and Sunday last. Messrs J. Morrison (Shincliffe), and J. Redhead and W. Corry (Newcastle) conducted the meetings. Three sermons were preached on Sunday, when Messrs Norrison, Redhead, and Cory occupied the pulpit, morning, afternoon, and evening, respectively. There were large congregations, and collections were taken in aid of the funds.

Wesley Guild.—The usual weekly literary evening, in connection with the Waterhouses Wesleyan Chapel Wesley Guild, was held on Thursday. The large and increased attendance showed that the interest in the Guild is not declining. Mr Geo. Smith, Hamilton, gave a very excellent paper on "A voice in the garden." Mr George Lee, Waterhouses, was in the chair. The paper was enjoyed to the full by all present, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Smith.

Juvenile Negro Minstrels.—The St. Paul's Juvenile Negro Minstrel Troupe gave a grand concert on Monday evening last, in the Church Schoolroom. There was a capital attendance. The little fellows, with their black faces and quaint sayings, caused roars of amusement. Mr C. Blackett, Waterhouses, was the interlocutor, Mr W. B. Pearson, bones; and Mr T. Sharp, sambo. Masters S. Edgar, H. Marsden, F. Richardson, H. Parkinson, S. Spencer, J. G. Forster, J. Hirst, and J. Robson comprised the chorus. The troupe received well merited applause, and everyone present enjoyed the [illegible] ance.

Temperance Society.—O[illegible] ing last, a largely-attended [illegible] Temperance Society was h[illegible] leyan Church. The Rev[illegible] occupied the chair. The [illegible] were Professor G. W. E. [illegible] the National Convention [illegible] States, and Mr D. McM[illegible] North of England Temp[illegible] Waterhouses Wesleyan [illegible] leadership of Mr Geo. [illegible] and greatly added t[illegible] meeting, by their re[illegible] hymns. The gatheri[illegible]

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT CONSETT WORKS.

An accident, which might have been attended with more disasterous consequences, happened on Tuesday night at the Consett Iron and Steel Works. The company have a stone bridge which crosses the Derwent Valley Branch of the N.E.R. Over this structure runs a line from the different parts of the works to the ballast heaps just above Consett Hall. Shortly before 6:30, a locomotive was pushing about a dozen "black" wagons from the works to the ballast "tips," when by some means or other in passing over the bridge, the eight or nine foremost wagons left the rails, and toppled over on to the North Eastern Railway. Two or three more wagons ran off the metals, but the driver managed to stop the locomotive before they collapsed. The bridge is 18 or 20 feet high, and the wagons "telescoped" into each other almost to the height of the erection. The telegraph and signal wires on the N.E.R. were broken, but little other damage was done to the permanent way. How the waggons came to leave the rails is not known, as there was no apparent defect on the Consett Company's line. Fortunately, the 6:20 p.m passenger train from Consett to Tow Law, had only a few moments previously travelled up to Consett Junction. Soon after the occurrence, Mr Teasdale, the Consett Iron Company's traffic manager, and a staff of men, succeeded in removing the obstruction off the North Eastern system, in order that the ordinary traffic should not be interfered with.

BURNOPFIELD.

Floral Society.—Mr Ben Mason has resigned the position of secretary to the above Society, and has been succeeded by Mr J. L. Weedy. Mr W. Hogarth has been elected chairman.

HAMSTERLEY.

Letting of Grass Parks.—Mr J. S. Murray, acting under instructions from Mr Nathaniel Clark, agent for the Hon. Mr Vereker, conducted the annual let of these parks. Luncheon was provided in the hall, and was presided over by Mr Clark, a large company of farmers and others interested in agriculture being entertained. After luncheon, an adjournment was made to the different enclosures, and the auctioneer had very little trouble in letting the various lots at an advance all round of 2s to 12s 6d per acre, or a little over 23 per cent. on the whole, thus making it a most satisfactory letting. Most of the takers had the same parks before.

LANCHESTER.

Rural District Council.—The annual meeting of this Council was held on Thursday, when the members present were Messrs W. Logan, P. C. Fortin, E. J. Wardle, U. A. Ritson, junr., R. Mitchinson, T. Lowdon, P. Kirkup, W. Gray, R. Burleigh, and T. Wilkinson.—On the proposition of Messrs Burleigh and Wilkinson, Mr Logan was re-elected Chairman, and on the proposition of Messrs Logan and Gray, Father Fortin was re-appointed vice-chairman.—The following gentlemen were appointed as representatives on the Joint Hospital Board:—Messrs J. Oliver, Muse, Robinson, Wilkinson, and Gray. The various committees were then appointed, and the business terminated.

Joint Hospital Board.—The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, the members present being:—Mr W. Logan, Rev. T. C. Fortin, Mr H. C. Wood, Mr T. J. Muse, Mr J. Green, Mr P. Kirkup, Mr W. Robinson, Mr Collier, Mr Burleigh, Mr Gray, and Mr R. Kay.—On the proposition of Mr Green, seconded by Mr Kay, Mr W. Logan was reappointed Chairman for the ensuing twelve months.—On the suggestion of the Chairman, a deputation, consisting of the Chairmen of the Stanley and Tanfield Councils, Mr Logan, Father Fortin, and Mr Muse, was appointed to confer with the Annfield Plain Urban Council, regarding certain differences now existing between the two bodies.—The Clerk reported that both the Leadgate and the Langley Park hospitals were empty.—On the proposition of Mr Wood, seconded by Mr Burleigh, it was decided to increase the Clerk's salary from £25 to £30.—It was agreed to pay the Treasurer £5 a year.

GREENCROFT.

Wedding.—On Easter Saturday, at Lanchester Church, the marriage took place of Miss Elizabeth Maddison, daughter of Mr William Maddison, of Greencroft, and Mr William Murray, of South Pontop. The Rev. J. Jepson was the officiating clergyman. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a rich dress of shot poplin silk, with hat to match. The bridesmaids were Miss E. Thompson and Miss A. Carruthers. The former was dressed in heliotrope velvet with hat to match, and the latter wore a dress of navy blue with white silk trimmings and hat to match. The best man was Mr J. Thompson, the groomsman being Mr H. Palmer. After the ceremony, the bridal party returned to the home of the bride's father, where a capital luncheon had been prepared. Presents were sent as follows:—Mr W. Maddison, machine, bed, and quilts; Mrs Murray, steel fender with brass pillars and bar to match; Mrs Brydon, steel tidy; Mrs Hardy, pair of brass kettle stands; Mrs Pickering, cheese dish and pair of biscuit bowls; Mrs Greener, pair of sheets and half-dozen tea towels; Mr H. Greener, quilt; Mrs Stall, dozen plates and tureen; Miss P. Stall, gipsy table; Mrs T. W. Stall, pair of salt cellars; Mrs Robert Maddison, pair of sheets and tea towels; Mrs Bainbridge, silver biscuit jar; Mrs Thomas Maddison, silver cruet; Miss M. E. Maddison, pair of plush antimacassars; Miss H. Maddison, flower stand; Mr R. Maddison and Mr J. Maddison, silver tea pot; Mr J. Thompson, dozen knives; Miss E. Thompson, half-dozen spoons; Mr H. Palmer, silver tea pot; Miss A. Carruthers, silver cruet; Mr T. Thompson, junr., dozen silver forks; Mr Thomas Thompson, pair of brass candlesticks; Mrs Thompson, pair of blankets and set of linen pillow cases; Miss A. Thompson, pair of salt cellars; Mr T. Hall, cruet; Mr W. Dowery, alarum clock; Mrs Johnson, pair of biscuit bowls; Mrs W. Bates, pair of biscuit bowls; Miss M. H. Bell, milk jug and sugar basin; Miss I. Wilkinson, pair of tea towels; Miss E. Pease, biscuit bowl; Miss R. Bainbridge, pair of bath towels; Mrs C. Stall, pair of tea towels; Mrs G. King, teapot and mat; Mrs J. G. Jackson, silver cruet; Mrs Carruthers, pair of glass plates; Mr W. Jackson, milk jug and sugar basin; Mrs Pinkerton, half-dozen plates, and pie dish, and pair of bath towels; Miss Snaith, pair of linen towels; and Mrs McDonald, comb box.

DIPTON.

Leek Show.—Twenty-seven entries have already been received for the Leek Show, which is to be held at Mr Temple's, Red Ox Inn.

Vestry Meeting.—The annual Easter vestry meeting of the parishioners of the Church of St. John, the Evangelist, was held on Thursday evening in last week. The vicar, Rev. R. Tuson presided, and spoke encouragingly of the future of the Church.—The following officers were then chosen:—Mr T. Mordue, vicar's warden; Mr M. Southern, people's warden; Messrs J. Cooper, W. Lambert, W. Graham, S. Compton, W. Daglish, and G. Dixon, sidesmen.—A small committee was appointed to consider the advisability of purchasing a block of buildings, now offered for sale, for the purpose of converting them into a parish hall. The meeting terminated with the customary votes of thanks.

A Chapter of Accidents.—A series of accidents are reported from Dipton. On Saturday night, a little girl, named Hobson, about five years of age, sustained a broken arm and several burns on the body. It appears that Mr and Mrs Hobson, who live in the Old Rows, went to Consett, leaving their children in the house. The girl in question started skipping, and it is supposed that her rope caught in the fender, for she fell almost into the fire, and in a moment was enveloped in flames. A number of the neighbours went to her assistance, and succeeded in extinguishing them. It was then discovered that her arm was broken, and it is presumed that it was broken by the fall. She was attended by Dr. Davis, Catchgate, and Dr. Thompson, Dipton. The burns are chiefly located about the arm. On Sunday, a woman, named Dowson, living in Clark's Yard, who has been in failing health for some time, broke a blood vessel, and only slight hopes of her recovery are entertained. The third accident occurred near the railway arch, between Dipton and Leadgate, the victim being Mr Charles Adams, late engineer at South Medomsley Colliery. It appears that Mr Adams went for a drive, on Sunday, round by Chopwell, having his two sons-in-law and Mr T. Oates for company. In driving round the curve, near the Leadgate [illegible]h, the trap wheel caught against the [illegible]bstone. Mr Adams was thrown out, and [illegible]tained several nasty bruises about the [illegible], besides having a couple of fingers [illegible]ken. The accident took place about three [illegible]ck in the afternoon, and Mr Adams [illegible]ained unconscious for a considerable [illegible]. None of the other gentlemen in the [illegible] were injured.

STANLEY.

Fabian Lecture.—Mr Harry Snell, of London, lectured in the Co-operative Hall, on Monday evening, to an audience not exceeding fifty in number, on "The Work of Trade Unionism."

Vagrancy.—On Monday morning, before Mr J. Green, sentences of fourteen and seven days, respectively, were inflicted upon Lawrence O'Neil (an old offender) and Geo. Gray, for sleeping in coke ovens at Stanley Colliery. Sergeant Wood prosecuted.

Butter Making.—Miss Maidment, the well known County Council lecturer, commenced a ten days' series of lectures, and exhibitions of cheese and butter making, in the Church Institute, on Monday evening. Mr Nathaniel Clark, Beamish, presided, and eleven pupils were obtained the first night.

Benefit Concert.—Under the auspices of the local branch of the Ancient Order of Druids, a concert was given in the Co-operative Hall, on Saturday evening, in aid of Mrs Wilson, widow of Private Wilson, late of the 4th Durham V.B.L.I. Mr J. Green presided over a very small gathering, and the artistes included Mr Tom Holland, Mr Robert Charlton, Mr J. Wears, Mr John Lawson, Mr T. Gates, Mr Sam Ivery, Mr T. Grindle, Mr Geo. White, Miss White, the two Renards (acrobats), and the two Longs (dancers). Mr Rowell officiated as pianist. The committee of management consisted of Messrs J. Clift (Secretary), Flynn (Treasurer), Saunders, Crozier, John Flynn, Richard Connor, Thos. Clift, B. Brough, T. Narney, and P. Scanlon. Mr Geo. McNiel kindly posted the bills, advertising the concert, free of charge.

Victoria Theatre.—Fun and frolic are provided in abundance this week by the Music and Arts Combination Co., in "The J.P., or Gay Boulogne." The piece is full of amusing situations from start to finish, and people witnessing the performance, are kept in merriment the whole time. In the character of "The J.P., Ceaser Montague, Esq.," Mr C. Norman fairly takes the bun, and Mr W. A. Haines, as "Charles Vivian," takes a good *role* in an acceptable manner. Mr Nelson Barry is extremely comical as "Tom Noel," and Mr A. Kirwen adapts himself cleverly to the character of "Major Bombard." Miss Laura Dareen shows vigour, taste, and skill as "Flo Neville," and Miss May Rosine makes a singularly attractive "Susie." Miss Joan Vanderbuilt shines conspicuously as "Kate Earl," and Miss Rae Braham is quite delightful as "Rose Bombard." Mr A. Hilton makes a fine waiter, and "Mrs Loveboy" is capably performed by Miss Katie Percy. There are several musical pieces, which add to the attractiveness of the performance. The dresses and costumes are good, and the general mounting of the comedy leaves nothing to be desired. This is certainly the funniest piece that has been staged at the Victoria this season, and lovers of the comic ought certainly to see it.

Rev. Mark Fletcher.—On Sunday evening, the Rev. M. Fletcher, who has been officiating as curate of St. Andrew's for seven months, preached his farewell sermon to a crowded congregation. In the course of his remarks, the rev. gentleman said that during his brief stay in Stanley, he had received many marks of esteem, and many had told him that they were sorry he was leaving. His own sorrow was indeed great, but all men had a certain duty in life, and that was to go where the hand of God directed them. That had always been his motive, and he hoped it would be all through his life. He had formed many friendships whilst amongst them, which he hoped would be enduring. He had been welcomed by rich and poor alike, not only as a minister of God, but also as a mutual friend. He had found great enthusiasm amongst them in working for the glory of God, which had shown itself by the efforts to clear the Churches of all debt, to beautify the buildings, and to make them worthy places in which to worship God. He trusted that enthusiasm would continue, and grow to be a great impelling force to carry on the good work. Another sign which he had noticed amongst them was that infidelity was diminishing. Infidels had asked "Why have the clergy not come forward, and spoken on these matters of doubt?" All the knowledge in the world could not teach them the reality of the Gospel. The reality of the religion of Jesus Christ was found in the feeling of the heart, and when they found that they themselves were sinners, they tried by acts of faith, mercy, kindness, and love to draw others to Christ. Many more could be won to Christ in this way, than by any amount of going on to any public platforms, debating and arguing with those who spoke blasphemously. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman asked for the prayers of the congregation on his behalf. Mr Fletcher, who has been appointed to the curacy of St. Thomas's, Newcastle, has been succeeded by the Rev. C. H. Fleetwood.

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Births, Marriages, & Deaths.

Marriages.

GALLAGHER and ROBSON.—At Brooms R. C. Church, on the 26th inst., James Gallagher, of Lintz Colliery, to Margaret Robson, of Dipton.

PROUD and TOMLINSON.—At the Register Office, Lanchester, on the 26th inst., I. Proud, of West Stanley, to Miss M. Tomlinson, of West Stanley.

HEDLEY and GODWIN.—At Esh Lande R. C. Chapel, on the 27th inst., Thomas Hedley, to E. J. Godwin, of Hill Top.

BROWN and SCOTT.—At Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel, on the 28th inst., by the Rev. R. B. Hanley, J. Brown, to A. Scott, of Lanchester.

WALLACE and JEWETT.—At the Register Office, Lanchester, on the 28th inst., J. W. Wallace, of Burnhope, to J. Jewett, Moor Edge Farm.

Deaths.

At Delves Lane, Consett, on the 27th inst., aged 70 years, Jane, widow of the late William Wilson, of Waskerley Park. Interred at Lanchester on Sunday, cortege to leave at 2-30 p.m. Friends please accept this (the only) intimation.

At Maw's Field, Greencroft, on the 20th inst., aged 40 years, William Thomas Hooper.

At Quaking Houses, on the 22nd inst., Thomas, infant son of Thomas Shelley.

At the Workhouse, Lanchester, on the 21st inst, aged 67 years, Edward Hobday.

At the Workhouse, Lanchester, on the 22nd inst., aged 69 years, John Higgins.

At South Pontop, on the 25th inst., aged 12 years, Sarah, daughter of Thomas Nelson.

At 86, Liddle Street, Cornsay Colliery, on the 20th inst., aged 59 years, John Young.

At Burnopfield, on the 25th inst., aged 83 years, Margaret, wife of George Smith.

At Burnopfield, on the 24th inst., aged 62 years, Jane, wife of Mark Hull.

At Tanfield, on the 22nd inst., aged 44 years, Nicholas Hennessey.

At Lintz Hall, on the 21st inst., Joseph Henderson, aged 77 years.

At 38, Plantation Street, Leadgate, on the 21st inst., aged 61 years, Susan, wife of Patrick Holland.

At Waskerley Park, on the 20th inst., aged 79 years, Joseph Pattinson.

At Bradley Cottages, on the 23rd inst., aged 65 years, Robert Stoddart.

At Hiselope, Muggleswick, on the 24th inst., aged 46 years, Ruth, wife of Robert Green.

At 529, Watling Street, Leadgate, on the 24th inst., aged 71 years, Ralph Wheatley.

At Milkwell Burn, on the 25th inst., aged 25 years, Margery, daughter of William Dinning.

At 10, Railway Terrace, Blackhill, on the 27th inst., aged 35 years, William Wilson Turnbull.

At Milkwell Burn, on the 27th inst, Ann Isabella, infant daughter of George Binding.

At Burnopfield Colliery, on the 26th inst., aged 19 years, Ann, daughter of Launcelot Robson.

At Burnhope, on the 27th inst., aged 42 years, John Gair.

At Witton Gilbert, Three Tuns Hotel, on the 27th inst., aged 47 years, Dorothy, wife of William Hunter.

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of GEORGE ANDERSON, the beloved husband of Thomasin Greener, who died at Burnhope, April 27th, 1894.

We loved him; ah! no tongue can tell,
How much we loved him, and how well;
God loved him too, and thought it best
To take him to His heavenly rest.

Ever remembered by his wife and family.

JAMES HOPE,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN STONE,
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