The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

An ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Annfield Plain, Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, &c.

No. 1,181 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, April 6th, 1883. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

Wanted.

WANTED, a strong Lad as an APPRENTICE.—Apply to T. D. DRYDEN & Co., Grocers, Consett. 593r

JUNIOR CLERK WANTED; one with two or three years experience preferred.—Apply to R. DICKINSON & Co., Consett Brickworks. 584r

WANTED immediately, Two APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply to M. A. THOMPSON, 13, Cost Street, Blackhill. 599r

KITCHEN MAID WANTED on the 1st of May, an active, clean country GIRL, who can milk, age from 18 to 20; good references required.—Apply to Mrs. BOOTH, Summerdale, Shotley Bridge. 589r

WANTED, a Young Man, from 16 to 18 years of age, to make himself generally useful in a hotel. One who has been used to horses.—Apply to GEORGE WILSON, Dentist, Station Street, Tow Law. 546r

WANTED to Purchase Young CATTLE, either Stirks or Weaned Calves; state age, sex, colour, and price, to Mr. HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 387r

REGISTRY OFFICE.

LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations. — Apply at MRS. COCKBURN'S Registry, 13, Front Street, Consett. 149p

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—THE WEEKLY SALES held every Friday, at "The" Auction Rooms, 6, Market Street, and 16, Hood Street, Newcastle, are acknowledged to be one of the best mediums in the North of England for the READY DISPOSAL of Household Furniture or Tradesmen's Surplus Stock; or the Auctioneer will purchase for cash.—Apply to THOMAS M. DAWSON, upon the premises, or by letter. 903q

To Let.

TO BE LET, a COTTAGE and Two good Gardens at Knitsley.—Apply to M. SPENCER, Knitsley West Grange. 595r

TO COWKEEPERS AND OTHERS.—TO BE LET, at the May Term, the EATAGE of the Field occupied by the Consett and District Cricket Club. —Applications to be sent to W. RAMSAY, Baxton Burn, Benfieldside. 590r

TO LET, LOW WOODSIDE FARM, mostly in Grass; well adapted for Dairy and Grazing; near Knitsley Station, Consett, and Leadgate; 190 Acres.—Mr. EDMUND BALLEY, of Little Greencroft, near Knitsley Station, will shew the Farm, and receive written proposals for the same. 415r

TO LET, with entry on May 13th, 1883, HALF OF LEAZES VILLA, situate at Leazes, near Burnopfield, containing Four Rooms, with the Half of large well-stocked Garden behind, with Water and other Conveniences.—For Rent, &c., apply to M. ADAMSON, The Leazes, Lintz Green Station. 549r

A good opening for Pork Butcher, a nice General Trade, or Outfitter.

TO LET, at Hampsteels Colliery, a snug SHOP, with good Yard and Stable; rent small to a suitable tenant. Any working man who could attend this chance would make a little fortune very soon.—Apply to Mrs. WATS, Post Office, for particulars. There is not a Shop for Outfitting in the village, and there is a large population all round. 547r

TO LET.
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT MARQUEE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Members of the above Company will LET their Marquees on the most reasonable Terms, in sizes from 30ft. by 30; 48 by 30; 84 by 30; or 100 by 30. Also, they have a small Refreshment Tent, which can be LET on favourable Terms.—For particulars apply to ROBT. HENDERSON, Catchgate, via Lintz Green. 530r

For Sale.

EXCELLENT Old-land HAY, FOR SALE.—Apply to WILSON BROS., Shotley Bridge. 356r

AN Incalving COW FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. T. THOMPSON, Westwood Colliery Farm, Ebchester.

FOR SALE, Two Good HIVES OF BEES.—Apply to THOMAS GAILES, 20, Buddle Street, Delves Lane, Consett. 594r

FOR SALE, a good Young Shorthorn COW, newly calved.—Apply to W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, near Lanchester. 597r

FOR SALE, a quantity of GREAVES.—Apply to R. CURRY, Consett; or to MARTIN GLEGHORN, Candle Works, Annfield Plain. 537r

FOR SALE, a Five-roomed HOUSE, situate at Rose Mount, Consett.—Apply to JOHN ALLISON, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 493r

FOR SALE, a quantity of Young PIGS 10 weeks old and upwards, cheap.—Apply to JOHN NEVIN, Lintz Colliery. 570r

FOR SALE, an 8-Stop HARMONIUM, in Walnut Case, 1½ Set of Reeds, not been 3 months in use, to be sold very cheap.—Apply at once to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 574r

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

VALUABLE FREEHOLD BUILDING SITES FOR SALE, overlooking the proposed New Park, situate at Mount Pleasant, Consett.—Apply to Messrs. JOHN SMITH & SON, Shotley Bridge; or Mr. WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Middle Street, Consett. 451r

NITRATE OF SODA, Government PERUVIAN GUANO, ICHABOE AMMONIA—FIXED AND PHOSPHATED GUANO, DUTCH SADDLER'S RYE STRAW, all best quality, and guaranteed genuine.—VAN HAANSBERGEN & USHER, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 449r

£10, £20, £50, £100, £500

OPTIONS on Stock Exchange Securities. One Uniform Price. Acknowledged the best and safest plan ever devised for making large profits from small investments with great rapidity. *Explanatory book (second edition) SENT FREE.*—Address GEORGE EVANS and Co., Sworn Brokers, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London. 274r

Price One Shilling and Sixpence each.

SEVEN Hundred Easy, Profitable, and Pleasant Ways to Make Money; a reliable compendium of Valuable Receipts for making articles in constant demand and of ready sale.—To be had of ROBERT JACKSON, "Guardian" Office, Front Street, and 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett. 601q

FOR SALE, a very desirable FREEHOLD HOUSE, at Unthank, near Shotley Bridge, being at present the Vicarage House of Shotley Parish. It contains 2 Sitting-rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Pantries, &c., on Ground Floor, with 4 Bed-rooms, and Dressing-room above; also, Stable, Cow-house, Coach-house, and excellent Garden containing in all 2 roods and 13 perches.—Apply to Mr. SAMPLE, Land Agent, Matfen, near Newcastle-on-Tyne. 495r

FOR SALE, an unlimited supply of PIANO-FORTES, in Black and Gold, Walnut, and Rosewood Cases, by English and Foreign Makers, on our SPECIAL HIRE SYSTEM, from 50s. per quarter for three years, when the Instrument becomes the Property of the Hirer. Every Instrument warranted for seven years. HARMONIUMS from 10s. 6d. per month, on the same system.—DAWSON & Co., Pianoforte and Harmonium Warehouse, and Music Sellers, 1 and 2, Single Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

Money.

MONEY ADVANCED, in large and small sums in Town or Country, on Personal and Household Security, Farm Stock, Second Mortgages, Deeds, Life Policies, Building Society or any other Shares or Interest, repayable to suit borrowers' convenience, as may be arranged. Write or call on M. L. Rosenberg. All business done with despatch, and *strictly confidential.* —M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 54, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (opposite Mr Angus, Coachbuilder.) M. L. R. does business entirely on his own account. Established 1860. 306r

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for laying down of about 500 YARDS OF CEMENT FOOTPATH.

Specification to be seen, and all information to be obtained by applying to the Surveyor, who will receive Tenders, sealed and endorsed "Footpath," from the 7th day of April, till the 16th of April, 1883.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or ony Tender.—By order of the Board,
591r JOHN DIXON, Surveyor.

Business Announcements.

J. McINTOSH,
(Cutter for the late Mr. T. S. Atkinson, of Consett),
HAS Commenced Business on his own account, at TAYLOR'S BUILDINGS, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL,
☞ ALL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION

MESSRS. FEGAN AND MURRAY,
AUCTIONEERS,
DERWENT STREET AND TINMILL PLACE, BLACKHILL,

RESPECTFULLY announce that they have commenced Business as above, and as they intend to conduct their Business in a straightforward manner and at Moderate Terms, they hope to secure a share of public patronage.
☞ All Orders left at either Address will be promptly attended to. 697q

BOTANY! BOTANY!! BOTANY!!!
BRITISH AND FOREIGN HERBS, ROOTS, AND BARKS,
MAY BE OBTAINED OF
T. HUDSPITH,
MEDICAL HERBALIST,
BOTANIC DISPENSARY, BLACKHILL.

AGENT for W. BUTCHER & Co.'s HOMŒOPATHIC PREPARATIONS; also, Prof. O. P. BROWN'S HERBAL REMEDIES. 268r
Orders by Post promptly attended to. Trade Supplied.

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK, SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.
Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.
Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.
THE SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE TO THE WEST.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, via Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 833p

DENTISTRY.
SUPERIOR DENTISTRY AND REASONABLE CHARGES.
ARTIFICIAL TEETH from 3s. to 5s.; complete Upper or Lower Sets, containing 14 teeth, 30s. to 50s.; a perfect fit; and all work guaranteed and warranted for five years.
MONS. VAN GELDEREN,
SURGEON DENTIST,
17, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE.

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND CATCHGATE,
HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER.

FURNITURE AND HARDWARE SOLD UPON THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM.
DISCOUNT 2s. IN THE POUND FOR CASH ONLY

WILLIAM WILKINSON,
CATCHGATE,
BEGS to inform his friends that owing to the great increase of business he has had to take the whole of his premises to meet the demands of his customers, and is now prepared with a well selected Stock of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, in all its Branches. Also, HARDWARE, GLASS, CHINA, CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY. WEDDING RINGS from the best makers—Wholesale and Retail.
Agent for the New Patent Table Wringing and Mangling Machine, Hickman and Clarts Coffin Furniture, and Patent Horse Nails. 371r

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE
AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA (the Finest Tea in the world). Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half o each kind as you may direct.
WILLIAM STEWART AND SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.
DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

BICYCLES.
J. J. EGDELL & CO.,
116 AND 118, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
100 SECOND-HAND MACHINES WILL BE CLEARED OUT AT LOW PRICES
THE LARGEST AND BEST STOCK OF ALL THE LATEST NOVELTIES.
THE CELEBRATED DEXTER BICYCLE FOR 1883.
REPAIRS. FREE TRIAL. EASY TERMS. 490r

THE IMPORTERS OF THE
PIONEER TEA
HAVE NOW ARRANGED FOR THIS
WONDERFUL TEA
TO BE SOLD IN CONSETT.
TO PRESERVE the FULL STRENGTH and FLAVOUR of this Extraordinary TEA fresh AS IMPORTED, it is PACKED IN ½lb. TINS ONLY.
AIR-TIGHT AND DAMP-PROOF.
SOLE AGENT FOR CONSETT:—
THOMAS SWAINSTON,
MIDDLE STREET. 473r

WINES & SPIRITS FOR THE PRESENT SEASON
Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 244 varieties, representing the largest finest and best matured Stock in the world.

The purity of every article is guaranteed under Act 38 & 39 Vict., Cap. 63. Consumers will recognise in this Act a means of verifying the guarantee W & A Gilbey have always given of the purity and genuineness of all WINES and SPIRITS bearing their seals and labels.

No better guarantee of QUALITY and VALUE can be given than the fact that about every eighteenth bottle of Wine, and every fortieth bottle of Spirits, consumed in the United Kingdom is supplied from W & A Gilbey's Stock. This statement is based upon the Government Returns.

WINES

	Bottle	Dozen
PORT Castle A *from Portugal* An excellent fruity Wine, well matured 5 years old	2/	24/
PORT Castle B *from Portugal* A fine full-flavoured fruity Wine 8 years old	2/4	28/
SPANISH PORT Castle 1 *from Spain* A fruity Wine of good body 2 years old	1/3	15/
SPANISH PORT Castle 4 *from Spain* The finest old Red Wine produced. 10 years old	1/10	22/
SHERRY Castle SPANISH *from Spain* A good Spanish Wine 2 years old	1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle G *Pale from Spain* An excellent type of dry Sherry 6 years old	2/4	28/
MARSALA Castle VP *Pale from Sicily* A delicate dinner Wine 3 years old	1/4	16/
MARSALA Castle C *Pale from Sicily* The finest Marsala imported 7 years old	1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A good sound Beverage Wine 6 months in bottle	1/	12/
CLARET Castle G *from France* A superior Medoc Wine 18 months in bottle	1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A Sparkling dry Champagne	2/1	25/
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Foil* A choice Wine of the District	2/6	30/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 1 A good Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	2/2	26/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 2 A high-class delicate Champagne	3/6	42/

SPIRITS

	Bottle	Dozen
GIN Castle UP Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's Distillery 33 per cent. under proof	2/	24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's Distillery Strength, proof	2/10	34/
IRISH WHISKY Castle UP Fine Dublin Whisky 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
IRISH WHISKY Castle PROOF Fine Dublin Whisky Strength, proof	3/	36/
SCOTCH WHISKY Castle UP Fine Scotch Malt Whisky 33 under proof	2/3	27/
SCOTCH WHISKY Castle PROOF Fine Scotch Malt Whisky Strength, proof	3/	36/
BRANDY Castle UP Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac 33 under proof	2/6	30/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac Strength proof	3/6	42/
COGNAC Brandy Castle D A fine old Cognac 33 per cent. under proof	3/6	42/
COGNAC Brandy Castle F A very fine old Cognac Strength proof	4/6	54/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP A fine Jamaica Rum 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle PROOF A fine Jamaica Rum Strength, proof	3/	36/
HOLLANDS Castle 1 Distilled in Holland from Rye 24 per cent. under proof	2/6	28/
HOLLANDS (*Silver Stream*) The finest Geneva. Bottled abroad. 14 under proof	2/6	30/

All Bottles (except for Sparkling Wines) are charged 2d. each, which is allowed when returned.

AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT & LEADGATE

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
GEORGE PATTON,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, BRASS FOUNDER, &c,
Has great pleasure in informing his Friends and the Public of Newcastle-on-Tyne and District that he has Removed from Neville Street, to larger and more commodious premises,
NO. 60, WESTGATE ROAD,
Lately occupied by Messrs. Bone Bros., next door to King and Gillespie's Livery Stables, where having greater facilities than he has had before, he hopes to still further augment the increasing number of his Patrons.
Newcastle, July 5th, 1882. 711q

NEWCASTLE to AMERICA for £4, including Ship Bedding and Mess Utensils, EVERY TUESDAY.—Apply for Berths to JAMES DALY, 2, Shakespeare Street, Consett; THOMAS HERRINGTON, Post Office, Carrville; J. MACKAY, Burns, Chester-le-Street; JOHN HILLARY, Auctioneer, Tow Law. 468r

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!
WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.
F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN

Business Announcements.

FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, the Oldest Insurance Agent in the District, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurances of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt Settlement of Claims.
☞ Note the Address:—ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. Dealer in Steamship Shares.

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER,
HOUSE AGENT, AND APPRAISER
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.
PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 660a

HUGHES & CO.'S PHARMACY,
(LATE CURRY)
(From Hooper & Co.'s., London),
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL.
HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
BEG to inform the inhabitants of Consett and the surrounding district that they have PURCHASED THE BUSINESS OF MR. CURRY, CHEMIST, and also to intimate that all Drugs sold are of the purest quality.
☞ ALL KINDS OF HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES KEPT IN STOCK.
HAVING had many years' experience in some of the leading establishments in London, and also in Agricultural Districts, we feel confident every satisfaction will be given; we hope therefore to merit a share of your patronage.
GENUINE PATENT MEDICINES.
PURE CHEMICALS OF ALL KINDS IN STOCK.
A VARIETY OF OTHER ARTICLES USUALLY SOLD BY CHEMISTS & DRUGGISTS.
HUGHES' BALSAM OF HONEY. An invaluable remedy for Coughs and Colds, especially for Children.
QUININE AND IRON WINE.
CURRY'S STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.
CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES. An excellent preparation.
CATTLE DRINKS, &c.
OILS, PAINTS, AND COLOURS.
☞ ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.
HUGHES & CO.,
(LATE CURRY), 138r
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.
VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.
Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.
☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

THE AUCKLAND UNION
PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1857.
Offices—56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland.
THE Directors are prepared to ADVANCE MONEY on approved securities. The payments may spread over 16 years, or any less number, to suit the means of borrowers.
INVESTING SHARES may be entered at any time, and withdrawn, if required, at a month's notice.
PROFITS are divided every three years.
The Interest and Profits paid to members on Completed Shares has averaged 6¼ per cent. per annum.
Any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. GEO. STILLMAN, 56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland; or Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOTT, 5, Mount Pleasant, Consett.

ESTABLISHED 1778.
REID & SONS' GOLD AND SILVER PLATE
REID AND SONS' GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY.
REID AND SONS' GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.
REID AND SONS' CLOCKS, ELECTRO-PLATE, &c.
In large variety of Prices and Patterns.
N.B.—Illustrated Sheets and Catalogues Free on application. 797q
41, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

COOKE'S NEW DRAPERY
ESTABLISHMENT,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE Shop beside the railway gates
Has opened been by C. F. COOKE;
So do not any longer wait
But go at once and take a look.
At all the goods therein displayed,
In quality—both rich and rare—
And this much may at least be said,—
Minute inspection they will bear.
Examine well, the prices note,
The quality then criticise;
Mark well the easy fitting Coat,
The Shirts, and Collars, Cuffs, and Ties.
COOKE'S Suits are noted near and far,
A ready sale they must command,
For neatness, elegance, and wear,
They are renowned throughout the land.
Some hundreds have been sold, and still
Their sale increases day by day,
For suits like these they must, and will,
In public favour make their way.
If then you want a useful Suit
Or Draperies of any kind;
Go to COOKE's shop and I've no doubt,
Full satisfaction you will find. 655q

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH, 1883.

CHEAP TELEGRAMS.

THE question whether we are to have cheaper telegrams must not be allowed to rest where the House of Commons left it the other night, and there is good reason to believe that the public will not permit it to rest there. The Government sustained a defeat on a division, but it was really the community, on making a just demand, that was defeated, and the public, we may be sure, will not rest content until the reform which they justly demand is accomplished. As a Government defeat the matter was not at all serious to them, for it was not on a political or party question; but the defeat is very annoying to the public at large, for the reduction from a shilling to sixpence for short United Kingdom telegrams has long been demanded, and all the arguments except the one comparatively unimportant fact that this reduction would involve an immediate, though temporary, loss of national revenue are on the side of the reformers. Dr. CAMERON's arguments in favour of cheaper telegrams were practically unanswerable except on the ground mentioned. He moved "that the time had arrived when the minimum charged for inland postal telegrams should be reduced to sixpence." After a long discussion this was affirmed by 68 to 50, and the result is virtually a triumph for the reformers, for while all the arguments in favour of the reduction remain really unanswered the Government opposed the charge on one ground only, the financial one, and the Postmaster-General and the Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted the abstract justice of the demand, declared themselves in favour of cheap telegrams, and very plainly hinted that we should have the reform next year. Public agitation on the matter should certainly not cease, but national opinion should still be brought to bear on Ministers, so that we may, if possible, obtain the reform this season. In support of the demand for reduction it has been urged, among other arguments, that telegrams under the cheaper rates of the Post Office have vastly increased as compared with the time when they were under the control of Companies. In Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, and other countries there are half-franc telegrams—cheaper than those now asked for. Why should our great commercial country be behind these? With the existing telegraphic staff and machinery, we could send a far larger number of telegrams than at present, so that additional cost to the Post Office would not be entailed up to a certain point, and when that point was reached it is beyond doubt that the loss accruing to the revenue from a reduction of price would gradually be diminished, that expenditure and income would soon be equal, and that then a gradual profit would ensue, and ultimately we should have a much larger revenue from telegrams than we have at present. The Telegraphic Department produces a considerable profit now: there would be ultimately a much larger profit under a cheap and popular system. The profits of this Department have been increasing ever since 1880, and this fact is in itself a strong argument for the proposed reduction, for the Post Office was never intended to be a revenue-producing department, and if its profits increase, the public ought to have the advantage of it in cheaper postal and telegraphic service. It is estimated that by the end of the next financial year the profits of the Telegraph Department will be about half a million. Surely we ought to have cheaper telegrams then; but we maintain that we ought to have them before this, and that there is firm financial ground to stand upon. Mr PULESTON, who seconded Dr CAMERON's motion, said he did not believe that cheapening telegrams would reduce the revenue, and he thought that for one shilling telegram there would be half-a-dozen sixpenny ones. This is at any rate in accordance with the experience as to the uniform penny postage system, which was sneered at and ridiculed when it was proposed, but which has proved a grand and glorious success. Mr FAWCETT acknowledged the justice of these arguments, he declared that the present systen is an extremely wasteful one, he admitted that there could be no doubt of the advantages of cheap telegrams; and he thought the shilling telegram was a prohibitive charge to a considerable section of the lower middle class. He even adduced further arguments for the reduction than had been brought forward by its advocates; but he rested his objection to it on the ground that our revenue at present cannot bear the immediate loss that would ensue. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER also declared himself entirely in favour of the proposed reduction except on the same ground; but he also urged—and it must be admitted that there is some weight in his objection—that the change would now be inopportune, so soon after increasing the salaries of the Post Office clerks and officials and undertaking the parcels post.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

Before long the commercial world and not less the political and the religious world will be startled by a scheme now being rapidly matured of stupendous magnitude. It is no mere day-dream, but a sober proposal which is receiving the deep and earnest attention of eminent engineers and influential capitalists in the city. It is no other than a plan for superseding the Suez Canal by the creation of a new water-way to India. From near Mount Carmel the Mediterranean is to be let into the Valley of the Jordan, and united with the Red Sea at its North-Eastern corner. I have been shown a plan of the levels along the route; and certainly the scheme seems exceedingly feasible. It would only involve the cutting of 45 miles of canal-way in all. The rest of the line of route lies far below the level of the sea. The Lake of Gennesaret would be submerged. Jericho would be blotted out. Jerusalem would be nearly approached by the artificial flood. The Dead Sea would be lost in Mediterranean waters, purged of its curse and thronged, as the Hebrew prophets said it some day would be, with countless fish. The new water-way could scarcely be called a Canal. At its broadest part it would be twelve miles wide. Instead of passing one by one through the narrow defile of the Suez Canal, whole navies might float abreast upon this road to India. Already overtures are being made to the Turkish Goverement for the necessary concessions for the enterprise. The terms offered to the Porte are 2d per ton upon all shipping which passes through. The Jew financiers are naturally disposed to take the matter up. The Rothschild's, to whom, it is said, the Porte has secretely mortgaged the whole of Palestine for a loan of one million sterling, will be ready upon commercial as well as upon national grounds to support the enterprise. Such an influx of water would materially modify the climate of the countrys and Palestine, whether reoccupied by Jews or not, would become one of the greatest centres of the world's commerce.

The controversy waxes warmer and warmer about the attack, or, as some of the papers sceptically call it, the "alleged attack," upon Lady Florence Dixie. I never heard a subject made the topic of more angry dispute in private and semi-private circles. Irish patriots and other unbelievers accuse the lady of conscious or unconscious romancing. They call to mind her prophetic dream of the death of the Prince Imperial, embodied in a poem, which, however, was not given to the world until the sad event had actually taken place. On the other hand, I have heard quite un-militant gentlemen pronounce their approval of Sir Beaumont Dixie's challenge to Captain O'Shea. It seems that Mr John Brown did not catch his death in the course of his investigations at the Fishery. That canny Scot, however, was said to have been decidedly on the side of the sceptics, not being able to discern any signs of a struggle in the Plantation. The Queen's gillie, by the way, does not seem to have derived much advantage from the title of Esquire which Her Majesty granted him by special patent. In his lifetime and since his decease he has been uniformly described as *Mr* John Barron.

The wave of Teetotal enthusiasm which has passed recently over London has resulted certainly in a temporary—and let us hope in a permanent—improvement of manners amongst the lower orders. I can testify to the singular good behaviour of the holiday-making crowds this Easter. There may have been, and probably was, a considerable amount of indoor drinking. But there was comparatively little to be seen out-of-doors. Greenwich Park and Blackheath used to be disgusting scenes of profligacy and boozing in Easter week, and especially on Easter Monday. But little or nothing of the kind was to be seen this year. Blue Ribbons were amazingly prevalent amongst the crowd, and skipping-rope exercise—an almost idyllic form of amusement—seemed particularly popular with both sexes. Able-bodied costermongers in couples drove a brisk trade in turning the rope at ½d a skip. Prince Caramel himself, who with his courtiers occupied his leisure in knitting, could not have desired a more harmless amusement for his subjects.

Salvation Army people are required to give up tobacco as well as intoxicating drinks. The Blue Ribbonites have hitherto been content with "swearing off" their liquor. But they report that cases of relapse are five times as numerous amongst smokers as amongst non-smokers. They consider that there must be some affinity between the weed and alcohol, and without abandoning the old badge or the old condition of membership they are forming a kind of Inner Circle of abjurers of smoke as well as of drink who are to be distinguished by a streak of white in their bit of blue ribbon. A man will soon carry a whole catalogue of his opinions in the vicinity of his coat button-hole. A new heraldry is being created. A person's social and domestic habits will be emblazoned, as it were, upon his vesture, as were in knightly times his lineage and dignity. Azure stands for one degree of asceticism; azure and argent for another. By and by as new oaths are imposed the model citizen will wear a coat of many colours, like Joseph's, and unless some new hues are added to the rainbow there will be nothing left to distinguish contending factions at election-time.

Smart "colours" may be a noticeable feature in a London Eastertide, but the custom almost universal among all Parisiennes, save the very poorest of wearing black during Holy Week quite alters the aspect of their gay city. The Paris churches, writes a private correspondent, on Good Friday were thronged, Notre Dame in particular being filled with a vast multitude assembled to behold the ceremony of the Adoration of the Cross by the Archbishop of Paris. The *coup d'oeil* presented by the thousands of sable-clad kneeling figures was remarkable, and a sight calculated to produce a life-long impression. Very few receptions took place during Holy Week, and at these only black toilets were to be seen. Fair penitence in black tulle sparkling with jet and diamonds does not present a very mortified aspect, and as diamonds cannot be called coloured their exclusion is regarded as unnecessary by elegant devotees.

The congratulations of Lord Salisbury last week in the Midlands on the Conservatives as a united party were singularly ill-timed. As he was speaking at Birmingham and Wolverhampton one of the most serious splits of the party was preparing, of which we shall hear more before it is over. Lord Randolph Churchill's repudiations of Sir Stafford Northcote is merely the freak of a young Lord; and it would have been wiser of the party to have made less demonstration in the House than it did on Tuesday night, for the little blatant cock of Blenheim will only crow the louder if so much heed is given to his cackle. It is a much more serious matter when a Tory (not Lord Randolph) writes to the *Times* in the same strain of revolt from Sir Stafford's leadership. This has brought the whole question to the front, and we are likely to have the same split of Conservatives and Tories which there was of Peelites and Conservatives after Sir Robert Peel had surrendered to the Anti-Corn-Law League agitation in 1846.

Mr Gladstone has done a prudent thing in extending to Mr Rylands the courtesy of an early hour for his discussion of the public expenditure. After an exhausting morning sitting spent over the Transvaal it would be more than we could expect to find Members ready for another close encounter the same day. It would, moreover, raise a bad impression in the country if Ministers sought to shelve this discussion of retrenchment by a side wind. Reform and Retrenchment are the two flags of the Liberal party, and poor Mr Arthur Arnold had to fold his, to his intense annoyance, a few days ago. To treat Mr Rylands to another count-out similar to that which befell Mr Arnold would raise a feeling in the country which would augur no good to the Liberal cause at the next General Election, which is not likely to be far off.

In discussing the Irish postal contract it is, to say the least, a damaging circumstance for the Government that the Chancellor of the Exchequer only recently retired from the Board of the London and North Western Railway, and that the Patronage Secretary to the Treasury should still be on the Directorate. As it is, the feeling is growing every day that it would be unwise to leave this contract to a huge monopoly like the London and North-Western Railway Company. At present there is something like competition; then there would be none, and it is more than doubtful if the public would be served at all as they are at present, when, between the mails, the express, and the cargo boats, there are at least six cross-channel passages made each way daily. And yet such is the traffic that the accommodation is none too great.

Since the Whitehall outrage there has been a perfect mania of threatening-letter writing or—what is much the same—warning-letter writing. Every imbecile shop-boy thinks it a fine thing to puzzle Scotland Yard, and to see by a paragraph in the papers that his silly hoax has effected the doubling of sentries at some public building. Whilst the present vigilance continues the dynamite conspirators will not have much chance of success, unless they confine their attempts to private houses. Even banks and warehouses are specially watched. The river police, too, are on the alert. All night through a boat may be seen rowing up and down the long Thames frontage of the Houses of Parliament.

Archbishop Benson has succeeded to the complete domains of his predecessors. In spite of petitions to the Queen and the Premier, Lambeth Palace has not been robbed of its gardens. The new Primate is, however, to be personally appealed to. The Lambeth Vestry have taken the matter up, and a deputation, headed by the Members for the Parliamentary Division, Sir J. Lawrence and Sir W. McArthur, are to wait upon Dr Benson to ask him to renounce his pleasure-grounds for the benefit of the Lambeth poor. Whether the new Primate thinks it right to do this or not, he may be relied upon to imitate his predecessor in granting to his neighbours wide access to the palace enclosures. And, seeing that under the present arrangement the expense of keeping of the grounds in order falls upon their owner, it is a question for the ratepayers whether their position would be improved by a formal dedication to the public of what is now not much more than nominally private property.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

The House of Commons re-assembled on Thursday se'nnight after the Easter holidays. Mr M'COAN gave notice that he will move on the second reading of the Parliamentary Oaths Bill, that legislation for the admission of atheists into Parliament is inexpedient, unconstitutional, and dangerous. Mr ONSLOW gave notice to move the rejection of the bill to prohibit the payment of wages in public houses. Mr RYLANDS gave notice to ask Mr Gladstone on Monday to alter the arrangement by which his resolution on the national expenditure is to be discussed on the evening of Friday the 6th of April, as it could not then be adequately discussed. In reply to Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir WM. HARCOURT stated that there had been a seizure of explosives at Liverpool but he would rather not give any particulars. Lord E. FITZMAURICE informed Mr Labouchere that an estimate would be submitted to Parliament of the cost of the British representation at the coronation of the Czar, so that the question might be discussed by Parliament. Sir W. HARCOURT informed Mr Newdegate that the Parliamentary Oaths Bill would certainly not be taken this week. On the motion for going into Committee of Supply Dr CAMERON moved that the time had arrived when the minimum charge for inland postal telegrams should be reduced to sixpence. He stated that the number of telegrams which were sent had increased from 6,000,000 at the time of the transfer to five times as many in 1881. The small average of messages to the different telegraph offices afford ample room for an increase of business without an increase of expenditure. By the adoption of a word-rate all superfluous words in the address and in the body of the message would be got rid of. This system would admit of a telegram of twelve words being sent for sixpence. The revenue of the Post Office from telegrams had increased from £197,000 in 1876 to £440,000 in 1882, and there was a large margin of profit now. There might be a loss in the first year of the reduced rates amounting to £170,000 but the revenue would rapidly recover. Mr PULESTON seconded the motion. Mr FAWCETT and Mr CHILDERS opposed the motion on behalf of the Government on the ground that the revenue would not at present allow the change. After some further discussion, the House divided, when the Government were defeated, Dr Cameron's resolution being carried by 68 against 50. Mr ARTHUR ARNOLD afterwards moved that it was inexpedient that the Commissioners of Woods and Forests and Land Revenues should make any further purchase of land.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Commons, in reply to Sir R. Cross and Mr O'Kelly, Lord E. FITZMAURICE said that two of the Cuban officers would be released, but General Maceo would be detained for the present, his wife and children being allowed to see him. Sir R. CROSS said the reply was so unsatisfactory that he must proceed with his motion on the subject and ask the Prime Minister for a day for its discussion. In answer to Mr Gregory, Sir H. JAMES, after paying a warm tribute to the great knowledge, industry, and ability of the late Master of the Rolls, stated that his death made no change in the legal patronage and the appointment of officers in the Law Courts. Replying to Sir M. H. Beach, Mr E. ASHLEY said he was not in a position to make a statement as to the provision to be made for the Bechuana chiefs. The Government were not in possession of information as to whether the chiefs desired to take advantage of any offer made to them. Mr A. ARNOLD called attention to the subject of the representation of the people, and moved that, in the opinion of the House it would be desirable, so soon as the state of public business shall permit, to establish uniformity of franchise throughout the whole of the United Kingdom by a franchise similar in principle to that established in the English boroughs; also, that it would be desirable so to redistribute political power as to obtain a more equitable representation of the opinion of the electoral body. Mr A. ELLIOTT seconded the resolution. After some remarks from Colonel Alexander, Sir WM. HARCOURT reminded the House that last year Mr Gladstone expressed himself entirely in favour of the principles of Mr Arnold's resolution. We were now one year nearer the time when the measure embodying that principle would be brought forward. He ridiculed the old arguments brought against it by Colonel Alexander, assuring the House that these would not deter the Government from dealing with the subject. It was a matter of urgent necessity that ought to be dealt with in the present Parliament. Indeed, it was the measure, above all, that the present Parliament was elected to accomplish. There was nothing in the resolution that the Government dissented from. He believed there would be ample time for carrying it out in the present Parliament, but a protracted debate on it now must be barren and unreal. The House was counted out about half-past seven.

MONDAY.

In the House of Commons, a new writ was ordered for the borough of Southampton, in the room of Mr Butt, resigned. Mr CHILDERS said, in reply to Mr Puleston, that if he would ask later in the session what action her Majesty's Government proposed to take in view of the decision of the House on the question of cheaper telegrams, he would give the necessary information. Mr GLADSTONE, replying to The O'Donoghue, said that his attention had been called to a report of an alleged interview between Mr Parnell and a correspondent of a French newspaper, in which certain statements were made reflecting upon the conduct of the Government in regard to the Kilmainham negotiations. He imagined that the report was unauthorised, and so far as the Government was concerned the statements contained in it were altogether inaccurate. Mr PARNELL said that the interview in question was reported with fairly sufficient accuracy. He could not admit the accuracy of Lord Carlingford's speech. On the contrary, he denied that he took the initiative in communicating with the Government, and if Lord Carlingford made such a statement it was decidedly inaccurate. Mr GLADSTONE said the representation made by Lord Carlingford was strictly in accordance with the statements made to the Government by the friends of Mr Parnell, who waited upon them in the interests of Mr Parnell. Lord J. MANNERS asked whether the Prime Minister still adhered to his refusal to appoint a committee to inquire into the whole matter. Mr GLADSTONE replied in the affirmative. Mr GLADSTONE stated, in answer to Mr Gibson, that he was unable to give a pledge at present that any portion of the Ashburnham manuscripts, in the event of their being purchased by the State, would be deposited in Dublin. Mr GLADSTONE said, in answer to Mr Rylands, that the adjourned debate on the Transvaal would be taken on Friday week instead of Friday next, so that Mr Ryland's motion with reference to the national expenditure would be taken as the first motion on going into Supply, at the ordinary sitting on Friday next. The Attorney-general moved the second reading of the Criminal Appeal Bill.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, which reassembled after the Easter holidays, the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill was read a first time.

In the House of Commons, Sir C. FORSTER brought up the report of the Standing Orders Committee to the effect that the standing orders ought not to be suspended in the case of the proposed Bill for repealing the Act of the Metropolitan District Railway in reference to the ventilators on the embankment. Mr GLADSTONE informed Mr M'Coan that the Government had no confirmation of the report of the imminence of a Russian invasion of Armenia. Sir S. NORTHCOTE rose amid Opposition cheers, and asked what business it was proposed to take on Thursday. Mr GLADSTONE stated that on Thursday Mr Childers would make the annual financial statement, and on Friday Mr Ryland's motion on the national expenditure would be discussed. Mr BRIGHT called attention to the interests of commerce in South Africa, and moved that no treaty should be made by the Government sanctioning the annexation by any Power of territories on or adjacent to the Congo, or interfering with the freedom hitherto enjoyed in these regions. He said that those well acquainted with Africa averred that there was no treaty in existence by which the Portuguese were entitled to take possession of any part of the country adjacent to the Congo. The Portuguese in any country did much to make trade impossible, and the cause of this lay principally in the fact that the officials in Portuguese territory were of an ignorant and inferior character, who were badly paid by their Government. By the best authorities the Congo River was described as a natural highway to civilisation and commerce into Africa. He hoped that the Government would not persist in the policy which he feared they were now following. He suggested that there should be an international understanding with reference to the Congo, and he refused to believe that an English Minister would place the gate of Africa in the hands of the one European Power which made bankrupt every country it had entered. Mr WHITLEY seconded the motion. Lord E. FITZMAURICE agreed as to the importance of the importance of the question. Her Majesty's Government had demanded that the navigation of the Congo, like that of the Danube, should be absolutely free, and they would not tolerate the existence of any vexatious tariffs. Her Majesty's Government also reserved whatever engagements were made with native chiefs on the coasts, so that they should not suffer from anything done by them in the past. It was required that religious liberty and the protection of missionaries should be reserved in the clearest and most unmistakeable language. The clause relating to slavery was to be couched in equally clear language, and the Government would not do anything to recognise any indefinite claim of the Portuguese Government inland. Either a treaty would be made fully securing these rights and liberties, or, if the Government found it impossible to obtain those securities which they thought it imperative to demand, the question would resume the position it was in before the negotiations began. Mr WODEHOUSE moved an amendment to the effect that any treaty made should afford adequate securities to all the civilising and commercial agencies at work on the Congo. Mr GLADSTONE said the Government could not accept the motion, because they could not be shut out entirely from making the best of the situation and endeavouring to establish some regular government on the Congo. But if they found it expedient to make a treaty, he engaged that it should be made known to Parliament before ratification, and with an interval of time which would enable Parliament to express its judgment on it. He hoped with that understanding, Mr Bright would be satisfied. Mr JACOB BRIGHT said that after what the Prime Minister had said he felt compelled to withdraw his resolution. After some remarks from Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, Sir C. DILKE said that the Government had no objection to passing the amendment, which was accordingly agreed to.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr ROUNDELL moved the seconding reading of the Universities Committee of Privy Council Bill, the object of which is to amend the machinery by which colleges wishing to have changes made in their statutes may seek the intervention of the Privy Council. After some discussion the bill was withdrawn. Mr REID move the second reading of the Vivisection Abolition Bill. A long discussion followed, and Sir J. M'Kenna was speaking when by the rules of the House the debate stood adjourned.

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

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

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

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

At the fortnightly meeting of this body, held at Lanchester on Thursday morning se'nnight, the following Guardians were present:—Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. (in the chair), Revs Canon Kearney, Chas. Gillow, and J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Messrs W. Logan, W. H. Hedley, Geo. Hobson, T. J. Muse, R. W. Shaw, Jas. Fairley, W. Shell, J. Collinson, J. Eltringham, John Bowey, and the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and approved, the Board considered the relief business.

THE DIVIDED PARISHES ACT.

The Committee appointed to consider the Divided Parishes Act of 1872 presented an elaborate report from which it was ascertained that, through the operation of the above Act, 114·988 acres would be taken from Chester-le-Street, Gateshead and other Unions, and added to the Lanchester Union; and that 2·712 acres would be transferred from this Union to the Chester-le-Street Union.

BALANCE IN HAND.

The Treasurer (Mr Cummins) reported that the balance in hand on March 29th was £1,312 6s 3d.

INMATES OF THE WORKHOUSE.

Week ending March 21st	[illegible]
Corresponding week of last year	152
Week ending March 28th	136
Corresponding week last year	160
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	14
„ corresponding fortnight last year	120

This was all the business of interest transacted and the Board rose.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

The ordinary meeting of this Board was held at Lanchester Union Workhouse on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of Mr W. Logan, the vice-chairman. The following waywardens were present:—The Rev W. Featherstonehaugh, Messrs. George Ridley, George Hobson, William Cumming, W. Fawcett, M. Coupland, J. Towns, R. Robson, George Errington, the clerk (Mr C. Maynard), and the surveyor (Mr W. Dixon).

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and on the motion of Mr TOWNS, seconded by Mr RIDLEY, were ordered to be signed.

The Rev W. FEATHERSTONEHAUGH opposed the motion that the minutes be signed at present—at least, so far as regards the question of taking over and repairing the footpath at Burnopfield——

The Clerk (interrupting): I was going to ask, Mr Featherstonehaugh, are the minutes a correct record of what passed at the last meeting? If they are a correct account, then nothing further is needed. On the other hand, if there is anything in that account which the members may think is inaccurate, then give notice that that particular minute be rescinded.

Mr FEATHERSTONEHAUGH did not offer any further remarks, and the minutes were accordingly signed by the Chairman.

THE LATE SNOWSTORM.

The Surveyor, in his monthly report, stated that snow was still lying on the hills in the West portion of the district. Several of the roads had been blocked up during the snowstorm. The effect of the sun on the frost caused the highways to become exceedingly dirty towards mid-day.

THE SUBSIDENCE NEAR LINTZ COLLIERY.

A letter was read from Mr Gooch, manager of the Lintz Colliery, stating that they had laid the road as good as they originally found it.

The Surveyor explained that there were two places where the subsidence occurred through the water pipes giving way. It was quite evident, to his mind, that the colliery proprietors had not sufficiently filled these holes up.

On the motion of the Rev W. FEATHERSTONEHAUGH, seconded by Mr TOWNS, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the owners of Lintz Colliery, calling their attention to the state of the road at Flint Hill, which was not repaired to the satisfaction of the Surveyor, and requesting them to make the road properly at once.

A letter was likewise read from Mr W. Rutherford, on behalf of the owners of the Willow Pit, informing the Board that the metal was all ready for putting on the road as soon as the weather would permit.

The Surveyor having stated that the owners were proceeding satisfactorily with the work, it was decided to let the matter remain in abeyance.

THE OUTLYING ROADS IN BENFIELDSIDE TOWNSHIP.

Mr HOBSON moved that the Clerk be requested to communicate with Mr Booth, clerk to the Benfieldside Local Board, with respect to the roads in the outlying portion of the district, and state that the Highway Board were willing to take over these roads, providing that the Local Board contribute £40 towards making 300 yards of road that will require to be repaired.

The proposition was seconded by Mr TOWNS, and carried.

LOUD HILL INCLINE.

The Clerk next read a letter from Mr Wilkinson, secretary to the North-Eastern Railway Company, stating that, in reply to the Board's communication, he had nothing much to add to the communication the Board had already received from him on the subject. They would probably be aware that the Company had obtained an Act of Parliament for the diversion of the line at that point, and until this was ready for commencement, they could not do anything further in the matter. Mr Harrison, the engineer, was already proceeding with the work.

Mr HOBSON questioned whether the Company were ever going to construct this new line.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Railway Company really intended to carry out the work. They were at present negociating with the owners of the surface, and by the end of May they expected to be in a position to let the contract for performing the work.

It was determined to let the matter stand over for three months.

SUGGESTED CARRIAGE WAY TO LINTZ GREEN STATION.

Another letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company, with reference to the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Board, requesting the Company to provide a proper carriage way to Lintz Green Station, from Messrs. Annandale's Paper Mills on the Newcastle Turnpike Road. The letter explained that the directors were not prepared to undertake at present the construction of the road referred to above.

THE FOOTROAD TO ROWLANDS GILL STATION.

The Rev W. FEATHERSTONEHAUGH gave notice that, at the next general meeting, he would move that the resolution passed at the last meeting with regard to the Board taking over and maintaining the footroad leading from Burnopfield to Rowlands Gill Station, be rescinded. He had received some important legal opinions on the subject and he thought it would be exceedingly unwise for the waywardens to launch into an undertaking which might hereafter involve them in considerable difficulty.

BALANCE IN HAND.

The Clerk reported that the balance in hand was £844 15s 8d.

This was the whole of the business.

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

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD ELECTION.

The voting papers for the election of four gentlemen to serve on the Consett Local Board for the ensuing year were distributed on Friday last, and collected on the Tuesday following. On Wednesmorning, the votes were counted up, and about three o'clock in the afternoon the result was ascertained to be as follows:—

ELECTED.

	No. of votes.
*Wm. Jenkins, J.P., manager of Consett Ironworks	612
*John W. Davison, ironmonger	564
*Rev F. Steggall, vicar	387
Henry Carss, rate collector	281
NOT ELECTED.	
George Middleton, builder	271
George Ainsworth, analytical chemist	229
*George Hawdon, rate collector	225
William Bell, bootmaker	102

Although a great deal of interest was manifested in the contest, yet an excessively large number of voting papers were spoilt chiefly through the carelessness of the voters, many of whom omitted to affix their signatures to the papers, or placed their initials opposite the names of more than four of the candidates. Those gentlemen marked * were the retiring members of the Board. It will be seen at a glance that Mr Carss replaces Mr George Hawdon.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

WEDNESDAY, April 4th—Before E. J. MEYNELL, Esq., Judge.

A LONG STANDING DEBT.

FORSTER v. YOUNG.—Mrs Jane Forster, grocer, &c., Kibblesworth, brought an action to recover £1 8s 8d from Wm. Young, for provisions supplied to him and his wife over seven years ago. Mr Barnes (Durham) appeared for the plaintiff.—In reply to His Honour, the plaintiff's daughter said the reason they had not sued previously, was because the defendant left the district and some delay was occasioned in ascertaining his whereabouts.—The defendant's wife said it was over six years since they purchased any goods from the plaintiff's shop.—His Honour: Quite true; but you have not pleaded under the statute of limitation.—Defendant's wife said she was only in very moderate health. During the past twelve years, she had been confined to her bed fully one-half of that period.—His Honour found for the plaintiff for full amount.

CLAIMS FOR PASTURING HORSES.

BROWN v. GREEN.—In this case, George Brown, proprietor of the Railway Hotel, Consett, sought to recover from James Green, general dealer, Consett, the sum of £2 5s for pasturing a horse from the 19th June to the 19th August of last year.—The case was proved by John Armstrong (who is in the employment of the plaintiff), and as the defendant was unrepresented, His Honour gave a verdict in favour of the plaintiff.

MANN v. RULE.—Samuel Mann, farmer, sued Matthew Rule, for 3 s for "stinting" his horse from the 15th May till the 9th October, 1882.—Plaintiff said the agreement was that the defendant should pay 2s 6d for one half of that time, and 2s per week for the latter half. Defendant gave him £1 only on account.—The defendant alleged that he placed the animal in the plaintiff's pasture on the 15th May, and withdrew it on the 1st October. The horse was not in the field for a period of four weeks during that time; and the plaintiff merely pastured his animal for 16 weeks.—His Honour gave judgment for plaintiff, for payment of £1 in twenty-eight days.

A BUTCHER'S ACCOUNT.

WATSON v. MCCORMACK.—Joseph Watson, butcher, Burnhope, claimed from Margaret Ann McCormack, sole executor to the late Patrick McCormack, the sum of £6 7s 8d, for butcher's meat supplied to the deceased. Mr Barnes represented the plaintiff.—The defendant had previously sworn an affidavit that the effects of her father realised £74 18s; but she now alleged that she did not received one-half of that sum, and that she had no money wherewith to pay the debt.—A verdict was given in plaintiff's favour for full amount to be paid in fourteen days.

APPLICATION FOR AN EJECTMENT ORDER.

HOBSON v. FIGGINS.—George Hobson, seed merchant, &c., Catchgate, applied under the Small Tenements Act for an order to eject George Figgins from one of his dwelling houses situate in the vicinity of Catchgate.—George Bullerwell, agent, said the plaintiff let the house to the defendant, and received 6s per fortnight for rent. Witness gave the defendant several notices to quit, and he now produced the last notice which he personally served upon him.—The defendant's wife said they had not the least desire to occupy Mr Hobson's premises any longer, but they had been unable to get another house in the neighbourhood, as their family was so large.—His Honour: Well, you will have to get out of the house within fourteen days.

DISPUTED OWNERSHIP OF A DWELLING HOUSE.

HANDCOCK AND OTHERS v. MURRAY.—George Matthew Hancock, late of Auckland, New Zealand, Henry Prevell, schoolmaster of Dipton, and Georgina, his wife, brought an action against the defendant, George Murray, to recover possession of a certain messuage, with the appurtenances thereto, situate at Sheep Hill, near Dipton. Mr Barnes again appeared for the plaintiffs.

At the outset the defendant asked for the case to be adjourned, as he said he was not aware until the preceding day that the court would be held on that day. He wished to employ a solicitor to answer the interrogatories.

His Honour declined to adjourn the case, as he said the defendant should have been fully prepared by the last court day.

Mr Barnes thereupon examined the defendant as follows: Were you a tenant of the late Ann Hancock and Ralph Hancock?—Defendant: I was not.

Did you not pay these two parties any rent?—No; I never paid any rent at all.

Did you authorise any other person to do so?—I did not.

Have you ever paid rent during the time you have occupied this house?—No.

His Honour: How long have you lived in the house?—Forty-three years.

His Honour (to Mr Barnes): Are you going to prove that the defendant has paid any rent?—Mr Barnes: Yes, I shall do so.

Luke B. Hancock, examined by Mr Barnes, said he was brother to one of the plaintiffs, and employed as cashier at Usworth Colliery. In the beginning of the year 1880 he went to the defendant's house at Sheep Hill, and saw Thomas Murray (now deceased), brother to the defendant. Thomas referred him to his brother George, whom he subsequently saw. Witness told him he had come to see him about the house, and to make the necessary arrangements, as the property had now come into the possession of his brother George Matthew Hancock and Georgina Prevell, the latter having a small moiety. Witness also informed the defendant that the rent would be £11, whereupon the latter replied, "No, it is £9." They afterwards talked about certain repairs required to be done to the house. Witness again visited the defendant about two months later on, taking with him an agreement for tenancy by term, which, however, Murray declined to sign. Defendant declared that the house was not his; he had nothing at all to do with it, as he was about to leave the neighbourhood.

Defendant: You do not say that I paid any rent?—Witness: No; you only said the rent was £9 a year.

Defendant: That was on the night you gave me some porter and tried to "mix" me up a little in order to get as much information out of me as you could? (Laughter).—No; it was not.

Two months after that interview, where did you see me?—In your brother-in-law's yard.

Where did we go to afterwards?—We adjourned to the "Black Horse," after our business was done.

Did you give me a paper to sign?—Yes.

I did not sign it?—No.

John Codling, cartwright, residing at Barlow, stated that he was trustee and executor under the will of the late Mrs Ann Hancock, who died in the year 1877, and he was present at her funeral. Shortly after her death he went to Sheep Hill and saw the defendant at his house, and asked him for the rent. Defendant replied, "It was a pity I had been so late in coming, as he had already paid the rent to Ralph Hancock." He had heard of Ralph travelling to Sheep Hill to get his rent of Murray. Matthew Hancock's death took place nearly 30 years. He remembered being in attendance at the funeral.

Michael Murray (the defendant's eldest brother), deposed that he was a retired tradesman, living at Swalwell. He remembered going with his father to live in the house in question in the year 1829, being then about 10 years old. He would be about 31 when he left the house. His father occupied one portion of the house and also rented the stable, for which he paid £5 per annum; and Thomas Young lived in the other part of the dwelling. Ralph and Matthew Hancock were the landlords. Young soon afterwards left the house, and his father took the whole of the premises, and he sub-let Young's portion to his cartman, Joseph Simpson, who remained on the premises for a period of two years. His father paid £9 a year when he rented the whole of the house. He had seen him hand over the rent to the Hancocks. His father died in the year 1854, and his mother, brothers, and sisters lived in the house after that. His brothers, Thomas and George Murray, were dead, and the defendant was the only person residing in the house now. Witness remembered seeing Ralph Hancock coming for the rent during his father's lifetime; and had likewise noticed Miss Hancock there, but had not seen any rent paid to her. He had never observed anyone pay rent after the decease of his father.

Isabella Miller, waitress in a public-house in Newcastle, stated that she lived with the defendant as servant from November, 1873, until May, 1874. She had known old Mr Hancock come from Blaydon for the rent, and it was given to him by the defendant's housekeeper. She had heard Thomas Murray say, "Here's Mr Hancock come for the rent," and had witnessed the housekeeper give him some money. She had also observed Thomas Murray (who died in May last) receipt the bills. The woman acting as housekeeper was known as the defendant's wife.

Defendant: Who paid you your wages when you stayed at our house?—Witness: The housekeeper did.

You swear that the housekeeper paid Mr Hancock the rent?—Yes; you were not in that day. You were away from home.

What time was it?—On the 1st of May.

Elizabeth Ramsey, wife of John Ramsey, builder, of Sheep Hill, said she lived exactly opposite to the defendant's house for a term of 12 years. She was acquainted with the person spoken of as the defendant's housekeeper, and who passed as Mrs George Murray. She had seen Miss Hancock come in a conveyance for the rent, and had witnessed the defendant's housekeeper hand her some money, but could not say what it was for. She also remembered that Ralph Hancock had been in the habit of coming over to Murray's house after Miss Hancock's demise.

Defendant: At what time did the Hancock's generally come for the rent?—Witness: I could not say.

Mr Barnes said that was his case.

His Honour: How much further have we gone? You have only proved that the defendant's father paid £9 a year for rent over 30 years ago.

Mr Barnes explained that he had shown that when Luke Hancock spoke of the rent being £11 per annum, the defendant replied that it was only £9. He had further proved that the defendant was a tenant.

His Honour said that unless he brought stronger testimony as to the payment of rent, he had adopted the wrong course. He should have applied for an ejectment order. Mr Barnes had only shewn that some money was paid to the Hancock's by the defendant's housekeeper; but he denies that he ever authorised her to do so. Even had she been his wife, he was not accountable for what she might do.

Mr Barnes: I could not bring a stronger case.

It was ultimately decided to re-call the defendant, who, in reply to Mr Barnes, said he had lived in the house for 43 years. He could not say that his brother paid rent to the Hancock's as he was then too young. Could not say whether his brothers or sisters paid any rent. Was not aware from conversation with his family, that any person ever paid rent. Did not know that the Hancock's were owners of the house till Luke came to see him. Never heard of them receiving rent for the house. Had only seen Ralph Hancock on one occasion at the place and that was when he was passing by with a cart. He might say to Luke Hancock at Burnopfield that the rent of the house was £11 per annum. Would swear that he did not say the rent was £9. Told Luke Hancock that he did not care about the house; as he was going to leave the neighbourhood, it would be of no use to him.

Mr Barnes: Do you claim the house as your property now?—Yes, I do.

Why do you claim the house now if you did not claim it then?—I merely said I did not care much about it.

His Honour: But if it was your house you would care about it?—Yes, that's quite right.

Then you did not consider it your property then?—Yes, I did; but I meant to leave the place, as there was no work for me.

But you wouldn't leave the house?—Yes; my brother Thomas was alive then. He was the eldest brother, and claimed the house.

Mr Barnes: At the time when the house belonged to Thomas do you know whether he paid rent for it?—No; I do not.

How have you become entitled to it since?—Because I have lived in it all my lifetime.

His Honour: But how do you claim the house as yours?—Because I have since learnt that I had as much right to it as my brother.

Examination by Mr Barnes continued: Never saw Codling before last year, and he did not ask him for rent. Never told Codling that he paid the rent to Ralph Hancock. His brother never said to him that Codling had called. Elizabeth Waite lived with him as housekeeper. Did not know that she passed as his wife. This person never got any of his money. Was not aware that she ever paid rent for the house. She was not his housekeeper, although she was still living in the house.

His Honour: What is this woman doing then?—She is performing the same work now as she did when my brother Thomas was alive.

And she is not working for you?—No; she wants some money from Thomas yet, and she says she will stick to the furniture till she gets it. (Laughter).

After some remarks had passed between His Honour and Mr Barnes, the plaintiffs were again non-suited, no tenancy proved and disputed title.

Defendant applied for his costs, which were allowed.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, April 2nd.—Before J. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (chairman), and JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Thomas Williamson was charged by P.C. Wood with being drunk and incapable in Middle Street, Consett, on Friday night last, and was fined 5s and costs; in default seven days' imprisonment.

Edward Burns pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred by the above-named officer, of being drunk and staggering about the streets of Consett in a very disorderly manner, on the preceding Saturday evening.—The defendant was fined in the same amount; with the option of seven days' in gaol.

VAGRANCY.

Thomas Barron, of Templetown, was placed in the dock on a charge of vagrancy.—P.C. Laverick testified that on Saturday night last, he was on duty in the Consett Ironworks, when he found the prisoner fast asleep in No. 3 Winding Engine Shed. The man had taken some drink. When witness roused him up, he found he had taken his boots off. He took the prisoner into custody and brought him to the police station. Barron was a lazy scoundrel, and refused to perform any work.—The prisoner (who denied that he had taken any liquor) was sent to gaol for fourteen days, with hard labour.

A TRADESMAN FINED FOR DRUNKENNESS.

George Newmarch, tallow chandler, &c., Derwent Street, Blackhill, was charged with being drunk on the night of Easter Monday, 26th ult. Defendant pleaded not guilty to the offence. P.C. Shaw adduced that on the night before-mentioned, he was in Derwent Street, Blackhill, about 11·10 o'clock when he observed the defendant proceeding down one of the back streets towards the principal thoroughfare. Defendant was under the influence of liquor, as he staggered several times and fell rolling down an embankment side for a distance of four or five feet and then laid still with his face downwards on the snow. If he (witness) had not noticed the defendant, he would have remained there all night, and would probably have been smothered. Witness lifted the defendant up, whereupon the latter turned exceedingly noisy and began to abuse him. With the assistance of P.C. Garbutt, witness conveyed Newmarch some distance along Foundry Row, with the intention of taking him to Consett and locking him up. The defendant struggled and kicked, and ultimately began to shout "Murder!" at the top of his voice, bringing the inmates out of their dwellings. At this moment, Sergeant Cruickshank appeared on the scene, and he advised witness to take the man home.

Defendant: What did you let me go for?—Witness: Because we could not get a conveyance to take you up to Consett.

Then you thought you would let me take my chance?—No, there were four or five women on the spot, who offered to take you home.

You would'nt allow me to enter into my own back door?—You never attempted to get home through the back way. When I found you, you were lying helplessly on the top of the snow.

The Chairman: Did you give the defendant into anybody's charge?—Yes, two women offered to take him home, one of them being his wife.

How long was it after you found him that his wife came up?—About ten minutes.

Explain again the exact spot where the defendant fell down?—In Derwent Street, just at the back of George Robinson's shop.

Did you see Newmarch fall down?—Yes, sir, I did. He then rolled over four or five times.

How did that happen?—At this place some earth has been taken out of the street, and the road is quite steep.

In what direction was the defendant going when you saw him fall?—Down towards Tinmill Street.

Was he in Derwent Street?—No; at the back side of Derwent Street.

How far was he away from Derwent Street?—Twenty-five or thirty yards.

P.C. Garbutt (who assisted the last-named officer) gave corroborative testimony.

Sergeant Cruickshank deposed that on the night of Easter Monday he was on duty in Derwent Street, Blackhill, about eleven o'clock, when he noticed two constables with a man in charge. They were carrying him just the same as a sack of wheat. (Laughter). He ran up to the officers, and saw that the defendant was quite unable to walk, and likewise heard him shouting and swearing, and struggling to get away from the police officers. Witness told the constables to lay the defendant down, and allow him to go home, as he was well-known. They could not get a cart to convey the defendant to the lock-up at that time of night, and it was useless carrying him up the bank. The officers, consequently escorted the defendant home.

Defendant: You say the officer carried me home. Will you swear to that?

Witness: I will swear they carried you 100 yards.

Joseph Eltringham stated that as he was passing the Royal Hotel shortly after eleven o'clock on the evening referred to, he heard a great disturbance, and someone shouting "murder!" Subsequently he saw two policemen bringing the defendant Newmarch towards Consett. He told the officers they had better allow the defendant to go home as he was well-known in Blackhill, and they might summons him afterwards for any offence he had committed. The constables carried Newmarch a portion of the road, and then he (witness) helped to get him home. The defendant was in a very excited state, and struggled violently to get out of the clutches of the police. In his opinion, Newmarch was under the influence of liquor. He did not notice the officers ill-use the defendant in any way.

John Dixon and Henry Lamb adduced similar statements, both alleging that the defendant was more or less intoxicated.

Defendant said he was proceeding home on the night in question, when, getting close to his own back door, a policeman came up and "collared" him by the coat, exclaiming, "Come on; I've got you this time." He inquired "What for?" and added, "Here's my back door: let me go in?" The officer replies, "Not I." At this point, another policeman appeared on the scene, and they both commenced to "trail" him along the ground, and "clash" him about in a terrible manner. They dragged him along the road as far as the Railway bridge, when a man came up and remonstrated with the police for using him so roughly. Being an old man, he was beginning to loose his eyesight, when he suddenly remembered that there was one thing that would save him so he shouted "Murder!" at the top of his voice. Then the men and women ran out of their houses and sympathised with him.

The Chairman: The only question before us is—Were you drunk or not? Have you any witnesses?

Defendant: Yes, plenty.

The Chairman: Had you not better call them?

Defendant: I was only wanting to speak of the policemen kicking and ill-using me.

The defendant thereupon called Robert Oakley, who alleged that about ten o'clock on Easter Monday night, he spoke to the defendant in the passage of the Royal Hotel, when he did not appear to be the least under the influence of drink.

John Jamieson said he was in the Rose and Crown Hotel along with Newmarch from 10·30 until closing time. Subsequently, as he was proceeding home (accompanied by his wife), he met the "bobbies" in charge of the defendant, knocking him about on each side, and using him in a shameful manner. One of the policemen went behind Newmarch, and deliberately kicked his legs from beneath him, causing him to fall heavily to the ground.

P.C. Shaw: Will you swear you saw that?—Witness: Yes, I will.

Were you not drunk yourself?—I had two gills of beer, and two "halves" of whiskey.

What drink did Newmarch take?—I could not say for certain. About three "halves" of whiskey.

Mrs Jamieson adduced similar testimony, and in reply to P.C. Shaw said she did not know the reason Newmarch went home by the back way. She could not swear whether the defendant was drunk or sober. He might have had a glass or so, but he was not intoxicated.

Edward Robbery stated that he was in the company of the defendant in the Rose and Crown Hotel at shutting-up time on the night of the 26th ult. He di[d] not seem to be the worse for liquor.

Thomas Kirkup asserted that the defendant was perfectly sober when he encountered him on the night referred to.

P.C. Shaw: Did the police not have occasion to interfere with you on that particular night for endeavouring to obstruct them in the exercise of their duty?—Witness: Nothing more than this. I said it was a shame to use an old man in that way.

Did you see any violence used towards the defendant?—No; I only heard him shout out "Murder!" I did not see the police do anything to him.

After a brief consultation, the Chairman said there was no doubt the defendant was the worse for drink on the evening of Easter Monday, and they would impose a fine of 5s and £1 15s 6d costs.

NORTHUMBERLAND COAL TRADE.

REDUCTION OF 1½ PER CENT. IN WAGES.

The following copy of the certificate rendered by the accountants under the new sliding scale in the Northumberland coal trade. Wages, it will be seen, are reduced 1½ per cent:—

Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2nd April, 1883.

To the Steam Collieries' Defence Association and the Northumberland Miners' Mutual Confident Association.

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with the terms of the memorandum of agreement entered into on the 9th March, 1883, between the Steam Collieries' Defence Association of the one part, and the Northumberland Miners' Mutual Confident Association of the other part, for the establishment of a sliding-scale to regulate the wages of the classes of labour therein referred to, we have obtained and verified returns from the collieries in the Steam Collieries' Defence Association; and we hereby certify that the nett average selling price of coal ascertained in the manner prescribed by the abovementioned agreement for the three months of December 1882, and January and February, 1883, was 4s 11·00 per ton, there being an increase of 3d upon the standard average selling price of 4s 8d per ton, fixed in the agreement of March 9th, 1883. The present rate of wages for underground workmen and banksmen will, therefore be reduced by 1½ per cent, calculated upon the present standard wage.—We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

(Signed) MONKHOUSE, GODDARD, and Co., Chartered Accountants, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Middlesbrough, West Hartlepool, and London.

(Signed) HOLMES, SPENCE, and Co., Chartered Accountants, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NORTHUMBERLAND COLLIERY ENGINEMEN AND THEIR WAGES.

A deputation from the Northumberland Colliery Enginemen's Association, consisting of Messrs G. T. Shield, Wm. Lawther, and Wm. Hall, met a number of the coalowners at the Wood Memorial Hall, Newcastle, on Saturday. The object of the deputation was to request an advance of 10 per cent. on the wages at present paid to the enginemen of the county. The men's case having been stated, some discussion took place, the owners ultimately offering to concede an advance of 2½ per cent. to the enginemen employed either above or below bank. The deputation promised to lay the offer before the men, and the proceedings terminated.

FREE METHODIST CHAPEL, BLACKHILL.

Special services in connection with the above place of worship were held on Sunday last, when powerful discourses were preached in the morning and evening by Mr Joseph Harker, who is a son of the renowned evangelist and lecturer—Mr Thomas Harker, of Bishop Auckland. At each of the services there was a large attendance, and good collections were taken.

On Monday evening an entertainment, consisting of Old Methodist tunes, anthems, Jubilee songs, &c., and instrumental selections, was given in the chapel by the Bros. Harker and Miss Ellen Dent, a trio, by the way, who has of late become highly popular in the North for their exceeding good capabilities in rendering this particular kind of music. There was a large attendance, the chair being occupied by Mr J. W. Davison, of Consett.

After a hymn had been sung and a prayer offered, the CHAIRMAN in introducing the performers, expressed his great pleasure at being present that evening. He had heard Messrs Harker in their concerts before that night, and had always been delighted with them, and hoped that not only he but also all that were present there that evening would enjoy the treat they were about to receive. He then called upon the Company (Messrs Harker and Miss Dent) to give the piece, "Sovereignty," which they complied with, and also contributed during the first part of the programme the pieces, "Jubilee," "I am rolling," "Roll, Jordan, roll," "Travelling to the grave." During the rendering of these the singers seemed to throw all the energy of their souls into them, and in their splendid efforts they fairly brought the house down with applause, gaining meritorious *encores*. Mr Joseph Harker contributed the bass solo "Me poor negro," with much feeling, and received the hearty plaudits of the company, as also did Mr John Harker in the solo, "Rock of Ages," which was given with much pathos by his good tenor voice. Miss Dent almost excelled herself in the rendering of the beautiful solo "He shall feed his flock." This lady has an excellent soprano voice, and used it to advantage, as evinced by the very hearty cheers accorded to her.

An interval here ensued, during which the CHAIRMAN said that he was not a critic of music, but still he could say the good old tunes he had just heard seemed to throw a great deal of melody into his soul, and it did him good to hear them. There was an abundance of good music in the world, and knowing this, he thought the best of it should be sung in the House of the Lord. He was pleased to find there was more and more of the best music ever composed being introduced into chapels, even in this out-of-the-way place, and was being sung to the glory of God. (Applause). He hoped the young friends connected with that place of worship, and all other Houses of God, would endeavour to acquire a knowledge of music, and sing their praises to their Maker and Redeemer. (Applause). Speaking of the object of the concert, Mr Davison said the proceeds were to help to make their esteemed minister (Rev G. Lord) more comfortable than he was then. This was very praiseworthy on the part of the members, and they were going the right way about to keep an excellent preacher and minister among them. It showed that there was love between pastor and people, and hoped they would ever go on harmoniously together. (Loud applause). He then introduced

Part II. in which the company gave the pieces, "Salvation," "Zion's temple," "March on," "My sister took her flight," "Ride up in the chariot," and also a medley, consisting of several of the real old Wesleyan tunes. The trio displayed great enthusiasm and skill in contributing these piece, and it was marvellous the effect it had upon the Methodist audience to hear the pieces so well rendered, rapturous *encores* being given to almost all the performers efforts. Miss Dent's beautiful voice again did her service in the solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," which was given in grand style, she being heartily applauded. Mr John Harker gave the solo "Consider the lillies," with splendid effect, and made a good impression on the audience. An instrumental selection was also executed by the Bros. Harker—Joseph on the harmonium, and John with the violin. We need hardly say their efforts were highly successful, as their brilliant musical abilities are so well known in the north, and nothing else could consequently be expected.

After the usual votes of thanks had been accorded to the performers and the Chairman for their individual efforts, the singing of the doxology brought a thoroughly enjoyable entertainment to a close.

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

Original Poetry.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

I sing—would I might often sing—
The glories of the "North Countree";
Where Time, the ravager has been,
But nowhere are his footmarks seen,
He flies the land with ruffled wing,
And dreads its majesty.

To East the ocean's sullen dirge,
Bids proud invasion's footsteps stay:
To North, like pillars to the skies,
The frowning Cheviots darkly rise
To South, the Tyne's ample surge,
Eternal speeds its rapid way.

This is the land of lands to me—
The home of worth and chivalry—
The land which boasts a Percy's name,
A Ratcliffe's loyalty and fame,
And dares lament (she is so free),
A Derwentwater's memory.

Alas! that love had grown so cold,
And fortune ceased to smile;
Alas! that loyal hearts and true,
Who strove to right the wrong they knew,
Should like a spirit uncontrolled,
Evanish from her isle!

The men are gone—the names remain
A lasting watchword to the North,
And yet a fatal wrong was done:
A tyrant's sword flashed in the sun.
The of pride blood and birth were vain,
And honour, wealth, and worth.

Nor is the Border spirit dead,
Which flashed its lightning through the veins,
When loud and wide the gath'ring horn
Pealed rousing music to the morn,
And called on many a foray dread,
The bordermen to southland plains.
Its beacon burned in many a breast,
On lonely Tel-el-Kebir's sands,
When in their phantom—like array,
Our doughty sons, ere dawn of day,
Rose cheering o'er the rampart's crest,
And swept away the rebel bands.

The motto of our fathers' land
Is ever "Esperance in Dieu."
The Percy's ancient battle-cry
Has fired to many a victory;
And still the Northmen trusty stand,
To their traditions true.

HAMILTON HENDERSON.

Stobb House, Dipton.

Local and General News.

On Sunday, at all the Roman Catholic churches in the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, petitions were extensively signed against the "Atheists' Relief Bill."

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c. printed on the shortest notice, and at the cheapest rate, by ROBERT JACKSON, "Guardian" Office Consett. Estimates furnished

LECTURE AT LEADGATE.—On Thursday se'nnight, a lecture was delivered in the schoolroom in connection with the Leadgate Primitive Methodist Chapel, by the Rev W. Baitey, of Blackhill, the subject being—"Wesley and Methodism." Mr Thomas Lammonby, of Leadgate, occupied the chair.

PARCELS POSTS.—We understand that Mr John Philipson's designs for Parcels Post Vans, Carts and Hand-barrows have, after several interviews with the authorities at the General Post Office, been approved by the Postmaster-General; and Messrs. Atkinson and Philipson, Coach Manufacturers, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, are making a set of vehicles suitable for the Parcels Post Service.

PRESENTATION TO THE RECTOR OF WINLATON.—The Rev Henry Wardell, Rector of Winlaton, was on Wednesday presented with an illuminated address by his parishioners, on his having attained the eighty-third anniversary of his birthday and the fiftieth year of his ministry in the parish. The address was designed by Mr Algernon Percy, of Newcastle.

WEARDALE QUARRYMEN AND THEIR DEMONSTRATION.—At a noisy meeting on Friday, at Stanhope, of the members of the Quarrymen's Union, to select two speakers for their annual demonstration, the voting resulted as follows:—For Mr J. Cowen, M.P., 36; Mr J. Foreman, of Durham, 30; Mr J. Arch, 30; Mr Chas. Bradlaugh, 25; Mr Broadhurst, M.P., 8; Mr J. Morley, M.P., 4; Mr Lloyd Jones, 1; Mr J. Collings, M.P., 0. The members of the Frosterley Lodge have to vote yet.

NORTHUMBERLAND DEPUTIES.—The deputation of the Northumberland Deputies' Association (Messrs. J. Austin, J. Dobson, J. Millar, and J. Rogers, secretary) met the colliery owners on Saturday to ask for an advance of wages. After a long discussion, the owners offered the same Sliding Scale as accepted by the Miners' Association. Threepence per day was asked for by the deputation, but as no arrangement was arrived at, the proposal of the owners is to be submitted to the various lodges to be voted upon during the week.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CONNEXION.—Complete and accurate statements of the numerical condition of this denomination will not be available until after the approaching May district assemblies are over, but, from the returns already to hand, the increase is hardly likely to fall below the number reported for 1882, viz., 6,000. In the absence of returns from the home missions, North British, and Colonial Districts, the increase at present stands at about 5,000. Sunderland district reports an increase of 1,011, decrease 145, and the district meeting will be held at Carlisle, and the conference at South Shields, for which preparations are already in progress.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—This Ointment affords the shortest, safest, and easiest path to soundness in all kinds of skin diseases, scrofulous affections, scorbutic maladies, ulcerations, eruptions, and inflammations. There is nothing deleterious in the composition of Holloway's Ointment, but on the contrary, its ingredients possess the most soothing, purifying, and strengthening qualities, so that it can be used with perfect safety by persons of all ages. The delicate skin of infants is not irritated by its application, and it is equally adapted for subduing the tedious ulcerations attacking the aged. In all constitutional, chronic, and complex affections, Holloway's Pills should be taken whilst his Ointment is being used, in order that all baneful matter may be expelled from the system.

HEXHAM HINDS' HIRING.—This annual hiring for hinds was held on Tuesday, in the Market Place, Hexham, and the weather being delightfully fine, there was a large attendance of both farmers and servants. Business was stiff at the beginning of the market, men holding out for an advance of wages, but as the day advanced terms were more readily come to. The better class of hinds obtained from 18s to 20s a week, and others from 15s to 17s, with perquisites.

THE NORTH DURHAM HOUNDS.—On Monday, these hounds met at Brancepeth Castle, the seat of Lord Boyne. Page Bank was first drawn, where presently a fox broke cover, making for the river Wear, was headed back by Page Bank, then made for the Park, on for Scripton, then turned away by Hunter's Whin, and crossed the river for Whitworth. Here the hounds were stopped. They then drew the Middles, a certain find; and at the high part of the cover a fine fox broke away for Weather Hill, then for Pit House Whin, which he skirted and made away for Ragpath. Here our fox was viewed. He made then for Waterhouses, turned up by Stand-alone for West Brandon, away for Hall Whin, then for Stockley Gill, up to Hundred Acres' Cover. The pace up to this had been very severe and told upon the horses. Onwards we went for Oxclose, then for Brancepeth Park, where the hounds had some difficulty in getting over the paling, and the deer crossing the line saved reynard's life after 1 hour and 15 minutes as fine a run as ever was witnessed.

Business Announcements.

NINTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 1·30 p.m. to 3·30 p.m.

Established 1830. 969p

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW, SHOULD USE THE

"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.

IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.

PREPARED ONLY BY

JOHN HUME AND SON'S

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

BRANCH—MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 583r

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, VIA LENTZ GREEN,

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDSMAN, GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF

PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.

OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED

Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

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

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

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save calves from that inflammatory fever commonly called quarter-ill.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF

PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-five years.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 427r

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

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

N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 364r

BROOKS'
CELEBRATED
FELT 2s. 6d. HAT,
59, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 754q

MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:

9, NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

The Directors are desirous of receiving applications for Loans on Real or Personal Security in connection with Life Assurance.

Every description of Life Assurance and Annuity Business transacted.

Commissions allowed to Solicitors and others introducing business.

For full Particulars and Forms apply to:

A. TORKINGTON,
Managing Director.

458r

OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS.

EVERY Description of WINTER CLOTHING direct from the Factory, at the PUBLIC SUPPLY STORES, 55, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE.

HUGH MORTON and CO.'S preparations for the Winter Trade eclipse any effort they have made for previous seasons. Their Stock is larger, and the value better, and as they are Manufacturers certainly cheaper, than can be shewn elsewhere. Hugh Morton and Co. cannot here give a detailed List of Prices, owing to the smallness of their profits and the costliness of advertising; and as mere quotations without reference to quality are misleading, they earnestly request the public, before purchasing, to call at their Stores and examine their immense Stock and be guided accordingly. Boys' Overcoats with Capes, from 2s 11d to 12s 11d. Youths' Overcoats, from 14s 9d to 25s 6d. Men's Overcoats, from 14s 11d to 39s 6d. Also the "Marvel" Guinea Overcoat, in Naps, Diagonals, Worsted, &c., recommended by the Press as a "marvel of Cheapness and Excellence." Men's and Boys' Suits and Trousers in unlimited variety, and at all prices to suit purchasers. Important Rule.—All goods not approved can be exchanged or the money returned, whichever the customer prefers.

HUGH MORTON & CO.,
CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS,
55, GRAINGER STREET (Corner of Nelson Street), NEWCASTLE.

SURGICAL DENTISTRY.

HENRY DELLOW,
SURGEON DENTIST,
1, NEW BRIDGE STREET (Corner of Higham Place), NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

17 Years with the late Messrs. NIGHTINGALE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH of superior make on most Reasonable Terms, and all Surgical Operations skilfully performed. Attendance Daily, 41, New Bridge Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 877q

NONE BUT CHEMISTS KEEP THIS.

"MANNA CAKE,"

THE SUBSTITUTE FOR CASTOR OIL,

PRICE 1½d. EACH. PREPARED WITH SUGAR.

The Manna Cake is the mildest and most agreeable aperient known. It is sweet and highly flavoured: does not gripe, and leaves no bad effects as Castor Oil always does. Children do not suspect its properties; Invalids have in it an unqualified aquisition! It is the most suitable aperient known for Females during the whole course of pregnancy.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS:—Dr. McCANN, Orchard Hay, Liverpool, sent the following letter:—"December 22nd, 1880. The aperient action of the 'Manna Cake' is decidedly good. Mildly energetic, free from griping, and to be depended on when a mild but certain aperient is needed. It is, also, an effectual WORM CAKE. Being pleasant to the taste (it is mainly sugar), its easy administration very strongly recommends its use, especially in fever cases, where all excitement should be avoided."

THOMAS MILNER,
THE CENTRAL PHARMACY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL AGENT FOR CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

The Increasing Sale of Milner's Dandelion and Podophyllin Pills is a proof that they are one of the best Family Aperient Pills for diseases arising from disorders of the Stomach, Liver, and Bowels. Sold in Boxes 7½d., 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d. each, free by post 8½d., 1s. 2½d., and 35 stamps. Directions for use with each box. Combined with the Mixture for purifying the blood, they are one of the best remedies for Skin Eruptions, Scrofula, Glandular Swellings, and other diseases arising from impurities in the system.

MILNER'S A1 CRYSTAL DYES, in Packets 1d, 2d, 3d., 6d., and 1s. each. Full directions for use on application.

Agent for Mr. LAMONT'S Magnetic Appliances, Electric Spectacles, and a variety of other articles too numerous to mention.

All kinds of HORSE, DOG, & CATTLE MEDICINES, SHEEP DIPS, LAMBING OILS, &c.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, &c., &c.

All Orders promptly attended to. Call at the Central Pharmacy and ask for Circular of Specialities.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

THOMAS MILNER,
DISPENSING & AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE,
CONSETT. 478r

Business Announcements.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS TUNED and REPAIRED on the Shortest Notice, and at Moderate Terms.—Apply to R. STEWART, Coach and Horses, Consett. 132r

CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT.

JASPER COCKBURN,
STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER, PICTURE FRAMER, CONFECTIONER, AND DEALER IN FANCY GOODS,
3, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Books not in Stock may be had at a short notice.

Agent for the Eureka-Tinted Periscopic Spectacles, Pullar's Dye Works, &c., &c. 424r

CARRIAGES FOR THE SEASON.

ATKINSON and PHILIPSON'S SPRING LIST of SECOND-HAND CARRIAGES is now Ready, and will be sent post free on application. The stock includes above 150 handsome Vehicles of fashionable design almost equal to new.

A Special List of about one hundred Carriages suitable for Hotel Proprietors, Job Masters, and Livery Stable Keepers, is also ready for circulation.

Messrs. A. and P. have decided to issue a Monthly List of Carriages and Harness for Sale on Commission at their Northern Counties Carriage Repository, which they recommend to the nobility and gentry as the best medium out of London for this purpose.

NORTHUMBERLAND CARRIAGE & HARNESS MANUFACTORY.

Messrs. A. and P. invite an inspection of their NEW CARRIAGES, OVER 200,

comprising every variety with all the latest improvements. Drawings and Illustrated Catalogues sent on application. 572r

27, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

IMPORTANT TESTIMONY IN FAVOUR OF THE IMPROVED

MAGNETIC APPLIANCES

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

MAGNETIC DEPOT,
44A, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Mr D. LAMONT is pleased to say that these highly-improved Magnetic Appliances are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour.

DOCTORS, CLERGYMEN, and persons in all ranks and classes of Society have borne testimony to their Soothing, Curative, and Invigorating properties.

THEIR almost MAGICAL POWER in soothing agonising pains, re-animating torpid limbs, and stimulating sluggish organs, has been satisfactorily proved.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to the following notes of testimony recently received. Only a few can be published in this paper. FURTHER TESTIMONY, and full particulars of the MAGNETIC SYSTEM OF CURE, See DESCRIPTIVE ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLET, GRATIS on application; or will be forwarded POST FREE to any address in the United Kingdom.

GENERAL DEBILITY.

35, Pitt Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Feb. 22nd, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—Several years ago my wife was suffering from general debility, with pains in the side and head, and had been in poor health for a considerable time. I purchased from you a Magnetic Belt and Spine Band, and have much pleasure in stating that she derived speedy and permanent relief from them. The good she has derived from them has induced me to purchase another Belt, and I would strongly urge all who suffer from the same disease to try your appliances. They have been the best and cheapest remedy we have ever tried.—Yours truly,
Mr D. Lamont. JOHN KERR.

PAINS IN STOMACH AND BACK.

206, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle, February 12th, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to let you know that your Belt has quite cured me of the severe pains I had in the stomach and back. All the remedies I tried did me no good. Every sufferer from such like pains ought to try one of your Magnetic Belts.—Yours thankfully,
Mr. D. Lamont. JAMES McCOY.

BRONCHITIS.

Brenkburn Lodge, near Morpeth, February 3rd, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—The Magnetic Chest Protector has done wonders for me. I suffered occasionally from sore cough and bronchitis, and was ill with a severe attack when I got the Protector. I expected a little relief, but have, I am glad to say, got altogether rid of the cough. It gives such a sense of comfort and relief that I feel bound to recommend it to all who suffer as I did.—Yours very truly,
Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN CARR.

LOSS OF VOICE.

Waterloo Foundry, Carlisle, January 29th, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—About three years ago I had a very severe illness, which resulted in loss of voice (the vocal chords were paralysed). Nine months ago I was induced to try one of your Magnetic Throat Protectors. The result is a complete restoration of my voice. You may make any use of this testimonial you think proper, or you can refer any one to me.—Yours respectfully,
Mr. D. Lamont. GEO. G. HAYWARD.

PAIN IN THE KNEE.

Chester-le-Street, near Durham, January 20th, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—About eight months ago I called on you and purchased a Magnetic Knee Cap and Friction Glove for weakness and pain in one of my knees. I gave it a good trial, and after wearing it six months was quite cured. The pain has not returned, and when travelling I am free from pain, even though I am not now using the cap.—Yours truly,
Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN G. STRAKER.

PAIN IN THE BACK.

5, William Street, Pelton Fell, Chester-le-Street.
August 2nd, 1882.

SIR—The Magnetic Belt I purchased five months ago has proved effective. I was off work with a weakness and pain in the back. After wearing the belt three or four days I was relieved, and within a week was able to go to my work. I have had no return of pain since, and strongly recommend a belt to anyone ill with a bad back.—Yours &c.,
Mr. D. Lamont. GEORGE HEXT.

FURTHER TESTIMONY, REDUCED PRICE LIST.
See DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET, GRATIS or POST FREE.
D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT, 44A BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—The Appliances are forwarded Post Free. Consultation by letter carefully attended to.

Public Notices.

LOOK out for the Stanley Reading-Room TEA and SPORTS, on June 16th, 1883. 586r

REMEMBER the FREE METHODIST CIRCUIT DEMONSTRATION, on Saturday, June 30th, at Annfield Plain. 585r

36 IS the Winning Number for the TEA and COFFEE SERVICE, Raffled by Mr. JAMES WALTON, Leadgate. 587r

NOTICE.—Should Mrs. ISABELLA TEASDALE, late of Blackhill, or any of her Children be now living, upon communicating with R. ARMSTRONG, Post Office, Riding Mill, they will hear of something to their advantage.

IMPORTANT. TO LADIES ONLY.—A Lady having discovered a secret invaluable to ladies generally, will be pleased to forward same gratis to any address on receipt of stamped directed envelope.—Address Mrs. C., Highland Villa, Totterdown, Bristol.

NOTICE.

THE Game upon Medomsley East House and Allendale Farms is strictly preserved.—Dogs found on these Farms will be destroyed, and all Persons found Trespassing will be prosecuted. 363p

I, JOHN BROWN, of Little Black Hedley, hereby GIVE NOTICE that I will not be responsible for any DEBT or Debts my Wife, JANE BROWN, may contract from this date.—Signed, JOHN BROWN.
April 5th, 1883. 581r

MR. A. E. TURNER,
TAILOR, DRAPER, MILLINER, &c.,
41, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to return his sincere thanks for the liberal support he has received for the last 32 years, and desires to state that he is prepared to sell at the same reasonable prices as heretofore.

N.B.—Mr. A. E. T. has at present an opening for a respectable Youth as APPRENTICE to the Tailoring. 587r

Public Notices.

REV. RICHARD ROBERTS,
Of London, will PREACH in the WESLEYAN CHAPEL, BLACKHILL, on Tuesday Evening, April 17th, at Seven o'clock. 580r

LOOK OUT for the LEAZES DISTRICT BAND OF HOPE UNION DEMONSTRATION, on July 21st, 1883, at the Leazes, near Burnopfield. 571r

GARDEN AND FLOWER SEEDS, SCOTCH POTATO SEEDS, and PLANTS, on SALE, at JOHN LEE'S, Fruit and Potato Merchant, Front Street, Leadgate. 470r

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

THE REV. ALEX. MACLEOD, of Birkenhead, will PREACH on Sunday, April 15th, Morning and Evening. A Collection at both Services. Also, LECTURE on Monday Evening, on "Ballads of the Fireside." Chair to be taken at 7·30, by JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq., J.P. Tickets, Sixpence each. 588r

HENRY LEATHARD,
PICTURE FRAMER AND GLAZIER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

PICTURES FRAMED TO ORDER ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

LARGE STOCK OF MOULDINGS ON HAND.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

A DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT will be given by the Members of St. Mary's Amateur Dramatic Society, in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside (kindly granted for the occasion by R. Murray, Esq.), on Monday, April 9th, 1883, when will be produced Mr. E. MOORE'S celebrated Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled—THE GAMESTER.

ADMISSION—Front Seats, 1s. 6d.; Second Seats, 1s.; Back Seats, 6d. See Bills. 583r

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, BLACKHILL.

ON TUESDAY, April 17th, 1883, SERMONS will be PREACHED in the Afternoon at Half-past Two, by Mr. THOMAS HARKER, of Bishop Auckland, and in the Evening at Seven o'clock, by the Rev. RICHARD ROBERTS, of City Road, London.

A Collection after each Service in aid of the Trust Funds.

Also, a PUBLIC TEA will be provided in the School-room. Tea on the Tables at Four o'clock. Tickets, 1s. each. 573r

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

THOMAS LAMMONBY,
TAILOR AND WOOLLEN DRAPER,
LEADGATE,

RESPECTFULLY announces that he HAS REMOVED from Front Street, to the NEW HOUSE AND SHOP, IVESTON ROAD, Leadgate.

In announcing his Removal to these Premises, he desires to thank his friends and the public generally for the patronage hitherto bestowed on him, and trusts by strict attention to Business, Moderate Prices, and Supplying a good Article, to merit a continuance of their favours. 561r

CONSETT & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE BRILLIANT TEMPERANCE CANTATA,

'HAROLD GLYNDE'

WILL BE GIVEN IN

THE CONSETT NATIONAL SCHOOLS,

ON TUESDAY, APRIL 10th, 1883.

READER, - - - Rev. F. STEGGALL.
CONDUCTOR, - - - Mr. C. STELLING.
PIANIST, - - - Mr. W. STOKER.

ALDERSON GIBSON, DECEASED.

PURSUANT to 22nd and 23rd Victoria, cap. 35, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Creditors of ALDERSON GIBSON, late of Castleside, in the County of Durham, Yeoman, who died on the 1st day of March, 1883, and whose will was proved in the Durham District Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice, on the 14th day of March, 1883, by FRANCIS BRECKINFIELD, the sole Executor therein named, are, on or before the First day of May next, to send particulars of their Debts or Claims to THOMAS MADDISON, Jun., Solicitor, 43, Saddler Street, Durham, and the Executor will not be liable for any claim not sent in on or before the above date

Dated the Nineteenth day of March, 1883.

J. MADDISON, Jun.,
43, Saddler Street, Durham, Solicitor, for the said Executor.

527r

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, April 9th, 10th, and 11th, 1883.—63, Derwent Street, Blackhill.—Important Sale of Superior Drapery Stock, removed for convenience of Sale, comprising Woollen Cloths, Dress Goods, Wool Shirts and Shirtings, Calicoes and Flannels, Sheets and Sheetings, Bed and Table Linen, Hollands and Hrans, Men's and Boys' Jerseys, Ladies' and Gents' Umbrellas, and Sundries.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to SELL BY AUCTION, on the Premises, No. 63, Derwent Street, Blackhill, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, April 9th, 10th and 11th, the whole of the above Superior STOCK-IN-TRADE, removed for convenience of Sale, and for the benefit of whom it may concern. Particulars in Bills.

Sale to commence at Half-past Seven o'clock each Evening. 580r

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 744b

By Mr. William Raw.

Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill.—Sale of Valuable Drapery Goods.

MR. WILLIAM RAW begs to announce that he will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION a large and Valuable Consignment of LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERY GOODS, in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Derwent Street, Blackhill, on Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday, the 7th, 9th, and 11th April, 1883, comprising—Dress Goods; Cashmeres; Cords; Lustres; Beige Cloths; Calicoes; Linens; White and Grey Sheetings; Table Cloths; Felt Skirts; Gentlemen's Shirts; Drawers; Blankets; Flannels; Shirtings; Boys' Cord and Cloth Trousers; Shawls and Shawletts; a large quantity of Remnants; a quantity of Ladies' Felt and Straw Hats, Bonnets, Flowers, Feathers, Ribbons, Scarfs, Ladies' Umbrellas, Kid Gloves, Ornaments, &c.

N.B.—The Auctioneer invites attention to this Sale of Valuable Drapery Goods, and informs the public that the whole will be Sold Without Reserve, and must be cleared out.

Sale to commence each day at One o'clock in the Afternoon, and at Six o'clock in the Evening. An hour between for Tea.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 568r

Mr. A. T. Crow.

Peat's Great Northern Horse Repository and Auction Sale Yard, Haymarket, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE NEXT SALE of HORSES, CARRIAGES, HARNESS, &c., will take place on Tuesday April 10th, 1883.

SALES BY AUCTION EVERY TUESDAY.

JOHN PEEL, Proprietor.

740q

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Shotley Lodge, Shotley Bridge.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY commissioned by a Lady who is leaving the Neighbourhood, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above residence, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, April 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1883, a considerable portion of the very Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, LIBRARY OF BOOKS, THE WHOLE OF THE GARDEN REQUISITES, SINGLE AND DOUBLE HARNESS, RIDING SADDLES, BRIDLES, CONVEYANCES, CARRIAGE HORSE, &c., comprising Full-compass Cottage Pianoforte, by Hopkinson, in Walnut Case; Walnut Music Stool; Walnut Music Waggon; Walnut Whatnot; Rosewood Whatnot; Gent's Easy Chair in Green Repp; Lady's Easy Chair, in Green Repp; Gent's Easy Chair, in Crimson Repp; Lady's Easy Chair, in Crimson Repp; Walnut Sofa, in Crimson Repp; small Sofa, in Crimson Repp; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair; 12 Rosewood Chairs, in Hair; Rosewood Easy Chair, in Red Plush; 2 Ottomans, in Red Plush; Rosewood Cheffioneer; Antique Carved Massive Oak Hall Table; 4 Carved Oak Hall Chairs; 10 Oak Dining-room Chairs, in Morocco; 10 Oak Dining-room Chairs, in Morocco; Octagonal Oak Table; 2 Oak Smoking Chairs, in Leather; 3 Reclining Chairs; 3 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair; Bed-room and Kitchen Chairs; large Ash Wardrobe, new, with Drawers in centre; Lady's Maple Wardrobe, with full-length Mirror; Maple Washstand, marble top; Maple Dressing Table, with large Swing Glass; Towel Rail and Pedestal; Mahogany and other Washstands and Dressing Tables; 2 Iron Tester Bedsteads; Mattresses and Hangings; French Bedstead; Feather Bed; Hair Mattress; Iron Bed Chair and Cushions; Iron Rocking Chair; large number of Cretonne and Damask Bed and Window Hangings; 12 pairs Lace and Net Window Shades; large Screen for Entrance Hall; Double and Single Sets of China and other Chamber Ware; large lot of Mahogany and Gilt Cornices; Cornice Poles and Rings; 16 Cases Stuffed Birds; 3 Cases Foxes; 2 Flower Stands; Fenderst, in Crewel Work; 2 Fancy Screens, in Crewel Work; Walnut Cabinet Sewing Machine, by Howe; Walnut Cabinet Lockstitch Sewing Machine, by Pollock and Schmidt; 3 Kidderminster Carpets; 6 Brussels Carpets, nearly new; 6 Hearth Rugs; several beautifully-polished Steel Ashpans and Fenders; 4 Ornamental Coal Boxes; large Refrigerator; large Portable Bath; 6 Brass Fire Guards; Foot Baths; Water Cans and Slop Pails; Mantle Shifting Screen, in Bead Work; Bed-room Drawers; 2 Swing Glasses; Hall Gas Lamp; several Gas Chandeliers and Ornamental Brackets; 2 large Bronze Figures (Science and Art); Painted Cupboard; 3 Trays; 8 Block Tin Dish Covers; 2 Meat Safes; Kitchen Table; Pan Cupboard; Roasting Screen; Bed Warming Pan; 3 Dumb Waiters; Mantle Mirror, in Gilt Frame; 2 Office Chairs; Office Cupboard; Copying Press; Pair of Globes; Plated Goblet; 2 Oak Beer Mugs, Plated Hoops; Oak Hot Water Jug, with Plated Hoops; 4 Plated Decanter Stands; 1 Plated Butter Dish; Plated Egg Stand; Plated Breakfast Dish; Plated Coffee Pot; 2 Plated Salvers; Pair of Plated Entree Dishes; Plated Fish Carver and Fork, in case; Massive Plate Chest, new; Seltzogene; Oak Writing Desk; Leather Writing Case; Gent's Dressing Case; Mahogany Spirit Case; Electric Machine, new; splendid Six-chamber Revolver, by Pape, in Mahogany Case, new; Walnut Book Stand; 2 Carved Letter Racks, number of Fancy Shells; 2 China Toilet Sets; 6 China Vases; 2 Dresden Jars; 2 neat Dessert Dishes; 4 Valerio Flower Stands; Terra Cotta Water Bottle and Cup; several Wine and Spirit Decanters, and Claret Jugs; 6 Finger Bowls; Muffin Dish; a few Dozen Champagne, Port, Sherry, Liquor, and Ice Glasses; 6 Earthenware Milk Dishes; 4 Glass Cream Dishes; Milk Can; Butter Scales and Prints; small Barrel Churn; 2 Clothes Horses; Wringer and Mangle; Wringer and Home Washer; Metal Laundry Stove; Flat Irons, &c.; Cooking Utensils, and other Kitchen Requisites, 350 Volumes of Books, and several Steel Engravings and Pictures (see catalogues); 2 Garden Tents, one quite new; 3 large Garden Seats; 2 large Garden Chairs; Metal Roller; 2 Single-light Frames; 3 Double-light Frames, all nearly new; large Potting Table, with Drawers; 2 Lawn Mowers; Pair of large Lawn Vases; 2 Hen Houses; Duck House and Chicken Coops; 2 large Double Dog Kennels; Single Dog Kennel; 7 Glazed Feeding Troughs; 2 Wheelbarrows; 2 Sets of Double Harness, Silver-mounted; 2 Single Sets of Harness, Silver-mounted; 12 Riding Bridles; 3 Riding Saddles, complete, by Newton; 4 Side Saddles; 4 Sets of Horse Clothing; 3 Night Sheets; Pair of Pole Straps; Pair of Pole Chains; 3 Pairs of Plated Spurs; 3 Sets of Sleigh Bells; 4 Stable Collars; Pair of Knee Caps; 6 Pillar Reins; Game Bag; 2 Hot Water Tins; Wooden Saddle Horse; Box Longsettle; Pair of Steps; Tabls; 2 Chairs; Steel Top Fender; 2 very large Harness Curtains, with Iron Rods, and the usual Stable Implements, Pails, Brushes, &c. Also, a splendid Stanhope Phaeton, by Newsome; magnificent Ash Sledge, new, by Atkinson and Philipson, to seat four, with Pole and Shafts complete; Pony Tea Cart, nearly new; and an excellent Carriage HORSE, rising 5 years old, 15-1, quiet in Double and Single Harness, and a good Hack.

Sale to commence each day at Twelve o'clock precisely.

N.B.—The Auctioneer respectfully requests an early attendance at this Sale, as there is no preliminary lumber to dispose of, the whole of the Goods are no worse than new, the Riding Saddles, Conveyances, Harness, &c., have been very little used, and under the manipulation of a notably clever Groom, are in the best possible order and neatness.

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

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Choice House Property for Sale.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, honoured with instructions from Mr. EDWARD OLIVER, will offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. ELLIOTT'S, Commercial Hotel, Tantobie, on Wednesday, April 18th, 1883, at Six o'clock in the Evening, all that

VALUABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY,

Comprising Dwelling-house, of Four Rooms, with large Garden, useful Stable, and all necessary Conveniences, situated at White-le-Head, and now in the occupation of Mr. Henry Tiplady, who will show the Property.

This substantial Property is conveniently situated and let for £16 per annum, and will make a capital investment.

For further particulars apply to the proprietor, Mr. EDWARD OLIVER, Kyo; or to the AUCTIONEER, Dipton.

Sale and Emigration Office, Front Street, Dipton.

Excellent House Property for Sale.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, honoured with instructions from Messrs. J. RIDDELL and G. McPHERSON, will offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. JOHN ELLIOTT'S, Commercial Hotel, Tantobie, on Monday, April 9th, 1883, at Six o'clock in the Evening, all that

VALUABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY,

Comprising Two Dwelling Houses of Four Rooms each, with Attics, Washhouse, useful Yard, Gardens, &c., in Front, and all necessary Conveniences, known as Corven Terrace, White-le-Head, and now in the occupation of Mr. G. McPherson and Mr. Thomas Hope, schoolmaster, who will show the Property.

This attractive Property is well-built, beautiful for situation, let for nearly £25 per annum, and will make a safe and profitable investment.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, Dipton.

Sale and Emigration Office, Front Street, Dipton. 564r

A. PHILLIPSON,
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MR. P. OSBORNE is under instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, by order of JOHN GREEN, 50, Cutlers' Hall Road, Blackhill, who is declining housekeeping, the whole of his Household FURNITURE, and other EFFECTS, on Saturday, the 7th of April, 1883, at Two p.m. Particulars in Posters. 578r

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MONDAY FIRST, APRIL 9th, 1883, will be offered for SALE,
30 TO 40 PRIME FAT CATTLE.
40 FAT SHEEP.
2 COUP CARTS,
A LOT OF HARNESS.
A LOT OF BARLEY.
HEAD STALLS, WHIPS, &c.

☞ Entries solicited and received up to the time of Sale.

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TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday First, April 9th, 1883, in the above Sale-rooms, a large quantity of Valuable New and Second-hand Household Furniture.

MR. JOHN JENKINS, Auctioneer.

Comprising excellent Mahogany Sideboard, with a beautifully-carved back; 2 second-hand Presses, in good condition; Mahogany Press; Drawers and Bookcase; 2 Bed-room Drawers; Washstand and Dressing Table; 2 Swing Glasses; 3 Towel Rails; 9 Bed-room Chairs; 2 excellent Feather Beds; Down and Flock Beds; Brass and Iron Tester and French Bedsteads; 2 Iron Bedsteads and Mattresses, 3ft., by 6ft. 6in.; Four-poled Bedstead; 2 large Mantelpiece Mirrors; large Mahogany Dining Table, 4ft. 6in. by 7ft.; Mahogany Centre Table; Sofa, in Hair-seating; Couch, in Hair-seating; Sofa, in Leather; 2 Easy Chairs; 6 Mahogany Chairs; Windsor and Cane Chairs; Rocking Chairs; Night Chair; Mahogany Night Commode; Mahogany Cheffioneer, with Glass Back; Walnut Cheffioneer, with Glass Back and Pannels; 2 Sets of First-class Bed Hangings; Carpets Hearthrugs, Rugs, Mats; Eight-days' Clock, in Oak Case; 2 excellent Timepieces; Hand Cart in good condition, suitable for Butcher or Grocer; Wringing and Mangling Machine; Sewing Machine; 2 Cornice Poles; Parlour and Kitchen Fenders and Fireirons; several Pieces of Oil Cloth, together with a large quantity of Crockery Ware and other Kitchen Utensils.

Sale to commence at One o'clock. 598r

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Business Announcements.

MOST MONEY LENT

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(FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET).

PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 297r

A NOTE!

Were the enormous advantages resulting from purchasing "Patent" and other Medicines from Mr. ROBERTS, The Newcastle Chymist, properly understood, we have no hesitation in stating that Consett residents requiring such and similar articles would invariably call (when in Newcastle) and consult Mr. ROBERTS at 1, NEW BRIDGE STREET, or 97, CLAYTON STREET, where Patent Medicines may be had at less than London Store Prices. Our Consett friends will do well to make 'a note' of this fact! 494r

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH, 1883.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

Blackhill is looking up. It is not every day that its inhabitants have the honour of entertaining a real live M.P., and it says much for the efficiency of the staff of the country newspaper that can furnish so excellent and detailed a report of a social or political gathering within the limits of a few hours. The denizens of Consett and district would have Mr Palmer's speech displayed on the tea table the evening after it was delivered; whilst the midnight mail would carry it to the breakfast tables of his friends in towns many miles remote. In this way knowledge is diffused, and that spirit of enquiry so essential to modern progress is fostered. Fancy a sage M.P. reading the long array of the names of the advanced politicians who relieved the groaning tables of their burdens the other Thursday evening. Before laying the paper down he would in all probability glance at its title, and methinks I see the worthy defender of the people's rights passing his hand reflectively across his temples, and musing half aloud—"*The Consett Guardian.*—Consett? Let me see—ah! yes, a rising town in West Durham. Who represents the place in the House, I wonder?" It is one thing to ask a question; quite another to answer it. Doing justice to a supper, and waging a political warfare are two different things. A very few shillings will cover the cost of the one, and an approving appetite will furnish a ready return. But the other requires the exercise of faculties which none but men who work for posterity posess. A few years ago the cry was—Consett a borough town with an M.P. properly so-called to represent it in Parliament. Latterly, however, the subject seems to have been lost sight of. The dream was perhaps too sweet to last. In the ranks of the Derwent Liberal Association are men of excellent abilities, but on joining that society they somehow loose their individuality.

It appears from a paragraph in last week's issue of the *Guardian* that the Blue Ribbon movement is about to be marked by a departure from the tenets hitherto held by that institution. Instead of the tiny bow of blue, the simple badge is to be relieved by a white streak "running up the centre of the blue to denote, in addition abstinence from (or in the case of females, opposition to) the use of narcotics." There are little things, seemingly, but of small importance in themselves, but which, coming in contact with recognised usages and opinions, take forms and assume proportions around which various influences circle with mingled light and shade. It is very questionable whether this new departure is a very wise step. There is a possibility of expecting too much from men, and it is in this respect that a change for the worse may probably be brought about. The Blue Ribbon movement has lit up with a ray of sunshine many a heart, and with the machinery now in operation, much more might be accomplished. A man may deny himself "the cup that cheers," and be all the better for it, but even that cannot be achieved without a mental conflict, so enslaving is the force of habit. Not content, however, with fair results for efforts put forth, men push forward like restive steeds. Nothing is to be gained by premature haste. Men may promise and be sincere enough in their intentions, but human nature is human nature, and the man who is placed between two contending forces will in nine cases out of ten go to the wall. Smoking, although far from being a commendable practice is surely, on the other hand, not so heinous in character as men must needs hang out a sign to proclaim to the word that the wearer has forsworn the use of the weed. The man struggling manfully against the terrible, the almost insatiable craving for strong drink, deserves a cheer lusty as that which greets the warrior fresh from the tented field. But the smoker labouring in the toils of self-imposed prohibition calls forth sympathy of quite a different texture. The cast of his countenance agrees to a T with that look of commiseration assumed by a certain character in the Pilgrim's Progress. It is pitiful to beheld, and no man should venture abroad with such a companion. He has no confidence in himself, and should he see the blue smoke rising from the chimney of a distant cottage his hat will rise perceptibly. It is quite a mistake to circumcise the innocent pleasures which go to make up what is called "life," and whatever may be said *pro* or *con* about the evil of smoking, it ought not to be mentioned in the same breath as drunkenness.

The members of the Benfieldside Local Board have had another merry meeting, and after fighting I don't know how many rounds like professional pugilists, and part with a forced smile. It was the custom in olden times for Kings, and even courtiers of high rank, to engage the services of a fool or jester, and so tenaciously do men cling to the antique customs of the past that the members of this body, loath to let so charming a custom die, take care to hand down to posterity this time-worn usage. The days of duelling are happily past, or one would have heard of gauntlets being tossed on the sward, and of desperate hand to hand encounters in secluded corners far in the forest glade. It is a curious fact that in almost every community there is a disturbing element in the form of some captious individual who, fancying that kindly nature had endowed him with superior qualifications, strives by force to make his merits known. Unfortunately, however, this innate consciousness of superiority arises in most cases from what men call "egotism." Where real superiority exists it will find an outlet for itself in one or other of the countless untrodden paths open to the adventurer. The man whose opinions clash at all times with those held by other men ought not to arrogate to himself superior mental worth of which it is no proof. The most sensible course for one so circumstanced would be to retire to some sequestered spot, and having satisfied himself that he was in the body, address himself in something like the following strain:—"Now, my dear old fellow, I have brought you far from the haunts of men, and beyond the influence and prejudices of birds of evil omen, whose far-spreading wings would overshadow, if they could, the matchless lustre of your genius. Tell me then, and tell me truly, why I do not see as others see, nor think as others think? Is my mental organisation out of tune, or am I subject to the attraction of the moon?" Too many questions ought not to be put to the patient, because questions have so many sides, and when pressed too closely are apt to assume that hideous form known as suicide. The skilled physician tempers his prescription judiciously, and in this way a course of questions fairly put and as fairly answered, might set men a thinking, and in that case there would be less garrulity and more common sense.

Local and District News.

The Northumberland coal trade is at present brisk, and the pits are working full time.

LOCAL HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.—Braes of Derwent Foxhounds—Sat., April 7th, Greenside—10·30. North Durham Foxhounds—Mon., 9th, Hedleyhope; Wed., 11th, Twizell; Friday 13th, Maiden Law—11·0.

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.—The Misses Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall, have kindly granted to this association, the right of fishing in the Derwent through their estate, which will be preserved by the association.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—Mr J. G. Jackson, of Clavering Place, Annfield Plain, has a duck that has laid this week a large egg, 4½in. long and 6⅞in. round. Weight 4½ozs.—Mr Francis Armour of the same place has a Dorking hen (crossed), which has laid an egg 4in. long and 6¼in. round. Weight 3½oz.

THE SPRING ASSIZES.—The *London Gazette* of Friday night contained the dates fixed by the judges for the spring assizes. Those for this district are:—At Newcastle and Carlisle, Wednesday, April 11; Durham, Saturday, April 14; and Leeds, Wednesday, April 18.

RATEPAYERS' MEETING AT CONSETT.—Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, a special meeting of ratepayers was held in the Local Board Room, Consett.—Mr John Collinson presided—when Mr Wm. Elliott was re-appointed assistant overseer for the parish, at a salary of £60 per annum.

WEST STANLEY WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Good Friday the Wesleyan Methodists of West Stanley put forth an effort for the reduction of the church debt. The comfortable little iron church will seat 200 people and is warmed by hot water. The building has cost £413, all of which has been raised except £80. On Good Friday there was a stall for the sale of work, which was well patronised by the friends and public. Tea was also provided. A large company partook of the good things provided by the ladies. An entertainment was given by Mr Lax, of Shotley Bridge, consisting of readings and recitations. Mr Richardson, of Shotley Bridge, took part in the meeting, ably occupying the chair. Mr George Foster, of Stanley, gave several pieces of music at intervals, which were well received by the company.—On Easter Sunday two sermons were preached by Mr John Dodgson, of Langley Park, to good congregations. A vote of thanks to the several gentlemen brought the meeting to a close. The total amount cleared on Good Friday and Sunday was £23 13s 6d.

APPOINTMENT OF OVERSEERS.

At the Lanchester Petty Sessions yesterday (Thursday), the following gentlemen were appointed overseers for the undermentioned townships:—

Benfieldside—Richard Murray, William Raw, and William Wilson.

Burnhope and Hamsteels—William Leybourne and Jonathan Wall.

Billingside—William Brown and Samuel Mann.

Butsfield—William Leybourne and Jonathan Wall.

Conside and Knitsley—John Collinson, Thomas Richard Dolphin, and Charles Pattison Douglass.

Cornsay—William Cummings and William Suddes.

Collierley and Pontop—Christopher Holmes and Emmison Wilkinson.

Esh—Michael Steavenson and Henry Hornsby.

Kyo Laws—Robert Ayre and Alexander Barras.

Langley—John Cumming and William Logan.

Lanchester—William Leybourne and Jonathan Wall.

Medomsley—John Allison, John H. Merries, and John Smith.

Muggleswick—George Errington and John Sherlock.

Satley—John Disbery and Robson Temperley.

Tanfield—Joseph Watson and George Ridley.

Ebchester—Edward Dixon, George Moody, and William Shell.

Greencroft—Thomas Smith and Lancelot Hunter.

Holmside—William Leybourne and Jonathan Wall.

Healeyfield—Robert Robson and Elliot Leybourne.

Hedleyhope—Henry Pickering and Thomas Maughan.

Iveston—Thomas Longstaff and John J. Hedley.

A PECULIAR STATE OF AFFAIRS.

The CHAIRMAN enquired how it was that two overseers had been nominated for Lanchester township, and none at all for the adjacent townships of Burnhope and Hamsteels, Holmside and Butsfield?

Mr TOWNS (assistant overseer for Lanchester) explained that these three townships were included in the Lanchester township. Hitherto the overseers appointed for Lanchester had acted for the other three townships; but at the Vestry Meeting recently held at Lanchester it was resolved to appoint overseers for Lanchester township only, and thus save expense.

Mr GEO. G. TAYLOR SMITH observed that he could not understand how it was that these townships were included in the Lanchester Poor Law district, and yet were regarded separate districts by the Highway Board.

The CHAIRMAN said it would consequently be necessary for the Bench to appoint overseers for these different townships.

Mr TOWNS: Is Butsfield a township then?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. It is a ridiculous thing for these two overseers living at Lanchester to represent the whole parish.

The Magistrates' Clerk said if there were no overseers appointed for these different townships, he would have to notify the fact to the Clerk of the Peace.

Mr TOWNS said that the overseers had acted for these townships up to the present. This year it was resolved at the Vestry Meeting to appoint overseers for Lanchester, and leave these other places alone.

The Magistrates' Clerk: You appear to be overriding the authority of the magistrates and the whole of the county authorities.

Mr TOWNS: I can only say that the papers issued for the different townships get so mixed up that no one can understand them.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not wonder at that.

Mr TOWNS submitted that Burnhope was not a Poor Law township.

The CHAIRMAN considered that it was a most irregular way of conducting the affairs of a township, in having these places so mixed up with Lanchester.

Mr TOWNS asserted that Butsfield and Satley should have been a separate township, and not incorporated with Lanchester.

Mr SMITH: Can you explain why we have to pay Poor rates to the Lanchester township, and yet each township pays its own highway rates?

Mr TOWNS: No, I cannot.

The CHAIRMAN: I consider your proceedings most improper and unbusiness like. In the important parish of Lanchester we expected to find something like order and regularity, but here is a state of things worse than confusion. You have sent up the names of five gentlemen for four townships.

Mr TOWNS: I beg your pardon; it is only one township. I am only carrying out the instructions I received at the Vestry Meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: That is your opinion; but we do not think so. We expect another year to have names submitted to us from each of the separate townships.

Mr TOWNS: I would rather have the matter adjourned, and have it thoroughly investigated before further proceedings are taken.

The Magistrates' Clerk pointed out there was a clause which states that they must have the sanction of the Local Government Board.

The Bench eventually appointed the overseers for Lanchester (Messrs Wall and Leybourne) to act as overseers for the townships of Burnhope and Hamsteels, Holmside and Butsfield.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr Towns): Are you going to pay the fees for each township?

Mr TOWNS: No, I received orders at the Vestry Meeting only to pay for Lanchester township.

The CHAIRMAN: It is a very dirty proceeding for you to try and shirk the responsibility.

Mr TOWNS: I am not shirking any responsibility. I am merely carrying out the instructions I received at the Vestry Meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I hope you will bring this matter before the Vestry Meeting another year.

Mr TOWNS: May I be allowed to ask a few questions about this?

The CHAIRMAN: No; we will say what we have to say.

The Magistrates' Clerk: If you are not prepared to pay for the whole of the townships we will accept nothing, until further proceedings are taken against the overseers.

Mr TOWNS: Very well.

THE METHOD OF NOMINATING OVERSEERS.

When Mr William Elliott (assistant overseer for Conside and Knitsley) presented a list of three gentlemen for approval as overseers for that township, the CHAIRMAN pointed out that a complete list should be submitted to the Bench, and then it was for them to select the gentlemen most eligible to act in that capacity. He said the magistrates were not bound to appoint the same gentlemen who might be elected at the ratepayer's meeting.

Mr ELLIOTT replied that there were only three gentlemen nominated at the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: Very well; but we are not bound to accept those three names. I think the person who conducted the meeting ought to have submitted a longer list of names, so that the magistrates could make a proper selection.

Mr ELLIOTT: I could not get the names of any gentlemen down on the list who were not nominated.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I consider there are many persons in Consett who are qualified to act in the capacity of overseers. You must lay this matter before the meeting next year, and not attempt to deprive the Bench of their power of selecting the overseers.

Mr ELLIOTT promised to attend to this.

THE MEETING PLACE IN EBCHESTER TOWNSHIP.

A letter had been received from the Rev H. Linthwaite, vicar of Ebchester, drawing attention to the inconvenient place now selected for holding the meetings for Ebchester township—viz., Mr Ward's, Commercial Hotel, Consett.

Mr M. COUPLAND (the assistant overseer) in reply to the Bench, said the meeting had been held annually at the place indicated for upwards of 30 years, and Mr Linthwaite had himself presided over the meetings held there. He explained that in that neighbourhood were residing the greatest number of ratepayers.

Mr SMITH thought it was only right the meeting should be held so as to be quite convenient for the majority of the ratepayers.

LOCAL EMPLOYERS' AND WORKMEN'S CASES.

At the Lanchester Petty Sessions yesterday (Thursday), the sitting magistrates—the Rev J. P. De Pledge (chairman), Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., and George Hedley, Esq.—were engaged for a considerable period in investigating several cases under the Employers' and Workmen's Acts.

FERENS AND LOVE v. LEE.

In the first case, John M. Lee and James Lee (father and son), coal hewers, were summoned by Messrs Ferens and Love, owners of Cornsay Colliery, for absenting themselves from their work on the 27th March and three succeeding days, the employers claiming 20s as damages from each defendant. Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) appeared to prosecute; and Mr W. Brignal (Durham) represented the defendants.—Mr Charles Davison, manager, said he engaged the defendants on the 23rd January, under the usual terms of 14 days' written notice to cease work to be given on either side. The men commenced work on the 26th January, and at the end of each fortnight they received a notice on the back of which was printed the terms of which they were engaged. The defendants worked up to the 26th March, and on the 27th he received notice from both of them intimating that they intended to cease working in 14 days from that date. Neither of the defendants had been at the pit since, and the damage sustained was assessed at 5s a day.—To Mr Brignal: He engaged the father only, the son not being present at the time, the father asking if the son might come as well. Told the elder defendant that the seam varied from 3ft. 2in. to 2ft. Whether the father told the son this fact or not he could not say.—In reply to Mr Oliver, witness stated that the son actually worked at the colliery from January until March.—Mr Stott, overman at Cornsay Colliery, spoke to the defendants working at the colliery in January, February, and March. Neither of them came to the pit on the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th March.—Mr Bainbridge, deputy overman, was next called, and testified that the defendants had not worked in their "cavils" over which he had charge although they were required to do so.—In defence, Mr Brignal pointed out that this was a case where the men could not work, although they were quite able and willing to do so. The defendants had been employed in ironstone and coalmines in the Midlands where the seams ran from 7ft. to 12ft. in thickness. The question arises—What was the agreement between Mr Davison and the senior defendant. Mr Davison admits that he never saw the son, but alleges that he engaged the father and son together. Mr Davison never informed the elder Lee that he would have to work in a 2ft. seam. The father, with his broad shoulders, could hardly get into a 2ft. seam, much less hew coal in it. Even if he had gone in, he could only have scratched down a few pieces of coal. The senior defendant will declare that he never undertook either for him or his son to work in a 2ft. seam; and that when they were engaged of the manager, nothing was said about "cavilling."—Mr Oliver: It is a notorious fact in this part of the district that the "cavils" are ballotted for every three months.—Mr Brignal submitted that these men knew nothing at all about this. The reason the defendants left the colliery was because they were transferred from a 3ft. to a 2ft. "cavil."—Mr Brignal then called the defendant, John M. Lee, who said that when he went to Cornsay Colliery in search of employment, he first saw Mr Brown, the overman, who referred him to Mr Davison, and that gentleman promised to set him on to work. He told the manager he had been employed at Messrs Pease's, at Sunniside, and asked him the height of the seams. Mr Davison replied, "A yard and over." Told Mr Davison that he had a son, and inquired if he might come also? and he replied "Yes." That was all that passed. Neither his son nor himself expected to be compelled to work in a 2ft. seam, otherwise they would not have entered the pit. He never received any authority from his son to arrange for him working in a 2ft. seam. The lowest "cavil" he had worked in was 2ft. 5in. He could not have possibly hewed coal in a 2ft. seam. With regard to "cavilling," no rules were produced by Mr Davison concerning this matter. He saw the manager on Good Friday, after the "cavils" had been ballotted for, and told him if he (defendant) could not work in a yard seam he would give in his notice.—To the Bench: It was customary for the men to "cavil" for 2ft. and 3ft. seams.—The other defendant, John Lee, said he was not engaged by Mr Davison, and he never authorised his father to negotiate for him to work in a 2ft. seam in the pit. He had never worked in a 2ft. seam.—To Mr Oliver: He knew there were bigger men than himself hewing in 2ft. seams. His father told him that he had obtained employment for him at Cornsay Colliery, so he went there.—The Bench ordered the defendants to pay the amount of damage, 20s, and costs.

CAULFIELD v. CHAYTOR.

John Patrick Caulfield, platelayer, claimed by Mr Henry Chaytor, owner of Ushaw Moor Colliery, the sum of £1 19s, as compensation for wrongful dismissal. Mr Patrick, (Durham) prosecuted in this and the succeeding cases.—Prosecutor said he had lived in the district for 35 years, and was formerly employed under the North-Eastern Railway Company, until Mr Robinson, the late manager at Ushaw Moor Colliery, offered him a better situation. He had worked at the colliery about a year. When he was first engaged he was told by Mr Robinson that he could have a day's "play" whenever he choose, if they were not busy provided that he acquainted the timekeeper of the fact. He told Nichol, the timekeeper, that he was going away on the 8th March. His wife was very ill, and he was obliged to journey to Newcastle for the purpose of getting an order for her admission into the Infirmary. On his return from Newcastle, he saw Mr Turnbull, the manager, and informed him of the reason he had been away, but the latter slammed the door in his face. When he went to work next morning, Mr Turnbull told him that his services would not be required again, and he politely told him to "go to h—— for an Irish b——." Some money was due to him, but this was subsequently paid.—A portion of the foregoing statement was substantiated by Benjamin Bailey and John Patrick Caulfield, jun., (son of the prosecutor).—Mr Turnbull was proceeding to address the Bench in defence, when he was interrupted by the Magistrates' Clerk, who requested him to call his witnesses.—Alexander Robinson, "Keeker," knew that the prosecutor was not at work on the 8th March. A great quantity of snow had fallen, the locomotive was blocked on the road, and the pit was stopped for upwards of an hour. In consequence of the absence of Caulfield, witness had to take men off the screens to dig the engine out.—To Mr Patrick: Never told prosecutor that he had plenty of men to do his work.—Mr Turnbull denied that Nichols acted as timekeeper.—The Bench decided to hear the other cases before giving judgment.

BAILEY v. CHAYTOR.

Edward Bailey, another platelayer, sued Mr Chaytor for £2 under similar circumstances.—Prosecutor explained that his brother-in-law came to him and informed him that his sister-in-law was dying, therefore he went to Pelton on the evening of the 7th March, and did not work at the colliery on the following day. He had been employed at Ushaw Moor for ten years, and was summarily discharged by Mr Turnbull on the 9th ult.—John Bradley testified that he told the timekeeper that Bailey was not coming to work on the 8th March.—Alexander Robinson, sworn, denied that Bradley informed him the prosecutor would be absent from his employment on the day in question.

CAULFIELD v. CHAYTOR.

John Patrick Caulfield, jun., employed as "shover-on" at Ushaw Moor, brought an action to recover £1 19s from Mr Chaytor for wrongful dismissal on the 28th March.—It seems that on the day before-mentioned, the prosecutor during the breakfast hour, had been "larking" with one of his companions, a youth named Peacock, and eventually he threw a massive piece of iron at him which luckily missed its aim. For his misconduct he was at once dismissed by the "keeker."—Mr Turnbull explained that the "keeker" merely suspended the prosecutor, and that he himself subsequently discharged him.

BRADLEY v. CHAYTOR.

John Bradley, labourer, claimed from Mr Henry Chaytor £1 15s for having been wrongfully dismissed on March 21st.—The prosecutor, it transpired, was discharged in the middle of March by Thomas Curry, the engineer, for "skulking" in the engine shed, but he was subsequently re-engaged (without the knowledge of Mr Turnbull) at the brickworks connected with the colliery. As soon as the manager heard of this, he went and instantly discharged the prosecutor.

After a brief deliberation, the Chairman observed that these cases had given the Bench much anxiety indeed in order to arrive at a just decision. It was no doubt a serious matter for the employers for a man to neglect his employment, whatever may be the reason assigned, without giving due notice to those persons in authority. They thought, however, there was a rather loose way of carrying on business at the colliery, on account of the great number of masters. If any man could cease working in consequence of the illness of one of his relatives, this would cause great inconvenience and loss of time to the employers, but in the case of Caulfield, who was a person of good character, the magistrates considered that he had been somewhat harshly used. The prosecutor, however, took the wrong course in ceasing work without permission, and the Bench felt sorry to be compelled to dismiss this case, but trusted the Colliery owner would offer him some compensation for the treatment he had been subjected to.—In the case of Bailey, who went to see his dying sister, they would have to dismiss this action also, but the Bench hoped that some little consideration would be shewn towards him for his past services.—With regard to the boy Caulfield, there was no doubt that he was properly discharged, and the question did not need further comment.—Concerning the case of Bailey, it could not be denied that he was dismissed, and subsequently re-engaged, and again discharged without sufficient cause. Therefore the Bench ordered Mr Chaytor to pay the amount he claimed, £1 15s, and defray expenses.

The electric light was used on Monday night for the first time in the library and dining-room of the House of Commons.

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.—We wish to draw attention to the dramatic entertainment to be given in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside, on Monday evening next, by the member of St. Mary's Amateur Dramatic Society. The tragedy to be produced is written by Mr Moore, entitled "The Gamester," and is the same piece that was so successfully performed in St. Patrick's Schools on the evening of Easter Monday.

FIRE AT LEADGATE.—On Saturday night, 24th ult., a fire was observed about eight o'clock to have broken out on the premises of Geo. Temple, publican, Front Street, Leadgate. One of the beds in a back room had accidentally caught fire, and although several buckets of water were instantly thrown over the flames, a portion of the floor and a door were destroyed before the fire was extinguished. The damage is estimated at about £15.—[This paragraph was accidently ommitted from last week's issue.]

SUNDAY CLOSING MEETING AT CONSETT.—On Friday night last, a public meeting for the purpose of promoting the Sunday Closing movement for the county of Durham, was held in the National Schoolroom, at Consett, under the presidency of Wm. Jenkins, Esq., J.P., when able and eloquent addresses were delivered by the Revs F. Steggall (vicar), W. Hare (Wesleyan), W. Baitey (Primitive Methodist), A. Baillie (Presbyterian), and G. Lord (United Free Methodist). Afterwards a resolution was passed approving of the closing of public-houses on Sundays throughout the county. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman brought an enthusiastic and well attended meeting to a close.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.—Our readers will see by reference to our advertising columns that the brilliant temperance cantata, "Harold Glynde," which has been given with such success in London, and performed, we believe, for the first time in the north of England on Thursday, 29th ult., at Shotley Bridge, by the Consett Choral Society, is to be given by the same choir in the National School-room, Consett, on Tuesday evening next. From the enthusiastic reception the cantata met with at Shotley Bridge, we augur a well-filled house at this second performance of this fine cantata. The blank verse is sublime, and the music is of a high-class character.

STUD NEWS.—At Woodlands Stud, Knitsley Station (Consett Branch North-Eastern Railway) County Durham.—Mr James Cowan's Malapropos (dam of Mrs Malaprop), a chestnut colt, by Macgregor, and put to him again; Woodlands Stud's Knavery (dam of Dougal) a brown colt, by Claremont, and goes to Macgregor; Mr J. Cowan's Religeuse (dam of Sister Margaret), a chesnut (since dead), by Macgregor.—Arrived to Macgregor: Mr J. Cowan's Blink Bonny, by Blinkhoolie, in foal to Cœrubeus, his Sandstone, by Stockwell, in foal to Claremont; Mr T. Park's Lily Randolph (maiden) Mr Haansbergen's Clifden Jewel (dam of Redemption), in foal to Claremont; Mr T. Chaloner's Evelyn Agnes (maiden); Mr J. Annett's Red Hind, by Breadalbane; Mr Bulman's Rat Trap (dam of Trapper), barren to Hilarious; Mr E. O. Blenchley's mare (dam of Candahar), in foal to Claremont; Lord Bateman's Miss Perhill, by Mewminster.

CORNSAY COLLIERY CRICKET CLUB.—The members of this club held a concert on Monday evening, in St. Charles' Catholic Schools, in aid of the funds of their club. It proved to be one of the most successful concerts ever given in Cornsay. The chair was occupied by the Rev Philip Fortin, who opened the entertainment by a short pithy address on "Cricketing." Mr O. B. Henry, Esh, presided at the pianoforte, and his splendid solos were highly appreciated. The songs and trios of Messrs Hughes, Ayton, and Mackintosh, of Tow Law, were given in splendid style, and they repeatedly received deserving *encores*. The comic singing of Mr Hardy, Mr Scott, and Mr Dixon, were uproariously applauded and *encored* by the audience. The songs of Miss Cloughton, Latue, Hodgson, and the Misses Allparts were given in beautiful style. The schoolroom was crowded by an appreciative audience, and the members of the club have realised a handsome amount for their funds. The entertainment concluded by a vote of thanks to the chairman, and the singing of the National Anthem.

SACRED CONCERT AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

On Monday evening, a concert of sacred music was given in the Wesleyan Chapel at Annfield Plain by the united Wesleyan Choirs of Tantobie and Tanfield Lea. There was a tolerably fair attendance; nevertheless, the fame acquired in this locality by the combined choirs ought, we think, to have drawn together a much larger audience. The soloists were Misses M. Thirlwell (Catchgate), Brown, Hall, and Saunders. The chair was filled by Mr John Buckham, of Lanchester, who (after the proceedings had been opened with prayer offered by Mr Macpherson) briefly introduced the programme. Part I. commenced with the chorus by the choir "Their sound is gone out" (Handel's *Messiah*), and was favourably received. The anthem, "As the heart panteth" (*Mason*) was also sweetly rendered by the choir, and their efforts were frequently applauded. The solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth" (from the *Messiah*) was exceedingly well executed by Miss Hall, whose clear intonation gave full expression to the delicate strains of the air. The choir next contributed "Worthy is the Lamb" (*Messiah*) with power and spirit, and were followed by Miss Saunders, Messrs Greener, Saunders, and Hall, in the quartette, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." Miss Thirlwell rendered Handel's celestial solo, "Angels ever bright and fair," in a very pleasing manner, and was rewarded by an enthusiastic *encore* for her pains. The anthem, "Break forth into joy" (*Barnby*) and the chorus "The heavens are telling" (*Haydn*) were two brilliant efforts by the choir, and brought the first portion of the programme to a termination. Part II. opened with the anthem by the choir, "Turn thy face from my sins," with solos by Miss Hall; after which Miss Brown favoured with the solo from Handel's *Joshua*, "Oh! had I Jubal's lyre," which was executed in a brilliant style, the audience demanding a repitition of the piece. In response, Miss Brown sang, "Children's voices," with distant chorus, which produced a marvellous effect. The choir next rendered the chorus, "Fix'd in His everlasting seat" (Handel's *Samson*), which was duly appreciated. Misses Brown and Simpson, and Messrs Baker and Smailes subsequently appeared in the quartette, "When I can read my title clear," being followed by the choir in the anthem, "Thou visitest the earth" (*Calcott*). Miss Thirlwell next favoured with the solo entitled "The legend of the Crossbill" (*Liesett*). The rendition of this piece was truly magnificent, and won for the young artiste a well-merited *encore*, which she gracefully acknowledged. The "Hallelujah chorus," which was buoyantly executed by the choir, exhausted a pleasing and varied programme. Mr J. Gedling ably acted as conductor; and Mr W. T. Daglish and Mr Lumley officiated at the organ.—At the close, Mr Macpherson proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the united choirs and the soloists for their valuable assistance. He spoke in high terms of praise of the rare musical treat afforded the inhabitants of Annfield Plain on that occasion.—Mr Dawson, in seconding the proposition, said he had been as happy that night as on the day that he was married. (Laughter).—The resolution was carried by acclamation, and Mr Gedling suitably responded. A like compliment was subsequently paid to the chairman for his services.—The choir having sung the hymn "Through the day Thy love," the benediction was pronounced and the assemblage dispersed. A coffee supper was afterwards provided in the vestry.

DURHAM QUARTER SESSIONS.

The Easter Quarter Sessions for the County of Durham commenced on Monday, at the Assize Courts, Durham, before Mr John Lloyd Wharton, and other magistrates. The Chairman complimented the Grand Jury on the light calendar placed before them. Not only were the number of prisoners less than in the corresponding Sessions of last year, but the character of the crime was of the lightest that he ever remembered at that Court.

SHOP ROBBERIES AT CONSETT AND LEADGATE.

Patrick Walsh (35), labourer, pleaded guilty to stealing a pair of lady's elastic side boots from the shop of John Thurlow Potts, Middle Street, Consett, and also with stealing 5½lbs. of beef, the property of John Lumley, butcher, Leadgate, both offences being committed at Lanchester on the 27th January.—Four months' hard labour.

LARCENY AT CONSETT.

George Charlton (65), labourer, pleaded guilty to stealing a sack containing two stones weight of oats, value of 3s 6d, the property of Robert Symington, fruiterer, Front Street, Consett, on the 16th January, and was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

LARCENY NEAR SWALWELL.

Thomas McNally (23), sailor, was found guilty of stealing a pair of boots from the shop door of George Thompson, at Swalwell, on the 19th January.—Twelve months' hard labour.

WEDNESDAY.—Before JOHN LLOYD WHARTON, Esq., H. GREENWELL, Esq., and U. A. RITSON, Esq.

APPEAL CASES.

John Forster, Appellant, against *Henry Conway*, Respondent.—This was an appeal by Mr John Forster, farmer, of Biggin Terrace, near Hamsteels Colliery, against a conviction at the Lanchester Petty Sessions in December last, on the prosecution of the respondent, Henry Conway, a gamekeeper in the employment of Captain Edward Leadbitter Smith, of Flass Hall, for game trespass, when the appellant was fined £5 and costs. Mr T. C. Granger was for the appellant, who called Mr Wm. Dickinson, the solicitor in the case, to prove the fact that the preliminary formularies in the case had been all perfected; but Mr Strachan, who appeared for the respondent, pointed out that the case was tried on the 16th of December, and notice of appeal was served on the 20th, and thus four days had been allowed to elapse, whereas the law enacted that the notice of appeal should be given within three days. He submitted, therefore, that the appeal was inadmissable.—Mr Granger argued that, under the Summary Jurisdiction Act, seven days were allowed.—Mr Strachan said the offence under notice was ruled by its own statute, which enacted that the appeal should be made within three days.—The Bench concurred, and the appeal was dismissed with costs.

Albert Rust, Appellant, against *Jane Walton*, Respondent.—Mr T. C. Hedderwick was for the appellant, whilst Mr T. C. Granger appeared for the respondent. The appeal was against an order in bastardy, made by the Lanchester justice on the 8th of February, both appellant and respondent beinn persons in a humble position in life, complainant residing at White-le-Head, whilst defendant had removed from that place to Swalwell a couple of months ago.—The appeal was dismissed with costs.

This terminated the appeal cases.

THROAT IRRITATION.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections, becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. and 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice.—Yours faithfully, GORDON HOLMES, L. R. C. P. E., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary." 185q

REDUCTION OF WORKING TIME AT THE DURHAM COLLIERIES.

The adjourned debate on the question of reducing the working hours at the Durham collieries was resumed on Saturday last, at a special meeting of the council of the Durham Miners' Association, held in the Miners' Hall, North Road, Durham, Mr John Forman presiding. There was a full attendance of delegates, all of whom were invited to give the feeling of the lodges they represented on the question. It was explained that after the introduction into Parliament in 1872 of the Mines Regulation Act, which came into active operation in the January of the following year, the custom which prevailed universally in the county of Durham, was ten hours for drawing coals. This custom prevailed up to 1877, when the coalowners, under the first sliding scale terms, claimed the right to draw coals for eleven hours per diem. This extension the men objected to, and the question was ultimately referred to a gentleman resident in the county, but not connected with the coal trade, in whom both sides had confidence, and his decision was in favour of the extension to eleven hours for drawing coals. But he also ruled that where this extension of time was adopted it should be accompanied by a *pro rata* increase of wages. The extension system was adopted by about two-thirds of the collieries in the county, but at some of the collieries the extension amounted to only half-an-hour a day, whilst others took the full eleven hours, and fully a third preferred to remain as they were with ten hours a day for drawing coals. In seeking to return to the ten hours per diem system fully 30 per cent. of the Durham collieries will not be affected by the change, that system being already in force. It was also pointed out that should the coalowners concede the request of the men to return to the old system of working, they will only do so with a relative reduction of wages, as the increase was obtained in that way. The Council was also reminded that the wisdom of the policy of the coalowners in extending the hours of working had always been a subject of controversy in the county of Durham, and a large number of coalowners and workmen, who were well versed in the matter, had confidently asserted that no special benefit had been derived from this increase in the hours of drawing coals, and thus competent judges had as confidently declared that the decreased hours now sought to be established would not materially affect the general output of coals in the county. Eventually it was agreed that a claim should be formally made to the Durham Coalowners' Association to establish ten hours per diem as the recognised time for drawing coals throughout the county. The question of reducing the working days at the Durham collieries was not touched upon, and these will consequently remain as at present, viz., eleven shifts per fortnight.

Correspondence.

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

THE EMBEZZLEMENT CASE AT CORNSAY COLLIERY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR.—In your issue of the 30th ult., you report the trial and conviction of my son, William J. Wardle for embezzlement in which statements are made reflecting very seriously upon my own character and which have added very considerably to the intense grief which this sad case has already produced. Mr Tulip in his evidence, states that when he charged my son W. J. Wardle, with his defalcations, the latter replied that he had taken the money to help his father. Allow me to give this statement a solemn and unqualified denial. It is absolutely false. No one will ever know how much of a hinderance this unfortunate child has been to me, but he never was a source of help; and no matter how great my difficulties in life may be, I hope I will never so far forget myself as to avail myself of assistance which involve such terrible consequences. Hoping you will kindly insert this letter in your next issue, and allow me to clear myself of this serious aspersion,—I remain, yours &c.,

J. WARDLE.

FISHING IN THE DERWENT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—You will probably allow me a small space in your paper, to say a few words on the recent introduction of a fresh breed of trout into the Derwent. The General Meeting gave the Committee power to expend £15 in procuring a different breed of trout. It was decided by the Committee to write to Mr Ford, Manor Fishery, Caistor, Lincolnshire, asking him the price of his fish. After much correspondence, we gave him an order for 4,000 Fario and 2,000 Salmo Sevenensis fry. The fish arrived safely on Saturday and were immediately distributed in the various tributaries of the river. The Salmo Fario fry are from a good breed of fish from the south of England (Test Itcher) crossed with trout from other rivers. If the Fario prosper we shall have a good cross from our present fish. The Salmo Sevenensis is quite different from the Fario, and easily distinguished from it. Our Derwent fish are Fario. The Salmo Sevenensis or Loch Leven trout has been supposed to be one of the many varieties in which the Common Trout or Fario is prone to appear, as influenced by differences in water and ford, but observers who have been well qualified to form an opinion, such as Dr Parnell, Mr Yarrell, Sir John Richardson, and Dr Gunther, of the British Museum, have confidently decided that it is a distinct species. That they are a distinct species is shown by the fact, that there are abundance of ordinary trout in the same water, exposed to the same influences, but from which the Sevenensis is readily distinguished. According to Dr Parnell they spawn in January, February, and March. The flesh has an excellent flavour. It is a lively fish and gives excellent sport. The Sevenensis differs from Fario in having the body much less stout, the hinderpart more tapering, the tail more deeply incised, the colour in the upper parts are generally olive green, and the sides both above and below the lateral line, are marked with a great number of dark spots, some of which are round and many X or XX-shaped, there are no red spots. They sometimes attain the length of 20 inches. Mr Francis Francis in his book "By Lake and River," says that this fish has sold in London at 5s per pound, or even more for fine fish. The same gentleman is inclined to think that Sevenensis come of a race of imprisoned sea trout.

Before closing this letter I should like to add a few words about the grayling, as there still seems to be some doubt what kind of a fish it is. Some anglers imagine it is like dace or perch. This is a mistake. Salmon trout, sevenensis, grayling, and charr all belong to the same family of fishes—salmonia. The perch belongs to a different, as can be seen by placing one of its scales under a microscope, when it will be found to be notched like the teeth of a comb. Pike, pope, and basse are of the same class. Salmon, trout, grayling, herring, &c., have their scales circular and laminated.

I hope that our first attempt at improving the river will be a success.—Yours truly,

W. PALLIASER.

Westwood, March 30th, 1883.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d. and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester

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STRANGELY WOOED; STRANGELY WON.

BY INA LEON CASSILIS,

AUTHOR OF "Guilty without Crime," "The Mystery of Weeping Cross," "Sinner or Victim?" &c.

CHAPTER XVIII.

VICTORY.

"Mazed and stupified and wearied with the fight, the Nomad hordes,
Like the grass before the mower, sink beneath the Gothic swords."—*G. H. Palmer.*

"Good day, father," was all Lorraine said, with grave courtesy, till he had locked and barred the massive door, and meanwhile Margaret had run forward and kissed the priest's hand, with much effusion and many broken exclamations of delight. Then Lorraine turned to the priest. The latter spoke at once.

"This is a tirrible business, Misther Lorraine."

"A terrible business truly, father, but none of my seeking. I suppose you have got hold of the story that I brought Hyacinth Desmond here?"

"Faith, sir, that is what they all say, and forgive me if I say it's your own fault if folks think so badly of ye."

"I suppose it is: but follow me, and you shall hear the truth from Hyacinth Desmond's own lips. My word you may not accept; perhaps you will believe her."

In surprise and no little curiosity the priest followed his host to the oak-room, and as the door opened Hyacinth sprang to meet the former.

"Dear Father Malone!" half smiling, half weeping, she clung to his hand. "Have you seen my mother? where is she? tell me if you have seen her?"

"My dear child," said the priest, deeply moved, "I have not seen your mother; but they tell me that when you were missed, she went up to Clanmorris. Hyacinth, Hyacinth, how come ye here?"

The girl flushed crimson.

"Do you think," she said, drawing back, "that he brought me here, or that I was persuaded to come—did he not tell you?"

She looked at Lorraine. He shrugged his shoulders.

"I thought Father Malone had better hear it from you, Hyacinth."

"Hyacinth!" The priest glanced quickly from one to the other; but suffered the girl to lead him to a seat, and then she knelt down before him, and briefly told him all—how she had watched the men; how she had discovered the conspiracy, and how she had fled to Curramore to warn its lord of his peril. In deepening wonder the priest listened, Lorraine standing by silent the while, leaning against the wall with folded arms; and when Hyacinth ceased, Father Malone laid his hand on her head, and his voice shook as he said, "Child, ye are a heroine—a brave, noble girl, and yer mother an' yer counthry will be proud of ye. Misther Lorraine, pardon me that I wronged you; but belave me, sir, I never thought as badly of ye as perhaps some of these ignorant men thought."

"I ought to be grateful for so much, Father Malone," replied Lorraine, with some irony. "Tracy Mansfield—allow me to add—might have spared some bloodshed; or at least tried to do so; for I sent him a message that Hyacinth had come here to warn me of the plot to assassinate me; and he chose to regard that message as a lie."

"On his head," said the priest, rising hastily, "may the curse of Heaven rest! Misther Lorraine, I belave that Misther O'Conor has sent for the constables, but I can make the people go home if ye'll make them a few promises."

"I will not make one, Father Malone. Against those who came here under the idea that I was forcibly detaining Hyacinth Desmond I will not lift my hand; I am sorry I had to shoot any of them; but those of the murderers who survive must reap as they have sown, and any man who from this time continues the strife shall be made to suffer. From this position nothing shall make me swerve. Moreover, as you will know, concession would not purchase safety. My life would be as surely taken as if these men had complete possession of the castle at this moment."

"Too thrue!" said the priest, sighing; his last hope fell as he saw that Hyacinth had no intention of interceding.

"Hyacinth," he said, after a moment's pause, "will you let me take you to your mother? Your life is safe—especially with me."

But Hyacinth, flushing to her brow, shrank back to Lorraine's side, and he smiled and passed his arm round her, drawing her close to him.

"Hyacinth," he said, gently, "act freely—as your own heart dictates; you will be safe—Father Malone need not tell these people the truth."

"I would not shelter under the lie," returned the girl, passionately, "and if I would, I could not leave you now. Tell her, Father Malone, tell mother what you have heard, and that I will come to her soon. Or stay—I will write a message, and one of the boys, I now, will take it."

"An' will ye tell her, child," said the priest, more sorrowfully than sternly, "that you've given your heart where she'll never let you give yer hand, unless ye mane to fly in yer mother's face, an' ye'll never do that, Hyacinth."

"I don't know," said Lorraine, with a decided touch of *hauteur*, "that that question need be entered upon now. The matter that brought you, father, being settled, perhaps you will take some refreshment while Hyacinth writes."

"I thank you, Misther Lorraine, no," returned the priest, as Hyacinth turned to the table to write.

"You will not eat of my salt or drink of my cup!" said Lorraine, indifferently. "Well, as you will. A man who seeks his own is an outcast in Connaught; but take heart of grace, I shall not remain much longer in the land. The bullet has been arbitrator between my tenants and me, though not quite as they intended."

The letter was written, and Father Malone retired, mounting the wall by means of a small ladder which Margaret placed for the purpose, and instantly withdrew when he had descended on the other side.

Then waving aside the crowd, which clamoured around him, the priest approached Tracy, and spoke in a low, stern tone,

"Misther Mansfield, ye'll do well to take yerself off; ye've been threacherous for yer own revinge, an' made these poor people shed their blood. If I tell them the thruth, some av em'll not be kept off av ye; so be wise, and escape while ye can."

Tracy hesitated one moment; but he saw that remonstrance or excuse was useless, and setting his teeth he turned his horse's head and rode rapidly away.

Father Malone then harangued the mob, exhorting them to disperse. It was not true, he said, that Mr. Lorraine had carried off Hyacinth Desmond; she had discovered a plot to murder the lord of Curramore, and had gone to the castle to warn him. In the midst of the tumult which this communication raised, Father Malone gave Hyacinth's letter to a lad, and bade him make all speed to Clanmorris and give it to Mrs. Desmond. A diversion was caused by the sudden appearance [illegible] over the moorland, and almost as the shout arose, "Misther O'Conor," Terence hot and breathless, drew rein.

"Saints in Heaven!" he exclaimed, "what bloody work is this?—Are you Irishmen—are you men, who seek one man's life? If you are wise, clear off while you can. Silence, and hear me!" He lifted his hand.

"Silence!" roared the priest, and the order was obeyed. In a loud clear voice O'Conor added—"Within an hour there will be a body of constabulary—twelve armed men—from Roscommon. Within two hours a company of soldiers, from Galway."

The war-like spirit of the men had been evaporating rapidly under Lorraine's terrible rain of bullets. O'Conor's information put the finishing touch; and a great cry arose, while men and women gathered round the young soldier, exclaiming—"Ye'll not inform, Misther O'Conor, ye'll not inform?"

"Go to your homes," was O'Conor's reply, "and I'll forget many a face I know well. Boys, I know some of you at least only wanted to save Miss Hyacinth; but you had no right to think of murder; you had no right to think Mr. Lorraine deserved death. 'Tis no lie I told you. Terence O'Conor never yet lied to any man."

"Children," cried the priest, "if ye stay here there'll be more bloodshed. Hyacinth Desmond don't need yer rescuing, an' ye'll not kill Misther Lorraine while I shtand by; besoides, look here"—pointing to the corpses—"ye'll dhrop wan by wan. Disperse while ye can, but if ye shtay I'll denounce every man av ye from the altar, whether the military take ye or not."

Father Malone folded his arms and looked what he meant. The men looked at each other—at the priest—at Terence O'Conor—at the castle—and a deep, heavy groan ran among them

"Like the moaning noise that goes before the whirlwind on the deep,"

and one voice exclaimed aloud:—

"We're done now, because the sodgers are comin', but be all the powers above let Misther Lorraine guard his cursed loife, for it isn't worth *that*"—dashing a stone to the ground—"an' I don't belave the lie that Miss Hyacinth found out we was goin' to kill him. He tuk her off, an' he shall die for that, an' for his hardness, an' for these bhoys he's murdhered."

"Dermot Grady," said the priest, sternly, "ye'll be cliver if ye escape with yer own life—take care how ye dispose of other men's. There's a rope ready for ye if iver there was for any man in Connaught. Be off, ye scoundrel!"

While all this was going forward, Lorraine and Hyacinth, still out of sight, stood by the casement watching; the girl, encircled by her lover's arm, trembling now that the peril and bloodshed were over, but strong and brave still.

"There goes Dermot Grady," said Lorraine, coolly, as the man strode away, and Grady turning, shook his fist savagely towards the castle, and fired his rifle in the air by way of defiance. "You will have to cross seas, my friend. By Jove, Hyacinth," and the reckless fellow burst out laughing, "what will he say if he should find your hat behind the cornstacks?"

In twos and threes at first, but presently in greater numbers, the crowd began to disperse. Some shouted out defiance, some fired shots, some slunk off, some strode away haughtily, others ran; but in half an hour all had gone, the dead being carried away on stretchers by friends and relatives, the women raising dismal wailings as they ran along beside the corpses. Terence O'Conor and the priest were left sole possessors of the ground.

The latter turned away.

"Good-day, Misther O'Conor—'tis a bad day's work, an' I don't excuse the boys; but I don't want to see Misther Lorraine again. He's brought mischief to Ballygoyle, and sorrow to a happy home. He's taught Hyacinth to think too much av him an' she'll not have Patrick Malone's blessing if she marries Vincent Lorraine."

He walked away, and a moment later the gate was opened and Vincent Lorraine stood on the threshold.

"Will you take my hand, O'Conor?" he said, holding it out, "though it has shed much Irish blood to-day."

"I blush to own such blood as kindred," said Terence, flushing deeply, and springing to the ground he clasped the extended hand in his own. "Lorraine, I have done you wrong, and faith, if it's true what I hear, that Hyacinth does love you after all, I suppose she is sharper than the rest of us, and has found out what none of us knew—that you're a broth of a boy."

Terence had heard the whole story half an hour later, and then went to fetch Mrs. Desmond, for Hyacinth could not have safely traversed the country just now without a stronger escort than one man.

During O'Conor's absence the constables arrived from Roscommon, and the names of such of the ringleaders of the original attack as had survived were taken. Lorraine bore lightly on the principal actors in the second attack, and only gave the names of those whom he knew to be actuated by other motives than the ostensible one of rescuing Hyacinth. He left the police to find out for themselves that Tracy Mansfield had been present at all.

And then there was a rattle and a jingle and the thunder of many hoofs, and up came a gallant troop of soldiers, and Curramore Castle was speedily garrisoned, and a ragged but harmless contingent of kernes shouted themselves hoarse for the space of two hours outside the gates.

(*To be continued.*)

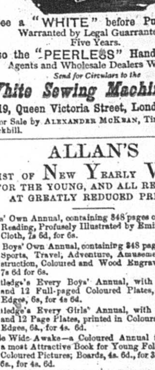
FOOTBALL.—PRUDHOE ROVERS *v.* WINLATON ROYAL OAK.—Played on Saturday on the ground of the latter, and after a well-contested game of two thirties, resulted in a victory for the visitors by one goal to nil.

THE PICTORIAL WORLD.—Captain Morton the eminent Aëronaut, has just built a Balloon for the Proprietors of *The Pictorial World.* The first ascent was made on Easter Monday, from Three Bridges. It is intended to make a series of ascents both in the United Kingdom and abroad, when experienced Artists will accompany the Aëronaut, and the results of their work, and a detailed account of each voyage, will appear in *The Pictorial World.* The Proprietors have arranged for a series of experiments in Balloon Photography, and by the aid of the latest and most improved apparatus, and the experience of a skilled operator, it is hoped to obtain a number of beautiful views of the earth as seen from the car of a balloon. No expense will be spared to reproduce faithful representations in *The Pictorial World.*

WOUNDING A MAN AND HIS WIFE AT BOYNE COLLIERY.—At the Durham County Petty Sessions, on Wednesday, a young man named *John Bowes* was charged with unlawfully wounding an old man [illegible] man named Frederick and Lydia Brewster, [illegible] Boyne Colliery, on the 27th March. The [illegible]tor held possession of a level as security for [illegible] payment of a shilling the Brewsters had [illegible] to Bowes, who came to the door of com[illegible]ts' house in a very demonstrative condition [illegible]ght in question and demanded the return [illegible]operty. After some demur the level was [illegible] to him, and in the course of a further [illegible] the prisoner attacked the Brewsters, [illegible] struck with the level. The male com[illegible] sustained slight injury, but the woman [illegible]wo severe wounds on her head, which [illegible]d to the bone, and from which she lost a [illegible]ntity of blood.—After hearing the facts, [illegible]r was ordered to pay a fine of £5 5s [illegible] costs, or undergo two months' hard [illegible] default.

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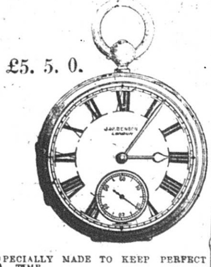
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CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

The concluding meeting of the Board as at present constituted took place at the Public Buildings in Parliament Street, Consett, on Wednesday evening, the chairman (Mr W. Jenkins, J.P.), presiding. The members present were the Rev F. Steggall, Messrs W. Aynsley, T. Siddell, J. Calvert, T. Dunne, W. R. Taylor, J. W. Davison, J. Collinson, J. H. Hudson, and the clerk (Mr T. W. Welford).

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

THE OVERFLOW IN SHERBURN TERRACE.

Mr John Bell again interviewed the Board with respect to the flooding of his shop and premises situate in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, late on Sunday night, 3rd March. He submitted an estsmate of the damage sustained, which was prepared by Mr Joseph Oley, licensed valuer, of Shotley Bridge, who estimated the amount of damage to be £53 10s.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr Bell): Will you tell us what you base your claim upon?

Mr Bell: Just on the facts that Mr Oley states. The dampness is oozing up now, and I have to scatter chloride about to prevent a nuisance.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, we will look into the matter, ascertain who may be liable, and then see what we can do.

Mr COLLINSON inquired if Mr Oley, when he made his valuation, saw everything that had been damaged?

Mr Bell: Yes, he saw it all; but he did not observe the worst.

Mr Calvert explained that the overflow could not be caused by the waste water from the Water Company's reservoir, as there was not a valve to stop the waste water.

Mr DUNNE: This was waste water running through our sewerage pipes.

Mr CALVERT: Yes, certainly.

The Rev F. STEGGALL asked how high the water rose above the floor?

Mr Bell replied six inches.

Mr DUNNE: Did you give notice to our Surveyor to come and see what state the place was in?

Mr Bell: Yes, I did the next morning.

The Surveyor stated that he went up as soon as he received the notice at noon on Monday.

The Rev F. STEGGALL said that unfortunately, the Local Board sewerage pipe was stopped up.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that Mr Calvert's theory was this—the householders in Sherburn Terrace allowed driblets of water to run from their taps, and these driblets were stopped by the Water Company's main turning off the valve.

The Surveyor stated that when he visited the premises, he could see the place had been flooded, and women were then employed in scouring the floors.

The CHAIRMAN said this claim of £53 10s was the most serious the Board had had before them.

Mr DUNNE thought the Board should not entertain the claim, as there was nothing said about them being responsible at the time the flood happened, and no damage was pointed out to their Surveyor at the time.

The CHAIRMAN: If Mr Bell has suffered any damage or loss through the fault of some person, his claim is as good now as then.

Mr COLLINSON likewise held that Mr Bell had a claim upon the Board.

The CHAIRMAN thought they should have some written report from the Surveyor as to what he found when he had the sewer opened.

Mr HUDSON: I think we should leave the matter in the hands of our Clerk and Surveyor.

The CHAIRMAN considered it would be far better for the Sewerage Committee, in conjunction with their Surveyor, to investigate the subject and ascertain how the flood originated, and who was responsible.

Mr COLLINSON explained that the Water Company had an eight-inch pipe at the bottom of the reservoir which was connected with the Board's sewer. Mr Calvert had alleged that no one could turn that pipe on. His opinion was that some person had either intentionally or accidentally turned this on.

Mr CALVERT contended that it was a moral impossibility for any one to turn on this pipe, as they would have to obtain a special key.

Eventually, it was moved by the CHAIRMAN that the Sewerage Committee and the Surveyor be requested to enquire into the circumstances connected with the alleged inundation of Mr Bell's premises, and report fully to the Board at its adjourned meeting on Wednesday next.

Mr CALVERT seconded the proposition, which was carried *nem con.*

At a subsequent stage of the proceedings, a communication was received from Thomas Quinn, Grey Horse Inn, Sherburn Terrace, in which he claimed £12 5s 6d as compensation for the flooding of his cellar on the same occasion. £12 of this amount was for damage to five barrels of beer.

The matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee to report thereon.

WATER CLOSETS v. PRIVIES.

Respecting this question, the Rev F. STEGGALL incidentally remarked that if water closets were to be substituted for privies, it would prove a very serious matter for them, as when the water closets were detached, they were generally frozen up for four months in the year. He had elaborate water closet arrangements originally fixed into the National Schools, the result being that he was obliged to take them up and erect privies instead. He regretted that he had omitted to mention this circumstance at former meetings.

Mr W. Raw, of Blackhill, the agent for the Rock Building Society, appeared before the Board with respect to the minute adopted at the last meeting requesting water closets to be fixed into the Building Society's property in Medomsley Road, instead of privies. According to the Surveyor's instructions, he had cemented the bottom of the yard, and had submitted plans to the Board for the erection of privies. His experience of water closets was that they were a failure, and not at all adapted for cottages like these. Some water closets he put in in the Benfieldside township were all broken to pieces; whilst others erected in their own township were soon filled up with rubbish. Taking into consideration the fact that the Water Company are so watchful over their interests, that if a tap is left leaking, the householder will be summoned, he thought privies kept clean, with a few ashes put in now and then, would prove much more serviceable than water closets.

The CHAIRMAN explained that they, as members of the Board, had no peculiar fancy to water closets than anything else, but they wanted to secure the best mode of conveniences for these particular situations. They wished to abate the nuisances continually existing at these places. If they took the question of ashpits into consideration, these required a certain area, but it appeared there was ample room in the yards connected with this property for to construct privies.

The Surveyor stated that Mr Raw's intention was to remove the ashpits from the end of the houses to the other side of the yard.

The CHAIRMAN: How many yards from the back door will the privies stand?

Mr Raw: 18 feet across. I am building two privies for four houses.

Mr HUDSON: If the tenants wish to have a nuisance, they will at once create one wherever they like.

The CHAIRMAN said the Board had no right to dictate to any householder, so long as the sanitary arrangements of his premises were satisfactory and no nuisance existed.

After some further remarks, the CHAIRMAN suggested that the Sewerage Committee and the Surveyor meet on the premises to discuss the matter, and Mr Raw will then indicate what he intends to do.

Mr CALVERT pointed out that there was a great difficulty in dealing with water closets when more than one tenant had the use of them. He would propose that permission be given to Mr Raw to carry out the work shewn on the plan, providing the same be performed to the satisfaction of the Surveyor.

Mr DUNNE seconded, and the proposition was carried.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY'S NEW HOUSES.

The CHAIRMAN observed that it was decided at the last meeting that the cost of laying in a sewer for the new houses erected by the Consett Company near Mount Pleasant should be jointly borne by the Company and the Local Board. The only question now arising was—Should the Consett Iron Company or the Local Board execute the work? If the Board wished to carry out the contract, he would urge upon them to proceed at once, as some of the houses were ready to be occupied.

The members generally thought it would be more satisfactory for the Local Board to do the work, and finally

Mr COLLINSON moved that the Surveyor be instructed to obtain tenders for laying-in sewer for 46 new houses now being erected for the Consett Iron Company, the Board to execute the work forthwith, and charge the Consett Company with one-half of the cost of the same.

A "BONE OF CONTENTION" FINALLY SETTLED.

The Clerk submitted a compiled statement of the reports and minutes adopted by the Board relative to the damage to the main sewer in Medomsley Road being caused through the subsidence of the pit workings, and the question of sueing the Consett Iron Company in the County Court for £12 odd, expense incurred in repairing the same.

The CHAIRMAN (to the Surveyor): Do you still hold to the statements you made at the outset—that there was no proof the damage to the sewer was caused by the pit workings?

The Surveyor: I think if the sewer had been damaged through the subsidence, the pipes would have been broken or pulled out of their sockets, in the same way as at Carrhouse. I think some mistake was made in the gradient, when laying the pipes, and the level was lost in going up John Street.

Mr SIDDELL enquired if when the pipes were embedded in clay what could cause them to break?

The Surveyor replied that he expected to have seen them broken.

The CHAIRMAN: Then do you think it is worth while carrying this case any further for the paltry sum of £12 odd?

Mr DUNNE explained that it was not so much the amount, but they intended to make a test case.

The CHAIRMAN at length said that, without at least prejudicing the Consett Iron Company in the case, would the Board be willing to defray one-half of the expense if the Company paid the other?

The offer was accepted by the whole Board.

MR KNOX'S ROAD.

The Surveyor stated that the Highway Committee met to consider whether the street should be 16ft. or 18ft. in width. They ultimately instructed him to prepare a plan (which he now laid before the Board) indicating a 36ft. street.

On the suggestion of Mr AYNSLEY, it was decided to let the matter remain in abeyance for another month.

THE CLEANSING OF ASHPITS AND PRIVIES.

The Surveyor remarked that he had intended to submit a written report with respect to the cleaning-out of the ashpits and privies, but since the last meeting he had seen the Medical Officer (Dr W. Renton), who informed him that he (the doctor) purposed making a thorough inspection of the whole district, and presenting a report anent the subject.

Mr SIDDELL thought that, independent of what the medical officer might do, the Surveyor should have obeyed the instructions of the Board.

The subject then dropped.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Subjoined is the Surveyor's (Mr Rippon's) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Consett Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month your workmen have been generally engaged with the main sewer at Sherburn Terrace and Rose Mount. As directed at the last meeting, I commenced to open the ground at different points along the main sewer near Carrhouse Farm. I have bored the pipes at several places, and immediately found a length of 12 lineal yards which had subsided about 6 inches; the pipes in this length being also split lengthwise into about four equal parts, thus corroding together to about one-half the original vertical height, the result being an interruption of the free flow of sewerage and heavy matter coming from Sherburn Terrace, before I let off the connection at this point. I arranged with the officials of the Consett Water Company to flush this sewer, and your workmen succeded in getting a quantity of heavy matter out.

I have taken up the 6in. sewer laid from Bath Street to Rose Mount, and put down 125 yards of 12in. pipes at a proper gradient. Nelson Street, and the high end of Delves Lane, have been covered with broken limestone. Your public streets have been properly scavenged, and the ashpits, as a whole, have only a small quantity of refuse in them.

I have collected and paid into the bank the following amounts:—

	£	s.	d.
Market Tolls	0	15	0
General District Rate	2	19	10
New Town Hall Company's Rent	0	5	4
Registrar's Rent	1	0	0

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM RIPPON.

HARVEY STREET.

Permission was given to Mr Simon Rowe to erect two pantrys adjoining his property in Harvey Street.

ESTIMATE FOR NEXT HALF-YEAR.

Appended is an estimate of the expenditure during the incoming half-year:—

ESTIMATE FOR GENERAL DISTRICT RATE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sewerage				50	0	0
Highways—200 tons of limestone at 5s 6d per ton and 200 tons of whinstone at 7s 6d per ton	130	0	0			
Wages	90	0	0			
Team work	70	0	0			
				290	0	0
Public street improvement—						
Scavenging	25	0	0			
Footpaths	70	0	0			
				95	0	0
Public lighting				260	0	0
Salaries				87	10	0
Incidentals				20	0	0
				£802	0	6

Will be covered by a rate of 10d in the £.

NEW RATE.

It was moved by Mr SIDDELL, and seconded by the Rev F. Steggall, that a rate of 10d in the pound be levied for the next half-year.

This was agreed to.

PURCHASE OF A DUST CART.

Mr AYNSLEY suggested that a dust cart should be procured for the town of Consett. He said it was a disagreeable thing in the summer time to see them cleaning out the sinks, and then carry the slush away in scavenging carts. Now they allowed the "slush" to lie in the streets for two or three days, until it became dry, before the stuff was taken away. He thought the refuse should be carted right away, and not allowed to lie.

Mr CALVERT: We shall require a place to deposit the refuse.

Mr AYNSLEY: We must have a place now, or else where is the stuff taken to?

The Surveyor said he could then run the "slush" into the settling pounds, and sell it along with the manure.

Mr DAVISON thought the question should remain in abeyance until the Board had made its final arrangements for cleaning out the ashpits.

Mr AYNSLEY proposed, and Mr DUNNE seconded, that a sanitary cart be obtained for carting off the rough "slush" direct from the streets.

Mr SIDDELL moved, as an amendment, that the question stand over for consideration until next month.

Mr DAVISON seconded.

On being put, four members voted for the amendment; and five for the original motion. And the latter was declared to be carried.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN.

Mr DAVISON observed as this was the last meeting of the Board, he would move that the heartiest thanks of the members be tendered to the Chairman for his past services.

Mr SIDDELL experienced great pleasure in seconding the motion.

The CHAIRMAN, in response, cordially thanked the members for the confidence they had hitherto reposed in him. Although he was not in attendance at their meetings so frequent as he could have desired, yet it would always be his wish to do his duty, either in the capacity of chairman or as an ordinary member, in a straightforward manner, and to look after the best interests of the ratepayers at large. He hoped that when they again met, if any new blood was introduced into the Board, they would remain as firm in their own views as they had hitherto been, and not allow anyone to influence them in watching the interests of the township. (Hear, hear).

The meeting thereafter closed.

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES AT CONSETT.

The eleventh lecture of the series was given in the National Schools, Consett, on Saturday evening, when Dr Richard Hodgson treated of "The Mind, &c." The attendance was not so large as usual. The lecturer proceeded to (1) compare Bain's classification of mind into feeling—sensations and emotions, will or volition, thought or intellect, with Herbert Spencer's classification:—Feelings; relations between feelings. The chief elements of mind are all now present in every mental act. (2) Importance of attention—Voluntary attention and non-voluntary attention. The apparent intensity of an object depends partly on the direction of attention. Absorption of attention by external or internal objects. Influence of attention in constructive imagination. (3) Unconscious cerebration or latent mental modifications. (4)—Dreaming. The illusion chiefly due to the relative vividness of ideas. Influence of associations of waking experience. Action of external and internal stimuli.—The chairman (Mr J. Priestman) intimated at the close, that Dr Hodgson had, in addition to the usual course of twelve, kindly consented to deliver an additional lecture sometime next week.

VESTRY MEETINGS.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.—Held on Thursday se'nnight, the vicar (Rev F. Steggall) presiding. Mr William Aynsley was re-appointed vicar's warden; and Mr Joseph Murray parishioner's warden for the ensuing year. The whole of the sidesmen were re-elected—viz., Messrs Hedley Nicholson, Robert Fraser, Dyson Oswald, Thomas Thompson, J. Petherick, and George Jackson. Mr W. Jenkins, J.P., Mr C. P. Douglass, and Mr J. Murray were chosen to act as representatives at the Ruridecanal Conference.

TOW LAW.—At a vestry meeting held in the Vestry of the Parish Church of St. Philip and St. James, Tow Law, Messrs W. Atkinson and J. R. Crone were re-elected churchwardens for the ensuing year, and Messrs R. Rawes and G. Pattison as sidesmen. Messrs J. R. Crone and W. Smith were also elected as lay representatives of the parish at the Ruri-decanal Conferences. A resolution was passed calling the attention of the Local Board to the necessity that exists of making immediate provision for the interment of the dead within the district.

FATFIELD.—Mr Hall was re-elected vicar's, and Mr Sotheran parishioner's, churchwardens for the ensuing year. Mr Sotheran was also re-elected representative of the ruridecanal conference. The sidesmen of the previous year were re-elected with the addition of Dr McClean. The offertories amounted to £22 19s 3½d, the disbursements being £23 11s 3d, thus showing a deficiency of 11s 10½d.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

TUESDAY, March 6th.—Before the Rev C. J. BACKHOUSE, Rev R. H. GRAY, and C. ARNISON, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

George Lee, miner, *William Watson*, miner, *James Docharty*, and *Mary Traddin*, all of Tow Law, were charged with being drunk at that place on the 10th ult.—Fined 7s 6d and costs each.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

James Dunn and *Henry Claughton*, miners, Tow Law, were charged with committing a breach of the peace at that place, on the 9th ult.—Bound over to keep the peace for three months, and pay costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Edward Bailey, and *Michael Bailey*, miners, were charged with playing at pitch and toss at that place, on the highway, on the 10th ult.—Edward was fined 10s and costs, and Michael 5s and costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Richard Holden, *Michael McMahon*, and *Thomas Broadbent*, miners, were charged with neglecting to send their children to school.—Holden was fined 5s, and McMahon and Broadbent 10s each

Remember that for Corns and Bunions no remedy is equal to Allcock's Corn or Bunion Plasters. The universal verdict is that they relieve almost instantaneously. Why cringe with pain, when by wearing one of these little plasters you can walk uprightly and wear the tightest boots with ease? Try a 7½d. packet as a sample. Sold only in two size packets, 7½d. and 13½d. 582r

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.—The North-Eastern traffic return for the week ending March 31st completes the publications for the first quarter of the present year. The week embraces Easter Monday and Tuesday in 1883, which accounts for the increase of £5,999 shown in the receipts from passenger traffic. On the other hand, the Good Friday goods and mineral traffic for 1883, compared with an ordinary week last year, shows a falling off in the goods traffic of £2,120, and in the mineral traffic of £1,714. The decrease in dock dues, &c., is £616, the total increase for the week being £1,549, and for the quarter ending 31st March £14,770, which is an increase of not quite 1 per cent. on the receipts for the corresponding quarter of last year.

THE ACCIDENT AT CONSETT IRON WORKS.—Captain George Peacock, F.R.G.S., Liverpool, writes to a daily contemporary:—Concerning the breaking of a fly-wheel at Consett Iron Works, that "he had a narrow escape from a similar accident about twenty-five years ago, when three persons were killed, and he recommended that all large fly-wheels should be cast with a concave rim and a piece of stout chain cable (second-hand would do), made hot for shrinkage, shackled on round the rim, but it was not adopted. A similar accident occurred in Chatham Dockyard a few years since, causing great destruction to life and property, when he wrote to Admiral Superintendent Fellowes, accompanied with drawings and description of this simple plan; but red tape stepped in, and it was not adopted, although highly approved of by Admiral Fellowes. A wrought-iron band, shrunk on, would, of course, answer the purpose, but the second-hand chain cable would be less expensive and more easily fitted."

SECOND EDITION.

THIS DAY'S NEWS.

"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRIDAY, 4 30 P.M.

THE NORTH GERMAN MAIL.

HURST CASTLE, Friday.

The North German Lloyd extra steamer Eulda passed here at 12·45 a.m. to-day.

REDUCTION OF WAGES IN THE AMERICAN IRON TRADE.

NEW YORK, Thursday.

The western iron manufacturers met at Pittsburg yesterday, and decided to reduce wages after June 1st from 10 to 20 per cent. This unexpected action is said to be due to the tariff reductions and dull trade. The workmen are surprised, and threats to strike have been made. The secretary of the Amalgamated Association thinks there will be no strike.

BOARD OF TRADE INQUIRY.

The Board of Trade Inquiry into the abandonment of the s.s. Alfred, of Newcastle, in the Bay of Biscay, on the 15th of February, during a voyage from Smyrna to the Tyne, laden with barley, was resumed before Mr Rothery, Wreck Commissioner, at Newcastle this morning, when Mr Oyston, superintendent engineer, gave evidence as to the manner in which the vessel had been repaired from time to time. She last underwent a Lloyd's survey in January, 1880.—The inquiry is expected to terminate to-day.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.]

SEVERE FROST IN THE BALTIC SEA.

COPENHAGEN, Thursday.

The heavy frost has increased the floating ice in the Baltic, but steamers are still able to reach Stockholm.

ILLNESS OF THE MEMBER FOR PAISLEY.

Mr Holmes, M.P. for Paisley, is suffering from attacks of congestion of the lungs and bronchial catarrah, which confines him to his house.

THE DYNAMITE DISCOVERIES IN LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM.

LATEST PARTICULARS.

LONDON, Thursday Midnight.

Another man has been arrested in London on suspicion of being concerned in a treasonable conspiracy. The authorities at Scotland Yard decline to give any information. The man will be charged at Bow Street Police Court to-morrow, but not in conjunction with the other prisoners, as it has not yet been ascertained that he was actually connected with them.

LONDON, FRIDAY.

No further arrests are yet reported in connection with the dynamite discoveries. Sergeant Hawley and another detective left London this morning for Liverpool, in order to give evidence against the prisoners under arrest there, with a view to connecting them with the recent attempt to blow up the *Times* office.

The *Freeman's Journal*, commenting this morning on the dynamite arrests, says:—"It is the duty of every honest Irishman to denounce a devilry which can only end in alienation, collapse, and ruin."

THE DYNAMITE ARRESTS.

A later telegram states:—The prisoner W. S. Norman, who was arrested in Delamotte's Hotel, at Birmingham, yesterday morning, and now awaiting his examination at the Bow Street, Police Court, states that he was innocent again in the matter. He declares that he was employed by an American gentleman, who gave him the box, and he had no idea that it contained explosives. The prisoner himself only recently came from America. The man Henry Dalton, arrested at Bowles Reading Room last night, first called there last on February 7th. He appears to be of the tradesman class.

PRISONERS BEFORE THE MAGISTRATES.

LONDON, FRIDAY, 3 P.M.

Shortly after one o'clock this afternoon, William Norman, James Gallagher, Henry Wilson, and Henry Dalton were placed in the dock at Bow Street Police Court, charged with having in their possession an explosive substance, with intent to commit felony. Sir James Ingham was the presiding magistrate.

Inspector Langrish said he saw the prisoner Norman arrive at Euston Square Station by the Birmingham train on Wednesday last. He followed the man and arrested him. Prisoner said he brought the box at a gentleman's request, and was ignorant respecting its contents.

(Case proceeding).

SOUTHAMPTON ELECTION.

SOUTHAMPTON, FRIDAY.

Mr Alfred Giles, Conservative, was nominated to-day for the vacancy at Southampton, and was returned unopposed. He was proposed by Mr George Dunlop, chairman of the Conservative Party, and many others. The Sheriff sat from ten till twelve to receive the nominations, and though there was some talk of a Labour Candidate coming forward, no one but Mr Giles was nominated.

THE EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION.

FUNERAL OF THE VICTIMS.

The remains of Professor Palmer, Captain Gill, and Lieutenant Charrington were to-day deposited in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral. A large number of relatives and friends were present.

Consols 1-16th better.
Wheat lower to sell.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.—On Sunday last, the annual sermons were preached in this church on behalf of the Church Missionary Society. The Rev Stanley A. Pelly, the Association Secretary, preached appropriate sermons in the morning and evening, and in the afternoon the rev. gentleman delivered a special missionary address to children and adults. All the services were largely attended. The offertories realised £5 5s 7½d.

PLOUGHING DAY AT MARLEY HILL.—Mr George Smith, formerly of Gosforth, having become tenant of Marley Hill farm, a large number of his friends and old neighbours yesterday (Thursday) assembled at the farm, with their ploughs and horses, and inaugurated his new tenancy by ploughing a large portion of the land. Among those present were Mr Berwick of Middle Brunton, and Mr Reay of East Brunton. The ploughing was well done. Mr Smith entertained his visitors at the conclusion of their labours.

ENTERTAINMENT AT CRAGHEAD.—The members of West Pelton Blue Ribbon Army held a public meeting at Craghead, on Saturday night. Mr J. Jacques sang "My mother" and "Some people you meet." Mr Wm. March sang "What that man might have been," and "What a fool I've been." Mr Robert Naylor recited "The outcast's lament," "The washing day," and "How to choose a wife." Mr John Grundy recited "The poor pit lad." Mr John Burton read "Clark Muggons" and "The bashful man." The whole performance was creditable to all. Mr James Haddon occupied the chair.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM AT TANFIELD LEA.—The members of the above society having made arrangements to hold a bazaar to clear off the debt on their chapel, a few of the friends have arranged to hold teas in their respective houses fortnightly at Tanfield Lea, the first two of which were held in the houses of Mr John Brewis and Mr John Snowdon respectively, and proved a great success, the handsome sum of £10 being realized. After tea games, singing, &c., were indulged in. The teas were served with great taste and comfort, and great praised is due to both donors.

THE HEALTH OF TOW LAW.—On Tuesday, at the monthly meeting of the Tow Law Local Board, the following report was read from the medical officer:—"Tow Law, April 3rd, 1883.—Gentlemen,—For the quarter I have to report 22 deaths and 44 births. The death-rate per thousand of the population is 17·58, and this corresponds exactly with the return last quarter, and is considerably above the death-rate. This, I think, may be ascribed to the inclement spring that we are passing through, which has robbed us of a good few of our more delicate residents, more especially as we can hardly say that any disease has prevailed in an epidemic form; although scarlet fever still crops up occasionally in different parts of the district, and whooping cough prevails to a slight extent. In January we had seven deaths, resulting chiefly from diseases of the lungs and heart. In February we had ten deaths, eight of these from diseases of the lungs, one from scarlet fever, and one from malignant liver complaint. In March we had five deaths, two from diseases of the lungs, one from scarlet fever, one from kidney disease; the other death being due to premature birth. I have not to call your attention to anything noteworthy this quarter, except to caution the public to refrain from visiting at the houses where either scarlet fever, whooping cough, or any other infectious diseases prevail.—Yours truly, Geo. Hood, M.D."

LANCHESTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE.—IMPORTANT TO INNKEEPERS.—On Thursday se'nnight, Mr Patrick, jun., of Durham, appeared before the Lanchester Assessment Committee on behalf of Mr Samuel Mace, of the Royal Oak Inn, Medomsley, to appeal against the rating of his public house to the poor. Mr Patrick, in stating the facts, said the property in question previous to Mr Mace buying and improving it was rated at a very low figure, but after the improvement it was raised up to £60 on the gross rateable value. It was subsequently lowered in consequence of trade becoming bad, and the annual value of the property not being so large. Mr Mace considering it was still too high, some twelve months ago applied to the overseers to reduce it, and on their examining the property they actually did so, but the Assessment Committee immediately put it up again. His client did not wish for anything unfair, and he (Mr Patrick) would not be invidious, but it was a fact other houses in the immediate neighbourhood, as well-built and doing as large a trade as Mr Mace's, were rated below his, and he, therefore, asked to be placed in the same category as his neighbours.—The Chairman (Mr Smith) remarked the other houses referred to were not so large by two rooms as Mr Mace's.—Mr Patrick contended that the fact of the two extra rooms did not improve the value or bring the trade to the house so as to entitle the committee to assess his client's property so much above the others, and he would draw the chairman's attention to the fact that Mr Mace's house was situated upon the border line, where he was compelled to close an hour earlier in consequence of the Licensing Act. He also said it would be of great importance to Mr Mace getting the rating brought down another £10, as each £10 affected the proportion he had to pay on his license.—After Mr Mace was asked some questions the parties were requested to retire, and on being called in the chairman said they had carefully considered the facts submitted by Mr Patrick, and the committee had come to the conclusion that they thought they should accede to the request and reduce the rate.

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CONVEYANCES of all descriptions on hire. Hearse, Mourning Coaches, and Mourning supplied on the shortest Notice.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

LANGLEY.—Old Hall, near Durham, on the 23rd ult., the wife of Mr J. A. Ramsay, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WOLSINGHAM.—At the Register Office, 31st ult., Mr Reed Robson, of Whitfield, to Miss Jane Forster, of Boltsburn.—Same day, Mr W. R. Bowman to Miss Mary A. Gardiner, both of Boltsburn.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—24th ult., Frederick William Little, the beloved son of Thomas and Jane Little, of Delves House.

CONSETT JUNCTION.—3rd inst., aged 4 years, Susanna Bryant, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Ann Bryant.

CONSETT STATION, Blackhill.—31st ult. (at the house of his son-in-law), Joseph Scott Gardener, late of Simonburn Cottage, Humshaugh, in his 75th year.

LEADGATE.—On the 30th ult., aged 17 years, after a long and painful illness borne with Christian fortitude, Catherine, the beloved daughter of Mr Thomas Pardham. Interred at St. Ives Cemetery, Leadgate. Deeply regretted by all who knew her.

MEDOMSLEY.—South Moor House, 31st ult., aged 1 year, Tom, the youngest child of Thomas and Harriet Thompson.

BURNOPFIELD.—Busty Bank, 28th ult., William Teasdale, jun., aged 56 years.

PELTON.—29th ult., aged 64 years, Joseph Dickinson, innkeeper.

FELSIDE.—28th ult., aged 4 months, Lizzie Ann, child of Matthew and Hannah Pescod.

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