OUR EYES AND OUR EARS.
DEAFNESS CURED. SIGHT RESTORED.
A NEW TREATMENT.

Without Operation, for Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears cured; Deafness from Influenza cured. Hundreds of letters in testimony of success. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer. Mr T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds. At Leeds every Tuesday and Alternate Saturdays, April 8th and 22nd. Hours, 10 to 7.—Other days by appointment. Artificial Eyes, Spectacles, etc.

NOTICE. — Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends same hotels as for last eleven years. Buttles' New Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Wednesday, April 19th; Hours, 12 to 4.30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, May 3rd; Hours, 10.30 to 4.30. Three Tuns Hotel, Durham, Saturday, April 15th; Hours, 12 to 6.30.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER, AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

A BLESSING TO ATHLETES

STOREY'S GREEN OILS

Absolutely the best Embrocation. Cures Sciatica, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sprains, Stiffness, Swellings, &c., &c. Gives relief after the first application.
Prepared from the recipe of Mrs. R. Storey, Bonesetter, Deckham Place, Gateshead.
To be had from all Chemists or from the Manufacturer—
ALFRED MAIN,
57, WEST STREET, GATESHEAD.
Price, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle; post free, securely packed, 1s. 6d. and 3s. 3d. 717y

No. 2016 [REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.] FRIDAY, April 7th, 1899. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MORTGAGES from £100 to £50,000 can be obtained at a reasonable rate of interest.—For particulars apply J. G. GARDNER & Co., Accountants, 48, Park Road, Consett.

MR. A. WOLFE, 29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND,
IS PREPARED TO ADVANCE FROM
£10 to £2,000
ON PROMISSORY NOTE TO ALL PROFESSIONS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS.
STRICTEST PRIVACY GUARANTEED.
LOW INTEREST, REPAYMENTS TO SUIT BORROWERS' CONVENIENCE; OR CAPITAL CAN REMAIN SO LONG AS THE INTEREST IS PAID.
NO FEES. DISTANCE NO OBJECT.
MORTGAGES ARRANGED. REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES PURCHASED.
Telegrams—'Safe' Sunderland. Nat. Telephone 88.

Contracts.

SOUTH BIRTLEY BRICK AND TILE WORKS, BIRTLEY.
ESTABLISHED, 1852.

J. F. SWINBURNE AND SONS, Manufacturers of best Machine made Common Bricks, Red Facing Bricks, Wall Coping, Pantiles, Drain Pipes of various sizes, Crushed Bricks for Concrete and also for Carriage Drives, and everything in the trade.

Tenders given for Goods delivered to any Railway Station. 261d

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS invited for the ERECTION of a DWELLING-HOUSE, SHOP, and STABLE, at Ushaw Moor.

Plans and Specification may be seen at my office until the 17th inst., the date when Tenders must be sent in to me.

The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

GEORGE ORD,
Architect and Surveyor,
5th April, 1899. 16, The Avenue, Durham.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several Works required to be done in the ERECTION and Completion of Two Houses, Shop, &c., Medomsley Road, Consett, for Mr J. Orton.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and forms of Tender may be obtained at the Architect's Office, 121, Durham Road, Blackhill.

Tenders to be sent in to the above Office on or before Wednesday, April 19th, 1899.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

GEO. THOS. WILSON,
April 5th, 1899. Architect.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required to be done in the Erection and Completion of Two HOUSES at Try-em-all, Burnhope, near Lanchester, for Mr. Geo. Ridley.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and forms of Tender may be obtained, at the Architect's Office, 121, Durham Road, Blackhill.

Tenders to be sent in to the above Office, on or before Wednesday, April 12th, 1899.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

GEO. THOS. WILSON, Architect.
March 29th, 1899. 770d

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE Benfieldside Urban District Council invite TENDERS for the EXCAVATING and LAYING DOWN of about 800 yards of 9-inch MAIN SEWER.

Plans, Specifications, &c., may be seen at the Council's Office, Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge, on and after Thursday the 23rd day of March, 1899. Tenders endorsed "Sewer" will be received by me up to the 12th day of April, 1899.

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

By Order of the Council,
671d JOHN DIXON, Surveyor.

LEADGATE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE Council invite TENDERS for the following Works:

1. The Erection of Two Public Conveniences, one in Durham Road, and the other in Front Street, Leadgate.

2. The Cementing of about 2,000 yards of Footpaths in Plantation Street and West Street, Leadgate.

Plans and Specifications of above may be seen, and quantities and other particulars obtained on application to Mr. T. S. Longstaff, Surveyor, Leadgate, on and after the 4th April next, between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m.

Tenders endorsed "Conveniences" or "Cementing" as the case may be, must be delivered to me not later than noon on the 10th April, 1899.

The necessary bonds for the due performance of the Contracts will be required.—By order,

J. HEDWORTH COUPLAND,
Clerk to the Council.
Shotley Bridge,
23rd March, 1899. 742d

Lost and Found.

LOST, on Monday between Consett and Consett Hall, a White POMERANIAN BITCH, answers to the name of "Daisy."—Anyone returning the same to W. BYERS, Maudville, Castleside, will be suitably rewarded. Detention will incur prosecution. 823d

FOUND, POMERANIAN BITCH, White. If not claimed in three days will be sold.—Mrs. FOSTER, 8, Victoria Terrace, Blackhill.

FOUND, between Consett and Allansford, a Parcel containing Wearing Apparel.—Anyone can have the same by giving description and paying expenses to Miss JOHNSON, Derwent Grange, Castleside. 816d

Wanted.

WANTED, a Clean, Tidy GIRL; no family.—Apply, Mrs. BRAIDFORD, Lintz House, Lintz Green, R.S.O. 824d

WANTED, YOUNG MAN, useful; wages 25s per week.—Apply, G. D. POWELL, Grocer, Consett. 838d

WANTED, a Good GENERAL SERVANT, able to Cook, Wash, and Bake.—Apply to Mrs W. J. ALLAN, The Poplars, Beamish.

WANTED, at once Apprentices and Improvers to the Dressmaking.—Apply, BELL and BINNING, Consett. 726d

WANTED, a Sharp, Active BOY for the Printing, with a view to Apprenticeship. Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 751d

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at Mr COCKBURN'S, Stationer, &c., 13, Front St., Consett

WANTED, a staid, steady WOMAN, to take full charge of Fried Fish Business; good wage given.—Apply, W. BRAND, Victoria Street, Consett. 833d

AGENTS Wanted.—Highest commission, and no risk; experience unnecessary; specimens free.—Address, Newcastle Rubber Stamp Company, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle.

WANTED, PUPILS for Painting, Freehand Drawing, and Shading. Painting 1s per lesson, or 10s 6d quarter.—Apply, Miss M. A. HENDERSON, 22, Park Road, Consett.

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J. ORTON, Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY to repair at reasonable prices. All repairs warranted for one year.—R. WOOD, 30, Newmarket Street, Consett.

WANTED, all Classes of People, to see the Windows of CHAS. ARMSTRONG, the great Boot Provider, and Leather Cutter, Front Street, Stanley. Repairs done while you wait. Hand Sewn Work our speciality.

WANTED, the Public of Consett and District to know the BOMBAY TEA CO. are now supplying their numerous Customers with SPLENDID TEA and PRESENTS at 2, HARVEY STREET, CONSETT. Come and see the Presents, and give us a try. 96d

WANTED, the Public to know that HENRY HANSOM has NOW OPENED, the Shop lately occupied by Mrs Aynsley, Butcher, with a choice selection of Dairy Fed Pork, Dainties of every description, and hopes by strict attention to Business to merit a share of Public Patronage. — Note the address, No. 14, Shakespeare Street, Consett. 835d

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the Millinery Business, at Annfield Plain, must not be under 16 years of age, confined to members trading at Annfield Plain.—Applications to be made to the Committee on Monday, April 10th, at Seven o'clock. Also, for the Langley Park Branch, an APPRENTICE to the Grocery Business, must not be under 14 years nor over 16 years of age, confined to members trading at Langley Park.—Applications to be made to the Committee on Monday, April 10th, at Seven o'clock. — WM. PROD, Secretary. 831d

Wanted

MILK SALESMEN, Two WANTED, must be steady and obliging; single men preferred.—Apply, G. T. ROBSON, Victoria Dairy, Consett. 846d

To Let.

SHOP TO LET, Front Street, Leadgate.—Apply, N. PARKER, Newsagent, Leadgate.

TO LET, Three-stalled STABLE.—Apply to Mrs. EDWARD G. LUMLEY, Durham Road, Leadgate. 850d

TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP, Front Street, Shotley Bridge; immediate possession.—Apply, LESLIE, Painter, Shotley Bridge.

TO LET, WAREHOUSES or WORKSHOPS in close proximity to Consett New Station.—Apply, N. ELDON, Consett. 719d

TO LET, the HOUSE, No. 17, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside, with every convenience.—Apply at No. 55, Benfieldside Edge Road. 836d

TO LET or FOR SALE, a HOUSE, in St. Cuthbert's Avenue, Benfieldside, containing Six Rooms, Wash-house, and Conveniences.—Apply, 29, Durham Road, Blackhill. 822d

TO LET, a First-class Three Stalled STABLE, in Stephen Street, Consett, with good Loft above; rent 3s. per week.—Apply, Mr J. MORELAND, 69, Front St., Consett.

GARDEN TO LET, with Vinery, two Green-houses, situated in Church Bank, Shotley Bridge, with immediate possession.—For particulars apply to Mrs APPLETON, Thorntree Farm, Middleton-St-George, R.S.O.

TENTS TO LET on Reasonable Terms. Size or Quantity no object. Tables and Bar Fittings kept on hand. All orders punctually attended to and carried out. Carting done if required by G. HUNTER, Medomsley.

TO BE LET, with immediate entry, Two DWELLING-HOUSES in Benfieldside Road, Shotley Bridge, on the Shotley Estate, containing 9 rooms each, with Gas, Water, Bathroom, and Garden. — Apply to W. C. SAMPLE, Tritlington Hall, Morpeth. 853d

TO LET, on the 13th of May, or FOR SALE, a HOUSE of Two Rooms, Cowbyre, and one acre of Land, situate at Edmundbyers, and known as "Drawleyways."—For particulars apply Mrs. READSHAW, 176, Dilston Road, Newcastle. 771d

ANNFIELD PLAIN and DISTRICT MARQUEE COMPANY are prepared TO LET TENTS reasonable; 120 feet by 30, 100 feet by 30, and 80 feet by 30; tables free; refreshment tent 40 feet by 18.—For terms apply to GEO. BULLERWELL, East Kyo, Annfield Plain.

TO LET, 14, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill, a compact HOUSE in splendid condition, containing Seven rooms, Scullery, large Bathroom, W.C. and Lavatory, with a good Garden well-stocked with Fruit Trees.—For particulars apply to Mrs. PURVIS. 756d

TO LET, all that SHOP and DWELLING-HOUSE at Eldon Terrace, containing, Shop, Kitchen, 2 large Sitting-rooms, and 4 Bedrooms. Suitable for a Temperance Hotel; a good business can be done. — Apply, N. ELDON, Consett. 718d

For Sale

FOR SALE, a Litter of PIGS.—Apply, J. SMITH, Rowley Cottage, Castleside.

FOR SALE, COB 14 hands, with or without Trap and Harness; well-known in district.—Apply, ROBT. WHEATLEY, Craghead.

FOR SALE, a dozen prize bred ORPINGTON PULLETS, price from 5s to 10s each.—J. and M. CARR, East Castle, Annfield Plain.

EGGS! EGGS! Pure Bred White Leghorn, best winter layers; splendid grass run; Guaranteed fertile; 2s 6d per dozen.—A. RICHARDSON, Station Master, Rowley, Consett.

FOR SALE, Three Stacks of OLD LAND HAY, standing at Esssomsides, near Medomsley.—For particulars apply to MICHAEL CHARLTON, Medomsley, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

HOUSE and SHOP in Medomsley Road, Consett, FOR SALE or TO LET, with early possession.—Apply, J. COATS, Alston House, Consett. 680d

FOR SALE, a large Stock of UNREDEEMED PLEDGES, Selling off at HALF PRICE.—HEPTON, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 703a

EGGS from Winners, Gold and Silver Wyandottes and Black Orpingtons; splendid layers; 3s. 6d. a Sitting; guaranteed fertile.—W. STOBBS, Watling Street, Leadgate.

BECOME your own landlord. An old established Company has £175,000 ready to be advanced for the purchase of house property at a reducing rate of interest.—Address J.N., *Guardian* Office, Consett.

TO FARMERS.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA can be supplied at the Gas Works, Shotley Bridge, at market prices.—Quotations on application to M. RICHLEY, Secretary, Gas Offices, March 13th, 1899. 837d

IMPORTANT TO BUILDERS and others.—Preliminary announcement. Will shortly be SOLD, some Valuable BUILDING SITES, known as BLOOM'S Ground, near the Railway Station, Consett. 473d

FOR SALE, One Pony Gig, Two Whitechapels to suit 14 hands, and two full size Whitechapels; all second-hand and in first rate condition; also, New Harness and Conveyances of every description.—COWEN'S, Carriage and Rolley Works, Taylor Street, Consett. 765d

FOR SALE, by Private Treaty, a Valuable Block of BUSINESS PREMISES situated in one of the best positions in Derwent Street and Durham Road, Blackhill, with a frontage of about 200 feet, and consisting of Four Shops and, Houses with Cellars and all necessary conveniences; also, a Large Shop or Warehouse at back of premises, can be sold in one Block or to suit purchasers.—For particulars apply to S. GRADON, Builder, on the premises.

BEST SCREENED COALS delivered in Consett and Annfield Plain in loads of 15cwt., at 9s. 6d. per Load. Orders left at Mr. KEMPSON'S, Bee Hive Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, or Mr. G NICHOLSON, Contractor, Dipton. 863a

A WELL-KNOWN FACT—TURNER, Cycle Agent, Consett, has the best Agencies for CYCLES. The "Eldon," "Alberta," "Hobart," "Referee," "Palmer," "Humber," "Yankie Hummer," and "Rational Umpire Patent Spring Frame. Prices to suit all, from £7 7s. to £22 1s. Call and inspect before going elsewhere. 50 per cent. cheaper than other agents. Easy payment system. A good assortment of Accessories. — W. E. TURNER, Cycle Agent, Front Street, Consett. 845d

CYCLES! CYCLES! — Single Machines at wholesale prices. The very best Machine for £10 10s. is CLEMINSON'S Rosebery. You cannot have better than the best. He also supplies in his district the celebrated Rudge-Whitworth for £10 10s; also the Humber for £10 10s., and is sole agent for Swifts. Agents wanted in every town and village. Write for lists. About 150 Second-hand Machines, prices from 30s.—CLEMINSON, Bishop Auckland and Darlington. 499d

FOR SALE, Two HOUSES, in Belle Vue Terrace, Price £300 each, Four HOUSES in Seymour Street, Price £230 each. One Excellent Building Site (the only one to be had) in Middle Street, the central Business Place of Consett, price 51s per yard—For further particulars of purchase, apply N. ELDON, Auctioneer and Estate Agent, Consett. 686b

BASIC SLAG.
Largest Productions.

THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER for Root Crops, Grain, and Grass; to produce best Feeding Quality and steady Natural growth. Wholesale Agents—LANGDALE BROTHERS, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 713d

Business Announcements.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE
Sum Insured in 1897 Exceeds £425,000,000.

For full particulars apply to
MR. THOMAS WM. WELFORD, JUNR.,
Agent for Consett and Neighbourhood.

£4 000 000 HAVE NOW BEEN PAID IN RESPECT OF
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
ALL ACCIDENTS,
WORKMEN'S ACCIDENTS,
FIDELITY GUARANTEE,
BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.
Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. J. L. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.
Agents required in unrepresented Districts.

Business Announcements.

WATCHES, CLOCKS, ELECTRO-PLATE, GOLD, SILVER, PLATED, AND JET JEWELLERY, GEM, SIGNET, ENGAGEMENT, AND KEEPER RINGS. NOVELTIES AND USEFUL GOODS FOR WEDDING, BIRTHDAY, AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS. SPECIAL PRESENTS WITH WEDDING RINGS.

CHARLES A. MARSHALL
(FORMERLY JOSEPH MARSHALL AND SON)
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER, GOLD AND SILVERSMITH, JEWELLER, &c.,
3, SHAKESPEARE ST., AND 26a, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, SPRING, 1899.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
DRAPERS, AND SILK MERCERS,

HAVE pleasure in announcing the arrival of NEW GOODS in all Departments for the coming Spring Season, including the most Fashionable Materials in latest colours of Dress Materials and Costume Cloths, from British and Foreign Manufacturers; Plain and Fancy Silks for Dresses and Trimmings; New Season's Designs in Sateens, Prints, and other Washing Materials for indoor wear; Newest Patterns in Oxford and Grandrill Shirtings, Flannelettes, Wool Shirtings, Cretonnes and Chintzs. Well-assorted Stocks of Fancy Goods, Corsets, Umbrellas, Gloves and Hosiery.

INSPECTION CORDIALLY INVITED.
GEO. RICHARDSON & SON, Dressmakers, Milliners, and Tailors. 3?d

JACKSON'S ARTISTIC SERIES OF BEAUTIFUL NEW **VIEWS**
OF CONSETT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.
PRICE: ONE SHILLING (BY POST, 1s. 1½d.).
AN ELEGANT PRESENT!!
CONTAINING THE LATEST VIEWS OF

- FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
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- WESLEYAN CHURCH, CONSETT.
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- CONSETT IRON WORKS (Angle Mills.
- BLACKHILL (looking from the Park.)
- ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
- ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
- HOWEN'S GILL BRIDGE, (Consett.)
- ALLANSFORD (Gill Bridge in distance.)
- GIBSIDE HALL.
- BLANCHLAND.
- BURNOPFIELD & BYERMOOR.
- TANFIELD CHURCH.
- SNOWS GREEN, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
- ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
- THE LODGE, SPA GROUNDS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
- THE SPA WELL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

To be had at the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

THE CATCHGATE POSTING ESTABLISHMENT,
CATCHGATE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.
JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR.
HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.
MOURNING COACHES. CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS.
BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES.
SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23y
FURNITURE REMOVED. ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

FOR QUALITY AND REASONABLE PRICES GO TO
M. FAWELL
FOR TEAS, COFFEE, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, &c.,
LARD, 4d. to 5½d. FRUIT LOAVES, 5d. to 8d. per lb. TOMATOES, 5d.
Our DRAPERY DEPARTMENT, which is well stocked and carefully selected, includes SILK HANDKERCHIEFS and MUFFLERS, FANCY APRONS and PINAFORES, SHAWLS, GLOVES, TIES, FRONTS, &c, suitable for the Season.
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40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND 1, DELVES LANE, NEAR THE STATION.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.
F. WELCH & CO.,
IRONMONGERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY,

HAVE great pleasure in informing their Friends and Public generally that, after Re-building and Re-modelling their Business Establishment, have re-opened same with a New and Varied Stock. We have also added a

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT,
with Novelties in Bedsteads, Chairs, Mats, Rugs, Carpets, &c.

F. WELCH & Co., ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY. 666c

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DELICIOUS CEYLON AND INDIAN
TEAS.
HIGH-CLASS GROCERIES. RELIABLE PROVISIONS.
BEST VALUE IN
FLOUR.
CAN ALWAYS BE OBTAINED AT
JOSEPH POSTLE'S,
16, NEWMARKET STREET,
AND TOP OF PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

FOR FLOUR, CHEESE, BACON, BUTTER, AND GROCERIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
OF BEST QUALITY AND AT LOWEST PRICES,
GO TO
FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.
☞ Their Drapery, Millinery, and Clothing Stocks are second to none in the District. 976c

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S. A. FAIRLESS
FOR
Plain and Fancy Cakes, Confectionery and Bread. Parties supplied.
Goods delivered to all parts. 2d.

Established 1833.
WILLIAM POTTS & SONS, CLOCK AND WATCH MANUFACTURERS, OF LEEDS.
Beg to announce that they have removed the Newcastle Branch of their business from 22, Collingwood Street to more extensive Premises in TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, Entrance CLOTH MARKET, (Opposite Messrs J. Hindhaugh and Son's,) NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Makers of the Great Clock and Electric Greenwich Time Signal at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Consett Town Clock, and many others in the Northern Counties.

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ON SALE
AT THE "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CONSETT.

A NEW SERIES of Penny Books for the People, which, as regards both careful editing and quantity, and quality of printing and paper, surpasses anything of the kind that has previously been published. Printed in clear type, and bound in neat covers.

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To be followed by others of Universal Importance. 304d

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JOHNSON'S INKS
WRITING—COPYING—DUAL—FOUNTAIN PEN.
GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
A pleasure to write with.
BLUE-BLACK, BLACK, AND COLOURS.
Good Value.
Sold Wholesale and Retail by
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NEW STANLEY HOTEL,
THE "QUEEN'S HOTEL,"
IS NOW OPEN
With a Stock of the finest
ALES,
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PROPRIETRESS, MRS CHAYTOR.

Business Announcements.

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J. COWEN, CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY BUILDER, TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT, AND AT HEXHAM.

Being one of the largest Manufacturers in the North, and having recently enlarged his Showroom in Consett to hold upwards of 40 finished Conveyances, invites inspection of his large and varied Stock, which for quality of Material, Workmanship, and Finish, cannot be surpassed.

Also, a fine selection of Pony, Cob, and full size Harness at reasonable prices, Horse Clothing, Brushes of all kinds, Non-rustable Bits, Bridles, Saddles, Whips, and Special Harness Oil at 1s. per pint bottle. Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, and Driving Rings. Conveyances repaired or done up promptly and economically. Sales effected on the Hire System or for Cash, and old Conveyances valued and taken in part payment. 126d

THE BEST HOUSE FOR WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATE, AND SPECTACLES.
DOBSON GRADON,
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Best quality English Lever Watches at Manufacturers' prices £3 3s.
Price Lists on Application.
Splendid English Lever Watches, £2 5s.
Ladies' 18ct Gold Watches, splendid quality, £3 15s.
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The above Watches are of excellent quality, all warranted, Albert given with same. Other Watches at much lower prices.

9ct Gold Alberts	20/- to 60/-
Sterling Silver Alberts	4/- to 8/-
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Silver „	1/6 to 3/9
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Gold Dress Rings	3/6 to 50/-
Gold Wedding Rings	8/6 to 20/-

Spoons given with Wedding Rings.
A large assortment of other Jewellery, also Clocks at prices according to quality.
☞ Repairs a Speciality. Clocks Cleaned and Repaired in Town or Country.

CHIMNEY PIECES. KITCHEN RANGES. STOVES.
DINNING AND COOKE,
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PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

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DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
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For Pure DRUGS and GENUINE CHEMICALS.
WINTER REMEDIES of every Description.
The CONSETT COUGH CURE, 1s. per bottle.
RESPERINE for Asthma, 1s. per box.
EXTRACT OF MALT and COD LIVER OIL, in bottles 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 9d.
Finest COD LIVER OIL and PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.
EMULSION of COD LIVER OIL and HYPOPHOSPHITES, 11d. and 1s. 9d. per bottle.
LEIBIG and GLENDINNING'S MEAT and MALT WINE, 1s. and 3s. 9d. per bottle.
Choice PORT and SHERRY WINES, 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., and 4s. per bottle.
CHEST and LUNG PROTECTORS in great variety.
A Choice Display of PERFUMES in bottles and boxes, suitable for Presents.
GLYCERINE and PAREGORIC JUJUBES. For Special Display see Windows.
ARMOUR'S EXTRACT of MEAT and VIGORAL, large and small jars.
HORSE, DOG, and CATTLE MEDICINES of every description.

Agent for Sheep Dips in Great Variety.
Milner's Special Farm Bottle and Lambing Oils, 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d. per Bottle.
Varnishes, Oils, Paints, and Colours, in Great Variety. 446d

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THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
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COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.

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Hamsterley		Tantobie	
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A prize of TWO GUINEAS will be offered each week to the person, or persons, who correctly forecast the results and number of goals scored in the four matches mentioned in the coupon. In the event of more than one being correct, the prize will be divided between the winners.

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Coupons must be sent in addressed "Offside," "Guardian," Consett, and marked "Football Competition," NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK ON SATURDAY MORNING. This rule will be strictly adhered to, and all letters arriving late will be destroyed unopened.

Should anyone be dissatisfied with a result, he can have the coupons scrutinised by depositing 2/6, which will be returned if a mistake is found. The appeal must be made within two days after result is made known. A person may send in as many coupons as he likes in one envelope, on condition that they are fastened together, and that the coupons are all in his name. One halfpenny will NOT cover the postage, and any letters insufficiently stamped will be refused.

All employees at this Office are debarred from taking part in the competition.

The prize money will be paid to the winners on the Monday after the announcement of the result.

If any other question should arise which is not covered in the above rules, the decision of "Off-side," the football editor, will be final.

MATCHES.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS.

These teams met in a friendly on the Park ground on Friday in miserable weather. The home men had the best of the first half, leading at the interval by three goals to one. Immediately on re-starting the "Tobies" got down, and McKevor beat Calvert. However, the Park put on two further goals, and ultimately won by five goals to one.

STANLEY v. ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC.

Stanley were due on Good Friday to receive a visit from Blyth, in a Northern Alliance fixture, but the Northumbrians were unable to fulfil the engagement, and a match was made up at the last moment with Annfield Plain Celtics. The teams were:—

Stanley—Beckwith, goal; Bell and Liddle, backs; Pearson, Buck, and Coates, half-backs; Mosterman, Lown, Howe, Robson, and Ellis, forwards.

Annfield Plain Celtic.—S. Forster, goal; McLatchie and Rowell, backs; A. Coyle, Parker, and Gillender, half-backs; R. Forster, J. Coyle, Landells, Storey, and T. Bell, forwards.

The ground was on the soft side, but there was a good attendance when Landells kicked off for the Celtic. Masterman returned, and play was kept in the Annfield quarter. From near the touch line, Liddle sent in a very fine kick, which resulted in a good goal for Stanley. From some play on the centre line, Howe put in a clever pass which enabled Robson to put on a second goal. A series of passes led to Ellis putting on a third point within twenty minutes from the start. Hard and exciting play followed, in which the visitors made strenuous efforts to score, but they were met at all points. Ultimately, Beckwith had to concede a corner from which the Celtic gained nothing. Stanley again pressed, and kept the play for some time in their opponents' ground, until a free kick gave the Celtic an opening. The ball was sent over the line, and then some smart exchanges took place. The Celtics made great efforts to break through, but they only once troubled Beckwith who cleverly transferred play to the centre. They, however, came again, and with the aid of a free kick close in, secured a couple of corners which were cleared. Howe next got away, but half-time was called with the score:—

Stanley .... Three goals.
Annfield Plain .... Nil.

Howe re-started, and pressure was at once brought to bear on Forster's charge. He successfully negotiated a couple of shots, but the Stanley men travelled back, and Forster leaving his goal, the ball was sent to Masterman, who scored a very easy goal, six minutes from the re-start. Play then alternated both goals being reached. Liddle sent into the net from a free kick, but the ball had not touched anyone. After some play in neutral ground, Howe got well along, and Lown sent in a good shot, which went over the bar. Corners accrued to both sides, but were unavailing, although well taken. Give and take play followed, but there was no further scoring, and the game ended:—

Stanley .... Four goals.
Annfield Plain .... Nil.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.
CHARITY CUP.
FIRST ROUND.

LINTZFORD v. LEADGATE PARK RESERVE.

This cup-tie was played on the Exiles' ground at Leadgate on Saturday, owing to the Park enclosure being engaged for a league game. The visitors were well represented, and they gave the Parkites a rare game, the home men only emerging victorious by two goals to one. Mr W. Hodgson, of Tantobie, acted as referee.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. HAMSTERLEY.

On Saturday afternoon this fixture was played on the ground of the former in fine weather. Mr. R. Milligan, of Medomsley, was the referee, and when he called the teams together, they were represented as follows:—

Tantobie—Goal, M. Hayes; backs, J. Jardine and J. Gladders; half-backs, T. Hanover, R. Atkinson, and F. Bell; forwards, R. Hindhaugh, T. Burns, J. Brown, J. Beck, and J. McKevor.

Hamsterley—Goal, Rudd; backs, Craig and Dodds; half-backs, Little, Matthews, and Anderson; forwards, Parker, Johnson, Ferry, Swinburn, and Fenwick.

The homesters won the toss, and played down the hill with a strong wind at their backs. Ferry opened hostilities, and soon saw his mates get into the home half, only to see their efforts frustrated, when Hayes made a good save. Then Atkinson got hold and sent down, a corner kick being forced for Tantobie, which was followed by two others, both of which proved valueless. From a goal kick some fine passing was contributed by Jardine, Hanover, and Brown, and then the former, who soon after the start changed places with Hanover, put forward to Beck, who, lying in a good position, gave Rudd a hot 'un to deal with. Then from a throw-in on the visitors' side, Beck banged another shot at Rudd which the latter saved. Continuing to press, Tantobie were often dangerous, and it was not until after a fierce bombardment of Rudd's citadel that the pressure was relieved, when Hamsterley took the play into the Tantobie territory, where Hayes, in trying to kick away, hit the upright with the ball, which rebounded through his own goal. This aroused the homesters, who soon bore down on the low goal. From a throw-in Hanover put to Burns, who headed a fine goal. Another slice of good luck fell to the homesters. Tantobie were awarded a free kick for "hands," when just after they were awarded a penalty for a similar offence within the twelve yards' line. The kick was entrusted to Jardine, who put through shortly before half-time, which arrived with

Tantobie .... Two goals.
Hamsterley .... One goal.

After the usual interval the game was resumed. For a considerable part of the latter half nothing specially interesting occurred, until the visitors bore down upon the low goal, which had many narrow escapes. Then the homesters carried play into the high half, where Burns put in a fine shot which went just wide of the upright. Then after some more give-and-take play the visitors got down, and Little equalised. The game ended—

Tantobie .... Two goals.
Hamsterley .... Two goals.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

PELTON FELL v. CHESTER-LE-STREET.

This match took place at Pelton Fell on Good Friday, in the presence of a large number of spectators. Both teams were at full strength, and Pelton Fell had the assistance of Doyle, Heppell, and Tommy Fish, all of Birtley. Teams:—

Pelton Fell—Goal, Hall; backs, Robson and Lawton; half-backs, Fish, G. Usher, and S. Usher; forwards, R. Fish, Heppell, Doyle, G. Parker, and J. Parker.

Chester-le-Street—Goal, Elliot; backs, Harle and Willis; half-backs, C. Gray, T. Quinn, and T. Anderson; forwards J. Quinn, W. Legg, I. Ritson, J. Pentland, and F. Clark.

The visitors won the toss, and decided to kick up the incline. Doyle set the ball in motion, and at the outset play ruled very even. However, the visitors carried play into the Pelton half, and a corner was forced, but it was useless. Another fruitless corner was conceded by the homesters, and then a long series of free-kicks against each side commenced. Elliot was called upon to save from R. Fish, and then Pelton Fell almost got a goal, but Elliot got the leather away. T. Fish got the ball, and made a grand run down the field, and was only brought up in time by the visitors' back, or a goal would certainly resulted. Play was very even, and excitement ruled high, but although each goal-keeper had to save some good shots neither side could score. Chester-le-Street were looking very dangerous at one time, but Ritson headed on to the top of the net. Corners and free-kicks were the chief items in the play, which was of the rough order, but neither goal-keeper allowed himself to be beaten up to the interval, when the score-sheet read—

Pelton Fell .... Nil.
Chester-le-Street .... Nil.

Ritson re-commenced operations, and an initial rush down the field ended in J. Quinn placing on top of the net. Chester-le-Street continued to press for a short time, but eventually a free kick relieved matters for the Pelton Fell defence. A few minutes later the game was temporarily stopped owing to Legg being winded. As soon as he was all right again the homesters set the pace, and the Chester-le-Street defence was severely taxed for a long time until a free kick changed the venue, but Anderson sent past the posts. For fully twenty minutes after this the homesters bombarded the Chester-le-Street goal, but Elliot was in rare form, and gave a magnificent display between the sticks. A free kick against Chester-le-Street almost on the goal-line ended in Elliot saving grandly from the home right wing, but in doing so the custodian fell and hurt his leg. He was all right again in a few minutes' time, and with only a few minutes to go each side played their very hardest, some good play being shown on each side, but goals would not come, and the game ended in a pointless draw. Final—

Pelton Fell .... Nil.
Chester-le-Street .... Nil.

PELTON FELL II. v. CHESTER-LE-STREET II.

These teams contested in the junior division of the above league, a fair game ended in a win for the homesters, the score being—

Chester-le-Street II. .... Five goals.
Pelton Fell II .... One goal.

NORTHERN LEAGUE.
DARLINGTON ST. AUGUSTINES v. LEADGATE PARK.

These teams met on the Chestnut Grove, Darlington, on Monday, before only a fair gate. Leadgate started, and the ball was at once worked down the left wing by Pugh and Bell, but the former sent wide. Leadgate now returned the attack, but Rogers cleared, and play was again carried on at the other end. After a short while the visitors' forwards again got to the front, and Cooke's defensive abilities were severely taxed. The leather was then taken possession of by Pugh, who rushed away on his wing, resulting in a corner. Baker placed the ball nicely in, and the first goal was scored with a short and sharp scuffle. They still kept up a determined pressure, and several times made matters dangerous for the visitors. Calvert saved a number of stinging shots in fine style. Whenever the opportunities occurred the visitors' forwards endeavoured to get to close quarters, but the Saints' defence proved a hard obstacle. The homesters were conceded two corners in succession, both of which Baker took, but sent wide. A third and fourth were gained, and Pugh took the kicks with judgment. The visitors' defence, however managed to clear without any goals being scored. Through a piece of clever combination between Cook, Milburn, and Allison, of Leadgate, the ball was worked nicely up to the Saint's goal, and a corner gained. Cook sent in an accurate aim, and the leather was almost through, but the Saints' custodian fisted out. At half-time St. Augustine's were leading by one goal to nil. The second half opened in favour of the Saints, who at once made a rush to their opponents' goal, and Calvert ably acquitted himself. The pressure was continued, and a second goal for the Saints was credited to Prior, about seven minutes from the restart. Leadgate now returned the pressure for a short time, but the homesters soon got up, and a third goal was added by Morgan. Shortly afterwards a magnificent shot was sent in by Cleminson, a Saint's half, from the centre. The result was a fourth goal, which Murphy placed in. The Saints continued to have matters all their own way till the close, with the result:—

St Augustine's .... Four goals
Leadgate Park .... Nil

TOW LAW v. CROOK.

Played at Tow Law in misty weather and before a good gate. Tow Law played against the incline in the first half. In the first minute Steers shot through from a free-kick for hands against Temperley. The ball, however, not touching another player in transit, no goal resulted. Tow Law ran up and Coulson scored, and the Tow Law men keeping up the pressure, Walton notched a second goal with a quick low shot. After even play, Steers again sent through without touching another player, from a free kick. Rippon centred, but Temperley relieved. The Crook lads broke away and Crowther saved miraculously from Butterfield. Hymers shot over, and Crook forced a corner, R. Wilson relieving. Heseltine ran up and shot over. The next minute Crowther again saved splendidly from Stainthorpe. Dewhurst shot in, Crowther tipping over the bar. The visitors again became dangerous, R. Wilson giving relief. At the other end Reed gave a corner and Thompson saved by kicking out. Butterfield and Wood ran down, the former player sending by. A beautiful combined run by the Crook forwards next took place, but no result rewarded their efforts. From a free-kick for a foul against Steers, Wilson just sent past. Interval arrived with the score: Tow Law 2; Crook 0. Resuming, Chatt relieved from a free kick taken by Temperley. Wilson next kicked out to save. R. Wilson saved in capital style, and Temperley kicked out to save. Rippon ran up and Wilson again relieved. From a run down Hymers sent past. Coulson sent through, but Reed having been impeded, the point was not allowed. Temperley headed out and play continued in Tow Law quarters. Rippon once shot past when well placed, and then after a good run Coulson sent over. Brown next centred, and Coulson notched a third goal. A visit to the other end, and Wilson transferring play, Hymers headed through the fourth point. From the centre kick Crook pressed, and Rippon had hard lines with a tremendous shot, which returned into the field from a rebound from one of the players. Thompson was conspicuous in saving well when danger threatened. The homesters now pressed, but Reed saved grandly from Heseltine. Dewhurst and Steers repeatedly relieved, but the visitors could not get through, Temperley and Devine proving equal to all efforts. The game ended in a win for Tow Law by four goals to none.

LEADGATE PARK v. DARLINGTON.

This game on the Park ground on Saturday attracted a fairly good gate. The afternoon was just suitable for football, and the field was in a better condition than could have been expected. The visitors were well represented, but the home team were without Coates and Forster the former of whom has suddenly evinced a liking for the Stanley air. Teams:—

Darlington—Goal, Rowlandson; backs, Buckton and Todd; half-backs, Johnson, Callagan, and Swalwell; forwards, Watson, Stockdale, Tennick, Bowes, and Tolson.

Leadgate Park—Goal, J. Hunter; backs, J. Bowes and J. Laidler; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. T. Willey; forwards B. Cook, G. Milburn, J. Wilson, T. Houston, and J. Allison.

Referee, Mr. R. T. Warburton, Newcastle.

The visitors won the toss, and elected to play with the incline in their favour. Milburn started for the Park, and play for the first few minutes was confined to the Park goal mouth. A foul, however, caused hostilities to be removed to the other end, where Joe Wilson almost scored with a splendid shot, Rowlandson saving the downfall of his charge by conceding a corner. Nothing tangible accrued from the kick, and after some capital work by the visiting vanguard, Bowes spoiled a good chance by getting off-side. Even play ensued for a short while, but subsequently, the Quakers' goal was again in danger, and Milburn ought to have scored. His shot, however, lacked accuracy, and the orb rolled harmlessly over the line. Watson made a splendid run half the length of the field, finishing up by despatching a rapid shot in the direction of Hunter, who saved weakly. Tennick caught the ball as it fell, and quick as thought popped it into the net, and registered the first goal for the visitors. After this the home custodian was cautioned and following this incident, Watson made another run, but mulled badly on reaching the goal-mouth. Darlington at this stage were having the better of matters, and Hunter had occasionally to save. Stockdale was penalised for off-side play, and just later the Parkites were pulled up for foul play in close proximity to the penalty line. The home team pressed hard, and were awarded a penalty, but with no result, as Bowes, the Park right back, sent high over the bar. Three corners fell to the homesters but the visiting defence was impregnable, Todd and Buckton playing splendidly. At length the equalising point came. Milburn got cleverly away, and from his pass Allison shot in splendidly. A tough scrimmage ensued, and Rowlandson making a mess of a slow shot from Cartmell, the ball travelled into the net, thus scoring the first and only point for the home club. This seemed to infuse new life into the play, but the efforts of both elevens to score proved of no avail, and half-time arrived with the score—

Darlington .... One goal.
Leadgate Park .... One goal.

On the resumption of hostilities, Darlington immediately went to the front, and after some bullying near the penalty line, Hunter was again called upon to save. The Parkites retaliated strongly, and after Rowlandson had saved two stinging shots, Cook headed into the net from a clearance by Rowlandson, but for some inexplicable reason, and to the chagrin of the spectators, the referee disallowed the goal. The homesters had slightly the better of matters, but fate was against them, and as a result of several free kicks the Quakers got down, Tolson, with a swift low shot, gave them the lead, and immediately after Johnson and Tennick scored. Towards the finish the visitors were awarded a penalty kick, from which Tennick again scored. Play became rough towards the finish, free kicks being very numerous. Time arrived with the score:—

Darlington .... Five goals.
Leadgate Park .... One goal.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. WALBOTTLE.

The meeting of the above clubs at Consett caused a great deal of interest, as Walbottle are in the running for the championship. There was a fair attendance, and the teams lined up as follows:—

Swifts—Goal, W. Graham; backs, J. Rafferty and R. Charlton; half-backs, P. McNally, W. Harrison, and R. Wake; forwards, B Rafferty, W. T. Spence, J. Finnigan, J. Morgan, and J. Dempsey.

Walbottle—Goal, Spinks; backs, Willis and Radcliffe; half-backs, Oxspring, Bates, and W. Stewart; forwards, Hall, Charlton, Apedale, White, and Browell.

Referee, Mr Elliott, Gateshead.

The Swifts won the toss, and playing with the wind immediately pressed and gained a corner, Morgan heading over from a good place by Rafferty. Walbottle replied, and Browell struck the crossbar with a capital effort. The same player rushed away and forced Charlton to concede a corner, from which the ball was headed into the goal-mouth, but Graham saved finely by fisting away, the ball going into touch. Even play followed for a time until Spence broke away and just missed. Rafferty also sent past. The Swifts pressed severely, Finnigan grazing the upright. Bob Charlton cleverly checked the visiting forwards by backheeling to Wake, who transferred to B. Rafferty, and the latter struck the crossbar, Harrison sending over from the rebound. From a scrimmage in the visitors' goal-mouth Morgan scored the first goal. On the re-start the Walbottle forwards, by grand combination, visited the home territory and gained a couple of free kicks, when Graham had to kick away, and play was again carried to the visitors' end. Willis in attempting a save with his head, gave a corner, and McNally just missed. The Swifts gained other two corners in quick succession, Spinks fisting away from Morgan, but the leather was finally put behind. Hall, the visitors' outside left, was very tricky, and made one or two good attempts, centreing finely to one of which Apedale sent in, but Graham fisted away out of danger. Several opportunities were offered to the home men, but the wind spoiled their efforts, the shots sailing harmlessly past the uprights. The most effective forward so far on the Consett side was Morgan, who occasionally troubled Spinks, but nothing further was scored before the referee's whistle sounded half-time—

Swifts .... One goal
Walbottle .... Nil

On the re-start the Walbottle forwards certainly displayed the prettier football, pressing strongly, and there seemed hopes of the equaliser arriving soon. They immediately gained a corner, which was accurately placed, and Graham, in attempting to clear from White, only partly caught the ball, with the result that it rolled into the net, and the game now stood one each. This was decidedly hard lines for the homesters, but they were not to be denied, and not many minutes elapsed before Morgan received the ball about the centre of the field, and skilfully dodging all opposition shot at Spinks, who tipped the leather into the air, but Morgan at the right moment got his head in the way and gave the Swifts the lead, this being his second goal. Willis tried a short dribble for the visitors and was successful in gaining a corner, but nothing resulted. Radcliffe sent wide from a long range. Apedale scored the equalising goal from a free kick taken by Radcliffe, Graham having no chance whatever. Oxspring caused Graham to save a good shot. The home custodian was now having a busy time, but managed satisfactorily. Wake saved close in by kicking away. Barney Rafferty broke away, but was given off-side. Graham saved again from a free kick. Hall at this point was hurt, the game being stopped for a few minutes. After the resumption the Swifts paid a visit to the other end and almost scored. Graham saved a shot which glanced off the cross-bar, thereby saving an almost certain goal. McNally also saved. From now till the call of time the visitors continued the pressure, and it was only the excellent defence of the homesters that prevented further scoring, with the result that the game ended as follows:—

Consett Swifts .... Two goals
Walbottle .... Two goals

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.
STANLEY v. SUNDERLAND A.

On Easter Monday, this Alliance fixture was decided on the Stanley ground, before a very large company of spectators. When the teams lined up they were represented as follows:—

Stanley—Goal, E. Beckwith; backs, W. Liddle and Bell; half-backs, Saunders, E. Buck, and Redpath; forwards, W. Ellis, R. Coates, S. Wood, A. Lown, and Masterman.

Sunderland A.—Goal, Wilson; backs, Johnson and Sharp; half-backs, Lyon, Dunlop, and Lee; forwards, Ormston, Brown, Prince, Carmichael, and White.

Referee, Mr Conqueror, Sunderland.

Stanley winning the toss set the visitors to defend the entrance goal. The visitors immediately worked their way to the Stanley side. A foul against Stanley was well placed by Johnson, but Masterman got hold, and ran up the wing, and being attacked put to Lown, who dodged past his opponent, and Coates sent in a hot shot which Wilson, by a bit of good luck, managed to save. Then Lown and Coates again became dangerous. From the third corner kick Wood rushed in and banged the leather clean past Wilson amid a volume of cheers. When the visitors seemed to be gaining ground Liddle, with one of his huge kicks returned play into Sunderland territory, where Coates completely beat the Sunderland backs, and added a second goal amid great excitement. After some spirited play Masterman put himself into a good position, and registered the third goal. Then the visitors worked their way to the Stanley goal by means of short passing tactics, and White put in a very soft shot which counted, while the backs were appealing for off-side. Shortly before half-time one of the visitors had to be carried off the field injured. Half-time:—

Stanley .... Three goals
Sunderland A .... One goal

After the usual interval, the game was resumed, but was not so productive of goals as the former half had been. Several good shots were made at the Stanley goal, and then Lown with his colleagues changed the venue, and added a fourth point for Stanley. After a struggle on the Stanley left wing Lee, who had a clear shot, sent from near the centre line, a flying shot which passed Beckwith before he could manage to save. Final:—

Stanley .... Four goals
Sunderland A. .... Two goals

STANLEY v. WALLSEND PARK VILLA.

Stanley paid a visit to Wallsend on Saturday, and met the Park Villa team in an Alliance encounter. There was a fair attendance of spectators, who witnessed a good game. Stanley made the journey with only ten men, Redpath failing to turn up. Sep. Chisholm, however, happened to arrive soon after the start, and donning a jersey he was able to render useful assistance. The teams were made up in the following order:—

Stanley—Goal, Beckwith; backs, Bell and Coates; half-backs, Pearson, Chisholm, and Buck; forwards, Masterman, Wood, Ellis, Robson, and Crute.

Wallsend—Goal, Henderson; backs, Taylor and Ross; half-backs, Neill, Rice, and Reed; forwards, Ray, Dale, Robson, Craig, and Heward.

The home side won the toss, which was a great advantage, as Sam Wood started for Stanley against a strong breeze. From the outset the game was a fast one, and after a short incursion into the Wallsend half the homesters made track, and secured three corners in quick succession. In trying to clear Buck got down to the ground, and unfortunately handled the ball within the twelve yards' area. Reed took the penalty kick and scored five minutes from the start. For some time play was held in the vicinity of the Stanley goal, until a couple of fouls against Wallsend changed the venue. Some huge kicking followed, and the Park obtained two more corners, from which nothing resulted. After a series of exchanges the homesters got well away, and a goal seemed certain, but Beckwith gave a smart exhibition of goal-keeping, and very cleverly cleared. The game continued fast, and both ends were visited. Then followed a rapid piece of passing by Wallsend, and getting the best of the visitors Ray sent in a shot which beat Beckwith. The home team continued to have the best of matters, and from a corner sent into the net, but the ball had not touched anyone. Stanley now made strong efforts to break through, but they were forestalled on each occasion. Wallsend again pressed and Rice put on a third goal, and at the interval the homesters had the best of matters by three to none.

With the wind now in their favour Stanley at once assumed the upper hand, and Henderson was called upon to negotiate several shots. He succeeded in his task until Stanley made a quick rush, and with Henderson out of his place Robson scored Stanley's first goal. This was after eighteen minutes' play. Continuing to keep up the pressure, Stanley kept Henderson busy, and he had to fist a shot from Crute over the line. Although nothing came of the corner, the visitors were having all the game, and from a capital centre by Masterman the ball was sent over the line. Immediately afterwards Wood and Ellis rushed the ball through, and put on Stanley's second goal. Some very exciting play ensued, and the Villa team made a very determined effort and compelled Beckwith to concede a corner. This was cleared, and the visitors again took up the running. From a throw-in by Crute the ball was sent into Henderson's hands, and having some difficulty in dealing with the ball, Masterman tried hard to get it through, but Taylor came to the rescue just in time. Stanley continued to press, but could not score and the game ended—

Wallsend Park Villa ... Three goals
Stanley .... Two goals

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "OFF-SIDE."]

The Park go Down.

After the brilliant form shown by the Park against Middlesbrough and South Bank, it was fondly hoped by their supporters that they would account for Darlington, although it was fully recognised that the latter would take some beating. Then the Quaker town representatives are in the running for the championship, and could thus be depended upon to do their level best. Unfortunately for the home club, Forster was unable to turn out, and Coates did not put in an appearance, it being common talk on the ground that he had been lured away by Stanley, and this actually proved to be the case. Willey and Houston filled the vacancies. The first half was a capital display of football, the teams being well matched, and it was only fitting that they should cross over on even terms. Although having to face the breeze in the second period the Park went to the front in rare style at the outset, and had much the best of the exchanges, being continually in the Darlington quarters. An incident hereabouts completely altered the complexion of the game. The ball had been shot in at Rowlandson who fisted out to Cook for the latter to smartly head into the net. Naturally the Leadgate supporters were jubilant, but their joy turned to sorrow when the referee pointed for a free kick to Darlington. Why this point was disallowed must for ever remain a mystery, as a fairer goal I have never seen scored, and I unhesitatingly assert that the referee made a serious blunder.

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This misfortune seemed to take all the heart out of the home men, who played in the most listless fashion afterwards, and did not appear to care whether they won or lost. In consequence the visitors did pretty much as they liked, and added four more goals to their total before the close. But for the referee's mistake in disallowing the Park's second goal the finish would doubtless have been an exciting one. The concluding stages of the game were not of an edifying character, and Hunter may consider himself fortunate in not being ordered off. There was a hostile demonstration against the referee at the finish, but some of the Park committee saw that he took no harm. Darlington are undoubtedly a clever team, and I should not be at all surprised to see them head the league. Rowlandson is big enough for anything, but I thought he appeared nervous when the Park were pressing, and he should certainly have saved the shot that scored. Buckton and Todd were very safe at back, especially the latter, whilst Callagan put in any amount of useful work at half, not forgetting to use his weight at times. Johnson also played well, and no fault could be found with Swalwell. The forwards were a smart set, and put plenty of sting behind their shots. Tennick was excellent in the centre being clever at snapping up openings whilst Watson and Bowes also gave a good account of themselves, with Tolson and Stockdale not far behind.

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Up to the time of having that goal disallowed the Park played a capital game, and they were going so well against the wind that it looked in every way likely that they would win. Having that point struck off, however, appeared to take all the wind out of their sails. It was undoubtedly hard lines as the goal was well worked for and quite legitimately obtained, and there was no appeal by Darlington against its genuineness. Hunter was not the Hunter we are used to, and for some reason or other seemed to altogether lose his temper. As I have said above, he may thank the referee for taking a lenient view on one occasion. Bowes, up to the time he was hurt and had to retire, played an excellent game at right back, his tackling being good and his kicking powerful. However, a nasty kick on the foot compelled him to leave the field for good. Laidler played a fair game, but has done better. The penalty that was given against him was purely accidental. At half Tommy Wilson stuck in for all he was worth, and Cartmell also did well, but Willey was not up to his usual form. The forwards did not do badly, but sadly lack dash in front of goal. Milburn is a great sinner in this respect, and wants to impart more smartness into his play especially near the goalposts. Cook Allison, and Wilson did a lot of nice work, and Houston improved a lot in the second half. However, many fine chances close in were thrown away owing to the forwards allowing the opposing defenders to have practically free kicks instead of bustling them up a bit.

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A DRAWN GAME AT CONSETT.

Consett Swifts met Walbottle in the Tyneside League tourney at Consett. A win for Walbottle meant a great deal, as they are standing well for the championship. They were fully represented, but the Swifts were without the services of Joe Finnigan, who without the services of Joe Finnigan, who is doubtless saving himself for the cup-tie on Saturday next with Hobson Wanderers. His place was filled by Jno. Rafferty playing full-back, while McNally, one of last year's juniors, was introduced into the half-back line. The Swifts won the toss and were assisted by a strong wind during the first half. Nothing of importance occurred until Morgan beat Spinks with a good shot, and this was all the scoring up till half-time. Some good football was witnessed in the second portion of the game, and special mention should be made of Hall for Walbottle, and Morgan for the Swifts, who were the two best forwards on the field. The equalising goal came early through Graham failing to hold a shot from White. Morgan, however, made up for this by racing away and scoring No. 2, giving his side the lead. The way in which he dodged the visitors was remarkable, and a treat to witness, and he fully deserved to score. Walbottle afterwards gained a free kick, and Radcliffe placing finely, Apedale had no difficulty in putting on the finishing touch. Graham was quite unable to save, owing to the players in front of him, the leather being kept very low.

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Dempsey and Morgan on the home left made one or two useful runs, working well together; the former showed traces of his old form. But what a wing this should make—Hall, Walbottle, outside left; Morgan, Swifts, inside left. This would be bad to beat, considering the way the respective players performed on Saturday last. Graham continued to have plenty to do, and he did it well. For the homesters, Graham in goal displayed capital form, and fisted away splendidly on numerous occasions, although he should have saved the first goal had he kept hold of the ball. Jno. Rafferty and Bob Charlton also played well at full back, the former being one of the most useful men in the team, and very clever with his head in the goal-mouth. Harrison and Wake were evenly matched at half-back, and played admirably, whilst McNally shaped well for his first game. Morgan and Dempsey made some capital runs on the left wing, the former being in champion form, and scoring both goals. Finnigan in the centre was not so effective as usual, although he played fairly well. B. Rafferty and Spence combined nicely on the right wing, and the latter is very clever with the ball.

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For the visitors, Spinks (late of Dipton) had not so much to do as Graham, but played very well. Willis and Radcliffe are a powerful pair of backs, and very safe. There was not much to choose between the halves, all doing well. Apedale kept his wings well together, and makes a capital centre. Hall and Charlton were very effective, the former being very tricky, and he was unfortunate in being injured during the latter portion of the game, as I think the visitors would almost have carried both points away if this had not occurred. White and Browell fell off during the second half, and were not so good as the left wing, although White managed to score. In conclusion, I might say the visitors are a well-balanced team, and I should not be surprised to see them land top before the season closes.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

At a meeting of this body, held at Mr. F. Callingwood's, Leadgate, on Thursday night, when the question of the withdrawal of the Hobson was discussed. Mr. Thompson (the Annfield Plain secretary) explained that his team gave the Hobson a holiday fixture on condition that the latter came to Annfield Plain on Good Friday, but this the Hobson positively refused to carry out, notwithstanding that they had no other fixture, and that bills had been printed and posted. It was resolved that the Celtic should lay the case before the Durham Association, and that the secretary (Mr. Batey) should attend the meeting on behalf of the alliance.

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A FIASCO.

A wonderful amount of interest was taken in the game between Blackhill St. Cuthbert's and Medomsley White Stars, and there was a large attendance on the Saints' ground. Much depended on the result, but, unfortunately, the match was not finished. Recognising the importance of the fixture, Medomsley some time ago approached Blackhill with a view to securing an independent referee. Mr. Kelsey, on behalf of the Saints, agreed to this and the chairman of the league was empowered by the two clubs to appoint a referee, the latter to be a member of the Referees' Association. However, on Wednesday morning the chairman received a communication from the Blackhill secretary stating that his committee considered that Mr. McKeon—the referee originally appointed to act—should officiate, and he did so. So far as I can learn, the teams were standing one goal each when one of the Medomsley backs fisted out of the goal-mouth, and the referee, instead of awarding a penalty, gave a goal to Blackhill. This caused the spectators to break in, and the visitors left the field, but returned to finish the game. However it was found impossible to clear the field, and so the game ended. The "pros" and "cons" of the matter will probably be thrashed out at the monthly meeting of the League to-morrow night.

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THE PARK'S DEFEAT.

I heard rather a good story in connection with the defeat of the Park by Darlington. Bishop Auckland were naturally anxious that the Park should account for the visitors as this would make the championship safe for the "Bishops," and the chagrin the latter suffered when the final result came to hand can be better imagined than described. A friend of mine happened to travel by the same train as the Auckland men on Monday, the leaders being bound for Tow Law, and the principal topic of conversation was the previous Saturday's game between the Park and Darlington. The "Bishops" were very wroth with the Leadgate men, and freely expressed the opinion that the losers had "laid down" to Darlington for a substantial money consideration. That this is very far from being the truth my readers will be pretty well aware. My friend happens to belong to Leadgate, but under the circumstances he thought it prudent not to attempt any defence on behalf of the Park. And he was wise, as the Auckland men had got it firmly into their heads that Leadgate sold the game and probably they will hug the delusion for a long time to come. However, their victory over Tow Law about assures them of championship honours, but they have been an exceedingly lucky team.

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NEWS.

The cup presented by Mr Atherley-Jones to the North-West Durham Alliance has been much admired.

It is on show at Stanley this week.

Next week it will be exhibited at Leadgate.

Saturday's game on the Park ground was spoiled by an unfortunate mistake by the referee.

That goal headed through by Ben Cook was undoubtedly a good one.

Some of the visitors admitted this themselves.

Afterwards the Park went all to pieces.

They were playing finely at the time when the goal was disallowed.

Hunter let his temper get the better of his judgment on two or three occasions.

He was lucky in not getting orders to quit.

What was the matter with Coates?

He might at any rate have notified the Park that he did not intend to play.

This would only have run him to the expense of a post-card.

With more dash near goal the Park forward would have increased their total.

It was a lively team that went to Darlington on Monday.

Only about five of the first eleven made the journey.

Little wonder that they got beaten.

Jack Calvert kept goal finely.

It will now take the Park all their time to escape the bottom place in the league.

The Charity Cup competition started last Saturday.

Hamsterley took a good team to Tantobie and managed a draw.

The great event this week-end will be the meeting of the Swifts and Hobson in the semi-final of the Amateur Cup.

It should be a rare struggle.

Had the game been at the Hobson I should have plumped for the latter.

But being on the Vicarage Field makes all the difference.

I know that both teams are determined to strain every muscle in their endeavours to qualify for the final.

Whichever wins will have to face West Hartlepool or Willington Rovers for possession of the trophy.

And should just about capture it.

C. Todd, of Leadgate Wednesday, played a capital game at back for the Park Reserve on Friday.

He is worth a regular place on the team.

Charlie Walton is another promising player.

It is wonderful the sting he can put behind his shots.

Charlie should develope into a second Benny Cook.

By the way, Benny played an admirable game against St Augustine's.

Like Allendale on Friday, the Swifts on Saturday finished on even terms with Walbottle.

Perhaps the home team were a trifle fortunate to manage this.

Morgan, of the Swifts, and Hall, of Walbottle, put in some splendid forward work.

What a wing they would make.

Dempsey showed improved form.

No doubt Morgan's exhibition had something to do with this.

Graham kept a good goal for Consett.

Spinks, the old Diptonite, was a capable custodian for the visitors.

The game at Medomsley with Walbottle was one of the best that has been witnessed on the Allendale ground.

The Hobson had a quiet time during the holidays.

Probably preparing for next Saturday.

Eh? Friend Amos.

Stanley came very well out of their holiday engagements.

They beat Annfield Plain and Sunderland A. and only lost by a goal at Wallsend.

Coates, of Leadgate Park, assisted them in all three games.

Little bit rough on the Park, considering their two important Northern League games.

It was hardly expected that the old Diptonian would have deserted Leadgate with the season so near its close.

However it's no use crying over spilt milk.

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

DIVISION I.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Bishop Auckland	14	7	0	7	28	12	21
Darlington	14	8	3	3	44	27	19
St. Augustine's	15	6	4	5	22	21	17
South Bank	14	5	4	5	18	21	15
Middlesbrough	14	5	5	4	23	24	14
Stockton	14	4	6	4	22	25	12
Tow Law	13	3	5	5	17	19	11
Leadgate Park	13	3	7	3	28	26	9
Crook	14	4	6	1	14	35	7

CHESTER-LE-STREET LEAGUE.

JOICEY CUP.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pt
Bearpark	16	13	2	1	27
Washington	15	10	1	4	24
Chester-le-Street	14	8	4	2	18
*Waterhouses	16	8	4	4	18
Pelton Fell	15	6	6	3	17
Craghead	14	7	7	0	14
Waldridge	17	5	8	4	14
Newbottle	14	6	8	0	12
Fatfield	14	2	11	1	5
Bankhead	17	1	15	1	3

* Two points deducted for playing an ineligible player and points awarded to Pelton Fell.

PETER HAY CUP.

Waldridge	12	10	2	0	20
Chester-le-Street	13	9	2	2	20
Springwell	15	9	5	1	19
Harraton	15	8	5	2	18
Tribley Star	14	6	7	1	13
Pelton Fell	14	5	7	2	12
Craghead	13	6	7	0	12
Chester Moor	15	2	11	2	6
Bankhead	13	1	10	2	4

R. BLAND, Sec.

MATCHES WANTED.

Annfield Plain United are in want of dates; ages, 11 to 16. Apply, G. Herdman, 16, Durham Road, Annfield Plain.

Lintz Young Rovers are in want of matches; ages, 12 to 16. Apply, W. Nevin, Lintz Colliery.

Leadgate Rising Stars are in want of dates. Apply, B. Craig, 28, West Street, Leadgate.

Marley Hill St. Mary's are in want of dates; ages, 12 to 14. Apply, F. Robson, 23, Marley Hill.

Woodhouses Lilywhites want matches; ages, 12 to 15. Apply, W. Johnson, 6, Woodhouses, Dipton.

Stanley United are in want of matches; ages, 17 to 18. Apply, T. Liddell, 6, Kip Hill Terrace, Stanley.

Catchgate Lilywhites have a few vacant dates, and would like them filled up with good junior teams. Apply, G. Smith, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain.

West Pelton Choir Juniors are in want of matches; ages, 10 to 13. Apply, W. Appleby, West Pelton.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

The usual monthly meeting of the above league was held on Wednesday week, when representatives were present from Annfield Plain, Langley Park, Spen, Byer Moor, Dipton, Tantobie, and Messrs Grey and Hogarth. Mr. Grey, in the absence of the chairman, presided.—The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.—In the dispute between Langley Park and Dipton, wherein the latter disappointed Langley and were fined 5/-, Langley claimed the points according to rule 20. After hearing the case the committee awarded the points to Langley Park. Various minor matters were next dealt with, after which the referees for April were chosen as follows:—

April 8th.—Byer Moor v. East Castle, R. Freek; Annfield Plain v. Spen, G. Grey; Winlaton United v. Hamsterley, J. Allen.

April 10th.—Winlaton United v. West End, J. Hudspeth.

April 15th.—Tantobie v. Annfield Plain, A. H. Wilkinson; Winlaton United v. Dipton, G. Brockbanks.

April 17th.—Winlaton United v. West End, J. Hirst.

April 22nd.—Spen v. Annfield Plain, J. Hudspeth; Swalwell v. Tantobie, W. H. Dawson; Byer Moor v. Winlaton, A. Wilkinson.

April 29th.—Tantobie v. Winlaton United, R. Freek; Hamsterley v. Annfield Plain, G. Grey; Spen v. Dipton, W. Hogarth.

Kick-off 3.30.

CRICKET.

MATCHES WANTED.

Chopwell Cricket Club have several vacant dates, and would like them filled up with good seconds or moderate firsts. Apply, R. Harrison, Tyne Street, Chopwell, Lintz Green.

BEAMISH RIFLE CLUB.

The usual fortnightly handicap sweepstakes was held on the Urpeth Plains Range on Saturday. The weather was fine, but a rather troublesome wind prevailed, which brought some very promising scores to grief at the longest range. The conditions were seven shots and one sighting shot at 200, 500, and 600 yards. H.P.S., without start, 105. Result:—

	200	500	600	St.	Tl.
Pte. W. Lockie	27	32	30	8	97
Pte. W. Early	25	14	23	30	92
Corpl. T. Clough	28	27	29	4	88
Pte. H. Wilby	27	29	19	13	88
Corpl. W. Meurs	28	30	12	17	87
Pte. W. Martin	27	27	26	6	86

DIVERSION OF A WEST STANLEY ROAD.

Application at Quarter Session.

At Durham Quarter Sessions on Easter Monday, before the Rt. Hon. J. L. Wharton, M.P., and other magistrates, Mr Simey (instructed by Mr McCartan) made application respecting the diversion of a roadway at West Stanley. The application was for an order to turn, divert, and stop up part of a highway leading from Co-operative Street, Stanley, to Glower-o'er-em, Burnopfield Farm, and Craghead. The highway proposed was 133 yards long, and consisted partly of a level crossing over the North-Eastern Railway. There was a considerable amount of mineral traffic over the level-crossing, and it had been found desirable in the interest of the inhabitants and the children who frequented it to take steps to divert it. The crossing was situated close to Louisa Colliery of the South Moor Colliery Company, which sent away more coal than probably any other colliery in the county. It was proposed to substitute in lieu of the crossing a new macadamised road, 36 feet wide, running along the side of the railway for 117 yards, where it was to be carried under the railway by a sub-way and thence to the old highway. The length of the proposed new roadway was 210 yards. It would be more commodious, inasmuch as the level crossing would be replaced by a sub-way, and the new macadamised road would be substituted for the old road, which was not properly made, and was in a bad condition. The owners of the land—the North-Eastern Railway Company and Mrs Delacour and her sisters—had given their consent, and the necessary notices had been posted and advertised. Messrs Balleny and Logan, two Justices of the Peace had granted a certificate. Among other papers and documents put in were a copy of the resolution of the Stanley District Council to Joseph Routledge, their surveyor, on Dec. 7th, 1898, signed by Jonathan Green, chairman of the Council; plans of the new road, and a copy of the *Consett Guardian* containing the notice.

No objection was made to the application, and the order was granted accordingly.

AN OLD OFFENCE AT BLACKHILL.

At the Durham Quarter Sessions on Easter Monday, Henry Wood (45), contractor, was charged with having stolen from the dwelling-house of Alice Mary Emmerson, at Blackhill, in November, 1896, a lady's gold watch; and on the 11th December, 1896 a gold brooch, two silver brooches, a silver locket and chain, two gold rings, a lady's gold watch chain, a case containing a silver knife, fork, and spoon, and a Paisley shawl.

Mr Meynell prosecuted, and briefly explained the circumstances. Prisoner had been engaged in carrying out a contract, and had taken lodgings with Mrs Emmerson. The prosecutrix had a gold watch and prisoner, apparently without any suggestion on her part, took the watch to Mr Marshall's at Consett, and had it repaired. On a second occasion, without saying anything to the prosecutrix, he again took the watch away. This time it was not brought back, nor had she seen it since. As she was going away to her sister's house she gave him the key, and when she returned the next day she found the house open, the prisoner gone, and the articles named in the indictment missing. She took out a warrant, but nothing was heard of the man until a month ago, when he was arrested in Warwickshire, where he was living under the name of Henry Walker. He was apprehended by Sergt. Dryden, and on being charged with the first offence he said he never saw the watch. In reply to the second charge he said "it is nearly a jeweller's shop."

Evidence bearing out these facts was given by the prosecutrix, Mr Marshall, who valued the watch at £7, and Sergt. Dryden.

Prisoner gave evidence on his own behalf, and said the watch was presented to him by the prosecutrix.

In reply to Mr Meynell, he said his real name was Woodall. He could not give any reason for changing his name in Warwickshire. His contract was finished at Consett before he left. He did not leave any arrears with Mrs Emmerson. He bought her a piano on the hire system, and paid more than one instalment. He was a married man.

The jury found him guilty, and he was sentenced to four months' imprisonment with hard labour.

SURFACE DAMAGE ON LANCHESTER COMMON.

There were to have been two applications at Durham Quarter Sessions on Monday respecting the granting of special rates in compliance with the compensation as provided for in the Lanchester Common Act, 1773, for surface damage caused by pit workings.

Mr Mundahl, addressing the chairman, said he desired to make an application in respect to the first case. There were two applications to come before the Court, but the Clerk of the Peace had kindly placed certain information in his possession, and acting on this he (Mr Mundahl) had advised his clients to take a certain course in the matter, and they had agreed to do so. In the case of the second application which had been made in regard to the same matter, notices had been served for Wednesday, but he understood the Court would not sit on that day.

The Chairman said in the second case the gentleman who was bringing the action would be well advised if he deferred his application finally.

LOCAL STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—On Monday Mr John S. Murray had forward at this mart only a small number of stock, viz., 17 fat cattle, 69 sheep 2 cows, 4 pigs, a number of poultry, &c. The sale commenced at eleven o'clock and was over before one. There was a fair company present, and prices were about the same as last week.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday 68 dairy cows and heifers, 10 fat cattle, 13 calves, and 30 fat sheep and hoggs. Dairy cows made up to £18 10. Fat cattle to £13 17s 6d, from Mr J. Disberry, Satley; £12 15s from Mr G. Treddenick, Willington; £12 7s 6d from Colonel Blenkinsopp, Hoppyland. Calves to 52s. Fat hoggs to 42s 6d from Mr T. Nesbitt, Mecneil.

THE TWO POPULAR RELIGIOUS books of the day are undoubtedly "In His Steps" or "What would Jesus do?" by Chas. M. Sheldon; and "Philip Strong's Crucifixion" by Chas. M. Sheldon. They have had a truly wonderful sale both in America and England. Can be had at the "Guardian" Office, Consett. Ward Lock's Edition paper covers 6d. (by post 9d.) Cloth backs 1/- (by post 1/3).

INTERVIEW WITH MR. JAS. WEEDY,

OF LINTZ COLLIERY.

The subject of our sketch this week was born at Alnwick, Northumberland, in the year 1819, and will, if he lives till September have attained his 80th birthday. He lived in the town of his nativity for 14 years, and received his education at the Duke of Northumberland's school when a Mr. Bilbey was in charge of the school. On leaving Alnwick he came to live at Winlaton Mill, where he received further education at the local night schools. His first work in this district was to assist in making the Derwent turnpike. After three years he left and went to Garesfield, now known as the Spen, and started to work in the pit. At that time the only pits in the district for miles round were Garesfield Old Colliery, Old Medomsley, Pontop, White-le-Head, Winning, Oxhill, and Beamish. The collieries now owned by the Marley Hill Coal Company were not then in existence. From thence he removed to Androw's House soon after it was sunk. He lived there during the strike of 1844, and remained for eight years. His next move was to the Hobson, where he spent other seven years of his life. We next find him at Dipton and working at the Bautling, better known as East Castle. It was at Dipton, where his daughter, Mrs. Nevis, who has recently been celebrating her silver wedding, was born, and christened by the late Rev. Blythe Hurst, who resided in the lower part of Dipton. Two years after this he removed to the Lintz Colliery, where there were only two houses occupied, our friend taking up his abode in the third dwelling-house, which was scarcely finished. Along with others he helped to sink the Old Lintz Colliery, under the direction of a Mr. Widlowfield, formerly an overman at Crookgate Pit. Mr. Gouch was the manager at the commencement, and when the colliery manager was appointed Mr. Thos. Coxon secured the post, but only remained a short time. His successor was Mr. Thos. Clarke, brother to the late Mr. Robert Clarke, late owner of the Sportsman's Arms, Dipton. Then the reins of government fell into the hands of Mr. Wm. Johnson, of Burradon, who, on leaving, was succeeded by Mr. Robert Reid, of the Felling, he being the last manager for whom Mr. Weedy worked. In 1892 Mr. Reid left, and Mr. William Braidford, the present manager received the appointment. Since his first coming to the district, Mr. Weedy assures us many changes have taken place. When he went on to the top of the hill and looked around the country he was astonished to see the many lights from collieries and other works that had sprung up within the last few years, especially on the north side of the river. His only hobby, he said, was angling, and he had fished nearly from the top of the Derwent to the bottom. He was one of the first members of the Derwent Valley Angling Association, and had served on committees of the association for several years. He expressed the wish that, if he lived until the summer, to have one more day's angling. On one occasion he went to work at four o'clock in the morning and worked until 12 at noon, and returned again at four in the afternoon, and continued there until 10 a.m. the next day, when he went home, changed his clothes,

set off on the road, walking four miles beyond Shotley Bridge, fished there all day, and walked home again to Lintz Colliery. In 1884 he took a fancy to travelling, and emigrated to America, but, as he quaintly said, he did not like the "Yankee country" and the manners of the inhabitants, he returned after a twelve month. Then our friend said, the Americans had no macadamised roads, such as there are in England. When they got out into the country in America he said he could not describe the poorness of the roads. He did not like the iron boxes for fire-places nor the wood hats for houses. While in America he often went out fishing. On one occasion he and one of his sons drove out into the country with a pair of horses and a buggy, as the Americans call our traps, along the side of a steep mountain, until they reached the Savage River, where they fished all day, after which they proceeded to a smaller river, called the Crabtree, where they camped for the night. They fished up the river the following day until they reached a station where they took train to Piedmont, where, by a telephone message, they were met by his other son, who drove them to their own home again. Most of the fish, with the exception of those in the Crabtree and Savage Rivers, which were trout, were white fish. When on fishing expeditions they had to carry all their own provisions. The natives, he said, never molested them. On one expedition our friend and his comrades met with a bear, which they killed, and from which they had their dinner. "It just ate like pork" said Mr. Weedy quaintly, "but I did not care much for it. We sold the rest of the flesh for several cents more than other flesh meat." "In some of the States," Mr. Weedy remarked, "there are no public-houses. Virginia being one of them." While away fishing for a week with a doctor, Mr. Weedy said they crossed the mountain on the top of which was a stone house where General Jackson made his famous stand during the American War, the only stone house he had seen on the mountain, which was called the Look Out Mountain. On the Saturday night, after several adventures, they landed home with plenty of bass fish, most of which he caught with grasshoppers. When they reached Virginia there was not a drop of drink to be had. In the November he returned to the Lintz, where he has resided up to the present. The greater part of his working days were spent as a deputy, although for some years prior to his retirement, on the stoppage of the old Lintz Colliery, he acted as back-overman. When he first settled in the village the field in which the Colliery Row now stands was growing oats. Several accidents had occurred at the Colliery, but only one had occurred in his shift while deputy, and only one or two after he became back-overman. The first was an accident which befel a young man named Armstrong, who lived at Tantobie. Two minutes prior to the accident he had visited the place and timbered it as closely as the man cared to have it, when suddenly the roof slipped in and caused injuries which ultimately proved fatal. For the last thirteen years Mr. Weedy has spent his time keeping sheep and other farm stock, and is at present quite hale and hearty, and apparently likely to live a considerable time yet, with his kind-hearted daughter and son-in-law.

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

The March quarterly meeting of the members of the Northern Branch of Medical Officers of Health, was held in the Board Room of the Chester-le-Street Guardians. Dr. Armstrong, Newcastle, president, occupied the chair, and there were also present—Dr. Hill, Medical Officer of Health for the county of Durham; Dr. Scurfield, Sunderland; Dr. Green, Gateshead; Dr. Hembrough, Northumberland county; Dr. Taylor, Chester-le-Street; Dr. Turnbull, South Shields; Dr. Walker, and Dr. Webb, Gateshead. After some routine business had been transacted, the members inspected the experimental tanks for the bacterial purification of sewage, after which they returned to the Board-room, and a discussion took place, Dr. Taylor being congratulated on the successful working of the tanks during the past twelve months. It was agreed that the bacterial system would be the best in the end for the treatment of sewage.

A GRAND SPECULATION, at these days of financial unrest, is a rare thing for people with spare capital to come across. It is therefore, refreshing to know that in purchasing a box of Holloway's Pills, good value for money can be obtained. They never fail to give instant relief from pain, and no disease can long withstand their purifying influence. A few appropriate doses at the proper period will prevent many a serious illness. Their primary action is upon the blood, stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. Their secondary action strengthens the nervous centres. No drug can be so harmless yet so antagonistic to disorders caused by brain worry. The most perfect reliance may be placed upon their regulating and renovating virtues.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT AT THE CONSETT WORKS.

A STEELWORKER'S TERRIBLE INJURIES.

On Saturday, about eleven o'clock, a married man named Henry Weaver, of Steel Street, Consett, received frightful injuries while following his employment as a "teemer" in the west shops of the Consett Iron Company's Steel Works. A large quantity of molten steel, which had attained a degree of white heat, had been poured from one of the smelting furnaces into a huge ladle, capable of holding some 30 tons. The next step was to have the liquid run out of the ladle into the moulds. This work is exceedingly dangerous, and the greatest amount of care has to be exercised by the workmen. Weaver proceeded to the handle of the ladle for the purpose of carrying out this work. The liquid did not run out of the ladle into the moulds as it should do, and it was surmised the outlet was obstructed by a "sticker." Weaver jumped into the pit underneath, and prodded the aperture, and before the unfortunate man could get out of the way, he was caught by a splash of the hot liquid, which burst out of the mouth of the ladle. Weaver was instantly a mass of flames. For a while Weaver was invisible to the other workmen, and all they could see was a ball of fire, but the cries of Weaver were pitiful in the extreme. Another workman seized the handle of the ladle, and regulated the molten steel into the moulds, while Oliver Grey rushed to Weaver's aid, and wrapping his coat round the unfortunate man, managed to extinguish the fire. The whole of his clothing, except some fragments at the back, was entirely destroyed. He was terribly burnt, particularly the flesh on one side, and his ribs were exposed on the lower portions of his body. The injuries the man sustained were frightful. Weaver was removed to the Consett Infirmary on an ambulance stretcher, and received medical treatment. He now lies in a most critical condition. The last time there was an accident of this description was some years ago, when one workman lost his life, and other two were injured.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

TUESDAY, April 4th.—Before C. J. Backhouse, Esq., C. Bainbridge, Esq., and E. Stobbart, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

The undermentioned persons were fined for being drunk during the month:—Michael Burn, 7s 6d; Wm. Humble, 7s 6d; Thos. Iley, 10s; Henry Flemming, 15s; Catherine Hennessey, Tow Law, 10s; and Geo. Hall, 15s.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

Thos. Gregg and Wm. Henderson were charged with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Tow Law on the 12th ult.—They were each bound over in their own recognisances of £5 for three months, and had to pay the costs.

Joseph Plews and George Plews were similarly dealt with for the same offence on the 7th ult.

George Collinson, Wolsingham, was also bound over in the sum of £5 for three months with costs, for fighting on the 27th ult.

DAMAGING THE WOLSINGHAM CONVENT WALL.

Joseph Lally and Thomas Burke, two boys, were charged with damaging the Wolsingham Convent wall on Sunday, 12th ult.—Fined 1s each, 2d damages, and costs.

KEEPING A DOG WITHOUT A LICENSE.

George Hunter was charged with keeping a dog without a license on March 1st.—Defendant said the dog was only 6 months old.—Fined 1s, and 7s costs.

MEMORIAL TO THE HOME SECRETARY.

The following memorial has been addressed to the Home Secretary:—

Your Memorialists, the Committee of the Criminal Law Reform Department of the Humanitarian League, in common with many other members of the community, have been greatly impressed by the inequality of the sentences passed by different judges on prisoners convicted of the same offences, and by the extreme severity of the sentences passed by some of them. They apprehend that this difference does not arise from any peculiarity in the cases tried before the judges to whom they refer, inasmuch as the same differences appear year after year notwithstanding changes in the circuits taken by the judges. They believe that different judges differ in principle as to the objects which should be aimed at by the State in punishing criminals, and that some of the judges aim not merely at the protection of society but at retaliation or revenge upon all persons, who, in their opinion, "deserve" punishment, whether such retaliation is beneficial to the community or otherwise; and that if the judges were consulted as to their reasons for inflicting punishment, a startling difference of opinion among them would become apparent.

These remarks appear to your memorialists to be specially applicable to the punishment of flogging. Some judges resort to this punishment on almost every occasion when the law permits, while others never resort to it at all. Moreover, some judges sentence prisoners to a large number of lashes, or to more than one infliction of the punishment, much more frequently than do the great majority of their colleagues on the Bench, and we fear that these judges pass sentences with little regard to the good of society, and solely with with a view of retribution. We find, moreover, that the judges whose sentences appear to us most open to exception are often amongst those whose decisions are frequently reversed on appeals in civil cases.

We would further call your attention to the fact that the great reduction in the severity of our penal system which has taken place during the present century has not led temporarily to any outburst of crime; that every successive reduction of its severity has in fact been accompanied by an improvement in the criminal statistics of this country; but that after all our reductions our criminal system is still probably the severest that exists in any civilised country, and that there is every reason to believe that its severity might be further reduced not only without disadvantage but with actual benefit to the community.

Under the present system you alone are authorised to correct the excessive sentences passed by certain judges, and to remit the floggings imposed by them on persons whom the great majority of the judges would exempt from that penalty. You alone can effect something towards equalising our sentences, rendering the law more certain in its application and preventing the conflict between public opinion and the administration of the law which must frequently arise so long as sentences are left to the almost uncontrolled discretion of a single judge, who may entertain peculiar and erroneous views as regards the punishment of criminals.

We therefore appeal to you to take a more active part in the correction of these evils than has hitherto been done; to ascertain whether certain judges do not systematically pass sentences based on principles in which neither you nor the public concur; to remedy as promptly and completely as possible the evil of excessive or unsuitable sentences, and to avoid any appearance of sustaining by your action (or inaction) principles and practices with which we feel confident that you do not concur.—(Signed)

JOSEPH COLLINSON,
For the Humanitarian League.
Wolsingham.

CONSETT.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—On Easter Monday, the members of the Consett Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society held their annual tea in the West Victoria Street National Schools. There was a good company present, the tables being presided over by several of the ladies connected with the society. In the evening, there was an entertainment held in the Parish Hall, under the presidency of the Rev. W. D. Croudace, vicar. An address was delivered by the curate (Rev. M. Bennett). A capital programme of music was gone through, the several items being contributed by the members of the society. There was a capital audience.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The anniversary in connection with this Sunday-school was celebrated on Sunday and Monday last. On the former day, two sermons were preached by Mr. Wilkinson, of Hamsteels and in the afternoon there was a musical service presided over by Mr. W. Thompson. An address was delivered by Mr. Wilkinson. The programme of music was rendered by the choir, solos and duets being given by Mrs. Gardner, Misses Smurthwaite, Seel, Ornsby, and Prince (2). Mr. A. S. Coates conducted, while Mr. Thos. Jones presided at the organ. At the morning and evening service, the children rendered a choice selection of hymns. The congregations were large.—On Monday, the annual tea was held in the School-room, and was partaken of by a large company. The tables were presided over by the following ladies:—Misses Potts, Elliott, Almond, Prince, A. Bowe, Grant, Shelton, Robson, and Arnott. The culinary work was looked after by Mesdames Almond, Summerbell, Thompson, Bell and Jopling. In the evening, a very successful kindergarten entitled, "Rip Van Winkle," was given by a number of the children, who had been trained by Mrs. R. J. Waites, Consett. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed, and many of the characters were exceedingly good. Miss Ornsby presided at the piano. The chairman was Mr. Richardson. There was a good company present.

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CHESTER-LE-STREET GUARDIANS.

A fortnightly meeting of the members of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians was held on Thursday last in the Board-room at the Workhouse. Mr. J. Humble presided, and there were also present—Messrs A. P. Stoker, C. J. Banks, T. Arnell, R. Bolam, J. Mitchell, P. Hay, T. C. Renwick, W. S. Harris, J. H. R. Garson, R. J. English, R. Fowler, T. Richardson, R. B. Clark, G. Middlemas, R. Selby, J. Sharp, Mr. J. Starford, J. Emmerson, the Clerk (Mr. R Dickinson), and the Assistant-Clerk (Mr. R. V. Dickinson.)

PAUPER STATISTICS.

The Workhouse Master reported that the number of inmates in the Workhouse was 164, as against 152, in the corresponding fortnight of last year, this showing an increase of 12. The number of vagrants was 80, as against 79, or an increase of one.

FINANCES.

The Workhouse and Finance Committee presented, and recommended for payment, accounts for three months amounting to £717 16s 1d for Union charges, and £179 6s 5d for Rural District Council; total, £888 2s 6d.

The recommendation was agreed to.

A SCENE DEFERRED.

Mr. J. Mitchell, in accordance with notice given to the Clerk, drew attention (1) to the large water-tank near the Workhouse Infirmary, with the object of obtaining the Board's permission to utilise the water in it for flushing purposes in Chester-le-Street; and (2) to certain remarks made by Mr. Hay at the Board's meeting on the 2nd inst., in connection with the proposed increase of the Workhouse Master's salary, and, if necessary, call the officers referred to by Mr. Hay before the Board. Mr. Mitchell said the question relating to the water-tank was a very important one, and as there was such a small attendance of members, and he would not like to steal a march, he proposed to leave the matter over until the net meeting. In reference to Mr. Hay's remarks towards himself——

Mr. Hay: I rise to a point or order.

The Chairman: You might wait until you hear what Mr. Mitchell has to say. It is on the agenda.

Mr. Hay: Exactly, but a point of order is always allowed.

Mr. Mitchell said he was just going to say the same thing in reference to Mr. Hay's remarks, as he had in reference to the water tank. When Mr. Hay made the remarks, there was a full Board, and he would like to have the same privilege for his reply. He therefore proposed to adjourn the matter until the next Board day.

The Chairman: That is a very satisfactory conclusion.

Mr. English: Perhaps they will come to a compromise before then.

Mr. Hay: Oh, I don't know. I might have another month to get rebutting evidence.

The matter was then allowed to stand over for a fortnight.

THE NEW BOARD ROOM.

The following tenders for seating the new Board-room were received:—Messrs H. Mole and Sons, Chester-le-Street, £252 11s; Mr. C. Groves, Chester-le-Street, £280; Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, Consett, £345 10s; Messrs Norton and Co., £352 6s 6d; and Gullachson, Newcastle, £307 12s 6d.

On the motion of Mr. Renwick, seconded by Mr. R. Bolam, the tender of Messrs Mole and Sons was accepted, the Architect (Mr. Cowe) having assured the Board that he was responsible for seeing that the specifications were properly carried out.

RURAL COUNCIL.

The Board then sat as the Rural Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. Taylor, Medical Officer of Health, reported that during the fortnight there had been registered 64 births and 45 deaths, equalling a birth-rate of 27.9, and a death-rate of 19.6 per 1,000 per annum. Six deaths had occurred from zymotic diseases, being equal to a zymotic death-rate of 2.57. Ten children had died under one year of age, representing an infantile mortality of 156 per thousand born. During the fortnight he had received 19 notifications of infectious diseases, as compared with 31 in the previous fortnight, and 25 in the corresponding period of last year. The diseases notified were twelve cases of scarlet fever, one of enteric fever, two of membraneous croup, and four of erysipelas. Eight patients had been admitted to the hospital, and two discharged, leaving 25 at present under treatment.

The report was adopted.

SANITARY REPORTS.

Mr. Webb, Sanitary Inspector for Chester-le-Street district, reported that placards had been placed in the common lodging-houses, fixing the maximum number of lodgers to occupy each room. In compliance with the request of the Surveyor to the County Council the surface water drain at the entrance to the hospital ground had been extended. In addition to extending the sewer near the entrance to South Hill it had been found necessary to clean out the ditch for a distance of about 100 yards to facilitate the flow of sewage. In reference to the Pelton scavenging the contractor had informed him that he had been unable to complete his first round in the specified time, owing to the large quantity of ashes he had to remove from the private houses at Pelton and Pelton Fell. At Lumley, a water guage had been fixed in the house of the Council's inspector, and gave a working pressure of from 55 to 60 pounds, with a maximum of 80 pounds. As the sewer ventilating shafts in Witton Gilbert township were frequently broken with stones thrown by lads, he would suggest that the police be asked to be on the look out for offenders, with a view to prosecution. He recommended that the contractors be paid the balance of sewer contracts at Sacriston and Chester-le-Street, amounting to £27 2s, and £7 6s respectively.

Mr. Emmerson drew attention to the condition of Black Horse Terrace at Pelton. His attention had been drawn to a cesspool which was overflowing, and in a deplorable state. He was afraid there might be an epidemic. He moved that the work be at once undertaken and advertised.

The Chairman said he understood the Board ordered plans to be prepared six weeks ago.

Mr. Webb said that was for the whole district.

The Chairman asked when Mr. Webb would have plans ready for this particular section of the district.

Mr. Webb said he could have them ready for next Board day.

It was agreed that this should be done.

Mr. Symon, Inspector for Birtley district, reported that as far as he had been able to get over the district he found that the scavenging had been fairly well attended to where it was contracted for, but that it was neglected in other places, and particularly at Fatfield. That was no doubt partly due to the stormy weather. He had written to the responsible persons. The contractor for the Washington main sewer laid last year had sent in his accounts for payment, but as the accounts were not correct he recommended that he be paid £65 14s 3d, which completed the payment of the contract price, and that the remainder be allowed to stand over for further examination.

The reports of the two Inspectors were adopted.

HALF-YEARLY ESTIMATES.

The Clerk submitted the estimates for the half-year ending Michaelmas. He said the amount required for general expenses would be a little over £1,500. This would represent 1½d in the pound, which was a halfpenny less than in the corresponding half of last year. For highways (general expenses) they required £5,313, and for Chester-le-Street highways, £900. These respectively represented 4¼d and 5½d in the pound, or increases of a farthing and a halfpenny. The special expenses for the various townships were —Birtley, £500; Chester-le-Street, £520; Edmondsley, £119; Lamesley, £150; Great Lumley, £25; Pelton, £240; Plawsworth, £15; Urpeth, £25; Usworth £270; Waldridge, £5; Washington, £370; and Witton Gilbert, £425.

The estimates were approved of.

REPRESENTATION OF CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Mr. J. Mitchell, according to notice, drew attention to a letter from Mr. R. Simey, Clerk to the County Council, with reference to additional representation for Chester-le-Street township, and moved that one more member be added. If they looked at the population and rateable value he thought they would see that Chester-le-Street was entitled to an additional member. If they agreed to his motion he had no desire that the additional member should be elected until the term of the present Board was up. That would be in something like two years time.

Mr. Renwick seconded the motion.

Mr. Hay said he strongly objected to Mr. Mitchell's conditions that the election should be held over for two years. If it was right that they should have an extra member, it was right they should have one at once.

Mr. Mitchell said he did not object to that. He simply suggested it should be deferred for the good of the Board.

Mr. Hay said he was not there to represent the good of the Board. He was there to represent the people of Chester-le-Street, and it was on their behalf he spoke, and would move an amendment.

Dr. Garson: Hit him hard.

Mr. Hay: I am serious, but they don't take it that way.

The Chairman: You are always smiling, and they don't know when you are serious.

Mr. Hay said if they looked into and studied the matter they would find from the population and rateable value that Chester-le-Street was entitled to eight members. He did not say they should go in for eight, but they were entitled to seven at least. In the event of them giving only one now it would necessitate his bringing the matter forward in a different manner very shortly. He did not suppose he would move any further this year, but he thought it had better be settled for good now, and that they should have two extra Guardians to be elected immediately. That was, of course, if the County Council would grant them. They were in the power of the County Council. He had no doubt that they were asking for what was right and just. That was what they wanted, and they would never be satisfied until they got it.

The Chairman: Then your amendment is that you want two additional members.

Mr. Hay: Decidedly, that is my amendment now.

Mr. Mitchell: If Mr. Hay thinks that the election should take place at once I have no objection to including that in my motion.

Mr. Selby seconded Mr. Hay's amendment.

The Chairman then took a division, when there voted for the amendment—Messrs Hay and Selby; for the motion, Messrs Renwick, Clark, Mitchell, Harris, Emmerson, and Stoker. Eight other members present did not vote. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Hay said the voting would justify him in bringing forward a motion to divide Chester-le-Street into wards, and to have a re-distribution bill. If they could not have a levelling up they must have a levelling down.

This terminated the business.

GLADNESS COMES

With a better undestanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts, pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative—California Syrup of Figs—promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by those who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. If in the enjoyment of good health and the system is regular, then laxatives and other remedies are not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the utmost skilful physicians; but if in need of a laxative, then one should have the best, and with the well informed everywhere California Syrup of Figs stands highest, is most largely used, and gives most general satisfaction. The title Syrup of Figs has been freely appropriated by unscrupulous imitators; to prevent disappointment you must insist upon having California Syrup of Figs (ask for it in full), manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. Of all chemists, 1/1½ and 1/9.

BAZAAR AT MEDOMSLEY.

OPENED BY MR. CUTHBERT GREEN, OF WITTON GILBERT.

On Wednesday week, the Wesleyans of Derwent Cottages commenced a three days' bazaar in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley, in aid of the fund for their new place of worship. For a long number of years this little village has always been recognised as a stronghold for Methodism, and the desirability of a new church has long been necessary. The members of the society set to work with a view of raising funds for this object, and it is gratifying to have to say that they have been pretty successful. The ready response to the appeal has encouraged them to launch out, with the result that plans for a new church, submitted by Mr. George T. Wilson, architect, have been accepted by the trustees, and before many more weeks have passed, a commencement will be made with the new building, as we believe the contract for the erection of the same has been let. The new church will be one of the finest to be seen in the district, the site being on the right-hand side of the main road, on entering the village from Consett. It has to cost between £800 and £900, and will provide sitting accommodation for some 200 people. The arrangements for the bazaar were of a very satisfactory character. The display was a good one, and showed that the ladies must have been at work for months to have got together such a remarkable collection of goods. The two large drapery stalls were heavily laden with useful and ornamental articles. The number of beautiful quilts that were for sale was one of the largest that we have seen at a bazaar for a number of years. The refreshments were most appetising, and the other attractions were of a varied character. The stalls were presided over by the principal workers in connection with the society. At the opening ceremony there was a large and influential company present, including the Rev. Jos. Bacon, Consett; Mr. Cuthbert Green, Witton Gilbert; Councillor John Lowes, (senior circuit steward), Consett; Rev. J. Bishop, Shotley Bridge; Mr. and Mrs. James Palliser, Blackhill.

After devotional exercise, the Rev. Joseph Bacon explained the scheme the society had on hand. He congratulated them on their success, and for the way they had worked for the undertaking. At the present time there was £200 in the bank, while there was in promises another £100, and it was fully expected that £150 would be raised by the bazaar. The members also anticipated they would receive substantial help from the Connectional funds.

Mr. Cuthbert Green, in opening the bazaar, said he was always ready to help those that helped themselves. He found that this was the case with the Wesleyans at Derwent Cottages. He considered they had done splendidly, and he could only urge them to go on, and have their church opened free of debt. He had a warm side for the Methodists of Derwent Cottages, because he had not yet forgotten that his father once lived in the district when Derwent Cottages was one of the principal places in the circuit, and which could boast of having no less than a dozen local preachers on the plan from that important village. (Applause.) He wished them every success and trusted the money they required would be realised.

Coun. Lowes proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Green for opening the bazaar.

This was seconded by Mr. Henderson, and carried by acclamation.

Mr. Green briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the sales were proceeded with. For the day a substantial sum was realised.

Greencroft School Board.

On Thursday evening the monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Greencroft Board Schools, under the presidency of Mr. H. Greener. There were also present Messrs J. Mason, T. W. Ord, Mr. W. H. Ritson (Clerk), and Mr. W. W. Thompson (Deputy-clerk.)

Attendance Officer's Report.

Mr. R. Tindale, Attendance Officer, reported that the attendance for the past month had been very fair considering the bad weather. After the necessary instructions were given, the report was adopted.

The Cookery Teacher Resigns.

Miss M. J. Curry, Cookery Mistress, of Stanley, resigned her position as cookery teacher under the Board.

Mr. Ord thought the cookery a complete nuisance in the school it upset everything.

It was decided to let the matter stand over for the present.

Teachers' Reports.

Mr. W. I. Mackay of the mixed school reported that the average for the month was 281. Mr. Brown, Her Majesty's Inspector, visited the school on the 14th ult. Mr. Compton visited the girls' night class on March 7th. The attendance of the children was fairly regular.—Miss C. Knifton, of the infants' school, reported that the average for the month was 157.2.

The reports were adopted.

Federation of School Boards.

The Clerk read a circular from the Clerk of the Newcastle School Board, Mr. F. J. Harding, asking the Greencroft Board to attend a meeting for the purpose of establishing an association for Northumberland and Durham.

It was agreed that the Board become members of the Association, and be represented by Messrs Greener and Ord.

The Estimate.

The estimate for the next half-year was made at the rate of 4d. in the £.

After the cheques for the usual accounts were signed, the Board rose.

EPPS'S COCOA GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—"Civil Service Gazette."—Made simply with boiling water or milk.—Sold only in packets and pound tins by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd. Homœopathic Chemists, London."

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed bugs, fleas, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 6d and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

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TO AVENGE GORDON!

OR,

THE LAST DASH FOR KHARTOUM

A TALE OF LOVE AND WAR.

BY

JAMES S. BORLASE.

Author of "Darker than Death," "Riches to Ruin," "An Ocean Secret," "Recalled to Life," &c. &c.

CHAPTER XVII.

EDITH FORRESTER ENCOUNTERS HER FATHER.

We left Edith Forrester in the act of quitting the prison compound, at Omdurman, *en route* to the palace of the Hippopotami there to remain, under the charge of the Khalifa's head wife, until she was duly wedded to his ferocious brother.

Anyone ignorant of Oriental ways might imagine that Yakub el Jaaisha would have taken due care that his bride-elect should make the journey in a litter, or some equally comfortable manner; but that was not at all *his* idea of what was fitting and proper, indeed he had determined that she should be subjected to every possible indignity on the way, in order that she should thereby become convinced that, under his protection alone was even safety to be found.

He was somewhat fearful that his nephew, the younger Yakub, would contrive to render her *via dolorosa* more easy to tread than he himself desired that it should be, but even that handsome and gallant youth, kindly as he had acted and spoken to Edith, in the prison yard, knew nothing of the courteous gallantry towards the opposite sex which distinguishes civilised nations.

Nor was this to be wondered at, inasmuch as the Mohammedan religion regards woman as an altogether inferior creature to man, denying her even a soul and a future existence. That she is given to man as a helpmate in this world it allows, but when he is promoted to a higher one he is believed to exchange such beings of perishable beauty, or, as is more frequently the case, of no beauty at all, for the "dark-eyed, fullbosomed houris of Paradise, who never grow old, and whose loveliness never diminishes."

It is little wonder that the followers of the Prophet are embued with extraordinary courage when he who falls in battle is promised a round forty of these exquisite beings, and many other rewards besides, wherefore death must seem, to him, very preferable to life.

Thus Mohammedan wives, though often treated kindly, and even accorded certain privileges, are, nevertheless, even when their husbands are really fond of them, petted more as we of the Western World pet the domestic animals to which we have grown attached; and, as soon as their lord's affections have cooled towards them, they become more or less honoured slaves, who, though very seldom actually ill-used, are never so much as allowed to take their food at the same time, or at the same table, as their husbands and his male relatives or friends.

These facts duly considered it will no longer be wondered at that though both the Emirs had ridden to the gaol, mounted on good horses, neither had thought it at all improper or out of place that Edith Forrester should quit it on foot, walking between their prancing and curvetting steeds, who were somewhat frightened, at first, of her fluttering dress, and at the clinking of her steel fetters.

The streets were not at all crowded, at that early hour, but they were indescribably filthy, everything being thrown out of the mud-walled, straw-thatched, one-storied houses into them, for those excellent scavengers the vultures to clear away, who, however, were often so gorged with their foul food as, perforce, to remain on strike for many hours at a time.

They seemed to be so employed, or rather unemployed now, for the ridges of many of the surrounding roofs supported almost any number of them, perched side by side, with their vicious-looking eyes half closed, and sable wings close furled, yet, nevertheless, ever on the watch for some morsel of a more succulent nature than their ordinary diet, such as a dead human body, or a hand or foot lopped off from a living one.

As Bringi, the executioner, in his blood-red turban and loin-cloth, passed along (for he had left the prison-yard in company with the two Emirs and their attendants) he now and then called sundry of these huge obscene birds by affectionate names, which he had evidently bestowed upon such as were his special favourites.

He was always answered by either a hoarse croak, or a momentary flutter of inky-hued pinions, whilst, now and then, one less lazy, or else more polite than the rest, would stretch out its long, raw fleshed, featherless neck to its full extent, and give utterance to a greeting which sounded like a fiendish chuckle.

"Why, they seem to know you, Bringi, and that right well," at last remarked Yakub el Jaaisha.

"It would be strange if they didn't know their favourite food provider," answered executioner, with a broad grin. "Why they will follow me like so many shadows. They watched me go to the gaol this morning, as they always do, and they are now so thickly clustered along the house roofs close around it, in the hope that I have come away with some delicacy for them such as a hand or a foot, or, perhaps, both. Aye, but the dears shall have something tasty, ere long, for I've to hang three men for stealing dhurra from *the Beit-el-Mal*, about noon, and one of them is particularly fat. Oh, the lively bird who chuckled a moment ago, almost like a true believer, will enjoy that one, for fat body means large liver, and he's especially fond of liver. He'll find it with a single dig of his beak, *Kalafin* (Kalafin, a Cannibal race, many of whom live at Omdurman) will. Ha, ha ha! I call him *Kalafin* because nothing but human flesh satisfies his dainty stomach. Oh, he and I are great friends, almost like brothers."

As Edith Forrester listened to this speech, and glanced, with a shuddering loathing, at the speaker, it struck her that the bird of prey, and its human jackall, were like brothers in appearance even, for the nearly-naked body of Bringi was as black, and as glossy with ghee, as was the vulture's plumage, whilst his eyes possesses just as cruel an expression, and his huge hooked nose bore a striking resemblance to his favourite's blood ensanguined beak.

Our heroine's attention, however, was quickly attracted by other objects, for the streets, a few minutes before so empty were now becoming rapidly filled with women and children, and she could not help but be aware that she was the chief attraction that had drawn them forth.

None of the women were veiled, for they belonged wholly to the lower classes, whilst most of the children were quite naked. The youngsters were, most of them, as black and glossy as ebony, and though many, even at so tender an age, possessed fierce and forbidding faces, yet the majority were plump and exquisitely proportioned, for it happened to be a year of plenty.

One strange thing the young Englishwoman noticed was that though they ranged from babies who could just toddle, to boys and girls almost entering their teens, the ages of eight and nine years appeared to be almost unrepresented, and it was not until a long time after that she learnt it was because during the two years when such had been born, so terrible a famine raged in Omdurman, and indeed throughout the whole Soudan, that at least ninety per cent. of the babies either died of want or else were seized upon, slain, and eaten, sometimes by their own parents.

Poor Edith was not long in discovering that even the women and children of Omdurman regarded her with scorn and even deep malignity. Indeed they looked as though they would have liked to have torn her to pieces, and no doubt they would have done so but for the two Emirs and their numerous attendants.

Even as it was they greeted her with every insulting and opprobrious epithet to be found in the Arabic vocabulary, which contains a very extensive variety of such; whilst not a few picked up missiles, some of a most filthy nature, to hurl at her, but thought better of it ere they left their hands, through knowing very well that whoever hit one of the Emirs by mistake would promptly be deprived of an arm, or perhaps even of a head.

So they redoubled their curses, since it was dangerous to add deeds thereto; but as curses break no heads, and poor Edith did not know the meaning of a quarter of them, matters might have been much worse for her.

In this way the narrow thoroughfares were at last quitted, and a very broad road reached; but Miss Forrester was surprised to observe that the houses on either side of this veritable boulevard were just as small and insignificant in appearance as those which had been left behind.

"I see that you are wondering where our great and wealthy people live," observed the younger Emir, as he regarded his future aunt-in-law with a peculiar smile.

"Well, yes," she assented, "I should certainly have expected to see some fine mansions lining so broad and noble a thoroughfare as this."

"Ah, but the breadth of the way is only for the convenience of marching armies, and this is called *The Martyr's Road* because thousands leave the city by it every year who are destined never to return thereto. As for grand dwelling-places, my father, the Khalifa, certainly resides in a palace, or what is called one, by virtue of his high office, but even his brother and his son live in huts as humble looking outside, though a trifle cleaner and more comfortable within, as those of which you have already seen so many hundreds. It is contrary to the Mahdist creed, I may explain to you, that any of us should possess aught that we might be reluctant to leave behind when the sacred ombeias and great war drums call us away to fight for Allah and his Prophet."

"But your wives and children? Do *they* not bind you to Omdurman, or wherever else your homes may be, with much fonder affections than stately mansions and all the comforts and luxuries they might be made to contain could possibly do?" enquired Edith, wonderingly.

The young Emir laughed at her in very evident surprise, and then rejoined:—

"You should wonder at your own country-men rather than at us, for they are well known to be the greatest wanderers of any living race. Well, if an Englishman is so glad to leave, for months, and often years at a time, the one only wife that his laws allow him, what must be the joy of the Arab to occasionally get away from a dozen, a score, or, if he be a very great Emir, perhaps even from a hundred?"

"You speak so feelingly on the subject that, if you were not so young, I should feel convinced that you were married yourself," remarked Miss Forrester.

"Ah, youth has nothing to do with it, for we Arabs often marry at fourteen, and I am more than eighteen. I, however, am so attached to three mistresses, my horse, my sword, and my spear, that I have no room left in my heart for any other affection. And why should I not be well content, for my three mistresses are true, serviceable, and silent, whilst those who are formed from flesh and blood are seldom either and never all."

The Emir laughed somewhat bitterly as he concluded, and then became suddenly and gloomily silent; whilst from the sneer which curled his uncle's cruel lips, Edith Forrester came to the conclusion that the younger Yakub had been the hero of an unfortunate love affair, and was still smarting from his want of success therein.

But at this juncture her thoughts, and also her entire attention, were directed into another channel by an enormous volume of sound which abruptly broke upon her ears. It was as loud and as awful as thunder, but she knew at once that it was not heaven's thunder, but that of tens of thousands of human voices, shouting out the same words in perfect unison, and with a united power and fervour which betokened that they came straight from their hearts as well as from their lips.

Glancing in the direction from whence this awe-inspiring roar proceeded, she beheld enormous and far-reaching walls, the space within which was roofed over with immense mats, supported by a perfect forest of tall wooden poles, and as she gazed at that high circumvalating wall, and the myriads of mats propped up in air, another deafening shout ascended to the sun-blazing heavens, of:—"*Alli mdilla! Sa ilaha illa 'llaho! Inshahal Allah! Allah hu akbar, alal kufar!*" which means "Praise be to God! There is no God but God! God wills it! God's power is great to crush unbelievers!" and then all was as still and silent as the grave.

"That portion of the Holy Scriptures, which is also yours, bids us to praise God with a loud voice, and henceforth you will be able to bear witness that we do so. Seventy thousand warriors of Islam, in seventy rows of a thousand to a row, at this hour every morning kneel in yonder sacred enclosure, and thus supplicate God and His holy Prophet, aye and in the very tongue wherein Adam and Eve were taught to pray in the Garden of Eden, to bless our arms and cause, and to give us victory over our enemies," explained the young Emir, in reply to Edith Forrester's mute questioning glance.

"And why are you not there also?" she asked.

"Because the mosque will only hold seventy thousand worshippers at a time, and Omdurman contains twice that number of true believers, wherefore they are compelled to perform their religious exercises on alternate mornings," he replied.

At this juncture another and yet more awful uproar issued from the vast temple, as the seventy thousand worshippers simultaneously rose to their feet and clashed their diverse weapons together, thus dedicating them, as it were, to the service of their God and Prophet. Next there came another wild shout, this time rising almost to a shrill scream of "*Allah il Allah! Allah resoul Allah!*" followed by a second profound silence.

But, during that silence, Edith Forrester beheld, hobbling up the wide and almost deserted thoroughfare which she and her escort were descending, an old man, having a raw-red stump where his left foot, and another where his right hand should have been. He leant on two rude crutches, was clad in fluttering and filthy rags, whilst his scanty grey locks waved in the scorching hot wind.

Edith knew at a glance that he had been robbed of his hand and foot by the executioner Bringi, for she had seen that wretch's handiwork too often ever to mistake it again; but, as the feeble and tottering living skeleton drew nearer, she, to her horror, recognised in him her own father, who, when she had last beheld him, now more than thirteen long years ago, had been a well-dressed, burly, and prosperous English merchant, of some forty-five years of age, living in that fine mansion at Khartoum on whose roof we introduced our readers to Edith and her lover, Percy Fotheringham, in the first chapter of our story!

What were poor Edith's feelings as she descried that wretched, mutilated old man, and recognised in him not only the author of her being, but the once kindly, cheerful, and ever-indulgent parent, the light of whose eyes she then was, and whose greatest joy had been to gratify her every caprice.

Would she be allowed to speak to him, she wondered; whilst, if not, would he be spared the torture of recognising her, as she had done him; and she almost hoped such might be the case.

For a long while each had known that the other lived, and also where and how; they had even, on rare occasions, been able to send loving messages to each other through Charles Neufield, save whom they had been able to trust no one as an intermediary, since such intercommunication, had it been discovered, would have been very severely punished, and the go-between more heavily than either of the others.

Edith was thinking of all this as every moment brought them nearer together, and oh! what a dread filled her heart lest her father might know her, rush forward to speak to and embrace her, and, as a consequence, be cut at by the whips, or hacked at with the swords of those who guarded and surrounded her.

Suddenly she noticed that the elder Yakub had dropped behind somewhat, in order, as she supposed, to hold speech with, or to give directions to, one of the retinue; and then it all at once struck her that the younger Emir might, perchance, extend his favour to her in the present matter as he had done in others.

She, therefore, attracted his attention by laying a hand on his stirrup, and then said to him, in low and earnest tones—

"The poor old man who is coming towards us on crutches is my father. May I be permitted to speak to him?"

"I would grant you leave if I could, but I dare not. I will, from time to time, do for you what I can, but in all such cases I must act warily, for my uncle has great power, and I do not want to give him more. Soft heartedness, I may as well tell you, is regarded here, in Omdurman, as womanly weakness, and were my father, the Khalifa, to be made believe that I possess too much of it, he would set my claim to succeed him, on his death, wholly aside, in favour of his brother, my uncle, who, on the very day of his accession to supreme power, would assuredly have every unbeliever in this city put to the sword. If you would not run the risk of beholding your parent slaughtered before your eyes, you will do well to keep my horse between you and him, for the mere thought of possessing such a father-in-law would provoke your future husband's fiercest and most ungovernable passion," was the answer she received.

"Thanks. I will do as you have advised, for—for my dear parent's sake," responded poor Edith, and quickly slipping round to the other side of the young Emir's horse, she thereafter did not dare to raise her eyes from the ground until she felt certain that her still fondly-loved father must have been passed by.

Even then her heart was so full of bitter, though carefully suppressed grief, that she took no notice whatever of her surroundings until a huge iron gate, set deep in a massive stone wall of great height, and close guarded by at least a dozen Baggara Arabs, was passed through and the open country reached.

Here the sweetness of the air, owing to its being no longer poisoned by the foul stenches which pervaded every quarter of the city, exercised a revivifying effect upon Edith, whereupon, looking around and about her once more, she beheld the broad grey waters of the White Nile on her left, and, at some distance in front of her, a large house, with its walls painted blood-red, and its roof decorated with the heads of two enormous hippopotami, whose mouths were wide open, thus displaying their formidable armament of huge yellow fangs.

From this she became aware that the end of her journey was almost reached, for, in that one-storied red building, with its grotesque and fearsome looking roof adornments, she knew that she beheld, beyond the possibility of mistake, the terrible Khalifa's riverside "palace of the hippopotami."

(To be continued.)

ORATORIA AT CATCHGATE.

THE PRODIGAL SON.

On Good Friday evening the members of the Catchgate United Methodist Free Church choir and friends, rendered the musical composition by Cornelius Ward, known as "The Prodigal Son." It consists of three parts, each of which opens with an instrumental introduction, the first and third having also a violin solo, and the second a recitative, connected with them. The subject of the oratorio is taken from the parable of the prodigal son, recorded in the Bible, with slight digressions. The first vocal piece is a treble solo, the words of which represent the opinion of one of the servants of the master of the house, and is entitled, "There were riches and wealth." Then follows the chorus "O thrice happy home" which is descriptive of the happiness of the home before the prodigal leaves for the far country, and was beautifully given. The next is the recitative, "But the younger son," for a treble voice, reveals the younger son's desire for freedom, and requests his father to give him the portion of wealth due to him. This is followed by the tenor solo "Now from henceforth" received his share of his father's wealth, expressing his determination to leave home and try his fortune in another land. The next is the father's reproof and appeal to the son to remain at home, in "What say'st thou," followed by the chorus "O stay with thy father." Then comes the duet in which the son and father are represented as conversing with each other, the former determined to make a man of himself by going into an unknown country, and the latter, the father's dissuasion against such a foolish course of action. The son heeds not his father's advice but is represented as having set off on his journey in the quartette "He has gone from his home." Then follows the chorus, "Then away, 'tis for freedom," descriptive of recklessness. Then the servants description of his departure is given in the trio, "He has gone from his home." Then the chorus, "And the last broken words," describe his stubbornness of will against the most affecting entreaties of his parents. "A city vast, and stately homes," is a solo in which the apparent grandeur of a city in the foreign land is pictured, and in which wickedness of every description is practised by the inhabitants. Thither the prodigal has gone, and in the chorus "O false as fair" the alluring snares of beauty and pleasure are vividly set forth. Then one of the revellers of the city intent on merriment and pleasure, orders the minstrels, who have become drowsy, to resume their music, in "Up, ye drowsy minstrels." He expects by indulging in a fast career to prolong life in "Thus youth and life we may prolong." In the next solo "Stranger, from a far-off land," the reveller invites the prodigal son to associate himself with the merry throng and spends his wealth amongst them. The first part concludes with the chorus, "Here youth and life we may prolong," which is descriptive of the merry manner in which the young man and his new-made companions spend their time and money. The second part opens with the introduction and recitative, "Yes, the dream of passion's over," and shows the state of the prodigal after his money was all spent. The solo "Thro' the lonely streets I wander," portrays the prodigal in a state of misery and want and wandering the streets in search of something to do to keep himself alive. While in this mood he resolves to hire himself as a herdsman. Then the chorus, "How vain and false," sets forth the pleasures of a prodigal's career as false and fleeting toys. Then the solo, "Away, far away," shows the state of the wanderer when he reaches a swine herd's abode, and craves for food and shelter, in return for which he expresses his willingness to feed the swine. The second part of the solo is the reply of the swine-herd who, after commenting upon the appearance of the wanderer, promises to hire him as a feeder of swine. While feeding the swine a famine breaks out in the land, and gives rise to the chorus, "O'er the parched and dusty follows," which is expressive of the despair which has seized the prodigal, who is thankful to share the husks which the swine are fed on. While in this unhappy state he thinks of home where there is plenty of good food, and asks himself the question, why he should starve with hunger when he might have his share of the good things of his forsaken home. He determines to return home, and is on his journey, when his father who, in the duet "He wanders thro' the fields at eve" is pourtrayed as being in the fields sees his son afar off. In order to make sure that his dim sight is not betraying him, he fixes his attention on the form of the person among the trees, and recognises that it is his son whom he greets in the chorus "Slow moving 'neath the bending trees," runs to meet and kisses. The recitative "The son is leaning on his sire," shows the meeting of father and son, while the solo "I've sinned, my father, in thy sight," is the prodigal's confession of his guilt to his father. Then the solo, "What ho, ye servants at the gate," constitutes the father's order to his servants to take his son home, bathe his feet, wash his hands and face, bring him the best robe, put upon his hand a ring, kill the fatted calf and make a feast, and be merry, the latter portion of the order being expressed in the chorus, "Then let us be merry," with which the second part concludes. After the instrumental introduction to the third part the alto solo, "What meaneth this music," is representative of the elder brother who, hearing the music outside his home, asks what it means, and on being told by the servant in the solo that "The prodigal brother to-day has returned," and that the guests awaited his arrival to take part in the feast, and give his brother a welcome, in the chorus, "Rejoice, O rejoice," the elder brother's petulant reply is set forth in the alto solo, "I had thought, since my prodigal brother had left." On hearing this the servants, in the chorus, "Come, come to the feast," entreat him to take his part in the feast, but his refusal necessitates a more urgent appeal of his father in the solo "Come in, my son, and share our joy," which is followed by a similar appeal in the chorus "Come in and share our joy." In spite of all entreaty, the elder brother proves obstinate, murmurs at his father's action, and upbraids his parent for never giving him a kid with which to make a feast for his friends, in the solo, "How many years, with ready hands." [illegible] this is the father's reply, "My son thou art ever with me," meaning that all his father's possessions are his. In the last chorus, "It was meet in this home that so long had been sad," is the father's reason for ordering the feast, namely that owing to his prodigal son's departure the home which had been made sad had now been made happy by his return. The solo portions were taken by Mr A. W. Kyles, Miss M. Haw, Mr. J. L. Law, Mr. J. H. Hocking, Mr. H. Bates, Mr. E. Reynolds, Mr. T. Holland, Mr. Fall, Miss [illegible], Miss E. Collicott, and Miss E. A. Reynolds; while the instrumental accompaniments were ably executed by Mr. C. P. Stephenson, of Blackhill. The conductor was Mr. T. Holland, to whom great credit is due for the pains he bestowed on the work. The chair was ably occupied by Coun. W. [illegible], who was introduced by Mr. T. Collinson.

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Lanchester Petty Sessions.

THURSDAY, March 30th.—Before Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen (presiding), Mr William Logan, and Dr. John Wilson.

DRUNK AT LANCHESTER.

John Hagan was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Lanchester, on the 18th March.—P.C. Smith stated the facts.—Defendant was fined 5/- and costs.

HE WAS COMING TOO OFTEN.

Owen Finnigan was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Esh Winning, on the 11th March.—P.C. Robinson adduced to seeing the defendant intoxicated, and creating a disturbance.—The Chairman remarked that they considered the defendant was coming too often to the Court. They were determined to put a stop to this sort of thing. There were a great many convictions against the defendant, and he would be fined 10/- and costs.

HE WAS GUILTY.

James Brannen was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Esh Winning, on the 11th March.—P.C. Robinson stated the case.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 5/- and costs.

HER FIRST SUMMONS.

Elizabeth Strong, married woman, was accused by P.C. Crabb of being drunk and disorderly at Cornsay Colliery, on the 9th March.—The officer averred that he came across the defendant very much under the influence of liquor, and when he spoke to her she made use of some very disgusting language.—Defendant, who possessed a splendid flow of language, denied the charge, and said this was the first summons that had been served upon her, and she was 30 years of age. She had been brought to the Court through spite.—Defendant had no witnesses, and she was called upon to pay a fine of 2/6 and costs.

ASSAULT AND REFUSING TO QUIT AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

John Martin, miner, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of Joseph Lumley, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain, and also with committing an assault on John Dixon, sea-going engineer, on the 29th of March.—Defendant did not appear, and the Bench ordered a warrant to be issued for the apprehension of the defendant, as they did not feel inclined to go into the case in his absence.

DAMAGE TO A DOOR AT HAMSTEELS: A SERGEANT AN "EXPERT."

Oliver Brannen, miner, was charged with doing damage to a door at Hamsteels, on the 14th March.—William Suddes, landlord of the New Inn, Hamsteels, said he had to eject the defendant from his house owing to his conduct, and through spite defendant took a running kick at the door damaging it to the extent of 15/-. One of the panels was knocked clean out. The door had only been grained and done up for the summer.—Defendant said he had not touched drink for two years till he entered the public-house on this particular night.—The Chairman: What about the damage?—Defendant said he was that drunk that he could not remember doing the damage.—The Chairman: Who proves the damage to the door?—Complainant: The engineer at the colliery assessed the damage at 15/-.—The Chairman: Is the engineer present.—Complainant: No.—The Chairman: Well you will have to assess the damage yourself.—Complainant: I think 12/- will repair the door.—Defendant said he considered the damage was excessive, as there was only one panel knocked out. He would call Sergt Gillespie to state what he considered to be a reasonable amount for the damage that had been done.—The Chairman: I do not think the sergeant will be an "expert" on joinery work.—Inspector Waller: Sergt Gillespie served his time to the joinery trade.—The Chairman: If that is the case we will have his evidence.—Sergt. Gillespie said if 7/6 was allowed for the damage it would be sufficient.—After further evidence, the Chairman said they did not consider the amount claimed for the damage out of the way. Defendant would be fined 5/-, the damage, 12/-, and costs.

HE WENT TO WORK UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF LIQUOR.

John Regan, miner, was charged with a breach of the Mines' Regulation Act by going to his work under the influence of liquor at the Oswald Colliery, Craghead, on the 21st inst.—Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) prosecuted and stated that this was a very serious offence. Defendant went to the colliery for the purpose of starting work very much under the influence of liquor. He got to the lamp cabin, and the officials seeing the state defendant was in sent him home.—P.C. Crisp said from information received he proceeded down the road on the night in question and there saw the defendant under the influence of liquor.—Defendant did not appear, and was fined 5/- and costs.

CRUELTY TO A PONY.

Thomas Oliver, putter, was charged with an infringement of the Mines' Regulation Act, at the Oswald Colliery, Craghead, on the 13th March.—Mr Oliver (Durham), who prosecuted, said the defendant yoked a pony to three tubs instead of two causing a certain amount of cruelty to the animal. The manager (Mr E. J. Wardle) experienced a great deal of trouble by the boys at this colliery insisting on carrying out this practice. They had been warned over and over again. The three tubs of coal weighed 36 cwts, and the pony was nearly strangled by the heavy weight when it ascended the incline.—Henry Bell, undermanager, spoke to seeing the pony yoked to three tubs, and also having cautioned the defendant several times previous to this.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 10/- and costs.

FIGHTING IN THE MINE.

John Kilty and Edward Blake, miners, were charged with a breach of rule 121 of the Mines' Regulation Act by fighting whilst at work at the Mary Colliery, Stanley, on the 22nd March.—Mr Oliver prosecuted.—The evidence proved that the defendants were caught fighting and rolling on the ground by a deputy named McKinlay.—Blake stated that his temper was aroused by the disgraceful language that Kilty used towards him.—The Magistrates fined Kilty 5/- and costs; and Blake 2/6 and costs.

HE WENT OVER A FENCE.

Arthur Barker, miner, was fined 10/- and costs for committing a breach of special rule 91 of the Mines' Regulation Act by going beyond a certain fence in the workings of the Mary Pit, Stanley, on the 20th March. Defendant went beyond the fence, and hewed a quantity of coals.—Mr Oliver, Durham, prosecuted.

STILL THEY COME.

Thomas English, putter, was likewise charged with a breach of the Mines Regulation Act, by yoking a pony to three tubs of coal instead of two, at the Mary Colliery, Stanley, on the 15th March.—The total weight that the pony had to pull was 2¼ tons.—Defendant admitted the offence, and was fined 10/- and costs.

TRESPASSING ON THE RAILWAY.

Robert Smith, George Milner, Joseph Greenwell, Arthur Williams, Cuthbert Elsdon, and James Milner, workmen, were all charged with a breach of the North-Eastern Railway Act, 1897, by trespassing on the Consett Branch of the North-Eastern Railway, on the 14th March.—Inspector Rollinson, Newcastle, prosecuted, and said the defendants were caught trespassing on a portion of the Consett Branch Railway where there had been three fatal accidents within the last two years, and five within the last six years. The Board of Trade had instructed the Company to take such steps as would put down this trespassing on railways.—P.C. Rodgers spoke to coming across the defendants on the railway, and having passed several caution boards en route. All the defendants had been previously cautioned.—Defendants pleaded guilty and were fined 2/6 each and costs.

STEALING A PIGEON.

Matthew Deakin, miner, was charged with stealing a pigeon, the property of Farrar Ward, at Dormand's Cottages, Lanchester, on the 5th March.—Complainant said he was a bricklayer, and resided at the Mill, Lanchester. On Sunday, 5th March, about 5.10 p.m., he saw the defendant near Dormand's Cottages. The pigeons were then sitting upon the top of the building where he kept them. He saw the defendant with a catapult in his hand, and he pulled the same, with the result that one of his pigeons fell to the ground. The defendant went forward and picked it up and then walked away. Complainant ran after defendant, and when he caught up to him he asked him for the pigeon. Defendant took the pigeon from his pocket and dropped it on the ground behind him. Complainant picked it up, and defendant said: "If the pigeon cannot fly I will give you a shilling." He told defendant that he was determined to stop the killing of his birds, and refused to take the money. The pigeon was worth 1/-.—P.C. John Haw said that on Wednesday, March 22nd, he served the summons upon the defendant. Witness read it over to defendant charging him with stealing a pigeon, the property of Farrar Ward at Lanchester on Sunday, March 5th. Defendant replied: "I hit it with a stone from my catapult, but I did not think I could hit it when I fired."—In answer to the charge in Court defendant pleaded guilty.—Fined 10/- including costs.

A SERIOUS CHARGE NOT SUSTAINED.

Robert Pearson, miner, was brought up and charged with committing an indecent assault on a young woman, named Francis E. Smurthwaite, at Esh Winning, on the 28th inst.—After hearing the evidence, the Chairman (Mr W. Logan) said there was no doubt that a very serious assault had been committed on the complainant by some person, but sufficient evidence had not been tendered to prove that prisoner was the guilty person, and the charge against him would be dismissed.—Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) defended.

SLEEPING OUT.

Three tramps named William Moore, Michael Waters, and James Smith were committed to gaol for sleeping in the coke-ovens at Cornsay Colliery, on the 29th March.—P.C. Crabb proved the case.

HAWKERS IN TROUBLE.

James and Mary A. Lyons, hawkers, of Barnard Castle, were fined 2/6 and costs for being drunk at Cornsay Colliery, on the 29th inst.—P.C. Crabb stated the facts.

Consett Petty Sessions.

MONDAY, April 3rd.—Before Mr James Annandale (chairman), Mr George Ainsworth, Mr Wm. Aynsley, and Mr Henry Palmer.

A FRACAS AT LEADGATE.

Annie Robinson, married woman, was charged with assaulting Sarah Jane Smith, another married woman at Leadgate on the 15th March. There was a cross-summons, Robinson proceeding against Smith for an assault committed on the same date.—Complainant said on the day in question there was a dispute between the children of the respective parties and when she interposed the defendant called her a "Highflyer" and other offensive names, and declared that she would give her something to take her to the Court for. The same night when passing down the street defendant struck her three times with her fist upon the head and face.—In the cross-summons, Mrs Robinson acknowledged the assault, but declared that Mr. Smith threatened her with a gully-knife, and likewise scratched her face.—The Magistrates considered each party was equally to blame, and accordingly dismissed the charges, the parties to pay their own costs.

REFUSING TO MAINTAIN HIS CHILDREN.

George Whittle, labourer, of Blackhill, was proceeded against for refusing to pay £1 16s, the amount due on an order made some time ago to pay 1/- per week towards the maintenance of each of his three children now in an Industrial School.—Superintendent Benzies said the defendant would not work, and had not contributed a single penny towards the support of his children during the time they had been in the Industrial School.—Defendant declared he could not pay the money owing to being out of work.—Supt. Benzie said he made the sum as low as possible with a view of inducing the defendant to pay it, but it was no use. They could not keep patients in the Langley Park Hospital for the sum he was asking the defendant to pay.—The Chairman said they had no alternative but to send the defendant to prison for one month with hard labour.

THE ASSISTANT-OVERSEER AND THE POOR RATE.

Christopher Sanderson, farmer, formerly of Lead Mill, was summoned for the non-payment of 13/6, due on the Poor Rate for the Parish of Muggleswick.—Mr Thomas Coupland, assistant-overseer, said the rate was made on the 31st October, and the defendant had failed to contribute his portion. Defendant removed to Blanchland, and he sent the demand note by post.—The Chairman: Did Sanderson receive the demand note?—The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr Ormsby): The law requires the demand note to be served personally.—Witness: This is the first time I have had any trouble of this description. I have never lost a penny before.—Mr Ormsby: You are lucky.—The Bench dismissed the case, and advised Mr Coupland to serve a fresh demand note.

A DISTURBANCE AT DIPTON RESULTS IN "TWO LOVELY BLACK EYES."

Joseph Sanderson, miner, was charged with assaulting Lipton Frances Creed, married woman, at Dipton, on the 30th ult. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) defended.—Complainant, who appeared in the witness box with a pair of lovely black eyes, said on the night in question about 10.40 she was going down the road from the South Medomsley Rows to Dipton to obtain some liquor at one of the public-houses. She met a young girl named Martha Jane Craggs. Witness had hold of a dog by the leader, and had a can in the other hand. After leaving the public-house she overtook a man called Lowther Blackwood, who had his arm round a young woman's waist. Martha Jane Craggs said: "Oh, look at Lowther with his arm around the woman's waist. She is going to get married to my uncle, I will go and tell my mother." Just then defendant's wife came up, and commenced to call prosecutrix, and she did the same thing. Mrs Sanderson challenged her out to fight, and said she would give her something. Complainant was putting her can down and was getting some-one to take charge of the dog, when Mrs Sanderson ran away. After this she met the defendant who said: "Oh, you are the one, you and your husband, who carries stories to the gaffer about me." She told the defendant she had never spoke to the gentleman in her life. Defendant took hold of her, gave her a blow, seized hold of her by the neck, and ran her down on a heap of stones. Defendant kicked her, and dealt her three blows on the head and face, discolouring both her eyes. When on the ground defendant knelt on her chest, and said: "Now you b—— I have got you now, and I will give you a knock." Her husband heard her scream, and came to her rescue. He pulled Sanderson off her, and took her home.—In answer to questions complainant said it was her husband that delivered her from Sanderson. When she complained that she could not see, Mrs Sanderson rudely remarked: "What the eye does not see, the heart cannot feel." (Loud laughter.)—By Mr Welford: She would swear that she did not speak to a man named McMullen. She did not take this man for Sanderson.—The Chairman: It is no use questioning complainant about McMullen when she denies speaking to him.—Mr Welford: I am bound to ask the complainant, as I am going to call McMullen as a witness.—Complainant: Go on with your questions. (Laughter.)—Continuing, complainant said she did not strike McMullen, and he did not take hold of her by the dress, and pull her down. It was true that her husband and defendant had a fight; but she never interfered. She had partaken of no drink that night. She would kiss the holy book and say that she was telling the truth when she said so. She threw stones at Mrs Sanderson. Complainant saw Mrs McMullen present, because when the row was going on she told her not to interfere.—Martha Jane Craggs spoke to returning from the public-house with the complainant when they met Mrs Sanderson, who shouted to know if she wanted a fight, but when Mrs Creed was getting ready she ran away. It was the defendant that committed the assault on the complainant.—By Mr Welford: No stones were thrown till after the first fight.—George Davies said he witnessed Mrs Sanderson strike the complainant in the face. Complainant afterwards fell down near the heap of stones.—After further evidence, Mr Welford submitted that the complainant was the aggressors inasmuch as she attacked the Sandersons when coming along the road.—A witness named McMullen said he heard the complainant challenge defendant out to fight several times. Defendant refused, there was a "battle" between defendant and Mrs Creed's husband. When near the stone heap complainant commenced to throw stones, and two of the missiles struck witness on the elbow. Witness pushed complainant across the street, and her husband came on the scene. Creed was in the act of dealing him a blow, when Sanderson interfered. Defendant never struck the complainant. He came to the conclusion that the complainant was under the influence of liquor.—By the Chairman: Witness did not give the woman the pair of black eyes. It was true, the woman was lying amongst the stones.—By Mr. Welford: When the "battle" was going on between the defendant and Mr. Creed, the complainant was running in between them, and it was quite possible that she then received the black eyes.—Alice McMullen next entered the witness box, and appeared to be rather excited. After having stated where she was on the night in question, the Chairman advised her to keep her temper.—Witness, continuing, said complainant interfered first with her husband, and after finding out that she had got hold of the wrong man, commenced to throw stones. Complainant struck and kicked her husband, and whilst the latter was pushing Mrs. Creed up the street, Mr. Creed came on the scene, and there was a "battle" between Sanderson and him.—Lowther Blackwood, said he heard the complainant make use of abusive language to McMullen. After this complainant started with the Sandersons.—Mrs. Sanderson said the complainant called her a "big long b——," and made use of other bad language to her and the witness named McMullen.—Witness declared that she would give complainant what she wanted. Nothing further transpired till the fight between her husband and Mrs Creed took place. Complainant was continually interfering, and it was quite possible that she might have received several of the blows. Complainant's face was bleeding, through having received a blow from one of the stones which witness threw. What witness did was simply through self-defence.—By the Chairman: When McMullen pushed the complainant she fell down.—Defendant deposed similar evidence, and said several of the stones thrown by the complainant struck him on the head, and injured his arm.—The Bench came to the conclusion that there was no doubt defendant had received a considerable amount of provocation, but he had no right to take the law into his own hands, and assault the complainant. He was fined 5/- and costs; the complainant having to defray the costs of her own witnesses.

LARCENY OF MONEY AT CONSETT.

Esther Finlay, married woman, was charged with stealing 14/6, the property of Mary Jane McWilliams, at Consett, on Saturday.—Prosecutrix said she was 13 years of age. On this particular day, about one o'clock, her mother sent her to William Lee's, butcher's shop for a pound of beaf steak, giving her a sovereign, which was in the purse produced. She got the steak, and Mr. Lee gave her 19/4 change, consisting of a half-sovereign, nine shillings in silver, and 4d in copper. She put the change back into the purse. When she got to the corner of Spencer Street, she missed the purse. Prosecutrix went back to Lee's shop, and she saw the defendant, who asked a woman whether she knew of anyone that had lost a purse. Complainant went up to defendant and said she had lost a purse. Defendant gave her the purse, and asked her if she knew how much there was in. Complainant replied, "Yes there was 19/4 in it." Prosecutrix looked into the purse, and saw that the half-sovereign was missing. She asked the defendant if there was not a half-sovereign in the purse. Defendant said she did not know, and walked away. The half-sovereign was picked up by John Kirkup, who gave it to her. When she got home she discovered there was still 4/6 missing.—William Stafford, steelworker, residing at 14, West Victoria Street, Consett, said on Saturday, about one p.m., he was in William Lee's butcher's shop, when complainant came in and asked for a pound of beef steak. She tendered a sovereign, and received 19/4 change. Witness was still in the shop when the postman (Albert Hamilton) came in and said: "A woman has found a purse." He was present when the girl came back, and said she had lost her purse. Witness went out and saw the defendant give the girl the purse, and he told complainant to look and see if all was right. Complainant did so, and said: "There is a half-sovereign missing." Defendant was making away when he stopped her, took hold of her arm, and she dropped the half-sovereign on the pavement.—Albert Hamilton said he was a postman, and resided at Stephens Street, Consett. On Saturday he was in Newmarket Street, Consett, when he saw the defendant pick up a purse off the flags, open it, but could not say whether shee took anything out of it or not. Witness was present when the complainant asked defendant for the half-sovereign. Defendant replied: "I have not got it. I have never seen it." The purse was closed when the defendant found it.—John Kirkup said he was a draper's assistant, and resided at Constance Street, Consett. He was in Newmarket Street, Consett, on the afternoon in question, when he heard the complainant ask the defendant where the half-sovereign was. Witness noticed the defendant put her right hand behind her back, and drop a half-sovereign on to the pavement. Witness picked it up, and handed it to the girl.—P.C. Robert John Waites said on Saturday, about one p.m., from what he was told, he apprehended the defendant, and took her to Consett Police Station. On the road to the Police Station he met the prosecutrix, who told him that 4/6 was still missing from the purse. At the Police Station he found the defendant had 4/6 in silver, and 3½d in copper in her hand. Witness asked her what other money she had. Defendant took 6/- out of her pocket, which was wrapped in her handkerchief, saying: "That is my own." Afterwards he charged her with stealing 14/6, the money of Mary Jane McWilliams and she replied, "I am innocent, I did not take anything out of the purse."—On being charged in Court, defendant still maintained that she was innocent, and if the half-sovereign dropped from her clothes it was unknown to her. When she found the purse she did all she could to find its owner.—A little girl stated that when the defendant found the purse she sent witness into the tea-shop to see if there was anyone there who had lost a purse.—The Chairman said the Magistrates were of the opinion that defendant did take the money, and imposed a fine of 10/-, including costs.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. George Ainsworth (presiding), and Mr. Henry Palmer.

DRUNKENNESS.

A large number of persons were proceeded against for this offence, and convicted.

DOG LICENSE.

No less than a dozen persons were charged with keeping dogs without a license, and were fined.

PITCH AND TOSS.

A batch of youths belonging Consett were proceeded against for playing pitch and toss at Consett, on the 17th March.—The usual penalty was imposed.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AT HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.

Sarah Jane Moiser, married woman, was charged with attempting to take her life at Hamsterley Colliery, on the 27th March.—P.C. Sinden deposed that on the night in question, about 11.20, he proceeded to No. 7, Crooniwell Row, Hamsterley Colliery, and there found a basin with matches in, and a saucer beside it, in the pantry. There was also an empty match box in the kitchen, under the table. Witness found the defendant in a neighbour's house, and he questioned her regarding the basin and the matches, when she replied, "Yes, I drank better than half-a-sauceful of the liquid." Witness informed her husband, and said he had better bring a doctor, and in the meantime witness got an emetic, but the defendant would not take it till the doctor arrived. Witness left defendant in charge of her husband about three o'clock the next morning, and he saw her again later on in the day, when she said, "It's not the first time I have steeped matches, but I never drank any before. My husband was back sooner than I expected. I had the door locked till I put the matches in the basin, and I then poured boiling water over them. It is just like tea with milk in to look at. I had better die that way than to be kicked to death like a football by my husband." Witness charged the woman with attempting to take her life by drinking match poison. Defendant replied, "Yes, I intended to do it." He then took the woman into custody.—In answer to the charge in Court, defendant said she was agitated, and had a bit of trouble with her husband, and she could not govern her temper. She took the poison. The child was ill, and her husband was "nagging" on.—The Bench admonished the husband, and advised him to be kind to his wife, seeing she was only a delicate woman. The case was dismissed.

Benfieldside Joint Burial Board.

The quarterly meeting of the Benfieldside, Consett, and Knitsley, Joint Burial Board was held at the Blackhill Cemetery on Thursday evening, under the presidency of Mr. W. Aynsley, J.P. (Chairman.) The other members present were Mr. J. W. Lowes, Mr. J. Kempson, the Clerk (Mr. T. Whinney), the deputy-clerk (Mr J. Hamilton), and the superintendent (Mr. J. Moore).—It was reported that the Committee's instructions relative to improving the bank at the entrance to the new cemetery had been carried out. It had been made a great deal safer for carriage traffic.—Mr. Moore raised the question as to who would be responsible if a pair of horses yoked to a hearse should bolt whilst going down the bank, and damaged any of the graves or headstones?—The Chairman said if the bank was dangerous, and they ordered the corpse to be taken to the graves, and anything went wrong with the horses, they would be responsible. If, on the other hand, the bank was practically safe the man in charge of the horses would be liable if anything went wrong.—Mr. Moore said the bank was practically safe for ordinary carriage traffic. They had taken a considerable portion of the bank away, and they had [illegible] the road.—Mr. Lowes said when they commenced to bury in the new cemetery it would be necessary for the hearse to convey the corpse to the grave.—Mr. Kempson thought that the hearse might be allowed to enter the cemetery as far as the road had been penned.—Mr. Lowes said it was very necessary in certain cases that the remains should be conveyed to the grave by the hearse.—Mr. Moore said such was done at the present time; but he wished to have it stated clearly whether he had to use his discretion regarding this matter. If a driver came to the gates with a pair of young horses what had he to do?—The Chairman: You will have to use your discretion, we will leave the matter entirely in your hands.—Cheques amounting to £95 10s 1d were ordered to be signed.—It was reported that the balance in the hands of the treasurer was £98 7s 6d.—The Clerk submitted the estimate of the general expenditure during the next twelve months. The income was expected to be £290, and the expenditure £340.—On the motion of Mr. Lowes, seconded by Mr. Kempson, it was decided to issue precepts upon Consett and Benfieldside Urban Councils, and the Knitsley Parish Council for the sum of £60.—Mr. J. W. Aynsley, solicitor, Consett, wrote stating that the Secretary of State had the whole of the documents, plans, certificates, etc., in his possession, and they were now awaiting his consent to the purchase of the land that was required for the purpose of extending the cemetery. Nothing further could be done until such consent was to hand. He [illegible] the Medical Inspector in the Burial Acts Department of the Home Office had not made a general inspection of the land proposed to be purchased. It did not yet appear whether or not the Home Office intended having a general personal inspection.—The Clerk was directed to inform the Home Secretary that the additional burial ground was urgently needed.—This was the whole of the business.

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GEO. J. ROBINSON,
TEA DEALER,
FAMILY GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
DERWENT STREET,
BLACKHILL.
A large assortment of
CHEESE,
BUTTER,
HAMS,
BACON,
LARD, &c.,
ALWAYS ON HAND.

THE NOTED FLOUR, GROCERY, AND PROVISION SHOP.
JAMES PALLISER,
FAMILY GROCER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA MERCHANT,
47 and 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.
A Good Assortment of Fruits.
Choice Cheshire Cheese and Fruit Cakes.
TRY OUR SPECIAL BLENDED TEAS.

LIEBIG'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.
This preparation is made from
PORT WINE,
EXTRACT OF MALT, AND
EXTRACT OF BEEF.
Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended
3s. 6d. per quart Bottle (usually sold at 4s 6d.)
1s. 9d. per pint Bottle (usually sold at 2s. 9d.

Tawagin Port Wine, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Sherry, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s.
Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s.
Claret from 1s. per bottle.
Burgundies from 1s. per bottle.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:
ROBINSON & CO.
DRUG STORES,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

'ROYAL LIVER' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1850.
CHIEF OFFICE—
PRESCOT STREET, LIVERPOOL.
Members' Accumulated Capital £2,000,000.
Claims paid over £3,000,000.
Assurances at all Ages, from 1 day to 80 years, for Amounts up to £200.
Branch Offices and Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

Apply District Office,
17, St. Cuthbert's Avenue,
Benfieldside, Blackhill,
JOHN THOMAS ASHTON,
890c District Superintendent

Business Announcements.

FOR EMIGRATION to SOUTH AFRICA and AMERICA, apply to A. PHILLIPSON Auctioneer, Dipton.—SPECIAL AGENT. 157v

JAMES FROSDICK is the only Billposter that has rented Stations within the three Urban Council Districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 598.

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE. DAY & BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS.
A THOROUGH MODERN EDUCATION.
On reasonable terms in most healthy situation Successful preparation for all preliminary Examinations.
Next Term, May 2nd.
Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Drawing and Music.
A Field for Cricket, Tennis and Football.
MONTAGU V. STRUGALL, M.A., Head-master.

J. MORGAN
Hardware Dealer, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT, the shop for Quality and Cheapness combined for all kinds of Hardware Goods, Glass, China, Earthenware, &c. Our Celebrated Electric Brand Lamp Oil, Lamps, Chimneys, and Wicks of all kinds.
Clubs are now being formed for all kinds of Goods. Particulars on application.

"A Home away from Home."
TRAVELLERS in Burnopfield and District, will find all home comforts by calling at
MRS WILSON'S,
CONFECTIONER AND PASTRY COOK, BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD.
Funerals and Parties catered for in first-class Style by Mesdames Wilson and Moore.

THE NOTED SHOP
FOR
CHEAP SUITS
IS
C. LUMLEY
6, SHERBURN TERRACE,
CONSETT. 399x

NATURAL HEALTH SALT.
IN TINS, 4D. AND 8D.
IN TINS, 4D. AND 8D.
STIMULATES THE LIVER,
CURES BILIOUS HEADACHE,
CLEARS THE BRAIN,
A SPARKLING COOLING DRINK.
Take a teaspoonful or two in Warm or Cold Water every morning fasting and it will keep you in Perfect Health.
SOLE PROPRIETORS:
WILKINSON & SIMPSON,
LIMITED,
NEWGATE ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HENRY ANNANDALE TOWN
(Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute.)
LAND ESTATE AGENT, VALUER, AND SURVEYOR.
PROPERTIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION SOLD OR LET ON COMMISSION.
ESTATES EITHER IN TOWN OR COUNTRY MANAGED ON MODERATE TERMS UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION.
PROPERTY AND TIMBER SURVEYS MADE, Also, MORTGAGES NEGOTIATED.
15, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

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

J. A. CASTLE has undoubtedly made the above a Noted Establishment for quality and cheapness. Every Branch of his Trade will be found well represented.

His Tailoring Department is a very special feature, having considerably over 1,000 patterns of the Newest Scotch, West of England, and Irish Woollens to select from.
Style and perfect fit guaranteed.
Gents' Suits to order from 25s.

WE STRIVE TO GIVE
HIGHEST VALUE for the
SMALLEST AMOUNT of MONEY
In all Branches of
LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING.
SPECIAL LINES IN LADIES' COSTUMES (to measure), 47/6
J. L. BRODIE,
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
H. B. DICKER,
6, NORTH TERRACE, NORTHGATE, DARLINGTON,
Attends STANLEY every PAY TUESDAY, from 12 to 4 p.m. at Mr SWINBURNE'S, View House, Front Street.
ARTIFICIAL TEETH of the best quality from 5s per tooth. Teeth Extracted Painlessly for 1s. Prices range from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per tooth.
Best Materials only used. Guaranteed for a year.

N. BROWN & SON
SADDLERS, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKERS.

Horse Clippers (to cut over three teeth), warranted, 7s 6d each.
Lined Drummond Driving Gloves from 3s to 6s 6d per pair.
Carriage Candles, per 2lb box, 1s 6d.
Warranted Solid Nickel Stirrups, 6s 6s per pair. Best quality only.
Warranted Solid Nickel Hunting Spurs, long necks with black or brown straps, complete per pair 5s 6d.
Brown Leather (Newmarket) Leggings from 4s 6d per pair, and upwards.
Waterproof Cloth Reversible Leggings from 3s 3d per pair.

NICHOLAS BROWN AND SON.
RESIDENCE:
19, FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

MR. JOHN USHER,
LATE
MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, for first-class workmanship and best material, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s 6d per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material.
EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED, PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS 724
£1 TO £10

THE SNOW'S GREEN COACH, CARRIAGE, AND ROLLEY WORKS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
MESSRS
PEMBERTON & HALL,
PROPRIETORS,
TIMBER MERCHANTS, CONTRACTORS TO HER MAJESTY'S GENERAL POST OFFICE.

Most up-to-date Wood-cutting Machinery in the District.
Timber cut any length.
Estimates given for all kinds of Colliery and Farm Work.
Repairs executed by Experienced Workmen.
Five Minutes walk from Shotley Bridge Station.
ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.
A Trial Solicited. 600c

BABY WON'T CRY IF YOU GIVE IT
MOTHER'S FRIEND
AND BABY'S COMFORT.
RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

THE BEST AND SAFEST MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.
CONTAINS NO LAUDANUM, OPIUM, OR MORPHIA.
MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Wind, and Griping Pains in the Stomach or Bowels.
MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Convulsions, Fevers, Fits, and Thrush.
MOTHER'S FRIEND corrects Acidity and cures Diarrhœa.
MOTHER'S FRIEND removes Pain and produces Natural Sleep.
PREPARED ONLY BY
J. ROBINSON,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,
STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN
AGENT FOR GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE. 305y

Business Announcements.

FOR TRAPS AND BRAKES,
GO TO
R. ASHBY,
ALLENDALE COTTAGES, MEDOMSLEY.
Large or small parties arranged for.
Brakes run to and from Consett each Saturday.

MARK COATES,
EDINBURGH HOUSE,
13, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT

IS getting his name up for XXX and XXXX Sparkling Bitter and Mild Ales drawn from the Wood. Cigars a speciality, 2d.
India and Burton Pale Ales. 375d

RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.
MRS. HANSOM
BEGS respectfully to inform her Customers and the Public that she has recommenced Business at
14, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,
and hopes to have a continued share of their esteemed orders.
Refreshments of the best quality.
Confectionery and Cakes in great variety.
Splendid Cooked Ham, 1s. per lb.
Note the Address:
14, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

BEST VALUE
IN
FLOUR, PROVISIONS, &c.,
AT
W. WHITFIELD'S
FRONT STREET,
LEADGATE.

RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.
JOHN R. WOOD
BEGS respectfully to inform his Customers and the Public generally, that he has recommenced Business as Tobacconist at the old address—
30, NEWMARKET STREET,
CONSETT,
and hopes to have a continued share of their patronage and support.

A large stock of Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Holders, Tobacco Pouches at all prices.
Gent's Walking Sticks.
All the best Brands of Cigars, Cigarettes, and popular kinds of Tobaccos always in Stock.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:
30, NEWMARKET STREET.
CONSETT. 324d

TIME SAVED IS MONEY MADE.

The New D9 WHEELER and WILSON SEWING MACHINES are absolutely THE FASTEST, EASIEST, SIMPLEST, and MOST SILENT Machines in the world.
ROTARY MOTION, BALL BEARINGS.
Dressmakers and Tailors can double their Incomes.
No worry. Better work, and more of it.
The IDEAL, handsome family machines.
These combined advantages enable Live Agents to secure the most remunerative agency in Sewing Machines—and something GOOD to sell.
Lists and instruction free and free trial.
Agents wanted where not represented.
Sole Wholesale Representatives for Northumberland and Durham.

THE EGDELL CYCLE
AND
MANUFACTURING CO., LTD
10, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

GOLD MEDALS!
HIGHEST AWARDS!
1896 — 1897 — 1898.

DRINK ONLY
KERSHAW & SONS'
SUPERIOR
MINERAL WATERS
AND
KER'S ALE.
Can be had in Screw-stoppered Bottles, the CLEANEST, the BEST, and PUREST.

SEVEN
GOLD MEDALS AWARDED.

KERSHAW & SONS,
ALE AND PORTER BOTTLERS,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
LEADGATE, AND GATESHEAD.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, (LIMITED.)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, LEEDS, LONDON, SCARBOROUGH, YORK, DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBOROUGH, DARLINGTON, WEST HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, MORECAMBE, AND HULL.

"THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS."
"THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS."
"THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS."
WONDERFUL TONE,
WONDERFUL WEAR,
WONDERFUL VALUE.
OVERSTRUNG, VERTICAL, and OBLIQUE SYSTEMS.
From 25s. per Month Three Years System.
SOLELY IMPORTED BY ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.

THE ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN SPECIALITIES.
ONLY OBTAINABLE AT HIS ESTABLISHMENTS.
FAMOUS FOR THE QUALITIES WHICH GO TO MAKE A REAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT, EXTENSIVELY COPIED AND IMITATED, BUT THEY ARE ONLY IMITATIONS.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN MODEL PIANO.
£19 10s. cash, or 12s. 6d. per month three years.
SPLENDID TONE AND WONDERFUL VALUE

PEOPLE'S MODEL PIANO,
£23 cash, or 15s. per month for three years. Many thousands have been sold, giving the greatest satisfaction and securing constant recommendations.

ECLIPSE PIANO.
£28 cash, or 18s. 4d. per month three years.
THE PIANO FOR HARD WEAR.

DRAWING-ROOM PIANO.
£33 cash, or 21s. monthly three years.
A MAGNIFICENT FULL ROUND TONE; SUSTAINING AND SATISFYING.
For singing purposes, its splendid quality of English tone compares with pianos at double its price.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S ORIGINAL FREE LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME is applied to all three years' arrangements. EIGHTEEN CLAIMS HAVE BEEN PAID BY ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, AMOUNTING to £343 1s. 6d. In considering this offer, it should be noted that full particulars of the eighteen payments have been advertised in this paper, with full proof of payments.

SPECIAL AMERICAN ORGANS.
SPECIAL AMERICAN ORGANS.
SPECIAL AMERICAN ORGANS.
See the Specialite at £12 cash, or 8s. 4d. per month three years.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

SECOND-HANDS, £3, £5, £7, £8.
SECOND-HANDS, £10, £12, £15.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN. (LIMITED.)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

MR. R. S. BROWN,
BONESETTER,
Of 40, ELSWICK ROAD, NEWCASTLE,
Will attend for Consultations at Mr. J. H. Courtney's Cocoa Rooms, Havelock Street, Consett, every Monday commencing April 17th. Consultations at home every Wednesday and Friday. 748d

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PIANOS & ORGANS
FOR SALE,
8s., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., 22s. 6d., per Month.
Guaranteed 10 years. Liberal Discount for Cash
Old Pianos taken in exchange.
Tuning and Repairs promptly attended to.

CYCLES. CYCLES.
Sole Agent in District for the "Osmond," "Beanco," "Ariston," and other renowned makes.
ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND ENAMELLING done on the Premises.

ADDRESS:
E. SLOANE & SONS,
PIANO AND CYCLE WAREHOUSE,
BLACKHILL. 549d

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
EXCURSION TRAIN will be run as under:
SUNDAY, APRIL 16th.
EPSOM RACES.
From BLACKHILL at 8.25 p.m. (with bookings from Consett, Annfield Plain, &c.) to PETERBOROUGH and LONDON for 3 or 5 days. Three days' passengers return from London (King's Cross) at 11 p.m., April 19th, and those holding five days' tickets at 8.45 or 10.30 p.m., April 21st.
For further particulars see bills.
York, April, 1899. GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.

Church Notices.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.
A SALE OF WORK for the Leadgate Church Institute and Parish Room, will (D.V.) be held in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate, on Wednesday and Thursday, May 3rd and 4th, 1899.
730d THOMAS VARLEY, Secretary.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.
GUILD SUNDAY, APRIL 9th, 1899.
Morning, 10.30 } REV. E. J. B. KIRTLAN,
Evening, 6 } B.A., B.D., of Newcastle.
ALL SEATS FREE.
On Monday, Mr KIRTLAN will lecture on "GLADSTONE AND BISMARCK, a Study in Contrasts." Chair to be taken at 7.30 by Mr G. T. Broadbent. Tickets 6d each. 825d

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH MISSION, SNOW'S GREEN.
THE FINAL MEETINGS of the Special Evangelistic Services will be held on Friday, April 7th, when Mr WM. NIGHTINGALE will Preach in the Afternoon at 2 o'clock. In the Evening at 7, H. JOHNSTONE (Wes.), Belfast, leader of the Consecration Movement, will conduct the last Service.
SUNDAY, APRIL 9th, 1899,
Afternoon, 2 } Mr. W. DOWN.
Evening, 6 } Mr. PRINN.
ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.
SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH, 1899.
Morning, 10.30 } REV. J. TAYLOR.
Evening, 6 }

GOSPEL HALL, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
MR. J. HIXON IRVING,
Of Leamington Spa, will commence a series of SERVICES in the above Hall, on SUNDAY FIRST, APRIL 9th, and continue for a fortnight. Sunday at 6.30. Each evening at 7.30. ALL SEATS FREE. No collection.

Public Notices.

BROOMS SPORTS, BROOMS SPORTS, on Saturday, June 24th, 1899.
428d J. COSTELLO, Secretary.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT HORSE PROCESSION on May 10th, 1899. Schedules ready shortly. Tenders for Band, Refreshment, and Tea Tents Wanted to be sent to
J. L. WEEDY,
818d 22, Park View, Burnopfield.

PRIMROSE LEAGUE.
AN ENTERTAINMENT consisting of a Concert by well-known Artistes, a Speech by W. H. CRUDDAS, Esq., and a FARCE entitled "Poor Pillicoddy" will be held in the Assembly Rooms, High Spen, Saturday, April 8th. Chair to be taken at 7 p.m., by HUGH WALTON-WILSON, Esq. Tickets: Members 6d.; Non-Members, 9d.; a few Reserved Seats, 1s., to be obtained of Mr. J. W. Norman, Rowland's Gill; Mr. Thos. Wishart, Spen; Miss Nixon, Victoria Garesfield; Mrs. von Thiele, Hamsterley Hall. 741d

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.
SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged..........	2263	14	6
W. M. Annandale, Esq., Lintzford	5	5	0
	£2268	19	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett; or further information from the Hon. Secretaries—Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Brynglass, Consett; or Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

CHRIST CHURCH, HAMSTERLEY, BAND OF HOPE.
AN ENTERTAINMENT
Will be given by Members of the above, in HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY SCHOOL, on FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, April 7th and 8th, 1899, consisting of the
KINDERSPIEL, entitled "DON QUIXOTE."
Admission — Reserved Seats, 1s 6d; Front Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d. Tickets to be had from members of the Band of Hope.
A Brake will be run from the Spen and Chopwell Colliery if a sufficient number of passengers can be obtained. 839d

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NEW THEATRE,
CONSETT.
Lessee and Manager - MR. HUGH ROBERTSON
(Also of the Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.)
Resident Manager - MR. LLOYD CLARANCE.

Last three nights. Enthusiastic reception and unqualified success of the splendid play—
'FOR A CHILD'S SAKE,'
By the Author of
"THE SILVER KING."

MONDAY, APRIL 10th.
Return visit of Mr ARTHUR CARLTON'S Company in the grand production—
THE PRAIRIE FLOWER.
Look out for the Prodigal Parson. 813d

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,
AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.
SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.
Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

NATHAN ELSDON.
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.
N. ELSDON wishes his friends and customers to know that he has the LARGEST AND BEST SALE ROOMS in the district and that he is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and all classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Sell on Commission according to arrangement.
All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction.

Public Notices.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE
FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Plants, Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables, will be held on Saturday, August 26th, 1899.
J. HEDWORTH COUPLAND,
April, 1899. Secretary.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr John S. Murray.

SPRING SALES BY J. S. MURRAY.
April 10th.—Sale at the Mart at 1 o'clock.
April —Property and Furniture at Leadgate.
April 19th.—Farm Stock at The Loud Farm.
" 26th.—Hamsterley Grass Parks.
" 29th.—Farm Stock, &c., East Kyo.
May 1st.—Royal Auction Mart.
" 1st.—Farm Stock, Cocklaw.
" 3rd.—Farm Stock, Castle Dene.
" 4th.—Farm Stock, Newlands Cottage.
" 5th.—Farm Stock, Low Ewehurst.
" 6th.—Special at the Mart.
" 11th.—Hay, Implements, Furniture, &c., Manor House.
May—Greencroft Grass Parks. 857d

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.
MONDAY, APRIL 10th, 1899.
15 to 20 Fat Cattle.
100 Fat Sheep.
Calves, Pigs, and Poultry.
Dairy Cows and Heifers.
20 Bags Wynatt Kidney Potatoes.
10 Bags Seed Potatoes, Maincrop.
Ladders, Ropes, Shovels, &c.
2 Donkeys.
Sale at One o'clock.
858d J. S. MURRAY.

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

By Mr. Wm. Robinson.

CHOPWELL MILL.

MR. W. ROBINSON honoured with the confidence of W. Richardson, Esq. who is declining Farming, will OFFER FOR SALE BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, April 12th, his very famous STOCK of HORSES, CATTLE, IMPLEMENTS, &c., comprising: Brown Draught Mare, quiet in all yokes, in foal by "Blueblood," time up April 27th; Strong Bay Colt, two years old, by "Lifeguard"; Chesnut Filly, half-bred, two years old, by "Petersfield"; Brown Filly, one year old, by "Petersfield"; Red and White Cow, 4th calf, due April 1st; Blue Polled Cow, 4th calf, due March 31st; Red and White Cow, due April; Red do., 3rd calf, due May 2nd; White do., 2nd calf, due July 1st; Blue Polled do., 2nd calf, due July 1st; Roaned Heifer, three months calved; Young Cow, geld; 4 Bullocks, two years old; 5 Heifers, all in calf, due in July, August, and October; 2 Roaned do., not served; 9 Heifers and 3 Bullock Stirks, from 9 to 13 months; 5 Finger Calves, well-bred; Shorthorn Bull, roaned; Grasscutter (Bamford), Horse Rake, Metal Roller, Hay Bogey, 2 Block Carts, Cake Crusher, Chain-harrow, Butcher's Stool, Cart Harness, Chain do., Forks, Rakes, Stable Gear, 30 Hens and Cock, Barrel Churn, Box Churn, Scales and Weights, Mahogany Press, Single Iron Bedstead and Mattress, Patent Mangle, Patent Wringer and Washer combined, 3 Bee Boxes, Pair Bellows, and Fender. Particulars in posters.
Sale at 12 for 1 o'clock prompt.
Refreshments will be provided on the premises by Mrs. Fairless, Spen.
Sale Office: 4, New Fines,
Medomsley, R.S.O. 748d

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

By Mr. Joseph Vickers.

MR. JOSEPH VICKERS'S SPRING SALE APPOINTMENTS.
April 1st.—Farming Stock, Moor Sheep, &c., at Morley Farm, Stanhope.
April 5th.—Farming Stock, Implements, &c., at Hollinside Hall, Lanchester.
April 6th.—Special Sale of Store Cattle and Sheep, at Tow Law Mart.
April 19th.—Let of Broadwood Grass Parks, near Lanchester.
April 20th.—Special Sale of Store Cattle and Sheep, at Tow Law Mart.
April 24th.—Annual Fat Stock Sale, at Tudhoe Moor Farm.
April 26th.—Farming Stock, Implements, &c., at Findon Hill, Sacriston.
May 3rd.—Farming Stock, Implements, &c., at Hill House, Brandon.
May 4th.—2nd Bull Sale in conjunction with Store Cattle and Sheep, Tow Law, Mart.
Mart Offices, Tow Law. 471d

Broadwood Grass Parks, Near Lanchester.
THE ANNUAL LETTING of the above Rich Grazing Parks, belonging to L. T. Penman, Esq., will be held on Wednesday, April 19th, 1899. Nearly 300 Acres, in 16 lots. The whole have been top dressed during the last two years.
801d J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr. J. Green.

Dene House, near Rowley.
THE SPRING HALF-YEARLY SALE OF GRAZING CATTLE, EWES, and LAMBS, &c., will be held on Saturday, April 29th, for which early entries are kindly invited
JACKSON GREEN,
Satley, Tow Law. Auctioneer.

MR. JACKSON GREEN,
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.
Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.
All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.
SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

By Mr Jas. Turnbull

Important Sale of Farming Stock at Pea Farm, Stanley.
MR. JAMES TURNBULL, honoured with the confidence of Mr J. Jameson, who is declining Farming, will SELL by AUCTION, on Wednesday, May 3rd, 1899, the whole of his Valuable FARMING STOCK, HORSES, &c. Particulars later. 862d

The Ford Grass Parks, Lanchester.
MR. JAMES TURNBULL, F.A.I., having again been honoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late M. Kearney, Esq., will LET by AUCTION, on Tuesday, April 18th, 1899, the whole of the rich PASTURES of the above Parks, comprising—139 acres in 9 lots. Luncheon at 12.30 p.m., at Mr Towns,' Queen's Head Inn, Lanchester. Letting at 1.30 p.m. 861d

Messrs Wm. Anderson, Sons, and Hedley.

Summerdale, Shotley Bridge.
MESSRS WM. ANDERSON, SONS, and HEDLEY are favoured with instructions from Mrs Booth, who is removing South, to SELL BY AUCTION, on the above premises, on Wednesday, April 12th, at One o'clock, the Surplus Household FURNITURE, Milner's Safe, Garden Frames, Implements, S.R. Sleigh, &c., comprising:—Excellent Mahogany Telescope Dining Table, with four Leaves, by Robson and Sons, Newcastle; Mahogany Dumb-Waiter and Leaf Stand to match; Four Mahogany Chairs, in figured velvet; Six Walnut Chairs in Tapestry; Two Shaped Walnut Card Tables; Rosewood Sofa; Table; Walnut Canterbury; Mahogany Cheffonier; Oak Pedestal; Writing Table, fitted with 12 Drawers, &c.; Cupboards 4ft. 6in. by 3ft. 6in.; Oak Revolving Bookcase; Oak Hall Table and Chairs; Oak Hat and Umbrella Stand; Polished Pine Press with Drawers below, 7ft. 3in. long; Six Oak Chairs with Leather Seats; Painted Ringed and Double Wardrobes; Painted Wooden and Iron Bedsteads; Spring and Hair Mattresses; Feather Beds; Painted Iron and Wooden Washstands; Painted Drawers; small Gas Stove; Two Guns; Bows and Arrows; Golf and Hockey Sticks; Chair Bed; Child's Folding Chair; Milner's Safe, 28 by 22 by 23; Refrigerator; Wringer; Copper and Brass Pans; Glass and China, &c.
OUTDOOR.
Small Collection of Greenhouse Plants, Single and Double Garden Frames, Lawn Mower, Barrows, Iron Boiler with Stove, Iron Tennis Poles with Nets, Wicker Bath Chair, Single Horse Sleigh and Bells, &c., &c. 853d

By Messrs. R. March and Son.

Greenside, 2½ miles from Ryton and Wylam Stations, on Wednesday, April 19th, 1899.
ANNUAL SALE OF FARMING STOCK of every class.
Early entries respectfully solicited.
R. MARCH and SON, Auctioneers, &c.
Houghton-by-Wylam, March 30th, 1899.

T. D. DRYDEN,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
63, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office 26, Victoria Street Consett.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr A. Phillipson

40, South Medomsley Cottages, Dipton.
Saturday, April 8th, 1899.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON favoured with instructions to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place and date, a large quantity of Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS. See bills for all particulars, &c. Sale to commence at 1.30 o'clock. 811d

3, New Row, Hobson Colliery.
17th April, 1899.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON favoured with instructions from Mr R. Hindhaugh, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION at the above place, a WOOD SHOP 12 ft. by 10 ft. Seated all round, with three Windows and a Stove, very little worse than new. The place has been used as a Barber's Shop. Sale to begin at 5.30 p.m. 811d

53, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.
Saturday, 15th April, 1899.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON respected with instructions from Mr W. R. Moss, who is Emigrating, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place and date, the whole of his Valuable Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, Comprising: Splendid Piano in Walnut by Reifurt, with Ivory Keys and Check Action and all the latest Improvements, no worse than new; Mahogany Sofa; Bookcase and Cheffioneer; Mahogany Drawers; Bedroom Drawers; Square Table; Mahogany Centre Table; Kitchen Table; Small Fancy Table; French Iron Bedstead with Brass Mountings; Small Iron Bedstead; Spring Mattress; Hair Mattress; Straw Mattress; 2 Feather Beds with Pillows; Down Bed and Pillows; Quantity of Bedding; Quilts, Sheets, and Blankets; Good Washstand and Dressing-table; Toilet Glass; Towel Rail; 3 Bedroom Chairs; Chamber Set; Kidderminster Carpet and Hearth Rug; Floor Oilcloth and Hearth Rugs; Stair Carpet and Brass Rods; 2 Cornice Poles; 2 Pair Shades; 6 Balloon Birch Polished Chairs; Rocking Chair; Kitchen Chairs; Arm Chair; Case of Birds; Several Beautiful Pictures and Ornaments; Table Linen; Knives, Forks, and Spoons; Alarm Clock; Hanging Lamp; Sitting-room Fender and Brasses; Kitchen Fender and Irons; Copper Kettle; Dinner Set; Crockery and Glass Ware; Fancy Brackets; Lot of Valuable Books; An Excellent Sewing Machine with Cover; Capital Patent Wringer and Mangle; &c.
Also from another Party: Very Superior Sitting-room Suite, in Walnut and Figured Plush; Lady's Gold Watch; Gentleman's Silver Lever Watch, &c., &c.
Sale to begin at 12 o'clock. 812d

At Mr George Brown's, Bute Arms, Dipton.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON will conduct a SALE BY AUCTION, of STOCK, Farm Implements, Horses, Carts, Traps, and Harness, at the above place in April. Entries solicited and can be made to Mr George Brown or the Auctioneer. 482d

SPECIAL NOTICE.
A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, '888 Office, Front Street, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station.

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.
SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. ☞ DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, April 7th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

THERE SEEMS EVERY likelihood of the Easter Carnival and Trades' Exhibition, held under the auspices of the Consett Liberal Association, turning out quite as successful as any of its predecessors. There appears to have got abroad an impression that the Carnival was declining in popularity, but the crowds of people that have flocked to the Town Hall this week show unmistakably that such is not the case. We have no hesitation in saying that the display made by the exhibitors is fully up to the standard of previous years, and reflects great credit upon the various tradesmen represented nearly all of whom are local gentlemen. Great taste and ingenuity have been brought to bear in the laying out of the several stalls, and the effect is most most charming and pleasing to the eye. Some regret was expressed at the inability of Mr. Atherley-Jones to be present on Monday, this being the first time since the Carnival was commenced that he has not occupied a place on the platform at the opening ceremony. However, an excellent substitute had been obtained in the person of Mr. Jos. Phillips, of Newcastle, who delivered a most thoughtful and interesting address, and at the same time, a very appropriate one. The musical portion of the week's proceedings—which is an important item—has been well looked after, and splendid programmes have been the order, calling forth much appreciation from the large and delighted audiences. We must not omit a special word of praise to the hon. secretaries, Messrs J. Wildsmith and A. Broadbent, whose arrangements have been perfect, and their task has not been of a light character by any means.

IT CERTAINLY LOOKS as though the Lanchester village green question was going to share the same fate as Tennyson's brook, and go on for ever. We often wonder what the Lanchester Parish Council would do if it were not for the village green. There would be absolutely nothing for them to talk about, and there would be no necessity to hold more than about two meetings in the year—one at Lanchester and the other at Burnhope. It was the same old story at Tuesday night's meeting—the never ending, wearisome, village green question. The lease from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had come to hand, several villagers attended presumably to oppose its being signed, although, as a matter of fact, they could take no part in the proceedings. However, the Council showed no desire to endorse its previous action. True, Coun. Chapman did his best to induce his colleagues to sign the petition, but, for the most part, the Councillors preferred—probably in view of the opposition present—to sit on the fence, and quietly shelve the matter, leaving it to the new Council to settle. How the signing of the lease would give away the rights of the ratepayers is more than we can understand. We may be mistaken, but to us it seems that it would have an entirely opposite effect, and enable the Council to preserve the interests of the people. Probably there would have been no opposition to the lease but for one or two persons who were anxious to emerge from obscurity and gain a little cheap notoriety, and who had become enamoured of the idea to pose as "champions (?) of the people's rights." Naturally they wish to prolong the question as much as possible, for, if it were once settled, they would again sink into oblivion.

FOR SOME TIME PAST determined efforts have been put forth with a view to obtaining funds for the purpose of erecting a suitable place of worship at Derwent Cottages, and there cannot be the slightest doubt but what such a building is urgently required. The ladies especially have laboured energetically, and, we are pleased to say, with a large measure of success. What with sewing meetings, teas, concerts, public subscriptions, etc., the handsome sum of £208 9s 5d was banked as the result of a little over a year's work. In order to still further supplement the fund, a most successful bazaar was held last week in the Temperance Hall at Medomsley. The hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the various stalls were furnished with a large quantity of useful and ornamental goods, the making up of which must have entailed a very considerable amount of labour and patience. The promoters were well repaid for their efforts, as the proceeds amounted to over £136. As is usually the case in affairs of this kind, the success of the bazaar was chiefly due to the untiring labours of the ladies. As secretaries Mrs. J. Henderson and Mrs. P. Graham were indefatigable, whilst Mrs. Leathard did a deal of useful work as treasurer to the sewing meeting fund. Those concerned feel very thankful to Mr. J. Dawson, musical instrument dealer, of Consett, for kindly granting them the use of a piano for the bazaar. The Wesleyans of Derwent Cottages are not at the end of their labours yet, but they are encouraged by the support they have received in the past, and are fully determined not to rest upon their oars until they have achieved the worthy object they have in view. We wish them speedy success.

STANLEY NOTES.

(Continued from Page Six).

THEN AND NOW.

If Mr. Gray was in a flattering or prophetic mood on the opening day, then Mr. John Oliver was in a reminiscent mood on the closing day. His contrast between trade and the methods of the present day must have been intensely interesting to the younger portion of his audience. In good old fashioned days everything was done "fair, square, and above board," but now goods were hidden under packets and tins, and instead of tailors and dressmakers coming to the houses of customers to make up the home spun and weaved material we had an elaborate display of "ready mades." All this was very interesting, and it was in accordance with his well known fair-mindedness, that he should remind his audience of the fact that trade begot trade, and that thousands were employed in making something to put something else into. The pity of it is that so many of these thousands were themselves "made in Germany," and stay there following their employment to the detriment of ourselves.

THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

With the exception of Good Friday, which was anything but a pleasant day, the holidays were fairly well favoured from a meteorological point of view. No one could complain of the atmospheric conditions of Easter Monday, and the result was a tremendous increase of railway and vehicular traffic. The officials at Shield Row Station had an extraordinarily busy day, one crowd after another being detrained in the morning, and entrained at night, while the traffic from and to the station was also very heavy. With the trades exhibition, football matches, the pantomime of "Cinderella," and local teas and concerts, there was plenty amusement for both townspeople and visitors. The shops were closed all day, and the holiday passed off without a hitch.

Local and District News.

Consett.

AN EXPLANATION.—In our last week's issue there appeared a letter signed by Mr G. T. Wilson, Blackhill, on the subject of air-space in the proposed new hospital at Tanfield. This was due to an oversight on our part, as the letter was only intended for private circulation.

Gospel Hall.—Mr J. Hixon Irving is announced to conduct a series of special services during the coming fortnight commencing on Sunday first.

Wesleyan Church.—Next Sunday is Guild Sunday, and the Rev. E. J. B. Kirtlan, of Newcastle, will preach morning and evening. On Monday night Mr Kirtlan will deliver his lecture on "Gladstone and Bismarck"—a study in contrasts. Chair to be taken at 7.30.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—We are informed that Mr. John Davison, of East Parade, Consett, or Mr. Thos. Heslop, of Sherburn Terrace, Consett, are to be nominated for the seat vacated by the retirement of Miss Gibson occasioned by ill-health.

COOPERATIVE SOCIETY.—The 143rd quarterley meeting of the above society was held on Saturday night in the Wesleyan Church Hall, Consett. There was only a poor attendance of members present. The sale of newspapers of the branch Reading Rooms realised capital prices, at the hands of Mr. Crawford, auctioneer. Mr. George Lowes, president of the society, presided, and after a few introductory remarks, called upon the Secretary (Mr. Huntley) to read the minutes of the last quarterley meeting, which, with the committee minutes for the past quarter were confirmed. The balance-sheet was next taken, and after a few minor questions, was passed unanimously. The report read as follows:—"We again submit for your consideration a statement of the results of the working of your society for the past 13 weeks. After meeting all trade charges, there is a balance available for disposal, which we recommend to be divided as per proposed disposal of profit account. The dividend recommended on general purchases is 3/4 in the £, and on butcher's purchases 2/2 in the £. We have now completed arrangements for carrying on the business of the different departments." The election of two members of the committee resulted in the re-election of the two retiring candidates, Messrs Thos. B. Davies and William Hogg, no other names being submitted as candidates. It was moved by Mr. Huntley, and seconded by Mr. Whittaker, that the society send two delegates to the Co-operative Congress to be held at Liverpool in Whit-week this year, one delegate to represent the members, and one the committee, and it was further resolved that Mr. Robert Lumsden be elected to represent the members.

Annfield Plain.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Easter Sunday two services were conducted in the above chapel by Pastor Reed, of Newcastle. There were good audiences present.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.—On Sunday evening, Mr. Thos. Robson, of Catchgate, conducted a memorial service to the late William Thomas Allsopp, second son of Mr. John Allsopp, of South View, Annfield Plain. The text was taken from Jeremiah, 31st chapter, verse 34, "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." During the service, Miss Eleanor Prinn sang "He wipes the tear from every eye," while Mr. F. Prinn rendered "We shall sleep, but not for ever." The hall was well filled. The collection was in aid of the mission.

WEDDING AT THE PRIMITIVE CHURCH.—On Good Friday, at midday, the Rev. D. Kyles united in marriage Mr. John Daglish, back-overman, Morrison Colliery, and Miss Jennie Clark, of South Moor. The bridesmaids were Miss Gibson, and Miss Gair, while Mr. Thos. Speers and Jas. Daglish acted as groomsmen. The bride, who was dressed in slate corduroy, wore a white hat with white tips, while the bridesmaids were attired in heliotrope bengaline and white picture hats. The bride was given away by her father, and the wedding party was held at the home of the bride's parents. The presents were handsome.

FREE CHURCH MISSION.—On Easter Monday evening, a grand concert was given in the Co-operative Hall Annfield Plain, by Miss Ella Willson, Newcastle, Miss Eleanor Prinn, Annfield Plain, Mr. T. Holland, Catchgate, Mr. J. Kyles, Burnopfield, and Masters James and Harry Gill, the two little wonders, duettists, and humorists, of Hetton. Miss Florrie Marshall, Newcastle, who figured so prominently on New Year's Day, in the same building supplied the pianoforte accompaniments in rare style. Coun. R. Hall occupied the chair. The proceeds were in aid of the mission.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.—On Good Friday afternoon, Mr. W. Proudlock, of Willington Quay, preached to a fairly good company. After the service a public tea was provided in the school-room, the tables being presided over by Misses Pearson (2), Robson, Turnbull, Grey, Mrs. Donaldson, and Mrs. Bainbridge. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Church, when addresses were given by the Rev. D. Kyles, Annfield Plain, and Mr. W. Proudlock, while Mr. J. W. Taylor, of Dipton, occupied the chair. On Sunday, morning and evening, Mr. Proudlock preached to large congregations, while in the afternoon a service of song, entitled "What would Jesus do," was rendered by the chapel choir, under the leadership of Mr. H. Hardman; organist, Mr J. Robinson, while Mr. J. Bainbridge gave the connective readings. The proceeds were in aid of the trust funds.

Blackhill.

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—Services in connection with the above were held on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. On Friday afternoon a free tea was served to the scholars, and afterwards a public tea was provided by the teachers, parents and friends, and was well patronised. A largely-attended meeting was held in the chapel in the evening. The scholars recited pieces, and, assisted by the choir, sang special music suitable for the occasion. Mr. J. E. Thompson, organist, accompanied. An excellent address was given by Mr. Venice Dunn. The Rev. T. Durant, Mr. A. E. Turner, and Mr W. Raw spoke. The pastor presided. The services were continued on Sunday by the Rev. Mark N. Robson, and the scholars recited and sang at each of the services.

Chopwell

School Accommodation.—At a meeting of the Spen, Victoria Garesfield, and Chopwell committees of the Durham Miners' Reform Association, it was reported that the residents of Chopwell Colliery were refusing to send their children to school, in consequence of the Board Schools at Low Spen being such a distance from the village. It was agreed to send a letter to the Chopwell School Board, pointing out the necessity of providing a place at once for the infants, and also to urge upon the Education Department the desirability of erecting schools.

Burnopfield

FREE CHURCH.—On Easter Monday a public tea was held in the school-room adjoining the above church. There was a fairly good attendance. The proceeds were in aid of the trust funds.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Good Friday, a public tea was held in the above chapel, the tables being presided over by Mesdames Boast, Latham, Herdman, and Oates. There was a moderate company present. The proceeds were in aid of the school building fund. During the day Miss Wilson, of Carlisle, who is holding revival services, conducted two special services.

Co-operative Society.—The quarterly meeting of this society was held in the Co-operative Hall, on Saturday evening. Mr. J. Watson Bell occupied the chair. From the balance-sheet which was read and considered, a dividend of 3/3 in the £ on members' purchases was announced. It was resolved to have the summer trip to Leeds and Harrogate. A motion moved by Mr. Timothy Armstrong that when a notice of motion has been given and agreed to it shall become the property of the members of the quarterly meeting for which such notice was given, and it shall be competent for any member to move the motion in the absence of the mover," was carried. Mr. Jos. Middleton's motion "that retiring members of the general committee be not eligible for re-election for a period of one year," was lost.

Chester-le-Street

RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO CHESTER-LE-STREET should not fail to call at PETER HAY'S, and inspect his enormous Stock of Drapery, Ready-mades, Millinery, Mantles, and Fancy Goods. His display is a great attraction and ought to be seen by all.

Alleged Wounding with Intent.—On Wednesday, at the Chester-le-Street Police Court, before Mr. H. W. Kerrich-Walker, James Shaw was brought up on remand, charged with wounding Ann Studham, but as a doctor's certificate showed that the woman was still unable to stand, the case was again remanded till next Wednesday.

Easter Tea.—On Wednesday last, the annual Easter tea and entertainment promoted by the members of the Chester-le-Street Parish Church, was held in the Church Institute, Chester-le-Street. A large number partook of the fare offered, and the various tables were presided over by Mrs. and Miss Darling, Mrs. W. Clarke, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. T. Hall, Mrs. De Moleyns, Mrs. Ridley, and Miss Burn. Mr. C. H. Dingwall, who supplied the tea, gave every satisfaction, and an entertainment followed which was greatly enjoyed by those present. The proceeds were in aid of the Church Organ Fund.

Castleside

EASTERTIDE.—The weather has not been very favourable for holiday times and pleasure-seekers. The cyclists will have been disappointed, the wind and muddy state of the roads being against them. Very few have passed through the village as compared with other holiday times. The cold and pinching winds, accompanied by showers, was against footman and horseman alike. There has not been much in the way of amusement in the village; things having passed off quietly, apart from the old and time-honoured Sunday school anniversary in connection with the Wesleyan Church, formerly known as the Watergate Sunday school; and this last annual gathering was equal to any of the past in interest, the beautiful church being filled at each service by parents and friends from afar, who came to see old friends and hear the children recite and sing. The tea meeting on Good Friday was largely patronised, a greater number having sat down to tea than in previous years. The public meeting, under the presidency of Coun. John Lowes, Consett, was largely attended. The speakers were Mr W. Robson, Iveston, and Mr J. W. Muse, who spoke to and interested congregation. The report read by the secretary (Mr J. Dent) was an encouraging report, numerically, spiritually, and financially. On Easter Monday, Mr J. Walker, Darlington, conducted services in the afternoon and evening, the children reciting poetry, scripture, &c., and also singing, assisted by the choir, a choice selection of music. The soloists were Miss Williams, Blackhill, who rendered "Remember thy Creator" in her best style; Mr W. Watson, Gateshead, who rendered in his best form, "Some time we'll understand," and on Sunday night Miss Maddison, of Frosterley, a rising star in the world of song, rendered "The Lost Chord" in a manner which impressed and delighted a crowded house. Miss Dorothy Bewick ably presided at the harmonium. The anniversary is one of the best that has been held for many years. Credit is due to the superintendents and their able staff of teachers.

Dipton

Collierley School Board.—At a special meeting held in the Board Room of the Dipton Board Schools, on Thursday evening, under the presidency of Mr. J. W. Taylor, J.P., Mr. A. Phillipson, auctioneer, Dipton, was appointed Clerk to the Board, out of 21 applicants.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday evening, a concert was given in the above chapel by Mr. H. Herdman and party, of Annfield Plain. After the concert, a supper was provided, the tables being presided over by Mrs. Lawson and Miss Mason. On Sunday, two special sermons were preached—morning and evening—by Mr. T. Huddlestone, Blackhill, while in the afternoon, the chapel choir, under the leadership of Mr. E. Herdman rendered the service of song, entitled "In his steps, or what would Jesus do." The connective readings were read by Mr. J. W. Glenwright, Dipton. There were good congregations. The proceeds were in aid of the new building fund.

Cycling Club.—This club opened the season on Easter Monday with a run to Durham City, when between 20 and 30 members turned out, the state of the roads preventing others from availing themselves of the trip. The road was in capital condition from Lanchester to Durham. The party left the Delight Bank at 10.20 a.m., and arrived at Durham at 11.35 after an enjoyable ride. Light refreshments were partaken of, and the party then visited the Cathedral, where they were met by the Rev. A. Watts, of Witton Gilbert, who conducted them through the sacred edifice, and explained everything of interest. The visit proved a most enjoyable and instructive one. Then the members broke up into parties, and went where they chose. They re-assembled at 6.20 after a pleasant day's outing, and reached home at 8.30 without any member sustaining a single puncture. On Saturday the club visits Stocksfield, and on Wednesday Chester-le-Street. Meet at headquarters at 1 p.m.

Hamsterley

Christ Church Band of Hope.—An entertainment will be given by the members of the above in the Hamsterley Colliery School on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 7th and 8th, consisting of the kinderspiel entitled "Don Quixote."

Marley Hill

PRESENTATION TO THE REV J. ARBUCKLE.—On Tuesday evening the Rev. J. Arbuckle, who had recently been appointed vicar of Marley Hill, was made the recipient of a handsome marble timepiece, as a slight token of respect, and in appreciation of services rendered during his ministrations amongst the parishioners of St. Edmund's Church, Gateshead. The presentation, which was the gift of a few members of the Church, was made by Mr. T. Wilson in felicitous terms. The rev. gentleman suitably responded.

Shotley Bridge

Primitive Methodist Church.—On Sunday, sermons were preached in the morning by Mr. R. Hall, and in the evening by Mr. W. Campbell, of Liverpool, to good congregations. On Monday a rummage sale was presided by Mrs. Campbell and friends. Tea was provided to a good company at 4.30 p.m. In the evening an entertainment, consisting of solos, recitations, and tableaux, concluding with a laughable sketch entitled "The Patient Man." The following ladies and gentlemen took part in the sketch:—Misses L. A. Renwick, M. J. Renwick, E. Dixon, H. Clarkson, Mr. J. Gibson, Mr. F. Turnbull, and Mr. J. Coxon. The Chairman was Mr. W. Campbell. Supper was provided in the chapel to a good company after the entertainment.

WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE BAND.—On Wednesday evening week the above band rendered a very interesting programme of vocal and instrumental music in the High Westwood Board Schools (kindly lent for the occasion by the Medomsley School Board.) The following ladies and gentlemen contributed to the enjoyment of all present:—Solo, Miss Leybourne (soprano), "Bonquetine," which was rendered in good voice and style, and won the applause of the audience; songs, Mr J. Bell, "Queen of the Earth" and "Mona." In these the rendition was everything that could be desired, proving Mr Bell to possess a very clear and sweet tenor voice. Duet, "Country courtship," by Miss Leybourne and Mr J. McTaggart, was received very warmly, and caused endless laughter and amusement. Violin solo, "When other lips," Mr T. Nixon (leader of the band), was given in splendid form, proving Mr Nixon to be very proficient, and quite a master of his instrument. Then followed a humourous song, Mr J. McTaggart, who is no stranger to the public platform as a humourist, and can hold his own with any other local. "Holstemer's Band" was very well received. Quartettes, Misses Leybourne and Nixon, and Messrs McTaggart and Pinchen, the voices all being in splendid tune. The band rendered selections. Comment is not needed, as their reputation is widespread as to its abilities of attainment. Mr W. Hogg presided, and Mr J. F. Pattison was accompanist, and filled his post to satisfaction.

South Moor

ACCIDENT AT HEDLEY PIT.—On Tuesday afternoon Henry Harvey, miner, working in the Hedley Pit, at South Moor, met with an accident whilst following his employment. He had been firing a shot and had not got his coal down. He started to nick and the coal came away and fell upon him, injuring him about the chest and lower part of the body. He was conveyed home to Melden Terrace, Oxhill, and medically attended to.

Swalwell.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A painful feeling was cast over the village of Swalwell and district on Tuesday morning, by the announcement of the sudden death of Mr. James Walker, of the Station Hotel, Swalwell. Mr. Walker was in his usual health during the early part of the morning, and, at about ten o'clock, he went to attend to his horse, which he took to a pond some little distance off, for the purpose of giving the animal a drink. Mr. Walker was discovered by a passer by lying at the edge of the pond with blood issuing from his mouth, and within a few seconds he expired, death being due to the bursting of a blood vessel. He was at once conveyed home and medical assistance procured, but the patient was past all human aid. The deceased was landlord of the Station Hotel for about 12 years, during which time he made many acquaintances. Mr. Walker leaves a wife and grown-up family to mourn his loss.

Stanley.

POLICE CHANGES.—P.C. Iceton, who for five years has been stationed in Stanley and for the last three years in East Stanley, has removed to Langley Park. His place at East Stanley, has been taken by P.C. Thomas of West Stanley; and P.C. Jones, of Darlington, fills the vacancy.

EASTER PANTOMIME.—For Easter week Mr. Mark Lindon provided his patrons with a treat in the shape of a pantomine, the ever popular "Cinderella" forming the centre of a clever and most agreeable entertainment. Mr. Val Simpson's company provided the fun and their efforts have been appreciated by large audiences, the house being crowded on Monday night in spite of other attractions. The scenic effects were admirable, and the pantomine as a whole one of the best seen in Stanley.

THE REV. J. A. DIXON.—In accordance with the practice of the Wesleyan Church, the Rev. J. A. Dixon will complete his three years term of ministry in West Stanley in August next, when he will remove to Barnard Castle to take up the duties of resident minister in that interesting old town. As it is hoped to hold the opening services of the new church and schools in Stanley about the end of May Mr. Dixon will have the satisfaction of seeing the completion, or nearly so, of a work which many thought was too bold and venturesome. In this work Mr. Dixon's thoroughness has been brought to light.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Easter Sunday two special sermons were preached by the Rev. Ralph Shields, of Hartlepool, to large congregations. On Easter Monday afternoon, a grand concert was given by Miss Williams, Blackhill; Mr. R. D. Grundy, Stanley; Mr. Thompson Todd, Gateshead; Coun. George Forster, Mr. Wm. Waugh, Stanley; and Mr. J. P. Stephenson, Blackhill. The chair was ably occupied by Coun. A. Kuhlman, of South Moor, and a pleasant afternoon was spent. After the concert a public tea was provided in the school-room, the tables being presided over by Mesdames Thompson, Batey, Brown (2), and Allison. In the evening, the Rev. R. Shields delivered his popular lecture on "Oliver Cromwell." The chair was occupied by Mr John Anderson, East Stanley, and there was a good audience present. At the outset the lecturer dealt with Cromwell's early life, and compared him with other great men, after which he dealt with him as a Puritan, patriot, and protector. Cromwell, he said, was characterised by great decision of character, an was a thorough puritan. The lecturer then went on to describe the horrors which led up to the civil war which resulted in the death of King Charles I. The lecture was well arranged and delivered in an acceptable manner, special point and emphasis being bestowed upon that part of the history which related to the Long Parliament, and the king's attitude towards the Commons. The whole of the proceeds were in aid of the organ fund.

On Easter Monday the annual vestry meeting for Beamish Parish was held in St. Andrew's Church, West Stanley,—the Rev. D. W. James, vicar, presiding. There were also present the Rev. P. Duckworth, the Rev. Downard, Messrs T. C. Frater, John Bates, A. Ledger, Geo. Harrison, and John Bates, jun. The Vicar re-appointed Major Ridley as his warden, and on the motion of Mr. Bates, seconded by Mr. Bates, jun., Mr. T. C. Frater was re-appointed people's warden.—Messrs C. Scott, T. S. Lumley, Robert Bell, and Richard Johnson were appointed vicar's sidesmen, and on the motion of Mr. A. Ledger, seconded by Mr. Bates, sen., Messrs James Ferguson, Richard Atkinson, T. O. Whittaker, and T. E. Crossling were re-appointed people's sidesmen. On the motion of the Rev. Mr. Downard, seconded by Mr. A. Ledger, Mr. D. Ledger and Mr. Joseph Brown were elected sidesmen for Oxhill Mission, and for East Stanley, Mr. Bell and Mr. McKinley were appointed.—On the motion of the Rev. P. Duckworth, Major Ridley, Messrs T. C. Frater, C. Scott, T. S. Lumley, and A. Ledger were appointed representatives at the Ruridecanal conference.—Mr. T. C. Frater moved, and Mr. Bates seconded that a church rate of a penny in the pound be levied, and this was agreed to.—The Vicar then moved:—"That Major Ridley has the deepest sympathy of this vestry in his severe illness; we pray that he may soon be restored to his health and strength, and that in the providence of God his valuable services may long be given to the Church and the community."—Mr. Bates seconded the motion, which was agreed to.—As the accounts were not ready for presentation the meeting was adjourned.

Stanhope.

The Stanhope Football Club held an "At Home" in the Town Hall on Saturday night, and on Monday night a fancy dress ball was held in the Town Hall, at which a good company was present.

Good Friday was observed throughout the dale as a general holiday, while Monday was only a partial holiday. A football match was played at Stanhope on Monday between Stanhope and Consett Swifts, resulting in a draw.

Tanfield

The annual vestry of Tanfield Parish was held, on Monday, the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. Archdall, M.A.) presiding. Mr. T. Smiles was appointed Vicar's warden, and Mr Jos. Robinson peoples' warden. Messrs T. Robinson, T. Hogarth, R. Watson, and Lake were appointed sidesmen. The consideration of the accounts was postponed.

CHURCH SOCIAL.—On Easter Monday, a social was held in the Tanfield Board Schools to raise money for the cleaning and alteration to the church. The Rev. W. E. Mathison, curate, made the arrangements, and saw that they were carried out without a hitch. The M.C.'s were Messrs T. Robinson and R. Watson, who carried out their duties efficiently. There was a fairly good company present.

Tantobie

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—At the quarterly meeting of this society, held in the Co-operative Hall, Tantobie, on Saturday evening, a dividend of 3/6 in the £ was declared on members' purchases. It was also resolved that a public auditor be engaged once a year to examine the society's accounts.

Whickham

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Good Friday morning, anniversary services were held at the above place of worship. The preacher was the Rev. T. W. Beck, of Gateshead, and there was a large congregation. In the afternoon a tea was held, at which a large company sat down. A large company assembled in the evening, under the presidency of Ald. E. S. Hindmarsh, of Gateshead, to listen to the Rev. T. W. Beck deliver his interesting lecture, entitled "The Shakespeare of the Pulpit," which proved most interesting.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WHICKHAM.—The annual vestry meeting of St. Mary's Church, Whickham, was held in the Church Vestry on Tuesday afternoon, the Rector (the Rev. Arthur Allwood) presiding.—The Rector appointed Mr. W. H. Willis sen., as his churchwarden for the ensuing year. Mr. Joseph Harbottle (Swalwell) and Mr. Wm. Brown (Whickham) were re-elected churchwardens. Messrs. W. Charlton, W. Walton, J. Turnbull, J. Atkinson, and T. Nicholson were appointed sidesmen. Mr. W. H. Willis presented the accounts, which showed the expenditure to have been £130 8s 5d, leaving a balance of £5 2s 10d in hand. The Rev. Ed. Rust reported that after all accounts had been paid in connection with Holy Trinity Church, Swalwell there would be a balance left of £3 10s 9d, which was considered satisfactory. It was unanimously agreed, on the motion of Mr. W. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wm. Charlton, that the salary of the organist, Mr. W. H. Willis, be increased £10 per year, making it now £30 per annum. Mr. Robert Glass was appointed as auditor. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Marley Hill Colliery owners for having supplied gratuitously the Church with coke during the past season.

Waskerley

PRIMITIVE METHODIST GATHERING.—On Good Friday, the members of the Primitive Methodist Society at Waskerley, held their annual gathering. The Hamsterley Primitive Methodist choir paid a visit to the village, and gave a successful rendition of the cantata, "The Messiah's advent," in the Board Schools, to a crowded audience. The cantata was well rendered, and highly appreciated. The Chairman delivered a suitable address on Christianity. There was also a tea and coffee supper, the tables being presided over by Misses Featherstone, D. Reed, Gowland, Raine, Robson, and F. G. Reed. The proceeds were in aid of the new chapel fund.

It's Easy to Dye with Diamond Dyes.

A Few Pence will Save Many Shillings.

In nearly every home there are faded and unfashionable dresses and coats that can be dyed with Diamond Dyes so they will look as good as new. Suits for the boys can be made from the father's partly worn clothes, and then coloured with Diamond Dyes to look like new, while dresses and jackets can be made for the girls with little work or expense.

Many women dress their families in handsome, fashionable clothing at a comparatively small expense, thanks to Diamond Dyes.

Diamond Dyes are put up specially for home use, and the directions on each package are so plain that even the inexperienced can get beautiful and unfading colours by using these dyes. They colour anything from ribbons, feathers, and blouses to the heaviest coats and dresses.

There are some fifty colours in the list of Diamond Dyes, making all the fashionable shades. Be sure to use only the Diamond, as they are the only dyes that have stood the test of years and that can be depended upon for successful home dyeing.

Suicide at Blackhill.

On Wednesday morning, Margaret Donaghy (23), a single woman, living with her parents at 9, Dale Street, Blackhill, committed suicide by drowning, in the pond near the Consett Iron Company's Tinmill Works. It appears that the young woman proceeded to her work at the knitting factory at eight o'clock on Wednesday morning, along with a companion named Margaret Quinn, and after staying a short while she said she was not able to do any work, and bade her companion good morning. At 10.30 a boy named Renwick, who was gathering coals, saw the young woman go on to the rails, take off her hat and shawl, and throw herself into the water. He informed two men named Bell and Spark, who recovered the body half an hour later.

An Old Consett Standard Celebrates His 90th Birthday.

On Wednesday of last week a most interesting and unique gathering took place at the residence of Mr Thomas Little, Delves House, Delves Lane, Consett, to celebrate the anniversary of the host's 90th birthday. Mr Little is one of the oldest standards in the district. He came to the Delves in the year 1840, and the first work he did was to lead in seven stacks of corn. This came on the Saturday, and the next day being Christmas Day, he started with the leading of the corn on the Monday. Mr Little then commenced as a blacksmith in the old shop, there then not being a house between Carr House and Barr House and Blackfine, nor yet between Delves House and Shotley Bridge. Mr Little came to the district before the search for ironstone began. Mr Dickinson commenced a timber and brick works, and the subject of our remarks did all the blacksmith work for him, having to employ two journeymen and two apprentices. Mr Little also had shops at Blackhill and Iveston. Previous to the Consett Water Company coming into existence, our friend supplied the inhabitants with water, which he carried in three carts. In 1847 he built the house he is now living in on leasehold property, and carried on the blacksmith's business for 20 years. He was then engaged under the Consett Iron Company as inspector of boiler plates for 15 years. Mr Little can still remember vividly many of the fearful scenes that used to take place in Consett in olden times. He himself was thrice pulled off his horse. Although the old gentleman has attained such a great age, he is still hale and hearty, and nothing gives him greater pleasure than a talk about old times. Amongst those present at the birthday gathering were Mrs Smith, of Spring House (sister of Mr Little's), Mr J. Davison, sen., Mr A. E. Turner, Blackhill, Mr J. Nicholson, Rev. T. Durant, Mr A. Little, Leadgate (son), Mr and Mrs Hogg, Blackhill (daughter and son-in-law), Mrs Charlton (daughter), Miss Charlton (great-granddaughter), Mr Thos. Little, jun., and Mrs Little, Mr and Mrs Little, Blackfine (grandson and wife), Thomas Little, Fred Little (great-grandsons), Mrs Lowes, Waskerley (granddaughter), Mrs Smith, Blaydon (niece), Mrs Seaman, Delves Lane; Mrs Evans, Delves Lane; Mrs Bell, Belle Vue Terrace; Mrs Henderson, Gateshead; Mrs Whittaker, Delves; Mr Fred Whittaker, Mr Thos. Whittaker. All present spent a most enjoyable and interesting time.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

To plead that a thing is excusable is to admit that it is wrong.

A folly, when it is known to be a folly and yet persisted in, becomes a sin.

In business, three things are necessary—knowledge, temper, and time.—FELTHAM.

A brave man is sometimes a desperado, but a bully is always a coward.—HALLIBURTON.

There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talking man having nothing to say.—SWIFT.

A great occasion is valuable to you in just the proportion you have educated yourself to make use of it.

O friend, never strike sail to fear. Come into port grandly, or sail with God on the seas.—EMERSON.

More firm and sure the hand of courage strikes when it obeys the watchful eye of caution.—THOMPSON.

Words are like leaves, and where they most abound much fruit of sense beneath is rarely found.—POPE.

What's brave, what's noble, let's do it after the high Roman fashion, and make Death proud to take us.—SHAKSPERE.

The world is full of heroes, unknown and unheralded because no great emergency, no great crisis, has called them into action.

God be thanked for books; they are the voices of the distant and the dead, and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past ages.—CHANNING.

A great name, it is true, is often made in a very short time—perhaps in a day; but it has probably taken long years to prepare for this one day's work.

There is such a thing as moral colour-blindness. It is of little use to talk about the blue of heaven to those who can see nothing but the yellow of gold.

Some people are always grumbling because they cannot get what they consider their share of the sweets of life: forgetting that they have omitted to put their penny in the slot.

What we do upon some great occasion will probably depend on what we already are; and what we are will be the result of previous years of self-discipline.—H. P. LIDDON.

It is not the truth that a man possesses, or believes that he possesses, but the honest pains he has taken to get at truth, which makes a man's worth; for it is not by the possession of truth, but by the search after it, that his powers are extended, in which alone his perfection consists.—LESSING.

The soul contains world upon world of the most real of realities, of which it has no consciousness until it is awakened to their existence by some parable or metaphor, some strain or rhythm of music, some combination of form or colour, some scene of beauty or sublimity, which suddenly expresses the inexpressible by a lower likeness.

In the path of duty, character is invulnerable. A man may lose his life while facing duty, but he shall not lose one whit of his manhood. It is not until a man begins to shrink from duty that he begins to shrink in manhood. He who never hesitates to do right will never be troubled with the humiliating thought that he is not quite the man he once was.

KEEP YOUR GRIP ON THE BEST THINGS.

Don't lose courage, spirit brave;
Carry it with you to the grave.

Don't lose time in vain distress!
Work, not worry, brings success.

Don't lose hope! Who lets her stray
Goes forlornly all the way.

Don't lose patience, come what will!
Patience oftimes outruns skill.

Don't lose gladness! Every hour
Blooms for you some happy flower.

Though be failed your dearest plan,
Don't lose faith in God and man.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL.

THE COUNCILLORS FIGHT SHY OF THE VALLAGE GREEN.

On Tuesday evening, the last meeting of the present constituted Council was held in the National Schools, Lanchester, under the presidency of Councillor J. R. Ritson (chairman.) The Councillors present included Messrs Joe. Chapman, U. A. Ritson, jun., James Gibson, George Thornton, Alfred Dixon, A. Hartley, George Shipley, J. Innes, George W. Wilson, D. Champney, James Halkier, and the Clerk (Mr Henry Knowles.) There were a number of the ratepayers present, as some interest was evinced in the meeting, through the fact that the lease from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had come to hand for the village green.—The first business on the agenda was the question of the erection of a letter box at the east end of Burnhope.—The Chairman pointed out that the Post Office for Burnhope had been removed to the centre of Pavillion Terrace, which was fully half-a-mile away from the east end of Burnhope, and it was necessary that a letter-box should be erected.—Mr. Hartley, along with the Burnhope Councillors, bore out the Chairman's statement, and Mr. Gibson remembered that it would be a good thing if someone was authorised to sell postage stamps for the benefit of the inhabitants residing at the east end of Burnhope.—This question was easily got rid of by a resolution being unanimously agreed to that the Clerk should communicate with the Postal Authorities with a view to having a letter-box erected.—The next item was the business of the evening, and one that has occupied the attention of the Councillors ever since they came into office. This was the village green.—The Chairman said a committee, consisting of the Lanchester Councillors examined the lease received from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and as instructed he forwarded a letter to the Commissioners, asking whether, at the end of 49 years, could they give an undertaking to renew the lease. He had received a reply to the effect that the Commissioners as a public body could not give any undertaking that the lease would be renewed.—Mr. Chapman presented the report of the committee. He said they went very carefully into the lease, which took them some hours before they got to the end of it, and they found nothing in it they could object to. The Committee were unanimously of the opinion that the best thing they could do was to have the lease signed, and get control of the green. He had great pleasure in proposing that the lease be signed by the Chairman of the Council.—Mr. Gibson thought that before the lease was signed it should be submitted to the Local Government Board, and see if they would accept it. If they signed the lease, and the Local Government Board did not afterwards accept of it, they would practically be no nearer obtaining control of the green.—Mr. Chapmon asked if it was necessary for a lease to be submitted to the Local Government Board before it was signed?—The Chairman thought not, and said that all the Local Government Board wanted was for them to shew their title deeds for the green, and if they signed the lease, they would have that, and this was all they required.—Mr. Hartley said he had gone through the lease, but could see nothing in it detrimental to the ratepayers, but in the face of the present dissatisfaction he thought it would be wisdom on the part of the Council to let the question of signing the lease lie over for the present. The ratepayers had the impression that they were going to hand over their rights to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. This was not the case, but if the ratepayers were satisfied with the present condition of the green all well and good. Let the ratepayers take the question up themselves and decide what should be done with the green.—Mr. Chapman very forcibly brought home the fact that the very thing the Parish Council was going to do was to protect the rights of the villagers. They wished the green to be preserved, and not destroyed by show-people or anybody who felt disposed to make use of the same. If the lease was signed, some responsible person could be put in to collect the rates from the show-people. They would see that the green was kept in order, and this had been the object of the Council from the very beginning.—Mr. Champney intimated that a deputation was present, who had a petition signed by some of the villagers, and he thought they should hear what they had to say before they disposed of the lease.—Mr. Chapman maintained that the deputation was out of order. According to the Standing Orders three days' notice had to be given to the Clerk, stating the nature of the deputation's business. This had not been done, and therefore the deputation could not be heard.—The Chairman said Mr. Chapman was perfectly right. He understood that the petition had been got up by business men, and notice certainly ought to have been given, stating that a deputation intended to be present at the meeting. They certainly knew a petition was being prepared, but nothing about the deputation. It rested with the Council whether they heard the deputation or not.—Mr. Hudspith, one of the deputation, here rose to his feet, and was about to address the Council, when Mr. Chapman turned round to him and said: "You cannot speak here. This is a meeting for the Parish Councillors."—Mr. Hartley thought they should allow the petition to be presented, and then they would have the feeling of the ratepayers before them. This was a burning question with the villagers, and they, as the representatives of the ratepayers, ought not to do anything contrary to their wishes. The parishioners held a different opinion to the Council, as they believed the Council was going to hand over their rights to the Commissioners. They had been told that in previous years one-half of the green had been taken away, simply because no one had looked after it. They did not want to lose the green, but if the ratepayers were satisfied with the present state of things he saw no reason why they should press this matter upon them. He moved that the question lie over for the present.—Mr. Chapman protested strongly against the memorial being read. He asked what was the use of having standing orders if they did not abide by them? If the memorial had been presented through the Clerk he would have raised no objections, nor would he have raised his voice against the deputation. By the deputation coming there they had stole a march on the Council, and it was anything but fair.—The Chairman said they had placed him in an awkward position, but he did not hesitate in saying that the memorial had been prepared by business men, and they ought to have given notice to the Council that the deputation was going to be present at the meeting. If they agreed to Mr. Chapman's motion, and signed the lease, it would at once be said by the ratepayers that they had not given them fairplay.—Mr. Hartley said there was no deputation present. The gentlemen present were there as ratepayers, and were simply going to hand in to the Chairman the petition.—Mr. Chapman: We have just been told they are here as a deputation.—Mr. Hartley said that was a mistake.—Mr. Chapman said the annual parish meeting was the proper place to have raised the objection. There was a representative meeting, the building being packed, and the question was thoroughly discussed, but no resolution was submitted condemning the action of the Council.—Mr. Hartley said he agreed with Mr. Chapman that action should have been taken at the annual parish meeting. The gentlemen present were not there as a deputation. There had never been a meeting held to appoint them, and they had not been sent there by the ratepayers. In spite of that he asked the Council not to forget the feeling that existed in the parish.—The Chairman said the last statement made by Mr. Hartley cleared the matter up.—The Councillors were now beginning to be tired of the discussion, and Mr. U. A. Ritson moved that the Council do not entertain the petition.—Mr. Chapman stated there was no need for a motion, as they had nothing whatever to do with the petition.—Mr. Champney then proposed a motion to the effect that the lease remain in abeyance for the new Council to deal with.—The Chairman said if they allowed the question to stand over they were not placing themselves in a worse position. He was convinced of this that before any public money was spent over the green they would have to have the lease. If the villagers were satisfied with the present state of affairs all well and good.—Mr. Hartley thought if the memorial was read it would show the position they were standing in. He understood the memorial was signed by over 200 ratepayers.—Mr. Chapman: I have nothing against the memorial, and would not have opposed it if it had come through the proper channel.—The Chairman pointed out that if the lease was signed that night they would have to stand by it in spite of any number of memorials that might be presented.—Mr. Shipley said it was hardly fair that outsiders should come in at the last moment and upset their arrangements. He seconded Mr. Chapman's motion.—Mr. Hartley withdrew his motion, and seconded Mr. Champney's proposition.—A vote was taken which resulted as follows:—For the amendment:—Messrs Gibson, Thornton, Halkier, Dixon, Champney, and Hartley—6. For the motion—Messrs Chapman, Shipley, Wilson, and U. A. Ritson—4.—The Chairman declared the amendment carried.—The balance-sheet for the ensuing year was considered. The income was £74 2s 8d, and considered. The income was £74 2s 8d, and hand, of £28 14s 1d.—The financial statement was adopted.—This was the whole of the business.

Social at Stanley.

On Easter Monday evening, the members of the White Rose Quadrille Party held their annual social in the Stanley Co-operative Hall. To the 350 invitations sent out there was a hearty response, and a goodly number of young men and maidens assembled for an evening's pleasure. The duties of M.C.'s were efficiently executed by Messrs J. Wilkinson and J. Chaytor, while the music, which was highly satisfactory, was supplied by Messrs H. Wilkinson, Hindhaugh, and Jefferson, of Dipton and Burnopfield. Dancing commenced at eight o'clock, and was continued vigorously until the early hours of the following morning.

TANFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The members of the old Tanfield District Council met for the last time on Tuesday night in the Council Chamber at Tanfield, Mr H. Curry Wood, J.P., presiding. There were also present:—Councillors the Rev. T. H. Archdall, E. Wigham, J. Rodham, W. Bulmer, A. Davis, W. G. Turnbull, J. Harrison, and T. Pringle; the Clerk (Mr T. Armstrong), and the Surveyor (Mr R. Heslop.)

Surveyor's and Inspector's Report.

The Surveyor reported that during the month the workmen had been employed water-tabling, laying ashphalt, forming a footpath at Tanfield, making a roadway at Long Row, Lintz, and forming a footpath and laying kerbstone at the Leazes. The estimates for next year's maintenance of county main roads had been sent to the County Council. Separate estimates had been given for carriage way and footpaths. The estimate for carriage way, Black Hedley, was £244 2s 6d, and for footpaths, £18 7s 6d; Lobley Hill carriage way £213 17s, footpaths £17 15s. In reference to the Waggon Hill sale he had been in communication with the solicitors. He drew the attention of Messrs Davies and Balkwill to lot 2 of the sale, and informed them that the cottage, etc., and garden ground was considered to belong to the highway, and was an encroachment, and asked them to point this out at the sale. Messrs Davis and Balkwill replied that plans in their possession did not indicate that they belonged to the highway, but the contrary. To that Mr Heslop replied that the plot he intended to refer to was on the east side of the road, and was shown on the award plan. It was waste land and belonged to the highway, and was awarded about 1837.

As Inspector, Mr Heslop reported that the scavenging had been well performed and no complaints had been received. He was preparing plans for the drainage of houses at Causey, but required instruction as to the disposal of the sewage.

Scavenging and Sewerage.

The Plans and Sewerage Committee recommended that the Surveyor get tenders for the scavenging of the whole district for the next twelve months, and bring them before the Council meeting, and that in all future contracts a proviso be inserted that there must be no sub-letting without the sanction of the Council. The following tenders were received for Tanfield sewage area (fencing):—Messrs. Charlton Bros., 1/8 per yard; Mr Handcock, 1/10 per yard. It was recommended that the tender of Messrs Charlton be accepted. It was recommended to ask the late contractors for tenders respecting the sewer at Tanfield Hall.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Coun. Bulmer, and agreed to.

Highways and Lighting.

The Highways Committee reported that they had resolved that the Surveyor be instructed to ashphalt the footpath between Mr Rippon's and the Sun Inn, Burnopfield, instead of that part of the road where building operations were now being carried on; that the making of the private streets at Blanch Terrace, Tantobie, be advertised; that the Surveyor examine and report on the front and back streets of Bute Street and Hawthorn Terrace, at White-le-Head; that the Surveyor be instructed to remove the fence where the encroachments had been made on the south side of the road at Mountsett. It was also resolved that the attention of the N.E.R. Company be called to the footpath at the side of the railway near Tanfield Moor, and that they be asked to make provision for the public travelling by the side of the railway. The Surveyor was requested to examine the road leading to Osborne's Cottages, Tantobie, and report; also that the Surveyor examine the Burnopfield district to see how many new lights it would be necessary to provide for, and that the special lighting committee consider the report and bring the matter before the Council. The Surveyor was requested to do the work required to guard the telegraph wires where necessary in connection with Burnopfield electric lighting.—The special lighting committee met and resolved that the Burnopfield Co-operative Society be informed that the Council would require the following extra electric lights at Burnopfield:—Busty Bank 13, Raglan Place 2, Gibside Terrace 2, Co-operative Terrace 2, Park View 5, Crook Bank 6, Long Row, Lintz, 9, School Row Lintz, 2, Frier Row 1, Brick Flats 3, total 49; (2) that all the electric light pillars be numbered; (3) that Mr Heslop advertise the gas pillars for sale; (4) that the Dipton Gas Co. be asked for their price per lamp for a season of 1,000 hours; (5) that Messrs Bowes and Partners be informed that in the near future the Council were likely to require from 30 to [illegible] extra lights over the 136 already specified; (6) that the agreements be sent at once to the Corlett Co. and Messrs Bowes.

On the motion of Coun. Bulmer, seconded by Coun. Davis, the report was adopted.

Finance Report.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Clerk write to Mr Ritson and get a definite statement as to what had been done by the Assessment Committee re Tanfield Lea Brick Works, and that proceedings be taken if necessary.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Coun. Archdall, the report was adopted.

Medical Report.

Dr. Benson reported that the health of the district as regarded infectious disease had during the past month been most satisfactory, not a single case of notifiable disease being reported to him, nor in the same period had any cases of the non-notifiable kinds come under his notice. The mortality returns were also satisfactory, only seven deaths being registered in the month of March, giving a death-rate equal to 8.8 per 1,000 per annum. Out of the seven deaths three occurred in the case of infants under the age of one year, and three were old people over 70 years. Not one death was due to preventible disease.

Coun. Bulmer moved, and Coun. Rodham seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

The Alteration of Local Urban Districts.

The Clerk reported that the County Council of Durham having made an order respecting certain alterations to the boundary of the Tanfield Urban District, so as to include a part of the Annfield Plain Urban District, and the Parish of Kyo, and the transfer thereof to the Tanfield District and other matters, the order was sent to the Local Government Board for confirmation. The Local Government Board had confirmed the order subject to certain modifications. Respecting the highway from Flint Hill to Tantobie the clause in the order reads:—"From and after the appointed day that part of the highway leading from Flint Hill to Tantobie, which is within the boundary of the parish of Tanfield, and extends from the south-east corner of the Wagon Inn to a point marked "B.M. 773. 1" on the 25 inch Ordnance Map, 1896, and is repairable by the inhabitants of the Parish of Kyo, shall henceforth for ever be repairable by the inhabitants of the parish of Tanfield." This clause was numbered 19, and the Local Government Board had ordered that it should be omitted.

After other routine business had been transacted the meeting ended.

DON'T TALK TOO MUCH TO THE BABY.

Dear as he may be, mothers should not forget how delicate in every way a baby is. The very fact that he smiles and looks happy when talked to, shews that he understands, and it is that which is the strain.

Of course, every mother will occasionally talk to her baby and play with him; the harm is done when the mother, with nothing else to do, talks to her baby every moment he is awake, tells him the name of everything, and insists upon him trying to repeat it. She will take care to feed him with the greatest exactness, and keep him daintily and comfortably clothed.

All very right and proper, but she must not forget that his brains are quite as weak and undeveloped as his body. If his brain is to properly develop, his mind must have rest, and when he is made to take too much notice, it is a tax on his mentality that is beyond his strength.

Keep babies as much as possible like little animals; let them sleep and eat. Keep them in cool, well-ventilated rooms. If a baby is too much talked to, its brain is apt to be too active, and it will not be able to sleep as much as is necessary. If this be continued, by the time the child is five or six years old it has an old and drawn look upon its little face, which has no right to be there. Let the baby grow naturally; it is not advisable for him to be too sharp at an early age. A little dulness now gives him a better chance of being smart later on.

15 & 16, Middle Street, Consett.

NEW GOODS for Easter.

This Week we are showing a large and splendid range of all THE LATEST FASHIONS in Ladies and Gentlemen's Wear.

At the GLOVE COUNTER you will find a large and beautiful assortment of Ladies' Kid Gloves (Dent's make) in all the newest colours at 1/6¾, 1/11¾, 2/3, 2/4¾, 2/6, 2/11.

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ROBERT ENGLISH.

TRADES' EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL AT STANLEY.

On Good Friday, Mr. Wm. Gray, of Gosforth, performed the opening ceremony of a Trades' Exhibition and Easter Carnival in the Board Schools, West Stanley. The object of the exhibition was primarily to raise funds towards the cost of the handsome new Wesleyan Church which is gradually approaching completion in Front Street. In the second place it was hoped to emphasise the growing importance of Stanley in a commercial sense by giving the public a more open view of the possibilities of the tradesmen of the district. When the matter was first mooted by the Wesleyans it met with hearty approval, and a strong committee was formed, with Messrs C. R. Green and G. A. Moore as honorary secretaries. The School Board readily granted the promoters the use of the large and commodious schools, which were particularly well adapted for the scheme. The arrangement of the school was—the large central hall with 8 feet by 5 feet spaces; four class-rooms let off as show rooms; large rooms on the ground floor for concerts and teas; the upper hall for a ladies' stall arranged for exhibits and sales, together with a smokers' retreat; and three class-rooms for shooting galleries, cinematograph, panopticon, or "gallery of wit and wisdom," dwarf exhibition, and other amusements. Considering the fact that the scholars were not dismissed for the Easter holidays until Wednesday afternoon, and the great amount of labour connected with arranging an exhibition of the kind the appearance of the rooms on Good Friday afternoon was remarkable. It not only indicated the hearty manner in which the tradesmen had entered into the idea, but it clearly indicated that the secretaries and the committee had been indefatigable in the discharge of their honorary duties. It was then seen that exhibits had been sent by the following:—Messrs John Hall & Co., C. F. Cooke, Grocers and Drapers; Mineral Water Co., of Annfield Plain; Messrs Johnson, Dodds and Co., J. Bell, Wholesale Merchants; Wilkinson and Simpson, Chemists; J. Dickinson, Photographer, of Newcastle-on-Tyne; Messrs Walter Willson, T. W. Rowe, Cash Grocers; J. W. Wood, C. R. Green, J. Calvert, Drapers; M. A. Cooke, Hosier; J. Watson, Saddler; Jos. Bulman, Pianoforte Dealer; Thos. Wilson, Tobacconist, of West Stanley; Leybourne Urwin, Plumber and Gasfitter, Shotley Bridge, West Stanley, and Annfield Plain; Special Show Rooms occupied by Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, General Furnishers, Consett and Stanley; Messrs Curry Bros., Pianoforte Dealers, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Messrs the West Stanley Co-operative Society, Limited.

The whole of the stalls and stands were worthy of close inspection. They indicated a wealth of stock and a great amount of ingenuity in the art of decorating. Messrs Hall and Co., of Annfield Plain, had a very fine and varied display of those goods which grocers on a large scale now deal in. That is to say, their display was not confined to groceries alone, though those formed the chief feature. Mr. Cooke, of Annfield Plain, had also a very neatly-arranged stall, indicating that cheapness does not necessarily interfere with quality. Mr. Walter Willson's representatives met with a misfortune, for after getting a very attractive display of small bags of flour and other articles piled artistically together, the floor of the stall, which had not been properly supported beneath, gave way, and caused a considerable amount of damage. Nothing daunted, however, they set to work again, and soon had a first-class display in a prominent position. Mr. T. W. Rowe confined himself chiefly to exhibiting samples of "Perfection" flour, and packets of tea at various prices. The arrangement of the stall was very effective. The West Stanley Co-operative Society had an elaborate display, two of the class-rooms being necessary to do justice to each of their numerous departments. In one room there was a very effective arrangement of drugs, drysaltery, soaps, confectionery, and jams, all the goods being the production of the Wholesale Society in different parts of the country. In this room there was also a most attractive stand of fruit and greengrocery, Mr. Hunter being in charge of the groceries and drugs, and Mr. Hardman of the greengrocery. In the second room were exhibits from the drapery department under Mr. Bell, the boot department under Mr. Farn, the furnishing department under Mr. Ben Johnson, and the jewellery department under Mr. Snowball. There was much to admire in this room, the various heads of departments having shown great skill in showing their goods to the best advantage. The Annfield Plain Aerated Water Company had an extensive show of various kinds of temperance drinks, including the latest introduction, called "Vino." The various bottles were well set off by a display of syphons of soda water. Messrs Wilkinson and Simpson confined themselves to a display of health salt. Among the drapers Mr. J. W. Wood, of West Stanley, had a couple of stands, and every inch of the space was utilised to the best advantage. He had a strong show of ready-mades, mercery, hats, caps, ties, fancy goods, mantles, and children's costumes. The full space occupied was 15 feet by 5. Mr. C. R. Green, West Stanley, had also an attractively arranged stand, where he had displayed an assortment of corsets, hosiery, linen, and fancy goods. Mr. J. Calvert, of East Stanley, was also well forward with a well arranged stock of drapery goods. Sandwiched between the Co-operative Society's rooms were, perhaps, the two most valuable collections in the exhibition. One was that sent by Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, general furnishers, Consett and West Stanley; and the other an assortment of pianos and American organs by Messrs Curry Bros. of Newcastle, Chester-le-Street, and other places. The space occupied by Messrs Curry was 23 feet by 16, and within those dimensions were placed some very valuable instruments—pianos by Mittag and others, and American organs from Chicago and other builders. Messrs R. Curry and Armstrong were in charge. In the case of Messrs Davison and Sons they had on view two very handsome suites, one for a sitting room and the other for a dining-room. They were excellent samples of the work turned out by this firm. They did not, of course, confine themselves to these, but there was also on view a canary wood press which had been specially made, mail carts, and other specimens of their output. Other stands which attracted attention were those of Mr. M. A. Cooke, "the stocking king," Mr. J. Watson, saddler, Stanley and Tantobie, Mr. Leybourne Urwin, plumber and gasfitter, West Stanley and other places; Mr. J. Bulman, pianoforte dealer, and Mr. J. Brown's display of earthenware. Mr. Dickinson, photographer, Newcastle and Stanley, had also a very fine collection of photographs, which was a source of considerable attraction. Taking the exhibition as a whole it must be said that it was an artistic success. In addition to the stands there were any number of attractions in the shape of concerts, vocal and instrumental, cinematograph exhibitions by Messrs. Dickinson and Learmount, Punch and Judy performances, shooting galleries, and bagatelle board, while Mr. Robson's Stanley Wincycle—a wheel ten [illegible] high—and the gallery of wit and wisdom [illegible] for a lot of appreciative attention. [illegible] entertainments were in perpetual [illegible] during the hours of opening, and [illegible] of the Carnival had every reason to [illegible]fied with both the quantity and [illegible] of the entertainments.

HE OPENING CEREMONY.

[illegible]pening ceremony took place on the [illegible]on of Good Friday in the presence [illegible] large audience. The proceedings, which [illegible] brief, were preceded by a hymn and prayer.

The Rev. J. A. Dixon said it was rather a novel departure for a church of any description to seek financial resources through the medium of trade. But trade had always been a helpmeet to the Christian faith. They had always found that where good men had entered into business they had found it necessary to acknowledge the hand of God in the business, and they had sought to give to God a proportion of what God had given to them. Their meeting that day and their exhibition simply meant that they had around them those who sympathised with them as a Wesleyan Church. They rejoiced that their Wesleyan Church had been instrumental in assisting and blessing the life of that district. They were not the only church. He was quite willing to say that they occupied a second or a third place, but all they asked that day was that they would help them so that they might do their part among the churches, and do it well. There was no force like the religion of Jesus Christ for purifying the social life of their country, and for saving people from habits degrading and cruel, and they should like their church in that district to be worthy of her historic name and the Great Saviour. He did not intend to make a speech, as they were there for practical purposes. He hoped their friends would understand that there was nothing in that exhibition which was not in strict harmony with their christian professions, and their committee who had organised the exhibition had been composed of consecrated Christian men, who had excluded anything which would have thrown a speck on the religion to which they were attached. He had great pleasure in calling upon

Mr Jonathan Green, J.P., who said as one of those responsible for getting that exhibition up they had to give their minds over to getting suitable people to open it. Being a trades' exhibition their minds naturally went to people who had risen from trade. He approached Mr Gray a few weeks ago. Mr Gray had had a great experience in business. He was an old friend of his and had often been very kind to him. He had done him a favour by coming there that day to open the exhibition. He had pleasure in now calling upon him to do so. (Applause.)

Mr Gray, who was received with applause, said while it was a pleasure to see so large an audience he felt very much out of his element in occupying so prominent a position. But it behoved every man to do whatever he could, let it be much or little. Especially was that so when the object was a worthy one like theirs that day. He had always been ready to lend a helping hand to churches or chapels, if not in Stanley at any rate in villages in the neighbourhood. He remembered Stanley being a very small place, and the only place of worship as a building near to where they were then assembled. Since then Stanley had developed into a big place, and it had got a town's attributes in the shape of houses, population, and grand buildings. It was the central, leading, and best business place in North-West Durham. They had efficient schools—in fact, that school was the best he had ever been in in his life. (Applause.) Their tradesmen's places in Front Street were second to none in the two northern counties. They had a Police Court which avoided the necessity of many of the poorer classes having to go to Lanchester. Able men had grown up in their midst, and they had their District Council, who had secured for them good roads, good lighting, and better footpaths. As regarded that exhibition he need not say anything about it. Mr Dixon had extolled it fairly well. It meant money, and he appealed to the audience to continue their assistance and help on behalf of the Wesleyan Church. Seeing that noble exhibition and the large population in and around Stanley, he had no doubt that the result would exceed anticipations. He appealed with confidence to the people of Stanley to carry out that noble and good work. He declared the exhibition open and trusted that that day would not be the only successful one, but that the following days would be even more successful. (Applause.)

Mr Calvert moved, and Mr Moore seconded a vote of thanks to Mr Gray, which was carried by acclamation, and briefly acknowledged.

LOCAL PATENT APPLICATIONS.

6,097. March 21st, 1899. A. B. Lennox, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in drying wet or humid materials.

6,158. March 22nd, 1899. W. F. Falls South Shields. Improved governor for marine engines.

6,174. March 22nd, 1899. T. Burton, West Hartlepool. An improved automatic reversible secure tumbler lock and catch.

6,178. March 22nd, 1899. J. A. Harvey, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in ammunition hoists for ordinance. (Communicated by E. Trochain, Paris.)

6,194. March 22nd, 1898 The Gateshead Stained Glass Company, Ltd., and J. E. Snee, Gateshead. A new or improved combined process for working designs in or upon plate, sheet, or other flat glass.

6,262. March 23rd, 1899. A. Boyd, Stockton-on-Tees. An improvement relating to high speed engines.

6,287. March 23rd, 1899. J. Hewetson and J. R. Fryer, West Hartlepool. Improvement in marine engine governors to prevent racing at sea.

6,333. March 23rd, 1899. W. W. Tilley, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvement in dishes, bowls, and similar receptacles.

6,346. March 24th, 1899. C. W. Clarke and V. S. Walker, Stockton-on-Tees. A combined safety ink colour or the like bottle holder and paper weight.

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BLAYDON.

Alleged Pigeon Stealing.—At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Thursday, James Thorpe and David Barber, were charged with stealing two pigeons, valued at 2/-, the property of John Robert Smith.—The prosecutor said he was a lamp man, and resided at Robinson Street, Blaydon. On Thursday, March 28th, he locked up his pigeon cote, which was situated in the allotment gardens, Blaydon, and contained ten pigeons. When prosecutor subsequently went to the cote, he found that two pigeons had been stolen. Information was then given to the police.—Robert Renwick, a pigeon dealer residing at Winlaton, said the lads came to him and offered the two pigeons for sale, saying that their fathers had sent them to sell the pigeons.—The defendants were detained till the rising of the Court.

WHITE-LE-HEAD.

Death of an Octogenarian.—On Wednesday afternoon Mr. George Gedling, the oldest inhabitant of the district, died at his residence at White-le-Head. Up to a few months ago Mr. Gedling had held the position of foreman blacksmith at Messrs Joicey's Tanfield Moor Colliery for sixty years. He had reached the great age of 87 years, and died on the anniversary of his birthday. Three of his five sons are following the same trade as their father, while two others are joiners, and all are employed at Tanfield Moor. Deceased was a Wesleyan Methodist, and a teacher in the Sunday School. On Sunday his remains were laid to rest in the churchyard at Tanfield, in the presence of a large number of mourners and friends.

APIOL and STEEL PILLS for females. A French remedy for all irregularities and obstructions, superseding bitter apple, pill cochiae, pennyroyal, &c. Price 4/6 post free. Obtainable only from MARTIN Foreign Chemist, SOUTHAMPTON.

TRADES' EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL AT CONSETT.

A FINE DISPLAY.

On Monday, the Liberals of Consett opened their fourth Easter Carnival and Trades' Exhibition in the New Town Hall, Consett. As usual, there was a remarkably fine display, and abundance of evidence that the popularity of the Carnival has in no measure declined, for the hall was filled with the exhibits of the tradespeople of the locality, who had, amongst them, made a very attractive show, the stalls being quite as numerous, and quite as well filled as ever. The exhibits were from the following firms:—Messrs T. F. Foster, R. Turnbull, J. Lowes, Venice Dunn, R. C. Foster, Thos. Milner, W. E. Turner, Chas. A. Marshall, Consett; J. Kershaw and Sons, Leadgate; A. Oates, Newcastle; J. E. Kinleside, Leadgate; R. Hare, Lincoln; and J. H. Dawson, Consett. The platform was laid out to represent a tea garden, the arrangements being well planned, and from the body of the hall it looked exceedingly well. The refreshments were in the hands of Mr. J. H. Courtney, of the Cocoa Rooms, Consett. The arrangements for the carnival were of a satisfactory character, and the secretarial duties were ably discharged by the two energetic secretaries, Messrs J. Wildsmith and A. Broadbent. The Committee are to be congratulated upon the success of the undertaking. The carnivals were instituted primarily for the purpose of aiding the funds of the association, and the first gathering of the sort proved so great a success both financially and otherwise that the promoters were emboldened to continue them, and, so far each of the enterprises has proved both a welcome addition to the somewhat meagre opportunities for amusement which the locality affords, and also a very considerable source of revenue to the funds of the association and cohesion amongst its members. Though not of a pronouncedly political character, additional interest has hitherto been added to the carnivals by the fact that both the president of the association, Mr. C. P. Douglas, of Darlington, and Mr. L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P. for the division, have been present at the opening ceremony, which has on the three previous occasions been performed by Mr. Jones. This order of things was, however, changed on Monday, as Mr. Jones had to plead a prior engagement, and therefore the committee asked Mr. Joseph Phillips, of Newcastle, to perform the ceremony.

One of the most attractive stalls in the exhibition is that belonging to Mr. Anthony Oates, of St. Martin's Court, Newgate Street, Newcastle. Great taste has been shown in the arrangement of the various articles on view, and these cannot fail to arrest the attention of visitors. Red, pink, and green materials have been effectively used, and the whole finished off with handsome lace curtains. Mr. Oates' speciality is his famous "Kyte" tea, which is composed of the finest growths of India and Ceylon, specially selected to suit the water of the district. At an adjoining stall cups of this palatable beverage are dispensed free, and we venture to assert that all who partake of Mr. Oates' hospitality will heartily endorse everything we have said about the "Kyte" tea, which is sold at prices ranging from 1/10 to 3/2. Then the "Kyte" coffee is excellent drinking, being considered the "essence of perfection," whilst the "Kyte" health salt is a morning tonic which will be found an indespensable remedy for disordered liver. There are several other goods of the "Kyte" brand, and all bear the hall-mark of excellence. It is not in mortals to command success, but Mr. Oates most certainly deserves it, and to those in search of really good and pure tea and coffee we can recommend with every confidence the "Kyte" blends, which will be found bad to beat.

Messrs J. Kershaw and Sons, the celebrated mineral manufacturers, of Gateshead and Leadgate, exhibit a handsome cabinet containing samples of their famous beverages. The fact that the firm have been awarded six large gold medals—all of which are on view—speaks for itself. These include a medal from Walsall for Ker's Ale and Lemonade, one from Gateshead for soda water and Ker's Ale, and another from Warrington for mineral waters. Messrs Kershaw an Son, are deservedly noted for the excellence of their products, and the large business which they have gathered round them is not likely to show any signs of diminishing.

Mr. W. E. Turner, of Front Street, Consett, has a stall which is certain to claim the attention and admiration of the numerous army of cyclists. Some beautiful specimens are on exhibition, all perfectly finished. Here will be found the "Elswick," "Referee," "Hobart," "Eldon," "Palmer," "Alberta," Lingford, Gardner, and Co's "Rational Umpire" patent spring frame, and other makes, all of them fitted with the latest and most improved Dunlop tyres. The "Elswick" is fitted with an ingenious brake. Lamps, inflators, outfits, pneumatic brakes, and, in fact, accessories of every description will be found at Mr. Turner's stall, and they are offered at reasonable prices. There is also shown a tasteful display in cycling suits, shirts, and caps, which are worthy of attention.

Mr. Jas. H. Dawson, of the Piano and Organ Warehouse, Gibson Street, Consett, shows some beautiful pianos by R. Erthol, of Berlin, and also the Bell American organ. He has likewise violins, concertinas, guitars, melodeons, xylophones, music, &c., and altogether makes a tasteful display.

Messrs R. Hare and Co., gold wire workers, of Lincoln, exhibit chains, brooches, necklaces, bracelets, rings of all kinds, &c. Every article is made by hand from one piece of gold filled wire, and there are consequently no joints to come unfastened. The articles are certainly very pretty, and can be purchased on reasonable terms.

Mr. R. C. Foster, of Front Street, Consett, makes an effective display with his wools and Irish linen. Mr. Foster is showing a speciality in Irish hand-embroidered goods, which are very handsome. Then there are tablecloths, napkins, d'oyleys, sheets, tray cloths, afternoon tea cloths, cambric handkerchiefs, &c. The wools are noted for their durability and washing qualities. Mr. Foster has been celebrated for the excellence of his wools for many years, and has recently added knitting with his own wools. Articles can be had ready knitted, or on order at a few days' notice. Mr. Foster's stall will be found well worthy of a visit, as the goods are of the finest description.

Mr. Venice Dunn, our local photographer, of Medomsley Road, Consett, has a nice collection of works of art which go to prove that he is a master of his profession. Carte-de-visites, cabinets, and the larger sizes can all be seen here, and they are invariably admirably finished.

Mr. Charles A. Marshall, watchmaker and jeweller, Shakespeare Street, Consett, has utilised the space at his disposal to the best advantage. The stall presents a most attractive and bright appearance. Presentation goods are a prominent feature, including some beautiful gilt and marble clocks, silver trays, &c. Then there is an unique dessert frame, a Queen Anne cream and sugar, knives and forks, all kinds of rings, cruet stands, teapots, electro-plate of the best quality, ladies' work-baskets, &c., the whole making up one of the most handsome exhibitions in the building.

Mr. T. F. Foster, of Church Street, Consett, is showing a splendid collection of gents' linen collars and fronts, shirts, ties, and umbrellas; ladies' silk blouses, ties and scarves, cuffs and collars; frillings, belts, laces, &c. Also, ladies and gents' kid gloves, besides fancy ornaments and other articles, the stall being very prominent, excellent taste having been used in fitting it up.

Mr. John Lowes, general house furnisher, of Medomsley Road, Consett, has a grand display of goods, which are sure to be much admired. Here can be seen pianos by Pfeiffer, of Berlin, violins from the principal makers, melodeons, Sterling's organs, and all the necessary musical accessories. Then there are handsome gilt, marble, and fancy clocks, bronze ornaments, silver tea services, cutlery of all kinds, butter coolers, toast racks, cruet stands, teapots, opera glasses, preserve dishes, cases of knives and forks, a prettily designed dinner gong, &c. Mr. Lowes is noted for the quality of his goods, and visitors to the Carnival should not fail to inspect his display, which is an admirable one in every respect.

Mr. J. E. Kinleside, of Post Office Buildings, Leadgate, has a well-stocked and attractive stall, which is sure to appeal to the lovers of the "soothing weed." Cigars, cigarettes, and tobaccos of the best brands can be procured, as well as pipes, cigar and cigarette holders, smoking cabinets, tobacco pouches, &c. A choice selection of ladies' bags and dressing cases are on view, in addition to ornaments of all kinds, writing desks, fancy articles, leather goods of every description, pocket books, tea trays, and various other articles, the whole making up a notable collection.

Mr. [illegible] Milner, chemist, of Shakespeare and Front Streets, has a very tastefully arranged stall. Prominence is given to Armour and Co.'s "Vigoral," which is a wholesome, invigorating stimulant that repairs waste tissue and builds up the body. Mr. Milner has also a choice display of Rowntree's chocolate, whilst other articles include scents of all kinds, toilet soaps, tooth and hair brushes, cough cure, indigestion mixture, pipes, bay rum, &c.

Mr. R. Turnbull, fruiterer and florist, Consett, has a nice selection of choice flowers, as well as wholesome fruit of various descriptions, and he is not likely to lack patronage.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. C. P. Douglas, Darlington, as president of the Consett Liberal Association, presided, and he was supported by Mr Joseph Phillips, Mr James Palliser, Blackhill; Mr. J. W. Winter, Leadgate; Mr. Wharton, Shotley Bridge; Mr. J. Ellis, Consett; Mr. J. Wildsmith, and Mr. A. Broadbent. There was a very good audience present.

In opening the proceedings the Chairman said they met on that occasion under very happy circumstances. They had had a year of continued prosperity, trade was in a flourishing condition, and, as a result, they saw around them an excellent gathering of stalls, at which, no doubt, as a further index of prosperity, good business would be done. They met also under very happy circumstances as regarded the political situation of the Liberal Party. The party had still its old leader in the House of Lords—Lord Kimberley. (Cheers.) How long he might be required time would show. (Laughter and applause.) But, in addition, they had now a new leader coming to the fray with new blood and with a new spirit into the more important work of the House of Commons. Much as they regretted the loss of Sir William Harcourt, who had rendered yeoman service to the Liberal cause, they were determined to give the new leader every support in his work. (Applause.) The only matter for regret with the Liberals, of course, was that they had not with them there Mr. Atherley-Jones, their member, whom they would, he felt sure, all have been glad to see with them. (Hear, hear.) At the same time he would no doubt be coming round the district later in the year. He also congratulated them upon the prosperous state of things at Consett, and that they were still strong in the Liberal cause. On previous occasions when he had been present at the carnival he had referred to the necessity for a Technical Institute; but he was now glad, through the assistance received from the Consett Iron Company, the County Council, and liberal subscriptions, the building was now in the course of erection. (Applause.) Mr. Douglas referred to the loss the town had sustained by the death of the Rev. F. Steggall, late vicar of Consett, and said he was pleased to know that the new vicar and curate were likely for accomplishing some useful work in the town. The speaker also alluded to the absence of many old faces, and particularly mentioned the name of Mr. J. W. Davison, whom he said he saw was represented by one of his sons, Mr. John Davison. It now gave him great pleasure to call upon the gentleman who had to open the exhibition. (Applause.)

Mr. Phillips, who was heartily received, remarked that he felt it a very great honour indeed to have been invited to open their trades exhibition, and especially to open it under the presidency of a gentleman so well and so deservedly known to the Consett division as their chairman of that day. An exhibition of that character was, he took it, an essentially nineteenth century product. The general and rapid development which had taken place during the century had brought trades and manufactures all over the world to a much higher pitch of perfection. In the last century they saw the birth, to a large extent, of British trade. The population of the country had doubled, while the wealth in the land had increased in an even greater ratio. Large as Manchester was the trade had increased during the latter half of the century, notwithstanding many adverse circumstances, from £20,000 to £40,000 per annum. That trade, in fact, was absolutely revolutionised, as they witnessed by the introduction of the "spinning jenny," and of other machies by Arkwright and other inventors, and many other inventions which ended in Lancashire being at the beginning of the present century quite a hive of industry. Towards the end of the last century Glasgow began to grow, and had now become one of the first maritime ports in the world. (Applause.) Then again we witnessed during the last century another great growth in reference to pottery. Wedgewood at the middle of the century established his famous potteries, which gave such an impetus to that particular branch of trade that Englishmen were able to resist successfully the genius of Holland and France. But difficulties in this world only existed to be surmounted, and British industry and genius was equal to the occasion, and had surmounted them. (Applause.) The result had been the great development of engineering skill. They saw the birth of the steam engine, and the increased means and facilities of locomotion. For the first time in their history they saw coal at the end of the last century taking its place as one of their chief exports. He had given them the condition of their country and their commerce in the 18th century, so that they had witnessed in the 19th century an absolute revolution in nearly every branch of trade and commerce. British trade had increased both in volume and in value tremendously, and with that increase of wealth there had been a large increase in the comforts and the happiness of the masses. But this century had witnessed one particular thing that the last century did not witness. They saw now that those who were once their customers were now their competitors. This being so they had to face the revolution so far as their commerce was concerned in that particular direction. However, they must face the future with hope and with confidence, and must look to the future optimistically. They all knew that many people declared they were going to the dogs, but he thought they should be a little bit more cheerfully disposed than that, and better informed. (Hear, hear.) What they should want in the future would be more education, and more especially technical education. He trusted those present who were ratepayers, whatever rate they grudged—and they all grudged their rates—they would not grudge the School Board rate. (Applause.) He maintained the School Board rate was money well invested, and money well spent. Whether they begrudged it or not, they had to face the fact that to maintain their position as the workshop of the world, and secure for commerce an absolute supremacy, they must educate, educate, and educate. (Applause.) In the spread of progress or reform, in whatever direction they looked—whether in commerce, social matters, political affairs, or even religious matters—he thought Liberalism would prove that it had had some concern. If they looked back a few years they saw what Liberalism had accomplished. There was the abolition of slavery. It had succoured the oppressed of every nationality, and had championed the cause of the down-trodden the wide world over. (Applause.) What part had Liberalism played in the many important reforms? The most important, perhaps, so far as the working classes were concerned, were those fixed reforms which gave to the people cheap bread and a cheap press. (Applause.) Not only that, but the century had witnessed a display of wisdom on the part of Parliament which had called to the counsels of the nation millions of our fellow countrymen, justified and capable to exercise the franchise. (Applause.) He did not think there was any need to be despondent. If they looked round on every side they saw the social position of the workers was better, so far as their homes and living were concerned, no doubt wages were better, and the home-life of the people was better than ever before. (Applause.) In spite of this there was still need to look to the future. There was still need to go forward. There was no standing still in human life. If they did not go forward they must recede. They could not stand still. But what age had witnessed the progress science had made during the last century? Science had accomplished miracles, and in the last century what science can do now would be considered as miraculous as anything that appeared in history. How they annihilated space by the telegraph, how they bottled up the echoes of the human voice by the phonograph, how they could trace the deadly bullet by the means of the ex-rays, would have been looked upon as absolutely miraculous in Biblical times. And they had an equally miraculous record in regard to industry. Human labour to a great extent had been rendered unnecessary by the introduction of machinery, which had been followed by greater industry, greater energy, and a keener industrial life. To maintain this they had to remember that they stood to-day between two periods. The coming century was stretching before them. They stood between the accumulated knowledge of centuries, and of nations, and they ought to hand on to future generations that knowledge and wisdom that had been handed to them, not only complete in itself, but amplified and extended. (Applause.) When they looked over the history of the present century, they must admit he thought that its spirit was, generally speaking, one of progress and reforms. And he thought, moreover, that no man of progressive ideals need be discouraged at what had come to pass in that direction. But we had still need to go forward, and we must take care to foster every agency that made for progress. There was, however, one tendency that was hardly progressive, the tendency to extreme athleticism. He did not want to say one word derogatory to the spirit of athleticism, but he had read the sporting papers and in the sporting columns of the press that certain horses had lost races because they had been "overtrained," or that a certain man had failed in some feat he had attempted because he was "overtrained," and he thought the general tendency at present was to "overtrain." (Hear, hear.) Mental and physical culture should go hand in hand, and, if we overtrained one, we were bound to do it at the expense of the other. There was undoubtedly such a tendency at present and, in so far as it was likely to retard progress, it should be carefully guarded against. We had already come to a wholesome recognition of the fact that mind was more important than muscle, and the future prosperity of the country materially and intellectually depended largely upon that fact. In all these evidences of progress he wanted to claim for the Liberal party nothing that was not due to it, but he did want to claim, and he always would claim, that in these steps forward,—in the extension of franchise; in the giving of the people cheap bread; in the freeing of the press almost all the manifold reforms of the nineteenth century, had been the results of the work of the Liberal party, and they would be false to themselves and to the country's history if they did not claim for the party the credit of these things. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in declaring the exhibition open, and he hoped the funds of the association would benefit considerably thereby. (Applause.)

Mr. Wildsmith moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and Mr. Phillips for their services.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Broadbent, and put by Mr. Winter, and heartily carried.

A programme of music was proceeded with, the Allen Family from London making their first appearance before a Consett audience, and created a favourable impression. In the evening the exhibition was crowded to excess. The numerous side shows, entertainments, and other attractions and other attractions were well patronised. The programme of music was provided by the Allen Family, Miss Lois Bolko, Madame Stephanie Olive, and Mr. W. P. Cockrill.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHURCH.

LECTURE ON W. E. GLADSTONE.

On Good Friday, the annual tea and meeting was held in the church. The Rev. Thomas G. Reid, of Newcastle, preached in the church in the afternoon, after which a tea was held, to which a large company sat down. In the evening a lecture was given by Mr Reid on "W. E. Gladstone." Mr W. H. Palliser, Blackhill, presided. The lecturer, in the course of his remarks, referred first of all to the great statesman's life and education at Oxford. He then went to Naples, and instead of spending his time in playing baccarat as some might have done, he went "slumming," and in the course of his visits came across intellectual, noble-hearted men and women, incarcerated in goal. He was also convinced that they had no business to be there, and as a witness of their sufferings and wrongs he wrote a pamphlet, and as he came to speak with that matchless voice of his he very soon had the governments of Europe at his ears, and his noble voice ran out in defence of the helpless and suffering, and he succeeded in shaking Europe. In the Bulgarian atrocities Gladstone lifted up his noble voice. It had been remarked that Gladstone changed his opinions; but he (the speaker) admired a man who changed his views conscientiously; men must grow, they must be developed sometimes, and their Conservative friends forgot that. Beaconsfield changed; and he admitted also that Gladstone changed. When they heard him say that he was educated to believe that the largest amount of freedom was injurious; when he was educated in that school of thought and came by reason and reflection to the opposite conclusion, that freedom for the masses was the best, that they must trust the people—that they must appeal to the hearts of the people, and when the hearts of the people responded to the best that was in them, when such reasons for change were given, they could understand them. He was ever speaking and defending the down-trodden and oppressed. He was not perfect—he had made mistakes. They hadn't seen the man yet who hadn't, and never would. That was a serious blunder with reference to General Gordon, but he couldn't believe for one moment that he deliberately sacrificed that life. (Applause)) If any one told him that he would tell them that he did not believe them. He (Gladstone) was never a grand hand at foreign politics, he never was a man to go in for war. He did not believe that it was deliberate, for he had a tender heart, and this was what really gave eloquence to his tongue. The lecturer touched upon the question of grocers' licenses. Did they mean to tell him that Gladstone deliberately intended that the people should drink more? Never. The "Newcastle Chronicle" made out that the more people drank the more sober they were. (Laughter). They could read it for themselves. He read it every morning, and he knew what he was talking about. Gladstone legislated for the masses—he procured them evening newspapers. The public owed him a great and everlasting debt of gratitude for taking away costly fees in advertising and the production of the paper, for the removal of the newspaper tax cheap paper and cheap books, and especially newspapers, they owed specially to Mr. Gladstone. (Applause.) There was also the extension of the franchise. These might seem little things, but there was a great deal to be said for the man who thought of these matters in legislating for the masses. He recollected hearing Mr Gladstone speak on two occasions, and on the first occasion he used these words just before he finished:—"If the House of Lords will not go with the people the people must go with the House of Lords." The words had stuck to him to that day. As a statesman he believed he was conscientious. The grim Thomas Carlyle had once said of him, "Mon, what a conscience that man Gladstone's got," and although it was said partly in sarcasm, Carlyle was putting his finger right on the spot. The man had a conscience and even when wrong he was conscientious. He would also like them to look at Gladstone as a scholar. His technical knowledge of almost every subject was detailed by the lecturer in the relation of several cases and anecdotes instancing his knowledge of "forrestry" and "pottery." In reference to the former Mr Gladstone had before a committee of experts and practical men, who had made it their special study, exhibited such a thorough knowledge that they had to confess that he knew more than them about it, and in the case of the lecture on "pottery" Gladstone had said such wonderful things on the subject that the man's lecture had really been swallowed up by the splendid criticism, and the knowledge of the art shewn by Mr Gladstone. Dr. Parker (himself so great a preacher as all who had heard him would acknowledge) had testified to the great knowledge exhibited by Mr Gladstone on the subject of "preaching." The lecturer also referred to Mr Gladstone's great love for Homer and the classics, also theology, and especially in this connection for Butler, one of the most massive minds of the last century, and Mr Gladstone was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, authority in Butler of to-day. One of his recreations in his old age was to take down one of the editions of Butler. Amongst the publications by which Mr. Gladstone had became famous were, "The Vatican's decrees," and "Vaticanism." As a linguist he was also famous, being able to speak Italian and Greek, and could converse fluently in French and German, and being a master of the English tongue, which was another trait that enabled them to see what a marvellous mind the man must have possessed. (Applause.) Young men should be like Gladstone, and give attention to reading, and use their leisure time well by reading books—making analysis—and getting at the main arteries of a book. It was a commercial success to a book nowadays to have a single sentence on a post-card said in praise of it by Mr Gladstone, because of the supremacy at which his estimate was recognised. The lecturer also treated upon his subject from the standpoint "Gladstone as a saint." He knew this was a strong word to use, but if they went to the New Testament they would get his dea or conception of a saint—not a Romanist kind of saint. Christians looked upon Wm. Ewart Gladstone as a brother. They were told that in his last days the text, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee" was placed at the foot of his bed. The death of no great man ever touched the world so much as the death of this great man. They knew that the world was practically in tears, and they knew how that he, having fought a good fight, kept the faith, and finished his course, could rest with the conscientiousness of a well-spent life behind him. He trusted that the review he had endeavoured to give them of the life of this great man would stimulate them to endeavour to live nearer to God, and that the young men and women would seek to lay out their powers to the best possible interest and advantage for God and their fellow-men. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks to the lecturer for his lecture, and also sermon in the afternoon, was moved by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr Lammonby, and carried with acclamation. A similar vote to the Chairman, and to the ladies for providing the tea, was moved by Coun. Lane, and carried unanimously.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE PRESS.

"The Times'" successful issue of its reprint of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' has induced J. W. Benson, Ltd., the Queen's Jewellers, of Old Bond Street, to adopt the novel plan initiated by our leading newspaper. They are offering the public, for this year only, the privilege of making 20 monthly payments on the same terms as the "Times'" subscriptions, for any goods of the value of £20 or more, now selected from their immense stock. A preliminary payment of five per cent. (a shilling in the pound) gives the purchaser the use of the articles whilst paying for them. As diamonds have risen considerably in price recently and a further rise is expected by the trade, Messrs Benson wish to place their customers in the best possible position to avail themselves by early purchases and through this new system of the advantage of the present low prices. No increased prices are being charged by the firm, as they purchased very largely last year, and secured a sufficient supply for many months. They also bought recently the large stock of jewels of a noted West End Manufacturing Jeweller, which is also on Sale, and affords an opportunity for a most desirable investment. Catalogues and particulars can be obtained at 25, Old Bond-street, W.

HOW TO PROVE A WILL.—Without expense—price 6. Will Forms 3d each; Improved Will Forms, with full directions how to fill it up, with printed example, 6d each, at the "Guardian" Office, Front Street, Consett.

SAD CASE OF SUICIDE AT LEADGATE.

On Saturday night, Henry Ridley, aged 65 years, living at Railway Cottages, Leadgate, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor. The deceased, who was a platelayer, was left alone in the house during the afternoon, while his daughter, Margaret, proceeded to Newcastle. On her return by the last train from Newcastle, shortly after nine o'clock, she was horrified to find her father lying in a bed-room in a pool of blood, with a terrible gash in his throat. Life had apparently been extinct some hours. Ridley, who was an old employee of the North-Eastern Railway Company, and was well-known in the district, had been in a depressed state since the death of his wife some years ago. He leaves two sons and a daughter.

INQUEST AND VERDICT.

An inquest on the body was held on Monday morning at the Reading Room, Leadgate, by Mr Coroner Graham. Mr Ralph Calvert was appointed foreman of the jury. The first witness called was

Thos. Ridley, grocer, of Medomsley, who said that Henry Ridley was his father, and his age was 65. He was a platelayer, and lived at Railway Cottages, Leadgate. Witness saw deceased lying with his throat cut about half-past ten, on the floor of his bedroom. His father was quite dead when he saw him. He had been suffering from nervous depression for a number of years. He had not, to witness's knowledge, threatened to make away with himself before.

Margaret Ridley, daughter of deceased, said she kept house for her father. She last saw him alive about half-past eleven on Saturday morning, when she left the railway station for Newcastle. Deceased saw her off. He was left alone for the rest of the day. During the week he seemed more depressed than usual, but was going to finish his day's work, and would leave work about 4.30. She returned at a quarter past nine, and saw her father dead. She knew he had a razor, and always shaved himself.

Roper Rowe a clerk, living at Leadgate, said he knew deceased well. He last saw him alive about 3.25 p.m. as he was finishing duty. He left rather earlier than usual, his time being four o'clock. He gave no reason for this. Witness thought he looked very depressed.

Sergt. Newton, stationed at Leadgate, said he was called in about 9.30, and saw deceased lying on the upstairs floor. He was quite dead, and had a cut across the front of his throat. The wound was nearly from ear to ear, cutting through the wind pipe. An open razor was lying on the floor in front of him amongst the blood. There was blood spattered over both hands. There was no doubt but what the wound was self-inflicted. Dr. Macintyre saw him, and was satisfied about this.

The Coroner, in summing up, said he thought they would all be satisfied that the poor man committed suicide. They were told for years past he had been in a depressed condition, and on this day seemed to be a little worse. He thought their opinion would be that he committed suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity.

The Jury returned a verdict to this effect.

MINERS AND THE MEDICAL FEES.

It is stated that the miners' lodges in connection with the South Moor Collieries have engaged a resident medical man. The first canvass of the men in aid of their medical fund realised nearly £18, the contributions being at the old rate of 6d per fortnight. The Craghead miners, it is stated, also contemplate engaging their own doctor. As the result of two conferences between the local practitioners and the miners' representatives, at West Stanley, it has been arranged to let the demand for 9d per fortnight remain in abeyance until the doctors have taken a ballot of their own patients concerning the increased subscription.

BURNS' ANNIVERSARY.

"Since birthday celebrations we first began to hold
Of men whose names with lustre on history's pages shine,
What longer celebrations have our records to unfold,
Than that of Robert Burns in eighteen ninety-nine?
Though it first began in January still merrily on it goes,
And when we'll see the ending, time alone will tell.
Yet the passing year, we hope, will bring it to a close
And commemorations after find us all alive and well.
And also may our brither Scots, with loyal hearts and true,
Pay then to Scotland's sweetest Bard the homage that is due.
But agent "M" I see again, now looking sore distrest.
His pockets full of loyalty though, and coffers with "good intent;"
And while the name of Burns, we see, he uses as a crest,
Still on skitting and finances his heart is chiefly bent.
Now much he speaks of fitba', of railways and so on,
In influenza musings and lines much out of joint;
But reason, sense, or argument, he still advances none.
But in lowest regions searches and dare not face the point.
Not the concert in itself, sir, nor all its coffered gain,
Did in any sense whatever our discontent create.
It was that the Caledonians most strangely did refrain
From saying a word of him whom they met to celebrate.
For had a Scottish concert been the only thing proclaimed,
Then no reason there'd have been for any to complain.
But having come to honour one that they never named,
The Consett sons of Scotia made an error we maintain.
For the opening of new-laid plots and stirring up the old,
What a favourable opportunity yon splendid meeting offered.
And there'd've followed, by its using, a higher gain than gold,
And not a bawbee less would really have been coffered.
That loyalty much was lacking upon last Burns' night.
Is a fact that winna ding, though "M's" reason it should burst.
Then let our friends think wisely and see that we are right.
And on next Burns' natal day let Robbie's name be first.
Why, yon Town Hall business, of which our friends are vaunty,
Was lacking more of Burns than the witch's sark was scanty.
But Nanny she knew better, when she left the Brig of Ayr
Than to think the stump she carried was really Tammy's mare."

W.B.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

BY "ROSICRUCIAN."

AN IMPORTANT ORDER.

In due course it will be found that the order made at Quarter Sessions for the diversion of the roadway from Co-operative Street to Burnopfield Farm will have led to a great and much needed improvement. It has often been a surprise to me that there has been so much freedom from accident at the level crossing, where there is such a quantity of mineral and pedestrian traffic. In support of the order it was stated that the Louisa Colliery probably sent more coal away than any other colliery in the county, and it was felt desirable in the interest of the inhabitants, and of the children who frequented the vicinity so much, to divert the road, and make a sub-way. There was no opposition, as the owners of the land had given their consent, and the order was made. When the sub-way and the new macadamised road are completed one of the best and most needed improvements of recent times will have been effected.

FLATTERY OR PROPHECY—WHICH?

Mr. Gray was either in a flattering or a prophetic mood when he opened the Trades' Exhibition on Good Friday. He contrasted the Stanley of the early days in which he knew it, with the Stanley of to-day, and described it as now being the central, leading, and best business part of North-West Durham. He went further, and said the tradesmen's buildings in Front Street were second to none in the two northern counties, and he had a high compliment to pay respecting the schools and the footpaths. Some of his encomiums may have been exaggerated, and influenced by a desire to flatter his hearers, but there are not wanting signs of much of what he said coming true in the near future. Certainly Stanley could not have held such a fine exhibition a few years ago as the one Mr. Gray was called upon to inaugurate on Good Friday.

WHICKHAM.

School Board.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, George Armstrong, Martha Dinning, Wm. Dixon, John Fenwick, Elizabeth Watson, Wm. Watson, and John Jackson, were summoned at the instance of the Whickham School Board for not sending their children regularly to school.—The whole of the defendants were fined with the exception of Jackson, in which case an order for regular attendance was made out.

EGGS! EGGS!

MILLIONS OF FRESH EGGS, AT THE ESTABLISHMENTS OF

William Aynsley, Ltd.

24, 20 16, 12, FOR 1/- 24, 20, 16, 12, FOR

Duck Eggs ☞

11 for 1s.

CORRESPONDENCE.

☞ WE DO NOT hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—(Ed. "C.G.")

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

LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than TUESDAY morning.

VACCINATION AND SMALL-POX

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "GUARDIAN."

Sir,—In her public lecture on the above subject Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., makes an admission of great importance. In her eulogy of Jenner and his so-called discovery, this Lady says 'Jenner undoubtedly made a mistake in supposing that vaccination afforded protection for the whole of life, and he would have been more cautious if he had admitted boldly that he did not know how long the immunity would last.' It is somewhat remarkable that, after a century's experience, the medical profession is still unable to say how long the immunity afforded by vaccination lasts. But it certainly is not very long. Dr. Gayton, one of the principal Government witnesses, when before the Royal Commission, said at Questions 1,758-59:—"I think primary vaccination is a very fleeting protection indeed. As to the time that primary vaccination lasts, I do not know, but I think it is a very short time. My table shows that it is not absolutely protective up to any age whatever." In the recent epidemic at Middlesbrough, it was clearly proved that neither primary vaccination nor re-vaccination afforded protection for ten weeks, for there were numerous instances of subjects developing small-pox at all periods, from one day up to sixty days, after primary vaccination and re-vaccination. Seeing then that it has so falsified the promise of life-long protection, by which it received State patronage and subsidy, and on which the cruel compulsory law was based, does it not logically follow that vaccination should at once be disestablished and disendowed, and every remnant of the compulsory law be totally and unconditionally repealed?

Yours truly,

J. WEST.

Bradford-on-Avon, March 13th, 1899.

"A BIRD IN THE HAT," ETC.

Sir,—You are no friend of me, are often very rude to my followers, and I hold you somewhat in contempt as belonging to the sex influenced by that puny maudlin creature "Pity," whom I scorn. Still, when you look at my signature and recognise its importance, you may give me space for this letter. You will already have heard that I have decreed that owls are to be worn, and I find that Joseph Collinson (one of the "faddists") has the impertinence to object in the Press. In fact he and several other weak sentimentalists have long been worrying about the destruction of seals, song-birds, sea-gulls, etc., and talking about their beauty, their music, their utility to the mariner and the agriculturalist, and so forth. What nonsense! Would then these humanitarian "faddists" have my fair votaries (all of whom are of the "gentler" sex) deprived of their adornments for such paltry reasons as those? Let me tell you, sir, I know my worshippers too well to fear that anything you, or Joseph Collinson, or any such sentimentalists may urge about cruelty, etc., would turn them away from me, so you may, one and all, spare further pains in trying. Furthermore, I am thinking about decreeing that, on great occasions, such as the dedication of that most humane school of research, the Jenner Institute (or a church) wounded birds shall be worn; the occasional feeble flutter of their pretty bright wings would add an additional charm to the gentle face of the wearer. The bird would have to be carefully removed afterwards, for fear of spoiling the hat, but need give no further trouble, as it could be flung dead or alive into the dust bin. This fashion could only be indulged in by the "better" classes, as it would be somewhat costly. But my adorers are ready, as far as their means permit. I also have under consideration the wearing of babies scalps by my fair devotees (not those of their own babies, of course); but, as yet, there are some difficulties in the way. As soon, however, as they are removed, I shall be able to issue the decree, and the supply will be there. My adorers may hesitate a little before adopting this decoration, because, to be really effective, the scalp must be taken from the living child, as the aigrette is torn from the breast of the male bird protecting the mother and her young. But what of that? Besides, Sir, as you doubtless know by now, my devotees being all of the "gentler" sex, would not like to be troubled with any such paltry details; and, should you, or J. Collinson, or any of your fellow-faddists of the Humanitarian League and other so-called humane societies, show such bad taste as to try and force the knowledge on them, they would, in their shrinking tenderness, give the usual reply mith half-closed eyes, "We know nothing about that," which means (and rightly too), "What do we care!" And why should they care, pretty dears? I am,

THE (GREAT) GODDESS OF FASHION.

CULMINATING HUMANITIES OF VIVISECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—The Yorkshire College Council having decided to add licensed vivisection laboratories to the Leeds Medical School, Mr J. Rawlinson Ford, Chairman of the Council and a member of it since 1874, has resigned the position. Those people who have difficulty in understanding the moral considerations which led so experienced a gentleman to take such a course, and the kind of medical hierarchy in which the physiological safety of the public will be vested if the medical faculty is permitted to revel in vivisection, would derive enlightenment by reading a very brief brochure entitled "Humane work of German, Austrian, Swedish, and American bacteriologists," published by the British Union for the abolition of vivisection, and obtainable gratuitously from the secretary of the Society, 20, Triangle, Bristol. The following are a few typical extracts. Dr. Jansen of the Charity Hospital, Stockholm, when experimenting with black small-pox pus, found calves too expensive, so selected fourteen children from the Foundlings' Hospital, and inoculated them day by day. Into a young man of eighteen, suffering from blood-poisoning, in Halle, says the Deutsches Volksblatt, was planted the entire corruptive matter from a full sized furuncle (an inflammatory boil with a centre core), but twenty-four hours later the patient died. "I learned nothing from this," says Dr. Schimmelbusch. Experiments were made on the insane patients in the Public Insane Asylum Voralberg, Austria, with various poisons, including hyoscyamine sulphate, the effects of which are painful swelling lasting a week or longer, at the spot of injection, difficulty of breathing, inability to swallow, torturing dryness of the mouth and throat, unquenchable thirst, sleep reduced to one on one and a half hours terrible pains during the night, loss of appetite, loss of flesh. "While we generally did not experience much difficulty when inoculating patients," says the report, "They fought like wild men when an injection of hyoscyamine sulphate was threatened. Many also asked the doctors on their bended knees to rather let them die than inject them with this awful medicine." Then follow some of the atrocious experiments recently performed in Vienna hospitals, and published in the Deutsches Volksblatt in January of this year. It is clear that vivisecting doctors though affecting to be actuated by zeal for discovering panaceas for mankind, think no more of human life than of that of an insect. Is the knowledge derived by such means, from above? Or is it earthly, sensual, devilish? But there is no God, and the vivisecting bacteriologists are his prophets.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

MAURICE L. JOHNSON.

1, Alton Villas, Warwick Road.,
Cotham, Bristol.

WONDERS OF ANTITOXIN OR SERUM MEDICATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—A report has just been issued by the clerk of the Goldsmiths' Company, of the advance made in the laboratories of the Conjoint Board of the Royal College of Physicians of London and Surgeons of England under the grant of £1,000 made by the Company in 1894, with the following summary of results:—1. Improvements have been made in the method of preparing diphtheria antitoxin which is now produced more rapidly and of much greater strength than was formerly possible. A larger number of antitoxin units can be given in the same quantity of serum and thus there is far less immediate discomfit to the patient and its use is less often followed by rash and pains in the joints. It is much more convenient for transport and injection, and, lastly, larger doses of antitoxin may be given because it is contained in a less quantity of serum. 2. The antitoxin value of serum is now easily ascertained, and a permanent standard has been reached and kept preserved. 3. Some knowledge of the structure of toxins and antitoxins has been acquired and inquiries into the action of the several constituent parts of the substance is still being carried on. 4. Large quantities of strong antitoxin (about 1,300 doses) have been distributed to be used in the cases of poor people and hospital patients. In striking contrast with these wonders, we have the following by the late Dr. C. E. Fitz-Gerald. "What could be more absurd than to assert, as is constantly done, that a case which presents all the well-known symptoms of diphtheria is yet not that disease unless the klebs-koffler bacillus (the microbe of diphtheria), can be microscopically detected! Or, to assert that a case of sore throat or tonsillitis is certainly diphtheria and is to be so notified, if the said bacilli should be found in the secretions, quite ignoring the well-known fact that the klebs koffler bacilli can often be detected in perfectly healthy mouths and faces." Verily, the lay intelligence staggers before the stupendous paradoxes of bacteriological medication. What word can we find the qualities of the diphtheria microbe to express? According to the oracles of serum medication, it is at once the distinguishing proof of diphtheria's most malignant form, and perfect healthiness! I am, Sir, yours truly,

MAURICE L. JOHNSON.

1, Alton Villas, Warwick Road, Cotham, Bristol

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Primitive Methodist Connexion.—The Yong People's Society of Christian Endeavor in connection with the Stanley circuit held their usual quarterly united rally, in the Annfield Plain Primitive Methodist Church, on Monday, March 27th. There was a large gathering, six C.E. Societies being present. The meeting was ably presided over by Mr Richard Stephenson, Annfield Plain. A pleasing address on "The purpose of life" was given by Mr. Andrew Pearson, Stanley. A solo was rendered by Mr. James Sutcliffe, South Moor, as was also a recitation by Miss Bestford, Oxhill.

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

VENO A REVELATION.

THIS REMARKABLE MAN IS THE LATEST REVELATION TO THE MEDICAL WORLD.

NO MAN WORKS HARDER FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SICK, AND AS A HEALER HE HAS NEVER BEEN EXCELLED.

TESTIMONIALS ARE POURING IN DAILY, PAYING THE HIGHEST TRIBUTE TO HIS MEDICINES. THEIR VALUE CANNOT BE ESTIMATED WHEN COMPARED WITH THE STRONG, POISONOUS, AND UNCERTAIN DRUGS USUALLY DEALT OUT TO THE SICK.

The extraordinary cures performed by VENO far EXCEED ANYTHING EVER ATTEMPTED in the healing art. His medicines are prepared according to the principle of "Specific Medication," which is so extensively taught in all the Electic Medical Colleges in America.

EDWARD PUGH, 156, STEPHENSON STREET, NORTH SHIELDS, reports as follows:—"I was six weeks in an infirmary, and was given up by eight doctors, who said I had Chronic Bronchitis and Asthma, and that I could not be cured. I could not lie straight down in bed; I had to use a bed-rest. I coughed incessantly; was very weak and had attacks of suffocation at night, that is the reason I could not lie straight down in bed. I have been off work for two years. Since commencing Veno's Lightning Cough Cure and Seaweed Tonic I don't need the bed-rest. I lie straight down in bed, and I have not had the bad attacks at night. I am a deal stronger, and can walk about, and feel as though I shall soon be able to work."

The above is a sample of scores of testimonials received from this neighbourhood from persons suffering from various diseases, and which will be published from time to time in these columns.

VENO SEAWEED TONIC, 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per bottle, is the safest and best cure for ailments arising from a diseased condition of the Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, and Blood, such as Indigestion, Wind, Biliousness, Sick Dull Headaches, Costiveness, and Weakness. It is the best medicine for weak females. It is a God-send to suffering people.

VENO'S LIGHTING COUGH CURE, price 1s 1½d will stop an ordinary Cough in one night, and cure Bronchitis, Shortness of Breath, Catarrh, and Influenza quickly. There is nothing so good or so beneficial in its action. It has saved many lives.

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all be able to issue the decree, pply will be there. My adorers e a little before adopting this because, to be really effective, must be taken from the living e aigrette is torn from the breast bird protecting the mother and But what of that? Besides, Sir, tless know by now, my devotees f the "gentler" sex, would not roubled with any such paltry de- should you, or J. Collinson, or ir fellow-faddists of the Human- gue and other so-called humane how such bad taste as to try he knowledge on them, they would, rinking tenderness, give the usual half-closed eyes, "We know noth- that," which means (and rightly at do we care!" And why should pretty dears? I am, EAT) GODDESS OF FASHION.

TING HUMANITIES OF VIVI- SECTION.

ITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Yorkshire College Council hav- ded to add licensed vivisection s to the Leeds Medical School, wlinson Ford, Chairman of the d a member of it since 1874, has he position. Those people who ulty in understanding the moral ons which led so experienced a to take such a course, and the medical hierarchy in which the al safety of the public will be the medical faculty is permitted in vivisection, would derive en- nt by reading a very brief brochure Humane work of German, Aust- lish, and American bacteriologists," by the British Union for the n of vivisection, and obtainable ously from the secretary of the 0, Triangle, Bristol. The follow- few typical extracts. Dr. Jansen harity Hospital, Stockholm, when ting with black small-pox pus, es too expensive, so selected four- ren from the Foundlings' Hospital, lated them day by day. Into a an of eighteen, suffering from oning, in Halle, says the Beutsches was planted the entire corrup- r from a full sized furuncle (an ery boil with a centre core), but r hours later the patient died. "I othing from this," says Dr. Schim- Experiments were made on the tients in the Public Insane Asylum Austria, with various poisons, hyoscyamine sulphate, the effects are painful swelling lasting a longer, at the spot of injection, of breathing, inability to swallow, dryness of the mouth and throat, ble thirst, sleep reduced to one d a half hours terrible pains dur- ght, loss of appetite, loss of flesh. we generally did not experience iculty when inoculating patients," report. "They fought like wild an injection of hyoscyamine sul- threatened. Many also asked the their bended knees to rather let than inject them with this awful Then follow some of the atroci- eriments recently performed in hospitals, and published in the Volksblatt in January of this is clear that vivisecting doctors fecting to be actuated by zeal for g panaceas for mankind, think of human life than of that of an s the knowledge derived by such om above? Or is it earthly, sensual, But there is no God, and the g bacteriologists are his prophets. Sir, yours truly,

MAURICE L. JOHNSON.

n Villas, Warwick Road.,
Cotham, Bristol.

RS OF ANTITOXIN OR SERUM MEDICATION.

DITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

report has just been issued by the the Goldsmiths' Company, of the made in the laboratories of the Board of the Royal College of s of London and Surgeons of Eng- er the grant of £1,000 made by the in 1894, with the following sum- results:—1. Improvements have been the method of preparing diphtheria which is now produced more rapid- f much greater strength than was possible. A larger number of units can be given in the same of serum and thus there is far diate discomfit to the patient and less often followed by rash and the joints. It is much more con- or transport and injection, and, ger doses of antitoxin may be given is contained in a less quantity of The antitoxin value of serum is y ascertained, and a permanent has been reached and kept pre- Some knowledge of the structure and antitoxins has been acquired ries into the action of the several parts of the substance is still ried on. 4. Large quantities of titoxin (about 1,300 doses) have ibuted to be used in the cases of e and hospital patients. In strik- t with these wonders, we have the by the late Dr. C. E. Fitz-Gerald. uld be more absurd than to assert, stantly done, that a case which all the well-known symptoms of is yet not that disease unless koffler bacillus (the microbe of), can be microscopically detected! ert that a case of sore throat or is certainly diphtheria and is to fied, if the said bacilli should be the secretions, quite ignoring the fact that the klebs koffler bac- en be detected in perfectly healthy d faces." Verily, the lay intelli- gers before the stupendous para- bacteriological medication. What we find the qualities of the diph- crobe to express? According to of serum medication, it is at distinguishing proof of diphtheria's gnant form, and perfect healthi- m, Sir, yours truly,

MAURICE L. JOHNSON.

Villas, Warwick Road, Gotham.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Methodist Connexion.—The ple's Society of Christian Endea- nnection with the Stanley circuit usual quarterly united rally, in ld Plain Primitive Methodist Monday, March 27th. There was thering, six C.E. Societies being he meeting was ably presided over chard Stephenson, Annfield Plain. address on "The purpose of life." by Mr. Andrew Pearson, Stanley. rendered by Mr. James Sutcliffe. or, as was also a recitation by ford, Oxhill.

on Corns."—Ask Chemists, Per- r grocers for "Wells' Rough on uick, complete permanent cure for ft corns, warts, bunions. 6d and

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Instant relief for skin-tortured babies, and rest for tired parents, in a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, and a single anointing with CUTICURA, purest of emollient skin cures, in the most distressing forms of itching, burning, bleeding, and scaly skin and scalp humours, when all else fails.

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SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

The weather having been extremely favourable, the Spa Grounds at Shotley Bridge have been largely patronised during the holiday season. The Consett Iron Company's Workmen's Brass Band, conducted by Mr Michael Hotslay, performed selections of music each day. The new lessees (Messrs Simon Rowe and Sons, of Consett) had organised 120 yards foot-race handicap on Monday, for which £10 10s was given. With an entry of 74 peds, mostly well-known in the North of England, it is not surprising that some excellent sport was offered. Results:—First round—Heat 1—F Lee, Leadgate, 23, 1; A. Newton, Blackhill, 23, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 2—T Gray, Blackhill, 23, 1; W. Walton, Leadgate, 20½, 2; R. Turnbull, Catchgate, 23, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 3—A Butterfield, Crook, 15, 1; C Davis, Sherburn Colliery, 18, 2. Won by two feet. Heat 4—W Hanson, Annfield Plain, 20½, w.o. Heat 5—J Crawford, Lanchester, 22, †1; W. Hall, Benwell, 15½, †2; J Leslie, Consett, 22, 3. Won by a yard, after a dead heat. Heat 6—F James, Consett, 23, 1; J. Nichol, Blackhall Mill, 21½, 2; J Jones, Blackhill, 22, 3; L Smith, West Stanley, 22, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 7—W. Dobson, Blackhill, 23, 1; J. Murray, Blaydon, 20½, 2. Won by two yards. Heat 8—J Neil, Consett, 22½, 1; C Kirtrabanshang, Shotley Bridge, 23, 2. Won easily. Heat 9—J Thompson, Low Westwood, 23, 1; C Telford, Bedlington, 17½, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 10—J Watson, Consett, 22, 1; W Green, Gateshead, 22, 2. Won by half a yard. Heat 11—T Ward, Stockton, 19½, 1; J Smith, Bleach Green, 23, 2; L Gule, Consett, 22, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 12—F Cairns, Consett, 23, 1; R Nixon, Lintz Green, 22½, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 13—Void. Heat 14—J Dagmar, Consett, 23, 1; J Gibson, Howdon-le-Wear, 16½, 2; W Cockburn, Catchgate, 21½, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 15—J Reed, Consett, 21, 1; J Brown, Blackhill, 23, 2; W Syme, Blackhill, 22, 3. Won by half a yard. Heat 16—W Gray, Prudhoe, 18, 1; J Gibson, Blackhill, 23, 2; W Burton, Annfield Plain, 20, 3. Won by half a yard. Second round—Heat 1—Butterfield, 1; Gray, 2; Lee, 3; Hansom, 4. Heat 2—Crawford, 1; Dobson, 2; Neil, 3; James, 4. Won by a yard and a half. Heat 3—Ward, 1; Watson, 2; Thompson, 3; Cairns, 4. Won by a couple of feet. Heat 4—Dagmar, 1; Gray, 2; Reed, 3. Won by a yard. Final heat—Crawford 1, £7 10s; Ward 2, £2; Dagmar, 3, 15s; and Butterfield 4, £5. Betting: 6 to 4 on Crawford, 6 to 5 against Ward, 5 to 1 against the others. Won by a yard, the other three following close up. Mr P Small, Leadgate, was handicapper and pistol firer, and Mr J Corrigan, Blackhill, acted as judge. A football match between Tynemouth and Shotley Bridge resulted in favour of the visitors. There was again a good attendance on Tuesday, when a comic football match was played, and caused much amusement. Blackhill St. Cuthbert's also encountered Dilston, the latter team being defeated by two goals to nil. Dancing was freely indulged on both days, the new dancing board laid down evidently giving great satisfaction. Various other sports were also brought off, and altogether Messrs Rowe and Sons are to be congratulated upon the manner in which they commenced as lessees of the Spa grounds. More people were present on Monday than has been the case for a very long time.

DEATH OF MR JOHN COOPER, OF DIPTON.

We deeply regret to have to chronicle the death of one of the oldest natives of Dipton in the person of Mr John Cooper, which took place at his residence on Saturday afternoon after a fortnight's illness, during which he was attended by Dr Benson and Dr Fraser. The deceased gentleman, who was 72 years of age, was born in the village in which he lived the whole of his life. It may be noteworthy to observe that Mr Cooper and his fore-elders had lived on the Swinburn Estate for nearly a century, and he was himself of the fourth generation of natives of the village. He served his apprenticeship as a country joiner with the late Mr Ralph Handcock, of Catchgate, on the expiration of which he commenced business on his own account in the present shop at Pontop Lodge, and was successful. During his life he bought the Fenwick Estate, and commenced to build houses at Dewials Cottages, which he afterwards sold. During his career he had completed contracts in almost all parts of North-West Durham. Being the oldest standard of the village he had a good general knowledge of it, and was frequently referred to in cases of dispute on matters of local interest. He was frequently pressed to offer himself for service on the various local public bodies, but as frequently declined. He was a Churchman, and a Liberal in politics. Deceased was highly respected by the villagers, and his death is a distinct loss to the place. He leaves two sons and two daughters to mourn his loss. The interment took place at Hare Law on Tuesday afternoon in the presence of a large company of friends and villagers. Mr W. Rutherford, of Catchgate, was the undertaker, and Mrs Oxley, of Catchgate, supplied the hearse and mourning coaches. Messrs W. Johnson and G. Bulmer were bidders, while Messrs T. Monkus, J. Kerr, T. Reynoldson, and T. Howe were the underbearers. Amongst those present were the Misses Cooper, daughters; Mr John Cooper and Mr W. Cooper, sons; Misses Jennie and Ethel Cooper, granddaughters; Master Fairless Cooper, grandson; Mrs Cooper, Pontop Lodge, sister-in-law; Mr Thos. Bates, Tanfield Lea, brother-in-law; Mr M. Bates, Kyo, brother-in-law; Mr John Stoker, Burnopfield, cousin; Mr A. Cooper, Consett, Mr W. Cooper, Spen, Mr Thos. Cooper, Gateshead, nephews; Messrs H. and R. Bates, Kyo, nephews; Mr Thos. Bates, Oxhill, Mr H. Bates, Sunniside, nephews; Mr Graham, Mrs Todd, Mrs Simpson, Misses Bates, Kyo; Mrs Swinburn, Tanfield, and Mrs Thwaites, Oxhill, nieces; Mr W. Gladders, Sunniside, Mr J. E. Davis, Mr J. Coulthard, Mr T. Pears, Mr G. Murray, Mr R. H. Herdman, Mr and Mrs A. Phillipson, Mr M. Errington, Mr A. Southren, Mr G. Storey, Mr J. Wilkinson, Mr J. Robinson, Mr E. Wilkinson, Mr J. G. Taylor, Mrs Beattie, Mrs Ramsay, Mr and Mrs J. Hunter, Mr A. Davis, Mr J. Stoker, Mr M. Southren, Mr Geo. Ellringham, Mr R. Thompson, Mr W. Ferter, Mr Thompson, Mr G. Trotter, Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Oxley, Mr A. Ritchie, Mr G. Hope, Mr W. Wadge, Mr A. Routledge, Sergt. Lawson, P.C. Curtis, Mr C. Cain, Mr J. Bates, Stanley, Mr G. Mallams, Mr J. Murray, Mr R. Kirsopp, Mr J. Dunn, Mr T. J. Trowsdale, Mr H. Beacham, Mr G. Foster, Mr S. Swalwell, Mr W. Graham, Mr J. Glenwright, Mrs Aitken, Mr and Mrs W. Gibson, Mrs Browell, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Teasdale, ex-Sergt. Thornton, Mr G. Nicholson, Mr A. Gillis, Mr J. Bowes, Mr J. F. Elliott, Mr Clark, Mr A. Mason, Mr R. T. Batey, Mr T. Edwards, Mr R. Yeoman, Mr J. Riddle, Mrs Mole, Mrs Kerr, Mr R. Bartley, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Ledger, Mr S. Ledger, Mr W. Southren, Mr M. Cawthorn, Mr Stewart (representative of Messrs Scott, timber merchants, Newcastle), etc.

A LESSON IN ENGLISH.

A Portuguese gentleman, who had lived for many years in England, and had acquired a perfect knowledge of the language, though still retaining a strong foreign accent, went, one afternoon, to visit a gentleman living a short distance from London. Being unable to discover his friend's house, he inquired of a nice, rosy-faced girl, whom he saw standing at a cottage door, if she could tell him where Mr. Gray resided.

"No," the girl said, dropping a courtesy, and added. "I think my mother can tell, as she ashes for almost all the gentlefolks in the neighbourhood."

"Well, then," said the gentleman, "will you be so kind as to go and ask your mother?"

"Oh, yes, sir—directly," replied the girl.

And away she tripped into the cottage, apparently anxious to hide a fit of laughter with which seemed suddenly to seize upon her.

In a few minutes came forth the good dame of the cottage herself, wiping the suds from her arms and evidently having only just sufficiently recovered from laughing, like her daughter. She asked, with becoming civility, the gentleman's pleasure.

The Portuguese said he simply wished to ask if she could direct him to the house of Mr. Gray.

Here the good woman's gravity seemed nearly put to flight. However, she contrived, after indulging in a gentle titter, to say it was no trouble to her, and directed him so well as she could to his friend's residence.

Then, courtesying very low and simpering and blushing, she said.—

"I beg pardon, sir! I hope you will excuse me and my daughter's laughing; but, as you are from foreign parts, I see you do not know that we call it ax in our country and not ask!"

WORSE NOW.

Cumso: "I suppose Whiffet isn't such an unconscionable liar since he quit fishing so constantly."

Cawker: "He has less regard for the truth now than ever."

Cumso: "What does he lie about now?"

Cawker: "The immense distances he covers on his bicycle."

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TOLD BY MANY:

OR,

A COLLECTION OF DOCTORS' STORIES.

BY MRS. J. KENT SPENDER,

Author of "Parted Lives," "Mr. Nobody," "Both in the Wrong," "Kept Secret," "A Strange Temptation," &c., &c.

A FUSS ABOUT NOTHING.

Pansy Bellamy startled everyone by the match which she made. Perhaps it was partly because the women in the little town of Northcott were jealous, and, like most women, unable to appreciate anything marvellous in each other, and perhaps it was partly because Pansy had been an awkward and ungainly child, with legs too long for her body, giving her a stork-like appearance, and arms which she did not know exactly how to manage.

Everyone was astonished, and somehow resented it, when—like many of these ungainly children—Pansy suddenly developed into a tall, lithe girl, with a figure beautifully modelled, a dignified walk, and that equally dignified manner which the inhabitants of Northcott were accustomed to associate with ancient lineage.

Not that they knew much about the aristocracy, for, as someone suggested, the reason that the Northcottians gave themselves such airs was because there was nobody great amongst them, either in the way of nobility or marked ability. They attached considerable consequence to caste, and no one who had been known to be associated with trade was admitted into the Eleusinian mysteries of the inner circle of Northcott society until he had passed a certain preparatory period in what the children would call "Coventry." In other words, he had decorously to retire into oblivion after casting the shell of the shop, his cuticle being supposed to be in the sensitive condition characteristic of the lobster when he passes through the same transition.

A considerable stir took place at Northcott when it was known that a real live lord had taken a place in the neighbourhood, and intended to make a sojourn in it for the benefit of the fresh breezes and reviving air. Lord Walton was credited with considerable condescension when it was found that he intended to grace garden parties and flower shows with his august presence.

The condescension, indeed, was supposed to be scarcely in keeping with his dignity when he abased himself so far as to send one of his own sketches to an exhibition of amateur drawings which took place annually at Northcott. How the *Northcott Courier* dwelt upon the perfections of Lord Walton's water-colour paintings, and how modest it was of him to be always belittling his own performance, when the matrons of Northcott gushed about it and the marriageable daughters giggled!

But the fluttering amongst the dovecotes reached a height which threatened to be almost dangerous when it was whispered that Lord Walton was over head and ears in love with Pansy Bellamy. Perhaps he himself felt that it was rather ridiculous for this mere girl to send the blood coursing through his veins now that he was approaching the age of forty, when he had hitherto been impervious to sensations of this sort. Mothers and daughters had laid siege to him almost ever since he could remember; and possibly it was because Pansy had never flirted, but had shewn herself distant and almost cold, that the real true heart in the man was stirred from beneath its conventional wrappings.

Pansy herself was scarcely consulted in the matter—her mother taking it for granted that the lineal descendant of an ancient race could not possibly be humiliated by refusal. Mrs. Bellamy enlarged somewhat unnecessarily on the baseness and wickedness of arousing feelings with which her daughter would have been mean to trifle.

"All that you will have to do will be to go on as you have begun. You have made a conquest, and you must make continual efforts to keep it," she said.

The latter recommendation fell rather disconcertingly on Pansy's ears. Ambition and a desire to rule in life had always been as important to her as to her mother. The Northcott people were not perhaps far out of it when they accused her of "going after high game."

She trusted in her beauty, and from the time that Lord Walton had seen her clothed in azure and crowned in gold—the former being a blue cotton dress made with her own hands, and the latter the aureole of her shining hair—she had determined, if possible, to keep her ascendency, putting off the moral and mental rags and tatters in which she formerly had clothed herself, and locking away all uncomfortable and humiliating recollections.

How to do so was a little difficult. Nature had probably intended her to brighten a poor man's home, and she was wasted on one who had no troubles of any sort. She had been trained to be a good manager, priding herself on never being thriftless. She well understood the economy which could make sixpence go as far as a shilling, but the charms which were her stock in trade had never as yet been enhanced by setting.

Her presentation at Court and the diamonds which she wore for the occasion were embarrassments to which at first she was hardly able to adapt herself. But she almost worshipped the precious stones when she saw how they enhanced her beauty—the white column of her neck rising as if from a circlet of fire. In her case there was none of that pining against the loneliness of her grandeur, or forced inaction, that newly-caged birds are apt to feel when they beat their wings against the cruel bars of their cages, and none of that rebellion against subjection characteristic of other women who wish for independent careers.

When she went to London she was delighted with the brilliancy and daintiness of everything which surrounded her. It seemed to her a world of glitter, which fairly took her breath away; but it was well that she should have married a peer, and it was doubtless a very proper arrangement for her to occupy her present position.

The height of her triumph was reached when she returned to the little town of Northcott to astonish the staring children, wondering nursemaids, and her former acquaintances, who did not hesitate to accuse her of planning and plotting till she had managed to climb above their heads. There were schoolmates of hers—like Peris at the gate of Paradise, disconsolate—who felt as if queens might have envied her as she drove through the town of Northcott, which had been adorned with bunting for her arrival, looking down on them from the vantage of her comfortable landau, smiling and wrapped in her magnificent furs. It was like a fairy tale, with the Prince Charming left out, for Lord Walton—who was suffering prematurely from gout—was not at all like a Prince Charming, and I, who attended her when she was in town, knew how she had always been afraid of her husband.

The fear was possibly constitutional—I have sometimes noticed that people who are naturally timorous as well as sensitive wear this armour of pride to conceal their sensibilities. Lord Walton had every reason to be satisfied with his bride; she was the finest ornament he possessed. Her appearance at the head of his table enhanced the value of other curios, which had come down to him for generations: she was the crowning Kohinoor of his heterogeneous collection of ancient pictures, priceless jewels, rare seals, dainty china, coats of arms. The colour of the green sea and of the sand was in her eyes, and if occasionally a deeper tone, as of the depth of the heaving waters, came into them, with an expression which it was not easy to understand, he was only the more rejoiced.

"Both Millais and Burne-Jones have promised to paint her portrait," he said to me with a air of pride when he first introduced me to her. "And, Dr. Newnham, she will wear well—she is not one of your sickly, consumptive looking beauties," he added as soon as we were alone.

Yes, I agreed with him—she would wear well. She was tall and rather large, of the grand, majestic style. One could imagine how stately she would look if she lived to be a dowager, and with what a towering head she would wear her tiara in future Drawing-rooms—she seemed as if she were made for diamonds and feathers.

I remember what a sensation she made when she appeared at a certain opera, and how more than one royal person expressed his admiration for her appearance. The opera-glasses were turned at the box in which she sat rather than at the trained singers trilling their roulades. Her face was innocent of "kohl," or pearl powder, or of any devices of fashion. Her simplicity contrasted to advantage with the art of other women, many of whom had over-emphasised their eyebrows and eye-lashes; and yet she looked like a Greuze and Romney rolled into one.

Lord Walton forgot that he had ever been troubled by gout—the height of his triumph was attained that evening. He had always been known as a man of taste, who had an eye for a perfect horse, an antique curiosity for a beautiful woman. And now his taste was more than justified—no one could compete with him.

Then there was a change for which no one could account. For some mysterious reason Lady Walton refused to go anywhere after that evening. I was called in to attend her and to decide if she were in a state of health which could justify her in such a decision. But I failed to discover anything which could throw the slightest light on her mysterious determination. For the first time, she looked a little worried and anxious, and admitted that on returning from the opera she had found it difficult to sleep. Otherwise she was in a superb state of health. There was nothing hysterical or weak about her, nor could I make the excuse which I would gladly have made to Lord Walton, who, not unnaturally, desired an heir. She simply kept on repeating that she was weary of London and did not wish to accept any of the numerous invitations with which just then they were flooded.

"If I consent to go anywhere I must accept them all," she said, "and I am longing for the country. I have made up my mind either to go to my mother at Northcott or to our place in Hampshire. I don't see why all the flowers should be allowed to bloom unseen, and our fruit lose its freshness before it is sent to us. Even my mother's old-fashioned garden would be better than nothing," she added.

I was convinced that she was acting—so utterly was this new attitude out of keeping with her character. Of course there might be girls, and plenty of them, whose delight in the old-fashioned favourites of a well-loved garden—larkspur, wallflower, sweet-william, and mignonette—might outweigh the glitter and tawdry attractions of crowded *salons* in the height of the season. But Lady Walton was not one of those girls.

I was fairly puzzled, and found it as difficult as her husband to believe in this idyllic yearning after rusticity. Neither did she look as if she needed repose. I tried to say, in my capacity as mentor, that Lord Walton had a right to be considered, and that as soon as the festivities in town were over—to which he naturally wished to take his bride—I intended to prescribe a course of the waters for him at Aix-les-Bains. She grew more restive than ever, and said she had better tell me at once that she hated foreign watering-places, and that if Lord Walton went to Aix she must really ask him to go alone.

I could not hide my astonishment. What could account for this sudden obstinacy in a woman who had hitherto been careful to keep up appearances? The man was of a jealous nature, and he immediately imagined that there must be an explanation, and that, probably, of the worst kind.

He ended by allowing her to go to Walton Hall, where he knew that she could be carefully watched.

"A nice brute I should be if I could suspect the mother, and, for the matter of that, everyone knows that my wife is above suspicion," he said to me, careful to keep up appearances; "but there is something odd about all this—women, you know, sometimes get strange hallucinations."

Lady Walton did not seem to me to be the sort of woman who would be liable to hallucinations, but we both of us caught at this pretext. She went alone to Walton Hall; but she insisted on living quietly, and though she had a very handsome allowance—a sum larger than usual having been settled on her at her marriage—she insisted on dressing with an economy which bordered on the parsimonious.

She was ready with her excuses, which were generally to the point.

"Dress in the country should always be plain—well-made if you like—that is essential," she admitted. And then the wonder became greater when it oozed out through one of her maids that the only new summer dresses which Lady Walton would wear had been manufactured at home.

Lord Walton not unnaturally objected. He had been pleased with his *rôle* of plenipotentiary, and was one of those men who interest themselves in details, always liking to see his beautiful wife well groomed and magnificently attired.

"What on earth can she do with her money?—it is as if she had a sieve and poured it away for her amusement! She gives scarcely anything in charity," he said at the end of that year, looking anxiously at me.

This time I was careful not to meet his eye, for I confessed to myself that things began to look fishy. Could this girl have become entangled in some secret *liaison* without the knowledge of her own mother? Could any fellow be threatening her? I did not like the look of it, especially as she began now to look what her husband called "seedy," in spite of the fresh country air. She was evidently pulled down by an anxiety of some sort, and the excuses she tried to make about consulting any doctor added to the secret fears at which I did not dare to hint. I came to Walton Hall every few weeks to see my old patient, as soon as he followed his wife to her retreat. Not only did she steadily refuse to see me, but professed to have an equal objection to seeing, as I suggested, one of the provincial medical men.

"It is as if she were bent on hiding something," I could not help admitting to myself. And so far from being hard on Walton for his jealousy, I confessed that I should probably have insisted on an explanation myself. He did not. He was wonderfully forbearing, but the vexation of the thing aged and altered him. Quarrels were now frequent at Walton Hall, and yet, in my presence, he was always apologetic.

"It is no wonder she looks ill—she has few resources," he said, "and naturally she gets hipped when she insists on shutting herself up."

And I judged from various sentences that she let drop that she had sufficient time on her hands to begin to reproach herself for the hastiness of her marriage. Was it an "honourable estate" that she had taken on herself, after all, or was it very much the contrary? She was awaking to the consciousness that she had a soul, and the bloom was already rubbed from her pride in her new position. In the retirement of her country house, which she so persistently refused to have filled with visitors, and where she went about dressed as plainly as in her maiden days, she had begun for the first time to read and to think. But still there were the odd contradictions which worried her husband, and of which he had ceased to speak. Whenever he did so to me, drawn into it by his anxiety respecting his wife's health, he would pull himself up, saying with old-fashioned punctiliousness: "I do not intend to dwell on these details—these are not matters which admit of discussion."

But Lady Walton's inconsistencies were remarkable. Instead of declaring, as her mother would have done, that it was useless to possess a coronet without a proper allowance, she shewed herself on most occasions to be free from mercenary motives. It seemed to have come to her like a flash of illumination that the advantage of having money was to be able to help others with it. And yet when, having heard of a case of distress in the neighbourhood, she expressed herself to that effect, she added, almost piteously:

"Don't give the money to *me*—it will be better for you to help the people yourself."

I knew that Lord Walton had been so worried by these oddities that he had even made inquiries as to the possibility of madness existing in his wife's family. After that his sense of dignity saved him. There was no history of mental aberration, and as he refused to act as spy or to overlook Lady Walton's correspondence, it was impossible for him to discover what she did with her money; and as the days passed on he was less and less willing to interfere. I had done my best to impress upon him that if he wished to keep his infirmities in abeyance he should do his utmost to avoid worry. He took my advice, and got into the [illegible] of not wasting to dwell on anything th[illegible] him uncomfortable. It was well for [illegible] he was not a demonstrative man, [illegible] exhibition of affection [illegible] Lady Walton. [illegible] could [illegible] far as [illegible] were visible in her face, and she could not hide these from him.

He behaved nobly at the crisis, and all might have gone well if the world had not begun to talk, and if, for the first time, he had not been obliged to defend the woman he loved from slanderous tongues. Her own mother proved to be her worst enemy. The training of Mrs. Bellamy's life had hardened her, and in the hour of her disappointment she was found wanting and could not thaw to the younger woman, who refused to tell her her secrets.

"I never cared about confiding in people—if I have a deficiency of that sort I can't help it. I hate talking about my affairs, and can generally manage them best for myself," said the daughter, regardless of the fact that the older woman was unable to pass scatheless through the trial. She could not keep herself from talking, and went so far as to consult the portly rector of her parish—a fellow who had about as much sympathy as a stalled ox would have had, and was only proud to be consulted about the affairs of the aristocracy.

But when Lady Walton first heard of the *canards* which were being freely circulated about her—some of them even getting into the papers—the news had a most unexpected effect. First of all, the idea that people should dare to invent calumnies at her expense seemed to scorch her to the very heart, and then suddenly she determined to spurn all such reports—cast them to the winds or trample them underfoot. It was the old Pansy Bellamy who drove out once more in her open victoria, urging her indignation, like her horses, to a sharp gallop.

"Why should I be ashamed," she said to herself, "I who have done no wrong?"

And instead of adopting an unnaturally meek tone to her husband, alarming him by her dejection when he loaded her with presents, and saying, "I feel like taking advantage of you," she began again to assert herself, and astonished him by saying she wished him to send for Dr. Newnham at once.

I found her with her cheeks flushed, her eyes bright, and all her old beauty restored. It might have been only for the moment, in the vehemence of her passion. But as she paced the room with her eyes flashing, motioning me to a seat, I felt as if we were on the verge of a revelation.

"There are times when we do things that we may afterwards regret," she explained, turning her agitated face to me. "It so happens that I have been singularly alone in the world. I grew up without any intimate friend, and never confided in my mother. She and I were seldom of the same way of thinking, and I did not care to make scenes, or to contradict her. I sometimes felt that I was very reserved, but I supposed it was nature that made me so. If, as a child, I got into a mess I got out of it as best I could by myself, and so I went on till I was married. Now I am going to do a foolish thing. I have no one else to confide in but you. You have been consulted about my health, and you know as well as I do that something has been vexing me. That something I thought it wisest to keep to myself, but as circumstances have turned out I feel I want a friend. Perhaps, however, I ought to stop to think."

"Don't stop to think," I answered, as soothingly as I could, from the recesses of the fashionable lounge where she told me to seat myself. "It is a horrid plan, and leads to all sorts of uncomfortableness in life."

At this climax she could hardly help smiling, as she threw herself into another chair and answered:

"The uncomfortableness has come. Why, because I choose to shut myself up—not going into society just at present—and because I have made up my mind to dress plainly, people should talk in this way is more than I can imagine? The fools might let me alone."

"*Noblesse oblige*," I answered, with another quiet smile. "If the Queen's Maids of Honour should wear old-fashioned toilets someone would have to remonstrate with them, and your position as Lady Walton is somewhat prominent. Besides, in this fast, fussy age people can't manage to live without chattering and cooking up newspaper paragraphs about the affairs of others."

She flushed again angrily.

"You have seen the paragraph. We ought to bring an action."

"I don't see how this is possible. The statement is not actionable—it simply refers to the eccentric conduct of the beautiful Lady Walton in refusing to receive or visit her friends, and hints that there must be some explanation for her mysterious conduct."

She tried to laugh.

"Who would think that they would make such a ridiculous fuss about nothing? The explanation is so simple that they are at liberty to hear it—so far as *I* am concerned—though I still think it is always better to keep our affairs to ourselves."

Yet it seemed to me that she was putting off the explanation, and my heart beat a little quickly for Lord Walton's sake. He had forborne to question this woman, he had trusted her, and what, after all, if the confidence she was going to make to me should prove his trust to be misplaced?

"I am afraid you will think the worse of me when you hear how careless I have been."

"I shall not think the worse of you," I said, slowly still a good deal alarmed, and wondering why she used such a word as "careless."

And then she began, speaking quickly, jerking out her words and making rapid allusions, like a proud woman who does not like to confess that she has made a mistake.

"Did you ever hear of that last evening when I appeared in public—at the opera, wasn't it? I wore the family diamonds that night, and I remember that everyone admired them. I don't know whether my maid fastened them in carelessly or how it happened, but when I got out of the carriage the tiara was missing. I thought a pin must have slipped which had fastened it to my hair, and as soon as I missed it a thorough search was made, the cushions in the carriage and the mats being shaken and examined. Lord Walton did not come home with me that night, and though nobody ever knew—because I had carried it off by my manner—I had been a little afraid of him ever since my marriage. I knew that he attached considerable consequence to the family diamonds, and that the tiara had been worn by ladies in his family, as he said, for generations. I knew that I could not go out to anything very important without being asked by him to wear it. He had happened to say that it was particularly becoming to me. If I had gone through the London season I could have avoided wearing it at many parties, but there would have been certain occasions when he would have been sure to have inquired for it. If I had told him in the beginning it would have been easier for me, but the longer I kept silence the more impossible it became for me to tell. I advertised privately and did everything I could do, and at last I thought it better to inquire at the jeweller's for the price of another tiara resembling the one I had lost. The price was so enormous that I found it would take nearly the whole of my income for a couple of years, and I did not like to order it till I had saved a part of the money—so you know see why I have retired here and made up my mind to live economically. Even if I had gone to Aix, I must have had beautiful gowns, and I was so anxious to save the money, to keep Lord Walton from the worry and his relations from talking. After all, he has been so good to me, and I did not want him to know that in the beginning of my married life I had had a mishap of that sort."

I could almost have laughed, so relieved was I when I heard the true explanation, but I did not laugh so heartily as Walton himself laughed—relieved from the tension of a great anxiety—as he said:

"Why, the diamonds were false, and I never thought it necessary to tell her. I had them changed myself soon after my mother's death, when I had great money losses. I had betted on the favourite at Ascot and had lost. I thought my wife would not find it out, for to all intents and purposes they were just as good as the real ones."

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A Stanhope angler killed 30 trout in the Wear on Monday with worm fishing.

An Octogenarian.—Joseph Temperley, a Frosterley octogenarian, was interred at Stanhope Cemetery last week. He died at the ripe age of 8

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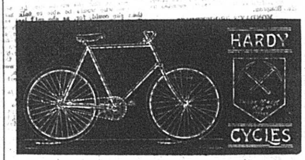

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THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year, more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country to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

BURNOPFIELD.

Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club.—On Saturday evening the monthly meeting of this club was held in the Temperance Hall, Burnopfield, under the presidency of Mr. G. Ord, deputy-president. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, a letter was read from the Hon. J. G. P. Vereker, Hamsterley Hall, expressing his willingness for the members of the club to visit the Hamsterley grounds in September. As it was found necessary to alter the May field meeting from Beamish, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. W. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Shade, to visit Durham City on May 13th. The June meeting was next considered, and as no reply had been forthcoming respecting the Barnard Castle excursion, Mr. Ord moved, and Mr Abercrombie seconded, that the June excursion be to Ripon and Studley Royal, on Wednesday June 7th; Hexham on Saturday, July 15th; Whitley, on Saturday, August 12th; Hamsterley, on Saturday, September 2nd.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Temperance Meeting.—On Wednesday week, a well-attended meeting was held in the Primitive Methodist Church, Chester-le-Street, in connection with the great temperance campaign. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. Jennings. The principal speakers were Mr. H. Patterson, Newcastle and Mr. Guy Hayler, secretary of the North of England Temperance League. Mr. Patterson, in the course of a very interesting and witty speech, said that drink was at the bottom of a great many evils, and a lot of social ills. There was nothing blasting the prospects of the working men so much as the drink traffic.—Mr. Guy Hayler, who was well received, said that the present century had opened practically dead to all religion, but the various denominations which had sprung up since then had evangelised the world, and at no time in the history of the world had there been such a large number of Christians. The fight between the Church—all denominations—and the liquor traffic would have to be more extended. There was no greater slavery that the world had ever seen than the slavery of a man or woman to drink.—Mr. Howes then moved a resolution in favour of Sunday closing.—Mr. Herring seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.—Mr. Laidlaw moved that a temperance organisation be formed for Chester-le-Street.—Mr. Wilkinson seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.—The usual vote of thanks terminated the meeting.

DIPTON.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Sunday, Mr. W. Handyside, of Bill Quay, preached two special sermons in the above chapel. There were fair audiences, and the collections were in aid of the trust funds.

LANCHESTER.

At Durham Quarter Sessions on Monday, an account of the London agents for obtaining Counsel's opinion regarding the Lanchester Common, amounting to £7 3s 8d, was presented and passed for payment.

ROWLAND'S GILL.

Breach of the Peace.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Robert Dobson and Patrick Hanlon were charged with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Rowland's Gill, on March 18th.—P.C. Hudson prosecuted, and the defendants were bound over for six months in the sum of £5, and ordered to pay the costs—8/- each.

SPEN.

Drunkenness.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, William Lockhart was charged with being drunk at the Spen, on March 29th.—The accused was fined 2/6 and costs, 8/- in all.

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CONSETT DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS.

On Wednesday evening, the final meeting of the present constituted Council was held in the Public Buildings, Parliament Street, under the presidency of Councillor William Aynsley, J.P. (chairman.) The other Councillors present were:—Messrs George Ainsworth, George D. Powell, J. Lowes, James Daly, John Kempson, Nathan Elsdon, Thos. Dunne, James Scott, the Clerk (Mr T. W. Welford), the Deputy-Clerk (Mr Henry D. Foggan), and the Surveyor (Mr W. S. Shell).

FINANCE AND GAS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This Committee reported as follows:—The treasurer's book was produced showing a balance of £1,045 2s 7d in favour of the Council. Cheques were required for £930 14s 10d.

The cheques were ordered to be signed.

THE CONTINUATION OF AYNSLEY TERRACE.

The Chairman reported that the deputation appointed at the last meeting had an interview with Mr Hutchinson at Durham about the continuation of Aynsley Terrace Road, and they asked him if he could see his way clear to induce his Board to supplement the £50 they had already agreed towards the making of the road. They explained to Mr Hutchinson after carefully going into the case of making the road, it would be £500 instead of £200. They also pointed out to Mr Hutchinson that if the road was continued on to Number One it would be the means of opening out their building estate, and the Council were of the opinion they should pay half of the cost. Mr Hutchinson demurred to that, and said that the Council's course was to have the land conveyed to them first, and pointed out that if the Council did not wish to carry out the making of the road at present, but if they were inclined to make the footpath in the meantime, he would pay the £50 over as soon as the Council had expended £50. However, before the deputation left Mr Hutchinson gave them the impression that it was just possible to get some assistance from the Board towards the making of the road.

Coun. Dunne bore out the Chairman's statement, and after a short discussion,

Coun. Elsdon said he believed that if this particular road was opened out it would be a great acquisition to the district, and accordingly moved that the Council complete the purchase of the land.

This was seconded by Coun. Daly, and carried.

Coun. Powell did not vote in favour of the motion, as it involved a heavy expenditure of public money.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE TOWN.

The following letter from the Assistant Secretary to the Local Government Board was read:—"I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to their letter of the 25th ult., with reference to the appointment of a Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Consett, and to state that they have had under consideration in connection with this appointment, the report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1898. The Board direct me to draw attention to the statements in the report as to the persistent prevalence of scarlet fever and enteric fever in the district, and the failure to enforce the provisions of the Infectious Diseases Notification Act in the district, and to inform the District Council that in the Board's opinion, these statements seriously reflect upon the sanitary administration of the district. The Board have decided, before coming to a decision with regard to the appointment of a new Medical Officer of Health, to instruct one of their Medical Inspectors to visit the district to report to them on these allegations, and generally as to the way in which the Public Health Acts have been administered in the district."

Coun. Powell: This is the result of changing the Medical Officership. It is rather a serious reflection.

The Chairman said he took it that they would have to await coming events. It was evident the Inspector was coming to see whether their "house" was clean or otherwise, and he could not see that they could do anything in the matter.

Coun. Dunne asked if there was any serious nuisance to appear how were they going to act?

The Chairman said they had their Surveyor, whose duty it was to act in cases of epidemics.

Coun. Elsdon pointed out that a ratepayer came to him the other day and said if he did not get something done to his ashpit he would be compelled to take a trip to Durham as he could not get any satisfaction from the Council. This ratepayer resided in Park Road.

Coun. Dunne: I was not referring to that kind of nuisance.

Coun. Elsdon said he merely mentioned the case, as the Chairman referred to their "house" being clean or otherwise.

Coun. Daly: What are we waiting for?

The Clerk: We must have the consent of the Local Government Board to the appointment of the Medical Officer of Health.

Coun. Ainsworth said the less they remarked about the matter the better. They all knew how it had arisen. He said the Clerk should acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and ask when the Inspector was likely to visit the district. It was hardly fair to allow the Inspector to come to the district, and perhaps only see one individual. If they got to know when the Inspector was coming the Chairman and some of the members might meet him.

The Chairman: We might be prepared to rebut the evidence the Inspector may have.

Mr Ainsworth said he did not think they need trouble themselves. They all knew what was the outcome of this. He did not think there was such a thing as the persistent prevalence of scarlet and enteric fever in the district. The Local Government Board were only acting on what appeared in the report from Dr. Allen. To be a persistent epidemic, it must be a constant recurrence, and he was not aware of such. With regard to the failure to enforce the provisions of the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, he could not say when they received complaint about this from the Durham County Council they at once instructed the Clerk to write the respective medical men in the district about the question, and as far as they knew his instructions had been complied with.

The Chairman: I don't think the year before last we had a fever epidemic in our midst.

Coun. Dunne: I think we should place all the evidence we have before the Inspector, and let him see our true position in the matter.

At this stage, the reporters present were requested not to report any more of this discussion, which was considered to be of a private character.

It was eventually resolved that the Clerk should communicate with the Local Government Board as to the date when their Inspector would visit the district.

A NEW RATE.

The estimate presented amounted to £2,843 for the ensuing half-year, made up of £190 for new public buildings; £482 repayment of interest on loans; £170 for technical education; £52 10s for fencing the land for allotments; £40 for printing; and £1,883 19s for sewerage, lighting, labour, establishment charges, etc. The rateable value was £40,365, and a rate of 1/4 on this amount would realise the sum required.

On the proposition of Coun. Daly, seconded by Coun. Ainsworth, it was agreed to levy a rate of 1/4 in the £ for the ensuing six months.

[The remainder of this report will appear next week.]

Concert at Consett.

On Good Friday evening, the Balfe Quartet Party gave a successful concert in the Primitive Methodist School-room, Consett. There was a large and appreciative audience present, and the chairman was Mr. A. S. Coates, Consett. Two members of the Party, Messrs Joseph Siddle and Richard Pearson, were unable to appear owing to illness, but able substitutes were found in Mr. Charles Davison, Consett, and Mr. R. Evans, Blackhill. The programme provided was a splendid musical treat, and those present thoroughly enjoyed it. Every credit is due to Mr. Thos. Jones, Consett, for the trouble he took in carrying everything out so carefully. All the artistes did exceedingly well. The Party rendered some very nice quartettes, including "Shepherd of souls," and "O, who will o'er the downs." The mandoline selection, by Miss Moffitt (Medomsley) were a treat, and the audience were not slow in appreciating her services. Miss Moffitt also favoured with a Scotch song. Miss Matthews was in excellent voice, and rendered "Bid me discourse," and "Face of an angel" in a manner that took the audience by surprise, and she was the recipient of a well merited encore. Miss Walton very pleasingly executed two songs, "Dream of angels," and "Dear homeland," and was loudly applauded. Miss Cooke delighted the company with her ..., especially the rendition of "Very ... girl in school," and she also was the ... of rounds of applause. Misses ... and Matthews did full justice to ... "Come away ..." Mr. Davison

Consett County Court.

WEDNESDAY, April 5th, 1899.—Before His Honour, Judge E. J. MEYNELL.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION CASES.

Under the new Compensation Act, Matthew Brown, of Honey Hill, Waskerley, proceeded against John Scott, contractor, of the Hisehope Reservoir, to recover compensation for injuries received at the Hisehope Reservoir on September 20th, 1897. Mr E. Shortt, barrister, of Bishop Auckland, instructed by Mr H. P. Douglas, solicitor, Consett and Crook, appeared for the applicant, while Mr Frank Marshall, solicitor, represented the respondent, Mr John Scott.

Mr Shortt, in opening the case, said Brown was 13 years of age. In July of last year he was engaged by a man named Geo. Holmes, who was ganger in the employment of Scott to act as a "nipper," a boy who carried the picks to and from the blacksmith's shop. It appeared from what happened that the boy was a sort of general utility boy, because it appeared after a time he was to signal a crane, and appeared to have been oiling a crane on September 20th, 1897, and who was then set to oil a stone-crusher, carry water, and empty bags. On the day of the accident he was crossing a shed in which there was a machine called a "steam-mason," which was worked by a man called Ebdon, who, while Brown was passing, called him to oil the "steam-mason," which was a machine propelled by steam power, and was stopped by means of leather bands. The boy, in obedience to his orders, was oiling the machine, which was in motion. The boy was leaning over to take off a cup when his right foot slipped, and by some means his left one was caught in the roller and severely injured. He was taken to the infirmary at Newcastle, where his foot had to be amputated. He was still attending at the infirmary and was unable to work.

Matthew Brown, who appeared leaning upon crutches, said he was 14 years old last November. He was engaged in last July to work for Mr Scott at Hisehope Reservoir by a man named Geo. Holmes. He was engaged to carry picks at 24s. per fortnight. Geo. Holmes told him to trim lamps and oil a crusher about a fortnight before the accident. On the day of the accident he was carrying water in the morning, and at dinner time Geo. Holmes told him to gather all the loose bags up. About 3 o'clock, when he was passing the "stone-mason," Ebdon, who was in charge of the machine, shouted and told him to start and oil the "steam-mason." He asked who said he had to oil it, and Ebdon said his "boss," Geo. Holmes, who was not present at the time. He got hold of the oil can, and was standing ready for Ebdon to stop the "mason," when Ebdon told him to get on oiling the machine or else he would tell Geo. Holmes. While reaching over to get the cup off the roller, he slipped his right foot, and his left caught the roller. He was taken to the infirmary where his foot was amputated.

In answer to Mr Marshall, witness said he had never seen Ebdon oil the machine while in motion. The oil can was standing beside the shed at the far end. He went to the far end of the machine, and in obedience to Ebdon began oiling the machine. Byers and him were not playing about. Byers was with him when Ebdon told him to oil the machine but did not help him to oil it. He was cleaning the stone on the machine. Witness would swear that he was not sitting on the moving table of the "steam-mason" when he happened his accident. The accident was due to Ebdon. He got out from the machine himself, and "hitched" to Ebdon, who assisted him out of the shed.

Mr Marshall for the defence said the accident did not arise out of the employment of Brown, and secondly, that it was due to misconduct on the part of the boy. The facts were that the boy was employed to carry picks to and from the blacksmith's shop. He had never been employed to oil any machine, and had not been called by Ebdon to oil the machine. That was a thing no sane person would think of casually setting a boy to interfere with a machine of the character of the "steam-mason." As a matter of fact these boys had been larking about the shed. They went to the "steam-mason" and sat one each side of the table, riding on the machine in motion. Ebdon called them to go away, when Brown took up the oil lamp, which Ebdon told him to lay down. Having done so the boys went away, and Ebdon heard nothing more until he heard a boy crying in the next shed. He stopped the machine at once, and found the boy standing by the roller. He took him in his arms, carried him out, and called for a man and had him conveyed to Consett. Brown had no business to be where he was found, interfering with the machine was no part of his work. He drew attention to the case of Smith v. the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, in which it was held that applicant sustained his injuries while on his own pleasure, and not while under the employment of the Company, a report of which appeared in the "Queen's Bench Reports" for January of this year at page 141.

Geo. Holmes said he had been foreman to Mr Scott, the contractor, for 40 years. He engaged Brown in July of last year to carry tools. He had also told him to carry water on the morning of his accident to his own and Mr Walton's houses. The "steam-mason" was in the mason's department of the works, and any instructions about it would be given by the foreman of the masons. He had never told Brown to oil any machine. Ebdon, the man in charge of the machine, was expected to oil the machine himself. Witness looked after the crusher, the crane, and part of the machine work.

His Honour: Who oils the crusher?—Witness: The driver, sir.

Wm. Walton, general engineer in charge, said he had never given instructions for the boy to oil the machine. The sick and accident allowance was paid to the boy.

John Joseph Ebdon, mason, said his work was to take charge of the "steam-mason." It was his duty to oil the machine, and nobody else had oiled it to his knowledge. He had regular times for oiling it, once a day first thing in the morning before starting work. Once a day was enough, and the machine was not in motion when he oiled it. In the afternoon he saw Brown in the yard at the end of the shed playing amongst some stones and hand cranes. Then Brown went up towards the "steam-mason" and began to ride on the outside end along with a boy named Byers. He told them to get away, and Brown got the oil feeder and began to make away with it when he (witness) told him to put it down. He did so, and the boys went away. Shortly after he heard Brown shout out. He stopped the machine, went round, and found Brown standing beside the second roller. He helped Brown out of the shed, and then the engine-driver took him away, and asked him what he had been doing. The boy said "Joe, don't tell my father." He (Ebdon) did not tell Brown to oil the machine, and the alleged conversation between he and Brown never took place.

John William Byers, a boy, said he was engaged at the Hisehope Reservoir to carry tools from the workmen to the blacksmith's shop. He was beside the machine when Brown was injured. Brown was riding on one end of the machine when the accident happened, along with himself. He saw Brown oil the machine, but did not hear anybody tell him to do so. When the accident had happened he had put the oil can down. He oiled both ends.

His Honour, in giving judgement, said it was a difficult case because there was so little evidence, but after Brown had given his evidence in such an exceedingly truthful manner, he would rely upon his evidence more than upon Ebdon's. There was some corroboration in Byers' evidence, but it was worth very little. Taking it altogether a case had been made out, and he gave judgement for 5s 9d a week, and to take effect from the second week after the accident, costs allowed on the intermediate or B scale.

CASES SETTLED.

In the case of Wm. Petty, Hisehope, Waskerley, against John Scott, contractor, of Waskerley, a settlement was come to by which, to include all costs and medical expenses, a sum of £32 10s. was paid to the applicant.

In the case of Wm. Robb, son of Geo. Robb, of Snows Green, Shotley Bridge, against Messrs Pemberton and Hall, Coachbuilders, in which the applicant, a young man about 18 years of age, was injured by having his hand cut by a circular saw, it was arranged between the parties that, to include costs and medical expenses, the payment of £50 compensation would settle the case.

In the case of Robb, Mr E. Clark, of Newcastle, appeared for the Insurance Company, and in both cases Mr Hans Hamilton, barrister, instructed by Mr T. W. Welford, of Consett, appeared for the applicants, while in the case of Petty, Mr F. Marshall, of Bishop Auckland, appeared for the respondent.

BEAMISH.

"GILLIGAN'S FRESH AIR PARTY."—A supper in connection with the above party was held last Saturday night at the house of Mr. John Grundy, Durham Ox Inn, when 30 members partook of an excellent repast ably provided by the host and hostess. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, the cloths were removed, and the rest of the evening was spent in harmony. Mr. George Maughan was elected to preside. Various songs were sung during the evening by Messrs Cook, Wears, Smith, and other members of the club. "Success to Gilligan's Fresh Air Party" was drunk; also, "Success to Mr. and Mrs. Grundy." This is a party or club that has been commenced by some 30 young men of the district, and they subscribe monthly to the fund, and it has been settled to take a drive in brakes to Morpeth this year on July 2nd. The expenses of the same will be taken out of the fund. Mr. E. Simpson is secretary, Mr. Grundy treasurer, and Mr.

TRADES' EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL AT STANLEY.

(Continued from Page Six.)

Throughout Good Friday afternoon and evening there was a very large attendance, and great interest was taken both in the exhibits and the numerous entertainments.—Again on Saturday the exhibition was patronised very largely, when the opening ceremony was performed by Mrs. T. Collinson, of Catchgate. That lady, who was well received on being introduced by the Rev. J. A. Dixon, offered a few kindly words of encouragement and congratulation, and declared the exhibition again open. She received the hearty thanks of the gathering, on the motion of Mr. J. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Simpson.

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

On Monday afternoon the exhibition was opened by Coun T. W. W. Ritson, of Stanley. Coun. J. Green, J.P., in introducing Mr. Ritson to the audience, said it was his privilege to call upon a fellow-townsman, who was well-known to most of those present, as being one of the hardest working-men of the district. Having known him for many years he could say without exaggeration that any work which he took in hand he did thoroughly. As a church they were under great obligations to Mr. Ritson for the way in which he had helped them. In that effort he had taken an active part. He had a good knowledge of trade, through his connection with one of the largest business firms in the town. It was therefore his great pleasure to call upon Coun. Ritson to open the exhibition. (Applause.)

Coun. Ritson, who, on rising, was well received, said after the very flattering remarks Mr. Green had felt inclined to make on his behalf, it rather put him in a position in which it was difficult to say anything more. He could assure them that when it was first intended to have an exhibition, and he consented to act on the committee, and do what he could to further the effort, he had no idea that he would be called upon to occupy the position he had been called upon to fill. It would have been far better if an outsider had been asked to occupy the position, and certainly someone better qualified than he. They could not expect any very lengthy speech from him, but there were two principal objects in having an exhibition. It had been inaugurated for the purpose of showing what the Stanley people could do when they liked. After those present had looked around, and seen the exhibition, they would agree with him that so far it had been a thorough success. If they went back for ten years they would see the wonderful transformation which had been made in that town, in the erection of large buildings, and not the least was that which was now being erected in the centre of the town. He asked all assembled to support the exhibition. The primary object of the exhibition was to raise funds. He wished them to give freely, so that the building might be erected free of debt. If they were satisfied that the object was good, he urged them to give freely with the recommendation that whatever they gave would be repaid to them. After making another urgent appeal for support, the speaker formally declared the exhibition open, and trusted they would do their best to make the exhibition a success by giving with a willing heart and mind. (Applause.)

After the Rev. J. A. Dixon had supplemented Mr. Ritson's speech in a few appropriate sentences, Mr. Allison moved, and Mr. Armstrong seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Ritson, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Ritson having suitably responded, a brisk sale continued, and all day long visitors kept pouring into the building, and there was every sign of the effort being a success.

TUESDAY.

On Tuesday, the closing day of the exhibition, the ceremony of opening was performed by Mr. John Oliver, of Stanley.

Mr. J. Green said that after the previous day's remarkable gathering and success, they might seem a little tame that day, but no doubt they would again have a large attendance in the evening. It was his duty to call upon one whom he very often addressed as "father." There were very few occasions of a spiritual kind when Mr. Oliver was not well to the front. Mr. Oliver was no stranger to any other part of Church work, but as far as Trades' Exhibitions were concerned he believed that would be the first time he had performed an opening ceremony. There was no one more worthy to occupy such a position, for Mr. Oliver was revered and loved by all. (Applause.)

Mr. Oliver said in considering what he should say he thought that having been in the grocery trade, and knowing a little about drapery and shoes, he might say something on those subjects. But when he came to remember his first acquaintance with these matters, he came to the conclusion that if he had had an audience of children he could have told them some curious things about shopkeeping sixty years ago. He could remember then going from shop to shop in Hexham, but the shops of that day were simple things to the shops of the present day. He had been looking round the exhibition, and he could hardly see a single article which he found in shops of former times. There were no candles hung up with string as then, and then there were only two kinds of soap. There was no packet tea or coffee. The coffee was standing in a canister, and the sugar was not put up, but was standing in a tin mug. Everything was in the old-fashioned style. Tinned goods had not come into the real trade, and all packet goods were unseen. The thing was open and fair; they saw what they were buying, but now they didn't know. (Laughter.) It was trade that made trade, and there were multitudes of people employed to-day in making up something to put something into. It was astonishing to see how the stalls around them were made up. There were shops sixty years ago which they could not find now. The ready-made thing had come into hand. There were no ready-made clothiers' shops then. The clothes were all spun by the mothers at home, weaved by the weavers in the neighbourhood, and made by the tailors, who came to their houses. It was the same thing with the dressmakers, and the various bonnets were of different form and different material. (Laughter.) There was no use for matches in those days, and they had no gas or electricity. They were not then struck by the bright light of electricity, which now lighted up their streets and their shops. Matches then were long sticks, and the poor men carried them under their arms, and went from door to door. Things had changed since then. The real object of that exhibition was the salvation of souls, a work which would go on when many of them in that room were gone. He hoped they would be successful that day. It had been said that they had come that day to gather up the fragments, but it was possible they might get many basketfuls. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Harris, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Oliver.

THE ENTERTAINMENTS.

While the efforts of the tradesmen have been much appreciated, there can be no doubt that the entertainments were a great source of attraction, and it must be said that they were provided in abundance, variety, and excellent quality. On Good Friday the Shotley Bridge Concert Party, and the Wesley Guild Toy Symphony Party (under the able leadership of Mr. J. E. Smith, of Annfield Plain), each went through three programmes, and a capital programme of operatic music was given by the Shotley Bridge String Band, with Mr. T. Nixon as leader. Had there been nothing else these concerts were a great treat, and worthy the money paid for admission. On Saturday Mr. Geo. Cull's (South Moor) band attracted a large audience, while they were going through a well-selected programme of orchestral music, and a series of concerts were given by the Catchgate Free Church Choir, under the leadership of Mr. T. Holland, and by the Annfield Plain Juvenile Choir, under Mr. Reynolds. Space will not permit of detail, otherwise it would have been a pleasure to have specially mentioned each of the ladies and gentlemen who so willingly and ably took part in the various programmes referred to. On Monday the great attraction was Madame Bellas-Dryden, of Consett, whose beautiful voice filled the great hall to the delight of a crowded audience. Miscellaneous concerts were given by Miss B. Storey's Juvenile Party, with Miss S. Buckham, of Lanchester, and Miss Lizzie Ritson, of Stanley, as soloists. On Tuesday, the Newcastle Y.M.C.A. Orchestral Band, under Mr. Johnson Appleby, and the Stanley Wesleyan Choir, with Mr. S. Hartley as leader, rendered capital programmes, Miss M. Clark, contralto, and Miss Carlan, soprano, being the soloists. Add to these the cinematograph exhibitions, the Punch and Judy entertainments, and the other concomitants invariably attached to an up-to-date exhibition, and it will be admitted that Stanley's first exhibition has been an unqualified success.

Although the accounts cannot be made up for a few days yet, it is estimated that there will be a net result of not less than £120.

SWALWELL.

Presbyterian Church.—In connection with

TRADES' EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL AT CONSETT.

(Continued from Page Six.)

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The carnival was continued on Tuesday, when the opening ceremony was undertaken by Mrs Holliday (Beech Grove.) Mrs S. Brodie presided, and in the course of her address said that it did not seem like twelve long months since the Liberal Association Committee asked her to occupy a similar position to that she filled that day. She was much obliged to them for honouring her in such a way, and she was glad to be able to render them so light a service. (Hear, hear.) At the same time she could not help feeling that she wished they had asked someone who would be able to talk better than she could, for, as she said last year, the platform was not the place whereon ladies as a rule could speak with ease, and as she never consented to occupy this position she was naturally surprised when informed that her name appeared on the bills. However, her duties were light, and there were several speakers to follow, so she would at once proceed with the programme, and call upon Mrs Holliday to open the exhibition. (Applause.)

Mrs H. Holliday said:—Mrs Brodie, ladies and gentlemen,—It seems scarcely a year ago since I stood on this platform to perform the same ceremony I am about to perform now. I am very pleased that I have been able to come here to-day, at the invitation of the committee, to open this exhibition. The display of goods seems quite up to what it has been in former years, and I hope all who have taken part in this Trades' Exhibition to make it so popular will be satisfied with the results. I have much pleasure in declaring this exhibition open, and wish it all success and prosperity. (Applause.)

Mr James Palliser (Blackhill) said he had the duty and honour of proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the presiding lady, Mrs Brodie, and also to Mrs Holliday for her kindness in coming forward to open the exhibition that day. They had a very excellent opening on Monday, and although that movement was in connection with a political organisation, yet they had very little politics the previous day. They had not made it a political question altogether. The committee had gone in for this exhibition for two or three purposes; first, it was an educational purpose, and if they looked round they would see the effects of an exhibition of this character when they saw the beautiful stalls. He could assure them that it had entailed a tremendous amount of labour and a great deal of anxiety on the part of the committee, and very great credit was due to their two secretaries, Mr Wildsmith and Mr Broadbent. (Applause.) The success of all movements depended very much upon the secretaries, and the Chairman, and he was sure they had done all that was possible in order to make the affair a success. He was very sorry Mr Atherley-Jones was not amongst them to support the political movement and the Liberal cause in the North-West Division of Durham, and he thought that Mr Jones ought to have made some considerable sacrifice to be there that day. If he (Mr Jones) had been working very hard and wanted a little rest all well and good, and he did not know that he could have had a better rest during his holidays than in coming to the North of England and getting the breezy air. He thought that might have done him more good than sticking in the south; that was his opinion of the matter. However, it would be his loss when the election came if he didn't look about. There was going to be a contest, and they might as well face the issues. They must just keep pegging away, and do the best they could. Some people had said that this exhibition was completely played out, but when he looked upon the large company which was present on Monday it showed that it was not played out, and he believed it was destined to go on so long as the committee and the two secretaries were willing to work. They had an object in view, and that object was to establish a Liberal political club in Consett. (Applause.) If they could not rent a place they intended to build a place where they could have reading, recreation, a billiard table, etc., and he thought such was a very excellent movement in connection with their Liberal Association. He (the speaker) had said that he hoped Mr Jones, when the Bill for the establishment of a Catholic University in Ireland came before the house, would oppose it, but he said also that he hoped Mr Jones would not only oppose this, but he hoped that if the Wesleyan Methodists wanted one in Ireland at the public expense, he said that he hoped he would oppose that too. The latter part was not put in the papers, and their Irish friends might think that he was against the Roman Universities. If it had to be national, then let Presbyterians, and the Baptists, and the Methodists, and the Roman Catholics, and the Established Church, let them all have their institutes, and be supported from the State, but not to favour one above the others. (Applause.)

Coun. Thubron, Gateshead, also delivered a short address, dealing principally with the education question, and seconded the vote of thanks to Mrs Brodie and Mrs Holliday.

Mr Winter then put the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Miss Sybria Cavalho's company is occupying the boards of this theatre during the present week in the beautiful drama, "For a Child's Sake." The play is one full of interest and human passion, and shows to what an extent a mother's love will carry her for the sake of her child. It is a story well written, well mounted, and ably performed, and, with the exception of there being a little too much dialogue in Act 1, is one which retains the attention of the audience from start to finish. Of the artistes Mr. Percy Rhodes takes the part of the villain, "Rushdon," with able force, and Mr. Fred Knight is well to the fore by his fine portrayal of the admiral. Mr. Montague Turner appears to advantage as "Captain Frazer." Miss M. Poleni gives a splendid rendering of the part of "Olivia Rushdon," and Miss Violet Paget takes the part of "Nurse Jorry" with much success. The child, "Ray," is capitally impersonated by Master Jack Harcourt, who receives hearty applause from the audience. The fun of the piece is in the able hands of Mr. T. E. Conover ("Rigan O'Malley"), and Miss B. Hudson ("Martha"), and this pair create roars of laughter and applause by their clever acting. Other parts are well taken.—Next week, Mr. Arthur Carlton's "Prairie Flower" Company will appear. This is the second visit to this theatre, and good business should result, as the piece "took on" during its last visit.

Presentation at East Stanley.

On Easter Monday evening a large audience assembled in the East Stanley Church Mission room when a service of song entitled "The Pilgrim's Progress" was given by the choirs of St. Andrew's and the Mission Church under the conductorship of Mr. McKinley, and songs were rendered by Miss E. D. Welsh, Miss Polly Bates, and Mr. R. D. Grundy, Mr. Wm. Elliott acting as accompanist. The Rev. P. Duckworth presided over an appreciative audience, and during an interval an interesting presentation was made. For some time prior to the Mission room being built Mr. R. D. Grundy was lay reader and conducted services in a cottage and has since rendered praiseworthy service both at East Stanley in church and Sunday School work, and also at St. Andrew's as choir master. About Christmas Mr. Grundy entered into the married state, and the churchwardens had been waiting for a suitable opportunity to present him with a wedding present and that opportunity presented itself on Monday evening. A handsome marble timepiece had been purchased from the establishment of Mr. John Bates, jeweller, Stanley, upon which had been fixed a plate bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. R. D. Grundy by the choir, Sunday School and friends of East Stanley Mission Church on the occasion of his marriage. Xmas 1898." The Rev. D. W. James, vicar, in a short speech eulogised the work done and the valuable services rendered to the parish by Mr. Grundy. He called upon Mrs. Bates to make the presentation and that lady with a few appropriate words handed over the timepiece to Mr. Grundy, who made a short and suitable reply.

LANCHESTER.

The annual meeting of the Ancient Four-and-Twenty was held on Monday, in the vestry of the Parish Church, the Rev. Geo. Jepson, M.A., vicar, presiding. Mr. Walter Brotherhood, vicar's warden, presented the churchwardens' accounts for the past year. The collections amounted to £105 10s 11d, and the expenditure was £102 10s 9d. The accounts were considered very satisfactory and passed. The vicar re-appointed Mr. Walter Brotherhood and Mr. W. W. Thompson his wardens for the ensuing year, and the vestry reappointed His Honour Judge Green

Wedding at South Hetton.

On Wednesday morning, April 5th, at half-past ten o'clock, Miss Edith Pirie Mitchell, younger daughter of the vicar of South Hetton (Rev J. W. Mitchell, late vicar of Leadgate), was married to Dr A. A. Moore, of South Hetton. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev Canon Mathwin, vicar of West Pelton, assisted by Rev A. P. Mitchell, rector of Brotton, and the Rev T. Wardle, curate of South Hetton. The Rev J. W. Mitchell gave the bride away. Miss Mitchell was attended by her two little nieces, Hilda and Shea Bousfield, and Dr Moore's little boy Eric. The Rev J. H. Clarkson, curate of Greenside, acted as "best man."

Spinsters' Social at Leadgate.

One of the most successful and enjoyable gatherings ever held in Leadgate was that promoted by the spinsters, and brought off in the Co-operative Hall on Easter Monday night. The recent social arranged by the same ladies on behalf of the Guild was very successful, but it was easily eclipsed on this occasion. People flocked into the building in such numbers that there must have been over 300 present, and we should think that this about constitutes a record. The ladies composing the committee had carried out their arrangements in the most satisfactory manner, and it was only right that their herculean efforts should have been so handsomely appreciated. And it must certainly be said that the large company was a remarkably good-humoured one, all present being evidently imbued with the sole idea of enjoying themselves, and this they appeared to do thoroughly. The music was entrusted to Mr John R. Wood, of Consett, and in such able hands it is hardly necessary to say that it gave the utmost satisfaction. The M.C.'s had a busy time, but such experienced hands at the business as Messrs A. Burnhope, J. Kershaw, and R. Wilson made light of this, and fulfilled their duties in extremely praiseworthy fashion. The refreshments—which were of the best—were supplied by the spinsters themselves, and these met with a ready sale. The proceeds, we may state, were on behalf of the Leadgate Park Football Club, whose funds are likely to benefit materially as a result of the gathering, and the members are certainly very much indebted to the spinsters for their successful effort to aid the club. The committee—all of whom did their level best for the undertaking—comprised the following ladies:—Miss Mary Black, Miss Maggie Black, Miss Stephenson, Miss Dawson, Miss Russell, Miss Tate, Miss K. Winter, Miss E. Greener, Miss Jahrns (Blackhill), Miss Forster, with Miss D. Burnhope as hon. treasurer, and Miss L. Winter hon. sec. Valuable assistance was rendered in the refreshment department by Mrs Winter, Mrs Gill, and Miss E. Burnhope. Dancing commenced at eight o'clock, and was continued with vigour until three o'clock the next morning. As the outcome of the social, the committee have handed over the handsome sum of £16 to the treasurer of the Park Football Club, Coun. W. J. Forsman.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH CHOIR, BLACKHILL.

Annual Soiree.

On Tuesday evening the members of the above choir held their sixth annual soiree in St. Mary's Schools, Blackhill, kindly granted for the occasion by the Rev J. Foran, the esteemed pastor of St. Mary's Church. There was a large company present, which included Rev Father Foran and Rev Father Kelly. The schools, which have recently been considerably improved, were decorated for the occasion, and presented a bright and most attractive appearance. The soiree, which was one of the most successful ever held by the choir, was a distinct success, and this was in no small measure due to the energy and attention of Mr E. J. Sloane, Mus. Bac. (organist) and the choir members, who have every reason to feel gratified with the success which characterised their evening's entertainment, and who worked indefatigably for the comfort and pleasure of their visitors. One of the most interesting features of the evening was the rendition of several excellent choruses, and a few capital songs, by the choir, which were interpreted in a highly finished and creditable manner, several of them being unanimously encored. The choir showed many signs of careful training, and of perseverance, and must be heartily congratulated upon the artistic treatment which characterised the choruses they so ably contributed. Many pleasant games were indulged in during the evening, and were thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Before the conclusion of the programme Mr E. J. Sloane, Mus. Bac., in the course of a few remarks, proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Father Foran for so kindly granting the choir the use of the schools for the occasion. This was carried amidst loud applause, and, in response to which, Father Foran said he was pleased to see such a nice company present, and trusted that everybody had spent a very pleasant evening. (Applause.) The pianoforte was presided over by Mr E. J. Sloane and Mr J. Reddington. Excellent refreshments, which gave every satisfaction, were supplied by Mrs Purvis, Derwent Street, Blackhill, and an able staff of assistants. Altogether the gathering was one which will be long remembered by those present, for it was certainly one of the most enjoyable ever held in connection with the choir.

FANCY DRESS BALL AT STANHOPE.

On Easter Monday night, the young ladies of the social committee held a fancy dress ball in the Town Hall, when upwards of fifty couples responded to the invitations sent out. The hall was beautifully and artistically decorated for the occasion with evergreens, flags, mottoes, and draperies. The Woodhall family supplied the music, and gave entire satisfaction, as also did Mr A. McCallum, the courteous master of the ceremonies. The Misses Littlefair catered for the refreshments, which were heartily enjoyed by the company. Unlimited praise is, however, due to Miss Galley and her co-workers for bringing the affair to so successful an issue, it being unanimously remarked that the ball has seldom, if ever, been surpassed in Stanhope. The ball was led off by Miss Galley and Mr J. R. Ridley, Miss H. Robinson and Mr F. Nicholson, at 8-30, and continued until 5 a.m. Mr S. Judge, Blackhill, Mr Thompson, Darlington, and Mr N. McCallum, Stanhope, contributed songs, &c, while Mr Wm. Hall, Newcastle, accompanied them on the piano. The following ladies and gentlemen were present:—

Miss Galley (Folly.)
Mr J. R. Ridley (Page.)
Miss H. Robinson (Summer.)
Mr F. Nicholson (evening dress.)
Miss M. A. Greener, Blackhill (French cook.)
Mr F. Collingwood (Military dress.)
Miss Walton (evening dress.)
Mr C. Brownbridge, Saltburn-by-the-Sea (evening dress.)
Miss Bruce, Darlington (Winter.)
Mr N. McCallum (evening dress.)
Miss Egglestone (Scotch lassie.)
Mr J. Stockdale, South Shields (Courtier reign George III.)
Miss M. Walton (Red Cross nurse.)
Mr J. Beveridge, Newcastle (evening dress.)
Miss Hall, Waterhouses (Country girl.)
Mr W. Hall, Newcastle (evening dress.)
Miss Priestman (Little girl in blue.)
Miss J. Jackson (evening dress.)
Miss Philipson (Little girl in blue.)
Mr A. Sisson (Scotch laddie.)
Miss Nicholson (Night.)
Mr R. Currah (evening dress.)
Miss R. Slack (Summer.)
Mr A. Johnson (evening dress.)
Miss E. Walton (Red Riding Hood.)
Mr C. Snowdon (evening dress.)
Mr P. Galley.
Mr J. Wilkinson.
Mr C. Golightly.
Mr W. Bainbridge.
Mr J. Allison, Consett.
Mr J. Wearmouth.
Mr W. Walton.
Mr Bell, Rookhope.
Mr Morley, Eastgate.
Mr H. Green.
Mr J. Littlefair.
Mr R. Snowdon.
Mr T. B. Vickers, Newcastle.
Mr J. H. Thompson.
Mr T. Bainbridge.
Mr A. Waton.
Mr H. Surtees (Jockey, Tod Sloane.)
Mr S. Judge (Military dress.)
Mr J. Greener (evening dress.)
Mr C. Young (evening dress.)
Mr T. Leith (Jack Tar.)
Mr R. Wake.
Mr G. Wood.
Mr C. Pescod (evening dress.)
Miss Hamilton, Blackhill.
Mr R. Charlton, Medomsley (evening dress.)
Miss Jobling, Frosterley (evening dress.)
Mr T. Gowland (evening dress.)
Miss Woodhall (evening dress.)
Mr H. Bainbridge, evening dress.)
Miss Angus (Village girl.)
Miss Bell (Marguerite.)
Mr R. Foster (evening dress.)
Miss A. Elliott (Dancing girl.)
Mrs Lofthouse (evening dress.)
Mr Thompson (evening dress.)
Miss Jackson, Wolsingham (evening dress.)
Mr F. Robinson (evening dress.)
Miss Robinson (evening dress.)
Mr A. Robinson (evening dress.)
Miss Stephenson (evening dress.)
Mr W. Willis (evening dress.)
Miss Thompson, Darlington (evening dress.)
Mr J. Walton, Allergill (evening dress.)
Miss A. Jones, Parson Byers (evening dress.)
Mr J. Bainbridge (evening dress.)
Miss Sanderson (evening dress.)
Mr J. Brown (evening dress.)
Miss Thompson (evening dress.)

Mr W. F. Regan, F.R.G.S., again to the Fore.

Where Gold comes from.

THE interview from which the following is abridged was first published in the "Daily Telegraph," the other day. Mr. W. F. Regan, F.R.G.S., is, of course, the well-known city and South African magnate. Described by the interviewer as a hard worker, of sound judgment and restless activity, the famous author of "Boer and Uitlander" was found in his office at 41, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C., long after his army of clerks had gone home, and was still alert and ready to talk.

"I am not hypocritical," said Mr. Regan, "and don't pretend to be averse to be interviewed: my views as to the present state of affairs in South Africa and elsewhere are at your service.

"Never in history has mining been more prosperous, nor in the history of the Transvaal has the political horizon been clearer. In the hands of such men as J. B. Robinson, Beit, George Albu, and Messrs Lewis and Marks, the Transvaal is being developed, and immense dividends on capital invested have been and are being paid. The Witwatersrand Gold Fields produced for the month of May, 1887, 887oz. of gold; for the same month of 1897 the output exceeded 248,305 oz.; for the same month in 1898 the output was 365,017ozs.; whilst for January of the present year the twenty-eight days yielded 431,010ozs. Further, new mills are being erected, capital for development purposes is again finding its way into the Transvaal, and I hope to see before June next a monthly return of 500,000ozs; yet the country is but in its infancy.

NEW FACTS IN HIS PERSONAL HISTORY.

Mr. Regan then went on to give an account of the satisfactory state of affairs in West Africa, British Columbia, and the Klondike, and proceeded to say: "It is expected when a man saves the life of another the least the individual so assisted can do is to tender his thanks and gratitude. I do not say this principle is always strictly followed, because on one occasion,

I HAVING SAVED THE LIFE

of a person—who will be nameless—the gentleman seemed to think, much to my disgust and astonishment, that he had a claim on my protection and support for the rest of his days. On principle, I believe that if a doctor, chemist, or medicine manufacturer, directly or indirectly, helps to relieve a complaint, the least one can do is to acknowledge the fact, so that others who are similarly afflicted may know that within their reach is a medicine which, if used may bring relief. Up to 1895 I enjoyed perfect health. From February to November of the year in question I worked on an average nineteen out of the twenty-four each day. Many days, running into weeks, I have worked day and night. In 1896 heavy work continued up to the fall of the year, when symptoms of weakness and general debility appeared. At first I took little notice, and was not alarmed until I found a difficulty in walking straight when passing through the streets. Indeed, sometimes I was forced to catch hold of a railing or turn into the nearest office for a few minutes. I have been forced as early as ten o'clock in the morning to hail a hansom in Cheapside, not being able to control my limbs, though there was left but a few hundred yards to travel in order to reach this office. This kind of thing continued throughout 1896, though I never missed one day from business, and fainting fits were of frequent occurrence. I recollect on one occasion—to me a notable day (April 24th, 1896)—as a strange coincidence by one mail I received three letters, the first written by the greatest of English statesmen, the late

RIGHT HON. WILLIAM E. GLADSTONE,

the second from the Cromwell of South Africa—Paul Kruger—whilst the third was written to me by His Majesty the

KING OF PORTUGAL.

All three were letters of encouragement. Now on this particular day, above all days, one would fancy an individual so honoured would not, could not, forget the incident; yet I left this office on the evening of the 24th about seven o'clock, and the next day found me in such a condition that the knowledge of these important communications was gone—in short, my mind appeared a blank. The complaint had evidently left the limbs and attacked my brain, and this state of things continued well into last year at frequent intervals. I believed that sooner or later a stroke of paralysis would follow. Had I been a married man with a family depending upon me I should certainly have thrown my business up, settled all my affairs, executed a will, and otherwise prepared for the end; but believing that recovery was quite impossible, I worked on in desperation, in order that I might better forget my wretched state. I consulted four doctors, all specialists and noted medical men. By one I was told that if I did not give up my work in three months I should be in my grave within six; another suggested that I should go abroad permanently; whilst a third consoled me with his opinion that nothing could be done, and that my case was brain paralysis brought on by overwork and anxiety. A city friend suggested that I should try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I simply laughed, and thought nothing more of what I now regard as a most valuable suggestion. Meeting the same gentleman again, he asked me if the medicine was beneficial; on my replying that a purchase had not been made, he left me in the street, and appearing at this office later in the day, much to my amusement placed before me twelve small pink-wrapped packages, containing Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and insisted on my swallowing the first dose then and giving a promise to take one pill after each meal. My friend is a persevering man; he called the following day, and the next, to know if I had obeyed his injunction. When a man puts hand in pocket and buys for you when ill a medicine, the fact establishes at least beyond a doubt his belief in the efficacy of the prescription, an for this reason alone I determined to finish the contents of the twelve boxes within a reasonable period. I consumed all, and always carry now in a silver match-box (filled twice a week) Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I take three a day, and am no longer troubled with locomotor ataxy in the limbs, my brain is perfectly clear, and I work on an average from eight in the morning until eight at night, and I verily believe I sleep as soundly as if camping out on the South African veldt."

Consett Irish Institute.

Annual Soiree.

On Easter Monday evening a large and select company assembled in the spacious room of the Consett Irish Institute, Trafalgar Street, on the occasion of the annual soiree. A great deal of attention had evidently been paid to every detail in the management of the affair, as was evidenced by the completeness of the arrangements. A knife-and-fork tea was provided, to which over 100 persons sat down, there being a yet larger number present later in the evening. The tea tables were prettily decorated for the occasion, the caterer, Mr. Salisbury, Consett—to whom every credit is due for the excellence of the fare provided—having given the decorations of the tables his special care. Amongst the large company present on the occasion were—Couns. T. Dunne, and J. Daly, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rogers, Mrs. and the Misses Harker, Miss Young (Blackhill), Mr. and Mrs. J. Lappin, Mr. and Miss Mullen, Mr. J. Murphy, Mr. and Miss Gooden, Mr. J. O'Connor, Miss Boyle, Misses E. and M. Blake, Messrs J. and E. J. Sloane, Mr. Jas. Eltringham, Mr. and Mrs. Coleman, Mr. McKie, Miss B. Mullen, Miss M. Moore, Mr. P. Rogers, Mr. J. and Miss M. Forkin, Mr. T. Lynskey, Mr. B. Ward, Mr. P. Tumilty, Mr. Quinn, Mr. P. Kane, Miss Griffin, Mr. J. McAlcer, Miss McNally, Mr. Hagan, Miss Casey, Mr. P. McKie, Mr. Campbell, Miss McKie (Blackhill), Mr. M. Donohoe, Mr. D. Richardson, Miss Matthews (Leadgate), Mr. D. Rafferty, the Rev. J. Kelly, Blackhill, and others. During the evening supper was constantly provided, lemonade and other light refreshments being supplied at the lower end of the hall. A most enjoyable programme of vocal and instrumental music was gone through during the evening, including violin solos by Miss Gooden (Consett), pianoforte solos by Miss M. Harker, A.L.C.M., Blackhill, and Mr. E. J. Sloane, Mus. Bac., Blackhill, and vocal selections by Messrs Gooden, C. Marshall, Jas. Sloane, P. O'Brien, J. Campbell, Mrs. Lappin, and Miss Roberts. The artistes were exceedingly well received, and deserve special praise for the excellence of their respective merits. The proceedings terminated at the close of one of the best arranged soirees that has been held in the district for many years, and it must be a source of great gratification to the sub-committee who had charge of the general arrangements that the fixture proved so eminently successful. The ever zealous secretary of the Institute, Mr Thos. Forkin, who seems indefatigable in his preparations and arrangements for these social gatherings, must be complimented on the perfect manner in which the whole affair was worked out. Undoubtedly parties such as these, which are of so entertaining and yet of so respectable a character, do much to improve the social tone of their own people, and we commend

FOOTBALL.

PRIZE COMPETITION.

The consolation prize this week is divided between

JACOB WALTON,
28, Bradley Cottages; and
CHARLIE LITTLE,
Fell House, Consett.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Stanley	4	2	2	0	8	0	6
Consett Swifts	6	2	2	2	7	5	6
Leadgate Exiles	5	2	1	2	8	9	5
Allendale Park	4	1	2	1	5	5	4
Annfield Plain	5	0	3	2	5	9	3

Hobson having withdrawn their record is not included.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pt
Blackhill St Chrts	10	6	2	2	13	7	14
Consett Shamrocks	10	5	1	4	21	11	14
Medomsley W S	9	5	2	1	25	14	11
Delves Lane Untd	9	3	3	3	16	18	9
Leadgate Park Jr	10	2	5	3	16	20	7
Catchgate Lilwhts	10	1	8	1	12	33	3

The usual monthly meeting of the committee will be held on Friday night at 7 o'clock.

J. W. KELSEY, Sec.

Fixtures for Saturday, April 8th.

DURHAM AMATEUR CUP.

SEMI-FINAL.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. HOBSON WANDERERS.

This important fixture will be decided at Consett on Saturday, when a hard struggle for supremacy is sure to be witnessed. The undermentioned players will do duty for

CONSETT—Goal, W. Graham; backs, J. Finnigan and R. Charlton; half-backs, R. Wake, W. Harrison, and J. Rafferty; forwards, B. Rafferty and J. Little, right wing; Jas. Finnigan, centre; P. Smith and J. Dempsey, left wing.

Referee, Mr Mitchinson. Kick-off at 3-30.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

ALLENDALE PARK v. LEADGATE EXILES.

These teams meet at Medomsley on Saturday, and as both teams occupy a favourable position in the league table a well contested game is ensured.

ALLENDALE—Goal, J. Scott; backs, W. Hunter and M. Walton; half-backs, Talbot, T. Walton, and M. Hunter or Winter; forwards, Truman, Brown or Thompson, Morris, Lynop, and Robinson.

Referee, Mr H. Smith. Kick-off at 3-30.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

CHARITY CUP COMPETITION.

RE-PLAYED TIE.

LINTZFORD v. LEADGATE PARK RESERVE.

This game will be re-played on the Park ground on Saturday.

LEADGATE PARK—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, A. Aitkin and C. V. Todd; half-backs, D. Cartmell, G. Temple, and R. Dawson; forwards, C. Walton, M. Robinson, W. Crowther, T. Cook, and J. Birtley.

Referee, Mr J. Barrow, Blackhill. Kick-off at 4.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

MEDOMSLEY WHITE STARS v. DELVES LANE UNITED.

To be played at Consett on Saturday.

MEDOMSLEY (chosen from)—T. Bell, F. Graham, E. Wilson, W. Wilson, G. Talbot, P. Talbot, W. Calvert, W. Wheatley, J. Turner, J. Grant, J. Kelly, H. Walton, F. Turner, and H. Hedley.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S RESERVE v. DERWENT COTTAGES JUNIORS.

These teams meet at Blackhill on Saturday.

BLACKHILL (chosen from)—Brown, Hughes, Bell, Richards, Turnbull, Wilson, Jewell, Greener, Watson, Heslington, Lennox, Lubbock, Smith, and Jameson.

CHARITY CUP COMMITTEE.

A meeting of this committee was held on Tuesday night, at the Station Hotel, Ebchester, the Chairman (Mr J. Ross) presiding. There were also present:—Messrs J. Bennett, Byer Moor; W. Hodgson, Tantobie; W. Payne, Burnhope; and Mr J. B. Taylor (Secretary), Blackhall Mill.—Lintzford lodged a protest against Leadgate Park Reserve owing to the ground not being properly marked; and, after considering the matter, it was resolved that the game be re-played at Leadgate on Saturday first, Mr J. Barrow, Blackhill, being appointed referee.—The draw for the second round resulted as follows:—South Moor or South Tanfield v. Lintz Rovers; Byer Moor, Hamsterley or Tantobie, Leadgate or Lintzford, byes.—It was decided that South Moor and South Tanfield should be instructed to play off their tie in the first round on Thursday or Friday night of this week, and meet Lintz Rovers on Saturday—Mr Hodgson to referee the first game, and Mr G. Grey, Marley Hill, the second tie. In case the latter gentleman cannot act, Mr Bennett was empowered to appoint a referee.

MEMS.

Birtley have had a heavy week-end.

And have not even a point to show.

At Hebburn the display given by Danskin was marvellous.

I hear they are going to lose Miller and T. Fish.

They are going to get a "trial" for Sheffield Wednesday.

Both of them are good men.

And deserve the honour conferred upon them.

Miller has come on wonderfully this season.

He has plenty of speed.

And is a good shot.

Of Tommy Fish no information is needed.

Because everybody knows what a splendid half-back he is.

I wish them success.

Blyth have gone to pieces.

And deprived Stanley of a good "gate" on Good Friday.

It was a poor sort of a day.

But it was Good Friday.

The Celts from Annfield Plain filled the gap.

For a consideration, of course.

The game could not have been more forced had it been a cup-tie.

Stanley were a much better team than Wallsend.

They had a fair share of the game in the first half when the wind was against them.

And almost monopolised play for the remainder of the game.

Yet they did not win.

Owing to no referee turning up, South Moor and South Tanfield did not play their Charity Cup-tie last Saturday.

Leadgate Park Reserve and Lintzford have been ordered to re-play their tie at Leadgate on Saturday.

The "Ford" men played a good game last week with only ten men.

Their goalkeeper is a champion.

I heartily congratulate Mr Wm. Payne, the esteemed and popular secretary of the Burnhope Rovers' Club, upon his election to the Lanchester Parish Council.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, BENFIELDSIDE.—During the season of Lent, there was a mid-day service on week days at 12 noon, and evening service at 5 p.m. or 7.30 p.m. There were three celebrations of the Holy Communion on Easter Sunday morning, the first at seven, the second at 8 a.m., and the third at morning prayer. The anthem at morning prayer was "What are these in white robes," and at evensong, "Jesus Christ is risen to-day." The altar, font, and pulpit were decorated with flowers. The preacher at morning prayer was the Rev. J. W. Brown, M.A., curate, and at evensong the Vicar, Canon Ross-Lewin, M.A.

VESTRY MEETING.—The Easter vestry was held on Tuesday evening in St. Cuthbert's School. The Vicar, Canon Ross-Lewin, presided. The accounts were considered to be very satisfactory, and were ordered to be circulated among the parishioners at church. The Vicar nominated Mr Francis Priestman, J.P., as vicar's warden. Mr John Spraggon, to the regret of the meeting, said he could not accept the office of parishioners' warden for another year. A hearty vote of thanks was given to him for his able services as churchwarden during the last six years. Mr John Collinson, manager of the North-Eastern Bank, Shotley Bridge, was elected parishioners' warden. All the sidesmen were re-elected with the addition of Messrs John Spraggon and John Thirlwell. Messrs Richley and T. Whinney were re-appointed as auditors. Messrs James Annandale, J.P., and Francis Priestman, J.P., were elected as representatives to the Ruri-decanal conference of Lanchester Deanery. A cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr C. E. Oliver, of Selby Lodge, for his generous help as honorary architect of the new room at St. Cuthbert's School, and to Mr Rose

BLACKHILL.
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WEARDALE.

EASTERTIDE IN WEARDALE.—A snowstorm prevailed in the dale on Good Friday morning, but during the day it melted. Special services were held both in Stanhope and Frosterley Churches during the day, and on Sunday as well. The Frosterley Wesleyans celebrated their Sunday School anniversary on Good Friday, and Sunday. There was a public tea on the Friday, and on Sunday sermons were preached by Mr. Harker, of Arkingarth (Yorkshire). The children also recited and sang hymns, anthems, &c. The Stanhope Primitives held a "Providence supper" on Saturday night, and the Rev. J. S. Nightingale, of Consett, preached on Saturday night, and twice on Sunday. In the afternoon the choir gave a service of song, entitled "In his footsteps; or, what would Jesus do." Mr. Wm. Elliott gave the connective readings.

DERWENT COTTAGES.

THE RECENT BAZAAR.—At the bazaar held at Medomsley last week, those in charge of the stalls were as follows:—No. 1.—Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Henderson, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Dobson, Misses Robinson and Henderson. No. 2—Mrs. Ridley, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Archer, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Bell, and Miss Milburn. Ornamental stall—Miss Leathead, Mr. Robinson, and Miss Robinson. Confectionery stall—Miss Magowan, Mr. J. N. Bell, and Mr. J. Ridley. Lemonade stall—Mrs. Walker. Refreshments were provided by Mrs. Pears, Mrs. H. Bell, Mrs. Edgar, and Miss Wilkinson. Programmes of music were given each day by the following choirs:—Wednesday, by Westwood Free Methodist Choir and Mr. A. Davidson's String Band; conductor, of the choir, Mr. W. Pearson; accompanist, Mr. Burryman. Thursday, Medomsley Wesleyan Choir, under the leadership of Mr. R. Graham; accompanist, Mr. T. Little. Saturday, Derwent Cottages Choir; conductor, Mr. E. Kirtley; accompanist, Mr. J. Harbottle. The bazaar was opened on Thursday by Dr. Allen, of Blackhill, and on Saturday by Mr. E. Kirtley, of Consett. The total proceeds of the bazaar amounted to about £136 3s 8d.

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"WE attend to our own Business."
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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

MOORE—MITCHELL.—At Holy Trinity Church, South Hetton, on 5th inst., by the Rev Canon Mathwin, vicar of West Pelton, assisted by the Rev A. P. Mitchell, rector of Brotton, brother of the bride, Alfred Arthur Moore, M.B., M.C., South Hetton, to Edith Pirie, younger daughter of the Rev J. W. Mitchell, vicar of South Hetton.

MADDISON—LOWRIE.—At Wesleyan Church, Consett, on 5th inst., by Rev J. Bacon, John Maddison to Elizabeth A. Lowrie, both of Consett.

Deaths.

ALLAN.—Craghead, on 1st inst., Ellen Allan.

BIRD.—Templetown, Consett, on 4th inst., aged 24 years, Annie Virginia, dearly beloved wife of Edward Bird, and youngest daughter of the late Robert Oswald, of Templetown. Also, on 4th inst., aged 5 days, Annie Virginia, daughter of the above.

COOPER.—Dipton, on 1st inst., in his 73rd year, John Cooper, builder.

COULSON.—Greenhead, Shotley Bridge, on 1st inst., in his 81st year, Joseph Coulson.

COULSON.—Dipton, Delight Cottages, on 28th ult., aged 83, Elizabeth Coulson.

DIXON.—Victoria Place, Chester-le-Street, on 30th ult., Elizabeth Dixon.

EDWARDS.—Bird Inn, High Hold, on 4th inst., at the residence of her mother, aged 25, Mary Elizabeth Ann Edwards.

FORSTER.—At 32, Hotspur Street, Tynemouth, on 1st inst., in his 81st year, Francis Joseph Forster.

GEDLING.—White-le-Head, on 29th ult., aged 87, George Gedling.

HADDON.—Quality Row, Swalwell, on 3rd inst., aged 57, Ann Haddon.

HALL.—Heaton, 178, Malcolm Street, on 3 th ult., aged 57, Mrs Elizabeth Hall (nee Weddell.)

HALL.—Kibblesworth, on 31st ult., aged 13, Isabella Hall.

HEPBURN.—Stobbilee Farm, Langley Park, on 30th ult., aged 49, John Hepburn.

HARRISON.—High Spen Farm (at the house of her son-in-law, Thos. Carlton), on 4th inst., aged 76, Sarah Harrison.

HUNTER.—Emmaville, on 27th ult., aged 73, Mary Hunter.

HODGSON.—At Mandville, Castleside, on 3rd inst., aged 63 years, Thomas, dearly beloved husband of Jane Esther Hodgson. Interment on Friday at Three o'clock.

JOHNSON.—Houghton-le-Spring, on 29th ult., aged 66, John Johnson.

JOHNSON.—Lynwood, Evelyn Terrace, Blaydon, (at the residence of her son, William Gregory), on the 31st ult., in her 70th year, Jane Johnson.

JOHNSON.—Clara Vale, Ryton, on 29th ult., in 56th year, Elizabeth Johnson.

LEONARD.—Blackhill (at the residence of her grandson, Jabez Swindale, chemist), on 1st inst., aged 82 years, Ann, widow of the late Thomas Leonard.

MURRAY.—Prudhoe, on 2nd inst., aged 73, Hannah Murray.

MILLIGAN.—At Middlesdene, near Rowley, on 4th inst., aged 61 years, Ann, the beloved wife of Peter Milligan. Interment at Castleside Churchyard on Friday. Lift at two.

NICHOL.—Consett, 48, Front Street, on 4th inst., aged 48 years, Mary Ellen, beloved wife of William Nichol. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery on Friday, April 7th, leaving the house at 3-30. Friends please accept this intimation.

PARKER.—Pear Tree Farm, on 1st inst., aged 24, Elizabeth Parker.

PARMINTER.—At 6, Eslington Road, Newcastle, on 4th inst., aged 73, Rev Henry Parminter, vicar of Humshaugh-on-Tyne.

RIDLEY.—Leadgate, North-Eastern Cottages, on 1st inst., aged 65, Henry Ridley.

ROBINSON.—Pont House, Leadgate, aged 38 years, Sarah, beloved wife of John Robinson, and second daughter of Isaac and Mary Walton. Interred at St Ives on April 2nd.

SMITH.—At the residence of her son-in-law, Geo. Forster, 10, Thornton Street, Pelton Fell, Isabella Smith.

SIDDLE.—Gateshead, 19, Peterboro' Street, on 31st ult., in her 74th year, Jane, widow of the late Robert Siddle, of Shotley Bridge.

SLEE.—Newcastle, 37, Grovenor Place, on 29th ult., aged 18, Ernest Bewsher Slee.

WALKER.—Swalwell, Station Hotel, on 4th inst., James Walker.

WILSON.—London, at the residence of his brother, Dr Wilson, 184, Mare Street, Hackney, on 1st inst., Henry Bainbridge Wilson, of 7, Osborne Villas, Newcastle.

WOOD.—Kay's Cottage, Beamish, on 30th ult., William Lewis Wood.

WHITFIELD.—Castleside, Lane Ends, on 5th inst., aged 67 years, Jane, the beloved wife of James Whitfield. To be interred at Castleside Churchyard on Saturday, at Three o'clock. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

YOUNG.—Waldridge, on 27th inst., aged 57, Thomas Young.

In loving memory of Margaret Prinn, beloved wife of Thomas Prinn, of Annfield Plain, who died April 7th, 1897.

Though sad we mark the closing eye
Of those we loved in days gone by;
Yet sweet in death their latest song,
We'll meet again, 'twill not be long.
Ever remembered
By her beloved husband, sons, and daughters.

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DWELLING-HOU
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Plans and Specification
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Tenders must be sent in to
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April 5th, 1899.

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a small dress.—Finder rewa
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