The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 1,075. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, April 8th, 1881. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

Wanted.

WANTED, a respectable GIRL as General Servant. Apply to Mrs. MOFFATT, Shotley Bridge. 85p

AGENT wanted to push First-class Lubricating Oils. Commission—10 to 15 per Cent.—Box 322, Post Office, Liverpool. 847o

WANTED, a HOUSEMAID, and also a SEWING MAID; each about 20 years of age. Apply at Derwent House, Shotley Bridge, any morning before eleven o'clock. 66p

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED. — A respectable Middle-aged Woman required for a family of two persons; one who could milk a cow preferred.—Address—J.P., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 79p

WANTED, AGENTS.—A genuine Agency is offered to Shopkeepers, Clerks, &c., having spare time. Orders taken from Illustrated List (Samples optional). None unable to give references as to respectability need apply.—For Terms and full Particulars send stamped directed envelope to the AGENCY SUPERINTENDENT, the Musical Instrument Club Company Hexham-on-Tyne.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a New-calved COW, well-bred.Apply to WILLIAM PHILLIPS, New Road Farm, Benfieldside

FOR SALE, Cheap, a good Strong ROLLEY.—Apply to N. ELSDON, Delves Lane, Consett. 92

FOR SALE, several HORSES, COBS, and PONIES, quiet to Ride and Drive in Double and Single Harness.—Apply to Mr. JOHN BRODIE, Shotley Bridge, or Jos. BELL, Highrata. 817o

FOR SALE, 1 Red-poled HEIFER, in Calf; 1 Two-year-old FILLY; and 1 One-year-old FILLY.—Apply to JOHN WILSON, Farmer, Clifton House, Leadgate, Co. Durham. 108p

FOR SALE, New and Second-hand CONVEYANCES of every description.—Apply to Mr. ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Consett, or to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Shotley Bridge. 811h

BIRMINGHAM GOODS.—Purchase Wholesale direct. JEWELLERY, WATCHES, HARDWARE, FURNITURE. Illustrated Book, &c., 48 Pages Threepence. Henry May, Birmingham. 90p

SEED POTATOES FOR SALE.

MAGNUM BONUM.
SCOTCH CHAMPION.
SCHOOLCRAFTER.
EARLY MARKET.

APPLY TO

WM. WATSON,
TANFIELD, LINTZ GREEN.

For Sale.

SPRING TARES;
PURE TARTARIAN OATS;
SEED BARLEY,
From HALLETT'S PEDIGREE STOCK;
LINSEED and COTTON CAKES, &c.

EDWARD DIXON,
MILLER AND SEEDSMAN,
EBCHESTER MILL.

To Let.

TO LET, at May Term, a SHOP and HOUSE.—Apply to J. THURLOW POTTS, Draper, Middle Street, Consett. 124p

THE Annfield Plain Co-operative Society's Hall is now Open for Public Entertainments. Terms on application to the Manager, Mr. ADAM BROWN. 616o

TO LET, a HOUSE, and Six Acres of LAND, at Greenside, near Castleside.—Apply to J. MOOR, East Butsfield. 113p

TO BE LET, 2 COTTAGE HOUSES, at Bloe House.—Apply to Messrs. CHARLTON, High Wakerley, Shotley Bridge. 120p

TO BE LET, and may be entered at May Term, the Commodious SHOP, in Victoria Street, Consett (Adjoining Mr. BRAND'S Grocery Establishment).—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 126p

TO LET or SELL, a Newly-Erected DWELLING-HOUSE, situated in Benfieldside Road, and containing 7 Rooms; also, Bath-room, Scullery, and Pantry, with good yard and Garden behind.—Apply to MR. F. Gibson, Foundry Row, Blackhill. 762o

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the Erection of a Parsonage House at or near Holmside, for the Rev. EARLE M'GOWAN.

Drawings, Specifications, Condition of Contract, and Form of Tender may be seen at our Offices on and after Monday, the 21st inst.

Tenders, sealed and endorsed, are to be delivered to us on or before Monday, April 18th, 1881.

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

JOHN SMITH and SON, Architects.
Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, March 17th, 1881. 79p

Business Announcements.

GENUINE

GARDEN AND FARM SEEDS
FROM
ROBERT ROGERSON,
SEEDSMAN AND GROWER, DUMFRIES, SCOTLAND.

Agent—RICHARD ASHDOWN, Gardener and Florist, Prospect House, Leadgate.
Gardens kept in order, and Gardeners sent out by the day. 21p

J. TAYLOR,
PAWNBROKER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CLOTHIER,
BROAD CHARE,
(50 Yards from Quayside),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Business Announcements.

TRESPASSERS on Number One Farm, will be prosecuted. 692n

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.
☞ PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED ON CONTRACTED FOR.

HENRY ROGERS
(Late of Consett),
AUCTIONEER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
16, TYNE STREET, BLAYDON. 602n

NEW CONFECTIONERY ESTABLISHMENT.

SIMON ROWE,
LATE of Allansford, respectfully intimates that he has commenced Business as Wholesale and Retail Confectioner and Plain and Fancy Bread Baker, at 17, Newmarket Street, Consett.
Funerals and Parties of every description supplied.
Brides' Cakes, both Plain and Ornamental, made to order. Address—17, Newmarket Street, Consett. 894o

NOTICE.

THE Game upon Allendale and Medomsley East Farms is strictly preserved. All Persons found Trespassing will be prosecuted.

ALBUMS IN GREAT VARIETY
FROM 2s. 6d. TO 15s. 6d. EACH AT
ROBERT JACKSON'S,
PRINTER & STATIONER,
9, AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER,
HOUSE AGENT, AND APPRAISER
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 660n

PLUMBING AND GASFITTING.

P. SURTEES having commenced Business as PLUMBER and GASFITTER, at Shotburn Terrace, Consett, begs to intimate to the Inhabitants of the District that he is prepared to Execute all Orders entrusted to him in a Prompt, Cheap, and Workman-like manner.
☞ All Orders left with Mr. ATTCHISON, Publican, Annfield Plain; or Mr. H. DAVISON, Ironmonger, &c., Catchgate, will receive prompt attention. 792o

CARRIAGES.

MESSRS. ATKINSON and PHILLIPSON have at present an extensive Stock of NEW and SECOND-HAND BROUGHAMS and WAGONETTES, with moveable tops, of the latest designs, suitable for winter use. The REGISTERED CASTLEREAGH and RAVENSWORTH Pony Cars are received with great favour. These novel Carriages, which only weigh 3¼ cwts., are hung on American elliptic springs, and fitted with patent jump seats. Sporting and other Phætons, Moor Carts, and GLEIGHS. Drawings Free on application.
16, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

WILLIAM FITZPATRICK,
TAILOR,
CATCHGATE,
BEGS respectfully to call the attention of Gentlemen ordering Clothing for the present or approaching Season, to the following Price List:—

Superior Black Suit, in Plain Cloth or Worsted	£3 3 0
Scotch Tweed Suit	2 10 0
An excellent Pair of Scotch Tweed Trousers for	0 13 0

VENETIAN BLINDS, Wholesale and Retail; Old Blinds Painted, Varnished, or Re-fitted on the shortest notice; Fittings of every description kept in stock; Lines, Tapes, Pullies, Rollers, Slides, &c. Ladder Tape made in every size, 1½d. per foot, or 4s. per dozen yards, at

G. H. STEWART'S,
VENETIAN BLIND MANUFACTURER,
VENETIAN HOUSE,
1, WESTMORLAND TERRACE, & 2 DUKE ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 602o

Parties Furnishing will do well to Visit

WILLIAM WILKINSON'S
FURNITURE WAREHOUSE,
CATCHGATE,

Where they will find a large and well-assorted Stock of FURNITURE, HARDWARE, PERAMBULATORS, LOOKING-GLASSES, CLOCKS, WATCHES, and JEWELLERY, Wholesale and Retail.
A PRESENT to each Purchaser of Half-a-Guinea Wedding Ring.
WASHING and MANGLING MACHINES.
AGENT for McKENNEY and ELLIOTT'S DRILLING MACHINES for Coal and Stone.
HORSE NAILS, Patent and Hand Wrought.
AGENT for NEWMAN and CLIVE'S COFFIN FURNITURE.
FLOCKS, FEATHERS, and RABBIT DOWN Always on Hand.
☞ N.B.—A large Assortment of New CRYSTAL, PERISCOPIC, & EUREKA SPECTACLES always on Hand. 1810

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON

TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and ROLLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.
Try the EXCELLO HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.
Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.
HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
(Warehouse, Catchgate),
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,
ESTABLISHED 1817.
Agent for the Newcastle Condiment Company's CHAMPION SPICE, for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Poultry, Game, Stacking Hay &c. 280o

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

WILLIAM STEWART AND SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 32, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND COUNCIL OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

FINEST OLD
VATTED SCOTCH WHISKEY.
Price, 18s. per Gallon. Nett Cash. Supplied in Casks or Cases.
PORTS, SHERRIES CLARETS, CHAMPAGNES, &c., all from First-class Shippers.

Price List on application to
WM. MILLER, JUN.,
WINE MERCHANT, QUEEN'S HEAD YARD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

JOHN HALL'S PRICE CURRENT!

CURRENT

FLOUR, &c.—
Fines, 1s. 10d.; Supers, 2s.; Extras, 2s. 1d.; Baltic New Process Crue Arrow Brand, equa to Hungarian, only 2s. 2d.; Rye Meal and Households, 1s. 8d.; Spratt's Poultry Meal; Split and Whole Indian Corns; Rough Barley; Wheat; all kinds of Feeding Stuffs on hand; Prime Potatoes, 7d.; Rice, 1s. 10d.; Barley, 1s. 10d., Lentils, 1s. 9d.

TEAS, &c.—
Good Whole Leaf Tea, a capital liquor, 1s. 8d. per pound; Indian Tea, very pungent liquor, 2s. 6d. per pound; the finest blends in Indian and China Teas, at 3s. to 3s. 6d. per pound; the choicest Assam, 4s. per pound; Sugar, 2½d., 3d., and 3½d. per pound; Currants, 4d. and 5d. per pound; Raisins, 6d. per pound.

ALL 1s. 1½D. PATENT MEDICINES SOLD AT J. HALL'S ARE 9½D. TO 10D. EACH

PRICE

CHEESE, &c.—
American, 6d.; finest American, 9d.; English, 9d. and 10d.; Oleo-Butterine, 10d. to 1s.; finest new Danish Butter, equal to the best Brown, only 1s. 6d.; Bacon, from 4½d. to 6½d.; Hams 6½d. to 7½d.; Wilson's Corned Beef, only 6d. Medal at the Philadelphia Exhibition, only 6d.; Russian, 7d. per Tin.; 1lb. Tin of Milk, 6d.; Tins of Tongues, 1s. each; 2lb. Tins of Roast Beef, 1s. each.

SOAPS, &c.—
A hard Pale, 2d. per pound; extra Pale, 3d. or 10d. per quarter stone; finest Pale or Mottled, 1s. per quarter stone; Almond Soap, 3d. per pound; finest White Windsor Soap, 4d. per pound, generally sold at 6d.; Sinclair's Cold Water Soap, 4d. per pound; Wax Candles, 6d. and Dips, 4½d. per pound; Tapioca, Flaked, Pearl, or Bullet, 2d. per pound; Rice Flour, 3d., Corn Flour, 5d., and Lentils, 2d. per pound.

GOODS REDUCED:—POTATOES, WAX CANDLES, SALMON, AND LENTIL, SBUTTER, &c.

TERMS—CASH.
☞ DISCOUNT—SIXPENCE IN THE POUND!! ☜

JOHN HALL,
WHOLESALE AND FAMILY GROCER, ANNFIELD PLAIN. 12p

DENTAL NOTICE!

MR. T. F. WATSON,
SURGEON DENTIST,
52, NEW BRIDGE STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE,
CONSTRUCTS Artificial Teeth, on his New System, without Springs or Wires. ☞ Charges Moderate. Painless Operations under the influence of Nitrous Oxide Gas.

ATTENDANCE AT Mr. ROUTLEDGE'S, CHEMIST, 11, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT, EVERY TUESDAY, FROM 11 A.M. TO 3 P.M. 4p

WINES & SPIRITS FOR THE PRESENT SEASON

Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 220 varieties, representing the largest, finest and best matured Stock in the world.

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

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

AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, CONSETT, LEADGATE & ANNFIELD PLAIN

From whom Single Bottles of any varieties can be obtained at fixed London Prices.

WINES	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
PORT Castle A *from Portugal* Fine fruity Wine, well matured	An excellent 2/	24/
PORT Castle B *from Portugal* A fine full-flavored fruity Wine	A fine full-8 years old 2/6	28/
SPANISH PORT Castle A *from Spain* A fruity Wine of good body	9 years old 1/3	15/
SPANISH PORT Castle A *from Spain* The finest old Red Wine produced.	10 years old 1/10	22/
SHERRY Castle SPANISH *from Spain* A good Spanish Wine	7 years old 1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle C *Pale from Spain* An excellent type of dry Sherry	6 years old 2/6	28/
MARSALA Castle VP *Pale from Sicily* A delicate dinner Wine	3 years old 1/6	16/
MARSALA Castle C *Pale from Sicily* The finest Marsala imported	7 years old 1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A good sound Beverage Wine	1 year in bottle 1/	12/
CLARET Castle C *from France* A superior Medoc Wine	2 years in bottle 1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A Sparkling dry Champagne	Bottles 2/1 Half-Bottles 1/3	23/ 14/6
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Foil* The choicest Wine of the District	Bottles 2/6 Half-Bottles 1/6	29/ 17/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 1. A good Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	Bottles 2/3 Half-Bottles 1/3	26/ 15/
CHAMPAGNE Castle B A high-class delicate Champagne	Bottles 3/ Half-Bottles 1/6	33/ 18/

SPIRITS	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
GIN Castle UP. Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's Distillery	21 per cent. under proof	2/ 24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's Distillery	33 per cent. under proof Strength, proof	2/10 24/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle UP Dublin Whiskey	33 per cent. under proof	2/3 27/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle PROOF Dublin Whiskey	Fine Strength, proof	2/9 30/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle UP Scotch Malt Whiskey	33 per cent. under proof	2/3 27/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle PROOF Scotch Malt Whiskey	Fine Strength, proof	2/9 30/
BRANDY Castle UP Possessing the whole-some qualities of Cognac	33 per cent. under proof	2/6 30/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac	Strength pf.	2/6 63/
COGNAC Castle D Brandy	A fine old Cognac 33 per cent. under proof	2/6 63/
COGNAC Castle F Brandy	A fine old Cognac Strength proof	2/6 63/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP Jamaica Rum	A fine 33 per cent. under proof	2/3 27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle PROOF Jamaica Rum	A fine Strength, proof	2/9 30/
HOLLANDS Castle 1 Distilled in Holland from Rye	24 per cent. under proof	2/6 28/
HOLLANDS *(Silver Stream)* The finest Geneva. Bottled abroad.	24 under proof	2/9 32/

All Bottles (except for Sparkling Wines) are charged 1d. each, which is allowed when returned.

Business Announcements.

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

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.
Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Flatings Estate, Leadgate Farm, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.
☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

ESTABLISHED 1778.

REID & SONS.

SILVER PLATE,
ELECTRO-PLATE,
JEWELLERY,
CLOCKS,
WATCHES,
In large variety of Prices and Patterns.
N.B.—Illustrated Sheets and Catalogues Free on application. 711o
41, GREY ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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

HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.
N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 364o

BISHOP AUCKLAND EQUITABLE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

Chairman of Directors: Mr. JOSEPH WILKINSON, Saw Mills, Bishop Auckland.
Solicitor: RICHARD BOWSER, Esq., Bishop Auckland.

THE DIRECTORS are prepared to RECEIVE LOANS of FIVE POUNDS and upwards, at 5 per cent. Interest, payable Half-yearly.
ANY SUMS Paids and Shares entered at any time.
THE ENTRANCE FEES are abolished.
THE REPAYMENT of an Advance on Mortgage of £100 is 15s. per Month, or £9 per Annum, which covers Interest and Redemption.
PROFITS divided equitably amongst Members.
WM. V. THOMPSON, Secretary.
Offices: 25, Market-place, Bishop Auckland. 698n

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!!

A PRESENT to each Purchaser of our GUINEA GOLD RING.
F. A. AND R. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 818h

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, without first obtaining the said Company's permission, will be prosecuted according to Law.
By order of the Directors,
August 31st, 1875. M RICHLEY, Secretary.

J. BATES,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT,
JOINER, Undertaker, Furniture Broker, &c.
Flocks, Feathers, Rabbit Down, Ironmongery, Perambulators, and General Furnishings. 606h

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

JACOB HUTCHINSON,
TAILOR,
(Late of Derwent Street, Blackhill)
RESPECTFULLY announces to his Friends and the Public that he has
REMOVED TO NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,
The Premises lately occupied by Mr. HARVEY, deceased) Where he intends carrying on the Tailoring Business in all its branches, and hopes, by strict attention to all Orders, to merit a share of public patronage.
Please to note the following low quotations for Suits made to order:—

OVERCOATS.....	from £1	5 0 upwards.
SUITS.....	„	1 15 6 „
MOLE TROUSERS.....	„	0 10 6 „
LADIES' JACKETS.....	„	1 5 0 „

☞ READY-MADE SUITS, 30s. and upwards.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other Building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry must first obtain the consent of the Secretary of the Company before commencing the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default therefore, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Person will be Prosecuted to the Law directed. The Secretary can be seen daily at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.
By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1876.

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND CATCHGATE,
HAS new on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 675p

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH, 1881.

THE NEW CZAR'S POLICY.

IF the words attributed to the young Czar a few days after his accession be not apocryphal, we may look forward with some confidence to a peaceful settlement of the Eastern and good many other questions. He is reported to have said, "I believe that we have such a mass of affairs to attend to at home that we must leave Central Asia alone." This confirms the accuracy of Sir CHARLES DILKE's weather forecast of the last week or two It will be remembered that he cut the Candahar querists with their querulous complaints of honour dead in the Transvaal and buried in Candahar with the remark that it was Russia, and not we, who were scuttling out from an aggressive policy in Central Asia. As one fact is worth a hundred theories, we may at once point to the fact of Scobeloff's return to St. Petersburg. On the accession of Alexander III. he was instructed by telegram to suspend all operations and wait for further orders. Reading between the lines of this command, or reversal of the forward policy sanctioned, if not approved of, by the late Czar, Scobeloff, who is nothing if not spirited, at once sent in his resignation. Honour, it seems, is even more touchy in the Russian Army than our own. We may put out political squibs about honour dead in one place and buried in another, but at least our commanders do not dictate our policy by huffy refusals to serve unless on there own terms. In any case, the Czar has put up with the affront for the present, and has rewarded Scobeloff for his resignation, ill-timed as it was, by a high command at St. Petersburg. But the sore rankles still in the breast both of the General and his Master, and it will be seen before long which is strongest in Russia. As far, however, as we may judge by present appearances, we should say that the Czar sincerely means to make his accession the starting-point of a new departure. He might be excused for hesitating for some weeks after the assassination of his father. He had then to make the choice offered in life to every young man, and generally offered only once. We call it the choice of Hercules, simply because Hercules is a convenient symbol for humanity at large. Two courses are set before us, and according to the decision come to is the complexion of our whole after life. To begin well is to have half done what we have to do. The saying is a Latin one, but its truth is vouched for by the fact of its translation into all languages. Now, the young Czar—we may say it without flattery—seems to have begun well. He has seriously set himself to look at home first, and instead of adventures in Central Asia, he has resolved to set his own house in order. As for representative institutions, it will be time enough to prepare for an Imperial Parliament when he has called back into life the old local assemblies, whether village, municiple, or provincial, which have been virtually suspended during the long reign of bureaucracy, which dates from the accession of Czar Peter. Russia then "civilized" herself, as the phrase goes; but she had only bad models to go by, and the consequence is that she became a centralized despotism, such as RICHELIEU planned and LOUIS XIV. carried out in France. Russia has not succeeded as yet, as France did in 1789, in shaking off this nightmare of autocracy; but she is moving in that direction, and all that we mean by Nihilism is only the rumbling of the mountain because there is a giant imprisoned underneath. No time is to be lost in dealing with this question, and the CZAR is much to be commended if, instead of vindictively pursuing those who despise life in the pursuit of a great political end, he resolves to strike out a new path for himself. He is apparently doing so, and in the end this will be more effective than all the Dictatorships and all the Special Commissions which the late CZAR in his despair set in motion to stamp out Nihilism.

PROTECTION OF WILD BIRDS.

ONE of the most useful Acts past during the last Session of Parliament, was one for the protection of wild birds during the breeding season, namely from the 1st of March to the 1st of August, and we think it well to call special attention to the fact that this important Act has now come into operation for the first time. The birds embraced in the schedule number eighty-five, but so many of the names given are synonymous or local appellations, the list may be at once reduced to less than half that number. The protected birds may be classified as follows:—namely, the American quail, (colin), auk, (*marrot*, *murre*, razor-bill, scout), avocet, bee-eater, bittern, Cornish chough, cuckoo, *curlew*, (whaup, whimbrel), diver, loon, *dunlin*, (oxbird, plover's-page, purre, stint), gannet (solan goose), goatsucker (fern-owl, night-hawk, night-jar), godwit, goldfinch, grebe, guillemot (*marrot*, *murre*, *scout*, systey, *willock*), gull (kittiwake, sea-mew, skua—black-backed gull excepted), hoopoe, kingfisher, kittiwake (tarrock), *lapwing* (peewit), merganser (smew), nightingale, oriole, owl, petrel (fulmar, shearwater), phalarope, plover (dotterel, *sea-lark*, stonehatch, oyster-catcher, *lapwing*, *curlew*, thick-knee), *pochard* (dunbird), puffin (coulterneb, *marrot*, sea-parrot, willock), reeve or ruff, roller, sandpiper (summer-snipe, dunlin, greenshank, redshank, sanderling, *sea-lark*), *skua* (bouxie), snipe, spoon-bill, tern (sea-swallow), *thick-knee* (stone-curlew), wild duck (mallard, eider duck, *pochard*, skeldrake, shoveller, teal, widgeon), woodcock, woodpecker. The names o the birds which are repeated (taken from Cox's exposition of the Act) have been italicized; but even by that means it is not easy to illustrate all the synonyms. But the abov classification contains the names of the whol of the protected birds; it would require a considerable amount of space to illustrate the repetitions fully. Enormous numbers of these birds have hitherto been consumed as food all the year round. In London alone over two millions of various wild-birds are annually sold in the markets the wings and feathers of which are variously utilized, while the birds themselves are eaten in a variety of ways. It is to be hoped that this measure will be found sufficiently ample for the protection of our wild birds. It may be held as embodying the previous Acts of Parliament relating to sea and wild birds of 1869, 1872, and 1876, which were somewhat contradictory and difficult to reconcile, inasmuch as they decreed various close times, and gave power for the alteration of close times to courts of quarter sessions, on application to the HOME SECRETARY. It is certainly a convenience to be able to find the laws as to wild birds of all kinds included under one statute. Under the present statute many other birds besides those scheduled are fully or partially protected during the breed ing-times. Garden or song birds will now b safe from the traps and guns of strangers although those persons on whose property they are will be able to prevent them from becoming a nuisance, the power of killing them being still in their own hands. There are persons who fancy that the present Act will not prove the success that is anticipated; they look upon it as a sort of disturbance of the balance of nature in the adjustment of which man is an important factor. A lessee of salmon fisheries blames the former Acts for the scarcity of salmon, maintaining that the number of wild birds has been so largely increased by the protection they have received during the last four or five years as to cause a sensible diminution of the young fish, in consequence of their being largely preyed upon by gulls and other winged enemies. The late Mr. BUCKLAND, too, if we are not mistaken, blamed the increasing number of wild birds for thinning the shoals of inshore herring, and entered into an elaborate calculation to prove that the birds consumed an immeasurably greater number of these fish than are caught by the fifty or sixty thousand fishermen who nightly sail the seas to spoliate the shoals. Any increase of our garden birds, it has been argued, will tend to a deficiency of our fruit supplies; but that argument may be at once set aside, as our garden birds do more good than harm: it having been proved in France over and over again that the insects killed by the birds are far more destructive than the birds themselves. We are quite willing that the present Act should have a fair trial; if "the police of nature" should become in any way temporarily disorganised, nature will doubtless provide a remedy. As if, however, to illustrate the old saying that "a coach-and-four may be driven through any Act of Parliament," it has to be noticed that the present statute, although it protects the birds during their nesting season, does not protect their eggs. This is really a strange omission, and one that we hope will be remedied during the present Session.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The latest bulletins with regard to Lord Beaconsfield have not allayed the apprehension with which his condition is regarded. The danger is most serious, Lord Rowton who was at Algiers has been sent for by Lord Beaconsfield's express desire, and is now travelling home post haste. Waiting for the verdict is the only word to describe the state of suspense in which London—perhaps I ought fairly to say West-End London—has been waiting to hear what the issue of the illness may be. It has compelled the police at last to close, or nearly so, the entire traffic of Curzon Street, which is always considerable. Not only are the bulletins anxiously looked for, but the medical journals which are criticizing the case are consulted to see what experts think of the chance of his recovery.

The speech of Lord Cairns upon the Transvaal question bears marks of careful preparation, and the result was a piece of rhetoric which, whatever may be thought of its matter, was worthy of the best days of Parliament any oratory in its manner. Lord Kimberley was evidently unprepared for so trenchant and elaborate an attack, and his reply bore traces of the confusion into which he had been thrown by the onslaught. Lord Selborne's speech provoked an unfair comparison with that of his predecessor on the Woolsack. A Lord Chancellor's legal duties usually stand in the way of the preparation necessary for the making of great speeches, whilst an ex-Lord Chanceller is, comparatively speaking, a man of leisure. It is impossible to deny that Lord Cairns' speech has produced a great effect. If the black man is to be considered as the political equal of the white man, and if, as Lord Cairns says, there are 700,000 blacks in the Transvaal as against 35,000 whites, all the black population and a part of the white population professing English to Dutch rule, the policy of annexation does not look so very unjustifiable after all.

Lord Cranborne is evidently a chip of the old block. He has been making a speech at some junior Conservative Club down in Lancashire, and it would almost seem like the Lord Robert Cecil of twenty years ago. He has the same straining after antithesis and the same defiant ring which made his father the champion of military toryism when he won his first spurs in that direction about the end of the long Palmerston Ministration, when Conservation was in danger of melting into thin air under the blandishment of that most popular Premier. Young Lord Cranborne will evidently come to the front if his party ever come in.

The seizure of the *Freiheit* and the arrest of its editor on Wednesday is not universally approved of. We would have thought there could have been no difference of opinion as to the way in which a civilized Government ought to deal with a journal which unambiguously and earnestly advocates and rejoices over assassination and massacre. But the warrant against Most charges him with inciting the subject of a foreign power to rebellion. And this gives some colour to the absurd cry that the freedom of the press is being invaded. The *Globe* maliciously points out that a good many English newspapers incited the subjects of Turkey to rebellion and were not indicted for it. The prosecution will tend to show the real strength of the socialist party in England. A meeting to protest against the action of the Home Secretary was held on Thursday night at Soho, and others are arranged for in the East-End.

Mr. Justice Matthew's able judgment in the Clarke v. Bradlaugh case has been upheld in the court of appeal, and after Lord Justice Bramwell's lucid and exhaustive judgment in that Court it will be strange if the House of Lords can find cause for reversing it. Mr. Bradlaugh conducted his case with great ability and tact. Lord Justice Lush only did him justice in the high compliment which he paid to his acute advocacy and moderation of bearing. He looked black, though—and Mr. Bradlaugh *can* look black if any human being can—when the judges gave their decision. And his scowl at Mr. Clarke, the prosecutor, between whom and himself there must surely be some personal quarrel, spoke whole volumes of suppressed vituperation. Mr. Bradlaugh took care to ask for a stay of execution pending further appeal. The judges said they thought there was really no danger o such a proceeding. "But there *is* a danger," said Mr. Bradlaugh, with an expressive glance towards his adversary, and the order was made accordingly.

Beer—if we may judge by the late election enquiries at Macclesfield, Chester, and elsewhere, is likely to come out with a black mark against it, and the question will be how to deal with the offender. Among the many forecasts of the Budget I have seen one to the effect that Mr. Gladstone will punish beer as the parent of electoral impunity. But I do not believe it. He has already stirred enemies enough in the beer barrel without driving Mr. Bung the victualler to desperation.

They say Sir Garnet Wolseley is going to be made a peer, and that he is to be the Duke of Edinburgh's successor at the Horse Guards. What is to become of Prince Arthur then? Shall we cease to have the luxury of a Royal Duke in chief command of our Army?

Twenty-three thousand pounds is a good deal of money to spend in decoration and internal alterations, even of a building the size of Exeter Hall, and though the place is certainly very much improved it is not quite easy to see where the Young Men Christians have spent their money. They might with great advantage to good taste have emitted one item of expense—the huge mahogany abortion which obstructs and spoils the effect of the noble pillars at the strand entrance, and upon which they have "put up their sign." Of the three principle lions at the re-opening meeting on Tuesday, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Shaftesbury, and Lord Cairns, it was remarked that the speech of the latter was the most fervid and hortatory. The Archbishop wouldn't be in it at a sermon by the side of the ex-Lord Chanceller.

The Middlesex Magistrates are singular beings. They licensed the Argyll Rooms for years, and then in a fit of virtue refused to license them any longer. With singular impartiality they appear to have suddenly discovered that evil lurks under the apparent harmlessness or even benefit of preaching services in music halls on Sundays, and that sacred oratories are contrary to public morality. According to the Home Secretary they have exceeded their powers in putting a stop to the Sunday services in the Metropolitan Music Hall. But Sir William adds that he has no authority to control their action in the matter. The incident is one more proof of the necessity for putting the supervision of London places of amusement into other hands. Apropos of the Metropolitan, the Yankees have a way of holding religious services in theatres. An Englishman attending such a meeting remarked to a native upon the incongruity involved in the association of sacred exercises with a place of amusement. "Waal," said the Yankee, "I guess it's the best use you could put the place to, now." The Middlesex Magistrates appear to think otherwise.

Mild and quaker-like as Mr. Alderman McArthur might be esteemed, he is not without a due sense of the dignity of his position. A large Bazaar patronized by Royalty is being got up in connection with a charitable institution of great usefulness. Thousands of circulars were issued of a tasteful and expensive kind upon which the objects of the Bazaar and the names of its distinguished supporters were set forth. The gentleman who drew up this document, not being quite as well up in points of precedence as a Rouge Dragon or a Garter King at Arms, and having apparently a vague impression that parsons of whatever cloth were entitled to precedence over laymen, unfortunately placed Mr. Alderman McArthur's name after that, not only of the Bishop of Peterborough, but also of the President of the Wesleyan Church to which the Lord Mayor belongs. Alderman McArthur on seeing the circular immediately signified his intention of withdrawing his support, as he considered the postion of his name on the list derogatory to his position. On learning this the Committee issued a new circular with the names of the supporters of the Institution arranged in an order which was more agreeable to the feelings of his lordship, and this circular has been sent round to every recipient of the previous one with a request that the offending document should be immediately destroyed.

It was something to see the City lighted a *giorna* as the case was for the first time on Thursday night last. Many who usually rush off and leave the streets bare as a city of the dead by six o'clock stayed late at their offices on purpose to swell the crowd which at some places, like the Mansion House, was nearly impassable. The finest view of all was at Blackfriars Bridge. The new hotel and buildings erecting for the City of London School with the area beyond had a weird effect. Altogether, the battle of old lamps for new is decided against gas, and its shares must go down.

DR. BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—Feneral cating all impurities of the Blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½ and 2s. 9d.

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

Correspondence.

"LIBERAL" AND HIS TIRADE AGAINST THE LAND LEAGUE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

"SIR,—All I have to say with regard to Patrick Carling's emanation in your issue of last week is that I hope past favours will always enable him to bless us with a great many more of his peculiar sentiments. They are so decidedly of the Donnybrook fair order that their perusal only succeeds in raising a smile at the expense of the writer, and surprise that such should be called arguments. One feels that if a landlord's existence as such depended on him, it would come to an end pretty quick, and the country would for ever be rid of this interminable land question. Such, however, is not the strain of another letter in the same issue and signed "A. H." In it there is an attempt made to defend the Land League in a feeble, hesitating, apologetic way, no doubt, but still it is an attempt. Because Mr. John Dillon has given expression to strong opinions we are asked to believe that they are not those of the great body of Irishmen. Now, in an assembly where there are hundreds of well-educated and intelligent men, it would certainly be unfair to say that the sentiments of one erratic person were the sentiments of the whole body; but I consider it is widely different when we have a lot of, comparatively speaking, uneducated, easily-led, half-illiterate individuals to deal with. Then I think we are quite justified in coming to the conclusion that the sentiments of their most notorious and prominent leader are shared by the great bulk of his followers, and the past condition of Ireland, I think, sustains us in this belief. When the Land League was first organised and carried on its system of terrorism and intimidation, its supporters had the utmost confidence in Dillon, and were led to believe that he and Parnell and Co., had the power in the House of Commons of preventing any law being passed to stop such unlawful proceedings. The law of the land was broken in a multitude of ways, and tenants were compelled to believe that rent would never more be paid, or if paid, only as much as in their eyes seemed sufficient. Farms were not to be taken if the former occupant had been evicted, and all persons who disobeyed the behests of the League were intimidated and terrorized over, and in other ways driven to join that obnoxious body. Then, in a great part of Ireland there was no liberty nor security to person or property. Men could not pay their debts nor earn their living. If they strove to be honest and industrious they had no security against the instigators and upholders of the League. Outrages were increasing, while the leaders of the Land League went on spouting, exhorting, advising, until it almost seemed that Government was powerless before such a gigantic agitation. What is the condition of Ireland now, since the Coercion Bill came into force? It is a pleasure to know that things are beginning to clear up there in spite of those who lately went about raising all kinds of storms. The people are now becoming aware of the fact that Mr. Dillon is not the strong and powerful personage in Parliament they anticipated, and Mr. Dillon himself seems chagrined at the changed aspect of affairs, for wherever he goes he is continually making appeals to his quondam followers to stand by him, and in the long run they will see, what they will see. But the law is no longer brought into discredit or the country to the verge of anarchy. Rents are now being paid in spite of the spoutings of the Land League, and Mr. Dillon's occupation is slowly and surely coming to an end. The people are doing now, what previous to the passing of the Coercion Bill they were afraid to do, for fear of being intimidated or 'Boycotted' by the followers and supporters of the League. To give an example. Hitherto, the Chairman of the Middleton Land League had refused to pay his rent, not because he was unable, but on account of the terror inspired by the League. His landlord distrained his stock, which immediately compelled him to pull out his purse and pay his rent, and the consequence is he has been expelled from the League. This shows us plainly enough that those who in times past followed Mr. Dillon are now finding him out, and finding out too, that the safest plan they can follow is to obey the law of the land, if they would not suffer from its operation. No longer now is the unwritten law of the League obeyed. The League and the Government settled that between them, and as a matter of course the Government came up smiling as every rational being predicted. But we are blandly informed that the Land League has brought the land question within the range of practical politics. As well and truly may we assert that Jupiter lately has bestowed upon us some exceedingly foul and disagreeable weather. I do not say such an assertion betrays a considerable lack of political information, but it just goes a little too far for those who have accustomed themselves to observe and think of this question, and I have no hesitation in saying that it has done nothing of the kind. The fact is Mr. Gladstone had declared over and over again, and pledged himself when in Midlothian, that he would bring the land question not only of Ireland, but of England and Scotland, within the range of practical politics. Why then should we be told the Land League has done so! On the contrary, it is difficult to perceive, and it would require the aid of a powerful microscope to assist us in perceiving how the Irish leaders by their wild, turbulent, destructive conduct ever desired to bring any Irish question within that sphere. Their sole aim seems to have been to assert in Ireland their own authority, and in England to render Parliamentary Government disgraceful, and instead of gaining the sympathy and assistance of Englishmen, I am afraid they have succeeded only too well in rousing up a spirit of ill-will and hatred which will not be easily subdued, but which I am certain will not affect in the slightest degree the Land Bill which Mr. Gladstone is going to introduce to Parliament next week. But I suspect the object of "A. H.'s" communication was not so much a defence of the Land League, which is indefensible, as a defence of Mr. Cowen, the member for Newcastle. It seems some of my previous remarks were rather severe, and "A. H." wounded in spirit, hastens to the rescue. Handling the honourable gentleman with great gentleness, he slews him slowly round to sight, so that all who care to look may see what a nice, beautiful whitewash he has administered. Now

Take him tenderly,
Lift him with care.

Oh dear, how shocking! as he can't stand by himself, how suitable, how astute, how clever in fact, to support him on either side with such good Liberals as Burt and Sir Wilfrid Lawson. But, Sir, it will not wash, we can't allow such a naive little game as that. It is generally believed by moralists and philosophers that a man is known by the company he keeps, and although we neither belong to the one nor the other, still we are inclined to take it for granted. Well, it was eternally Cowen and Labouchere, Cowen and Thompson, and frequently Cowen alone that were found in the company of the Home Rulers, and we are not going to admit that it was so with Burt, and Macdonald, and Sir Wilfrid Lawson. Oh no, not for Joseph! The other Radicals mentioned in my previous letter chiefly referred to local men, and not those whom "A. H." would have us receive so innocently. In my opinion no Member of Parliament has so identified himself with the Land Leaguers as Mr. Cowen, and if he had not done so, I am sure we should not have heard so much about him at all the meetings which have been recently held, neither would the Liberal Association of Newcastle have moved and passed a vote of censure upon him the other week. People in the neighbourhood are beginning to think Mr. Cowen rather stale, and not so genuinely Liberal as he was wont to be when he swore by Gladstone and Bright. Whether it is the fault of our judgment, or the member for Newcastle, time must be allowed to decide. I am favoured or rather pelted with a good many extracts from the *Newcastle Chronicle* to show that Mr. Cowen is not the acidulous individual I believed. That from the address to his constituents may be permitted to pass with only one comment, that in all such addresses, especially at election times, those humble admissions are of extremely little value, as they are intended not only to please friends, but to conciliate the indifferent. I most undoubtedly think that Mr. Cowen has tried to damage the Government, as I shall try to prove by quoting a few extracts too. Let me observe now, however, that there is no opponent more to be feared than a candid friend. I had rather fight fifty foes than have anything to do with such a friend. He is everlastingly nagging and finding fault, and damning with faint praise, and becoming a thorn in the side of a party or a Government. Away with them! "A. H.'s" remaining quotations prove nothing if they do not prove Mr. Cowen to be one of that ilk, and as such I'll have none of him. Far rather would I see him fighting in the foremost ranks of the Tories, doing his best to oust the present Government from power, than being with the Liberals but not of them. Mr. Forster was right when he said in his place in Parliament, "Of all the speakers I ever heard in this House, the hon. member (Mr. Cowen) is most skilful at making insinuations, and then appearing to disown them. With regard to myself he was very complimentary, and immediately afterwards came a very pleasant comparison between me and Maximilian Robespierre. Of course the hon. member did not wish to accuse anybody. No, far be it from him." On the first day of the present Session, and in the *Chronicle* of Jan. 7th, we find in the first sentence of Politics and Parliament, the key-note of all that has since followed. "The prevailing feeling amongst members is one of irritation and disappointment. There can be no question that a very stringent measure of Coercion will be proposed, and this bitter proposition will be followed by only *a very moderate measure of remedial legislation*." What can we think of this when we compare it with the extract "A. H." gives us—"It is unfair to sit in judgment, and pronounce an unalterable verdict upon the programme of the Government until it is fully expounded." Again, we find in the same issue (Jan. 13th, not 12th as "A.H." says) "When the squabble was over, and the order of business was settled." Why, Mr. Cowen had the honour of originating this squabble! Again (Feb. 11th) "The ministers will not only not yield a point, but they are barely civil in giving their reasons for refusing. All through the discussion the House has been assured that such a benevolent, humane, and Christ-like personage as Mr. Forster would not do an injustice to a human being." Such comments would have been appropriate coming from an approved Tory, but Mr. Joseph Cowen the Radical uses them. Again, (Feb. 22nd) "For the moment an emasculated Liberalism is in the ascendant. The next popular rebound will probably send a strong Tory ministry into power." After this utterance all the Radicals of Newcastle took to prophesying the end of Gladstone's Government, till one came to the conclusion that they would actually rejoice to see it. Neither they nor Mr. Cowen have said or done anything to support the Liberal Administration, and my faith in them is not even the size of a grain of mustard seed. It is simply non-existant. Again, (Feb. 21st) because Liberal Associations up and down the country are meeting and passing resolutions of confidence in the Cabinet, he sneers and terms "indiscriminate commendation"; and he calls such Associations "Caucus-mongers"; and the acts of the Administration in Parliament are "harsh and atrabilious," their attitude to opponents "acrid and acrimonious"; a "headstrong ministry," in passing objectionable bills: "the bulk of the men who sit behind the Ministry will pretty well vote anything their leaders tell them. Their hatred to the Irish members is so intense that they will cut their own noses off to spite their own faces." One might fancy the honourable gentleman sitting on the brink of Hades spitting forth the above, and all because they simply vote against him and in favour of maintaining peace and security to life and property in Ireland. It would be highly interesting and no doubt gratifying to hark back a few years to peruse his remarks on that mechanical majority behind Lord Beaconsfield, which voted so steadily in favour of all the measures that gentleman introduced, and which have left such a miserable muddle behind them, creating the necessity for the greater part of the present Government's unpleasant work. Again, (March 1st) "The fact is, that the Cabinet feeling somewhat doubtful of the continued adhesion of their own supporters, have determined to lean upon their opponents, and these said opponents will secure as their reward the desired delay of the Land Bill. The Government which eleven months ago came into office for the purpose of counteracting the doctrines and procedure of the Tories has practically subjected itself to their direction." Again, (March 7th) "The unceasing growl, for you cannot describe it in any other way, which Mr. Forster keeps up towards the Home Rulers, and the unfeeling gibes of Sir William Harcourt have rendered any alliance between the Irishmen and the Government impossible." Lastly, (March 9th) "The Government have endorsed and approved the action taken by General Wood, and it is reasonable to suppose that the General would not have taken upon himself such a responsibility without he had reason to suppose that he was acting in accordance with the wishes of the Cabinet." This last supports Mr. Forster's conclusion that he is the best insinuator in the House of Commons, and scarcely bears out the extract of "A. H." (March 21st)—"There can be no doubt that the ministers are anxiously striving to secure peace, and until the whole story of the negotiations is before us it is neither fair nor wise to pass a peremptory judgment on their doings." So much for the man who said the Government were evidently inclined to make peace with the Boers on almost any terms. He evidently considers that you may utter as many insinuations as you please, but never any "peremptory judgments." I fancy, Sir, all those extracts go to show that it is a very difficult matter to comprehend to what political party Mr. Cowen belongs, and it is some time now since I came to the conclusion that he thinks so much of his own opinions and capabilities that there is none other like unto him, no, not in all the world, so he forms a kind of party by himself, significantly named, the only genuine, pure, unadulterated, unsophisticated Radicalism now going, and to be had only of the one sole proprietor, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Newcastle.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

LIBERAL.

Markets.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—At this day's market there was a limited demand for wheat and then only for spot parcels; holders were, however, very firm, and on the business done last Tuesday's rates were rather exceeded. Barley, with heavy arrivals from Denmark, met with little attention, and must be quoted 2s to 3s lower on the week. Maize 3d cheaper. Beans neglected. Peas firm. Flour firm, but in limited demand.

NEWCASTLE CATTLE MARKET, Tuesday.—At this day's market the arrivals from a distance consisted of 170 head of cattle and 6 sheep from Aberdeen and the counties of the north-east coast of Scotland; 1,560 beasts, 358 sheep, 257 calves, and 603 pigs from foreign; and 87 beasts from Ireland. The show of stock presented for sale exhibited an increase of 494 beasts, and 674 sheep as compared with that of last week. Respecting quality, that of cattle and sheep was only middling, for time of year. The supply of beef comprised 2,150 head. The beef trade to-day varied a good deal. The better qualities were in fairly good request, and moved freely off at about the currencies of this day se'nnight, but for all other kinds sales were slowly effected at drooping rates, and it may be described as an irregular, slow-selling, dragging market, with a middling finish.

The number of sheep was 3,760 sheep. The mutton trade was completely devoid of animation, and the supplies were more than adequate to the demand, as the high prices are curtailing the consumption, and the butchers were buying cautiously. Pigs—413 were shown. Trade was rather slow, at about late rates. The day was favourable for holding the market. The weather was cold in the extreme, with a hard, wintry aspect. Prices for this day, sinking the offal are as follows:—

Beasts, prime heifers, per stone	8s 9d	to	9s 0d
Secondary sorts	7s 0d	..	7s 6d
First-class oxen	8s 6d	..	8s 9d
Middling	6s 9d	..	7s 0d
Cows and inferior	6s 6d	..	6s 9d
Pork	9s 0d	..	0s 0d
Sheep (good vendable wedders) per lb	10d	..	11d
Middling	9d	..	9½d

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW, Tuesday.—Old land hay £4 10s 0d to £7 0s; new land hay, £5 10s to £8; clover hay, £4 15s 0d to £5 15s per ton; wheat straw, 2s 0d to 2s 4d; barley straw, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; oat straw, 1s 8d to 2s 3d per thrave. Carts of hay at market, 96; carts of straw, 23.

HEXHAM CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—At this morning's market there was an average supply of oats, and a clearance was effected at late rates. Barley was in small supply, and sold at prices much the same as last week. No wheat on offer.

HEXHAM PROVISION, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb; eggs 13 to 14 for 1s; chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hares, 3s to 3s 6d each; rabbits, 2s 0d to 2s 6d per couple; potatoes, 6d to 8d; onions, 1s 10d to 2s 6d; apples, 3s 0d to 4s 0d per stone; lemons, 3d each; grapes, 8d per lb; marmalade oranges, 4d per lb.; flour, extra superfines, 2s 4d; superfines, 2s 2d; fines, 2s 0d; maslin, 1s 10d; oatmeal, 2s 0d to 2s 2d per stone.

NEWCASTLE FRUIT AND POTATO, Saturday.—Grapes 1s to 1s 6d; cabbages, 1½d each; apples, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; Scotch potatoes, 7d to 8d; large onions, 2s 0d; small onions, 1s 0d to 1s 6d per stone; oranges, 25 for 1s; dates, 3d per lb; carrots, 6d per stone; rhubarb, 4d per bunch.

DURHAM PROVISION, Saturday.—Beef, 8d to 11d; mutton, 10d to 11d; veal, 9d to 10½d; pork, 9d to 10d; bacon, 6d to 6d; ham, 6d to 7d; cheese, 7d to 9d; lard, 8d per lb. lamb, 12s to 16s per quarter. chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 9d; Hens, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; hares, 4s to 4s 6d; guinea fowls, 3s 6d each. Ptarmigan grouse, 2s 0d; prairie hens, 5s per brace. Rabbits, 3s; pigeons, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; wood pigeons, 1s 8d per couple. Butter, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; salt, do., 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.; Eggs, 12 to 14 for 1s. Apples, 2s 8d to 3s 0d; onions, 1s 6d to 2s 0d per peck; grapes, 10d per lb.; potatoes, 8d to 9d per stone.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Lords, Earl CAIRNS called attention to the arrangement recently made by Her Majesty's Government with the Boers as appearing in the communications respecting South Africa, and asked for explanations. His Lordship severely criticised the Government policy, and the Earl of Kimberley replied.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Labouchere gave notice that on Friday he will move for the issue of a new writ for Northampton, in the room of Mr. Bradlaugh, who has vacated his seat, in consequence of having voted in Parliament without having taken the oath required by law. Mr. Gibson intimated that he will move, at the same time, that a copy of the judgment of Mr. Justice Bramwell should be printed. Mr. Chamberlain stated that on Monday, if the discussion on the Budget was over at a reasonable time, he should ask the House for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of bankruptcy. Questions were answered with reference to the arrest of an editor in London, the Transvaal peace, the Greek frontier, and several other subjects, after which the House went into Committee on the Army Discipline and Regulation Bill.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Kimberley stated, in reply to a question, that the Government had received no information whatever as to the reported attack on Pretoria. The Local Courts of Bankruptcy (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

In the House of Commons, a new writ was issued for St. Ives in the room of the late Sir Charles Reed. Mr. Labouchere moved for a new writ for Northampton in the room of Mr. Bradlaugh, and after a long discussion the motion was agreed to without a division. Sir Massey Lopes gave notice that on an early day he will propose that it is desirable that the functions of the Executive Government which especially relate to agriculture and commerce should be administered by one department, and presided over by a responsible Minister of the crown. Replying to Mr. O'Donnell, the Marquis of Hartington said the Government had no intention of assisting in any way in the return of Yakoub Khan to Afghanistan. While they had declared their intention, as far as possible, of refraining from further interference with the domestic politics of the Afghan people, they had also declared their intention of assisting, if possible, in the restoration of settled government in Afghanistan, and certainly there was no intention of taking a step which would have the result of increasing the state of anachy which might be caused there. In answer to Sir John Kennaway, Mr. Childers stated that when the peace negotiations where concluded there were in Natal and the Transvaal eight regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and three batteries of artillery. The number they had decided to retain was ten regiments of infantry, four of cavalry, and three batteries of artillery, and other branches of the service, making up the force to 12,000 men. Other questions having been answered, Sir Herbert Maxwell, on the motion to go into Committee of Supply, called the attention of the House to the effects of the unrestricted importation from the United States of various spurious compounds resembling butter, and moved a resolution.

MONDAY.

In the House of Lords, several private bills were advanced a stage, and the Local Courts of Bankruptcy (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

In the House of Commons, the Marquis of Hartington, replying to Mr. ONSLOW, said the subject of the arrangements to be made for the protection of the inhabitants of Candahar had, he knew, been engaging the attention of the Government of India. Laws had been proposed to the AMEER on the subject, and instructions had been given to Colonel SYNGE. It was reported that the greatest part of the British subjects had signified their allegiance to the AMEER, and there was nothing to fear from him. In answer to Mr. BOURKE, Mr. GLADSTONE thought that, considering the uncertain progress of the diplomatic negotiations, in which there were many engaged, considerable progress had been made towards the settlement of the Greek question. Certainly very important steps had been taken. At the same time it was not yet settled. In reply to Mr. Bellingham, Sir William Harcourt denied that the prosecution of the editor of the *Freiheit* was one of a political character. It was a police prosecution instituted in a case of serious crime. Murder and incitement to murder were in the eye of the English law heinous offences, by whomsoever and against whomsoever committed. The law did not recognise any exemption in favour of murder of any particular class of persons, whether they were sovereigns or private individuals, and in this country foreigners were as much amenable to the law as English subjects were. Sir Chas. Dilke, replying to Mr. Arthur Arnold, stated that the Ambassadors at Constantinople had agreed upon the Greek frontier line, but that frontier line was not the one proposed by Turkey.

Mr. Gladstone made his financial statement before a crowded House. The estimated revenue for the past year was £82,696.000, and the actual revenue was £84,041.000. The estimated expenditure was £83,840,000, the actual expenditure was £83,108,000. The total estimate of income for 1881-82 was £85,990,000, the expenditure £84,785,000, showing a surplus of revenue over expenditure of £1,285,000. But there was an additional expense of £100,000, for barracks which the Government proposed to make. That reduced the surplus to £1,185,000. Then came the sixth penny of the income tax, and, at a cost of £1,640.000 he proposed to take away that penny. That left him a deficiency of £275,000. No alteration would be made in the tobacco duty. The duty on silver plate, which at 1s. 6d. produces £48,000 per year, would be reduced by 3d. every year until extinguished. He wanted a readjustment of the spirit duties which was estimated to yield £180,000 to the Treasury. Then the Government turned their attention to the larger subject of the probate duties, and proposed changes which would yield £390,000. With the other items mentioned, that would make a gain of £570.000. and deducting the deficiency estimated at £275,00, the net result would be a small estimated surplus of £295,000. As to the other points, it was a matter for congratulation, he thought, that they could cover the enormous expenditure of the country this year without adding to the burdens of the people. The right hon. gentleman sat down at 7-35, having spoken two hours and ten minutes.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Army Regulation Bill was read a first time. Lord Abinger called attention to the scheme of army organisation submitted to Parliament by the Secretary of State for War. A debate followed, in which the Duke of Cambridge and others took part.

In House of Commons Lord Randolph Churchill gave notice that to-morrow he will ask whether it was a fact that two members of Her Majesty's present Government did contribute towards the support of the *Freiheit* newspaper; whether the fact of their being members of the Government exempted them from liability; and, if not, whether they would be included in the criminal proceedings now being taken against the *Freiheit* by direction of the Home Secretary. Mr. Rylands asked a question with reference to the disqualification attaching to candidates and others found guilty of corrupt practices, and the Attorney-General, in reply, said that no disqualification of any kind attached to any persons so reported other than the candidates, except the prohibition to act as an election agent during seven years. The law required amendment, and was engaging the attention of the Lord Chancellor. He stated that 20 magistrates, 15 [illegible] and 74 councillors had been reported by the Commissioners as guilty of corrupt practices. In answer to a question, Mr. Forster said the Government had no intention of bringing in a measure to suspend evictions in Ireland, as such a course would retard the progress of the Land Bill. Mr. Gladstone, replying to Sir S. Northcote, explained the effect of the proposed changes in the legacy and probate duties. Other questions having been answered, Mr. T. P. O'Conner called attention to the recent fatal riot in Ireland, and the House was counted out at twenty minutes past seven.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Army Regulation Bill was read a second time.

In the House of Commons, a new writ was issued for Sunderland in the room of Sir Henry Havelock-Allan. The Lunacy Law Assimilation (Ireland) Bill was read a second time. Other measures having been discussed, Mr. Stanhope moved the second reading of the Patrenage Bill. He hoped the House would agree to go into Committee on the measure, and then their would be an opportunity for the fullest discussion. He intimated that he had been in communication with the Prime Minister and the hon. member for Huddersfield on the subject, and they agreed to this course. Mr. Illingworth objected to the bill, and the debate was suspended at a quarter to six. Sir Stafford Northcote, in reference to the Irish Land Bill, said it was understood that the House was to rise for the holidays on Friday, and it was also understood that the Government proposed that they should take the discussion on the second reading on the very first day after the holidays. He did not know how far that proposal might be modified, but at all events, if it was really made, they ought to have the bill in their hands as early as possible, and he thought it would be advisable to let the bill be circulated on Friday, so that they might have it before they left London. Lord F. Cavendish said the Government were anxious to place the bill in the hands of the members on Friday morning.

MARY MARSTON,

By GEORGE McDONALD L.L.D.

Author of "Annals of a Quiet Neighbourhood," "The Seaboard Parish," "Robert Falconer," &c.

CHAPTET XXII.

THE MENIAL.

Things had been going nowise really better with Mary, though there was now more lull and less storm around her. The position was becoming less and less endurable to her, and she had as yet no glimmer of a way out of it. Breath of genial air never blew in the shop, except when this and that customer entered in. But how dear the dull old chapel had grown! Not that she heard anything more to her mind, or that she paid any more attention to what was said; but the memory of her father had filled the place; and when the Bible was read, or some favourite hymn sung, he seemed to her actually present. And might not love, she thought, even love to her, be strong enough to bring him from the gracious freedom of the new life, back to the house of bondage, to share it for an hour with his daughter?

When Hesper entered, she was disappointed to see Mary so much changed. But when at sight of her, the pale face brightened and a faint rosy flush overspread it from brow to chin, Mary was herself again as Hesper had known her; and the radiance of her own presence reflected from Mary, cast a reflex of sunshine into the February of Hesper's heart; had Mary known how long it was since such a smile had lighted the face she so much admired, hers would have flushed with a profounder pleasure. Hesper was human after all, though her humanity was only molluseous as yet, and it is not in the power of humanity in any stage of development to hold itself indifferent to the pleasure of being loved. Also poor as is the feeling comparatively, it is yet a reflex of love itself—the shine of the sun in a rain pool.

She walked up to Mary, holding out her hand.

"Oh, ma'am, I am so glad to see you!" exclaimed Mary, forgetting her manners in her love.

"I too am glad," drawled Hesper, genuinely, though with condescension. "I hope you are well. I cannot say you look so."

"I am pretty well, thank you, ma'am," answered Mary, flushing afresh: not much anxiety was anywhere expressed about her health now, except by Beenie, who mourned over the loss of her plumpness, and told her if she did not eat she would soon follow her poor father.

"Come and have a drive with me," said Hesper, moved by a sudden impulse: through some hidden motion of sympathy she felt, as she looked at her, that the place was stuffy. "It will do you good," she went on. "You are too much indoors.—And the ceiling is low," she added, looking up.

"It is very kind of you," replied Mary, "but—I don't think I could quite manage it to-day."

She looked round as she spoke. There were not many customers; but for conscience sake she was trying hard to give as little ground for offence as possible

"Why not?—If I were to ask Mr.———"

"If you really wish it, ma'am, I will venture to go for half an hour. There is no occasion to speak to Mr. Turnbull. Besides, it is almost dinner-time."

"Do then. I am sure you will eat a better diuner for having had a little fresh air first. It is a lovely morning. We will have a drive to the Roman camp on the top of Clover Down."

"I shall be ready in two minutes," said Mary, and ran from the shop.

As she passed along the outside of his counter coming back, she stopped and told Mr. Turnbull where she was going. Instead of answering her he turned himself towards Mrs. Redmain, and went through a series of bows and smiles recognisant of favour, which she did not choose to see. She turned and walked from the shop got into the brougham, and made room for Mary at her side.

But although the drive was a lovely one, and the view from either window delighful, and to Mary it was like getting out of a tomb to leave the shop in the middle of the day, she saw little of the sweet country on any side, so much occupied was she with Hesper. Ere they stopped again at the shop door, the two young women were nearer being friends than Hesper had ever before been with any one. The sleepy heart in her was not yet dead, but capable still of the pleasure of showing sweet condescension and gentle patronage to one who admired her, and was herself agreeable. To herself she justified her kindness to Mary with the remarks that *the young woman deserved encouragement*—whatever that might mean—*because she was so anxious to improve herself!*—a duty Hesper could recognize in another.

As they went, Mary told her something of her miserable relations with the Turnbulls; and as they returned, Hesper actually—this time with perfect seriousness—proposed that she should give up business, and live with her.

Nor was this the ridiculous thing it may at first sight appear to not a few of my readers. It arose from what was almost the first movement in the direction of genuine friendship, Hesper had ever felt. She had found that familiaiity is not friendship, and may or may not exist along with it. Some who would scorn the idea of a *friendship* with such as Mary, will be familiar enough with maids as selfish as themselves, and part from them—no—part *with* them, the next day, or the next hour, with never a twinge of regret. Of this Hesper was as capable as any; but friendship is its own justification, and she felt no horror at the new motion of heart. At the same time she did not recognise it as friendship, and had she suspected Mary of regarding their possible relation in that light, see would have dismissed her with pride, perhaps contempt. Nevertheless the ordy, whalmed hiving thing in her had uttered a feeble sigh of incipient longing after the real; Mary had begun to draw out the love in her; while her conventional judgment justified the proposed extraordinary proceeding with the argument of the endless advantages to result from having in the house, devoted to her wishes a young woman with an absolute genius for dressmaking; one capable not only of originating in that foremost of arts, but, no doubt with a little experience, of carrying out also with her own hands the ideas of her mistress. No more would she have to send for the dressmaker on every smallest necessity! No more must she postpone confidence in her appearance, that was, in herself, until Sepia, dressed, should be at leisure to look her over! Never yet had she found herself the best dressed in a room; now there would be hope!

Nothing, however, was clearly in her mind as to the position she would have Mary occupy. She had a vague feeling that one like her ought not to be expected to undertake things befitting such women as her maid Folter; for between Mary and Folter there was, she saw, less room for comparison than between Folter and a naked Hottentot. She was incapable, at the same time, of seeing that, in the eyes of certain courtiers of a high kingdom, not much known to the world of fashion, but not the less judges of the beautiful, there was a far greater difference between Mary and herself than between herself and her maid, or between her maid and the Hottentot. For, while the said beholders could hardly have been astonished at Hesper's marrying Mr. Redmain, there would, had Mary done such a thing, have been dismay and a hanging of the head before the face of her father in heaven.

"Come and live with me, Miss Marston," said Hesper; But it was with a laugh, and that light touch of the tongue which suggests but a flying fancy spoken but for the sake of the preposterous; while Mary, not forgetting she had heard the same thing once before, heard it, with a smile, and had no rejoinder ready; whereupon Hesper, who was in reality feeling her way, ventured a little more seriousness.

"I should never ask you to do anything yon would not like," she said.

"I don't think you could," answered Mary, "There are more things I should like to do for you than you would think to ask.—In fact," she added, looking round with a loving smile, "I don't know what I shouldn't like to do for you."

"My meaning *was*, no such thing of course, I should never ask you to do anything more, explained Hesper, venturing a little farther off, and now speaking in a tone perfectly matter-of-fact.

"I don't know what yon intend by *menial*," returned Hesper.

Hesper thought it not unnatural she should not be familiar with the word, and proceeded to explain it as well as she could. That seeming ignorance may be the consequence of more knowledge, she had yet to learn.

"*Menial*, don't you know?" she said, "is what you give servants to do."

But therewith she remembered that Mary's help in certain things wherein her maid's incapacity was harrowing, was one of the hopes she mainly cherished in making her proposal: that definition of *menial* would hardly do!

"I mean, I mean," she resumed with a little embarrassment, a rare thing with her, "—things—like—like cleaning one's shoes, don't you know?—or brushing your hair."

Mary burst out laughing.

"Let me come to you to-morrow morning," she said, "and I will brush your hair that you will want me to come again the next day. You beautiful creature! whose hands would not be honoured to handle such a lovely stuff as that!"

As she spoke, she took in her fingers a little stray drift from the masses of golden twilight that crowned one of the loveliest temples in which the Holy Ghost had not yet come to dwell.

"If cleaning your shoes be menial, brushing your hair must be royal," she added.

Hesper's heart was touched; and if at the same time her *self* was flattered, the flattery was mingled with its best antidote—love.

"Do you really mean," she said, "you would not mind doing such things for me?—of course I should not be exacting."

She laughed again, afraid of showing herself too much in earnest before she was sure of Mary.

"You would not ask me to do anything *menial*?" said Mary archly.

"I dare not promise," said Hesper, in tone responsive.

"How could I help it, if I saw you longing to do what I was longing to have you do?" she added, growing more and more natural.

"I would no more mind cleaning your boots than my own," said Mary.

"But I should not like to clean my own boots," rejoined Hesper.

"No more should I, except it had to be done. Even then I would much rather not," returned Mary, "for cleaning my own would not interest me. To clean yours would. Still I would rather not, for the time might be put to better use—except always it were necessary, and then of course it couldn't. But as to anything degrading in it, I scorn the idea. I heard my father once say, that to look down on those who have to do such things may be to despise them for just the one honourable thing about them.—Shall I tell you what I understand by the word *menial?* You know it has come to have a disagreeable taste about it, though at first it only meant, as you say, something that fell to the duty of attendants."

"Do tell me," answered Hesper, with careless permission.

"I did not find it out myself," said Mary. "My father taught me. He was a wise, as well as a good man, Mrs. Redmain."

"Oh!" said Hesper, with the ordinary indifference of fashionable people to what an inferior may imagine worht telling them.

"He said," persisted Mary notwithstanding, "that it is menial to undertake anything you think beneath you, for the sake of money; and still more menial, having undertaken it, not to do it as well as possible."

"That would make out a good deal more of the menial in the world than is commonly supposed," laughed Hesper. "I wonder who would do anything for you if you didn't pay them—one way or, another!"

"I've taken my father's shoes out of Beenie's hands many a time," said Mary, "and finished them myself, just for the pleasure of making them shine for *him*."

"Re-a-ally!" drawled Hesper, and set out for the conclusion that after all it was no such great compliment the young woman had paid her in wanting to brush her hair. Evidently she had a taste for low things!—was naturally menial!—would do as much for her own father as for a lady like her! But the light in Mary's eyes checked her.

"Any service done without love, whatever it be," resumed Mary "is slavery—neither more nor less. It cannot be anything less. So, you see, most slaves are made slaves by themselves; and that is what makes me doubtful whether I ought to go on serving in the shop; for, as far as the Turnbulls are concerned, I have no pleasure in it; I am only helping them to make money, not doing them any good."

"Why do you not give it up at once then?" asked Hesper.

"Because I like serving the customers. They were my father's customers; and I have learned so much from having to wait on them!"

"Well, now," said Hesper, with a rush for the goal, "if you will come to me, I will make you comfortable; and you shall do just as much or as little as you please."

"What will your maid think?" suggested Mary. "If I am to do what I please, she will soon find me trespassing on her domain."

"I never trouble myself about what my servants think," said Hesper.

"But it might hurt her, you know—to be paid to do a thing, and then not allowed to do it."

"She may take herself away then. I had not thought of parting with her, but I should not be at all sorry if she went. She would be no loss to me."

"Why should you keep her then?"

"Because one is just as good—and as bad as another. She knows my ways, and I prefer not having to break in a new one. It is a bore to have to say how you like everything done."

"But you are speaking now as if you meant it," said Mary, waking up to the face that Hesper's tone was of business, and she no longer seemed half playing with the proposal. "*Do* you mean you want me to come and live with you?"

"Indeed, I do," answered Hesper emphatically. "you shall have a room close to my bedroom, and there you shall do as you like all day long; and when I want you, I daresay you will come."

"Fast enough," said Mary cheerily, as if all was settled. In contrast with her present surroundings, the prospect was more than attractive. "—But would you let me have my piano?" she asked, with sudden apprehension.

"You shall have my grand piano always when I am out, which will be every night in the season, I daresay. That will give you plenty of practice; and you will be able to have the best of lessons. And think of the concerts and oratorios you will go to!"

As she spoke the carriage drew up at the door of the shop and Mary took her leave. Hesper accepted her acknowledgments in the proper style of a benefactress, and returned her good-bye kindly. But not yet did she shake hands with her.

Some of my readers may wonder that Mary should for a moment dream of giving up what they would call her independence; for was shen ot on her own ground in the shop of which she was proprietor? and was the change proposed, by whatever name it might be called, anything other than *service?* But they are outside it, and Mary was in it, and knew how little such an incidence was worth the name Almost everything about the shop had altered in its aspect to her. The very air she breathed in it seemed slavish. Nor was the change in her. The whole thing was growing more and more sordid, for now—save for her part—the one spirit ruled it entirely. The work had, therefore, more or less grown a drudgery to her. The spirit of gain was in full blast, and whoever did not trim his sails to it was in danger of finding it rough weather. No longer could she, without offence, and consequent disturbance of spirit, arrange her attendance as she pleased, or have the same time for reading as before. She could encounter black looks, but she could not well live with them; and how was she to continue the servant of such ends as were now exclusively acknowledged in the place? The proposal of Mrs. Redmain stood in advantageous contrast to this treadmill work. In her house she would be called only to the ministrations of love, and would have plenty of time for books and music, with a thousand means of growth unapproachable in Testbridge. All the slavery lay in the shop, all the freedom in the personal service. But she strove hard to suppress anxiety, for she saw that of all proverty-stricken contradictions, a Christian with little faith is the worst.

(To be continued.)

DRUIDS' DISTRICT MEETING AT CONSETT.

On Monday evening the district meeting of the Witton Park Equalized District Branch of the order of Druids' Friendly Society was held at the house of Mr. P. Coyle, Mount Pleasant, Consett. There was a goodly number present, amongst whom were Brothers J. R. Weatherill, D.G.M., W. Elsden, P.D.G.M., J. Gibbon, Trustee, W. Alderson, V.G.A., T. Hawkswold, P.M.G.A., T. Adamson, Hon. Sec., Consett, and T. Burton, D.D.G.M.

The D.G.M. took the chair and opened the meeting with a few remarks on Friendly Societies in general, the benefits derived from them and the superiority of the order of Druids to any other.

He then called upon Bro. Elsdon, who spoke at some length on the greater benefits derived from the Druids order than any other friendly society in England, showing the great success of this society, the number of lodges formed and still forming. He also spoke a little on equalization showing by well weighed arguments that equalization was the masterpiece of the society and that by this method still greater benefits will be derived from it, closing his remarks by a few encouraging words to more recently enrolled members.

Bro. Alderson next made a few remarks about the charity of the members of this society, urging them in a few well chosen sentences to keep going on in the way they have begun. Votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman, speakers, and representative of the press for his atendance that evening, to which all briefly replied. A few songs and recitations brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

ALLEGED ASSAULT BY A PUPIL TEACHER AT HEBBURN.

On Tuesday at the South Shields County Petty Sessions, John McNeil, pupil teacher at the Hebburn Board School (St. Andrew's) was charged with having assaulted Alex. Frazer, a scholar, seven years old, on the 15th of March. Mr. J. M. Smith appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. H. T. Duncan for the defendant. It appeared from the opening statement of Mr. Smith that on the day named the boy Frazer went to school in the afternoon, and while in the class the defendant was alleged to have hit him on the head with his hand, and then on the fingers with a pencil. Defendant afterwards pushed the little fellow's head against the wall. The boy in consequence became sick, and had to be taken home, where he became so ill that medical advice had to be called in. Mrs. Frazer, mother of the boy, testified that her son was quite well when he went to school in the afternoon. When he returned about four o'clock he was quite sick and complained of his head.—The prosecutor said that the teacher (defendant) struck him and kicked him in the back, which made him sick, and he had to go home.—Cross-examined by Mr. Duncan: He did not tell the master that the teacher had struck him. —John Fisher, a scholar, said he saw the prosecutor standing beside one of the fireplaces in the schoolroom, and saw defendant take his hand and push Frazer's head against the wall. After that Frazer was sick and vomited, and was sent home by the master. —Mr. Jackson, assistant to Dr. McColl, Hebburn, said he was called in to see Frazer on the 16th March, and found him suffering from continued fever such as might be produced by severe cold or errors in diet. He examined the boy, but found no marks of violence upon him. He never said the boy had received a severe shock.—By Mr. Duncan: There was nothing to show that the boy's condition arose from ill-usage. —Henry Lee, head master of the St. Andrew's School, said on the afternoon of the 15th March McNeil reported to him that the boy Frazer was sick, and he ordered the boy to be sent to him. The boy came to him, and though he asked him three times what was the matter Frazer made no reply. The boy stood beside him for awhile, and was again sick. When standing near the fireplace McNeil was never near him. He never saw McNeil touch the boy. On the following day Mrs. Frazer came and made a complaint to him, and he inquired in Frazer's class if any of them had seen McNeil strike Frazer, but none said they did.—Other witnesses were called to prove that no assault had been committed.—On the suggestion of the Bench the friends of each party consulted, and ultimately the case was withdrawn, the defendant agreeing to pay the costs.

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, April 4th 1881—Before A. TOWN, Esq. (chairman), and J. PRIESTMAN, Esq.,

A VIOLENT DESPERADO.

Henry Savage was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting Police-constables Hadwin and Best. The latter officer stated that about six o'clock on the previous Monday night, he was on duty behind Tin Mill Street, Blackhill, when he received information that there was a man being badly used by three men. On running into Cemetery Road the defendant and other two men ran away. He captured Savage who made a desperate resistance, kicking and striking him several times, and biting his fingers. P.C. Hadwin then came to his assistance.—Hadwin stated that they struggled for a quarter of an hour with the accused, during which time he received several kicks on the chest and legs. He suffered so much that he spit a quantity of blood afterwards.—The defendant now expressed his sorrow for what he had done, and informed the Bench that he had lived for close upon twenty-four years in the neighbourhood and there was only one conviction against him. For being drunk and disorderly he was fined 5s. and costs, and for the assault on the Police was fined 10s. and costs in each case.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Wm. Doyle was charged with being dunk and disorderly. P. C. Neval said that on the 26th of last month he was on duty in Front Street when he saw the defendant drunk and creating a disturbance. Fined 5s. and costs.—James Brannigan was charged with a similar offence. P. C. Fryer adduced that on the 25th ult., whilst on duty in Plantation Row, Leadgate, he saw the defendant with his coat off wanting to fight. Fined 5s. and costs.—Hugh Magee was fined 5s. and costs for being drunk at Leadgate on the 26th ult.—Peter McQuillan was fined 5s. and costs for being drunk in Bottle Bank, Blackhill, on the 27th ult.—James Offard was fined 5s. and costs for being drunk and disorderly at White-le-Head on the 26th ult. P.C. Bain proved the charge.—Hugh Lishman was fined a similar amount for committing a like offence at the same time and place.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Charles McDermott and John Doran were fined for playing at "Pitch and Toss," on the 2nd inst. P. C. Hood proved the charge.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY TRAIN ACCOMODATION—NEWCASTLE TO BENFIELDSIDE.

The following taken from the *Newcastle Journal*, has been sent to us for publication:—

Sir,—Taking into consideration the thickly populated district—*en route* Newcastle to Benfieldside—I think better train accomodation ought to be provided. It seems preposterous that the last train to Benfieldside should leave as early as 5·35 p.m., except Tuesdays and Saturdays, when grace is accorded until 7·30 p.m. Now, I contend a train ought to leave Newcastle daily about 11 p.m., which would really be of some use. Passengers from any distance wishing to reach a station on the Consett Branch must sacrifice the whole afternoon to do so, and then, in case their train arrives in Newcastle too late for the last train to Benfieldside, they are compelled to stay in Newcastle over night, which is very annoying and inconvenient, as I have several times found to my cost when travelling in that direction. The Railway Company might feel dubious about running a train every evening at the time named, but the least they could do would be to run one every Saturday evening. I would also call attention to the lapse of time between the trains leaving Benfieldside at 3·45 and 8·50 p.m. It would be greatly to the advantage of passengers and certainly not to the detriment of the Railway Company to run an extra train from Benfieldside to Newcastle at about 6·30 p.m. The inhabitants of Consett and district might take the matter up and agitate for the extra train service I have named. I think the Sunday service of trains on this branch gives every satisfaction. Trusting this will receive the attention of the Railway authorities—I am, &c., A CONSTANT TRAVELLER.

April 2nd, 1881.

AN amusing story is told of a well-known literary man who stammers. He wrote a play, and insisted upon reading it to a manager, who listened with commendable patience. When he had finished, the manager said, "I am not sure but it is a good idea to have all the characters in the play stammer."—"But I didn't intend they should," replied the astonished author.

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

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1881.—The two first prizes for Upright and Grand Pianos have been awarded to Messrs. John Brinsmead and Sons, of London, who, at the recent Sydney Exhibition, gained the two first and only special prizes, and also the first prize at the one held at Brisbane a few months ago. These prizes were gained in competition with the moss celebrated pianoforte makers of the world, and not as at previous Exhibitions in competition with British exhibitors only.—*Morning Post*, March 9th, 1881. 25p

THROAT IRRITATION.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. Glycerine, in these agreeable confections, being in proximity to the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. and 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice. In no case can they do any harm.—Yours faithfully, GORDON HOLMES, L. R. C. P. E., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary." 818o

THE "TAURUS" LINE.—It is proposed to encourage direct trade between Newcastle and America by the establishment of a regular line of steamers, the promoter of the scheme being Major Jones, the American Consul in Newcastle. The object of the new combination, the "Taurus Line" New York and Newcastle Steam Shipping Company, is to carry on, with superior fast steamers, and "with greater punctuality and efficiency," the trade now being worked by the Taurus line of steamers, between New York City and the New Grain Warehouses, Quayside, for which purpose it is intended to acquire six steamers of large burthen and good power, to maintain weekly sailings between New York and Newcastle, at fixed dates, on an average passage of from ten to twelve days between ports, by which means the dealers in American produce on the north-east coast will be placed on equal terms with those of the ports of Liverpool and Glasgow, and the damage, delay, and expense caused by the transhipment or railway carriage will be avoided. Pending the construction of new vessels, the trade will be carried on by the steamers at present on the line, or others. Considering the large amount of American produce now required by Newcastle and the district around, the new undertaking has every chance of success.—*Iron*.

Business Announcements.

THOMAS SHAW ATKINSON

IS NOW

CLEARING OUT SOME VERY SPECIAL BARGAINS

AT HIS DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT,

LUTON HOUSE.

22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 996

1881. SPRING! SPRING!! 1881.

THOMAS LATHAM,

Begs to inform his numerous Customers and the public generally that he is now showing a choice

SELECTION OF THE LATEST NOVELTIES!!!

For the present Season, consisting of
DRESS GOODS, MILLINERY, BONNETS, STRAW HATS, FEATHERS, FLOWERS, RIBBONS, LACE GOODS, &c.

150 LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WHITE STRAW HATS, 6½d. (Special).
A Large and Well-assorted Stock of MEN'S SCARFS, COLLARS, FRONTS, SHIRTS, BRACES, CAPS, &c.
MEN'S FELT HATS, 1s. 11d., 2s. 11d., 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d. (Newest Shapes).

The above Goods T. L. can, with confidence, recommend, and which, he is sure, will bear a favourable comparison both for PRICE and QUALITY to those of any house in the Trade.

THOMAS LATHAM,
NEXT DOOR TO MR. DAVISON, OPPOSITE NORTH EASTERN BANK,
5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 81p

DENTAL SURGERY

EIGHTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from Eleven till Three.

ESTABLISHED IN NEWCASTLE 1830.

MR. R. L. MARKHAM HAS REMOVED FROM 40, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, TO No. 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE. 637n

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MR. JOHN POTTS,

AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & HOUSE AGENT,
1, TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

J. P. WISHES to call the Attention of Drapers, Clothiers, Boot Merchants, Furniture Brokers, and others, to the above. For Sales already arranged, see next issue.

WATCHES CLOCKS AND JEWELLERY
ON EASY TERMS BY JOINING

DAVISON'S CLUBS.

FOR TERMS APPLY TO

J. W. DAVISON,

WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 773o

LOOK HERE!
LOOK HERE!!
LOOK HERE!!!

COME TO CONSETT AT LAST.

THE CELEBRATED

NABOB INDIAN TEA!

3s. PER POUND.

THE Rare Quality and the Delicious Flavour which has obtained for it an immense Sale in every large Town in this Kingdom.

THE FAR-FAMED

CHALLENGE CUP INDIAN PEKOE!

2s. 6d. PER POUND.

ONE of the greatest boons ever introduced to the Hard-working Classes of this Country, because for its Strength and the Invigorating Properties it contains it has no equal.

ALSO, THE

NATIONAL INDIAN TEA!

2s. PER POUND.

TRULY a marvel at the Price. These Teas are in ¼lb. and ½lb. Packets. Ask for one trial and you will never change.

OLD WHOLESALE & RETAIL BY

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,

GROCER, TEA DEALER, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANT,

CONSETT, LEADGATE, & ANNFIELD PLAIN.

CLOSE of SEASON CLEARANCE SALE of PARAFFIN LAMPS, PETROLEUM STOVES, and COOKERS. GAS FITTINGS—including 2 Light Slides, from 12s. 6d.; Superb Three-Light Chandeliers, from 30s.; Stained Glass Lobby Lamps, from 18s. 6d. Also, GAS STOVES and COOKERS of new and efficient construction in great variety. A Splendid Large WASHING MACHINE and MANGLE, price £6 10s., reduced to £5. 10s., and many other useful Articles in good Bargains at

J. C. HALLIDAY'S,

43, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE. 908o

AN EXTRAORDINARY TEA!!

A SPLENDID BLEND.

2s. PER LB.
DRAWS A SPLENDID DARK LIQUOR.
HAS A DELICIOUS FLAVOUR.
IS A REALLY ECONOMICAL TEA.
IS A TEA THAT EVERY ONE SHOULD TRY.
IS COMMANDING A LARGE SALE.
2s. PER LB.

C. F. COOKE,

TEA DEALER, ANNFIELD PLAIN

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF BRITISH WINES AND FANCY BISCUITS. 841o

BEST VALUE IN CONSETT IN
CLOCKS,
TIMEPIECES,
MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS
JEWELLERY,
FURNITURE, &c.,
AT

J. WOOD'S,

1, THOMAS STREET, CONSETT.

REVELY AND KELL,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

BEG to announce that they have removed their Business from Mosley Street to more Commodious Premises.
No. 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET. NEWCASTLE. 764o

MEN'S BOYS' MEN'S BOYS' MEN'S BOYS' …

BUYERS save at least 25 per Cent. on all they purchase at HUGH MORTON and CO.'S Public Supply Stores for Clothing direct from the Factory. These Stores have been established to meet a long-felt want for good, serviceable Clothing, Ready-made or to Measure, at a moderate price. The garments are largely manufactured from West of England Cloths and Scotch Cheviot Tweeds, and are unequalled for appearance, durability, and finish. Our system being to supply superior clothing at one small profit on Factory Cost, we are of course unable to have any "Half-yearly" or "Great Reduction" Sales. Our Stock is so regulated that each season's goods are cleared by the ordinary sales over the counter. A comparison of the quality and prices of the goods will clearly show that our regular rates are much below the "Sale Prices" at ordinary shops, and also the great advantage of buying new and fashionable clothing direct from the factory at our Supply Stores. All Goods marked in plain figures. No credit given.

ABRIDGED PRICE LIST.

- Men's Tweed Suits, wonderful value, 16s. 9d., 18s. 9d., 22s. 6d.
- Men's Scotch Tweed Suits, very superior, 26s. 6d., 29s. 6d., 34s. 6d.
- Men's Black Worsted Suits, bound, well trimmed and made, 29s. 6d.
- Men's Blue Serge Suits, indigo dye, good quality, 21s.
- Men's Tweed Trousers, exceptional value, 3s. 11d., 4s. 11d., 5s. 11d.
- Men's Scotch Tweed Trousers, equal to bespoke, 8s. 11d., 10s. 9d., 12s. 9d.
- Boys' Tweed Suits, all the newest shapes, from 2s. 11d.
- Youths' Tweed Suits, very durable materials, from 9s. 11d.
- Men's Mole Trousers, splendid value, 4s. 11d.

PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS:
HUGH MORTON & CO.,
Public Clothing Stores,
55, Grainger Street, Corner of Nelson Street, Newcastle. 991o

SUITS. SUITS. SUITS. …

Business Announcements.

SPRING! FASHIONS! SPRING FASHIONS!

ENGLISH AND MILBURN;

BEG to announce their return from the Markets, and are now showing all the LATEST NOVELTIES for the present Season, in

FANCY DRESS GOODS,
LADIES' JACKETS,
MILLINERY,
SILKS and SATINS,
FLOWERS and FEATHERS,
RIBBONS, LACES, HOSIERY,
GLOVES, CORSETS,
UMBRELLAS,
LADIES' SCARFS,

UNDERCLOTHING,
BLACK and COLOURED SKIRTS,
PRINTS, DRESS TRIMMINGS,
CRETONNES, MEN'S MERCERY,
HATS, CAPS, LADIES' BAGS.
Also, several Clearing Lines of
General DRAPERY and FANCY
GOODS much under Value.

NOTE.—HAWKERS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN,

GENERAL DRAPERS,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND FRONT STREET, DIPTON. 63p

THE AUCKLAN DUNION
PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1857.

Offices—56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland.

THE Directors are prepared to ADVANCE MONEY on approved securities. The repayments may spread over 16 years, or any less number, to suit the means of borrowers.
INVESTING SHARES may be entered at any time, and withdrawn, if required, at a month's notice.
PROFITS are divided every three years.
The Interest and Profits paid to members on Completed Shares has averaged 6¼ per cent. per annum.
Any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. GEO. STILLMAN, 56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland; or Mr. JOHN ELLIOTT, Palmerston Place, Consett. 300o

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FARMERS!!!
BUY YOUR SEEDS AT

GEORGE HOBSON'S

OLD-ESTABLISHED SEED WAREHOUSE,
HARPERLEY MILLS,
Near Annfield Plain.

The quality of those Seeds has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturists in this District for upwards of 34 years, and, as a proof of the manner in which the business has been conducted, the trade has steadily increased year by year, which speaks volumes in favour of G.H.'s Seeds, in the face of the very keen, and at the same time unfair competition which has been practised during late years.
G. H. does not go from farm to farm to tell his Friends that he can do better than anyone in the trade; neither does he give Silver Cups, as a bribe—which he need not say are to be paid for by parties purchasing the Seeds—but relies entirely on the past for the benefit of the future.
G. H. desires his friends before making their purchases or giving orders elsewhere, to come to his Seed Warehouse, and inspect his carefully-selected Stock of Agricultural and Garden Seeds.
All of the above Seeds are from the best growing districts in the world.
Purchasers can have the kinds and quantities properly mixed and packed up for each field, which is a great boon to farmers.
G. H. gives the same personal attention to the Mixtures for Permanent Pastures which have always given universal satisfaction.
Fine Spring Tares, Seed Peas, Oats, Barley, Potatoes, &c.; also Artificial Manure always in stock. 93p

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MODERN FURNITURE

Of Excellent Quality and Unequalled Cheapness.

£15 15s. DRAWING ROOM SUITES Ebonised, with Velvet Seats, Cabinet and Table.

£15 15s. DINING ROOM SUITES, in Solid Walnut or Mahogany, with Sideboard and Table.

£15 15s. BED ROOM SUITES, in Solid Ash, Brass Mounted, with Plate-Glass Wardrobe.

Carriage free to any Railway Station. Drawings sent by post.

ROBSON AND SONS,
33 NORTHUMBERLAND STREET
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Public Notices.

A BRAN of Superior Breed, at Mr. WILLIAM JOPLING'S, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Terms may be known on application. 797o

CENTRAL HALL, BENFIELDSIDE.

MR. A. PARKER will hold a Grand BALL in the Central Hall, Benfieldside, on Easter Monday Night, to commence at Eight p.m. Gentlemen, 1s. Ladies, 6d. each. 41p

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that WILLIAM TURNER, Station Hotel, Blackfine, has purchased a First-class Bred BULL from the Executors of the late EDWARD YOUNG, of Broomy Holme, to serve Cows at 5s. each. Pedigree, "Young Hero;" Sire, "British Hero;" Grandsire, "Duke of Howl John." Terms—Cash. 10p

THE WEST DIVISION OF CHESTER WARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Petty Sessions, at Lanchester, will, until further notice, be held at 12·30 p.m., instead of 11 a.m., on the said alternate Thursdays previously advertised.
70p A. W. GRANGER, Clerk to the Justices.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

A GRAND

EVENING CONCERT

WILL BE HELD
ON TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 12TH, 1881
IN THE
NEW NATIONAL SCHOOL-ROOM, CONSETT.

ARTISTES:—
MADAME EVANS WARWICK, the Eminent Soprano, from London.
MISS SHIELD, of the Choral Society.
MISS J. HARWOOD, of the Choral Society.
MR. C. DAVISON, of the Choral Society.
MR. SAMUEL WILKINSON, Basso, Durham.
MR. J. RICHARDSON, Solo Harpist, from the Art Gallery Concerts, Newcastle-on-Tyne, &c.

CHORUS OF 60 VOICES.

Conductor, MR. C. STELLING. Pianist, MR. W. STOKER.
Doors open at 7; to commence at 7·45 p.m.
Reserved Seats, 2s.; Second Seats, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.
Tickets may be had of Messrs. W. DAVISON and J. COCKBURN, Front Street, W. AYNSLEY and T. ATKINSON, Middle Street, Consett; W. PALLISER, Blackhill; GEO. NICHOLSON, Leadgate; J. LAX, Shotley Bridge; and of any of the Members of the Society.
Carriages may be ordered for 10·30. 81p

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!! the HOPSON BRASS BAND SPORTS will be held on Saturday, the 11th of June, 1881. 110p

NO 117, JOSEPH WHITFIELD, Southmoor, has got it. The Watch Raffled at Oxhill by Mr T. R. BROWN, Champion Delver. 101p

150 IS the Winning Number of THOMAS LIGHTLE'S Gun, Shield Row. 107p

134 IS the Winning Number of the Organ Accordeon, Raffled by SAMUEL GREENWOOD, April 1st, 1881. 111p

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN
POULTRY, PIGEON, AND RABBIT SOCIETY.

THE SECOND

GRAND ANNUAL EXHIBITION

OF
POULTRY, PIGEONS, RABBITS, AND CATS,
(OPEN TO THE WORLD,)
WILL BE HELD AT ANNFIELD PLAIN,
ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 8 & 9, 1881.

President, CAPTAIN JOICEY, Esq., of Tanfield Lea.
Judge, JAMES DIXON, Esq., of Bradford.
Chairman, Mr. JAS. STRAWBRIDGE; Vice-Chairman Mr. ALEX. HENDRY.
Hon. Treasurer, Mr. JOHN HALL.
Hon. Secretary, Mr. JAMES SCOTT, Hill House, Lanchester. 92p

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

A GRAND BAZAAR,

In aid of the Proposed Organ and Extension of the Chapel and School Room, will be held on EASTER MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, April 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st, 1881, under Distinguished Patronage.

The Bazaar will be opened on Easter Monday, at One o'clock, by
WILLIAM JENKINS, ESQ., J.P.,
WHEN
USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL ARTICLES
In great variety will be offered for Sale at moderate prices.

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC will be Rendered at intervals during each day, several Talented Ladies and Gentlemen having kindly promised their services.
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED AT MODERATE PRICES.
The Bazaar will be open each day from One o'clock.
Admission: First Day, from one till four o'clock, One Shilling each; after four, Sixpence. Second, third, and fourth days, Sixpence each. Children half-price. 114p

THE ENLARGMENT OF

ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH.

BENFIELDSIDE, AND THE
BUILDING OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.	£	s.	d.
R. Dickinson, Esq., Shotley House	350	0	0
Jas. Annandale, jun., Esq., The Briary	125	0	0
J. Booth, Esq., Summerdale	60	0	0
J. Priestman, Esq., Derwent View	60	0	0
Dr. Renton, Orchard House	50	0	0
A. B. Wilbraham, Esq., Snows Green House	36	15	0
F. Priestman, Esq., Derwent View	30	0	0
Rev. F. B. and Mrs. Thompson, The Vicarage	30	0	0
W. Dickinson, Esq., The Villas	25	0	0
Mr. John Thirlwell, Front Street	10	0	0
Mrs. Renton, Orchard House	10	0	0
Miss Hewitt, Highgate	10	0	0
Mr. Collinson, Shotley Grove School	5	5	0
A Friend	5	0	0
Mr. A. Houliston, Front Street	5	0	0
Mr. Wm. Moore, Ashfield	10	0	0
Mrs. Wm. Moore, Ashfield	4	0	0
Mrs. Marshall and Sons, Highgate	2	2	0
Rev. J. L. Low, Whittonstall	2	0	0
Richard Evans, Esq., Consett	3	3	0
Geo. Ainsworth, Esq., Benfieldside	5	0	0
Mr. Coupland, Ebchester	1	1	0
E. J. Walker, Esq., Low Elswick	50	0	0
Geo. Peile, Esq., Greenwood	2	2	0
A Friend	10	0	0
Mr. W. Strachan, Blackhill	1	1	0
C. S.	5	0	0
Mr. Geo. Richardson and Son, Shotley Bridge	5	0	0
Miss Leslie, Shotley Bridge	3	3	0
A Friend	3	0	0
Mr. Moffat, Shotley Bridge	2	2	0
Mr. R. Ritson, Castleside	2	0	0
Mrs. Dickinson, Belle Vue	25	0	0
J. Joicey, Esq., M.P.	10	10	0
Miss Wheldon, Shotley Bridge	2	2	0
R. F. Boyd, Esq., Moorhouse	5	5	0
Miss Boyd, Moorhouse	1	1	0
F. B. Fairley, Esq., Newcastle	2	2	0
Mr. Lax, Shotley Bridge	2	2	0
Mrs. A. Brown, Shotley Bridge	1	1	0
John Graham, Esq., Findon Cottage, Durham	5	0	0
J. Muse, Esq., Castleside	1	1	0
R. Taylor, Esq., Consett Grove	1	1	0
Geo. Curry, Esq., Tynemouth	1	1	0
A Friend	2	0	0
A. Town, Esq., Allansford	10	0	0
Messrs. Wilson Brothers, Shotley Bridge	5	5	0
Mr. Geo. Siddle, Shotley Bridge	1	1	0
Mrs. Geo. Siddle, Shotley Bridge	1	1	0
Mr. R. Hall, Shotley Bridge	1	1	0
Archdeacon Prest, Gateshead	3	3	0
Mr. Joseph Coulson, Shotley Hall	1	1	0
Mr. M. Richley, Blackhill	1	1	0
Mr. P. Brown, Shotley Bridge	1	1	0
A Friend	1	1	0
Mr. W. Wardhaugh	0	10	0
Mr. W. Turner, Station Hotel	2	2	0
Mrs. French, Consett	1	1	0
A Friend	2	2	0
Mr. W. Raw, Blackhill	1	1	0
Miss Surtees, Hamsterley	5	0	0
Proceeds of Concert	17	0	0
Interest	1	16	0
D. H. Goddard, Esq., J.P., Chester-le-Street	1	0	0
E. Goddard, Esq., Ipswich	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
Mrs. T. Wilson, Oak Villa	2	2	0
Rev. D. Bryson, Consett	1	1	0
Mr. R. Taylor, Shotley Bridge	1	0	0
Morris and Co. (Per J. Annandale, Jun. Esq.)	10	10	0
	£1,056	0	0

The Rev. J. S. BECKWITH, B.A., Treasurer, or Mr. J. COLLINSON, Churchwarden and Secretary, will be glad to receive Subscriptions. 99p

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Public Notices.

CONSETT ENTIRE HORSE SHOW.

A MEETING of the Society for promoting the above Show, will be held at the house of Mr. JOHN DAGLISH, Innkeeper, Consett, on Wednesday, April 13th, 1881, at half-past Seven o'clock in the Evening when all Members who have paid their Subscriptions for the current year are invited to attend.
ROBERT TELFORD, Hon. Treasurer.
ROBERT HEDLEY, } Hon.
ADAM BRODIE } Secretaries.
Town Hall, Consett, April 8th, 1881. 126p

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EASTER HOLIDAYS. EXCURSION FOR TWO DAYS.

ON SUNDAY, the 17th April, an Excursion Train will leave BENFIELDSIDE for LONDON, at 8·20 p.m. Fare, There and Back: First Class, 28s; Third Class, 13s.6d.
The Return Train will leave ST. PANCRAS Station at 10·40 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th. For further particulars see Special Bills.
Newcastle, April 1881. 105p

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

EASTER MONDAY AND TUESDAY.
SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS.

FOOTBALL AND CRICKET MATCHES. FIREWORKS. GRAND BALL, &c., &c.
SEE LARGE BILLS.
WILSON BROS., Lessees. 102p

ST. IVES SCHOOLS, REDWELL HILL, LEADGATE.

A GRAND EVENING CONCERT will be given in the above Schools, on Wednesday Evening April 27th, 1881, at which Mrs. C. BALLENY, Mrs. W. BREARS, Miss MITCHELL, Miss HESLOP, Miss MORTON Miss FIDLER, Miss SHIELD, Rev. F. STEGGALL Rev. R. TUSON, Rev. W. B. WEIGHELL, Mr. T. H. SHERIDAN, Mr G. HAYDEN, Mr. C. STEPHENSON, and MR. R. JACKSON will take part.
Doors open at Seven; to commence at 7·30.
Admission—Reserved Seats, 2s.; Unreserved, 1s.; Back Seats, 6d., tickets for which may be had from Mr NICHOLSON, Mr. R. E. TODD, and Mr. SHAW. 117p

EASTER TUESDAY.

ST. IVES CHURCH, LEADGATE.

COFFEE SUPPER AND ENTERTAINMENT.

THE CHURCHWARDENS of ST. Ives have the pleasure to announce that a COFFEE SUPPER and ENTERTAINMENT will be held in the Infants' School Room, Church Square, on Easter Tuesday, April 19th, 1881.
Tickets 1s. each, to be had from Mr. R. W. SHAW, Mr. ED. TODD, Mr GEO. NICHOLSON, and Mr T. FOREMAN.
Doors open at 6 o'clock; Supper at 7. 109p

GRAND PROMENADE ENTERTAINMENT.

AUDIT OF HIGHWAY ACCOUNTS.

I, THE Undersigned, the Auditor of the Durham Audit District, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that in Pursuance of the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878, I have appointed the AUDIT OF THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended the 25th day of March last, of the Highway Board of the Lanchester Highway District, in the County of Durham, being the Highway Authority of the said Highway District, and of the Officers thereof, to commence on Thursday, the Fifth day of May, 1881, at Four o'clock in the afternoon, at the Board Room of the Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union, when and where all persons who by law are bound to account at such Audit are required to attend, and to submit all Books of Accounts, Bills, Accounts, Vouchers, and other documents containing or relating to the Accounts then to be Audited.
Dated this 4th day of April, 1881.
JAS. RADFORD.
7, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 103p

DURHAM AUDIT DISTRICT.

LANCHESTER UNION, AND THE RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT IN THE SAID UNION.

AS Auditor of the above named Audit District, I hereby give notice that I have appointed the Audit of the Accounts of the Lanchester Union, and of the Rural Sanitary District in the said Union, and of the several Parishes and contributing places contained in the said Union and District, or in the said Union solely, for the half-year ended 25th March last, to commence on Friday, the Sixth day of May next, at four o'clock in the afternoon, at the Union Board Room, Lanchester, when and where all persons who by law are bound to account at such Audit are required to attend, and to submit all Books, Documents, Bills, and Vouchers, containing or relating to the Accounts or to Moneys assessed for, and applicable to the Relief of the Poor, or to Sanitary purposes.
Dated the 4th day of April, 1881.
JAS. RADFORD.
7, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 101p

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Plantation Row, Leadgate.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by the Executor of the late Mrs Phillipson, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Monday, April 11th, 1881, the whole of her Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Kitchen Requisites, Wares, &c., &c.
Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock. 100p

A. PHILLIPSON,
GENERAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE-AGENT, &c., DIPTON.
CASH ADVANCES made, and FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly, and upon Reasonable Terms. 27o

Mr. John Jenkins.

Trafalgar Street Sale Rooms, Consett.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday First, April 11th, 1881, in the above Sale Rooms, a Large quantity of Valuable New and Second-hand HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.
MR. JOHN JENKINS, Auctioneer.
Comprising—Excellent Mahogany Persian Drawers; Mahogany Lobby Drawers; Bedroom Drawers; Mahogany 4-feet Centre Table; Superior Mahogany Sofa in hair seating; Couch, in hair seating; 6 Mahogany Chairs, in hair seating; Ladies' Chair and Gentleman's Chair, in hair seating; 6 Polished Kitchen Chairs; Windsor and Cane Chairs; Washstand and Dressing Table; Kitchen Table, Tea Tables, and Round Tables; a Large Assortment of Brass and Iron, Tester, and French Bedsteads; 3 Pairs Mattresses, Feather, Down, and Flock Beds; Parlour and Kitchen Fenders and Fireirons; together with a large quantity of other Useful Goods too numerous to mention.
Also, a First-class Sewing Machine, by "Singer," in good working order.
Sale to commence at One o'clock. 124p

Mr. Thomas Blandford.

Fen Hall, near Lanchester.

MR. THOMAS BLANDFORD has received instructions from the Executors of HENRY RITSON, to SELL BY AUCTION, at Fen Hall, near Lanchester, on Friday, the 22nd day of April, 1881, the whole of their Valuable FARMING STOCK, &c., consisting of
HORSES—1 Bay Mare (half-bred) in foal, and 2 Ponies.
CATTLE—1 Cow, and 1 Two-year-old Heifer.
SHEEP—14 Shropshire Down Ewes and Lambs, 9 Mule Ewes and Lambs, 37 Black-faced Ewes and Lambs, all by Leicester Tups, 20 Half-bred Ewe Hoggs, 119 Mule Hoggs, 1 Shearling Tup, and 1 Tup Hogg.
IMPLEMENTS—2 Coup Carts and Shelvings; small Water Cart; Large Water Cart; Spring Relley, nearly new, to carry 2 Tons, Spring Cart; Horse Hay Rake; 2 Mowing Machines; Pair of Harrows; Ploughs; Turnip Cutter; Hay Sweep; 2 Oilcake Crushers; Roller; Dipping Tub; Sheep Racks; Sheep Troughs; Cattle Troughs; Ladders, Rakes, Forks, Spades, Shovels, Grapes, &c.; Cart and Plough Harness; Saddles and Bridles; also a neat Phaeton and Harness.
Sale to commence at One o'clock in the Afternoon.
Corbridge, April 6th, 1881. 121p

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Victoria Street, Consett.
Sale of Superior Household Furniture and Miscellaneous Effects.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mr. ANDREW S. COATES, who is about to emigrate, to SELL BY AUCTION, on the premises in Victoria Street, Consett, on Monday, April 11th, 1881, the whole of the Superior Household FURNITURE and Effects. Particulars in Bills.

☞ Sale to commence at One o'clock exactly. 98p

Front Street, Leadgate.
Important Sale of Surplus Stock of Linen and Woollen Drapery, Ready-made Clothing, Hats and Caps, &c., belonging to Mr. R. W. SHAW.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is requested to announce that Monday and Tuesday, April 11th and 12th, 1881, are the last two days of this Sale.

Sale to commence at Half-past Seven o'clock each Evening. 69p

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

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

Mr. W. Cook.

CRONKLEY FARM STOCK SALE.

MR. WILLIAM COOK has received instructions from the representatives of the late NICHOLAS BELL, to SELL BY AUCTION the whole of the FARMING STOCK, IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY, &c., on the Farm of Cronkley, in the Parish of Bywell St. Peter, Northumberland, on Saturday, April 16, 1881.

HORSES.—Brown Draught Mare, 11 year old, in foal by "Lord Clyde; Brown Draught Mare, 9 year old, in foal by "Lord Clyde"; Dark Brown Draught Mare, 4 years old; Brown Draught Filly, rising 2 years old, by "Earl Granville"; Brown Yearling Draught Colt, by "Shibton Tom"; Brown Harness Horse, 14-3 h.h. 8 years old; Brown Horse Pony, rising 2 years old, by "Sandy."

CATTLE.—White Cow, 3 year old, served 9th July; Roan Cow, 5 year old, served 28th July; Roan Cow, 7 year old, served 25th August; Geld Cow, 3 year old; 15 Grazing Heifers, 2 years old; 7 yearling S.H. Steers and Heifers; 3 Calves, 6 months old; S.H. Bull Calf 6 months old, by "Shotley Hall Bull."

SHEEP.—19 Black-faced Ewes in Lamb by a Leicester Tup.

IMPLEMENTS.—Cart and Plough Harness for 3 Pairs of Horses, Spring Cart and Harness, 3 Long Carts, 5 Coup Carts, Metal Roller, Oak Roller in two-halves, 2 Combined Mowing and Reaping Machines, 3 Iron Swing Ploughs, 2 Double Ploughs, 3 Iron Scufflers, 2 Iron Grubbers, Clod Scrubber, 2 Pairs Zig-zag Harrows, 3 Pairs of Wood Harrows, 2 Double Turnip Drills, Turnip and Manure Drill, 2 Horse Hay Rakes, 2 Turnip Cutters, Winnowing Machine, Sheep Rack, Sheep Corn Troughs, Cattle Troughs, Long and Short Ladders, 2 Corn Bins, Chain Cow Bands, Cart Ropes, Wheelbarrow, Hand Implements, &c.

BLACKSMITH'S SHOP.—Shop Bellows, Steady, Vice, Hammers, and a lot of old Iron.

40 Head of Poultry.

Also, a part of the Household Furniture, Barrel Churn, and Dairy Utensils.

The Sale to commence at Twelve o'clock at noon

☞ Cronkley is about equi-distant from the Manor House Inn, Mill Shields, and Edmondbyers.

14, Hencotes Street, Hexham, 1st of April, 1881. 115p

By Mr. John Potts.

1, Trafalgar Street, Consett.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, April 4th, 1881, a large quantity of Household FURNITURE of every description, consisting of Longsettle; 4-Chest of Drawers; 2 Sewing Machines; 2 Kitchen Tables; 2 Dressing Tables; 2 Washstands; Tidy; Fenders; Fireirons; Hearth Rug; Floor Oil Cloth; 2 Felt Carpets; 2 Kidder Carpets; Mahogany Desk; Mahogany Desk, with Stand and Drawers; 3 pairs of Cotton Sheets; 8 Kitchen Chairs; 6 Cane-seated Chairs; 3 Towel Rails; 2 Feather Beds; 2 Down Beds; 2 Flock Beds; also a large consignment of Flocks in 3 stone bags; Small Table; Mahogany Centre Table; Child's Chair; Smoke Chair; Rocking Chair; Couch, in Morocco Leather; Iron Bedstead; Pair of Mattresses. Also, a splendid assortment of real Hand-done Oil Paintings, Oleographs, Engravings, &c. Also a large assortment of Ware, consisting of Plate, Dishes Chamber Ware, &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock on Monday, April 4th, 1881.

J. POTTS, Auctioneer.

Sale Office, 1, Trafalgar Street, Consett. 95p

By Mr. John Crawford.

CONSETT AUCTION MART.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, Butcher and Auctioneer will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, April 25th, a large quantity of GRAZING CATTLE, HORSES, CONVEYANCES, &c.

All Entries to be made to Mr. T. W. DOBSON, Mr. G. BROWN, or to the AUCTIONEER.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, Butcher and Auctioneer, is instructed by Mrs. J. LOFTHOUSE, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, without Reserve, on the Premises, New Market Street, Consett, on Saturday, April 9th, 1881, the Whole of the STOCK-IN-TRADE, consisting of Counter, Shop Fixtures, and a Large Assortment of Useful Articles, suitable for Bakers, Grocers, and others. Comprising: Counter, 9ft. long, nearly new, with Drawer; 3 Sets Brass Scales, with Weights; 1 Pair Coffee Scales; 4 Tea Canisters, to hold 10lb. each; 2 very Large Tins for holding Sponge Cakes, Queen's Cakes, &c.; 12 Biscuit Tins, with Glass Fronts, and about 2 doz. other Biscuit Tins; 2 doz. Large and very Handsome Show Bottles; a Large Quantity of Sweets; 4 doz. Bread Tins; 4 doz. Tea Cake Tins, and a Large Assortment of Moulds for making Fancy Cakes; 2 doz. Stone Jars; 1 Currant Sieve; 1 very large Tin Mug; 1 Coffee Mill; also, a quantity of Bi-Carbonate Soda; Cream of Tartar, and Cassia; 1 Brass Door Knocker; 1 American Clock; 1 Wringing Machine, and a lot of other Articles too numerous to mention.

The whole of the above articles have only been in use a few months.

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

JOHN CRAWFORD, Butcher.

Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 122p

By Mr. P. Osborne.

47, Front Street, Consett.

MR. PATTINSON OSBORNE, having gained the confidence of Mr. WILLIAM TODD (who is about to emigrate to South Africa), will SELL BY AUCTION on the above Premises, on Saturday, April 9th, 1881, at One o'clock prompt, the whole of his Household FURNITURE, MILL UTENSILS, and other Effects, consisting of an excellent Press; Sofa, in hair; Desk Bed; Folding Oak Table; Eight-day Clock in Wainscot case; Mantel-piece Mirror; 3 Feather Beds and Bedding; 3 Bedsteads; Stuffed Fox, in case; Splendid Parrot (a good talker) and cage; Russian White Retriever Dog; Washstand and Dressing Table; 6 Oak Chairs 6 Kitchen Chairs, &c.

MILL UTENSILS.—2 Sack Barrows; Mill Staff; Paraffin Lamp; an Avery's Weighing Machine; Writing Desk and Stand; Counters; Scales; Weights; Flour Bins; Pony Spring Cart; Pails; Rakes; Pig Troughs; Forks; Shovels, &c 15 Head of Prize Poultry; 2 Store Pigs; together with a large quantity of Miscellaneous Articles.

Sale Office: Osborne House, Blankfine, Blackhill 91p

Sale by Auction.

By Mr. H. Brown.

25, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

MR. HENRY BROWN has the honour to announce that he will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Tuesday, April 12th, 1881, a quantity of Household FURNITURE, &c., belonging to Mr. MATTHEW SEWELL, who is leaving Consett for South Africa. For further particulars see Bills.

☞ Sale to commence at One o'clock. 94p

By Mr. J. Oley.

Edmondbyers.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, honoured with the confidence of Mr. JOHN WHITE, who is declining Farming, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Edmondbyers, on Thursday, April 14th, 1881, all his valuable stock of FELL SHEEP, CATTLE, and IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY, &c., comprising—Milk Cow, in calf, time up at sale; 2 Two-year old Steers; 2 do., Heifers; 4 Yearling Stirks, surplus; newly-calved Cow; 2 Two-year old Heifers; Steer, 14 months old; 2 Heifer Stirks 13 months old; Pony, 10 years old, 12 h.h.; 20 B.F. Ewes, in lamb to a B.F. Tup; 5 do., to a Leicester Tup; 20 B.F. Gimmer and Wedder Hogs; 9 Two-year old Wedders; 2 Cheviot Hogs; B.F. Tup, surplus; 14 Cheviot Wedder Hogs; Coup Cart; Cart Shelvings, nearly new; 3 Iron Swing Ploughs; 1 Double Mouldboard Plough; Scuffler; Roller; 1 pair wood Harrows; 1 doz. Zig-zag Harrows, new; 1 Set of Cart Harness; Set of Singletrees; Set of Trace-chains; Sheep Rack and 2 Sheep Troughs; also an excellent Winnowing Machine, with all the hand implements.

Sale to commence at One o'clock, p.m. 72p

To Metal Brokers, Marine Store Dealers, Farmers, and the general Public.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY will SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, April 20th, 1881, in a yard adjoining the house of Mr. JOS. LUMLEY, Annfield Plain, in considerable miscellaneous lots to suit buyers, such as—

Metal Water Cistern, 6ft. long, by 5ft. 10in., 5ft. deep.
Strong Wood Water Cistern, 8ft. long, by 4ft. 7in., 2ft. 2in. deep.
Egg End Boiler, 9ft. long, 4½ft. diameter.
Metal Water Tank, 6ft. long, by 3ft. 6in., 3ft. deep.
The above are all in excellent condition.
Standing Engine; Malt Grinding Machine, with rollers.
Large quantity of Metal Water Piping, in good lengths, 3in. diameter.
Considerable Metal Columns, of good lengths, excellent uprights for heavy weights.
A large quantity of Lead and Gas Piping; Zinc; Brass; and Copper.
3 good Gulles, would set up for Water Cisterns; 5 Water Troughs.
2 excellent Office Desks; 3 Bird Cages.
Shoemakers Screw Cutting Press.
Joiners' Work Bench; 2 Kitchen Tables.
A large quantity of Timber, old and new, will be sold in lots; also, a quantity of Oak Staves.
2 good Incalving Cows, to calve about the end of May, with third calf.
Young Half-bred Cow, 9 weeks calved; Cow, 3 weeks calved.
2 Barrel Churns, and other Dairy Utensils; Winnowing Machine; Turnip Cutter; pair of Lawn Grass Shears.
The Auctioneer invites further entries of Horses, Cattle, and Sheep.

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

Sale Offices: Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 106p

Maiden Hall Farm, near Lanchester.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY honoured with instructions from Mr. JOHN AYRE, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION at the above farm, on Monday, April 11th, 1881, his Valuable FARMING STOCK IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY UTENSILS, &c., comprising—1 Draught Colt, two years old; 2 Draught Yearling Colts; 2 Milk Cows, recently calved; 1 Heifer, in calf; 1 Bull, two years old; 1 two-year old Heifer; 4 one-and-a-half year old Heifers; 1 one-and-a-half year old Steer; 1 Hiefer Stirk, six months old; 3 Finger Calves; 5 Ewes in lamb to a Liecester Tup; 1 Leicester Tup Hog; 1 young Brood Sow; 1 Coup Cart; combined Reaping Machine, by Samuelson; Double Mouldboard Plough; Scuffler; Turnip Cutter; pair Seed Harrows; 2 Stone Rollers; 4 stone Pig Troughs; 3 Stack-yard Ladders; Sheep Rack; 2 Sheep Troughs: Cart Saddle and Trapping: set of Trace Chains, with quarter-straps; Warrick Chains; Side Saddle; Milk Barrels and Pad; Milk Tin Bottles; Cow Tubs and Chains, with all the Hand Implements; a lot of Old Iron, with all the Dairy Utensils, including Barrel, Churn, Lead Milk Bowl, &c. Also, a Wringing Machine and Mangle; large Metal Boiler, holds 40 gallons, and a quantity of Seed Potatoes. The Poultry include 3 Ducks, 1 Drake, 20 Hens, and Cock.

Sale to commence at One o'clock p.m. 71p

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

By Mr. W. Raw.

Durham Road, Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, instructed by Mr. GEORGE FARRAGE, who is leaving Blackhill, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Saturday, April 9th, 1881, a part of his Household FURNITURE, BOOTS, CLOGS, &c., comprising Wardrobe; Bookcase; Sofa; Tea Table; Writing Desk, with Drawers; small Writing Desk; Iron Tudor Bedstead; 2 Arm Chairs; 2 Kitchen Chairs; Thirty-hour Clock, in Oak Case; Wall Clock; a Still, for Distilling Herbs; several Pictures; Pans and Kettles; 2 Hand Saws; Oil Lamp; Electro-plated Tea Service; 2 Brass Candlesticks; Ornaments; several Books, including the "Atlas of the Household," 2 Volumes of the "Primitive Methodist Magazine;" and numerous other Lots. Also, 40 pairs of Men's, Women's, and Children's Clogs and Boots; 6 Hens.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock precisely.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 74p

No. 7, Cemetery Road, Blackhill.—Valuable and Desirable Copyhold Property for Sale.

MR. W. RAW, having been honoured with instructions from MR. GEO. WESTGARTH, will SELL BY AUCTION at MR. TURNER'S, Station Hotel, Blackhill, on Thursday, April 21, 1881, in One Lot, all that very Desirable DWELLING-HOUSE, situate at No. 7, Cemetery Road, Blackhill, and now in the occupation of Mr. HENRY LEE, as Tenant thereof. Containing—Front Sitting-room, with splendid Stone Bow Window; good Kitchen, Scullery, and Pantry, on the ground floor; and 3 good Bed-rooms and Bath-room, on the second floor; excellent Staircase and 2 Fixed Wardrobes; together with Garden, and Two-Stalled Stable; Coach House, Pig House, and all other necessary conveniences.

Altogether, this is a most desirable Property, Substantially built, and well finished, stands on one of the most desirable and commanding sites in the whole of this flourishing and important district of Consett, rendering it a safe and sure investment for capital.

On application, the Tenant will kindly show the Premises, and further particulars obtained on applying to the Auctioneer, or MR. WESTGARTH, Brampton.

Sale to commence precisely at Seven o'clock p.m.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 112p

Front Street, Shotley Bridge.—In consequence of the death of Mrs. TURNER.

MR. WILLIAM RAW has received instructions to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of the Valuable Household FURNITURE belonging to TURNER & TAYLOR, Shotley Bridge, on Monday, April 11th, 1881, comprising—Large Telescope Dining Table; Mahogany Centre Table; Mahogany Bedroom Drawers; 2 Mahogany Couches; 12 Balloon-backed Mahogany Chairs; Mahogany Arm Chair; 2 Mahogany Tea Tables; Desk Bed; Chest and Frame; Flour Chest; Round Table; 12 Kitchen Chairs; Windsor Arm Chair; Polished Birch Press; Kitchen Table; 6 Bedroom Chairs; Work Table; Easy Chair; Mantel Mirror; 3 Brass Window Cornices; Shades and Rings; Washstand; 3 Iron Bedroom Tudor Bedsteads; Single Iron Bedstead; 3 excellent Feather Beds; 2 Mattresses; 1 Flock Bed; 2 Swing Mahogany Dressing Glasses; Sitting Room Brussels Carpet, 18 feet by 13 feet; Hearth Rug; Coal-box; 3 Fenders and 3 sets of Fire-irons; Bedroom Carpets; Hearth Rug; Large Linoleum Floorcloth for Sitting-room; Stair Carpet and Brass Rods; a Glass Case of Wax Ornaments; Several valuable Chimney-piece Ornaments; Filter; Clock; Bakeboard; Dinner and other Wares; Glass; a large number of good Pans, various sizes; and various other household articles.

Sale to commence at One o'clock, precisely.

Sale Office Blackhill, Co. Durham. 70p

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Friday next being Good-Friday, the "Consett Guardian," will be issued on Thursday. Our correspondents will oblige by forwarding their communications early in the week to secure insertion.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH, 1881.

THE OUTLYING PORTION OF THE DISTRICT OF CONSIDE AND KNITSLEY.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF RATEPAYERS.

On Monday evening an adjourned meeting of the ratepayers of the outlying portion of the highway district of Conside and Knitaley, was held at the Queen's Head Inn, Middle Street, Consett,—Mr. Graham in the chair. The Chairman having read the notice convening the meeting, called upon

Mr. DOLPHIN, surveyor, to state the business which had called them together. The Surveyor said that the Lanchester Highway Board wished them to join that Board, and their Clerk had served a notice on the Overseers of Conside and Knitaley to elect a waywarden to represent them on the Board. The overseers, however, had taken no action in the matter. It was a subject on which some difference existed, as to whether the Lanchester Highway Board had power to compel them to join. His opinion was they had no such power; and he was supported in that opinion by those who knew better than himself on these points. That was a matter, however, for the meeting to decide, and they would have to settle that evening whether they would join the Lanchester Board, or whether they would remain as they were. If they remained separate from the Highway Board they would have to elect their own surveyor, and fix their rate at that meeting. They were about £12 in debt, and a rate of 1s 2d in the pound—the same as last year—would, he thought, be sufficient.

In answer to a ratepayer, Mr. Dolphin stated that the rates paid by those townships under the Lanchester Highway Board were considerably less than what they paid—about one-half.

A RATEPAYER asked whether the farmers would be allowed to supply labour and stone towards the repair of the highways which would go towards their rates?

Mr. DOLPHIN thought that as all the works carried out by the Highway Board were let by contract, no such privilege could be expected.

It was resolved unanimously that the present system be continued—the outlying highways being repaired at the expense of ratepayers of the outlying district.

On the motion of Mr. ROBERT DICK, seconded by Mr. EDWARD APPLETON, Mr. Thomas Dolphin was re-elected surveyor.

Mr. CHARLES LOWES then moved that a committee of three members be elected to assist Mr. Dolphin, and this on being seconded by Mr. ROBT. DICK, was carried unanimously. Messrs. G. Hardy, J. Graham, and E. Bell were then elected as the committee.

A RATEPAYER asked how it happened that their rate had once been as low as fourpence in the pound, while their last rate was one shilling and twopence.

The SURVEYOR replied that at the time when the rate was fourpence in the pound they were connected with Consett, but after the adoption of the Local Government Act by Consett, the Consett Local Board had only some three miles of highway and almost the whole of the rateable value; while they were left with eleven miles of road, and but a fraction of the rates.

This explanation was considered satisfactory, and a rate of one shilling and twopence in the pound was then made.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

THE "COMPLETE NEWSPAPER LIST FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM."—Messrs. Clark, Son, and Platt, of 85, Greenchurch Street, London, have recently issued a very valuable and complete list of Newspapers published in the United Kingdom. The object of the work is to supply, in a simple and handy form, a book of reference for those who are already convinced of the immeasureable advantages of judicial advertising. The work is invaluable to advertisers, and the object for which it was published has been satisfactorily accomplished.

REDUCTION IN PRICE OF GAS.—The public will be glad to learn that a substantial reduction is to be made in the price of gas supplied throughout the district of the Shotley Bridge and Consett Gas Company. At a meeting held yesterday (Thursday), the directors of the company determined to reduce the price of their gas from 3s. 9d., to 3s. 4d. per 1,000 cubic feet, on all gas consumed from and after April 1st. The reduction is equal to 11 per cent off the present rate.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Glandular swellings in the throat, neuralgia, tic doloreux, rheumatism, gout, lumbago, and other diseases affecting the glands, muscles, and nerves of sensation are permanently eradicated by this healing anti-febric and soothing preparation. It is also a perfect remedy for all skin diseases, and every kind of superficial inflammation, which soon lose their angry and painful character under this invaluable Ointment. The Pills have never been administered either by hospital or private practitioner in dysdepsia or liver complaints without producing the desired result.

AN AUDACIOUS ROBBERY.—On Sunday night last, while a son of Mr. Irwin of Catchgate was driving from Rowlands Gill towards his home he was robbed by a man as yet unknown. The youth, who is 16 years of age, was driving by way of Burnopfield and was approaching Mr. Thompson's farm when the man suddenly sprang on to the back seat and threw him violently to the ground. He then beat and kicked him until he became insensible. On regaining consciousness he found his money gone, and the horse and trap were invisible. The pony however, was found grazing on the roadside. We understand that this is not the first case of robbery that has occurred in that neighbourhood, and it is to be hoped that every endeavour will be made to trace the perpetrator of the audacious act.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD ELECTION.—The following is the result of the Local Board Election at Consett:—

John Collinson	557	elected.
John Hodgson Hudson	449	elected.
Thomas Dunne	384	elected.
Wm. Robt. Taylor	378	elected.
John Routledge	376	
Edward Routledge	155	

The only change to be noted is that Mr. Wm. Robt. Taylor will take the place of Mr. John Routledge.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD ELECTION.—The following is the result of the Leadgate Local Board Election:—

W. H. Hedley	315	elected
Geo. Nicholson	299	elected
John Davison	219	elected
Thomas Lammonby	199	elected
John Bland	138	
Christopher Waud	134	
John H. Hudson	110	
Thomas F. Cumming	57	
John Wilson	withdrawn	

It will be observed that the old members take their seats.

UNITED KINGDOM ALLIANCE.

MEETING AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

On Wednesday evening last, a public meeting, under the auspices of the United Kingdom Alliance, was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge. The chair was taken by Charles Wilson, Esq., and on the platform were Councillor Swan, of Sunderland, the Rev. W. A. McGonigle, (vicar of St Cuthberts, Monkwearmouth, and Mr. John Paton, Barr Head, who attended as a deputation.

The CHAIRMAN in his introductory address said that if the preponderance of public opinion was in favour of having drunken men, then vote for the public house, but if they preferred to be sober and steady, and have men go on with their work, then do away with the public house. He observed that the chairman had said at the last Brewster Sessions at Lanchester that they were there to consider the wants of the neighbourhood. Mr. Swan could tell them that a very different state of things existed at Sunderland. The old fashioned plan was that the King governed the people, and so he hoped their Queen would do, but she would do so as they wished.

The Rev. W. A. MCGONIGLE then delivered a short and interesting address.

Mr. COUNCILLOR SWAN, of Sunderland, expressed his pleasure at being permitted again to appear before them to discuss to some little extent the great Temperance question. He was glad at the many pleasing aspects which Temperance Reform was presenting at the present time. In the North of England they had had a great advance in that cause—such as he had never seen before. A great many people who were not teetotal had now become teetotal. He believed that one of the first principles of temperance reform was to reform themselves. If men considered the question gravely and thoroughly they would come to the conclusion that total abstinence was after all, really the best. Nothing could be said against it, and everything could be said in its favour. There was nothing reasonable could be said on behalf of drink and everything that was bad could be said against it. He thought that the first step of advancement was to cease to do evil, and the next was to learn to do well. He regarded public houses in the land as so many temptations to drunkenness. Temperance men were there to affirm that public houses did no good to anybody. That great harm was done in consequence of their existence. In the United Kingdom the only man that seemed to get an apparent benefit was the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he had come short the last year or two. Some people said when speaking of the liquor traffic, that they must be mindful of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He (Mr. Swan) was most mindful of their exchequer, and if they had a good exchequer they must depend upon it that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not a bad one, therefore, they need not be alarmed. They would find if they looked at figures that the sum total got by the Chancellor of the Exchequer from that source was just about threepence out of every shilling spent upon drink. If the people were very anxious about it the best way was not to spend the shilling, so that he might get threepence, but to give him the threepence all at once, and put the ninepence in their own pocket.—(Applause.) There were many aspects of this question, and he was as jealous of his own temperance thoughts as they could be. He did not want to be wrong, but he wanted to be right, and if any thought he held to be clear and sound was proved by anybody not to be sound he would part with it. He did not care how they regarded the drink question they would see terrible traces of it. Look at its influence upon their social life; upon young men just starting out in early manhood, and upon old men, and they would see its terrible effects. They did not occupy the same position that they did fifty years ago. There were younger nations coming up. During the last fifty years they had had a monopoly of almost everything that had been advanced. They sent their rails, engines, and ships, to other nations, but now they were beginning to make these themselves, and he had seen some of them building their iron ships, and trying to do without their assistance. As to Jonathan he had gone ahead so far that he seemed to be outstripping them, so that they were, relatively, in a different position. Now, what had they been doing these last years whilst reaping that grand harvest. During that period they had drunk a large sum of money. If he were to read out the figures they would just go in at one ear and out at the other. When they talked about scores, hundreds, and thousands, and a million or two, it did not matter much. They wanted to employ some simile to illustrate the magnitude of the figures that are represented. All the land, all the houses upon the land, all the furniture in the houses, all the money in the bank, and every material thing in the United Kingdom in money value had been consumed one-and-a-half times over during the last fifty years. That was an astonishing fact, and no nation could go on consuming itself at such a rate for ever. He did not, however, think that we would come to an end speedily, because people were beginning to think and act differently. He was pleased to see the great stir that was made a short time ago, against the licensing of public houses in Sunderland. It indicated the public mind on the question. He then proceeded to speak of the opposition made by the public bodies in Sunderland to the granting of licenses, and after adverting to the change of feeling that had been evinced in the House of Commons in regard to Temperance, brought his address to a close.

Mr. PATON, Barr Head, also delivered an address.

Mr. HY. CARSS proposed, and Mr. JOSHUA LAX seconded a vote of thanks to the chairman and the speakers' to which each briefly responded.

DURHAM QUARTER SESSIONS.

The following local cases were tried at these Sessions, on Tuesday:—

THE HAMLTEELS COLLIERY TOKEN CASE.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG, an old man, surrendered to his bail on an indictment charging him with attempting to obtain by false pretecnes the sum of fivepence with intent to defraud Henry Wm. Watson, at Lanchester, on the 20th January, 1881. Mr Boyd prosecuted, the prisoner was undefended.—It appeared prisoner was in the employ of Mr Watson, owner of Hamsteels Colliery, on the day in question, and that there being suspicion of fraud being practised by some miner, a number of officials were instructed to watch the token nail at the pit mouth, care being taken as to the numbers placed there. Prisoner was seen to place an additional token of his own there, by a person named Chaytor, a joiner named Robt. Broadwood, Wm. Cussinson, engineer, and Wm. Brown, onsetter. Had he not been noticed, he would have received fivepence by this fraud. When charged by Mr Allan, manager of the colliery, prisoner said it was a bad job.—The jury found prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

ASSAULTING A WOMAN WITH A RED HOT POKER AT BROOMHILL.

WILLAM ANDERSON, a young man, surrendered to his bail on an indictment charging him with unlawfully wounding Sabina Jane Davison, at Broomhill, on the 1st January. Mr. Shafto prosecuted.—Sabina Jane Davison said she was a widow, living at Broomhill. At a late hour on the night in question, prisoner and two other young men came into her house without knocking at the door. She told them to leave, or they would get wrong. They refused, and in the course of an altercation which ensued, the prisoner struck her with his fist. One of the men produced a bottle of whisky, and she told him her house was not a public-house, and said they had better go out. They refused, and prisoner, whom she knew, commenced to quarrel with her again, seized the poker out of the fire, and burnt her hair and head. It had been put in there in order to light a fire in another room. Prosecutrix fell down insensible on the floor, and did not know what happened after that till her neighbour came to her on the Monday morning.—The wife of Jacob Brown, next door neighbour, heard a noise in prosecutrix's house about eleven o'clock on the night in question. She heard her shouting "Martin, Martin, here," the name of her son. On Sunday, witness went to prosecutrix's door and knocked several times, but got no answer. On the Monday morning, she made a complaint to witness at the fireside. She could hardly speak, and was burnt about the face and head. Witness dressed her wounds, and sent for a doctor.—When charged by Sergt. Parker, prisoner uttered no word of explanation or denial.—Jane Carr saw prosecutrix at half-past nine on the night in question, and to the best of her knowledge she was not drunk, nor the worse for drink.—Dr. Rainton found the prosecutrix suffering from burns on the side of her head, face, ears, and neck. There were other dangerous symptoms, such as a slight matter of erysipelas, great depression, and irregular action of the heart. A poker was a likely instrument with which to inflict the wound, and it was also possible the wounds might have been caused by coming slightly into contact with the bars. It would take only a slight pressure of the poker to cause the wounds if it was at a white heat.

For the defence, prisoner called George West, a young man who was in his company. This witness said they knocked at the door, and prosecutrix inquired who was there, and was told it was Anderson, when she opened the door and let them in. She give them three chairs on which to sit, and Scott, who had the bottle of whisky, offered her a Glass, which she took. The bottle was handed round. Scott and Anderson were the first to fall asleep on the ground floor, and then witness. They awoke about half-past five in the morning, struck a match, and found prosecutrix lying drunk. On examining her, they found her hair and neck was burnt, and they thought she had fallen into the fire, as she was sitting on a chair next it. There was nothing in the bottle. They then lifted her up from the floor on to the bed, and went away.—Cross-examined: I was at Lanchester when the prisoner was tried, but did not give this evidence before the magistrates.—A Juryman: Did you go immediately after you put her on the bed and get some neighbours to look after her?—Witness: No.—John Scott corroborated.—By Mr Shafto: I myself was charged with an indecent assault upon the old woman, but got clear from it.—The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to twelve calendar months' imprisonment.

Occasional Papers.

AUTUMNAL RAMBLES IN SCOTLAND—III.

A DAY IN DUNDEE.

Dundee is a large manufacturing town situated on the Tay about 8 miles from the open sea, it was made a royal burgh by King William who ascended the threne in 1165. Like many other British towns Dundee has frequently

"Heard the din of arms
And been roused by war's alarms."

One of the darkest pages in its history is that which records its capture by Monk, during the proctorship of Cromwell, amid a scene of bloodshed and horror, says Grant, "never witnessed before on British soil." Dundee at that time was walled, and was moreover a place of considerable strength; so secure was it considered, that during the invasion of Cromwell many of the citizens of Edinburgh and of other Scottish towns that sent their valuables thither for security, hence the booty which fell to the share of the English troops was very great. It was, says Colonel O'Key, an officer who accompanied the expedition, the richest town I ever saw in Scotland or England for its size, and some of our soldiers got £500 apiece." About 100 ships lay in the harbour at the time, 60 of which were loaded with treasure, but singularly enough a storm arose, the 60 ships were dashed against each other and all perished on the bar, and were speedily engulfed by the treacherous sands of the restless Tay where they still lie with their horaded spoil.

"See the just judgment of God!" says Dr. Gumble, an Englishman, who censures the barbarous conduct of his countrymen in no measured strain. But those days of lawlessness and blood have happily passed away, even the memory of those times have been all but effaced by the kindly hand of time, and lulled by the peaceful hum of industry.

Dundee is not what can be called a pretty town; its streets are somewhat norrow and circuitous, yet it has not a few public buildings of which its inhabitants may well be proud. The Albert Institute, situated in a central part of the town, is a stately and magnificent structure surrounded by tastefully laid out grounds. In front of this edifice is a public drinking fountain of chaste workmanship. The basins into which the waters play are of freestone supported by pillars of polished granite of divers colours; the whole presenting a beautiful specimen of architectural design. But more of the Albert Institute and its grounds anon; meanwhile we pass on to observe how Dundee looked on the morning of our visit and how we spent a day therein.

It was early morning and few of the town's folk were abroad:

"No cars rattled oe'r the stony street."

And save a solitary pedesterian who might have been seen crossing, or hurrying along, the thoroughfare other signs of life there were none. How strange to reflect while passing along the deserted streets, that the inhabitants thereof were laid away in a horizontal position; line upon line, and tier upon tier, like so many mummies in a catacomb. Proceeding to the house of a friend we were regaled by a substantial breakfast, of which we stood in need, and after we had changed our attire and otherwise errased all traces of the previous night's horrors we turned out for a stroll. The shops were not yet opened, and a dense cloud of mist enveloped the town. There is little, perhaps, to be seen in a town at such a time, but to the curious there is ample scope for observation. Let us turn for a moment into one of those out-of-the-way streets about half-an-hour before the time at which the first-class shops remove their shutters and display their wares to an admiring public. Here, diverging from the High Street, is a long, narrow, antiquated looking lane, or wind, which will suit our purpose admirably. Those who believe in the aphorism:—"The early bird catches the worm," will find it exemplified by perambulating an out-of-the-way street be times in the morning. It is Saturday, and the denizens of the place are rivalling each other in their efforts to secure custom. Here is one old lady, who, apprehensive lest her goods would not be shown to advantage, has opened her shop window, and ensconced in a large arm-chair, sits sunning herself by the doorway, half lulled to sleep by the musical buzz of the flies, who muster in strong force, and sport and waltz in the sunbeams, or pay flying visits to a certain article of diet, known in Scotland as "potted head," which, dished up in small basins, stood in rows within the window. There was something remarkable about the sameness of the shops in this old-world street; cabbage, potted-head, oatmeal bannocks, blacking, and biscuits were principally the goods offered for sale; while the number of flies which sported on the bespotted window panes was something extraordinary. Altogether, the place presented a sleepy, headachy appearance; but as the sun rose in the zenith probably the spirits and the energy of the denizens of this street would rise in proportion.

(*To be continued.*)

Business Announcements.

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☞ Any of the above Books sent by Rail or Carrier on receipt of the amount in Postage Stamps or P.O.O. payable to Thomas Allan.

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A servant-girl who had been admonished by her mistress to be very careful in "washin' up" the best tea-things, was overheard shortly afterwards indulging in the following soliloquy while in the act of wiping the sugar basin: "If I was to drop this 'ere basin, and was to catch it, I suppose I shouldn't catch it; but if I was to drop it, and wasn't to catch it, I reckon I should just catch it."

"How much do you ask for that goose?" inquired a customer of a market-woman.—"Seven shillings for the two," replied the woman.—"But I only want one," said the customer.—"I can't help it," answered the woman; "I ain't a-goin' to sell one one without the other. To my certain knowledge them ere geese have been together for more'n thirteen years, and I ain't-a'goin' to separate 'em now."

A man whose morning dram had been too much for him, in saddling his horse got the saddle wrong end foremost. Just as he was about to mount, a neighbour came up and called his attention to the mistake. The horseman gazed for a moment at the intruder, as if in deep thought, and then said, "Never you mind the saddle. How do you know which way I am going?" And he looked daggers at the officious neighbour.

"Oh, I met such a beautiful girl in the street today!" said a gentleman to a lady friend to whom he was doing the agreeable not many evenings since. "She was dressed in deep mourning; I think I have never seen a sweeter face." "Who could it have been?" said his listener, smoothing down her bombazine dress, and glancing at the crape folds to see if they were properly adjusted. "Pretty, you say—who could it have been? *I was not out.*"

Some Sunday-school children were taken for a picnic to the seaside. One of the teachers asked her scholars how they liked the sea. "Very much, miss," replied a child; "but where are the tinnamies?" "The tinnamies, my child! What do you mean?" "Why, you know," the child replied again, "the tinnamies that go with the sea. You know the Commandment says, 'the sea and all the tinnamies.'" This was the way in which the child had been repeating "the sea and all that in them is."

Business Announcements.

EVERY reader of the *Consett Guardian* who can spare Half-a-Crown should send for a Lot. The following Prizes have been won in former Distributions: A 60-Guinea Piano, a 40-Guinea Piano, 3 30-Guinea Pianos, 1 25-Guinea Piano, 1 24-Guinea Organ, 3 20-Guinea Pianos, 2 15-Guinea Organs, 5 10½-Guinea Organs, 1 19-Guinea Harmonium, 1 9-Guinea Harmonium, 1 8-Guinea Harmonium, 1 7-Guinea Harmonium, 7 6-Guinea Harmoniums, and upwards of TEN THOUSAND other Prizes.

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The Cresent, Florence, Longton, Staffs, May 7th, 1880.
GENTLEMEN,—It affords me pleasure to inform you that the "Multum-in-Parvo" Piano I received as a prize from your drawing of Jan., 1880, gives great satisfaction. It is handsome in appearance, and an excellent toned one, and is pronounced by professional gentlemen a very good instrument, and quite worth its selling price.—Yours truly,
W. J. GOODWIN.

PIANOFORTE.
Main St., Bulwell, Nottingham, July 10th, 1879.
GENTLEMEN, — The "Multum-in-Parvo" Piano I received from you as a prize nearly a year ago continues to give every satisfaction. I have had it examined by a dealer in musical instruments, and by several good pianists, and they all pronounce it a beautiful instrument, and would be very cheap at your catalogue price (28 Guineas).—Yours very truly,
JOHN W. THORPE.

PIANOFORTE.
Sheard's Terrace, Noristhorpe Lane, Heckmondwike near Leeds.
GENTLEMEN,—It affords me pleasure to inform you that the piano I received from you as a prize from the drawing of March, 1878, is very good in appearance; the tone is also very good; and so far exceeds my expectations.
JAMES LISTER.

AMERICAN ORGAN.
15, St. Cuthbert St., Kirkcudbright, 7th May, 1880.
DEAR SIR,—I beg leave to say I received the Prize American Organ safe.—Yours truly,
J. C. MACKENZIE.

HARMONIUM.
Farm Cottage, Waltham Grove, West Brompton, London, S.W.
GENTLEMEN,—I am greatly pleased with the Six-Guinea Harmonium which I was fortunate enough to win in your last Distribution of Musical Instruments. It has a wonderfully rich, full tone, and fine compass for its size. They will prove a boon to those whose means will not allow an expensive one, but desire to have an instrument that will bring forth "sweet sounds," and will prove an attraction to the furniture of any room.—Wishing you every success,
H. H. GRIFFIN,
Bicycling Editor of *The Bazaar and Exchange and Mart.*

HARMONIUM.
167, Windmill St., Gravesend, Jan. 14th, 1880.
DEAR SIRS,—Having thoroughly tried the Harmonium which I was successful in winning in your Distribution of Musical Instruments, I beg to tender you my best thanks for sending me such a good one. Several friends have tried it, and pronounced it worth far more than your Prize Ticket named, viz., 10 Guineas. You are at liberty to publish this should you require it, with full name and address.—I am, Sirs, yours, &c.,
F. S. WRIGHT.

HARMONIUM.
Scarborough House, Ely Road, Canton, Cardiff, April 16th, 1880.
GENTLEMEN,—I have received Prize Harmonium in good condition. I have had it tried by some friends who understand them, and they say it is a good one, in fact it gives every satisfaction.
(Miss) P. D. RICHARDSON.

HARMONIUM.
Bawdeswell, East Dereham, Norfolk.
GENTLEMEN,—You will be pleased to hear that the Prize Harmonium (exchanged for American Organ won) was delivered to me yesterday. I have been trying it, and must say you are able to turn out an instrument fit to compete with those of any other firm. Appearance, tone, and touch are admirable. It is admired by all who see it.
JOHN H. HERRING, Certificated Teacher.

HARMONIUM.
9, Waverley Terrace, Villa Place, Hessle Road, Hull.
Mrs. MARTIN begs to acknowledge receipt of Harmonium (exchanged for American Organ won), which is a splendid instrument in every respect, and if, instead of being a prize, she had paid full catalogue price for it, would consider it well worth the money.

HARMONIUM.
Low Moor Station, near Bradford, Yorks.
GENTLEMEN,—I have to inform you that I received Prize Harmonium all safe and in good condition. I have had it tried by some parties who understand them, and they state it is a good one, and give it a very good character—in fact it gives every satisfaction.
CHARLES HOLT.

HARMONIUM.
Rawling Street, Chelsea.
Miss S. A. WATSON, in acknowledging receipt of Harmonium, must say it exceeds her expectations; and she has had it tested by friends who are fully competent to judge, and they pronounce it an excellent instrument and rich in tone. She is perfectly satisfied and delighted with it.

HARMONIUM.
White Lion Hotel, Bath.
GENTLEMEN,—I have pleasure in informing you that the Prize Harmonium received from you last month is a very good one, both in tone and appearance, and is one with which I am very much pleased.
(Miss) F. FENNER.

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CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of the above Board was held on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Jenkins presiding. There were also present—the Rev. F. Steggall, Mr. Calvert, Mr. Siddell, Mr. Collinson, Mr. Routledge, Mr. Aynsley, Mr. Davison, Mr. Hawdon, Mr. Shell, and Mr. Hudson.

CARR HOUSE CROSSING.

A short discussion took place in reference to the above subject. It was resolved to allow the Roads' Committee to arrange the matter with Mr. Cudworth, on behalf of the Railway Company.

THE FEVER HOSPITALS.

A letter was read from Mr. Ritson, clerk to the Lanchester Board of Guardians, stating that at the conference of the committees appointed by the Rural Sanitary Authority of Lanchester and the Local Boards of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside, it had been agreed that the rateable value of the districts of the several authorities be the basis of contribution; that the Joint Board be composed of fifteen representatives—nine from the Rural Sanitary Authority, and two from each of the three Local Boards.

Mr. CALVERT remarked that the Board would have to levy a special rate, because if the rate was collected the land would get out for a quarter.

Mr. HUDSON: But why should the land not pay on one-fourth?

Mr. SIDDELL: Because the rate is under one penny; that is the law.

Mr. AYNSLEY: You see, Mr. Calvert says, if the rate is collected altogether the land will get off by paying one-quarter.

The CHAIRMAN: That is what the landowners would like; but there is another like.

Mr. HUDSON: It is not the land that makes the disease.

The Rev. F. STEGGALL: I do not know; perhaps it would be difficult to say.

Mr. SHELL: It is such a small rate that its not worth taking notice of.

Mr. HAWDON: It will not matter much to this Board; there is not much land.

Mr. CALVERT said he understood that Mr. Culley and Dr. Spier took the same view of the matter.

Mr. COLLINSON: Are you sure that it was Mr. Culley or the Clerk to the Board that made that statement? I'm under the impression that it was the Clerk to the Board.

The CHAIRMAN: All of them said so, I think.

Mr. CALVERT: It was doubted afterwards, and the Clerk was referred to, and he confirmed what they said.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Clerk should get to know definitely from Mr. Ritson.

After a short conversational discussion the Board resolved to act upon the resolutions made at the conference of the Committees.

On the motion of Mr. AYNSLEY, seconded by Mr. Routledge, the Chairman, *pro tem*, and Mr. CALVERT were appointed their representatives on the Joint Hospital Board.

THE RECREATION GROUND.

The CHAIRMAN said that he was desired to get one of the Company's directors to arrange as to a recreation ground. As soon as the weather was suitable the matter would have attention. The minute was carried forward.

THE WATER QUESTION.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr. Booth, Clerk to the Benfieldside Local Board, enclosing copy of the analyst's (Mr. Pattinson) report on the water supplied by the Consett Water Company. It ran as follows:—

Newcastle, March 17, 1881.

I have examined the sample of water received from your surveyor, Mr. John Dixon, on the 12th inst., marked "Water supplied by the Consett Water Company," and beg to report that I find that it contains as follows:—

Solid matter in solution dried at 212 deg. fah.	4 000 grs.
Solid matter in suspension	2 080 grs.
Chlorine	2 608 grs.
Ammonia	0 005 grs.
Albuminoid Ammonia	0 015 deg.
Nitrogen as Nitrate	0 023 grs.
Oxygen absorbed in two minutes at 80 deg. fah.	0 010 grs.
Oxygen absorbed in four hours at 80 deg. fah.	0 264 grs.

Appearance in two feet tube can, brown and turbid.
Smell when heated to 100 deg. fah—none.

A microscopal examination of the matter in suspension showed it to be composed chiefly of peaty organic matter and mineral matter. There were a few animalculæ present, but only such as are found in all collections of fresh water. The dirty and repulsive appearance of this sample of water, arising from the presence of so much suspended matter causes it to be quite unfit for drinking, cooking, or washing purposes. The water is a very soft one, and if thoroughly cleaned by subsidence or well filtered, I have no doubt it would be a good water for a town supply; but in the condition of the sample supplied to me it is altogether unfit for nearly all household purposes.

(Signed)
JOHN PATTINSON, F.I.C., F.C.S.

The following resolutions made at a meeting of the Benfieldside Local Board were also submitted:—

"On the motion of Mr. CARSS, seconded by Mr. LAX it was resolved that this Board, having considered Mr. Pattinson's report and analysis of the Consett water, take legal proceedings to compel the Water Company to supply the district of the Board with pure and wholesome water, and that the Clerk be instructed to forward a copy of the analysis to the Consett and Leadgate Local Boards, and ask them to co-operate in any legal proceedings which may be advised."

"Mr. ELTRINGHAM then moved and Mr. LAX seconded, that a copy of Mr. Pattinson's analysis and report be sent to the Consett Water Company, and that it be informed of the Board's determination to institute legal proceedings to compel the Water Company to furnish to the district a supply of pure and wholesome water.

The motion was carried."

The CHAIRMAN said he did not know what their views on the matter were, but he should, first of all, like to see other means tried. If the three Local Boards were to combine and appeal in person to the Consett Water Company, and approach it in a business-like and amicable spirit before combining in taking legal steps against a company with whom they ought rather to be on friendly terms, than otherwise, would be a better plan. They had far better impress upon the Company the great need of an inquiry into the question. They might ask the Directors to meet them, for, they as water consumers, had a right to expect some little courtesy.

Mr. COLLINSON thought the suggestion made by the Chairman was a good one. It would be time enough to take legal proceedings if it (the company) did not agree to lay down a plan.

The CHAIRMAN thought that it would only be fair to explain to the Directors what they wanted.

Mr. SHELL said he thought their complaint of the water had only gone before the meeting of the Directors once. The analyst's report was very strong, and it was desirable that the Chairman's suggestion should be adopted.

Mr. COLLINSON: The meeting ought to be brought about as early as possible, because, according to the analysts' reports it is evident that the water is not good.

The CHAIRMAN: There is ample evidence before us, so far as the samples are concerned that the water is not clear. If the sample is a fair one it is high time that it was investigated at all events.

Mr. SIDDELL contended that it was never intended that that Board should take legal proceedings until they had tried other measures to get the Water Company to do something towards supplying the inhabitants with pure water. It would be the proper course to adopt the Chairman's suggestions.

Mr. AYNSLEY: I think the suggestion that the Chairman has made is a good one, and I, for one, shall support it.

Mr. HUDSON said that sometime ago that Board asked the Local Government Board if they could not compel the water company to filter the water.

The Clerk (Mr. Elliott): The Local Government Board quoted from the Act that they were bound to keep a sufficient supply of pure water in their pipes.

Mr. SIDDELL said they had no power to compel the Water Company to filter the water. They had only power to compel them to supply a pure and wholesome water.

It was decided that in the event of the other Boards agreeing to amalgamate to meet the Water Company, that the Chairman, the Rev. F. Steggall, Mr Siddell, and Mr. Collinson, should form the Committee of that Board.

The REV. F. STEGGALL remarked that in the meantime the health of the district was not suffering as Dr. Renton had shewn that for three weeks there had been only one funeral in the cemetery, and that was a tramp.

Mr. SIDDELL: There shouldn't be any time lost, Mr. Chairman.

On the motion of Mr. Aynsley, seconded by Mr. Shell, it was also resolved to request the local boards of Leadgate and Benfieldside, to amalgamate in meeting the Water Company.

THE FOOTPATH, MIDDLE STREET.

A long discussion took place as to the widening of the footpath in Middle Street. The feeling of the Board seemed to be in favour of widening the footpath at once, but Mr. Hudson contended that there were other streets in a worse condition than the one mentioned.

It was ultimately agreed to widen the footpath to ten feet on the side on which the shops are situate, and to construct a footpath on the opposite side, six feet wide.

The Surveyor (Mr. Rippon), was instructed to submit plans for the work at the annual meeting of the Board.

MORE LAMPS.

The Clerk said that in accordance with a request made to him by the Gas Committee, he had written to Mr. Supt. Oliver asking permission to place a lamp on the high post at the constabulary gates, and that gentleman procured the necessary authority to allow them to do so. The lamp was now fixed.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

A question having arisen as to the Primitive Methodist Sunday-school, Mr. Hudson inquired if the foundation was all properly arranged.

The Surveyor: Yes; they are putting down a proper sewer.

Mr. COLLINSON: Has there been a block plan submitted?

Mr. SHELL: No, but it will be all right shortly.

ESTIMATE FOR ENSUING SIX MONTHS.

The following estimate of the expenditure for the ensuing six months was submitted.

Sewerage	£50
Limestone 400 tons @ 5s. 6d.	110
Wages	55
Team Work	20
Scavenging	50
Footpaths	150
Public Lighting	230
Salaries	85
Incidentals	20
Total	770

To meet the above, a rate of 8d. in the pound was made.

A VOTE OF THANKS.

Mr. CALVERT moved that a vote of thanks should be accorded to the Chairman for his services during the past year.

Mr. DAVISON had pleasure in seconding.

Mr. JENKINS briefly responded. He was extremely obliged to his townsmen, with whose assistance he had got through his duties tolerably well.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor's report was read as under:—

Office, Parliament St.
Consett,
April 16 1881.

Gentlemen—Owing to the severe snow-storm in the early part of the past month I had to engage a number of men to remove snow which was drifted to a considerable depth by reason of the strong wind prevailing at the time. Since the ground got clear the following roads have been scraped and metal laid on to them, viz., Leadgate Road, Delves Lane, Knitsley Lane, Castleside Road, Albert Road, and Brick Flat Lane, and other roads in your district are receiving attention. A portion of the footpath on Consett Hall Road has been covered with limestone chippings, and the remainder will be completed as soon as chippings come to hand which are ordered. A pitfall took place on Medomsley Road on March 10th which was promptly repaired by the Consett Iron Co's workmen. During the past months I have inspected the whole of your district and am glad to inform you that it is free from infectious diseases at the present time. The ashpits as a whole are satisfactorily kept. I have got the sewerage manure taken out of two of your settling ponds. The fire brigade assembled on March 4th for quarterly practice. Your building committee has examined plans for two villas intended to be built in Parliament Street for the Consett Iron Co., also a plan for a house intended to be built in Derwent Street for Mr. Thomas Carr and recommend them to be passed.

I am, Gentlemen,
your humble servant,
William Rippon.

The medical officer submitted the following report:—

Gentlemen,—The health of your district during the quarter just terminated has not been so satisfactory as the exceptionally low death rate shown in the accompanying table might lead you to suppose. The evidence of scarlet fever which at one time threatened evil forebodings is gradually subsiding. There have also been evidences of rheumatic fever and Erysipelas since the beginning of the year, due doubtless to the prolonged inclement season, and they too are rapidly disappearing. Whooping cough is gradually spreading over the district, but hitherto no deaths have been registered.

I am, Gentlemen,
your obedient servant,
Wm. Renton,
Medical Officer of Health.

Consett,
April 5th 1881.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD ELECTION.—The following gentlemen have recently been elected members of the Tow Law Local Board: Messrs. Joseph Robert Crone, mining engineer, 268; William Atkinson, grocer, 265; and Henry Welsh, grocer, 226 votes. Messrs. William Scott, Francis E. Bell, and Leo P. Wherly were also nominated.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.—On Tuesday night first the above society will give their second concert in the New National School-room, for which a very attractive programme has been arranged. Besides Madame Evans Warwick who has great reputation; Mr. Richardson, the skilful harpiest is engaged; also, Mr. Wilkinson, of Durham. We would recommend our readers to patronize the efforts of this society, whose object is to cultivate vocal music and bring good performances before the public.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.—The monthly meeting of this Board was held on Tuesday night. Present: D. Thomson chairman, W. Ridley, W. R. Teasdale, H. Welsh, A. Robinson, W. Atkinson, and Mr. Ridley. The minutes of meeting held March 1st were read and confirmed. Reports of inspector and surgeon were read, which were of a purely formal character. The medical officers report stated that deaths had been 22 for the quarter, at a rate of the 163 thousand per annum, and the births 44. A letter was read from Mr. James Hunter resigning his position as a member of the local board. The passing of a pay bill concluded the business.

THE latest mania known to man is alphabeticism. There is a deluded idiot, who, if he had his way, would live in A house with a B hive, near the C, on the banks of the D.

"AND don't forget it" is now fashionably rendered in the city of Boston, U.S., "And do not permit the impression to be obliterated from the cells of your recollection"

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL, CONSETT.

On Monday afternoon, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Primitive Methodist Sunday School, Consett, was performed by Mr. Jenkins, J.P., Consett Hall. There was a large gathering present, amongst whom we noticed the Revs. F. Steggall, J. Shearman, F. Wood, R. Richards, J. Welford, Newcastle, and A. Latimer; Mrs. Jenkins, Miss Jenkins, Mrs. J. Robinson, South Shields, &c.

The Rev. A. LATIMER opened the proceedings by giving out the 460th hymn, after which the Rev. F. STEGGALL read a portion of Scripture. The Rev. J. SHEARMAN then offered up a prayer, and another hymn having been sung,

Mr. JENKINS proceeded to perform the ceremony of laying the foundation stone, on accomplishing which he said he thought that it would be a waste of time for him to say much. He could not help, however, expressing his great satisfaction at being present to assist the people who were mixed up in such a good cause. From his youth he had been connected with Sunday Schools, and he would yield to none in the attention which he gave to them in his younger days. He then briefly glanced at the good results accruing from the young identifying themselves with Sunday School work, and concluded by expressing a hope that the Bible would be expounded in that building in a simple and orthodox form, and that no unholy transaction would be allowed to pass in the place around which they were gathered.

The memorial stones were subsequently laid by Miss Jenkins, Mrs. Robinson, South Shields, and Mr. Robert Telford, of Berryedge Farm. The following presents were then made. To Mr. Jenkins, History of the Primitive Methodists; Miss Jenkins, a Bible and Primitive Methodist Hymn Book; Mrs. Robinson, a Primitive Methodist Hymn Book; Mr. Robert Telford, Biographies of Wm Clowes and Hugh Bourne.

After the ceremony a large gathering partook of tea in the school-room, adjoining the chapel. The tables which were covered with viands of a multifarious and substantial character, were presided over by Mesdames Graham, Milburn, Rowe, Robson, and Misses Bainbridge, Mole, Hall, and Robson.

After tea, a public meeting was held in the Chapel, when the Rev. A. LATIMER said he was sorry to have to announce that Mr. Robinson, of South Shields, was unable to be present to preside. There was an important meeting of the School Board, of which he was a member, and that was the reason why he could not attend. He (Mr. Latimer) knew that they would have been glad to look upon his exceedingly happy face as chairman of the meeting. (Applause.) In the absence of Mr. Robinson he was glad to say that Mr. Robt. Telford would take the chair. (Applause.) They all knew what Mr. Telford could do when he took the chair at a meeting like that. Mr. Telford's heart was thoroughly in sympathy with the work in which they were engaged, and he trusted that as their chairman he would be exceedingly happy in his work, and that they would have a very profitable meeting.

Mr. TELFORD, who was warmly received, humorously remarked that he never liked to stand in other people's shoes. He did not doubt that many came to see the chairman from Shields. He assured them that he would have liked to have seen him as well as anybody. Yes, for more reasons than one. (Laughter.) Those who did their best could do no more, and he was always willing to do what he could especially for the cause about which they had met. There was nothing gave him more pleasure than to see the little ones gathered together in the Sunday School, listening to the truth expounded. Sabbath Schools were what they had to depend upon for the rising generation in their churches, and it behoved the teachers to strive, with all their might, to keep the children well together, so that when they were gone they might take their places. Having further expatiated upon the expediency of an earnest participation in the work, he called upon

Mr. ANDREW S. COATES, who gave a brief epitome of the day's proceedings. He said that he could not submit a very full report of what they had done. He had gathered up the totals, with which they would have to be satisfied. The amount received at the stone was £43 5s 8d; collection at the stone £3 6s 9d; proceeds of tea £7 10s; collections on Sunday, £2 10s 6½d; making a total of £56 12s 11½d. He thought they had great reason to congratulate themselves upon their success, and he really could not see what was to prevent them from raising £60, with the collection that would be made at that meeting.

The Rev. J. WELFORD said he must confess, at the outset, that he was in a little bit of a fix. He had often been in a fix, but he felt that night as he had very rarely felt before on a platform. He felt as if he would infinitely rather not have to address them. In fact he would much rather sit still and let the meeting go on in the character which it had already assumed. He was sure the previous part of the meeting to that point had been of a very interesting variety which had certainly tended to touch their emotional nature. They had had beautiful singing and an excellent report. They would agree with him that the heart and sympathy of their chairman were still in the right place, (Applause.) He was glad to find that he was still able to take the chair, and preside over a public meeting in Consett. The chairman and he claimed to be closely akin. There was only a difference of one letter, and if Mr. Telford would throw off the "T," and take up the "W" they should claim a still closer friendship. He felt so many thoughts crowding upon him, and such a variety of emotions throbbing within his breast, that he scarcely knew what to talk about. The chairman had said—and he appealed to a very reliable source for the corroboration of the truthfulness of his statement—that their respected superintendent had a trancendant faculty for slipping through, and getting out of the way of difficulties, and out of the way of work. (Laughter.) He was sorry to say that he had never learnt that from him. He had a great deal to thank him for, but somehow or other his coat had not been so ductile or impressible as to receive that quality which he possessed in such a high degree, or else he would have slipped out that night. They would allow him, in the first place, to congratulate them upon the work of that day. The erection of new premises in which to conduct the important work of their Sunday Schools had been long talked of. That day it had passed out of the region of talk into the region of fact. It was no longer an abstract idea and desideratum. In the laying of the foundation stone they could read the promise of the completion. He was confident that the work which they had so thoroughly commenced would not be stayed until the topstone was brought up, and the building prepared for the great purpose for which it was designed. What the purpose was they might find in the material work that had been so gracefully and perfectly accomplished that day. That stone had been declared to be well and truly laid, and he trusted that on it would be reared a structure that would be a thing of beauty, and a joy for ever—(applause)—a structure that would be graceful to the eye and useful to the neighbourhood. According to the School Board system every child in this country received a tolerably efficient education in reading, writing, and arithmetic, but the work of the Sunday School teacher now was of a higher, and a more spiritual character, and the object for which that Sunday School had to be erected was to lay the foundation of a good christian character. Their chairman had said that they could all take part in the work. He would like to enforce that sentiment upon them for a few moments. It was designed that every man should do some work, or to occupy precisely some position. There was a position that was high and influential, and there was a position that was less influential. There was work to be done of a high and spiritual character, and there was work to be done of a mean and common kind. Yet every individual, whether he filled a higher or a lower position in society, whether his work might be what was called noble or mean, who acted his part faithfully and honourably, was equally entitled to honour and respect from his fellow-men. The same remark applied to the Christian church, as the organization instituted for a particular purpose. In the church there were diversities of gifts, talents, offices, and capabilities. Every individual member had a special vocation, his proper sphere of action and usefulness. Talents varying according to the will of the Supreme Ruler, were intrusted to each, and various opportunities were afforded for their exercise and development. Some might have higher positions than others. Some might have poor parents and more limited opportunities, but they were not thereby exempt from application to work. Because wealth and influence were not entrusted to them they must not suppose that there was nothing to do. However little their position and few and feeble their talents might be, they could by application, zeal, and industry, accomplish no small amount of good, and thus command the respect and admiration of their fellow-men, and the smile and approval of God. Exalted positions and lowly positions; many talents and few talents, were equally necessary for the completion and perfection of the Christian system. There were members who were naturally timid and tender—the battle-field was not their place. They could not engage with the evils that dazzled the world. It was for others to go forth to engage in the great struggle with evil in a more outward and direct way. Their place was to stay in the peaceful sanctuaries of home to tread the paths of an honest private life, and by the sweetness of their disposition and by their purity and Christian-like walk and conversation to beautify and adorn the Church; to encourage the young believers to magnify the Christian light, and to recommend religion to those that were without it. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman urged his hearers to perform their duties diligently, according to their own ability, which was the noblest and most perfect thing they could do.

At this juncture Mr. Welford had to leave to catch the train, but previous to his doing so a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him.

The Rev. F. STEGGALL afterwards delivered a most eloquent address which could not fail to make an impression on all present.

During the evening solos, recitations, &c., were contributed by Mr. A. S. Coates, Mr. J. Surtees, Mr. Foster, Mr. McColvin, Miss Smith, and Miss McWilliams.

The customary votes of thanks having been passed and the doxology sung, the meeting terminated.

The following is a description of the work in hand:—The new buildings, which comprise a large school-room, two class rooms, heating chamber, &c., are situate at the rear end of the chapel, which was erected in 1864. The principal entrance to the school-room is through a centre porch in the front gable facing the road leading to Templetown. There is also a large porch entrance placed between the chapel and school, giving access either to the school, class rooms, or chapel. The buildings are being erected in stone, faced with blocking course, similar to present erections, and are designed in the early English style of architecture. It is intended, as soon as the state of the funds will admit, to alter the interior of the chapel, placing an organ gallery over the minister's vestry, raising the ground floor 15 ins., re-arranging the pews, and erecting a new rostrum. The whole of the buildings, including both new and old, will be heated by hot water in pipes. The total cost of schools, including site, &c., will be about £600. The designs have been prepared by Mr. Thomas Southron, architect, of South Shields, under whose superintendence the works are now being carried out.

Correspondence.

MR. THOS. BURT, M.P., AND THE COERCION BILL.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—I am sorry that I have charged Mr. Burt with more than he did in this affair. The mover and seconder of the motion are certainly to blame for giving the impression that he had voted with the Government in favour of Coercion, but I am glad to find that Mr. Burt was one of the few English members who voted against it. For my part I was so disgusted over the affair that I never took the trouble to see which way Mr Burt had voted. But this does not exonerate him from all blame in this very important matter, as he has voted on the losing side, and the Government have passed a Coercion Bill for Ireland, which is composed of several clauses, and as he was opposed to the bill before he knew what sort of a measure it would be, how is it we find him voting with the Government on the most tyrannical and detestable clauses, one or two instances of which I will notice. What need was there for Mr Burt to countenance precedence being given to the Bill. If the Bill was unnecessary, and he voted against it, why should he vote for it to date back from a certain time. An amendment was proposed that prisoners detained on suspicion should be confined in rooms suitably warmed in winter, with the walls and floor dry (as reasonable and humane an amendment as could be proposed,) yet Mr Burt did not see fit to vote for it, thus inferring that cold, damp cells were quite good enough for an Irishman, although no guilt has been proved against him. One would almost think from such votes as these that Mr. Burt imagined that the Celtic race are devoid of feeling. I will follow him no further in this miserable affair, but leave the public to look for Mr. Burt's votes for themselves and to behold with horror and disgust the actions of a professedly Liberal Government, so far from what one expected they would have been, towards an oppressed people in an oppressed land.—I am, dear Sir, yours, &c.,

MATTHEW JEWITT.

537, Quarry Street, Leadgate.

THE STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—May I intrude upon your space in reply to some strictures upon my societies. The person who is doing all he can to injure the societies carefully abstains from attacking their principles, well knowing they are unassailable; but singling out a particular society which has been maimed by the incompetency or rascality of its officers, he bases statements which, when applied generally are false. I have been lecturing in his immediate neighbourhood lately, and he does not dare face me, but thinks by writing to such a distance to hood-wink many. I cannot give brains or morality to people, and the comparatively faultless system of my societies are chosen in spite of the egregious blundering of these malicious busybodies. I am blamed for not allowing minors to vote; whereas if the "spirited gentleman, to whom great credit is due," refers to the "Building Societies Act, 1874," clause 38, he will find the legislature has done the work for which he blames me. If our police records and divorce court proceedings are to be taken as standards wherewith to guage the honesty and morality of the nation, we should seem in a pretty pass; to do so is as consistent as to blame my deservedly popular and successful societies for the folly and fraud which has spoilt one or two.—Yours truly,

35, Windmill Street,
Finsbury, London E.C.

R. B. STARR.

(To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.)

SIR,—Most of your readers will no doubt have been struck with the very lucid explanation that Mr Starr has *not* given, and the very polite behaviour he has *not* exhibited, in his reply to Mr Inglis in your last week's issue.

He has made a reference to one society which, after being 17 years, was brought to a termination by paying out (pretty handsomely, certainly) the members that remained in it at the end of that time, but that is hardly an explanation of the points raised by Mr Inglis. He has ridiculed his own reference to "the poor working man," quoted by Mr Inglis; but neither is that an explanation, at any rate it is not a good one. And he has almost given Mr Inglis the lie direct in saying that "he appears to be interested in some other kind of society" after his (Mr Inglis's) distinct statement that he was not connected with any society, but even this, regarded as an explanation, can hardly be considered thoroughly satisfactory. Mr Starr has very early resorted to the abusive element so common in local controversies, which is a pity, as it was quite unnecessary and uncalled for, as there are many in this neighbourhood who would like some explanation of the Starr-Bowkett principle, who are not biassed either for or against Mr Starr, and who would be ready to accept frankly any real explanation Mr Starr may give.

Mr Inglis's letter was perhaps somewhat abrupt and self-confident, but, I think, Sir, there was nothing abusive in it, nothing that need vex any one who has ordinary command over his temper, and ——— a good cause. And, I think, Sir, that not only the public generally but the Directors, who are gentlemen well known and respected in the district, and who have doubtless accepted the responsibility, from a desire to assist in starting the society, believing it to be a desirable and beneficial thing, and not knowing very much about it, expect, and have a right to expect that Mr Starr would take the earliest opportunity of explaining its principles to them, and there will probably be more persons than myself of the opinion that Mr Starr, seeing that he was not able to do so as fully as he intended at the meeting, through circumstances over which he had no control, has a good medium for so doing in your paper, which is always open for anything of public interest, without waiting to "deal" with Mr Inglis at a future time.

Mr Starr's reply may possibly be an explanation of a sort, but if it is, it is evident that Mr Inglis had a much plainer and clearer way of putting his questions than Mr Starr has of putting his answers, as the inequalities stated by Mr Inglis remain as clear and as forcible as ever. However, we shall probably hear something more satisfactory from Mr Starr. Meanwhile Mr Inglis must consider himself annihilated, pending the 8th June.—I am, Sir, yours.

W. A. H.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The public will be able to judge whether Mr. Starr has replied to any of the questions put forward in my last letter. He says I do not understand his tables; but anyone interested on the subject can easily procure one of his books and judge whether I am right or wrong. Mr. Starr quotes the 24th as an instance of a society terminating, or rather agreeing to terminate in seventeen years, but he omits to state that members who got draws in the sixteenth year had only one year to pay up their loan—perhaps £300; those in the fifteenth year had only two years; those in the fourteenth year had only three years, and so on. He omits also to state that the withdrawals from this Society were at one time so numerous that the directors were unable to pay them on the usual notice, and they had consequently to be taken in rotation, (see Starr-Bowkett Journal of 1st March, 1881,) a *small* charge of two shillings per annum being deducted for working expenses, and for the *privilege* of allowing other people the use of their money. This society began with 433 members, but how many of these 433 remained to share its *benefits* at the close. That is the point. Had there been no withdrawals it WOULD NOT HAVE WOUND UP IN THIRTY-FIVE YEARS! and anyone can satisfy himself of the accuracy of this statement on reference to table No. 1 in Mr. Starr's book. Four hundred Starr-Bowkett Societies are alleged to have been started during twenty-one years, several of which Mr. Starr admits in his book (page 59) have subsequently been converted into ordinary Ballot and Sale Societies. THIS CAN HARDLY BE CALLED AN EMPHATIC DECLARATION IN THEIR FAVOUR. There is a section of the "*unerring British public*" who shut their eyes, open their mouth, and swallow anything. Had Mr. Starr's system been felt to be such a great blessing as he represents it to be, 4,000 instead of 400 Societies would have been started during the twenty-one years they have been in operation. In my former letter I pointed out some of the more glaring defects in the system, none of which Mr. Starr has attempted to deal with; nor has Mr. Barclay or Mr. Bell although they *thoroughly understood the system*.—I remain, &c.,

JAS. INGLIS.

Blackhill, 6th April, 1881.

P.S.—The following advertisement copied from the Starr-Bowkett Journal of the 1st March, may be interesting to your readers:—"Three Shares in the 188th Starr-Bowkett Building Society (New Kent Road, S.E.) for sale. £3 15s paid in. Price £2 10s. J. Worrell, 4, Cossall Street, Peckham, S.E."

CROOKHALL.—On Tuesday evening last, another of these fortnightly entertainments was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel of the above place. Notwithstanding the fact that they have been carried on during the whole of the winter months they still retain their popularity as anyone can testify who was present on Tuesday night, it superseding any of the former ones, both as regards the quality of the performance, and the number of persons present, several being unable to obtain seats. Any attempt on my part to criticise the pieces sung, or the recitations given would be a failure. Perhaps my ideas of time and tune may be considered somewhat vague, but as I was coming out, I overheard one of the principal voices of one of the best choirs in the district pronounce it excellent, and a decided improvement on any of its predecessors. Mr. Nathan Fawell, of Consett, occupied the chair, and performed his duties in a very able and efficient manner. The meeting closed with votes of thanks to chairman and performers for their services, and the singing of the doxology.—*Communicated.*

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CONSETT—At Sherburn Terrace, on the 30th ult., the wife of Mr. Samuel Wood, of a son.

At Mount Pleasant, on the 3rd inst., the wife of Mr. William Knox, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BLACKHILL—At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 4th inst., by the Rev. A. Bailie, Mr. Chas. Peacock, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Emily, eldest daughter of Mr. T. Cheesmond, Blackhill.

LANCHESTER—At the Register Office, March 25th, Mr. J. Spink, of Dipton, to Miss J. A. Swan, of Dipton.—At the same place, on April 2nd, Mr. B. Waite, of Blackhill, to Miss S. Smith, of Shotley Bridge.—At the same place, on April 5th, Mr. M. Wheatley, to Miss E. Guy, both of Burnhope.

DEATHS.

ANNFIELD PLAIN—On the 2nd inst., aged 22 years John William Aitken.

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