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The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE

ROBERT JACKSON

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Plans, Specifications, &c., may be seen at the Office of the Local Board on and after Monday, the 17th inst.

Tenders addressed to the Consett Local Board will be received up to 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday, the 2nd September.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

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THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Clerk.

322g

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August, 1891. 263g

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F. O. H. GLENFYNE WHISKEY, 3s.

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Business Announcements.

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A Single Tooth from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Complete Upper or Lower Set from One to Five Guineas. These Teeth can be adjusted without pain or the removal of stumps or loose teeth. Patients attended at their own residences if desired. Old sets re-modelled or new teeth added. Successful treatment guaranteed and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or a new set made.

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AUSTRALIAN WINE.

The EMUE BURGUNDY, which is so highly recommended by the Medical Faculty, for which I am Sole Agent.

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Castle "JJ" Bottled in Bond—5 years old	3s 6d	42s
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£1 TO £10

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

£10 Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Parts in time to return same day. RAIL FARE ALLOWED.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN, August 28th, 1891.

Correspondence.

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

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

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

THE COKE OVEN NUISANCE AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Will you please grant me a small part of your valuable space to reply to the letters on this subject?

First—Allow me, in reply to "Annfield Plain Lad," to inform him I did not speak of itinerant tramps, but of the so-called "rodneys" (some of whom are well educated, and have seen better days), but through trouble, and in some instances drink, have been brought down to the low level they now are at). I might also advise him to be quite sure he has understood the next letter he intends to reply to before he rushes into print again.

Next, in reply to "Truth and Justice," I still maintain there is no more smell from these men sleeping in a coke-oven than there would be if they slept in a room. I admit some of them do get incapably drunk, but still I don't believe they are worse than some of the miners. The language I heard coming from them the months of some of our miners while in drink is to my mind simply abhorrent, even though children and females are within hearing. I am continually coming in contact with miners well dressed and sober committing nuisances by the roadside, even when females are passing. Very little need be said about the rodneys getting drunk, as all we need do is to take your valuable paper up and see a number of them have been fined at the local police courts for being drunk and disorderly.

In reply to "Pro Bono Publico," I should request him to place six or seven men in a room to sleep, and then go in the morning, and I am sure he will find a smell in the room which will make him draw their breath, but this is not an abominable stench.

Well, "Pro Bono Publico," tell me how many workmen do exactly the same as the rodneys—that is, go straight to the public-houses and spend their hard worked-for earnings, and then go home and abuse their wives and families at home with, I fear, very little food or comfort?

I might just add that I have seen many of these rodneys clean washed, but of course neither they nor any burner or drawer in the coke-yards can have fair, delicate complexions after working before the heat they work before.

"Pro Bono Publico" if he calls the secretaries of the different associations independent inhabitants of this district?

In conclusion, allow me to say: Do away with the coke-ovens being used as sleeping-places, and you will confer a blessing on the rodneys themselves.—

Yours, &c., SANITAS.

Annfield Plain, 25th August, 1891.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Please to observe this letter is from an individual—through straightened circumstances, has had the misfortune to seek a night's shelter in the coke-yards. No place to go, he must not have any drink for everything. Let me say about the nuisance a lodging-house is wanted very much in the neighbourhood, or a night shelter for those that are having the banishing away, not such a thing. I think the miners must have forgot themselves. A short while ago there was a strike at Pontop Colliery, for the first month in this year those putters refused to go down the pit, consequently the colliery was laid idle. The screeners were wanted to fill the waggons. Now there was some of that clan took rodneys on the screens the same morning. When the manager went back wanted coals to be filled, screeners went home, so the rodneys did likewise. One or two men in this yard would give a man a shilling to help him through his day's work, and take the other money himself. Hunger is a sharp thorn. We must not loiter to hear. Shame is the word in the one thing needful. Give them a chance to live. However they are not blacklegs, or is might have been a bad job for the Pontop Colliery and screeners. Now, the screeners did not get the back money like the putters. The pit was started on the fourth day of the week. There are more nuisances to be made in Annfield Plain and neighbourhood, very startling. It would take a wise man to find them out, let alone a human inspector. Regards to the rodneys, I say treat, especially at cooking time, in Tramp Row, where most stop, there is a grand smell of frying which ever way the wind blows. We were very kind Samaritans nowadays, when a person gets down, to try to help them up again. Nay, rather take them by the hand, make a shelter for the men of some sort. I mean for those who will work. There are good men among them, both learned and otherwise, some who have fallen low in distress of poverty. Some have one cause, some another, but not all from drink. Now about four or five years ago a lady preacher or evangelist was holding revival services. One young married man was brought into the hall, got saved, and is standing, and has been the means of leading the Salvation Army brought to the neighbourhood, and now, why not have a blue ribbon army likewise. There is plenty of room for this work.—Yours truly, REFORMED TRAMP.

Annfield Plain.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In all Co-operative stores, above all others in requisites to inspire full confidence in the public mind, and that is its system of management which would prove a real genuine safety against fraud in all the working parts of such society. It is quite evident to any diligent observer that the cause of all the decay, gross and development which has taken place up to the present date, there still remain some parts unguarded, which is used as a channel for the fraudulent to creep in and thus, a society, to all appearances may seem in a flourishing condition, while some-one in its centre may, like a canker worm, be eating away its vitals. It, therefore, behoves every member to seek information concerning their society, in order that every hap may be suppressed, and that justice may be established. It is quite true that some societies are wide awake, while others slumber on, heedless of the coming storm, until aroused to action by the storm itself, then to their dismay they are on the rocks and quicksands in a moment; and as they watch the wreck, they see plainly the dangerous road they have come, and how it might have been avoided. Cause and effect cannot be disconnected, they stay, and beacon lights, and they defy annihilation. To ensure safety, the quarter's accounts should, in my opinion, be kept intact, and on no account whatever should a transfer be allowed to the next quarter's accounts. The money in treasurer's hand ought to be counted on the day of stocktaking, and it could be done in a few or six days after stocktaking, in case of a deficiency the cashier could hand over to the accountant the monies received, and the books of stocktaking, and thus a deficiency could be worked from quarter to quarter, the auditors being unaware of the fact until there was not sufficient to meet the demand, which would require an explanation; the auditors should also, on no account give their signatures to say a balance-sheet is correct until they have had access to every requisite book belonging to the society's accounts. There are some large shareholders who retain their pass-books because they don't want any-one to see what amount they possess, but if they studied their society's interests, all false delicacy of this kind would banish from their minds. Just think eighty or ninety pass-books being kept back from the auditors. They have no business to take the secretary's account without having the member's pass-book to act as a check against the secretary's. Now supposing a member wishes to withdraw, he knows a member's book is withheld which has a share account to the extent of £200, by rubbing off a cypher he can send for £20 and the auditors with £20 to the credit of this member. The auditors then pass it as £20, and when the books return from the auditors the cypher adds the cypher again, when it comes more becomes £200. Now where the secretary has access to the money, he can hide in this one instance pocket £180, and if his books were examined they would be correct, while the cash would be deficient, and the verdict would fall on the head of the treasurer, an innocent man. For this reason a secretary ought to be exempt from all monies, so that he can in no case infringe in this manner. If possible a competent person should be in charge of all monies, and to act as a check against the secretary. The stocks ought to be gone through annually by experts, to check the regular system, for grave mistakes can accrue from mere guess work, all credit systems ought to be abolished, as the disadvantages are numerous, while the advantages are few. The committee should be composed of intelligent men, who will not rest until they fully comprehend, and understand, every working part over which they have the management, and in the important duty of engaging servants, and officers, they should be certain that their character will bear the strictest investigation for honesty and sobriety. The old adage still stands that "prevention is better than cure," while it only has a moderate aspect when a lock has to be bought for the gratification the horse is stolen. These few simple hints, would in a small measure aid to bring about a better state of things in some societies, while space forbids me entering into details concerning the use and abuse of surplus capital. I trust some experienced person in the industrial world will give their views as to the best system to be adopted to make co-operative societies impregnable against defrauders; for it would be a boon to the working classes in general.—Yours truly, IMPROVEMENT.

Beamish Air Pit, Chester-le-Street.

DRUNKENNESS AND GAMBLING AT BLACKHALL MILL: A CLERGYMAN'S PROTEST.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—Kindly allow me a space in your paper to call attention to a state of things that exists at Blackhall Mill. Every "pay" week-end—that is to say, the Saturday and Sunday, disgraceful scenes are witnessed there that are a disgrace to any civilised land, much less to a land that calls itself Christian. Drunkenness is rife, gambling in all its forms—card playing, pitch and toss—carried on openly; this, too, more especially on Sundays. Fighting, most awful and disgusting language to be heard, what is most of all a crying disgrace to the neighbourhood. But this is not the worst, nor the most sad and painful part of the awful history. Many of these men's sons, left away by the evil example which they see on all sides of them, can be seen gambling, both at cards and pitch and toss, with all the ingenuity of youth. Surely it is time that something should be done to stop such a state of things as this. Is no one this to be done? Can this state of things be altered? I venture to think that it can, and that too by very simple means. I feel confident that if I had a policeman stationed permanently at Blackhall Mill, that much of the gambling and drunkenness would be stopped. There being no policeman there at present is an incentive to disorder of all kinds.—Yours, &c.,

E. G. F. MACPHERSON.

Medomsley, August 26th, 1891.

A STATION WANTED AT WESTWOOD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—One or two efforts have already been made with the object of persuading the Directors of the North Eastern Railway Company to favour the public at Westwood and the immediate vicinity with a station. Our past efforts having been thwarted or ignored by that arrogant body, the accident was too heavy, is germinating within us anything but a feeling of admiration. The advocacy of a station, were it going to be a loss to the company, is indeed deprecate. But when we consider the thousands (though I am not in possession of the exact population) whose residences are close to the railway the idea of a station is absurd. The inconvenience of the public having to ride close past their homes and travel the same ground back over from a mile and-a-quarter up to three miles, before they can get a train force with it without any elaboration from me as to the mildness of our claim.—Yours, &c.,

Westwood, August 26th, 1891. GEORGE COOKE.

DEATH OF DR. SAVAGE, FORMERLY OF CONSETT.

Our readers will learn with regret that Dr Marc Savage, who was a prominent figure in the social history of Consett up to some half-a-dozen years ago, passed suddenly away on Monday week. The deceased gentleman has been living at Torquay, Ireland, and for some months, he presented evident signs of illness, but his family and friends—whose names are legion—hoped that a short sojourn in the bracing air of Portrush might effect an improvement. This, unfortunately, was not to be, and death laid him low at that health resort. It seems that he was called to visit a lady friend from Londonderry, who was suffering from neuralgia, and while supplying a lotion he had remarked that he felt unwell, and lay down on a bed. He expired in a few minutes. Dr Savage was a native of Londonderry, Ireland, and had socially most amiable and unobtrusive. Formerly he practised at Armagh, and subsequently at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and came to Consett about 20 years ago, on the death of his brother, the late Dr J. Savage, whom he succeeded. In each of these communities he left behind him a host of friends, who sorrowed for in death. As a politician, he was always with the cause of his country. While sojourning at Consett, he and the deceased and members of the family were very strict in the observance of their religious duties, and regularly attended the Roman Catholic Church, Blackhill. Dr Savage enjoyed a large practice in Newry, where the news of his death has created a profound feeling of regret. He has a son a doctor in Chili.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

The position of the Tanfield Lea Brass Band, as set forth by J. T. in last week's issue, is really untenable one-sentimentale. I mean in comparison with the one that is associated more closely with us—to wit, the Consett Band. Heartily endorsing what he should say sincerely trust that the members of a band so happily situated and so splendidly supported will not underrate the advantages of their position. To do that is to be hoped a better state of things may exist in this direction in our immediate midst, and that by virtue of the assumption of the name which the Consett Company has not latterly seen its way to concede for some reason or other, the Consett Band may regain its former high social prestige. Meanwhile, I am delighted to find that at Tanfield Lea there are those who feel such a deep interest in the welfare of the band associated with the district. Except at Consett I am personally acquainted with no great work of the kind, and that does not, I think, very much feel proud of its own particular amateur band. I could, if time permitted, say a lot as on previous occasions I have done on this subject, but must, however, reserve my remarks in this instance, but I shall not forget to revert to the subject at a future date. By the way, I should not neglect to state that on Saturday next the Tanfield Lea Band is announced to contribute the musical part of the programme at the flower show fixed for that date.

The Tow Law Flower Show is to be held to-morrow (Saturday), and if only the weather prove favourable one good gate money may be expected. This is the 32nd annual show of the society and promises to be quite as attractive as in former years. Over £300 in 700 prizes are to be distributed; a military concert—whatever that may mean, is also announced, and, as usual, there will be a grand display of fireworks. On a wide area, special trains are to be run from Grange, Eston, South Bank, Middlesboro, Stockton and Darlington, and arrangements are also been made for a special late train from Consett.

The Annfield Plain coke-oven controversy now running through the columns of the *Guardian* is interesting in its way, and I do not doubt has as far produced much benefit. It may, however, give occasion to most readers that in the matter of argument neither the "eyes" nor the "nose" are evidence which the Consett Company has not latterly seen its way to concede for some reason or other, for Consett is not without a band may regain its past prestige. Meanwhile, I am delighted to find that at Tanfield Lea there are those who feel such a deep interest in the welfare of the band associated with the district. Except at Consett I am personally acquainted with no great work of the kind, and that does not, I think, very much feel proud of its own particular amateur band. I could, if time permitted, say a lot as on previous occasions I have done on this subject, but must, however, reserve my remarks in this instance, but I shall not forget to revert to the subject at a future date. By the way, I should not neglect to state that on Saturday next the Tanfield Lea Band is announced to contribute the musical part of the programme at the flower show fixed for that date.

THE ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

VISITS TO THE TYNE AND THE DERWENT.

This society, which has for its objects the promotion of forestry in all its branches, both ornamental as well as profitable, held its annual meeting in Newcastle last week. The society includes in its programme visits to the various seats of noblemen and gentlemen where interesting forestry is to be found, and management of trees, or where there are growing good specimens of what may be effected by intelligent management of woodlands. Visits were paid the council of the society resolved to visit as many as possible of such places on the Tyne and Derwent as an opportunity would permit. The meeting was at Hexham on Wednesday, the 19th August. The company included Mr G. C. Brown, Haddington; Mr Gilchrist, Elliot, Leasehead; Mr Henry Kirsopp, Mr Johnson Turner, Mr Wm. Fell, Mr. Wm. Milne, Hexham; Mr R. S. Balfour, Yorkshire; Mr. Jno. Gibson, sen., Mr J. Baldon, jun., Mr P. Baldon, Diston; Mr R. Robinson, Castle Eden; Mr Roberts, Mr Forbes, York; Mr Shiels, Gallowhill, Inverness; Mr Davidson (secretary), Haydon Bridge; Mr Brown, Hexham; Mr J. F. Robinson, Burnopfield; Mr B. Cowen, South Shields; Mr Shiels, jun.

On arrival at Hexham, the party was conducted over the nurseries of Messrs Fell and Co., where they inspected the seedlings being the future monarchs of the forest in some cases only an inch or two in height, but the planting and management of trees, or where there are growing good specimens of what may be effected by intelligent management of woodlands. The visitors next drove to the council of the society resolved to visit as many as possible of such places on the Tyne and Derwent as an opportunity would permit. The meeting was at Hexham on Wednesday, the 19th August. The company included Mr G. C. Brown, Haddington; Mr Gilchrist, Elliot, Leasehead; Mr Henry Kirsopp, Mr Johnson Turner, Mr Wm. Fell, Mr. Wm. Milne, Hexham; Mr R. S. Balfour, Yorkshire; Mr. Jno. Gibson, sen., Mr J. Baldon, jun., Mr P. Baldon, Diston; Mr R. Robinson, Castle Eden; Mr Roberts, Mr Forbes, York; Mr Shiels, Gallowhill, Inverness; Mr Davidson (secretary), Haydon Bridge; Mr Brown, Hexham; Mr J. F. Robinson, Burnopfield; Mr B. Cowen, South Shields; Mr Shiels, jun.

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On arrival at Hexham, the party was conducted over the nurseries of Messrs Fell and Co., where they inspected the seedlings being the future monarchs of the forest in some cases only an inch or two in height, but this taking their first lessons in the A B C of forestry. The most interesting was to be seen. Some young plane trees were pointed out that were grown part from home gathered seed and part from foreign. The home gathered seed seemed to have produced much the stronger plants. Young larches of various growths were to be found from one to three years old. These were very healthy-like and free from signs of disease. An interesting sceptre was given by Mr Brown, the variation of forestry as it is the way which larch seed is collected in the North of Scotland, being gathered by boys and girls, and paid for at the rate of 1s per bushel, or 40 by the turnpike at Selside. Fellside nurseries a lad was employed springing a rattle all day, to keep the birds off the seed. From an eminence in the nursery a fine view was obtained of the above the nurseries a fine view was obtained of the town of Hexham and the vale of the Tyne. The old town of Hexham and the vale with the Moot Hall and old court-house, backed by the finely wooded country behind, and with its corn ripening in the sun, made a picture that is not to be met with every day in life.

A return was now made to Hexham, where an excellent lunch provided by the Messrs Fell and Co., awaited the guests. After lunch, carriages were in waiting for an afternoon excursion to various parts of the county, the first place arrived at being Beaufront, where the party, under the guidance of Mr Balfour, jun., were shown some larch trees from 80 to 90 feet high, and 20 to 26 inches in quarter girth at five feet from the ground. These trees contain from 150 to 200 feet of timber. A Douglas fir tree was here shown, containing 300 cubic feet of wood, if not more. A pleasant walk from here by the side of the Devil's Water stream brought the company to Dilston Castle, memorable in all time for its connection with the unfortunate James, Earl of Derwentwater, and lately also for its reminiscences of the late Countess of Derwentwater. A visit was paid to the old chapel of the Radcliffes, beneath which, in a vault, repose the Radcliffes, beneath which, in a vault, repose the remains of the Earl and Countess of Derwentwater. A visit was paid to the old chapel of

LOCAL FLOWER SHOWS.

BURNOPFIELD.

The 18th annual show was held on Saturday, in a field belonging to Mr J. Thompson, farmer, Burnopfield, and, despite the boisterous weather, the event was as successful as could be expected. There was a larger entry than ever, but owing to the heavy rains a quantity of the exhibits were not forward. Notwithstanding this drawback there was a capital display in all departments, particularly the flowers and vegetables. The exhibits were displayed in a spacious marquee, which was blown down during the prevalence of the boisterous gale in the morning, but fortunately none of the large plants suffered much injury. The attendance was not so large during the early part of the afternoon, but those present were amply repaid by the excellence of the exhibits, which continued in for a large share of admiration. A capital programme of music was rendered by the Tanfield Lea Prize Brass Band, under the direction of Mr J. Mosley. There was, as usual, a very largely attended ball in the evening after the tents had been cleared of the floral and horticultural products, and it is gratifying to note that everything passed off in a satisfactory manner. The arduous secretarial duties were efficiently performed by Mr R. Mason, Hobson Colliery, and Mr J. Hood, stationmaster, Lintz Green. A cricket match and other sports were decided. The committee has a working balance in hand, and it is proposed to hold a leek show during the season. The judges on Saturday were:—Flowers, fruits, vegetables, &c., Mr Jas. Hemsley, Hogg Hill, Axwell, and W. Scott, Dunston Hill. Farm produce, Mr Errington, Kintbury; bustes, Mrs Wigham, Byer Moor Farm. School department, Mrs Brown and Miss Saunders, Byer Moor. Appended is a

FULL LIST OF AWARDS.

OPEN CLASS.

FOT PLANTS.

Three decorative plants, not less than two in bloom, fuchsias and geraniums excluded—1, J Rowell, Clough Dene; 2, J S Burton, Dipton; 3, H Wilkinson, Hobson.

Two fuchsias, dissimilar—1, J W Anderson, East Tanfield; 2 S Burton.

Two coleus, dissimilar—1, A Crombie, Priestfield; 2, J W Anderson; 3, J S Burton.

Two zonale geraniums, dissimilar—1, J W Anderson; 2, A Crombie; 3, J S Burton.

Two petunias, dissimilar—1, J S Burton; 2, J W Anderson.

Three ferns, dissimilar—1, J S Burton; 2, Jacob Rowell; 3, H Wilkinson.

Two begonias—1, W M Handcock; 2, W Armstrong, Clough Dene.

CUT FLOWERS.

Four stocks—1, W Dawson, Crookgate; 2, J S Burton.

Six phloxes, three dissimilar—1, J W Anderson.

Three heads of antirrhinums, three trusses of each variety—1, R Copeland, Felliside; 2, W M Handcock.

Four stands of herbaceous flowers—1, W M Handcock; 2, J Cawthorn, Windy Hill.

Six gladioli, three dissimilar—1, W M Handcock.

Six fuchsias, three dissimilar—1, J Cawthorn; 2, W M Handcock.

Six French asters—1, W M Handcock; 2, J Cawthorn.

Six globe asters—1, J Cawthorn.

Six African marigolds, orange—1, J Brewis, Tanfield Moor.

Six French marigolds—1, R Copeland; 2, W Armstrong.

Six roses, three dissimilar—1, J Cawthorn; 2, J Rowell; 3, H Wilkinson.

Six trusses of geranium blooms, three dissimilar—1, A Crombie; 2, J W Anderson.

Twelve fancy pansies—1, J Cawthorn.

FRUITS.

Bunch of grapes—1, R Bell, Hamsterley Hall.

Melon—1, R Bell.

Eight pears, dessert—1, J Hood, Lintz Green; 2, R Ball; 3, A Crombie.

Six kitchen apples—2, B Mason, Hobson; 2, A Crombie; 3, J Hood.

Six apples, dessert—1, B Mason; 2, R Bell.

Pint of gooseberries, flavoured—1, R Bell; 2, J Hood.

Pint of black currants, in strops—1, R Maughan, Felliside.

Pint of red currants, in strops—1, R Bell; 2, J Hood.

VEGTABLES.

Two vegetable marrows—1, J W Anderson; 2, W Dawson; 3, R Ball.

Two cucumbers, suitable for table—1, W Rowell, Tantobie; 2, J S Burton; 3, Edward Charlton, Hobson.

Three heads of celery—1, W M Handcock; 2 (no second number) 3, Gawen Gray, Hobson.

Two cauliflowers—1, Jos Eltringham, Burnopfield; 2, W Dawson; 3, R Copeland.

Eighteen pods of peas—1, J Eltringham; 2, A Crombie.

Twelve pods of broad beans—1, J W Anderson; 2, B Mason.

Eighteen pods of kidney beans—1, R Bell.

Eight summer onions, shown as grown—1, H Wilkinson; 2, J W Anderson.

Six turnips of garden blooms, three dissimilar—1, A Crombie; 2, J W Anderson.

Twelve fancy pansies—1, J Cawthorn.

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Eighteen pods of kidney beans—1, R Bell.

Eight summer onions, shown as grown—1, H Wilkinson; 2, J W Anderson.

Six trusses of geranium

Business Announcements.

NINETEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 5 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 29, MOUNT PLEASANT. ARTIFICIAL TEETH, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Best English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.
ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1850.

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PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. NATIONAL GOLD MEDALLIST, TRINITY COLLEGE.
Gives LESSONS in the following: ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, COMPOSITION, FUGUE, HISTORY, &c.
ADDRESS:—THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.
E. SLOANE, Sen., has always in Stock a good Selection of PIANOS, ORGANS, VIOLINS, &c., unrivalled in Tone, Quality, and Model, from the best Manufacturers, as the Lowest Possible Prices.
ORGANS, PIANOS, &c., Tuned and Repaired. 617b

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J. W. DAVISON AND SONS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
FURNISHING IRONMONGERS,
CABINET MANUFACTURERS, AND GENERAL HOUSE FURNISHERS,
DEALERS IN
GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, CARPETS, OILCLOTHS, LINOLEUMS, OILS, LAMPS, PAINTS.
We have the Best and Largest Assortment of WALL PAPERS in the District, and are offering Buyers some rare bargains.
Our FURNISHING SHOW ROOMS are the Largest and Best Stocked in the District, and intending Purchasers or Visitors are invited to walk through them.
SOLE AGENTS IN CONSETT FOR THE PATENT SAFETY MANGLER.
BICYCLES! SAFETY BICYCLES!! We are going into this trade, and our object is to place before the Public a good sound Machine at a reasonable price. For terms, &c., please apply, 409e
We Close every Wednesday at Noon (12 o'clock).

ARTIFICIAL TEETH
With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.
THE Teeth supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes.
Every Set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.
COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s. to £4 10s.
PARTIAL SETS, from 5s. to 10s. per Tooth

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HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.
Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.
ALL CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.
CONSULTATION FREE.
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A SILVER LEVER WATCH FOR 45/-!
Strong Solid Silver Cases, Jewelled, Crystal Bezel, Excellent Timekeeper, Warranted for 2 Years. Every Man or Youth who wants a good and Cheap Silver Lever, should not fail to get one of these unequalled Levers at 45/-.
ONLY TO BE HAD DIRECT FROM US, AT OUR ONLY ADDRESS:—
JOSEPH MARSHALL & SON, WATCHMAKERS &c.
THE "CONSETT JEWELLERY EMPORIUM," MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 110g

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FOR APPLETON, FRENCH, AND SCRAFTON'S FLOUR AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES—Viz., 14s 6d. 15s, AND 16s PER 10 STONE BAG.
Wright's "Crown" Brand of HAMS, our usual quality, at 6d and 6½d Per Lb. Rolls, at 4½d and 5d Per Lb. Sides at 5s 6d Per Stone. Agent for the Noted Pioneer's Tea, 2s 6d Per Lb.
CURRANTS CLEANED BY MACHINERY AT 3D, 4D, AND 5D PER LB.
GREAT VARIETY IN BISCUITS AND CAKES.
THOMAS SWAINSTON,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

W. E. TURNER,
PRACTICAL TAILOR, READY-MADE CLOTHIER, HATTER, AND MERCER,
HAS a good Choice in WOOLLENS for the BESPOKE TRADE. BEAVER and FANCY OVERCOATINGS, FANCY SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS.
Also a Large and Well-assorted STOCK of MEN'S, YOUTHS' and BOYS' CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, and MERCERY.
SPECIALITE IN WATERPROOF COATS.
"My Motto is to keep Faith with the Public, and Buy no second rate Goods in order to give Half-price Quotations."
SOLE AGENT AS GROCERS' AND BUTCHERS' OUTFITTER.
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STOBART'S SALVES may be had at North-Eastern Hotel, Hexham; White Horse Inn, Great Market, Newcastle; Wheat Sheaf Inn, Bigg Market, Newcastle; William Robinson's, Grocer and Draper, Medomsley; Railway Hotel, Consett; George Murray, Grocer and Druggist, Dipton; or by application to the Maker, GEO. R. STOBART, Broomhill, Medomsley, R.S.O. 606e

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EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.
Accommodation for Passengers equal to any European Line.
Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.
The Shortest and Best Route to the West.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, vss Lints Green; J. A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 21yz

JAMES PALLISER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA DEALER
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT.
FOUNDRY ROW, BLACKHILL.
SPLENDID TEA 1s 8D, 1s 10D, 2s, AND 2s 4D.

LOOK HERE.—FOR STATIONERY of every description, FANCY and other USEFUL ARTICLES.
Spectacles for all Sights.
BOOKS BOUND, PICTURES FRAMED
BY
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YES. WEIR'S
RED CROSS TONIC SALT
IS THE BEST.
MAKE A NOTE OF IT.
IN ¼lb. TINS, 4d.
IN ½lb. TINS, 8d.
IN BOTTLES, 1s.
OF ALL GROCERS AND CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

Business Announcements.

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NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
Superior Jams and Marmalades. Biscuits of all kinds. 894

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TAILOR, MENS MERCER AND HATTER.
NEW PATTERNS IN TROUSERINGS AND SUITINGS.
TROUSERS MADE TO MEASURE FROM 12s 6D TO 21s, SUITS FROM £2 8s.
Latest Styles in Hats and Caps! Hats from 1s 11d to 4s 11d; Caps from 6d to 1s 6d.
THE SHOP FOR SILK SCARFS, LINEN COLLARS AND CUFFS.
BOYS READY-MADE SUITS, IN THE NEWEST STYLES, ALWAYS IN HAND
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AMERICAN ORGANS.
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AS SUPPLIED
TO ROYALTY AND THE ELITE OF EUROPE
THE ROYAL FAMILY.
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE.
THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.
THE QUEEN OF ITALY.
THE KING OF HOLLAND.
THE MIKADO OF JAPAN.
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THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, Governor General of Canada.
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AND HER NOBILITY GENERALLY, AND HER
LEADING HIGH-CLASS
INSTRUMENTS,
And are for Sale by all First Class Musicsellers.
Our STYLE 89 and PIPE TOP, as supplied H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE, and our CONCERT ORGAN, as supplied THE KING OF HOLLAND, are Strongly Recommended as Particularly Saleable.
PRICES FROM 16 TO 400 GUINEAS
Every ORGAN FITTED with MOUSE PROOF Pedal attachment, and guaranteed for 6 years.
Every home should have a BELL AMERICAN ORGAN.
No home is complete without having a BELL AMERICAN ORGAN.
The Special style 3 at 23 Guineas, is a marvel, no better value ever placed before the market.
Styles 4 (b) or 49 (b) are very suitable for Mission rooms, and Churches.
BELL AMERICAN ORGANS, are the best value for the money, that can be had anywhere.

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AMERICAN PIANOS
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RENOWNED FOR TONE AND DURABILITY.
THE BEST PIANO THAT CAN BE MADE FOR THE MONEY.
PRICES FROM 100 GUINEAS UPWARDS
EVERY PIANO FITTED WITH PATENT TONE SOFTENER.
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MAY BE HAD ON THE NEW PURCHASE SYSTEM.
NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED.
50 PIANOS AND ORGANS ALWAYS IN STOCK.
CATALOGUES AND FULL INFORMATION GIVEN UPON APPLICATION.
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Business Announcements.

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Land, House, Insurance, and Emigration Agent, Share Broker, &c. Intending Emigrants can be Booked to the finest Ships to America and all our Colonies. Situations and Auction Sales of Agricultural Stock, Contractors' Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by
WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

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S. SWALWELL,
TAILOR AND DRAPER, DIPTON
BEGS to INTIMATE that his PRODUCTIONS in CLOTHING are giving unbounded satisfaction to the numerous Customers who entrust him with their Orders.
OVERCOATINGS, COATINGS, SUITINGS and TROUSERINGS in the Newest Patterns, AT LOWEST PRICES, consistent with quality.
A TRIAL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT
IMPORTERS
OF
CHOICEST
DANISH BUTTERS.
PERFECT QUALITY DIRECT FROM THE FARMERS,
ONLY 1s. 1D PER LB.
MARGARINES, QUALITY AND PRICES ONLY TO BE HAD AT THE ABOVE.
TIP-TOP MARGARINE, 6D. PER LB.
DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.
THE FINEST TEA IN THE WORLD AT THE PRICE.
1s. 7D. PER LB.
COMPARE IT WITH TEAS AT 3s. PER LB.

WADDINGTON
AND SONS'
PERFECT
PIANOS
As recommended by Sir CHARLES HALLE—the highest authority on the Pianoforte in Great Britain—Iron Frame, Full Trichord, Seven Octaves, most Perfect Repeating Check Action, in magnificent Walnut or Rosewood Case. This Piano is undoubtedly the "Very Best Value for Money," the Price being only £33 for Cash, or One Guinea per Month on the Hiring System for Three Years; is superior to any other Piano at double the price; is warranted for 10 years. Delivered Free.
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PIANO MANUFACTURERS, YORK,
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THREE Years System, introduced by them 20 years ago, has been embraced by 20,000 Customers, who testify that their Liberal Hire System offers GREATER ADVANTAGES to the Hirer than ever been given by any other firm, and give the HIRER the FULL BENEFIT of DISCOUNT NOW HIS MONEY.

WADDINGTON & SONS'
Hold the HIGHEST TESTIMONIAL in the WORLD, given by the distinguished Pianist SIR CHARLES HALLE, and can give 20,000 references to purchasers of their Instruments.
ALL PIANOS, Organs, and Harmoniums, Carriage Paid, any distance. Guarantee satisfaction to all their Customers.
EVERY INSTRUMENT WARRANTED.

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Being large Manufacturers give the purchaser the BENEFIT of BUYING DIRECT from the producer, THUS SAVING the middleman's PROFIT.

WADDINGTON & SONS
Have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDAL and other AWARDS at EXHIBITIONS for the EXCELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS.
THE OPINION OF "SIR CHARLES HALLE.
December 16th, 1885.
DEAR SIRS,—"I have great pleasure in expressing the great satisfaction which I have had in playing upon your New Iron Pianos, which for quality, tone and PERFECTION of touch, are all that can be desired.
"CHAS. HALLE."
MESSRS WADDINGTON AND SONS.
Write or send for Price Lists and Designs.
Second-hand Pianos from £10.
SOLE IMPORTERS OF THE RENOWNED
HAMILTON
AMERICAN
ORGANS
THE BEST AND CHEAPEST ORGANS IMPORTED.

PIANOS	From 10s. per Month.
AMERICAN ORGANS	From 7s. per Month.
HARMONIUMS	From 5s. per Month.

PIANOS TUNED BY PROFESSIONAL TUNERS, FROM 3s. 6d.
Contract Tuning (once per quarter) 12s. a-year.
WADDINGTON & SONS,
8, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.
Mr. JAS. HUDSON, Manager. 963

Public Notices.

MEDOMSLEY FLOWER SHOW & SPORTS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29th, 1891.
£10 120 YDS. HANDICAP; Quoiting, £2 10s; Bowling at Wicket, 15s. A handsome Bugle, value 25s, will be given to the Club having the largest number of Members present. A Medal for Captain of 2nd Club.
Entries for Handicap, 1s, close Tuesday, August 25th, may be sent to I. THRELWELL, Bradley Arms, Leadgate, or to
W. E. CHARLTON, Hon. Sec., Medomsley.

ROBERT LAWSON
Begs to inform his Friends and the Public generally that he has Opened the
DURHAM OX INN,
CATTLE MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
(ONE MINUTE'S WALK FROM CENTRAL STATION.)
WINES AND SPIRITS OF THE FINEST QUALITY.
WELL AIRED BEDS. 945e

PHOTOS.
VENICE DUNN,
PHOTO ARTIST,
15, MEDOMSLEY ROAD,
Is prepared to supply the Public of Consett and District with Beautiful
ENLARGED PHOTOS finished in OIL, WATER-COLOURS, or CRAYONS,
Framed complete, at Prices varying from 15s. to 35s, according to finish.
PERSONS wishing to join our CLUB will be supplied with Club Cards and all particulars on application. Subscriptions received according to wish of Customers.
Photos artistically finished in latest and most improved style, at following Prices—Cabinets from 10s. to 12s. per dozen; Carte-de-Visites from 5s. to 6s. per dozen. 589d

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,
CONSETT,
FOR
SPRING AND SUMMER MEDICINES.
GRANULAR EFFERVESCING SALINE in 4d. Boxes and 1s. Bottles.
Quinine and Iron Tonic, 1s. per Bottle; Blood Purifier, 1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle; Indigestion Mixture, 1s. 6d. per Bottle; Dandelion and Podophyllin Pills, 1s. per Box.
Prescriptions accurately dispensed according to the British Pharmacopœa.
MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle.
Glycerine of Cucumber, 6d. and 1s. per Bottle.
SCENTED SOAPS, PERFUMES, and SMELLING BOTTLES in great variety.
Mineral Waters in Bottles and Syphons.
SELTZOGENE POWDERS.
INSECT POWDER in 3d. and 6d. Boxes.
CARBOLIC ACID and other DISINFECTANTS.
HORSE, DOG, and CATTLE MEDICINES.
SHEEP DIPS.
OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES.
Paint Brushes in great variety.
Aspinal's Enamel. Enamel for Cycles, &c. Cycle Oil, Anti-stiff for Cyclists, &c.
Postal Orders promptly attended to at
7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, and 54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 653e

Public Notices.

THE DUTIES OF MISS TAIT'S SCHOOL will be RESUMED (D.V.) on Tuesday, Sept. 1st.

LOOK OUT for ANNFIELD PLAIN HORSE RACING, on September 9th, 1891.—£5 10s for a Foot Handicap.—Entrance 1s.—For Bills apply to Thos. N. STAFFORD, Sec., Annfield Plain. 394g

NOTICE.
THE GAME on Medomsley Town Farm and Allendale Farm is strictly Preserved. 395g
WOLSINGHAM.
THE WOLSINGHAM & WEAR VALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold their Annual Show, on Tuesday, Sept. 8th, 1891.
For Schedules apply to
R. G. STOBBS, Secretary.
Entries close August 29th. 312g

LANCHESTER FLOWER SHOW, SPORTS, &c
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2ND, 1891.
120 YARDS HANDICAP FOOTRACE.—First Prize, £3; 2nd, £1 10s; 3rd, 10s. Entrance, 1s each. 150 Yds. Handicap Hurdle Race—1st, £1 10s; 2nd, 15s; 3rd, 2s 6d. Entrance, 1s. Quoit Handicap—Players to find Quoits—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. Entrance 6d. Entries taken up to Friday, 28th August, 1891, by post or otherwise, to J. MACE, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester.
For Schedules of Show, &c., apply,
302g G. W. WILSON, Secretary, Lanchester.

THE WITTON-LE-WEAR FLOWER SHOW will be held on Saturday, Sept. 5th, 1891. Prizes will be awarded for Flowers, &c., Rabbits, Butter, Eggs, Draught Mares, Draught Foals, and Roadster Foals. £10 will be awarded for a Butter-making Competition, open to Dairy Maids in the County of Durham, who have never won a Prize.—For Schedules, &c., apply to H. MADDISON, Secretary. 313g

TUITION FOR UNDER-MANAGERS OF MINES.
MESSRS WM. WILKINSON and F. DAVISON, of Cadgarth (each of whom holds a First-class Certificate as a Mining Engineer), will conduct a CLASS to prepare Students for EXAMINATION for Under-managers' Certificates. Terms, £1 per Quarter (paid in advance). Time: TUESDAY and THURSDAY of each Week, from 7 to 9 p.m., in Mr. W. Wilkinson's House, commencing Tuesday, Sept. 1st, 1891. 320g

LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT!!
CASTLESIDE FLORAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold their Second Annual Exhibition of Flowers, Fruits, Plants, and Vegetables, on Saturday, September 5th, 1891.
A SPECIAL PRIZE for the best Three Leeks, a Leg of Mutton, given by Mr Barron (Cottagers' Class only).
Also, Half-a-Mile Amateur BICYCLE RACE, for which Three Prizes will be given.—First Prize, Silver-plated Cruet Stand, value 10s; 3rd, value 5s. Entrance Fee, 1s, to be sent to
JOHN DOWN, Secretary. 305g

HAVE YOU SEEN THE SHAH?
IF NOT
COME AND SEE THE NEW FRUIT AND POTATOE WAREHOUSE AT
WALTER H. MADDISON'S,
22, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
NOTICE.
W. H. MADDISON AND CO.,
STILL CONTINUE AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS,
CENTRAL HERB STORES,
AS
PRACTICAL HERBALISTS, &c. 218g

Public Notices.

SCIENCE CLASSES.
THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE of Consett Cooperative Society will accept Names of Students for the following Classes up to September 5th, 1891:—Applied Mechanics, Mathematics, and Mining. Also a few more for Machine Construction and Drawing. 418g

IVESTON FLOWER SHOW AND SPORTS,
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 1891.
£7 10s will be given for 120 Yds. Handicap Footrace. Entrance 1s. £1 2s 6d Quoit Handicap; entrance 6d. A Bugle, value £1, will be given to the Bicycle Club having most members present. Entries for Footrace must be sent direct to Mr W. HASSON (Handicapper), Iveston, or to the Secretaries, Messrs G. H. HENDERSON and J. S. MILLER, near Iveston, not later than Tuesday, Sept. 8th, 1891. For further particulars see "bills. 412g

IVESTON FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 18
WANTED, TENDERS for REFRESHMENTS (Ball Show combined). Also, Tenders Wanted for AMUSEMENTS (not more than two Tenders will be chosen for each class of Amusements). All Tenders to be sent in not later than Monday, September 7th, 1891, to Messrs G. H. HENDERSON and J. S. MILLER (Secretaries), near Iveston. 414g

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.
FRIDAY and SATURDAY, August 28th and 29th.—Last Two Nights of "THE RIGHT MAN," which has been enthusiastically received.
August 31st.—Expensive engagement of Mr. Addeley Howard's Company, in the Famous Drama, "RIGHTS RIGHT," with all the Scenery and Effects. Startling specialities. See the Great Fair Scene. 442g

NOTICE.
JOSEPH ROGERS, begs respectfully to inform the public of this neighbourhood that he has commenced business as a Carrier and General Dealer, and Waggon leaves Blackhill, Medomsley, Allendale Cottages, and Consett, for Newcastle, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; and leaves Newcastle, for the above places every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
Furniture removed to all parts.
Address:—Jos. ROGERS, Broomhill, Ebchester.

NOTES ON THE HISTORY, GEOLOGY, & ORNOTHOLOGY OF THE VALE OF DERWENT.
pp. 106, Cr. 8vo., Price 1s, Post Free 1s 2d.
[WILLIAM JOHNSON, Byer Moor, Burnopfield.]
"Interesting accounts of various Sites and Scenes."—*Newcastle Journal.*
"Instructive and interesting to a rare degree."—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle.*
"A very creditable production."—*Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.*
"No household in North-Western Durham should be without a copy."—*Consett Guardian.* 408g

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS NEWLY-APPOINTED TO THE SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT WESLEYAN CIRCUIT.
ON SATURDAY, September 5th, the REV J. V. SUTTON, of Shotley Bridge, will Preach in the Wesleyan Chapel, Annfield Plain, at Three o'clock. Public Tea at 4-30 p.m. A Public Meeting will also take place at 6-30 to be Addressed by the Circuit Ministers and Representatives from the Societies in the Circuit. Chair to be taken at 6-30 by Mr H. Greener, Circuit Steward.
ON WEDNESDAY, September 9th, the REV J. CRAWSHAW, of Annfield Plain, will Preach in the Consett Wesleyan Chapel, at 3 o'clock. Public Tea at 4-30. Public Meeting in the Evening, when Addresses will be given by the Circuit Minister and Representatives from the Societies in the Circuit. Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock by Mr John Buckham, of Lanchester. Tickets for Tea, 9d each. A Collection will be taken after each Service to be applied to the Circuit Fund. 412g

HIGH-CLASS TAILORING.
COME down and see the immense Show of WOOLLEN PATTERNS for Spring and Summer. The best selection in the North.
HUTCHINSON'S nice Fitting TROUSERS, 10s 6d perfect SUITS, 42s.
"
HUTCHINSON LEADS THE VAN.
SUITS DIRECT FROM THE LOOM.
FOR READY CASH YOU SAVE 3s 6D IN THE £ AT THE WEST END HOUSE.
J. HUTCHINSON
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

THE SEWING MACHINE AND KNITTING MACHINE
REPAIRING SHOP.
CHARLES POTTER,
HIGH BRIDGE, OPPOSITE "LEADER" OFFICE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SINGER'S, HOWE'S, WHEELER & WILSON'S, JONES', BRADBURY'S, and all description of Machines carefully Repaired & Adjusted.
Upwards of 20 Years in the Trade as Sewing Machine Mechanic.
Adjustments from 2s 6d without Removal of Machines from Owner's Premises.
Send Message only, not Machine.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.
THE ANNUAL TEA of the above Society will be held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, August 29th, 1891. Tea on the Tables at 3-30 o'clock.
After Tea, there will be
A GRAND CONCERT
When the following Ladies and Gentlemen will take part:—Miss MARTINEAU, Blackhill; Miss DAVY, Castleside; Miss ANDERSON, Sunderland; Messrs J. SYMINGTON and JOS. SIDDLE, Consett; Mr B. DENGWORTH, Newcastle; Mr. THOS. CLEMENS, Castleside. Messrs T. WRIGHT and WM. TELFORD, Shotley Bridge; Mr J. W. Davison will preside at the Piano.
Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock, by Mr J. LEADBITTER, Cutlers' Hall.
Admission—Tea and Concert, 1s; Concert only 6d. Tickets can be had from the Committee, or any of the Places of Business. 347g

KYO FLOWER SHOW.
THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL
EXHIBITION
OF
FLOWERS, FRUITS, PLANTS, AND VEGETABLES.
Will be held in a Field belonging to Mr JOSEPH IRWIN, Catchgate,
ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH, 1891.
Gates open at One o'clock.
THE SERVICES OF THE
ABBOT MEMORIAL INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL BAND have been secured.
SPORTS!
CRICKET MATCH.—Open Competition.—First Prize, Bat, value 21s; 2nd, Pair of Leg Guards, value 12s 6d; 3rd, Ball, value 5s 6d. Mr Wm. Taylor, Annfield Plain, will give a Cricket Shirt, to the man that gets the most notches in first innings once through. Bowling at Wicket.—First, 5s; 2nd, 2s 6d. Tug-of-War.—First, 10s; 2nd, 5s; 3rd, 2s 6d. A Bicycle Tournament.—For the Clubs that have best attendance in each Club in Parade. Time to commence 3 p.m. First, a Horn, value 15s; 2nd, a Horn, value 10s. Boys' Race.—First, 3s; 2nd, 2s 3rd, 1s; 4th, 1s. Skipping.—First, 3s; 2nd, 2s 3rd, 1s; 4th, 1s.
A GRAND BALL WILL BE HELD IN THE EVENING.
Admission to the Show—Adults, 6d; Children, 3d.
MR. GEORGE HOBSON will give the following Prizes—5s for Three of the Best Purple Top Swedes (Hobson's Choice). 5s. for Three of the Best Three Green Top Swedes (Hobson's Choice). 5s. for Three of the Best Green Top Yellows (Hobson's Choice). 5s. for Three of the Best White, Green, or Grey Stone. 5s. for the Best White Leaf, made from Hobson's Extra Supers. 5s. for the Best Brown Leaf, made from Hobson's Whole Meal. Entrance, 1s. 335g
GEORGE BULLERWELL, Secretary.

GEO. MACDONALD IS COMING.

Public Notices.

"GEORGE MACDONALD, LL.D," Author of "David Elginbrod," "Sir Gibbie," "Robert Falconer," "Donal Grant," &c., &c., will deliver a LECTURE in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Subject, "Macbeth." Chair to be taken at 7·30 by G. Ainsworth, Esq. Tickets, 1s and 6d, may be had at Messrs Tyler Bros. and H. Cornforth's, Middle Street, Consett; Cooke, Stationer, Blackhill; Lax, Shotley Bridge, and Power, Stationer, Leadgate.

TANFIELD FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Plants, Flowers, Vegetables, and Farm Produce will be held on Saturday, September 5th, 1891. The Tanfield Lea Prize Brass Band will be in attendance during the Afternoon, and also at the Ball in the Evening. TENDERS for the whole of the Amusements will be received by the Secretary up to and including Thursday, August 13th. No Refreshment Stalls or Gambling allowed on the Field.
N. WILKINSON, Jun., Secretary,
East Tanfield, Lintz Green. 251g

LOOK OUT for the SPEN FLOWER SHOW and SPORTS, on Saturday, Sept. 5th, in the Low Spen Park, when upwards of £80 will be offered in Prizes. £10 10s for 120 Yds. Handicap, Steeplechasing, Pony Racing, Boys' Racing, and Three valuable Prizes for Bicycle Racing (Amateurs). A Splendid Bugle given to the Bicycle Club who musters most members. Prizes for Quoiting.—For further particulars see Bills.—GEORGE WISHART, Secretary, Spen Colliery, Lintz Green. 251g

TOW LAW FLOWER SHOW, Industrial Exhibition, and Grand Military Concert. The 32nd great Annual Fete, Saturday, August 29th, 1891. Nearly 700 Prizes. Specials and large increase of Prize Money in all Sections. Schedules ready. Excursion from Eston Grange, South Bank, Middlesbro', Stockton, Darlington, calling up to Etherley. See Railway Bills.
Entries for all Classes taken up to Tuesday Morning, the 25th.
Special Late Train to Consett. See Railway Bills.
344g W. ANDERSON, Secretary.

CYCLING.

DAWSON'S LAST CYCLE AUCTION, FOR THE YEAR.

SATURDAY and MONDAY, 29th & 31st Aug.

ABSOLUTELY NO RESERVE UPON ANY LOT.

Machines only Received for Sale on these conditions.

Over 50 Entries, Cushion and other Tyres, already received.

AT DAWSON'S AUCTION HALL, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET. 343g

£47,200 WORTH OF SHARES ALREADY ISSUED.

BLACKHILL AND CONSETT 2ND "MODEL" BUILDING SOCIETY.

ENTIRELY MANAGED BY ITS MEMBERS

NO SPECULATION! NO DEPOSITORS!! NO BORROWING!!!

SOCIETY NEARLY FULL.

Apply for prospectuses, to
W. RAMSAY, Secretary.
Office—(Open daily).
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

SUBSCRIPTION MEETING every THURSDAY 7·30 to 8·30 p.m. 422g

CONSETT WESLEYAN NEW CHAPEL, LECTURE HALL, & SCHOOLS.

A GRAND

EGYPTIAN BAZAAR

WILL BE HELD IN THE

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,

To be opened on Wednesday, September 16th, at 2·30, by

MRS. DAVID DALE, of Darlington.

Thursday, September 17th, by

MRS. T. H. BAINBRIDGE, of Newcastle.

Friday, September 18th, by

MRS. R. WALTON, of Stanhope.

Supported by DAVID DALE, Esq., T. H. BAINBRIDGE, Esq., R. WALTON, Esq., Alderman JENKINS, J.P., the CIRCUIT MINISTERS, and other Gentlemen.

Previous to the Opening on Wednesday, LUNCHEON will be provided in the Smaller Hall at 1·30. Tickets 2s. 6d. each, which may be had of the Secretaries, Messrs. Foster and Stokoe.

The Official Illustrated Handbook, with full particulars, may be had from any of the Local Stationers, or the Secretaries. Price 4d. 401g

Sales by Auction.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Without Reserve.—Valuable Cottage Property for Sale at Consett.

MR JOS. OLEY, having received instructions, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr J. Moffatt's, Crown and Swords Hotel, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday, September 9th, 1891, at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon (without reserve), all those 8 FREEHOLD COTTAGES, from No. 2 to 9, inclusive, situate in Havelock Street, Consett, and now occupied by the following Tenants—No. 2, Mr R. Finlay; No. 3, Mr N. Lamb; No 4, S. Swalwell; No. 5, Mr J. Oliver; No. 6, Mrs Close; No. 7, Mr W. Wilkinson; No. 8, Mr W. Reather; No 9, Mr Geo. Piggins. The House-end is let to Mr Wilkinson, as a Posting Station. Each Cottage contains 2 Rooms, Pantry, and small Scullery, with Outoffices.

The respective Tenants will, on application, allow intending purchasers to view the Property.

Further particulars may be obtained on application to Messrs Clayton and Gibson, Solicitors, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the Auctioneer, 68, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 335g

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

By Mr. John Lowes.

Sale of Furniture at Short Row, Oxhill.

MR. JOHN LOWES, favoured with instructions from Mr. TEASDALE KAY (who is declining housekeeping), will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on Saturday first, Aug. 29th, 1891, the whole of his Household FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, comprising—Mahogany Drawers; Bookcase; Sofa, in Hair-Seating; Mahogany Tables; Kitchen Drawers; Bedsteads; Bedding; Bed-Clothing; Howe Sewing Machine; Wringing Machine; Chairs; Carpet; Pictures; other Household Appointments.
See Bills.
Sale at One o'clock. 398g

Sale of Furniture, Horses, Traps, Harness, Pigs, &c., at Hot Hills, Pelton Fell, on Monday, Aug. 30th, 1891.

MR. JOHN LOWES, favoured with instructions from Mr. CALLENDER (late of Greenside), will remove to above address and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION the following Household APPOINTMENTS:—Bedsteads; Bedding; Chairs; Mahogany and other Tables; Forms; Rosewood Desk, inlaid; Two Wringing Machine; Singer's Sewing Machine; Two large Floor Oilcloths; Double-Barrelled Gun; Set of China; Pots; Pans, &c. Also a quantity of Dress Lengths, Books, &c.

HORSES.—Chestnut Horse, 6 years old, 15-1 h.h.; Grey Pony, 7 years old, 12-2 h.h.

TRAPS.—Splendid Phaeton complete with Cushions and Lamps; Whitechapel, with Cushions; Strong Coup Cart; Wheelbarrow, quite new; 2 Sets of Harness.

PIGS.—2 Sows in pig, due time of Sale; 5 young pigs, 20 weeks old; together with a quantity of Poultry.
See Bills.
Sale at One o'clock. 399g

GEO. MACDONALD IS COMING.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. A. & R. J. Brodie.

Special Sale on Monday, August 31st, 1891.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Valuable Household Furniture belonging a Gentleman declining Housekeeping, and removed from Shotley Bridge, and Starbeck, Harrogate.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett, on Monday, August 31st, 1891, the Superior and Valuable Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE, and EFFECTS, removed from Shotley Bridge and Starbeck for convenience of Sale, and including—Valuable Walnut Cheffioneer, with Bevelled Plates; Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Mahogany Centre Table; Mahogany Couch, in Hair-seating; Leather Couch; Pair of Mahogany Easy Chairs; Pair of Leather Easy Chairs; 6 Spanish Mahogany Chairs, in Hair; 6 Leather Chairs; 6 Windsor Chairs; 2 Rocking Chairs; Polished Ash Bedstead and Mattresses; 3 Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses; 3 Feather Beds; Bolster and Pillows; 16 Yds. Floor Oilcloth; 2 Good Carpets; 2 Hearthrugs; Noble Brass Fender and Fire Brasses; Massive Steel Fender and Fire Irons; Valuable Clock; 2 Sewing Machines; Handsome Real Bronze Horses; Superior Silver-plated Goods in sets; Fire Screen; Fine Pictures, including Highland Cattle, and others; Wringing Machine; 2 Sheet Iron Trunks; Washstands and Dressing Tables; and all the Miscellaneous Effects and Sundries, including Glass, China, and Earthenware, Pots, &c. Also, superior Fine-toned Thirty-five Guinea Trichord Pianoforte; Best Bridgeport Organ, with 12 Stops; Inlaid Walnut Music Cabinet; Music Stool; &c.

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

The attention of the Public is especially directed to this Sale, as the whole of the Goods are of First-class quality, in good condition, and will be sold without Reserve. 440g

The Consett Property Mart.

THE following Valuable Lot of PROPERTY for SALE cheap:—

Three Four-roomed Dwelling-houses, with large Garden attached, situate in South View, Templetown.

Four-roomed Cottage, at Templetown, occupied by Mr William Borrow as tenant.

Two Four-roomed Houses, in Park Street, Blackhill, just finished.

—Apply, BRODIE'S, Town Hall, Consett. 441g

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—A. & R. J. BRODIE Auctioneers and Valuers, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the SALE OF PROPERTY of every description either by PUBLIC AUCTION or otherwise, on reasonable terms. FORTNIGHTLY SALES held every Pay Monday, at the Victoria Sale-Rooms, in which Furniture or other Goods can be included, or if preferred, will be Purchased for Cash. Bailiffs under the Agricultural Holdings Act, and under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

ACCIDENT ASSURANCE. — Assurance against Accidents of every kind in the following Offices, noted for prompt settlement of claims—Scottish Accident Assurance Company, Imperial Union Accident Assurance Company.

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE, &c.

A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station. AUCTION SALES will be conducted in the best style, and upon most reasonable terms. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., can be bought right out for Cash. 34e

By Mr. John Crawford.

Monday, August 31st, 1891.

Mr. John Crawford's Sale-Rooms, 6, 12, and 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by a Lady and Gentleman belonging to Shotley, to remove to the above Rooms, and SELL, a Rich, High-class English Walnut and Gold Velvet SUITE (9 pieces); Suite, in Green (9 pieces); Bedstead, all Brass; Splendid Dining Table, in Mahogany, with extra Leaf; Mahogany Drawers; Feather and Rabbit Down Beds, and a lot of other Goods.

The Lots will be on view on Saturday at the above Rooms.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

Particulars see Posters.

Also a lot of Goods from an Innkeeper will be Sold at the same time and place.

Anyone disposing of their Furniture can have it sold on reasonable terms at any time.

25, Victoria Street, Consett. 425g

Notice. — Without Reserve. — Valuable Cottage Property for Sale.—Sun Dial Cottages, Cutlers' Hall, Highgate, Blackhill.

MR. J. CRAWFORD is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, without reserve, on Thursday Evening, September 3rd, 1891, at Seven o'clock, at the house of Mrs. Robson, Derwent Hotel, Durham Road, Blackhill, subject to such conditions as shall be there and then read, the SUN DIAL COTTAGES, situate No. 58 and 59, Cutlers' Hall Road, Highgate, Blackhill, containing Three Rooms, Pantry, &c., each, with Large Garden, and Out-door Conveniences at the rear, with small Flower Garden in front.

The Property is well situated with a splendid view to the South-west. The Tenants, Messrs. H. Watson and T. R. Dixon will shew the Property.

Full particulars may be had on application to Mr. John Crawford, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock,
At Mrs. Robson's, Derwent Hotel, Blackhill.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK, PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. People that are leaving the District can have their Furniture turned into Cash at once by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25 Victoria Street, Consett. 903a

By Mr. William Nicholson

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.

Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, 1891.—Fat and Grazing Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, &c. Sale at 1·30. 429g

PETH HOUSE, Lanchester.—Mr F. HOLMES' AWAY GOING CROP OF CORN, on Sept. 9th, 5 acres Barley, 5 acres Wheat, 14 acres Oats. Sale 4 p.m. 431g

LANCHESTER MART, Special Sale, Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on Wednesday, Sept. 9th.
430g WILLIAM NICHOLSON, Auctioneer.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, AUG. 31st, 1891.

5 Fat Cattle.
120 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
1 Fat Bull.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
Pork and Store Pigs.
Dairy Cows, Poultry, Stackyard Ladders, Stack Nets, &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
436g J. S. MURRAY.

The Distress for Rent Amendment Act, 1888.—Station Hotel, Langley Park, near Witton Gilbert.

MR. J. S. MURRAY, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday first, August 29th, 1891, the whole of the Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS belonging to Mr THOS. SUDDES, taken in Execution for Rent, comprising, among other Goods:—Large Mahogany Table, 2 Centre Tables, 3 Kitchen Tables, 28 Chairs, 2 Arm-chairs, Rocking-chair, Couch, Sofa, Sewing Machine, 2 Office Stools, Oilcloths, Hearthrugs, Carpets, Clocks, Timepieces, Window Hangings, Cornice Poles, Window Blinds, Pictures, Case Stuffed Birds, Bedsteads, Chests of Drawers, Dressing-tables and Washstands, Work Table, Fenders and Fire-irons, Forms, Pots, Pans, China, Crockery, Spirit Stands, Decanters, Glasses, and all other Goods, Chattels and Effects, on the said premises.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock prompt
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

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

GEO. MACDONALD IS COMING

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, AUG. 31st, 1891.—50 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 6 Fat Cattle; 120 Fat Sheep & Lambs; 3 Store Cattle; 16 Finger Calves; Butcher's Spring Cart.

Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10-30 a.m.

Special Sale for Horses and Store Cattle, on Thursday, September 3rd, 1891. Early entries invited. Ballot on Wednesday Evening, Sept. 2nd.
439g J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr. James Turnbull.

Sale of Away-Going Crops at Peth House Farm, Lanchester.

MR. J. TURNBULL, has received instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, on Saturday, Sept. 5th, 1891, at 4 p.m., the AWAY-GOING CROPS on the above Farm, consisting of 10 acres of Oats, 7 acres of Wheat, 4½ acres of Barley. Conditions at time of Sale. Terms, CASH. The Crops are looking well and will be ready at date of Sale. 433g

CHESTER-LE-STREET AUCTION MART.
Wednesday, September 9th, 1891, at 1·30 p.m.

THE Second SPECIAL SALE of Keeping Lambs will be held on the above date.

Early Entries are respectfully solicited.
428g JAMES TURNBULL, Auctioneer.

Business Announcements

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.

SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. In erest, repayable at Three Months' notice.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Public (Incorporated) Accountant, Secretary

MOST MONEY LENT

On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Cutlery, Gems &c., &c., at

J. & E. WILSON'S,

The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780

12, PILGRIM STREET

FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)

PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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

SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.

OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF & MALT WINE,

Composed of Liebig's Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract, and old Port Wine. It is therefore a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength.

PRICE: 3s. 9d. PER BOTTLE; 2s. PER HALF-BOTTLE.

Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, Newcastle.

LOCAL AGENTS:—

CONSETT. — RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. T. D. DRYDEN & Co., FRONT STREET. THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST.

WITTON GILBERT.—T. SUDDES, STATION HOTEL.

MEDOMSLEY.—R. M. RUTHERFORD, ROYAL OAK HOTEL.

DIPTON. — ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT.

STANLEY.—WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL.

BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES, BURTON HOUSE.

TANFIELD.—JOHN URWIN, PACK HORSE INN.

KOPS ALE!
KOPS ALE!
KOPS ALE!

NON-ALCOHOLIC—Brewed from the best Kentish Hops,

as may be observed from the following, Kops Ale may be now procured in Newcastle, at the

NORTHERN DEPOT: 17, Bigg Market

better known as

ROBERTS' COLONIAL BUILDINGS.

KOPS ALE is a new beverage brewed from the finest Kentish Hops, and yet absolutely free from trace of Alcohol.

J. ROBERTS, 17, Bigg Market, Newcastle (Sole Agent for Newcastle and District) will be pleased if YOU will call and sample KOPS ALE.

KOPS ALE is as wholesome as fresh spring water and yet contains all the tonic, stomachic, and invigorating properties of selected Kentish Hops.

J. ROBERTS, 17, Bigg Market, Newcastle (Sole Agent for Newcastle and District) will be pleased if YOU will call and sample KOPS ALE.

KOPS ALE is produced in a *Model Brewery*, especially built by the inventor of KOPS ALE, and erected (almost regardless of cost) at WANDSWORTH BRIDGE, FULHAM, LONDON, S.E., capable of producing about 75,000 pint bottles of this pure, *wholesome*, palatable, *non-alcoholic* ale per day.

J. ROBERTS, 17, Bigg Market, Newcastle (Sole Agent for Newcastle and District) will be pleased if YOU will call and sample KOPS ALE.

KOPS ALE, without doubt, is now causing more stir and interest in London, than any other preparation, proprietory article, or beverage has done for years past.

J. ROBERTS, 17, Bigg Market, Newcastle (Sole Agent for Newcastle and District) will be pleased if YOU will call and sample KOPS ALE.

KOPS ALE—The author of this invaluable non-alcoholic beverage, in a long and interesting letter, that appeared recently in the *London Daily Telegraph*, thus refers to the Name and Title "KOPS ALE."

"I then, at the expenditure of nearly £50,000, caused a model brewery to be built at Wandsworth Bridge, Fulham, capable of producing about 75,000 pint bottles of pure, wholesome, palatable, non-alcoholic ale per day. I christened the baby "Kops Ale," in order to distinguish it from the unsatisfactory "Hop Ale" in the market, and still retain a name as near "hops" as possible—the chief component part of KOPS ALE being best Kentish hops. The beer is brewed on a similar method to honest English home-brewed Ale, and yet it is free of alcohol, *and this is the great invention*. In fact it contains less alcohol than ordinary ginger beer or lemonade. Dr. Jas. Edmunds, M.D. M.R.C.P., the eminent temperance advocate, and other competent authorities, pronounce KOPS ALE to be a pleasant, wholesome, non-alcoholic beverage, marvellously like ordinary ale, both in appearance and taste. The official organ of the Cyclists' Touring Club, an institution numbering nearly 30,000 members, recommends, after a year's trial, KOPS ALE to all its members, and pronounces it to be the only thirst-quenching non-alcoholic beverage that has ever come under their notice."

The Proprietor of the KOPS ALE BREWERY having appointed Mr JOSEPH ROBERTS, Chemist, 17, BIGG MARKET, NEWCASTLE, his SOLE AGENT (Wholesale and Retail) for this District, readers of this notice are strongly urged to give Mr ROBERTS an early call, in order to inspect, test, and taste this extraordinary beverage.

PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS CORRECTLY, AND CALL EARLY.

ROBERTS' COLONIAL BUILDINGS,
17, BIGG MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

"NO PANIC."

GEO. MACDONALD IS COMING.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

STUDENTS OF SHAKESPEARE.

I usually amuse myself by replying promptly to my critics, but my latest adversary appeared to be in such a state of frenzy that I mercifully determined to let the moon change before I again placed my lance in the rest. The wisdom of this step was verified in an unexpected manner, by the arch actor in this Shakespearian wrangle hastening the week before last to bath the burning temples of his discomfitted ally, and after patting him on the back—not for the information (so he said) contained in his communication, which was as empty as a nutshell—but for his conspicious bravery in attacking some correspondent or other who had spoken of the poet irreverently—I suppose, the offending correspondent who upset "Kyo" the second so unceremoniously that his fast friends had to come to his assistance and console and caution him to keep cool and not to be "unduly affected" and "wax angry with a readiness that was not quite creditable to him." It will be remembered that "Kyo" the second charged me with being angry, but in doing that he simply followed a course too frequently adopted by better and wiser men—lunatics invariably believing themselves to be the only sane inhabitants of the earth. I neither was nor am angry, nor have I any reason to be so. My critics, such as they are have never dared, even under cover of a *nom de plume*, to risk their reputation by dealing with the central point at issue—the inspiration of Shakespeare. "Kyo" the second, professing to be very wise in his day and generation, gravely informed the public the other week that his rival critics had wandered from the point like sheep without a shepherd, the subject matter being, in his august opinion, the appropriation of Shakespeare. In the face of such a statement, it is no wonder that his friends came to his aid and counselled him not to unduly excite himself. The majority of my readers know right well that this litipuritian controversy originated in the last stages of a discussion on the *pros* and *cons* of theatre-going, which took its rise from a paper read before the Consett Y.M.C.A. The theme hung fire, for such a topic does not come very close to the hearts and sympathies of the people of North-Western Durham. Grasping the situation, with an enthusiasm worthy of a better cause, one scribe strove to re-kindle the dying flame by declaring that Shakespeare was inspired by God, and those who read his works, or went to the play-house to witness his characters impersonated saw and heard representations emanating direct from the inspiration of the living God. Up to that time I had taken no part in the wrangle, believing it to be many degrees beneath me, but when it assumed the form named above, which I regarded as a base method of inducing the unthinking and the unwary to waste their time and substance by theatre-going, I thought it time, and high time that an independent critic, having more reverence for God than for Shakespeare should come to the front and command the new-fledged literary rushlights to give proof for their assertions or betake themselves to the obscurity from which the *role* of circumstances had for the moment called them. I was not angry, but I was earnest, and as a proof of my sincerity I threw down the gauntlet, offering to try conclusions on the point raised with any man in England or out of it. It was a bold challenge; but "desperate diseases by desperate remedies are healed, or not at all." It is significant, however, that the glove still lies where I threw it. Birds of prey in the guise of students of the so-called "divine William" have hovered around it, but they lack courage to touch, much less to lift it. It is true that the air has been filled with their dismal cries, from the crackle of the grey goose down to the plaintive chirp of a bewildered chicken; but public pity, and respect has been alike conspicious by it absence. The result of public apathy has been, I suppose, the means of these so-called students falling in their frenzy one upon another. "Kyo" the second was so far left to himself that he actually fired pot-shots at the men of his own regiment, critics of the standing of the accomplished Chester-le-Street correspondent not being safe from his venom-winged darts. Personally, I lean composedly on my lance waiting until a foeman worthy of the name arrays himself against me. The statement made by me to the effect that Shakespeare did not scruple to appropriate a thousand lines at a stretch is quite correct. When I made that statement, I had before me a *fac-simile* of a manuscript in which the depredations of the "divine William" were shown in bold relief. I have since turned to another volume to find that in a play composed of six-thousand-and-forty-three lines, one thousand-seven-hundred-and-seventy-one were written by an author who preceded Shakespeare; two-thousand-three-hundred-and-seventy-three were formed by him on the foundation laid by his predecessors, and one-thousand-eight-hundred-and-forty-nine were his own composition. It will thus be seen that this man, as one of his critics observes, did not scruple to appropriate those happy effusions of his predecessors, which were not only worthy of his own genius, but are not distinguishable from it. I knew all this, and much more, years ago, and had the ignoramuses but bridled their tongues the faults and failings of the "divine William" should never have been dragged into light of day. Had I known as little about Shakespeare as the original "Student of Shakespeare" and some of the would-be scribes who have since espoused his cause, I should have accepted the inspiration theory as gospel, but being better informed than they, I cast it to the winds, by which it has since been tempest-tossed. The public have been gravely informed that the question is one that should be approached with reverence; but such gratuitous statements emanate only from men who know as little about Shakespeare as they do about the man in the moon. The poems which the bard claimed as the absolute creations of his own brain bristle with passages of such an immoral character that they cannot be read at the fireside around which a respectable family is congregated. Nor dare the meanest booksellers' hack publish them—no, not even within the tinted covers of a penny dreadful, the pleasing task being left to actors on the waxed boards of a play-house. So much then for the inspiration theory, and the halo of reverence claimed for the subject. I must now, however, rein up my pegasus, although the subject is one that can hardly fail to amuse and instruct those of my readers who prefer truth to error.

GEO. MACDONALD IS COMING.

IN MOTION.

There is no standing still in this world, not at least in nature; and those who neglect to follow her teachings line for line will shortly find themselves among the rocks and quicksands. But the members of Benfieldside School Board must on no account be numbered among the thoughtless section of mankind—far from it. They have nothing in common with those easy-going souls who believe that everything comes to those that wait—not they. The members of the Board knew right well that the house had to be set in order, and to that end the ball was the other afternoon set in motion. The motive force was anything but powerful, and the ball looked sometimes as if rooted to *terra firma* by an unseen thread; but by sheer dint of pressure from without it was kept rolling until the whole round of business—chairman and vice-chairman, members of the various committees—was satisfactorily transacted, a stiff breeze blowing the while, but never rising to hurricane pitch. A good start has consequently been made, and with the Education Act hanging over them like a cloud, there will be ample scope for the gifts and the graces of the members elect.

THE STEEL AND IRON INDUSTRIES.

Fears are entertained that the coming winter will be anything but a busy one in the steel and iron industries. Orders are scarce, and the price is lower to-day than it has been since steel was introduced into the shipbuilding trade. Numbers of idle vessels are moored in our rivers on the north-east coast, the wind whistling through their bare spars, and the bark of a solitary watch-dog being the only indication of life on board. I am of opinion, however, that the outlook is somewhat better than it was when I wrote on the same subject several weeks ago. It may be that the shipyards are not much brisker, but certain it is that the iron and steel works in the neighbourhood of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, and Stockton, are better employed than when I last drew public attention to the state of these great twin industries. I make no reference to Consett, because the men employed by that celebrated company are always in clover. Long may they be so, and may those whose lines have fallen in pleasant places make the best of their opportunities while the sun of prosperity shines.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

P.M. CHAPEL.—On Sunday, the annual flower services were held in this place of worship at Consett. Rev Thos. Southern, of South Shields, preached two excellent sermons—morning and evening—to large congregations. In the afternoon, a service of song was rendered.—On Monday evening, a public meeting was held in the schoolroom.

POLICE COURT.—At Consett Petty Sessions, on Monday, before Councillor Jas. Annandale, *James Reynolds, Peter Maley, James McCallum, Robert Ellison*, labourers, and *John King*, hailing from Cumberland, pleaded guilty to charges of drunkenness at Consett on Saturday night, and were each fined 5s and costs, the alternative being seven days' imprisonment.

ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday afternoon, what might have been a most serious accident occurred at the No. 3 plate-mill, Consett. It appears that between two and three o'clock, a lad named George Farnsworth, second son of Mr Geo. Farnsworth, Furnace Row, Consett, was reaching a drink over to another lad, from the rolls to the "crab," when he suddenly slipped and got caught by the spindle and was drawn over to the opposite side, but was happily rescued by another lad, although receiving serious injuries to his left thigh. He was at once removed to the Consett Infirmary, where he is progressing favourably.

DEATH OF AN HOTEL KEEPER.—Early on Friday morning, Mr Michael Ruddy, the landlord of the Victoria Hotel, Consett, died after a lingering illness, at the age of 43 years. The deceased, who had managed the hostelry for four or five years, was very popular in the town, especially among the steel-smelters, who had their headquarters at the Victoria Hotel. He leaves a wife and family.—The interment took place at Benfieldside cemetery, on Sunday afternoon, and was very numerously attended, Mr Ruddy being well-known and much respected throughout the district. The funeral rites were conducted by the Roman Catholic clergy.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of the above-named association, was held in the offices, Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday night, Mr Henry Carss, Benfieldside, presiding. There was a good attendance, including Mrs Pumphrey, as representing the North-West Durham Women's Liberal Association. Arrangements were completed for a series of public meetings to be held throughout the division in the course of a few weeks, as well as a full meeting of the Council in the New Town Hall, Consett, to be followed by a great Liberal demonstration to be addressed by Mr L. A Atherley-Jones, M.P. for the division, and several other members of Parliament. This gathering, it is intended, shall take place in the same week as the Liberal Federation meetings in Newcastle.

WANTON DAMAGE TO THE PARK.—Whatever may have been the motive of the person or persons who have damaged the Consett and Benfieldside public park fencing, by destroying some of the laths in front of St. Aidan's Church, either on Saturday night, or in the early hours of Sunday morning, it must really have been a malicious one. To carry out such a wilful act, shortly after the completion of the park, prove the offenders deserve the full penalty of the law. There are always some people full of anamosity against one thing or another; and, to look at the damage, one cannot help but come to the conclusion that the ornamental fence to the park, must have been an eye-sore to the individual or individuals who have committed the deed. To say that it has been a drunken freak is beyond doubt; because no one in their sober sences would have contemplated doing such a thing. It is to be hoped that the vigilence of the police will be put into force, and the delinquents found out, because they justly deserve punishment. There seems to be more lunatics to the square yard in this district, than any other part of the county. No wonder Sedgefield asylum is too full.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr Lionel Ellis with an excellent company is paying a visit here this week with a comedy-drama in four acts, entitled *The Right Man*, and written by Messrs Ellis and Comer. Mr E. F. Brady appears as "Jaspar Crompton," a part in which he does full justice to it. Mr Ellis in the triple *role* of "Mark Norcliffe," "Hans Swyzledeine" and "Joe Weazle" was very clever, his pourtrayal of the Dutchman, in which he sings a song, entitled, "Mein leetle poy paby," being exceptionally good. "Sampson Pike" loses nothing at the hands of Mr Wm. Rodgers. Miss Bessie Ellis is pleasing as "Arthur Norcliffe," whilst Miss Adah Garratt as "Rachel Norcliffe" soon won the sympathies of the audience. Miss L. Millward as "Mara" the Gipsy was most effective, and Miss Lizzie Gray was a capital "Gipsy Nan." The comedy element is supplied by Mr W. Carriden as "Harry Oliphant." Mr A Byron as "Christopher Dunn," who is always sup[...]ding the arrangements, and Mr K[...] as "Bessie Brown," keep the house in roars of laughter. The two last-named sing a good duet, entitled "The show folk," and also give a dance, which is received with rounds of applause. The piece is excellently staged, and good business has been the rule during the week. Mr Adderley Howard's *Right's Right* company are announced to appear next week, and Monday next will be their 943rd night of uninterrupted tour. It is an able company, and it is a powerfully written drama, besides they carry the greater portion of the scenery used.

GEO. MACDONALD IS COMING.

BLACKHILL.

On Sunday last, Mr Joseph Kirk (on behalf of the teachers of the Primitive Methodist Sunday-School), presented Mr Thomas Williams, jun., late of Blackhill, with a handsome Oxford bible, in remembrance of his many years' connection with the school, as a scholar, teacher, and secretary.

BLACKHILL AND CONSETT 2ND MODEL BUILDING SOCIETY.—The 2nd ballot was held in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Friday evening. In the absence of the Chairman of Directors (Mr W. Robinson, who has been ill for some time), Mr Jos. Eltringham was voted to the chair. Prior to the ballot taking place, the chairman gave a short *resume* of the Society's work, pointing out that although 16 weeks had elapsed since the opening of the Society, only 50 books now remain to be issued before the full complement is reached. Messrs W. Pollock and J. Armstrong were then appointed scrutineers, to conduct ballot for one share. The number drawn was 181, which, on referring to the books, was found to belong to Mrs W. Ramsay, of Blackhill; and being clear on the books, was entitled to an advance of £100.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

A report of the summer meeting of the North-West Durham Women's Liberal Association at Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday, will be published next week.

THE FLOODS.—The River Derwent has not been swollen so high for several years, as it was at the beginning of this week. Trees and temporary foot-bridges have been swept away by the flood.

At Shotley Bridge Occasional Court, on Wednesday, *Percy Annolson*, miner, Lintz Colliery, was remanded on a charge of stealing a tame rabbit, belonging to John Purvis, at Hamsterley Colliery, at midnight on Monday last. This is one of the same rabbits stolen by four Newcastle youths a month since.

WEARDALE.

The funeral of the late Mr W. H. Knowles, late station-master at Witton-le-Wear, took place on Saturday.

STANHOPE.

Several questions of assessment in Weardale Union, were adjourned at Friday's rating meeting.

Miss Pulleine, of Stanhope Rectory, killed a trout weighing 1½ lbs., while fishing in Horsley Burn, last week.

Miss Chislet, late of Stanhope, now the lady superintendent of the Convalescent Home at Grange, has received a certificate for proficiency in arithmetic, in connection with the *Answers* paper.

John Pattinson, a man of the tramp class, was sent to prison for 14 days by the Stanhope Bench, at a special sitting on Monday, for being found sleeping in the hay-shed of Dr Arnison, J.P., of Stanhope.

WEARDALE POOR LAW QUESTIONS.—Dr Livingstone, C.C., presided at Friday's Weardale Union meeting.—The vaccination returns, now on hand, had no special feature.—The asylum, certified full, was reported unavailable save for acute cases. The Board thought some asylum patients could be as efficiently and economically dealt with at the Workhouse; and it was decided to ask Dr Smith for the transfer to Stanhope of a male patient, who, an officer stated, wore a tall hat and a white waistcoat, and assisted at outside entertainments. (Laughter.) The Chairman suggested that Stanhope might find him employment of that kind.—Mr C. A. Dawson, who dated from Richmond, wrote to intimate that he had been appointed to succeed Mr Knollys as Poor-law Inspector.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Sunday morning, the thermometer in the Deanery Gardens, Chester-le-Street, stood at 48 degs. More like October than August.

TOW LAW.

SHEEP-WORRYING.—Mr John Atkinson, farmer, of Greenwell Hill, had 7 ewes and 3 lambs worried, between Friday night and Saturday morning, by some dog or dogs which had got among a flock of very valuable Leicester ewes and lambs (pure bred), at the top of Redgate Bank, on the road between Wolsingham and Tow Law.

PUBLIC-HOUSE LICENSES.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Tow Law—Councillor J. Vickers presiding—was held in the Mechanics' Institute, Tow Law, on Monday night, to take into consideration the advisability of reducing the number of licensed public-houses in the town, in view of the near approach of the Brewster Sessions.

SPEN.

ACCIDENT.—A serious accident occurred at Spen Colliery on Friday, by which a miner named James Pull, residing at Thornley, was severely injured about the back by a fall of stone, whilst following his work as a coal hewer in the Brockwell seam, during the back shift. He was at once taken to his home, and attended to by Drs Colquhoun and Smith, of Spen and Ryton.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday night, the *employes* of Messrs Hall and Smith, Annfield Plain, sat down to an excellent supper, on the occasion of Mr J. E. Smith's coming-of-age. After ample justice had been done to the good things set before them, Mr Jas. McGarrity (the oldest *employe*), in a suitable manner, presented Mr Smith with a handsome writing desk, as a token of the respect in which he is held by the *employes*. Mr Smith, in replying, cordially thanked them for the present. Songs, &c., were given at intervals, the company dispersing a few minutes before mid-night, after having spent a most enjoyable evening.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday last, special services were held in the above place, when sermons were preached in the morning and evening by Mr J. Coward, J.P., of Durham, and in the afternoon by Rev T. Archer, circuit minister, of Stanley. The collections were good at all the services. Collections were taken on behalf of cleaning and renovating the chapel. The chapel choir rendered good service. On Monday night, Mr J. Coward, J.P., delivered one of his popular lectures, subject, "Squire Brooke, a Yorkshire evangelist," to a good company. Mr P. Reay gave out the opening hymn, and after prayer, introduced the chairman, Mr W. J. Mackay, head-master of Greencroft Board School, who was well received, and, in a brief address, introduced the lecturer, who was received with applause. The lecturer was rich and full of happy events in the life of his subject, which called forth the applause of the congregation. Votes of thanks to the lecturer and chairman closed the service.

IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE.—THE SEXTON BRANCH, CATCHGATE.—At a meeting of the above branch held in the League Room, Catchgate, on Monday night—Mr M. Sculley in the chair—the following resolution was carried:—"Thanking Messrs John Dillon and William O'Brien, M.P.'s for the way they have taken up the cause of the Irish Parliamentary Party, under the leadership of Mr Justin McCarty, M.P., and calling on the Irishmen of this district to support those great men who have suffered so much for their cause and country, by joining the National League." It was agreed to forward £1 to the executive for the evicted tenants' fund for their support in the cause of right. The meeting soon after adjourned.

WEST STANLEY.

A grand Spanish bazaar is at present being held here, on behalf of repairs and extensions to the school. The bazaar was opened yesterday, and will continue open to-day (Friday), and tomorrow, when there will be a concert and children's entertainment each evening. If the children's entertainment is as good as the one provided at Consett, by the St. Patrick's school children every year, it should be well worth the admission, apart from the bazaar, &c.

MEDOMSLEY.

FLOWER SHOW AND SPORTS.—The eighteenth annual festival of the Medomsley Floral and Horticultural Society will be held to-morrow (Saturday), and promises to be a great success. Considering the unfavourable state of the season, there are capital entries in the floral and horticultural, and other departments. The 120 yards' handicap (for which the prize money has been raised to £10), has closed with the good entry of 60, which includes some of the best-known men in the north, and should provide some excellent sport. There will also be quoiting and other games. The splendid Tanfield Lea Brass Band has been engaged for the occasion, so that the music is sure to give satisfaction. The proceedings will conclude with a ball in the marquee. All that is needed is fine weather to make the exhibition one of the most successful in the society's history, and we trust that a monster attendance will reward the energetic efforts forth by the secretary (Mr W. E. Charlton his committee, to make the show a success.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The regular meeting was held at Shotley Bridge, on Thursday se'nnight, the meeting having been postponed from the Wednesday in consequence of the local agricultural show being held at Blaydon. Coun. James Annandale, J.P., presided, and there were present:—Coun. Rd. Murray, Messrs F. Priestman, J.P., Jos. Eltringham, J. Lax, A. E. Turner, G. J. Robinson, the Clerk (Mr J. Booth), and the Surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

A STEAM ROLLER FOR THE BOARDS.

An application was received from Mr Wear, of Hexham, intimating that he was at liberty to let the Board have the use of his steam roller for the roads. His terms were: £2 per day if the roller was required for a week, and 35s per day if required for a month. The Board to provide coals, water, and men to lay on the material.

A letter was also read from Mr M. Coupland, clerk to the Leadgate Local Board, setting forth that his Board had agreed to have the use of the steam roller for a week, and if the Consett and Benfieldside Boards were acquiescent, they might also take the steam roller for a month, or a longer period, and then probably the three Boards united would secure the use of the roller on cheaper terms.

Coun. MURRAY thought it highly desirable that the Board should have the roller on the Benfieldside roads for ten days, and perhaps the Consett Local Board might want it for 10 or 12 days.

Mr ELTRINGHAM averred that if there was plenty of material to put upon their main roads, they could do with the roller a full fortnight.

The Surveyor: Yes, there is plenty of work for the roller for a couple of weeks.

Mr MURRAY accordingly proposed a resolution that the Board should employ the steam roller for a fortnight.

This was seconded by Mr LAX, and carried *nem con.*

NEW STREET AT BLACKFINE.

It was decided, on the proposal of Mr MURRAY, and seconded by Mr TURNER, that, with reference to the plans of the Consett Iron Company, dated 14th of July, the Clerk be instructed to reply that Dixon Street, Blackfine, would be taken over by the Board, as soon as other proprietors completed their portion of the thoroughfare, and cross or back street would be taken over whenever they were properly macadamised.

THE PUBLIC PARK: CEMENTING A FOOTPATH.

An application was also read from the Consett Iron Company asking the Board to cement the portion of footpath in Siemens Street, Blackhill, at the foot of the Park, and likewise repair the kerb and channel.

Mr ELTRINGHAM explained that the Board originally made the road, and recovered one-half of the cost from the Consett Iron Company, it being understood that in the event of any houses being built on the opposite side, the company would defray the cost of completing the whole of the thoroughfare.

It was eventually moved by Mr LAX, and seconded by Mr ROBINSON, that in answer to the Consett Iron Company's request for the Board to cement the footpath, the Clerk be instructed to reply that as the Board had already borne the cost of making one-half of the roadway, upon the undertaking that the Company would, in certain events, repay the Board for its outlay, and the Board having waived its claim to that extent, the Company should, in the opinion of the Board, cement the footpath alongside the park.

The Board agreed to repair the kerb and channel, in the event of the Company agreeing to carry out the cementing on its own account, the Surveyor explaining that it would be necessary to replace some of the worn stones by fresh ones.

BLACKFINE SEWERAGE.

The Surveyor mentioned that he had arranged with Mr W. D. Robson to deduct 3d per lineal yard off the amount of his tender, in consequence of the contractor being relieved of the work of laying down the channel, the present bricks being considered useless.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr Dixon) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month, your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district water-tabling, gathering off loose stones, and dressing-up. Several of your roads have been very much damaged by the thunderstorms during the past month. Your stonebreakers are preparing materials for the ensuing season.

A portion of the old conduit at Blackhill has been washed away by the heavy rains we have lately experienced. This I had put right as soon as possible.

A letter having been sent to me from Mr Wear, steam roller owner, has been laid before your Highway Committee.

The Consett Water Company have placed a fire-plug in Hawthorn Terrace, as requested, during the month.

The cementing of the Derwent Road footpath has been completed. This, I consider, has effected a very great improvement in this part of your district.

As instructed, I have served notice on Messrs Moon, Stephenson, and Carey to make their portion of Dixon Street. I was informed that they had already arranged to have this work done.

I have collected and paid to your treasurer during the month the following sum:—

General district rate £30 5 5

—Yours, &c., JOHN DIXON.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Dixon) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month, I have inspected your district. I find, on the whole, the ashpits well cleaned out, with the exception of a few in the lower part of the district. Your main drains are all working well, except a stone drain near the flour mill at Shotley Bridge. I would suggest that an overflow pipe be put in at this place.

As instructed, I saw Mr Green with regard to the plan of a washhouse. This plan has been submitted to your Building Committee; also the following plans:—Washhouse for Mr Stirling; shed for Mr McTaggart; two villas for Mr Jos. Eltringham; alterations to Mr Hall's house. Your committee will report on these plans.—Yours, &c.

JOHN DIXON.

A NEW SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

An application from Mr John Wilson to convert some outbuildings at Blackfine into a slaughter-house was referred to the Inspector to deal with.

HIGHWAY, LIGHTING, AND FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Payment of the following accounts is recommended, the same having been examined:—

	£	s.	d.
Surveyor's monthly paybill	82	17	11
Water Company's accounts	18	16	5
J. Dixon's quarterly salary	40	0	0
D. Ormerod, for completion of contracts	101	12	1
Total	£243	6	5

The lighting was arranged for the ensuing month. The Gas Company will submit a tender to the Board, on the 20th inst., for lighting the district for the ensuing season.

Tenders have been laid before us for the kerbing and channelling to be done at Shotley Bridge and Blackhill, as per specification provided, and we recommend the Board to accept the tender of Mr Ormerod, which is the lowest, leaving the choice of stone or cement kerb to the Board, the latter being cheaper, on the distinct understanding that hard stone be used for channelling. A letter from the Consett Iron Company with respect to taking over Dixon Street, and channelling and cementing Cemetery Road, we prefer to leave in the hands of the Board.

(Signed) JOSHUA LAX.

The recommendations embodied in the foregoing report were adopted.

PRICE OF GAS FOR STREET LAMPS.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he had just received the agreement between the Board and the Gas Company for illuminating the public lamps, the price, 3s per 1,000 feet, being the same as last year's.

On the proposition of Mr ELTRINGHAM, seconded by Mr PRIESTMAN, the agreement was referred to the Lighting Committee to consider if in conformity with the usual terms of the Board.

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

is given below:—

A plan for a washhouse intended to be built at the back of house in Cemetery Road, for Mr Thomas Swainston, was recommended to be passed; but to be built next to The Manse wall. Plan for washhouse to be built in Thomas Street for Mr Andrew Stirling, we recommend to be passed. A plan for a wood erection, with a slate roof, proposed to be built in Derwent Street for Mr J. Hutchinson, we cannot recommend to be passed, but would suggest that the same be left in the hands of the Surveyor. A plan for stable and out-offices in Baxton Burn, belonging to Mr Robert Hall, with intended alterations by removing the stable nearer to the house, and putting the out-offices where the stable is shown on the plan passed on April 10th, 1891. Plans for two villas to be built near to Snows Green for Mr J. Eltringham, we recommend to be passed, the out-offices to be placed on the opposite side of yards, and the outlet for drainage to be provided for, when required, to the satisfaction of the Board.

This report was likewise approved of.

ANOTHER OBJECTION TO THE TELEPHONE POSTS.

A communication was received from Mr P. M. Brutton, St. Cuthbert's Lodge, calling attention to the fact that it was the intention of the National Telephone Company to place poles and wires outside his gates. The overhead wires were a very serious annoyance to him, having to pass underneath, and the poles disfigured the entrance to his grounds. He should feel obliged if the Board would request the Telephone Company to carry their wires underground at the point indicated.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said if the telephone wires had to be placed underground to suit Mr Brutton, then they would have to be fixed in the same position for everybody else.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the Board had already accorded the Telephone Company permission to erect their posts along that route.

Mr PRIESTMAN considered that the residents along St. Cuthbert's Terrace had a far greater grievance than Mr Brutton, inasmuch as the poles obstructed their outlook.

Coun. MURRAY said the posts had been lying for some weeks now, some of them being in a dangerous position. The Telephone Company were to blame for the opposition raised against the poles, inasmuch as they ought to have erected them at once.

Mr PRIESTMAN pointed out that to enter the lodges along the Shotley Road they were bound to pass underneath the telephone wires, which belonged to the Post Office Authorities.

The Surveyor suggested that the poles at St. Cuthbert's Terrace should be affixed in the back street, and Mr MURRAY stated that he had no objection to the wires crossing Ritson's Road.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr PRIESTMAN, seconded by Mr TURNER, that the Clerk write to the secretary of the Telephone Company intimating that complaints had been made to the Board of the telephone poles and wires being unsightly in the vicinity of St. Cuthbert's Terrace, the Surveyor was instructed to see that the wires ran at the back of the Terrace, and cross the road beyond Mr Brutton's entrance, and down Church Bank, if the company can conveniently substitute that line for the route already arranged, or fix the wires underground if the company prefer.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND ITS GRANTS.

The Clerk reported that the Board sent in an account to the County Council for £106 12s 9d for establishment charges, and that body had only remitted £22 14s in respect thereto. He maintained that such a reduction was manifestly unfair, and suggested that the Board should intimate to the County Council that they could not accept this sum in charge of their claim, and unless the Council was disposed to meet the claim in some equitable way, the Board would have no alternative but to appeal to the Local Government Board.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to adopt the Clerk's recommendations, and the members afterwards adjourned.

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, Aug. 21st.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE Esq. (chairman), and Dr ARNISON.

DRUNKENNESS.

J. Wallace was charged by P.C. Wright with being drunk at St. John's Chapel, 29th ult.—Fined 12s 6d.

Emerson Allen, of Tow Law, was fined 6s and costs for a similar offence on the 8th inst.

J. Sanderson, Stanhope, was charged by P.C. Steadman with being drunk and disorderly at Stanhope.—Fined 15s.

Thomas Jamison was charged by P.C. Wallace with being drunk on the licensed premises of Mr John Walton, Phœnix Inn, Stanhope, on the 8th ult.—Fined 10s.

BREACH OF FISHERY ACT.

Major A. W. Hill, a visitor, now staying at the Horne Hall, Stanhope, was charged by Mr F. Lambert, water bailiff, of Witton-le-Wear, with fishing in Stanhope burn without having license, on the 23rd ult. Defendant did not apper in court himself.—Fined 2s 6d.

INDECENTLY ASSAULTING HIS DAUGHTER AT TOW LAW.

John Foster, fish hawker, Tow Law, was charged with indecently assaulting his own daughter, Mary Elizabeth Foster, at Tow Law, on the 15th inst. The details are unfit for publication. He was committed for trial at the ensuing Quarter Sessions at Durham, and was removed from the Police Station at Stanhope, on Saturday morning, to Durham goal, there to await his trial.

STANHOPE BREWSTER SESSIONS.

At the Stanhope Brewster Sessions, held on Friday, Mr C. J. Backhouse, chairman of the Bench, complimented the publicans of the district on their good conduct during the year, there not being a single conviction against one of them. He hoped such a state of things would continue. He wished, however, to warn publicans and others about filling drink to persons in charge of horses and conveyances. There had been four persons convicted for this offence during the year, and he desired to inform them that by filling such persons too much drink they were not only in danger of their own licenses, but they were also endangering the safety of the public as well.

Supt. Snowdon reported that there were 29 full licensed houses in the district and three beer-houses, and the population according to last census was 245 persons to each full licensed house.—There had been neither increase or decrease in the number of licensed houses.—The convictions for drunkenness—twenty—were fewer than in the preceding year.

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

HUMAN LIFE.—Fifty years' record of Facts Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Disease, and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D.; author of "Patriarchal Longevity Reattainable," "Earth-Life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every Sufferer. Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 48, Theobald's Road Holborn, London, W.C.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY Is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, kidney diseases, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper.

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

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

DRUNKENESS CURED.—A Wealthy American Lady whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression and Exhausted Vitality, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying all known remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Anyone suffering or desiring to help others in this worthy cause, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr James Holland, 25, Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this Information, free of charge. Mention this paper.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions 8½d. and 1s. bottles.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pill will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight, Mr Wm. Logan (chairman) presiding. The following members were present:—Revs C. F. D. Hodge and P. C. Fortin, Messrs Geo. Robson, Thos. Taylor-Smith, T. J. Muse, J. Lax, Wm. Aynsley, J. Collinson, W. Rutherford, W. Gray, R. Hobson, T. Nichol, Councillor R. Murray, and the Clerk (Mr W. H Ritson).

MASTER'S REPORT.

The Master (Mr W. Brotherhood) reported that on the 14th inst, Mr Charles Palmer Phillips, a Commissioner in Lunacy, visited and examined the inmates of the Workhouse, and afterwards inspected their dayrooms and bedrooms. On the 18th inst, one of the vaccination officers of the Local Government Board visited and examined all the children in the Workhouse.

Rev C. F. D. Hodge, vicar of Esh, and Rev. V. T. Jacks, curate of the same parish, sent three boxes of red currants and seed cakes for the inmates, which they had for tea last Sunday.

The Board passed a vote of thanks to the rev gentlemen for their generosity.

MR KNOLLY'S SUCCESSOR.

A letter was read from Mr C. A. Dawson, of Teignmouth, Devon, late district auditor for Cornwall district, intimating that he had been appointed Local Government Board Inspector for the Northern Counties, in the place of Mr W. E. Knollys, elevated to an assistant secretaryship under the Local Government Board.

MEDOMSLEY RATE COLLECTORSHIP.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board approving of the appointment of Mr J. Collinson, of Shotley Grove, as collector of poor rates for the parish of Medomsley.

THE TRAIN SERVICE.

With reference to the resolution passed by the Board at the last meeting, praying for additional train accommodation on the Consett Branch, by the running of an extra train between Durham and Newcastle during the forenoon, and another train from Newcastle to arrive at Durham about 10·30 a.m., an acknowledgment was received from Mr Godfrey Smith, passenger superintendent, Newcastle, notifying that he had forwarded the communication to York to receive the early consideration of the Directors.

SEDGEFIELD ASYLUM FULL.

A letter was read from the Visiting Justices at the Sedgefield Asylum, intimating that the institution was now full, and it was recommended that for the present only acute cases should be sent to Sedgefield Asylum.

THE ANNUAL VISITS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the special committee had visited Tudhoe Home, where the Board had five children, whom they found in a very nice, clean and healthy condition. The committee also paid their annual visit to the Sedgefield Asylum, where there were 34 males and 23 female patients belonging that Union. Four of the males were boarded out, but the committee said, the remaining 30, and with the exception of very few cases, they seemed to be all incurable. They also saw 22 of the females, and they appeared to be even more afflicted than the men, and there was little hopes of any of the women being cured. Along with Father Fortin, the Chairman added that they also had visited the Wigton Home, in Cumberland, where the Guardians had four girls, two of them being ready for service. There were 51 orphan girls in this institution, and with the exception of the four from that Union, they were all boarded out by private people. The committee of the Home preferred this system, and recommended the Board not to send away more inmates to that Institution. All the children were remarkably clean, bright, and happy; they were well cared for and looked after, judging from there intellegent faces.

It was resolved to allow sufficient money to provide the two girls with requisite outfits to go into service.

HARMLESS IMBECILES.

The Clerk said that Mr Phillips had visited the Workhouse, and had entered into the report book a statement to the effect that the Guardians had no power to detain harmless cases of imbecility; but an Act to amend the lunacy that was contemplated to cure that defect and would probably be passed this Session. The Clerk added that the Act had not been passed.

PENSIONS FOR OLD PERSONS.

The Board again discussed the letter from the National Providence League recommending State aid pensions to persons of 65 years of age, in the event of them having contributed to a fund for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the purport of the arrangement was to induce persons of 21 years old to pay a small sum weekly to a special fund, and when they had attained the age of 65 years, they would be allowed a pension of £6 10s per annum, and this sum it was proposed to supplement by a State aided grant of £6 10s a year. He considered, however, that the scheme did not go far enough, but as it appeared to be the beginning of a new system, he thought the Board should agree with the system as far as it went.

Mr COLLINSON argued that the scope of the scheme should be extended. He maintained that it ought to be made compulsory for all young folks to contribute to a fund, and thus provide in case of sickness and old age.

The Clerk explained even if persons were found to be in necessity at 50 or even 55 years of age, if they could show the Guardians that they had been contributing to this Provident Fund, it was probable that the Guardians would grant an out-door relief instead of (as in other cases at present) ordering them to come to the Workhouse.

Mr COLLINSON said he failed to understand from the circular read, when the people commenced to pay towards this fund.

The CHAIRMAN: I expect at twenty-one years of age.

Father FORTIN: If persons must pay £6 10s a year till they reach 65 years of age, they will contribute a lot of money.

Mr MUSE: They only pay about £1 a year.

The CHAIRMAN observed that the money would be contributed in small instalments, and would be based on the life assurance tables, and would make £6 10s a year. When this sum was supplemented by another £6 10s per annum, and this would be allowing the people 5s a week, instead of the grant of 2s 6d weekly at present allowed by the Guardians.

It was agreed to let the subject stand over for a fortnight; the Clerk in the meantime being instructed to draw up a resolution embodying the views of the Guardians anent the matter.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

PROPOSED LOCAL BOARD FOR WEST STANLEY.

It was announced that a local enquiry would be held at West Stanley on Tuesday, September 15th, for the purpose of hearing evidence in favour of, or against the formation of a Local Board for West Stanley.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Board appoint a deputation, and show that, although they had no objection to the establishment of a Local Board for that district, they must not allow it to go forth to the public that the Sanitary Authority had not done its duty, and were prepared to go on in the carrying out in the necessary improvements at West Stanley.

The deputation consisted of the Chairman, Messrs W. J. Handcock, Geo. Hobson, J. Wilkinson and W. Rutherford.

THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF THE INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

The question of re-appointing Mr J. E. Parker, as inspector and surveyor, at a salary of £200 a year, was adjourned for a month, in consequence of—as the Chairman pointed out—the probable re-arrangement of the district, and if the Local Board was formed at West Stanley, it was possible that a large slice would be taken out of Mr Parker's district. Moreover, there might have to be some re-adjustment of the school enquiry officers, under the assisted Eduction Bill. He thought it better to take a more comprehensive view of the matter a month hence.

INCREASE OF SALARY.

A letter was read from Mr Parker asking for an increase of salary.

Messrs AYNSLEY GRAY, and others maintained that Mr Parker was entitled to an advance.

Mr RUTHERFORD pointed out that Mr Parker was only appointed twelve months ago at a salary of £200 a year. It would be most unfair to jump from £200 to £250 after a year's service.

Coun. MURRAY agreed with the Chairman, and considered it would be disagreeable, both to Mr Parker and the Authority, if they increased his salary at present, and then in the course of a few weeks had to curtail his remuneration.

After some further remarks, the subject was left in abeyance, the CHAIRMAN informing Mr Parker that he would lose nothing by leaving himself in the hands of the Authority.

MARLEY HILL WATER SUPPLY.

The CHAIRMAN announced that on the 10th inst. at Durham, there was a conference between Mr Asquith, the engineer for the Consett Water Company, and representatives from the Whickham Local Board and the Lanchester and Chester-le-Street Rural Sanitary Authorities, with reference to the provision of an improved water supply for Marley Hill, Causey Row, and Andrew's Houses. Mr Asquith had formulated a scheme to supply 68 houses in the Chester-le-Street district, 22 houses in the Lanchester district, and 248 houses in the Whickham district, at a total cost of £1,868 6s 6d, which averaged £5 10s per house. They had, however, in the Lanchester area 44 houses which required a supply of water. It was mentioned that this water would have to be supplied by meter, at a probable cost of 14s per house per annum, and as the Authority would only recover 10s from each householder, they would have to bear a loss of 4s per house every year, and besides, the Authority would have to collect the water rents, which, of course, was very objectionable. The whole scheme would cost the Authority £121 12s. The first objection he had to the scheme was the small number of houses to be supplied at so great a cost; and, secondly, Tanfield was omitted. In this village they had 58 houses which were unsupplied with water, making a total of 97 altogether. Some time ago they arranged a scheme with the Consett Water Company to supply both Tanfield and Causey Row at a cost of £500, which at 4 per cent. would come to about £20 a year. They could compel the company to furnish these houses with grates, inasmuch as they were all within the company's Parliamentary district. After this explanation, he (Mr Logan) informed the Whickham and Chester-le-Street Authorities that they would withdraw from the joint scheme and proceed with their own plan.

On the motion of Mr Mu[illegible] seconded by Mr AYNSLEY, it was resolved to pro[illegible] with the last-named scheme, the Authority to defray the original cost of £500.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Eastern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—Excepting a case of scarlatina at Kyo, and another at South Medomsley, I believe the district to be free from infectious diseases.

Accompanied by your Inspector, I visited the coke-yards at Stanley, Shield Row, South Derwent, Pontop, and East Pontop. The coke-ovens at the three first-mentioned places were closed. There were, however, five at Pontop and two at East Pontop presenting every appearance of having been recently occupied. A small hut built upon the ovens at South Derwent, and two cabins at Pontop, were also used as dwellings. It is scarcely necessary to supply you with particulars as to their condition. I need only state that the whole lot are totally unfit for habitation.

The mortality for the month is very favourable; 24 deaths were registered, giving a death-rate of 14·5 per 1,000 per annum. None of the deaths were due to infectious diseases.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. BENSON, Medical Officer.

August 18th, 1891.

Lanchester District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

MR CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report, with the exception of four cases of scarlet fever at Cornsay Colliery, and one case of continued fever at Langley Park, this district is free from epidemic diseases.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
JOHN WILSON.

August 20th, 1891.

Medomsley District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month ending the 19th day of August, the following cases of zymotic disease have been noted:—3 cases of scarlatina at Hamsterley Colliery, 1 case of scarlatina at Dean Bank, Allendale Cottages, 1 case of scarlatina at Medomsley, 1 case of erysipelas at Westwood, and 1 case of erysipelas at Allendale Cottages.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
W. T. BOLTON.

Ebchester Hill, August 20th, 1891.

THE COKE-OVEN DWELLINGS.

It was announced that the whole of the coke-ovens in Annfield Plain and Stanley district, which had been used as dwelling-houses, had practically been closed.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE INSPECTOR.

It was agreed to retain two assistants for Mr Parker till such period as the works at present in hand were completed.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month I have again visited the coke-yards at Annfield Plain and Stanley, and found that all the ovens, which were at the time of my last report being used as dwellings, in the yards attached respectively to West Stanley Colliery, Shield Row Colliery, and South Derwent Colliery, have been closed and the doors bricked up. On the 14th inst. I accompanied Dr Benson, your Medical Officer of Health, around the coke-yards at Pontop and East Pontop, and we found that many of the ovens at Pontop coke-yard had been bricked up, but that five ovens and two cabins were still being used as dwelling-houses; and at East Pontop coke-yards two ovens were being used as dwelling-houses. These cases have been reported to your clerk (Mr Ritson), and I understand he has issued the requisite notices under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

The South Moor Colliery Company (Limited) have caused the water of the Consett Water Company to be laid on to the houses known as Old Engine Houses, Oxhill, in pursuance with your notice.

There exists a draw-well at Blackhall Mill, which derives its supply from the subsoil. The level of the surface of the water in the well fluctuates with that of the river Derwent, which runs close by, and the inhabitants complain that the water is sometimes foul.

I have had, as far as I can ascertain, the names of all the vendors of milk within your district taken, with a view to their registration under the Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops' Order, 1885, and have sent a copy of the regulations of your Authority, together with a form of application for registration, to each.

The South Moor sewerage disposal works will shortly be finished.

The Stanley Square outfall sewer has now been laid as far as the end of the road leading into the square, and the works in connection therewith will shortly be finished.

The construction of the sewers at Castleside is progressing satisfactorily.

The sum of £100, which was granted for special assistance in connection with the preparation of plans for the sewerage of Castleside, Stanley, Medomsley, White-le-Head, and Tantobie, will, before the next meeting of your Authority, be expended, and survey-plans have been made of the villages of Castleside, Medomsley, White-le-Head, and Tantobie. The out-door work in connection with the survey of Stanley has been executed, and the plan partially made, and a portion of the outdoor work only has been done at Annfield Plain.

Thirty-two villages have been inspected during the month, in addition to the work entailed in obtaining particulars of dairies and cow-sheds, and of the Esh, Lanchester, &c., water supply.

The following houses are ready or shortly will be ready for habitation:—

1007. Additions to 17 houses at Hamsterley, for the owners of Hamsterley Colliery.

1097. Two houses at Hare Law, for John Bowes and Partners, Limited.

1147. One house at Medomsley Edge, for J. Weddle.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. E. PARKER.

Lanchester, August 20th, 1891.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION at the lowest possible prices by ROBERT JACKSON "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates furnished.

HEALTH RESTORED Remedy Free.—A lat sufferer from Nervousness, Weakness, &c. having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple self-cure which he will send free to his fellow-sufferers.—Address, W. FOX, 1, York Street Southwark, London. S.E. 265a

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 7½d. and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

"HOW TO BEHAVE," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour. It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, removing dandruff, rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female, young and old. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. 875

"BUCHU-PAIBA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. NEWBERY and SONS, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London.

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

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

DARKWOOD.

A TALE OF LONEMOOR.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

GHOST OR OWL?

In common with most ancient houses of size and importance in England, Dunholm Castle was popularly supposed to be haunted. The servants in their hall in the long winter evenings were wont to whisper to each other wild tales of the Darkwood spectre that "walked" the grim chambers of the ruins. A tragedy had centuries since been enacted in the old castle, in which two men had fought over one fair woman. The men had both perished in combat before the woman's eyes, and she had gone mad in her horror and despair, and had soon after died.

The Lady Georgina Charteris had a great love of the marvellous, and within three days after her arrival at Dunholm Castle had learned from her maid the story of the Darkwood spectre. She repeated the tale in turn to her young governess, and her faith was not to be shaken by Gwen's smiling disbelief.

"It is true!" asserted the Lady Georgina. "Margery tells me that her grandfather saw the ghost one night, when he was hurrying home through the park, many years ago. He was courting one of the maids at the castle in those days—she married him afterwards, and she is Margery's grandmother—and he was a park labourer. It was about midnight, and he was on his way home by a short cut that skirted the ruins, when all of a sudden he heard a strange cry, and he looked up, and a light flashed across one of the broken windows, and an awful spectre, larger than any giant and bloody with wounds, was seen for an instant and then vanished, and the light went out in the same instant. What do you think of that, Miss Myner?"

"I think," said Gwen, "that Margery's grandfather had a vivid imagination."

The Lady Georgina looked offended.

"Other servants have seen the same sights," she declared, "and I believe them. I wouldn't go near the ruins after dark, not if by doing so I could be queen of England. I haven't had courage to go yet in the daytime, although there have been no end of visitors to see them. But I'll go with you, Miss Myner. Let us go this morning."

The morning in question was bright and pleasant, late in February, with the balminess of spring. Gwen assented to the Lady Georgina's proposition, and they made ready for the stroll.

The ruins of Dunholm Castle were historical, and visitors had come to examine them from far and near. The late marquis, like his predecessors, had shown them freely on stated days, but the present marquis had refused to admit strangers to their precincts, and had caused the doors to be secured and the windows to be repaired. It had become generally known to tourists and excursionists that visitors were no longer allowed to enter Dunholm Castle ruins, and Gwen, having learned the fact, had restrained her curiosity throughout the winter, and had not even once been in the ancient portion of the grounds.

"How can we gain admittance to the ruins?" asked Gwen.

"Oh, I know where the keys are kept," said Lady Georgina. "I saw them in the library the other day, and asked father where they belonged. I'll go and get them."

"You must ask Lord Darkwood for permission to visit the ruins," said Gwen.

"Oh, fudge!" cried the Lady Georgina, inelegantly, as she danced away on her errand. "I'll ask him if you say so—but what could he care?"

The girl sped downstairs, and burst into the library. Lord Darkwood was not there. The Lady Georgina, with brief hesitation, rushed to the cabinet in which she had seen the keys of the ruins. The cabinet was not locked—a mere chance, for, it was usually kept so—and the girl opened it and discovered the keys of which she was in search, and returned to Gwen whom she found equipped for their walk.

"Now, Miss Myner," she exclaimed, tossing up the great bunch of massive iron keys and catching them again dexterously, "I'll put on my hat and jacket in no time, and we'll be off."

She hurried to her own rooms, returning dressed for the intended ramble.

They set out together without delay.

They quitted the castle by the main entrance, wandered through the gardens, which were beginning to put on a show of verdure, and descended to the terrace.

"The park trees grow close to the ruins," said the Lady Georgina, "and they make the ruins twice as gloomy as they would be otherwise. I'd cut them down if I were father, and rout out the ghost. When I become marchioness—if ever I do—I'll have the ruins pulled down. The very idea of a ghost frightens me."

They passed around the angles of the new building, and entered the thick shadows around the ruins.

There were several entrances to the ruins, one only being of importance. They avoided this, halting before a little sunken iron door in a deep stone portal. The Lady Georgina tried her keys, and presently the door swung open almost noiselessly.

"I expected to be frightened at the creaking of this door," said Lord Darkwood's daughter; "but it moves as if the hinges were oiled."

"Perhaps the ghost uses this door," suggested Gwen, mischievously. "It moves as if in frequent use!"

The Lady Georgina looked over her shoulder timidly, half frightened at Gwen's suggestion, and then advanced into the ruin.

The girls rambled through the court and wandered through the rooms that opened from it. Every door was locked; but the Lady Georgina possessed the keys, and they explored all the different apartments.

"The Darkwoods of those old days must have kept armies of servants," said Gwen, thoughtfully. "It must give you strange sensations, Georgina, to be wandering like this through rooms that were tenanted centuries ago by your ancestors. In that big drawing room your foremother entertained her lovers, or welcomed her husband home from the wars. In banqueting hall brave knights revelled; in thas dim old chapel generations worshipped. And these people, who feasted and prayed, and loved and lived, were all of your blood and name."

"I care very little for ancestry," said Lady Georgina, flippantly.

"We prize most what we do not have," said Gwen, a faint cloud overshadowing her proud, sweet face. "I should like to know that I had had a long line of honourable ancestry; I should like to know that I am descended from brave men and pure women——"

The Lady Georgina stared.

"Why, I supposed," she exclaimed, "that the Myners were of good family."

Gwen started.

"So they are!" she exclaimed. "But they were not famed for courtly deeds, for brave feats, for noble lives, as were your ancestors, Georgina. I think I have born in me a love of good blood. Of course a person may be born of bad family and still be good and noble, but no one can be sensible to the pleasures and advantages of having had worthy relatives."

"You ought to have been a Charteris, Marian," said the Lady Georgina, with a smile. "You would appreciate the family far better than I!"

The girls explored the various floors and mounted to watch towers, and looked afar over the landscape, upon the park and Dark River, the village, and the distant spires of Shrewsbury, which glimmered in the dim far distance.

Then they descended to the first floor.

"We've not seen the trace of a ghost, Marian," cried the Lady Georgina, who had quite dismissed her nervousness. "It must have been exorcised long ago."

"Ghosts don't flourish in the nineteenth century," laughed Gwen. "I am in a mood for explorations, Georgina. Let us go down and look through the gloomy old dungeons where prisoners were confined in the days of war."

"Should you dare?" cried Georgina. "Do you know, Marian, Margery told me that men had died in these dungeons centuries ago? A skeleton was found in one of them within the memory of living men. It was buried in Dunholm churchyard. These must be the dungeon keys. I am not afraid, if you are not. Come."

They have already noted the entrance to the cellars and subterranean rooms, and were about to wend their way thither, when Gwen suggested that they would need a light.

"I saw a lantern in the kitchen, with a box of matches beside it," said Georgina. "Before father's time strangers were admitted to the castle on Tuesdays and Thursdays, you know, and they always explored the dungeons. The lantern was used by the servant who showed them those dark holes. There may be a little oil in it still. I'll see."

She ran to the kitchen, her heavy steps echoing and re-echoing through the lofty stone chambers. Presently she returned, bringing with her a lighted lantern.

"There was oil in it!" she exclaimed "Am I not lucky? The cellars are under the kitchen, servants' hall and offices. The dungeons are under the main castle, and are entirely separate from the cellars, with a great wall of rock and soil between. Margery told me. This is the way to the dungeons. Come Marian."

Gwen held the lantern over her head, and they passed down the wide stone staircase, finding themselves in a gloomy damp passage, from which other passages branched, and from which massive iron doors opened.

"It is very like my idea of the catacombs," said Gwen in a hushed voice. "The air is chill and damp here."

"It is like a tomb," said Georgina. "I should think the ghost would make this dark hole his especial haunt!"

They rambled through the long passages, unlocking a door now then, and peeping into some black cell, and and then hurrying on, half-scared. They turned corner after corner, losing themselves in the labyrinth of passages, and Gwen said at last—

"We must be near the farthest tower, Georgina. The lords of Darkwood had prison room enough for all their enemies, were their enemies a host, I should think. We must think of returning. I believe that I can find the way back."

A great rat skurried across the passage, brushing against Georgina's ankles. She uttered a shrill scream of terror, that rang through the vault, echoing and re-echoing."

"It's—it's the ghost!" gasped Georgina, leaning against the nearest wall.

"It was a rat—I saw it," said Gwen.

"It was a ghost!" asserted Georgina. "Oh, Heaven, what's that?"

A faint, muffled sound, that was strangely sepulchral, was heard—a sound that was like a cry of agony half-stifled in the utterance.

MANY a one who in the great crisis of life has acted the hero's part has been shamefully overcome by some little sin or some secret temptation. The sudden irritation and the stinging word carelessly spoken in the domestic circle, the chafing and trying episodes in the tedious routine of our daily work—these are the things that prove and weigh our manhood more than any other.

FIRE under water can be produced by placing a small piece of phosphorus in a conically-shaped glass filled with water, and some crystals of chlorate of potash covering the phosphorus, and then pouring through a long tube funnel a few drops of sulphuric acid down on the mixture at the bottom of the glass. Tongues of flame can be seen flashing up through the water. The intense chemical action produces sufficient heat to inflame the phosphorus under the water.

HANDYSIDE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINES.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

Those who have not heard of Handyside's Consumption Cure, should go to any place where G. Handyside meets his patients, and they will not be surprised that the number of deaths have decreased from 80,000 to 50,000 deaths per annum. It has lately been discovered to cure the most malignant cases of cancer.

HANDYSIDE'S RHEUMATIC CURE, has never failed to cure the worst form of Rheumatics or Sciatica, except in extreme old age, and to them it relieves. Anyone can bring the worst cases they know of, and they can rub their own friends; the only art required, is to go by the printed directions. In several cases of long standing, Handyside's Blood Purifier should be taken to prevent a return of the disease. 1,500 have been cured, and it has only been known to return in five cases.

HANDYSIDE'S BLOOD PURIFIER is the only cure for Fits, Indigestion, a Weak Heart, General Debility, Bronchitis, Asthma, Sleeplessness Eruptions of the Skin, Scurvy, Lowness of Spirits Costiveness, Fevers, Smallpox, and all Diseases that affect the human frame. It in the grandest female medicine ever discovered. It removes all stoppages, and by purifying the blood it gives a a brightness to the face, and tinges the complexion with all the hues of health. Every aged person who takes it, should notice what a youthful elasticity it imparts to them, it makes them quite jaunty and young.

Those who prefer to take pills should never be without Handyside's No. 1 pills, they should be in everyone's house, they operate quick, and in cases of inflammation, they may save life. No. 3 pill is the grandest pill for building up the constitution ever discovered; they contain a large amount of Handyside's Blood Purifier, and never lose their effect, but if they do not relieve the bowels every third day, No. 1 should be taken with No. 3, until No. 3 pill will do its work. Those who try them and notice the improvement in their health soon find out which pills are worth a guinea a box. They are entirely made of herbs, and a very small pill, and the boxes are large, therefore no one need be afraid of taking a few extra, and if they can be made to do their work, no pill in the world is equal to them. I deposited £1,000, and challenged all the doctors in the world united. No one accepted my challenge. Handyside's Consumption Cure, 3s 10d; Blood Purifier, 2s 6d; Health Restorer, 1s; Handyside's Pills, 1s per box; Rheumatic Cure, 1s per bottle.

Handyside's Mother Shipley's Syrup, a ready relief for bad stomach, eating and drinking what has not agreed with them; no connection with Mother Siegal's Syrup. Try both and see which is the best. It does not build the system up like Handyside's Blood Purifier, but it gives relief sooner. Price one shilling per bottle.

Beware of imitations; none are genuine that has not "Handysides, Bentinck," on the Government stamp. Many lives have been lost by unprincipled chemists recommending their own preparations for the sake of extra profit. Those who have not faith that they are getting the genuine articles should write to G. Handysides, Newcastle; it will be supplied at the regular price, carriage paid, with the following guarantee sent with each lot enclosed.

So certain am I of the marvellous effect of "Handyside's Consumption Cure," his Pills, and also his "Blood Purifier," and "Rheumatic Cure," that I hereby certify that if this medicine does not do them more good than any other medicine I agree to return the money.

Ask any chemist to give you the same guarantee, and this will put a stop to imposition.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes 7½d., tins 1s 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr. Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer." Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mania or physical decline. At Chemists.

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

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

Cricket.

☞ Secretaries of clubs will greatly oblige by sending their fixture cards to our office as early as possible.

. Secretaries of cricket clubs would greatly oblige us by despatching their reports so that they may reach our office not later than *Wednesday* morning.

BURNOPFIELD CLUB—CAPTAIN v SUB-CAPTAIN.

Owing to the very wet weather, the Co-operative Wholesale Club did not come to play as Burnopfield Flower Show, when two scratch elevens, chosen by captain and sub-captain, decided to play. The ground was very soft. Result:—

SUB-CAPTAIN.		CAPTAIN.	
G Cooper (sub-capt) b Wood	2	H O Wood b Finlay...	16
J Potts b Lamb	1	W Charlton c Purdy	1
R Dent b Lamb	9	J Scarlhorn b Finlay	0
G Purdy b Lamb	9	J Weedy c Hogarth	0
G Bell run out	0	R. Armstrong (capt)	27
W Hogarth b Lamb	8	J G Ramsay c Purdy	5
G Finlay c Wood	3	J Elringham b Purdy	6
G Robson c Wood	0	J G Allan not out	8
B Barkus b Southren	0	R Ferguson b Finlay	0
E Davison b Southren	1	G Hope b Finlay	0
N Lamb b Lamb	0	M Mason b Purdy	2
J Purdy not out	0	G Lamb c Purdy	0
Extras	0	Extras	0
Total	46	Total	67

HAMSTERLEY v WESTWOOD.

Played on the ground of the former, the latter winning easily. Score:—

HAMSTERLEY.		WESTWOOD.	
T Lee b Armstrong	4	J Urwin b J Fenwick	5
J Fenwick c Cooke b Urwin	2	M Armstrong b R Gardner	47
T Kinleyside b Armstrong	1	J Miller b Fenwick	0
R Gardner b Armstrong	0	F Davison b Kinley-side	1
S brown b Urwin	9	J Wilkinson b Kinley-side	0
G Lane c & b Urwin	0	G Lawson c and b Kinleyside	1
J Nichol c Davison b Armstrong	0	W S Cooke b R Gardner	2
R Gray run out	0	G Jewit b Gardner	0
J Davison b Urwin	0	G Jewit b Gardner	2
J Pigue b Urwin	1	J Emmerson run out	13
R Fenwick not out	0	T Jewit to be R Weston	1
Extras	6	Extras	8
Total	22	Total	77

CONSETT FELL v SHOTLEY BRIDGE 2ND.

Played at Consett, and resulted in a draw. J. Lowes batted exceedingly well for his 23 not out. Score:—

CONSETT FELL.		SHOTLEY BRIDGE.	
T Charlton c Birse b Seed	0	E Bell b R Lowes	6
W Bell b Seed	5	S Leadbitter not out	13
J Williams b Postle	3	J Shaw b Robinson	3
R Lowes b Seed	0	J Postle b Robinson	0
T Longworth b Postle	3	A Birse b Robinson	0
J Lowes not out	23	J Seed b R Lowes	3
G Lowes b Seed	6	J Lister not out	0
W Walker b Seed	6		
T D Robinson st Leadbitter	1		
A Kempster b Leadbitter	2		
G Charlton c Leadbitter b Seed	8		
Extras	6	Extras	2
Total	64	Total	27

SHOTLEY BRIDGE WEDNESDAY v QUAY-SIDE WANDERERS.

Played at Shotley Spa Grounds on Wednesday afternoon, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. Score:—

WANDERERS.		SHOTLEY BRIDGE.	
G W Jones c and b Cant	8	W Cant b Thompson	3
H Geipal c Cant	8	J Hoods out	20
J Thomas b Cant	14	G Hall c Sub	3
G H Hodgson lbw b Cant	2	R Cant b Hodgson	8
G Hall b Wilson	7	T B Wilson c Sub	0
Thompson lbw b T B Wilson	10	J W Forster c Sub	0
Connie st Cant	2	J Hodgson b Wilson	0
Sub b W Wilson	1	T H Surtees b Hall	5
Sub not out	5	W Wilson b Hall	0
Sub run out	0	A Charlton not out	1
Sub c & b Hall	0		
Extras	2	Extras	12
Total	84	Total	52

CRICKET NOTES.

[By "L.B.W."].

[Communications intended for "L.B.W." should reach this office not later than Tuesday].

A BLANK DAY.

Cricket Notes must of necessity be very brief this week, as there are absolutely no games to write upon. Owing to the abominable weather which prevailed on Saturday, cricket was practically a dead letter in the Consett district. In fact, the only fixture which I have been enabled to ascertain that came off was the one between Consett Fell and Shotley Bridge 2nd, and on account of the late start, this game had to be abandoned as a draw. The heavy downpour had completely saturated our local grounds, and several of them were under water. Good old "summer!"

THE CUP-TIE.

This state of things was the more to be regretted, as we are now very near the end of the cricket season, and several important matches have yet to be decided. Chief of these is the final of the Durham Cup, which was to have been resumed and concluded at Bishop Auckland on Saturday. Both elevens wrestled to the second of action, but of course cricket was utterly out of the question, and the men had their journey for nothing. An attempt will be made to-morrow (Saturday) to bring the game to a definite conclusion, and it is to earnestly hoped that the clerk of the weather will be in a good humour, and allow the closing scene of the cup competition to be brought off without interruption. Bishop Auckland will again be the venue, reports to the contrary notwithstanding.

A BENEFIT MATCH SPOILED.

Chester-le-Street had arranged for a visit from the powerful Wallsend eleven for Saturday, the proceeds to be set aside for the benefit of their umpire (Mr T. Harrow), who had also in several occasions officiated in the cup-ties. But Jupiter Pluvius was likewise in evidence at the ancient city, and prevented what would doubtless have been a most interesting match from taking place. However, the "citizens" have generously decided to hand over the proceeds of to-morrow's game, against Whitburn, to Mr Farrow.

MEDOMSLEY DISAPPOINTED.

Saturday last was the date fixed for the return game between Backworth and Medomsley, on the latter's ground; and, notwithstanding the watery state of the elements, plucky efforts were made the journey to Medomsley. Both teams were anxious for the game to take place, but the incessant rainfall rendered play utterly out of the question, and the match had to be reluctantly abandoned. This was certainly hard lines for the visitors, who deserved a better fate after making such a long journey.

Various other interesting games were also abandoned, owing to the beastly weather; and after this miserable apology we have left for a summer, I think that many, like myself, will welcome the coming football season with open arms. There is one great advantage the latter game possesses over the summer pastime, and that is that it is as exercise which may be indulged in in almost any kind of weather.

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DEATH FROM EXCESSIVE TIPPLING AT ESH.

On Thursday se'nnight, Mr John Graham, coroner, held an inquest at the hostelry kept by Mr Charles Morris, Esh Village, respecting the death of James Urwin, a man about 48 years of age, who died at 4·30 a.m. on the 18th inst. The evidence showed that deceased went to bed at nine p.m. on the 17th August, apparently in his usual health, but was the worse for liquor. He rose about four o'clock the following morning, and put on his trousers. The son, who was sleeping with him, thought his father had come to bed again and gone off to sleep, but when he awoke an hour later, he found him father dead. The man had been drinking heavily for some time.—A verdict was returned that death was due to asphyxia, the result of excessive drinking.

Cycling Notes.

BICYCLE HANDICAP AT LEADGATE.—On Saturday afternoon, a two miles Bicycle handicap, open to the members of the Leadgate Bicycle Club only, was run off before some 200 spectators on the newly-laid cinder track belonging the Leadgate Park Cricket and Athletic Co., Limited. A deal of interest was centred in the contest, inasmuch as the event ought to have been decided when the club held its first annual sports, to commemorate the opening of the track a fortnight ago, but owing to the unfavourable weather at night this race had to be postponed. The weather again during the early part of Saturday was of the most wretched description, rain falling incessantly till the afternoon, when the sky brightened and the sun began to shine. Mr Joseph Snaith was handicapper and judge, and Mr John Reid starter. Results (C denoting cushion, P pneumatic, and S solid tyres):—R. Donkin, S, 450 yards, 1; J. Rogerson, S, 450, 0; J. Rosemergy, S, 450, 0. Soon after the start, Rosemergy and Rogerson, while the latter was attempting to pass, came in collision with each other. Heat 2—M. Allan, C, 300, 1; T. Reed, S, 400, 2; R. Brown, C, 430, 3. Won easily. Heat 3—J. Graham, C, 400, 1; W. Black, P, scratch, 2. Won by half-a-dozen yards. Heat 4—E. Smith, C, 600, 1; J. Marlow, S, 450, 2; J. Maughan, S, 270, 3. Won by ten yards. Final heat—Black 1, Donkin 2, Allan 3, Graham 0. Won by 10 yards. The last-named was covered by the winner in 5mm. 50secs., which was a tolerably good performance considering the heavy rainfall.

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

Tanfield Lea 2nd team are in want of matches for the coming season. Apply to J. Smith, 9, George Street, Tanfield Lea.

Beamish True Blues would like to arrange matches with moderate 2nd or junior teams. Ages, from 15 to 19 years. Apply at once to F. Kay, 18, Eden Place, Beamish.

Hobson Rovers want a match, home or away, for Sept. 5th. Also require matches for the rest of September and October. Address—Jos. Maddison, 66, French Street, Hobson, Lintz Green.

W. I. WATERHOUSES JUNIOR A.F.C.

The above club held their annual meeting at their club-room, Temperance Hall, Waterhouses, on Thursday evening last. The following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—Captain, Thomas Maycock; vice-captain, William Richardson; secretary, Ralph Pearson; treasurer, John R. White. The secretary read the report of last season, which showed that the club is in a flourishing condition. The first team played 32 matches—won 15, lost 3, drawn 5, scoring 71 goals against 29. They have also won two football competitions (a cup and medals). The secretary would like to arrange games with first-class junior clubs or good senior second teams. Ages, between 16 and 19. Address—Ralph Pearson, Russell Street, Waterhouses.

RUGBY.

USHAW MOOR.—The members of this club held their general meeting on Wednesday week, and there was a large number present. The secretary's report showed the club to be in a flourishing condition, having only started last season, and finished up with a balance of over £2 after entering for the Junior Cup. For the coming season the following officials were elected:—President, Mr W. Hill; vice-presidents, Messrs W. M. Wells, E. Moulds, and J. Heckles; captain, G. W. Heckles; vice-captain, J. Wilkinson; treasurer, T. Hood; hon secretary, J. Heckles; committee, Rev Jackson, J. Hudson, and J. Harding. A number of of new members have been enrolled. Out of twenty matches arranged for last season twelve were played, eight being won, three lost, and one drawn.

Sporting Items.

GROUSE SHOOTING ON THE WEARDALE MOORS.—Mr Hildyard and party of 7 guns bagged 134½ brace on East Bollihope Moor on Tuesday week, 1304 on Pikestone on Wednesday week, and 140 on Thursday's moor on Friday, which beats the record, the biggest bag ever got on Westernhope before was 90 brace. On Friday they bagged upwards of 60 brace, the wind being north it was against them. Mr Vickers and party of 7 guns bagged 55 brace on Stanhope Moor on Thursday week. Messrs Eccles's party had good sport on Edmondbyers Moors.

QUOIT HANDICAP AT MEDOMSLEY.—On Saturday afternoon, the quoit handicap promoted by Mr R. M. Rutherford, Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, was commenced. There a good number of spectators showed the club to be in a flourishing condition, having only started last season, and finished up with a balance of over £2 after entering for the Junior Cup. For the coming season the following officials were elected:—President, Mr W. Hill; vice-presidents, Messrs W. M. Wells, E. Moulds, and J. Heckles; captain, G. W. Heckles; vice-captain, J. Wilkinson; treasurer, T. Hood; hon secretary, J. Heckles; committee, Rev Jackson, J. Hudson, and J. Harding. A number of of new members have been enrolled. Out of twenty matches arranged for last season twelve were played, eight being won, three lost, and one drawn.

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THE ROYAL HANDBELL-RINGERS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN, on SEPT. 16th.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 26th.—Before H. W. KERRIGH-WALKER (in the chair), and G. DURBELLEY, Esqrs.

DRUNKENNESS.

Fines for drunkenness and disorderly conduct were imposed on the following offenders:—*Robert Gibson, Adam Storey, William Reay, Thomas Bell, James Stewart, Thomas Burnside, William Nolan, Thomas Curran, George Bradford, Paterson Brown, Thomas Curry, James Lockey, Ralph Waddington, Thomas Curry, James Sanderson, Timothy Foggon, Robert Lyons, William Mitchell, John Biles, William Davison, John Bowman, Michael Chambers,* and *Robert Fagan.*

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

James Wilson and *Duncan McDonald*, for fighting at Waldridge, were bound over to keep the peace for three months.

For a similar offence at Eighton Banks, *Thomas Soulsby* and *John Pigford* were also bound over for the same period.

GARDEN BREAKING.

Joseph H. Brown, John Georgeson, Thos. Ridley, and *Thomas Holmes* were charged with doing damage to the garden of Thomas Crofton, market gardener, Chester-le Street, on the 20th inst.—Mr Crofton said that he was watching his garden at five o'clock in the morning, and saw the whole of the defendants come over the wall, and commence to take pears. The damage amounted to 6d each. —Georgeson was fined 5s and costs; the others 2s 6d each and costs, and ordered to defray the damage.

DAMAGE TO TURNIPS.

William Harvey was charged with damaging turnips, the property of James Hutchinson, at Urpeth, on the 11th inst.—Fined 1s, 1d damage, and costs.

BIRTLEY AGAIN.

Thomas Murphy and *John Watts* were charged with damaging a door, the property of Charles Perkins and Partners, at Birtley, on the 20th inst. Mr Fred Harle appeared for the defendants. Watts did not appear.—Margaret Finlay said that she heard defendants coming in the direction of her house. She went inside and shut the door, and they threw came up and kicked the door. They also threw stones at it. Murphy had told her many a time that he would come into her house as often as he liked. She had ordered him away from her house before.—Sergt. Hutchinson said that defendants had been misbehaving themselves at that door for over a week.—Peter Dunbar, policeman for the Birtley Iron Company, assessed the damage at 1s Birtley Iron Company, assessed the damage at 1s each.—The defence was a total denial.—Fined 1s 6d each and costs.

ROUGH WORK AT BIRTLEY.

Thomas Murphy and *John Watts* were further charged with assaulting Mary Finlay, at Birtley, on the 1st inst. Watts did not appear, and Murphy was represented by Mr Fred Harle.—Mrs Finlay said Murphy came to her house, and Mrs Finlay said Murphy came to her house, and she ordered him out. He said she could not put him out, and he would not go. She said she would go for the police, and he said, "Go on; I'll stand here and see if he can put me out." He then sat down, and said he was going to stay there. Watts came in, and she asked him to take Murphy away, but he refused. Murphy then struck her on the chest, and both of them set upon her. Murphy had been going with her daughter, who had had a child to him.—Cross-examined: She had not struck him in her hand. She had had the poker in her hand many a time.—Mr Harle: What do you mean by that?—Witness: Why, when I stir the fire up to be sure.—Mr Harle: You are sure you were not going to stir them up with the poker?—Witness: No. They stirred me up, though. (Laughter).—Catherine Finlay, daughter of complainant, corroborated.—Finlay, daughter of complainant, corroborated.—Murphy was fined 5s and costs, and Watts 10s and costs.

A ROW AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

John Layton was charged with assaulting Susan Thurkettle at Chester-le-Street, on the 19th inst. —Mrs Thurkettle said she was in her own house when defendant came in. She told him to go out, but he refused to go, and then struck at her. There had been some quarrel between her son and defendant, and prisoner had come to strike her son. She was knocked down by the blow, and her husband had pulled defendant off her.—A witness said she saw Mr Thurkettle strike at Mrs Layton, and when defendant in trying to separate them fell down defendant in trying to separate them fell down cleaning of the engine houses off her.—For the defence it was urged that complainant was the aggressor.—Fined 1s and costs.

A STRAYING HORSE.

Thomas Simpson, who did not appear, was charged with allowing his horse to stray on the highway at Sunniside, on the 11th inst.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

THE BOY AND THE PONY.

Ralph Cooper, a boy, pleaded guilty to a charge of ill-treating at pony at West Pelton, on the 12th July, by beating it with a stick.—P.C. Paul said that boy was allowed to play in a field where a number of pit ponies were running. They ill-used the ponies, and the owners wanted to put a stop to such conduct.—Fined 1s and costs.

BREWSTER SESSIONS.

The annual Brewster Sessions for the Middle Division of Chester Ward were held on Wednesday—before Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, in the chair, and George Duberley.

Supt. Harrison submitted his report, which showed the population and number of licenses in the various townships as follows:—

Township	Popula-tion, 1891	Public-houses	Beer Off	Off
Chester-le-Street	8623	19	—	2
Plawsworth	1055	2	—	—
Waldridge	2741	3	1	—
Edmondsley	4296	8	—	1
Pelton	2172	5	—	1
Urpeth	953	1	—	—
Ouston	2177	7	—	2
Harraton	4176	13	—	2
Birtley	4914	12	1	—
Lamesley				
	33067	70	7	6

Number of population to each license, 398.

Number of population to each public-house and beer-house, 429.

Eighty license-holders had been proceeded against for various offences, either under the Licensing or the Food and Drugs Act. He opposed the renewal of the license to Edward Kennedy, Bird Inn, West Pelton, on the ground that he had been convicted, fined 40s, and had his license endorsed for permitting drunkenness there. Further that Kennedy's other business engagements took him so much away from home that he had not proper control over the house.—Mr Joel, barrister, Newcastle, instructed by Mr Turnbull, appeared for Kennedy, and stated that an appeal had been entered against the decision, and could not be heard until October. In the face of these costly proceedings and Mr Kennedy's unassailable character, it would be unfair to take away the license.—The Bench renewed the license; the Chairman remarking that the case would come up for consideration next year.

The whole of the licenses were then renewed, those on the "black list" being cautioned as to their future conduct. There were no new applications.

THE ROYAL HANDBELL-RINGERS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN, on SEPT. 16th.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[By "CASTLESIDITE."]

The ordinary meeting of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board was held in the Board Room, on Monday week, the following members being present: Messrs Lyons, Walton, Pattinson and Walker.

Cheques were signed for £33 4s 7d, leaving a balance in hand of £55 5s 11d. The school accepts her resignation. Mrs Golightly has kindly consented to continue at her post until the examination in October. The New Act, which comes into operation on September 1st, was discussed at some length, and finally adopted. The amount received for school fees in the year 1890 was £139 0s 9d. The average attendance in the same year was 194. The average attendance in the same year was 194. Several scales or tables of charges were submitted for the Board's consideration. It was finally decided to levy a uniform charge of one penny per child, as weekly payment, on all children above three and under fifteen years of age, attending school. It was also decided to issue a circular for the purpose of asking the sympathy and co-operation of the parents, and so secure better attendance, as the free grants depends on the attendance.

The adoption of free or assisted education in the Healeyfield and Rowley School is to be marked by the teachers and children having holiday on Monday.

Perhaps it would be well if the managers of the above school would call a public meeting and lay the matter before the parents, and so get their sympathy and co operation.

The footpath between Rowley Station and the village is making rapid progress under the direction of Mr Dixon (surveyor) and construction of Mr G. Raine, roadman.

I learn that Alderman U. Ritson, J.P., has very generously offered to place four seats between Rowley and Castleside. I here and now take the liberty, on behalf of the public, to thank Mr Ritson for this very generous and timely gift, and ask Mr T. J. Muse to convey the same to Mr Ritson, as he may not find time to read this column.

The sewerage scheme is also making rapid strides under the direction of Mr G. Robson, contractor, and the superintendence of Mr Simpson, assistant surveyor.

When the footpath and sewerage scheme are completed, the next and only felt want is the lighting of the village during the long dark nights in winter. After a little breathing soon, the spirit and enterprise of the villagers will rise to the occasion, and strike a light. But I have forgot to mention that we want a few trees planted on the highside, and in our garden plots that abut the wayside. Only I here be allowed to compliment Mr T. Hodgson, of Maud Villa, for the improvements effected in this way, as he has greatly improved the appearance of his property, and the health of his tenants.

A friend has just been reminding me, or rather calling my attention to the unsightly heaps of refuse which the occupiers of Chapel Terrace have to look out upon, and which meets the gaze of the passer-by. He wishes me to call the attention of the parties responsible for the removal of the same. If my friend will exercise a little patience, we will get things put right by-and-bye.

A largely-attended committee meeting of the Floral and Horticultural Society was held in the Infant Class-room, Board Schools, on Saturday night last, under the presidency of Mr T. J. Muse, for the purpose of completing the arrangements for the second show, which is to be held on Sept. 5th, and which promises to be a success if the committee could only arrange with Captain Newton, or the Willington "weather prophet" for a fine day. The subscription list is well up, and several handsome prizes have been given and promised, and will be on view next week in Mr Muse's place of business. But the latest prize offered, and one for which there will be most entries and the keenest competition, is the one given by an old bachelor, who offers five shillings for "the neatest costume, figure, and charming look" that shall attend the ball at night. Surely the venture will end his bachelordom. I suppose there will be a large attendance of lynx-eyed young fellows too.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By "ANNFIELDITE."]

THE RECENT ACCIDENT.

I am pleased to state that the boy Brown, of Annfield Plain, who, as reported last week, met with a severe accident through a runaway cow, is now recovering from the severe injuries he received, and attention will soon be out of all danger; but he has had a narrow escape for his life, and will undoubtedly remember his journey with that cow as long as he lives.

HARSH WEATHER.

The weather has again been very severe during the past week, especially for farmers. On Tuesday night a terrific wind-storm passed over this district, doing much damage to property in many parts. Branches were broken off trees and strewn across the roadway, and the garden produce has suffered very much the same fate. The oats and barley have also been damaged considerably, many fields of them being laid almost as flat as the ground. It has indeed been a very trying time for farmers.

TRADE.

The trade in the district is not in a very brisk state. Orders come only very slowly to hand, but as yet the colliers have had any short days' stocking of coals in many instances at the collieries. At some, though, there seems to be a little pushed, and one is led to hope that others are holding out for higher prices? Whatever may be the cause, the fact remains that trade is not in the brightest condition.

BLESSED IS THE PEACEMAKER.

We have just had a change of policemen. P.C. Phillipson has left Annfield Plain for Jarrow, and one of the Jarrow constables is stationed here. To all appearance he seems to be a man determined to do his duty, and really there is much need for it, as there appears to be a large amount of drunkenness and rioting going on.

OPEN-AIR SERVICE.

The united open-air service was held last Friday night, in the Front Street, Annfield Plain, conducted by Mr Philip Reay, when earnest gospel and temperance addresses were delivered to a large audience by Messrs J. McPherson, Annfield Plain; A. Forster, Annfield Plain; and Jos. Johnson, West Kyo. Mr P. Reay, in a closing address, touched upon many of the social questions of life, and urged upon all to seek in every way possible to embrace all the privileges now within their reach.

LOCAL BOARD.

It seems pretty well evident now, that Stanley and district is within measurable distance of having a Local Board, which will be a great benefit. And why should the people in this district hold back from trying to secure those things that will tend to improve the place in many respects? This could be easily done if all were of one mind.

BUILDING.

I hear a great cry out around this neighbourhood for houses. They are simply unobtainable for love or money, and what is worse, no land is available for the erection of dwellings. There is plenty of land, but it is in the hands of three or four persons, who will not sell it for any purpose. It certainly would be a great boon if they would cut up a few hundreds of building sites for sale at a fairly reasonable price.

A SLOW MARKET.

The market value of anything can easily be obtained by putting it up to competition; but in most cases supply and demand rules the market value. In some communities there appears to be little demand, for an eligible son of Adam said he had been forced to advertise for a wife, and in a short time he had no less than 25 applications for the situation, and out of the lot he was able to obtain a fair maiden. The bargain was struck, and all is well.

THE LATE MISS J. A. DOWN.

A service was conducted in the United Methodist Free Church, Catchgate, on Sunday evening week, when the death of Miss Jane Ann Down was improved by the Rev A. Bromley, circuit minister, who selected as the basis of his remarks the first psalm, wherein is described in graphic and unmistakable language the two classes of individuals that people this earth of ours, namely, the ungodly and the godly, who are as the chaff which the wind driveth away, or as trees planted by river of water that bringeth forth their fruit in their season, and whatsoever they put forth shall come to maturity as evidenced in the life and character of this dear saint, whose life on earth has been a brief but painful one. For a number of months prior to her death it became manifest that consumption had fast claiming her for its victim, and after days of suffering and nights of pain, she breathed her last on the 4th of July, 1891.

"The chamber where the good man meets his fate,
Is privileged beyond the common walks of virtuous life,
Quite on the verge of heaven."

Having been born within the precincts of a godly home, surrounded by Christian influences, she honoured her parents with her devotion and love; and the seed of the kingdom which had been implanted in early childhood took root in the virgin soil, and at the age of 12 years she yielded her heart to the Saviour, and realised the blessedness of God's free gift—the pardon of her sins. There and then she identified herself with the people of God, consisting mostly of the above church unitil her death. The class meeting was a favourite means of grace with her, and which she regularly attended when strong enough to do so. Having confessed her sins forgiven, she felt it her duty to speak for the Master, which she frequently did at love-feasts and meetings of a similar kind. But, however, in the contemplation of her life, here she had no abiding city. Death, invidious death, respects no age, no rank, no character, but levels his darts alike to all. Friends cannot repel, nor tortes prevent his approach. The deceased was nipped in the bud of life; cut off as the opening of the flower. Death has put an end to all her suffering and sorrow. Although she is deprived of all the seasons and means of grace in which she once found unspeakable satisfaction; yet she has gained much. Though deprived of the streams, she drinks at the fountain-head of blessedness, and with a capacity enlarged beyond the utmost stretch of any human mind this side the grave, is full of glory and of God.

CRICKET.

TO-MORROW'S FIXTURES (SATURDAY, AUG. 29TH).

Medomsley 2nd *v* Chester-le-Street 2nd, at Medomsley.
Consett Fell *v* Leadgate 2nd, at Blanchland Flower Show.
Consett Y.M.O.A. *v* West Pelton Violets, at Consett.
Shotley Bridge 2nd *v* Burnopfield 2nd, at Shotley Bridge.
West Stanley 1st *v* Hetton Lyons, at West Stanley.
Consett Fell 2nd *v* Brighton (Newcastle), at Consett.
Bernhope *v* Leadhate 1st, at Leadgate.
The Lizzie (Annfield Plain) *v* South Mohr, at Annfield Plain.
Waldridge Fell Lilies 1st *v* Lumley Thicks, at Lumley Thicks.
Waldridge Fell Lilies 2nd *v* East Stanley, at Waldridge Fell.

CUP-TIE FINAL.—(Continued).

Consett and District *v* Ushaw Moor, at Bishop Auckland.

MEDOMSLEY 2ND *v* CHESTER-LE-STREET 2ND.—This match will take place at Medomsley to-morrow (Saturday). The home team will be:—W. Hunter (captain), J. Hunter, J. Ross, T. Bramley, W. Baron, T. Walton, Geo. Moon, M. Murphy, Jas. Hunter, P. Murphy, and W. G. Thompson.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Mr William Hardy's (Allendale Cottages), St. Bernard pup, which took first prize at the Beaufort Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Show, held at Allendale, last week, is out of Mr Storey's (Annfield Plain), "Polly Pearl" and not "Marchioness of Bute," as stated in our report last week.

BYER MOOR.

PIGEON SWEEP.—Subjoined is the result of the pigeon sweep from the Plough Inn, Mountsett, to Byer Moor Colliery:—1, Mowbray Massey or Dix, 1m; Mr. Turnbull's Out You Come, 2nd; R. Bruce's True Blue, 3rd. The timekeepers were Messrs J. Bell and J. Davison, of Byer Moor Colliery.

SPENNYMOOR.

GOOD TEMPLARY IN SOUTH DURHAM.—The quarterly session of the South Durham District Lodge I.O.G.T. was held on Monday, in the St. Andrew's Mission Hall, Spennymoor, presided over by Mr J. Elliott Dixon, D.C.T. (Byer Law), who was supported by the following officers. There was a large attendance of representatives and members from the different parts of the district. The membership was reported as 3,709. The finances were reported to be in a very satisfactory condition. Arrangements were made for the re-opening of several lodges, and also for a visit from Mr John Wrathall, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England. During the session, 21 new members were initiated into the district degree. The District Lodge adjourned for luncheon at 12 20 p.m., and reassembled at 1 15 p.m. Immediately on re-assembling, Mr James J. Woods, P.D.C.T. (Hartlepool), presented the report of the Executive Council. During the evening, several addresses were delivered relative to the action taken in various parts of the district in opposing the granting of licenses at the Brewster Sessions. It was agreed to hold the next session of the District Lodge at Willington, in November. In the evening a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr J. E. Dixon.

STANLEY.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.—The quarterly council of the above Sunday-school Union was held in the Craghead Primitive Methodist Chapel on Saturday afternoon. The following schools were represented:—Stanley, West Pelton, Annfield Plain, Oxhill, Burnhope, Craghead, and Greenplain, Oxhill, Burnhope, Craghead, and Greencroft. After the different officials had been elected, the secretary's report was read, which showed the condition of the schools as follows:—Number of teachers on the books 177, being a decrease of 5; average attendance, 111; members of the church, 165; number of scholars on the books, 1,215, being an increase of 25; average attendance, 822; scholars above 14 years of age, 260. After tea, a gospel temperance meeting was held, when solos and recitations were rendered by the Craghead friends, also an address by Mr Archer. Mr L. Reay, Stanley, ably occupied the chair. Votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

THE ROYAL HANDBELL-RINGERS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN, on SEPT. 16th.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

THE FREE EDUCATION QUESTION.

On Wednesday afternoon, a special meeting of this Board was held in the Board-room of the Benfieldside Edge Road Schools—Mr W. Telford (chairman) presiding. Present: Revs G. H. Ross-Lewin, R. W. Jenkins, Father J. Foran, Messrs H. Marse, E. Sloane, W. Ramsay, and the clerk (Mr R. G. Barclay).

The CHAIRMAN said they were met together to consider a very important subject. They were to discuss a very important subject. They were to decide whether they should accept the fee-grant offered by the Government or not. They had to say whether the schools should be free, or had they to charge a small fee. For the benefit of all present, the clerk would read a circular he had received anent the matter.

The Clerk read the circular from the Educational Department, and the various questions that had to be answered.

A copy of a statement was presented to each member, prepared by the head-master, Mr P. Tears, for the purpose of helping them to discuss the attendance and fee questions. After giving several tables of figures, Mr Tears went on to say:—I would realise the schools to be free entirely, there are good reasons for free upper rather than lower standards, common usage and preferences notwithstanding:—

1—Free upper standards encourage a longer stay at school of elder children, and so increase numbers and average attendance.

2—Free upper standards would stimulate regularity there, in the hope of reaping early benefit in upper standards.

3—Lower standards more steady and less fluctuating in numbers and amounts of fees. Upper standards decline in numbers and fees after examinations.

A family or second child in lower standards usually means a small family and small family expenses. One or two in upper standards on the contrary usually indicate others following—large family, large family expenses.

5—Payments in upper standards will deprive many from reaping any benefit from the recent Education Act.

The reasons in favour of an attendance fee over all others are cogent and unassailable:—

1—It would relieve, if not release, the Board from unpleasant uncertainties.

2—If not approved by the Education Department, some alternative scheme could be tried afterwards.

3—It would be a most effective check upon children over age, now the most irregular, and beyond control of the Board.

4—It would be an unfailing corrective, if not preventive, to truanting. Truants would have to report absences to parents whenever they occurred.

5—This plan would free three-quarters, or more, of the children immediately and without any addition to rates or loss of income to schools. If all take advantage of privilege (by exemplary attendance) still no loss to school income or addition to rates, because of increased attendance and consequent increased grants. If fees go down grants go up.

6—It throws the burden of expenses upon the right shoulders—viz., those who by irregularity lower efficiency, reduce average, and lessen grants.

7—Leaves it optional with parents themselves of being free by good attendance, or of continuing to pay bad attendance.

It would be a great and constant boon to careful and considerate parents, fortunately the great majority who never cause trouble, but at the same time a curb and flagellation to the small minority utterly indifferent to the wishes or the work of the Board.

9—None can find fault with the plan except those who do not mean to send their children regularly, usually the most regardless and least deserving of consideration.

10—It would reduce the work of the Attendance Committee effectually, if not extinguish it entirely.

Properly certified illness and exceptional severe weather would always be good sufficient reasons for absence. Considerable indulgence even might be allowed, and could be afforded under this scheme.

The CHAIRMAN: If we accept the fee-grant, will all the other schools do the same thing?

The CHAIRMAN thought so. It is for us to say what we will do. Let us have a motion.

The CHAIRMAN (after a short pause and none of the other members attempting to speak), said, "Come, gentlemen, let us do something. I am waiting for a motion." If no one will move one, I will move that this Board accept the fee-grant offered by the Government.

Mr JENKINS: I will second the motion.

This was put to the meeting, and unanimously carried.

The CHAIRMAN: The next question is to say whether we make the schools free.

Mr SLOANE: Before we do anything of the kind, I would like to know what the average attendance has been in past years.

The Clerk: I have prepared a statement, which might give some information to the Board.

The CHAIRMAN: You might let us have it.

The Clerk then read the following statement showing the effect of freeing the schools, taking the year 1890 as a basis:—Average attendance—Boys, 190; girls, 183; infants, 98; Derwent Street School, 109; total, 568. Grant 1890—Boys, £175 15s; girls, £160 2s 6d; infants, £45 3s; Derwent Street School, £93 19s; total, £474 11s; total, 57s 6d. Pence, 1890—Boys, £440 19s 6d; infants, 10s 6d; Derwent Street School, £49 7s 6d; infants, 7s 1d; Derwent Street School, £24 7s 6d; total, £23 5s 1d. Pence per child—Boys, 15s 3d; girls, 15s 6d; infants, 7s 1d; Derwent Street School, 8s 7d; total, £2 5s 1d. Fee grant at 10s per head—Boys, £95; girls, £91 10s; infants, £43; Derwent Street School, £54 10s; total, £284.

	£ s. d.
Present grant	440 19 6
Fee grant	284 0 0
Total	£724 19 6
Deficit	72 12 11

The total annual grant that may be expected taking the year 1890 as a basis. Query: Do the teachers and attendance officer expect an increase of ten per cent. in attendance if the schools are entirely free, taking into account children from three to five that now don't attend, and children in upper standards who would stay longer at school? If so, the grant would increase £72 10s, showing a nett deficiency of 2s 11d to be made good by the ratepayers.

The CHAIRMAN: You will see that the whole thing is based upon the attendance, and we will have to see that the children attend regularly.

Mr SLOANE: It will be our duty to see that the children are at school.

The Clerk: The whole thing rests with the attendance.

Mr CARSS: I might as well tell you that this is a thing that is being done without the consent of the ratepayers. If the thing has to be done by the ratepayers say so, and then it is for the Board to consider the same, and to take effect.

Mr SLOANE: Do you think so?

Mr CARSS: I do.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out the fact that if they got their average attendance up to 90 per cent., and he failed to see why they could not do it, the ratepayers would not be called upon to make up any deficiency whatever.

Mr SLOANE: What is the average attendance in this school?

Mr CARSS: You have already heard what the attendance is from the statement read by the Clerk.

The CHAIRMAN: You will all have read the statement prepared by the head-master. What do you think of it?

Mr ROSS-LEWIN said that according to the statement from Mr Tears, it plainly showed that the attendance was getting worse, and if it went on there would very soon be no children at school.

Mr CARSS: We want the gross number of children on the books, and then we will get the average attendance.

The Clerk stated that the Attendance Officer reported for the month of July, there were 703 on the books, which gave an average attendance of 0·55. If that was the case they could get a fair grant. The attendance for January showed that there were 139 children absent.

The CHAIRMAN: If we can get an average attendance of 90 per cent there will be no loss whatever.

Mr SLOANE: There should be no difficulty in doing that, seeing the number of scholars we have got.

Mr ROSS-LEWIN said that with regard to free education in Scotland, they found that the lower the fees were, the worse was the attendance.

Mr CARSS: That is not the question. We have nothing whatever to do with what they are doing in Scotland.

Mr SLOANE said that the thing should be done without one penny addition being made to the rates. He could not see why it should not be done.

The CHAIRMAN, What do you think of the plan laid down by the head-master to charge every child 3d who failed to make a full week's attendance.

Mr CARSS did not think that such a suggestion would meet with the approval of the Government. It was no system at all. The object of the master was to offer a premium to the parents.

Mr FORAN: I understand that the Consett British School are going to be made free.

Mr CARSS stated that the Attendance Officer was the servant of the Attendance Committee, and through the negligence of that committee they had lost to the ratepayer; the sum of £400, which was at the rate of 1d in the £.

The Clerk said the Attendance Committee had done nothing of the kind. It was not correct what Mr Carss had uttered, inasmuch as he had not brought forth any facts to prove what he had uttered.

The CHAIRMAN: Coms gentlemen, let us get to business.

Mr SLOANE said he was going to remark that we were good for nothing if we cannot force the attendance.

The Clerk (in answer to a member): We pay all the costs in connection with magisterial prosecutions.

The CHAIRMAN: Is the schools to be made free, or a fee has to be charged.

Mr ROSS-LEWIN was above to read an extract from the circular issued by the National Society, when

Mr CARSS (interrupting): We don't want to hear another man's matter on the subject. We have got quite sufficient.

Mr SLOANE said he would like very well to see the schools made free, but at the same time I don't want the rates to be increased.

After further discussion, Mr RAMSAY asked if it would not be better to hear what the head-master had to say on the matter.

At this junction Mr Carss was busily preparing to go home, when

Mr SLOANE said to him: Don't go away. Stop and help us.

Mr CARSS: I am not going to sit here to be laughed. I have got it all on my finger-ends.

The Clerk said if they made the infants free, and charged a fee of 1d on the upper standards, it would bring in £300.

Mr CARSS: You will see now what we have to pay.

Mr ROSS-LEWIN: Don't you think we ought to consult the head-master on the matter, seeing that he has prepared such an elaborate statement.

Mr JENKINS: I think we should have the two head-teachers present.

Mr CARSS: Before I leave I will tell you the whole thing is as simple as can be to anyone that has the keynote of wisdom.

After Mr Carss had left the room,

Mr SLOANE said they could hear what the head-teacher had to say on the subject. He could not force anything.

The CHAIRMAN: I am quite agreeable to hear what the head-master on the matter.

Mr JENKINS: I think it will be better to hear what he has to say.

The Clerk left the room to inform Mr Teare to attend.

In the meantime, the CHAIRMAN said: I will move that the schools be free. If we only do our duty the ratepayers will not be a penny out of pocket by it.

Father FORAN: If we don't attempt some new machinery with regard to the attendance the school will go down. If we make the school free does the present attendance suit it?

The CHAIRMAN: I think it will.

The Clerk stated that as they were situated at present he did not think the rate would be any less than 7d in the £ for the half-year. It was once 6d.

Mr SLOANE: Don't mention it please, I don't want to be frightened.

The CHAIRMAN: I will propose that the infants, including Derwent Street School, be made free, and that the senior scholars be charged 1d per week.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, then, there are two motions before the meeting, and neither of them has received a seconder.

Mr JENKINS: Don't you think it would be better to see what the other schools are going to do in the matter? They were extremely thankful to Messrs Annandale and Sons for the help they had given in voluntary schools for the help they had given in the shape of education in the past. He did not think it would be right to undersell these schools now in this matter.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't think what we intend doing will affect the Shotley Grove School in the least.

The Clerk stated that if the Consett British Schools were going to be made free, they had really struck the key-note.

The CHAIRMAN: I have been told that 100 children are going out of our district to the schools at Consett.

Mr SLOANE: You are quite low enough when you give that number. There are far more than 100 children going to the schools at Consett.

The Clerk: I have counted far more than that number.

The CHAIRMAN: What has to be done?

The Clerk stated that he believed Medomsley School Board had done something in the matter.

Mr JENKINS: I have it here in black and white that it was unanimously agreed to accept the proposal of the Government with regard to the fee-grant. It was resolved that the infants and Standard I. should be free, whilst the scholars in Standard II., III., and IV. should be charged 1d per week, and Standards V., VI., and VII. a fee of 2d per week. 1st, 1891.

Mr SLOANE: I don't think it will be a hardship for the parents to pay the small sum of 1d per week for their children in the senior classes.

The CHAIRMAN: For my part I prefer Mr Foran's motion.

Mr SLOANE: I don't want to put another penny on the rates if I can help it. I try the thing I will second Mr Foran's motion.

Mr Teare was called into the room, and the CHAIRMAN informed him what the Board intended doing in the matter.

Mr TEARE said it would take as much time to collect 1d per week from each child as it was doing collect 1d per week from each child as it was doing to collect the present fees. He was under the impression that it would drop through. He suggested that they should make a double fee on half-holidays, and make the rest free. He thought if the school, and make the rest free. He thought if they should keep the infants separate, and by so they should keep gain 2s 6d per head.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't think we will gain anything by so doing.

Mr TEARE said it was simple enough to be seen that if they kept the infants separate they would gain by so doing. The Newcastle School Board had adopted that principle, and he thought they had adopted that principle, and he thought they would treat the Infant School separately. They would treat the Infant School separately. They had a deficiency to make up of £72, and his idea was to get all they could to make up that deficiency, and free the ratepayers. They would all have read his statements, and his idea with regard to a fee was to help the attendance.

Mr SLOANE: I quite agree with Mr Teare I don't think it is better if you do so.

Mr TEARE: It will be better if you do so.

Mr CARSS: Can you, Mr Teare, suggest a remedy which will enable us to have a better attendance?

THE ROYAL HANDBELL-RINGERS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN, on SEPT. 16th.

Mr TEARE: The only suggestion that I can make now is that the attendance sheets, prepared by the teachers, should be dealt with systematically, and not in a slip-shod way.

The CHAIRMAN: The way the thing has been done in the past has been a great mistake.

Mr SLOANE: They have not been dealt with rightly.

The CHAIRMAN: Let me put Mr Foran's motion, and then we can discuss the attendance question.

The motion was carried nem.con.

The CHAIRMAN: What we have to consider now is how to force a regular attendance of the children. Have you, Mr Teare, any suggestion to make?

Mr SLOANE: The attendance in the past has been very bad, and we want a remedy.

Mr Teare stated that if the attendance sheets of each class were laid before them, they could go carefully through the same, and deal with the irregular children.

The Clerk said in the past the attendance sheets had been laid before the members, and the worst cases picked out and dealt with. They had also the "Book of Proceedings" before them repeatedly.

Mr SLOANE said that the members did not pay sufficient attention to the attendance sheet.

The CHAIRMAN: What new system can we adopt?

Mr Teare: I have nothing more to say on the matter apart from what is in my statement.

Mr SLOANE said he could point out a case in the absence book which was never referred to at the last meeting. Less about discussed.

Mr Teare said he often noticed that the Medical Officer's report for the district and their Attendance Officer's report, showed that the prevalence of illness did not substantiate one another.

The CHAIRMAN: I have noticed the same thing.

Mr TEARE: The thing that has caused the school was the children staying off half-days now and then, and not fortnights together.

The Clerk: These are cases which the magistrates will not deal with.

The CHAIRMAN: There is nothing left for us to do but to use the force that we have got, and do out duty.

Mr SLOANE: Let us do our duty in the first place.

The subject then dropped.

The CHAIRMAN said the Clerk had suggested to him to say what fees should the teachers collect next Monday?

Mr ROSS-LEWIN: You cannot collect the new fee till the 1st September.

Mr SLOANE: Let the children have a holiday that day.

After further discussion, it was decided that the proposed changes should not come into force until the 1st of October, instead of the 1st of September.

COLLECTING THE FEES.

Mr ROSS-LEWIN: How would it do to collect the fees quarterly instead of weekly.

The CHAIRMAN: I am afraid it would not work.

Mr SLOANE said 'that 1d per week was more easily got than 1s 6d per quarter.

The subject dropped, and this being all the business, the meeting terminated.

LANCHESTER AND CONSETT BREWSTES SESSIONS.

These Sessions were held yesterday (Thursday) at Lanchester. All the fresh applications for full licenses were refused, but the requests for "off" wine and spirit licenses were granted. The license of the Freemasons' Arms Hotel, Consett, was renewed, as also the rest of the licenses throughout the division. The proceedings were of a lively and interesting character, and business was not terminated till late in the evening. A full report will be published in next week's *Guardian*.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CONSETT.—Front Street, 18th inst., the wife of Thos. Lamb, of a daughter.

CONSETT.—15th inst., the wife of Fred. Jeffrey, of a son.

LEADGATE.—Quarry Row, 14th inst., the wife of Wm. Attle, of a son.

ESH COLLIERY.—19th inst., the wife of Wm. Attle, of twins—a son and daughter.

GYMEA, Australia.—14th June, the wife of William Storey, of twin daughters.

MARRIAGES.

CONSETT.—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 24th inst., by Rev. J. Elliott, Thomas Sisterson to Mary Ann Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr John Brown, Byer Moor Colliery.

BLACKHILL.—St. Aidan's, 22nd inst., by license, Frederick W. Brodie, son of Mr A. Brodie, accountant, Consett, to Margaret Wilson, daughter of Mr John Wilson, butcher, Blackfine. 438g

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—Wesleyan Chapel, 27th inst., by Rev F. B. Record, Richard Thomas Smith Cornish, to Mary (Polly), eldest daughter of Mr J. Humble, newsagent, Annfield Plain.

LANCHESTER.—Wesleyan Chapel, 26th inst., by Rev J. H. Taylor, Thomas Sadler, of Newcastle (formerly of Lanchester), to Isabella Elliott, of South Moor.

STANHOPE.—Parish Church, 21st inst., by the Bishop of Richmond, J. J. Harding, of Trindon, to C. Durry, of Spennymoor, as cook at Stanhope Rectory.

Primitive Methodist Chapel, 22nd inst., William Barkass, of Crawleside, Stanhope, to Mary Lowes, of Allendale.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—9, Palmerston Terrace, 26th inst., aged 62, Sarah Hutchinson, to be interred at Benfieldside to-day (Friday) at Three o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation.

LEADGATE.—North Terrace, 24th inst., aged 62, William Kerr.

BURNOPFIELD.—Rusty Bank, 19th inst., aged 1 year and 9 months, Matilda, second daughter of Wm. Iley.

24th inst., aged 14 months, Jane Cheeseman, second daughter of Robert Dent.

FROSTERLEY.—22nd inst., aged 86, John Holroyd.

CHESTER-LE-STREET — 24th inst., aged 81, Mary Swalwell.—26th inst., aged 35, Elizabeth, wife of John Cook.

SACRISTON.—Killed, 26th inst., aged 19, Richard, youngest son of Thomas and Ann Littleton, formerly of Westwood.

WHICKHAM.—West Street, 26th inst., aged 80, Margt. Ann, widow of the late George Wardle.

WINLATON.—26th inst., aged 73, Edward, husband of Mary Ann Wilkinson.

BYRON—Emmaville, 22nd inst., aged 16 years, Edward, son of Edward Robert Gray.

BLAYDON.—Cloche House, 21st inst., aged 59, Mary, daughter of the late William and Mary Douglass.

GATESHEAD.—Ellison Square, 19th inst., aged 65, John Coates, late of Swalwell.

BACKWORTH.—At the residence of his grandson, V. Backworth-Ellison, aged 85, John Handy, much respected. Interment at Dipton, on Saturday, at 2·30 p.m. Friends, please accept this intimation. 402g

In affectionate remembrance of our dear son, George Henry Graham, who died at Bullbeck, August 29th, 1890.

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