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☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK, SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

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Contracts.

TO JOINERS, PAINTERS, &c.

WANTED, TENDERS for the ALTERATION, PAINTING, and CLEANING of the P.M. Chapel, Leadgate.

Plan and Specifications to be seen, and any other information to be had, by applying to the Secretary of the Trustees (Mr M. D. Greener, Watling Street), Leadgate, by whom Tenders will be received up to Thursday, Dec. 17th, 1891. 110h

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, Limited, invite TENDERS for their NEW BUSINESS PREMISES and MANAGER'S HOUSE at Medomsley.

Plans and Specification may be seen at my Office, on and after Tuesday, 8th inst., and Tenders on the Form supplied, and endorsed "Business Premises, &c., will be received by the undersigned, up to One p.m., on Saturday, 19th inst.

Quantities will be supplied on payment of a deposit of Two Guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender.

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

J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE, A.R.I.B.A.,
Architect,
Blackhill, 2nd Dec., 1891. 105h

LANCHESTER UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

MEDOMSLEY SEWERAGE.

TENDERS are invited by the above Authority for the CONSTRUCTION of about 1,700 YDS. of 12in. and 9in. PIPE SEWERS, and the Preparation of 5 Acres of Land for Irrigation purposes.

Plans and Specification may be seen, and further particulars obtained, on application to Mr J. E. PARKER, A.M.I.C.E., Union Office, Lanchester, after the 15th inst.

A deposit of 10s for Quantities must be made by intending Contractors, which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Medomsley Sewerage," must be delivered to the undersigned, not later than 10 a.m., on Thursday, Dec. 24th, 1891.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

WM. H. RITSON, Clerk to the Authority.
Lanchester, Dec. 10th, 1891. 203h

Lost.

LOST, One CHEVIOT EWE; old tar mark W.T. on side. Finder rewarded.—THOMAS MORPETH, 1, Front Street, Consett. 164h

LOST, on Sunday, 29th Nov., between South Moor and South Moor New Houses, a Silver LEVER WATCH.—Any Person returning the same to 38, Poplar Street, South Moor, will be rewarded.

Found.

FOUND, a FOX TERRIER, tan ears, patch on right eye. If not claimed in three days will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply, Mr. JOHN PICKERING, 5, Fines Cottages, Medomsley. 148h

Wanted.

WANTED, a Single or Double HIND.—Apply to Mr W. REED, Knitsley, Consett. 194h

AN Active Morning GIRL WANTED immediately.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the Dressmaking.—A. LIDDLE, 11, Benfieldside Road.

WANTED, Young MAN to Board and Lodge.—Apply, 8, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 166h

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, not under 18, must have good references.—Apply to *Guardian* Office, Consett. 152h

WANTED, in Blackhill or Consett, BOOKS to KEEP, or other similar work.—Apply, *Guardian* Office. 186h

WANTED, at once, a Respectable GIRL as General Servant.—Apply at The Burton House, Burnopfield. 201h

WANTED, a Sharp Active YOUTH to deliver Milk.—Apply to Mr THOMPSON, at West Stanley Co-operative Society Farm. 188h

WANTED, at once, an Experienced KNITTER for the Lamb Machine.—Apply, C. F. and L. COOKE, Consett. 191h

PRICE WANTED for CEMENTING YARD.—Apply, J. T. CATTLE, Vienna House, Catchgate. 189h

CLUB AGENTS WANTED, to form Clubs for Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Silver-Plated Goods, Opera Glasses, Musical Instruments, &c., &c. Members pay 1s. per week. Terms, Catalogues, &c., of KENDAL & DENT, 106, Cheapside, London. Best value in the trade. Great success. Mention paper.

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE.—WANTED, SERVANTS able to Milk, Bake, Wash, and do General Work.—Apply at SERVANTS' REGISTRY, 13, Front Street, Consett. 86d

REQUIRED, FEMALE DOMESTIC SERVANTS from 17 to 35 years, obtain FREE PASSAGES by steamer to QUEENSLAND where they receive good wages. Only payments £1 for ship kit and fare to depot in London. On landing, EMIGRANTS received into the Government Depot free. Approved persons paying full fare receive Land Order value £20.—Apply, Local Agent, ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, Durham. 37h

To Let.

TO LET, or SELL, CARRIBEES FARM, near Consett, from next May Term.—Offers will be received up to 1st January, 1892, by H. OLIVER, Hurbuck Farm, Consett. 198h

SHEEPWALKS HOUSE and GARDEN TO BE LET.—Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 205h

TO BE LET, and entered upon on the 13th of May, 1892, PRIESTFIELD FARM, situated near Lintz Colliery, containing about 76 Acres, more or less, partly Grass and partly Arable Land. Mr Andrew Dixon, the Tenant, will show the Farm, and W. Charlton, Medomsley, will give particulars of cultivation, and terms of Letting.—Mr LISHMAN, of Witton-le-Wear, will receive proposals up to and on the 16th December, 1891, in which each applicant is requested to state his conditions. 159h

TO BE LET, and entered upon at May Day next, "OLD BURDON FARM," in the Parish of Bishopwearmouth, County of Durham, and situate about a Mile from Seaton Station, N.E. Railway, containing 224 Acres, of which 92 are in Grass, and at present in the occupation of Mr JOHN SANDERSON, who will show the farm and plan. — Further particulars may be had from Messrs T. and R. ARMSTRONG, 14, Hawthorn Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who will receive offers up to Thursday, the 24th December.

To Let.

TO BE LET, and entered upon at May Day next, WOODSIDE FARM, adjoining Leamside Station, in the County of Durham, occupied by Mr WM. BARBER, containing 176 Acres, 2 Roods, 38 Perches, of which 136 Acres are in Grass.—Mr WM. BARBER will show the Farm, and any further particulars may be obtained on application to Messrs T. and R. ARMSTRONG, Land Agents, 14, Hawthorn Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who will receive offers up to 24th December. 149h

TO BE LET, together or separately, and entered to on the 13th May, 1892, HIGH WASKERLEY FARM, in the Parish of Shotley, at present in the occupation of Messrs CHARLTON, containing 213 Acres or thereabouts of excellent Pasture and Arable Land, the latter being fine Turnip and Barley Soil. PANSHIELDS and HILL TOP FARM, in the same Parish, also in the occupation of Messrs CHARLTON, containing 228 Acres, or thereabouts, of which about 150 Acres are in permanent Pasture.—Mr ROBERT DIXON, Woodman, Shotley Hall, will show the Farms, and further particulars may be known on application to Messrs THOS. and W. C. SAMPLE, Land Agents, Bothal Castle, near Morpeth, by whom offers, in writing, will be received up to, and including Wednesday, the 23rd December. 161h

For Sale.

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, 1d. per lb., at the *Guardian* Office.

HAY FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 206h

FOR SALE, a Brown WELSH PONY, 12 h.h., 7 years old.—Apply, J. BRODIE, Shotley Bridge. 145h

FOR SALE, Grey PONY, 12½ h.h. Also, a STABLE, all new.—Apply, R. REYNOLDSON, Greencroft. 167h

FOR SALE, Rough-coated ST. BERNARD PUPS (by "Sir William Wallace").—Apply, WILKINSON, 1 Palmerston Terrace Consett. 103h

FOR SALE, First-class upright Grand PIANO, 4ft. 4½in. high, overstrung, best check action, full Trichord, Iron Frame, Ivory Keys, handsome Italian Burr Walnut, Massive Trusses, and all the latest Improvements; 10 Years' Warranty; Inspection invited; easy payments.—May be seen any time at F. WELCH's, Annfield Plain. 14h

FOR SALE a Large Assortment of CART, GIG, and SPRING CART HARNESS, WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, CART COVERS &c. — The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North, THOS. OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. T. OWEN has a consignment of Second-hand HARNESS, &c., for Sale.

IMPROVE THE HERBAGE OF YOUR GRASS—Hay of good quality will pay for growing. Nutritious Herbage enables Live Stock to thrive and produce more Beef, Mutton and Wool, and larger yields of richer Milk. THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER and ALBERTS' BASIC PHOSPHATE POWDER will pay Farmers well to use freely on Grass and Clovers. Cost is Small. Results are lasting. SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS for Messrs. Albert for four Northern Counties of England and Scottish Borders, LANGDALE BROTHERS, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Machines for sowing on hire or sale. 202h

Business Announcements.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

A STOCK kept on hand, including Ploughs, Diggers, Turnip Cutters of all sorts, Oil Cake Mills, and the Corn Grinding Mills. All from the leading Makers at Moderate Prices.

26h GEO. HUNTER, Medomsley.

MUSICAL TUITION.

SILVER MEDALLIST OF THE MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON, FOR PIANOFORTE PLAYING.

GEORGE DRYDEN (late pupil of Mr. Hemy) Organist of Medomsley Church, having obtained First-class Honours in Pianoforte Playing, also Certificates in Theory and Harmony, at the Examinations (before Dr. E. M. Lott) in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and in THEORY.

Special Preparation for Examinations.

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ESTABLISHED 1827. 749g

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A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.

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Business Announcements.

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AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 16lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 8lbs. of INDIAN TEA the Finest Tea in the World. Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
28, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

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

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

SHOTLEY BRIDGE. WINTER SEASON, 1891.

GEORGE RICHARDSON & SONS,

Have pleasure in announcing that they are now showing New Stocks, in all Departments, for present Season, including—

FANCY WOOL WRAPS, LATEST STYLES IN FANCY APRONS, SILK NECKERCHIEFS, GLOVES, WOOL SKIRTS, &c., suitable for XMAS PRESENTS.

Also, Large Stocks of DRESS MATERIALS, WOOL & CASHMERE SHIRTINGS, FLANNELS, BLANKETS, CRETONNES, &c., at special prices.

DRESSMAKERS, TAILORS, AND MILLINERS KEPT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT.
INSPECTION AND COMPARISON RESPECTFULLY INVITED.

December, 1891. 175h

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

FROM 2s. 6d. TO 7s. 6d. EACH. SETS FROM £1 0s. 0d.
ADAPTED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
A WRITTEN GUARANTEE WITH EVERY SET.
HUNDREDS OF SETS IN WEAR.
FORTNIGHTLY PAYMENTS TAKEN.

CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 2 TO 6 P.M.,
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13 AND 14, FRONT STREET.
(PATIENTS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES IF DESIRED.)
MANAGER—MR. H. J. JONES.

CHRISTMAS, 1891.

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

Wish to inform the Public that they have one of the LARGEST and FINEST SELECTIONS OF GOODS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.

FRUITS, FIGS, ALMONDS, RAISINS, &c.
GLO'STER CHEESE, DERBY CHEESE, GORGONZOLA, CHESHIRE, CHEDDER, STILTON, EDAM, &c.
FRUIT LOAVES, SEED LOAVES, DESSERT, &c.

Also, their SPLENDID SELECTION OF WINES & SPIRITS, which are admitted to be the Best Value in the Trade.

PRICE LISTS NOW READY. 169h

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.,

(THE BEST AND CHEAPEST FIRM IN THE NORTH FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH OF THE BEST QUALITY.)

BLACKHILL BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 TO 2 P.M.
AT MR. SUMMERVILLE'S, IRONMONGER, DERWENT STREET.
MANAGER, MR. H. J. JONES.

ALL OUR CELEBRATED TEAS REDUCED 2d. PER LB.
TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.
ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.

JOHN HUME & SON,

BAKERS AND MILLERS, TEA AND TOBACCO MERCHANTS,
8, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

Having recently added the Tea Trade to their Business at Consett for the benefit of their numerous Customers, offer the above Brand—the best and Cheapest Tea in the Market—try it.

"PURE" CEYLON TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.
PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.
GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d

TOBACCO.
ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST AND ROUGH CUT, 3d. PER OZ.

Flour & Feeding Stuffs of every description delivered any part of the District at the lowest possible prices.
Sole Makers of the Celebrated "Optimus" Horse Mixture and "Germ Meal."
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

ESTABLISHED 1817.

GEORGE HOBSON,

MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,

NOTED
FOR THE BEST AND CLEANEST HORSE FEED.

WHOLE OATS, CRUSHED OATS, SPLIT BEANS, PEAS, AND MAIZE, MIXED WITH OATS AS REQUIRED, OR SOLD SEPARATE. ALL THOROUGHLY CLEANED BY NEW & IMPROVED MACHINERY.

G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR. ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF FINES, SUPERFINES, EXTRA SUPERFINES AND HUNGARIAN.

TRY G. H.'S PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL, MANUFACTURED BY HIMSELF, AND CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE AND BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c.

Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all Kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices.

G. H.'S CALF MEAL IS NOW WELL KNOWN—REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

Dealer in Agricultural Implements of all Kinds, including the Special Mower and Reaper, Sole Agent of the North for the McCormick Self-Binding Reapers and Steel Mowers, the Bullard Tedder, Tiger Horse Rake, &c. The best and lightest Draught Machines in the Market. Broadcast Hand Seed Sowers, &c.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the cause of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or the ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificial Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

DOBSON GRADON,

WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN,
BLACKHILL.

HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH SILVER LEVER WATCHES, £3 6s. 0d. BEST MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.
SILVER LEVER WATCHES FROM 30s. ALL WARRANTED.
OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.
WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

S. H. HORSEY.

105, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASLE-ON-TYNE,

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of CONSETT, STANLEY and DISTRICT, that, having left the service of Mr W. T. Smith, he now attends at the house of Mr BROWN, 3, Newmarket Street, Consett, every Saturday, from 11 till 5, also at Mr THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, Front Street, Stanley, every Monday from 11 till 5, and is prepared to supply the finest English and American Mineral Teeth at the most Reasonable Charges, consistent with perfect workmanship.

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.

NOTE THE ADDRESSES:—
ATTENDANCE AT MR. BROWN'S, 3, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
(Opposite Co-operative Stores), every Saturday, from 11 till 5. Also,
ATTENDANCE AT MR. THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, FRONT STREET, STANLEY,
Every Monday from 11 till 5. 415g

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NOTICE.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
BLACKHILL, LEADGATE, AND WEST STANLEY,
THE WELL-KNOWN GROCER, PROVISION DEALER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT
Will commence the FESTIVE SEASON with a Large and very Superior

STOCK OF GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS

Which he will Sell at the lowest possible prices. In buying your Groceries and Provisions you may always rely upon being well served, and receiving the best value for your money.

WISHING YOU ALL THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

☞ All Orders by Post or Telephone carefully attended to. Please send Orders early.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

Excellent Sugar.
Finest Loaf Sugar
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Demerara Sugar
Splendid Currants
Splendid Raisins
Splendid Sultanas
Splendid Muscatels
Lemon Peel
Citron Peel
Orange Peel

Nutmegs
Pure Cassia
Mace
Cinnamon
Almonds
Figs, Prunes
Metz Fruits
Chocolate in boxes
Tins Fruit
Crosse and Blackwell's Soups
Pickles, all kinds

Tinned Corned Beef
Roast Beef
Rabbit
Chicken, Ham and Tongue
Paysanda Tongues
Tomatoes
Philip & Caunad Sardines
Salmon and Lobster
Sweets of all kinds
Peaches, Apricots
Figs in Boxes

HUNTLEY AND PALMER'S BISCUITS & LOAVES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
SPLENDID FRUIT AND SEED LOAVES FROM 4d PER POUND TO 7d.
FANCY CHRISTMAS BISCUITS IN TINS FROM 6d TO 3s 6d EACH.
A very large assortment of Biscuits of every kind.

JAMS AND JELLIES—Table Jellies, Moir's Jelly Powders, Nelson's Gelatine, Custard Powders, Blanc Mange Powders.

COFFEE AND COCOA.
Finest Plantation Coffee, Franks', Sharp's, French, Symington's Bottled, Epps's Cocoa, Fry's, Cadbury's, Van Houten's, Cocoatina, Chocolate.

WM. AYNSLEY'S OLD-FASHIONED BLEND OF TEA

The unparallelled success which this Tea has attained is now well-known, and the thorough appreciation in which it is held by all who have given it a trial, cannot fail to convince the greatest connoisseur of its worth and genuineness. Sold at 2s, 2s 6d, 3s per lb.

A BLENDED TEA OF EXCELLENT QUALITY, 1s 8d and 1s 4d per lb.
SOLE AGENT FOR THE MAZAWATTEE TEA.
The demand for these Blends is wholly without parallel in the history of the Tea Trade.
CEYLON TEA 1s 3d PER POUND.

PROVISIONS.

Extra Choice Butter, finest
Choice Danish Butter
Finest Butterines
Bladder Lard
Pail Lard
Cambridge Sausage
German Sausage

Finest Hams
Cumberland Hams and Bacon
Irish Rolls
Splendid American Rolls
American Shoulders
American Sides
Smoked Bacon

A SPLENDID STOCK OF CHEESE, INCLUDING GORGONZOLA, STILTON, CHESHIRE, GLO'STER, DERBY, AMERICAN, EDAM, AND WENSLEYDALE.

FLOUR.
Finest Hungarian Flour
Extra Whites
Superfine Fines

FLOUR.
Crushed Oats and Beans
Indian Meal
Rough Barley

Wheat Meal, Whole Meal, Boxings, Bran.

SEATREE'S CUMBERLAND BROWN FLOUR FOR "HEALTH BREAD."

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF, 6d. AND 1s A JAR.
GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE, 2s AND 3s 9d PER BOTTLE.

AGENT FOR KOPS ALE, 2s. AND 3s 9d PER DOZEN.

ALES AND STOUT.

For Invalids and others it is essential that Bottled Ales and Stout should be PURE, RIPE, and in Good Condition, we therefore guarantee the quality of all our Bottlings.

Bass's Pale Ale—Gills	2s 0d per dozen	Nimmo's Ale—Gills	2s 0d per dozen
" Pints	3s 0d "	" Pints	3s 0d "
Guinness's Stout—Gills	2s 0d "	" Stout—Gills	2s 0d "
" Pints	3s 0d "	" Pints	3s 0d "

All Bottles charged.

MILD and BITTER ALE, 6 Gallons Cask, 7s 6d; 9 Gallons, 10s 6d.
BASS'S PALE ALE, 9 Gallons Cask, 12s 0d.; 18 Gallons Casks, 24s.
BRITISH WINES—GINGER, PORT, RASPBERRY, ORANGE, GRAPE, RAISIN.
These are the Pure British Wines, 1s. per Bottle.

SPECIAL WINES FOR INVALIDS.

Castle J Port (40 years old)	4s 6d per Bottle	Invalid Champagne.	
Castle J Sherry (11 years old)	3s 0d "	Pale Creaming, half bottles	1s 11d
AUSTRALIAN WINES.		Canary Port Wine, in Flasks	1s 0d
Emu Brand Burgundy	2s 0d per bottle	" Sherry "	1s 0d
" Flask	6d per flask	Old Glenlivet Whiskey	3s 6d per bottle

This "Glenlivet" Whiskey possesses a mellow, soft flavour, now so generally appreciated by consumers of Scotch Whiskey; it is thoroughly matured.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
CONSETT, LEADGATE, WEST STANLEY, AND BLACKHILL.

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.

CASTLESIDE CRICKETERS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I see that the writer of the "Castleside Notes" of last week asks to be pardoned (?) for saying the cricketers' concert was not a popular one. Now, sir, I think, before he sets himself up as an authority upon the matter, or even upon anything going on in the village, he should consider himself first whether he is competent to be an authority. If the Lady Cricketers should come to Castleside this individual would very likely be umpire for them. A true disciple of Christ never interfered with anything to annoy or hurt people's feelings. For his instruction in future let him read the book of Proverbs, or perhaps the following from Burns might be a prayer for him to say morning and night, during the coming New Year:—

"Oh wad some power the giftie gie us,
To see oursel as others see us;
It wad frae mony a blunder free us,
And foolish notion."

A Castleside Cricketer.

CO-OPERATION AND THE DRINK TRAFFIC.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—On looking through last week's *Consett Guardian*, I noticed that an "Agitated Onlooker" has commenced a great onslaught upon the above subject. Though not a co-operator myself, I like to see fairness done to the working classes in general, as doubtless judging from "A. O.'s" letter they are fast being led astray by these so-called "tippling managers." But who are to blame for allowing this state of things to exist? Not the managers themselves, decidedly not, as these men are but representing the people in the great business world of "Co-operation." The working men and members of the Store are themselves to blame; for when they see their leading representatives in an inebriated condition, why don't they band together, and have the matter thoroughly thrashed out? as surely there are still a few sober and upright men left, who can govern a Co-operative Store. If the managers prefer drink to the good positions which they now hold, perhaps part of the members themselves are subject to take strong drink (more's the pity), they will surely have the common sense to see what course their money is going to take that is deposited in the Store and guarded by tippling managers, &c. "A. O." goes on to say that co-operation seems to encourage the demon drink. I don't think it will any more than the private tradesman, as a P. T. allows credit where a Co-operative Store gets cash down, and if a man should have a poor pay (but nevertheless a good beer or whiskey drinker) and cannot pay his bill ready cash at the Store he goes to P.T. and gets credit, then still have plenty to follow up his long cursed drunkenness (though I don't wish to injure in any shape or form the business of a P.T.) But if we look at the other side of the question and suppose we have a great strike in our midst which is likely to last some time, who then will be found the friend of the working man? No other than the down-trodden tradespeople, who have so often in times of need turned and helped the poor hard-working miners out of the mire, and what thanks have they received? Simply none. Now, taking the latter part of "A. O's" letter, there seems to be a temperance room at Stanley as well as public-houses, but strong drink holds the sway. Can this not be remedied? At Annfield Plain and district they are being favoured with a visit from the well-known temperance advocate, Mr Thomas Rosbottom and concert company, who is doing a world of good in this grand movement. He intends visiting Stanley after the holidays, but it will not do to wait until then, as "the time the grass is growing the horse is starving." Let a good committee of temperance men be formed at your rooms and hold forth some good musical services nightly, and there is not the slightest doubt but that your efforts in such a way will unmistakeably be crowned with success, as there is more pleasure in a temperance room with total abstinence, combined with a musical service, than there is in drinking. What benefit, I ask, is derived from drink? To that question many people to-day are awaiting an answer; but none as yet is forthcoming.

SAVED FROM A SCHOOL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly favour me with a portion of your space to refer to a matter that needs ventilating. Many of the readers of the Tow Law Parish Magazine would be surprised to learn from the last number, that we had had a near escape of seeing our various schools "swallowed up" by a School Board; but we have been saved by the valour of our vicar. Though he states "the crisis has been a serious one," it is somewhat strange that its very existence has escaped general observation, many beside myself being unaware of the late crisis until it is revealed to us by the parish magazine. With your permission, sir, I will quote the first paragraph or so. "For the last month, our minds have been chiefly occupied with schemes for improving our schools and for raising enough money to free them, and by so doing save Tow Law the serious expenses of a School Board, and at the same time enable the other voluntary schools to go on charging fees as they please, and save them from any chance of being swallowed up by a board. The crisis has been a serious one and it did not appear at first where the extra £30 or thereabouts was to come from. Although nothing need be done till September, 1892, yet it seemed well to learn what chance there was of raising the money, and the vicar at once took steps to do so. To sane people, the freeing of the church school may seem like swallowing up the other voluntary school that really can't be made free; many parents of course, preferring to send their children to the school that is free. The so-called Free Education Bill is another mutilated measure similar to others we have got of recent years, which will in due time be made whole and completed. But already, seeing that the schools are supported by public money one way or another, ought there not to be a large measure of popular control? I have heard leading Wesleyans in Tow Law say they were in favour of the parents or guardians electing their School Committee. Taxation and representation must go together. This is the tendency of the times. In relation to denominational and board schools let us briefly look at the difference between these two systems.

The *Denominational*—(1) Takes away from the people the management of their schools, and entrusts it to irresponsible committees often selected by the clergy.

(2) Makes the schools for which the community is taxed part of the equipment and organisation of the churches with which they are associated, and employs them for the propagation of the special religious doctrines which the clergy of those churches are anxious to maintain.

(3) Secures for ecclesiastical authorities the appointment of the teachers in a large proportion of the schools of the country as well as their preliminary training.

(4) Confines the whole development of education within the limits which these ecclesiastical authorities may approve.

The *School Board* system on the other hand—(1) Entrusts the people with the charge of their schools.

(2) Applies public money to public purposes not to promote the interests of particular churches.

(3) Opens the teaching profession to members of every sect.

(4) Seeks to develope education apart from any consideration of purely denominational interest."

This is barely stating the subject. In an opinion, public feeling is gradually ripening and popular control is not far away, though the crisis is not yet, when it does appear it will not be settled in the way desired by our vicar, yours sincerely,

Reformer.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I dare say that you have on various occasions come across some ridiculous hand-bills issued by the Salvation Army, but I venture to presume that the one I have before me surpasses anything that has come under your notice. It is issued by the Annfield Plain Branch of the Salvation Army, and bears at the foot two names, the owners of which I take it are responsible for its publication. It is headed "Jack the Ripper," a phrase full of horrible associations—even if this were the only coarse expression which appeared on the bill it would stand condemned thereby. This interesting specimen of nineteenth century enlightenment goes on to state that there will be a "Great football match," wound up by a "Great pie supper," the contest to be between two local teams; and in other parts of this extraordinary document the frequent use of the word devil, and [illegible] other highly edifying appellations of his Satanic majesty [illegible] familiarity. I ask, sir, is this not a travesty on religion, a gross outrage on the cause they are supposed to espouse? Surely if Christianity teaches anything it teaches refinement, but here we find instead a strong element of coarse vulgarity. Things must indeed be getting desperate with the Annfield Plain Salvation Army when they publish a thing like this. This organisation in general may have done an amount of good in its way, but surely these are signs of degeneration. One of the qualifications for holding a position in its ranks now-a-days appears to be the ability to get up an outrageous hand-bill. Can it be possible that the Salvation Army as domiciled at Annfield Plain hopes to increase its numbers by an intimation of this kind? It seems to me that they only bring down on themselves a vast amount of ridicule and do harm rather than good to the cause they are endeavouring to help on. One is rather inclined to think that if this sort of thing continues, the Salvation Army will ere long be numbered amongst the things that were.—I am, sir, yours, &c.,

J.

Dec. 8th, 1891.

Cricket.

Langley Park C. C.—On Monday evening, a concert was given in the school-room on behalf of the Langley Park Cricket Club. Considering the state of the weather, the attendance was very good. There was an excellent programme, which was contributed to by the following artistes:—Miss Aynsley, Lanchester; Miss Peel, Langley Park; Mr Haswell, Pallion; Mr Lawrence, Lanchester; and Messrs Laidler, Peel and Anderson, Bede College, Durham. Mr A. Hollingworth was accompanist. The concert was a success.

Sporting Items.

Foot Handicap at Leadgate.—On Saturday, the final heats of the £15 120 yards handicap, promoted by the Leadgate Bicycle and Athletic Company, Limited, were run in the Leadgate Running Grounds. Upwards of 500 spectators were present. Details:—Heat 1—J Railton, Newburn, 21 yards, 1; J Wallace, Consett, 23, 2; M Allison, Winlaton Mill, 13½, 3; B Small, Leadgate, 24, 0; T Moore, Stanley, 21, 3. Won by six inches. Heat 2—J W Robson, Pontop, 23, 1; G Batey, Tow Law, 19½, 2; W Williams, Whickham, 19, 3; W Lodge, Bishop Auckland, 11½, 0; W Turner, West Stanley, 20½, 0. Shortly after starting Williams fell, and left the race to Robson and Batey, the former winning by half-a-yard. Heat 3—W Elliott, Consett, 20½, 1; J Gregan, Elswick, 24, 2; A Daley, Consett, 21½, 3; J W Wilson, Benfieldside, 25, 0; G Rudd, Tanfield, 22, 0. Won by six inches. Heat 4—G Gardiner, Whickham, 20, 1; J Haggerstone, Leadgate, 26½, 2; T Nicholson, Leadgate, 22½, 3; W Maley, Consett, 20, 0. Won on the post. Final—Robson, 1, £11; Elliott, 2, £2 10s; Gardiner, 3, £1; Railton, 4, 10s. Won by six inches, half-a-yard between second and third, one yard between third and fourth. The following satisfactorily discharged their respective duties:—Handicapper, Mr Roger McCurley; pistol-firer, P Small, Leadgate; referee, Joseph Smith, Leadgate.

Burnopfield Grounds.—These grounds were again well patronised to witness the rabbit sweep at 7s per dog, best of three, promoted by T. White, who acted as judge. Details:—Ashburn's Fanny o' Flackerty beat Jackson's Milkmaid; Jackson's Slow Tommy beat Birch's Hannah Hall, after a no go; Stirmson's Lucky Seven beat Robinson's Drink Off; Cowen's Annie Laurie beat Carrick's Donald, after a no go; Richardson's Mary beat Robinson's Not for me to say; Martin's Sup Off beat Walker's Lord Clyde; Carrick's Number Nip beat Lord Clyde, 2nd lot; Ashburn's Salmon Spawn beat Brown's Belle Mahone, after no go; Clayton's Tip the Button beat Wright's Sweep; Bentley's Pink Lane Lass beat Clayton's Chance; Go as you please beat Armstrong's Old Boots; Herron's Red King beat Greener's Jimmy at the Bat. Second round—Fanny o' Flackerty beat Slow Tommy; Lucky Seven beat Annie Laurie; Mary beat Sup Off; Salmon Spawn beat Number Nip; Tip the Button beat Pink Lane Lass; Go as you Please beat Red King. On account of darkness the stake was divided.—A deposit has been posted in the hands of G. Megons for a match between Dawson's Fish Lass and Wales's Grace Darling, the best of 15 courses, Fish Lass one start, for £40.—A deposit has also been placed in the hands of T. White for a match between Ledger's Owt you Please and Stobbs's Garesfield Lad, both greyhounds, for £50, best of 17 courses.—A deposit is likewise in the hands of T. White for a match between Ashburn's Sup Off and Fenwick's Blue Lass, for £30, best of 17 courses; the second deposit to be made on Saturday, 19th inst.

Trade Notes.

CONSETT IRON AND STEEL WORKERS.

On Saturday night, a meeting of the members of the Associated Iron and Steelworkers of Great Britain employed at the Consett and Shotley Works of the Consett Iron Company was held in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. There was a large attendance, the chair being occupied by Mr J. Wildsmith, of Consett (operatives' delegate).

Mr Wm. Smith (Shotley Works) moved the first resolution, pledging those present to become members of the Associated Iron and Steelworkers of Great Britain, and to use every legitimate means to induce their fellow-workmen to become members of the same.

The motion was seconded by Mr Henry Lodge (operatives' representative, Shotley Works), supported by Mr J. Cox, of Darlington, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr J. Topham, of Consett, afterwards moved:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the time has arrived when steps may be taken for a consideration of the hours of labour, with a view to place the question before the trade for an expression of opinion as to its general utility and advisability, and the best means of its adoption."

Mr J. McWilliams, of Consett, seconded, and Mr John Orr, of Annfield Plain, spoke in support of the resolution, which was also carried unanimously.

CONSETT MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

"CHRISTIANITY AND THE HOUSING OF THE POOR."

On Wednesday se'nnight, at the meeting of this Association, Mr Wm. Jackson read a paper on the above subject, in which he dealt very graphically with this burning question of the present day. The paper gave evidence of careful preparation, full of quotations from men of eminence both in the religious and literary world, and in every way was a credit both to the writer and the class and was calculated to raise the interest of those who heard it in this important want, and impress each one of their individual responsibility in connection therewith, especially those who profess to be followers of Jesus of Nazareth. The conversation which followed the reading of the paper showed the keen interest which the paper had provoked in the subject.

Mr N. Bell was the first to express his gratification for the information contained in the paper, but could scarcely understand how the church could undertake the erection of necessary buildings for the proper housing of the poor.

Mr S. Rowe, of Hartlepool, a former member of the class, in a very neat speech expressed his hearty concurrence with the paper and also contended that for the church to reach the poor it must of necessity commence with the purifying of their surroundings and thus lead them to an appreciation of the pure and good in all things.

Mr W. C. Rowe, recently connected with mission work in Birmingham, spoke of his own experience in connection with slum work, endorsing the sentiment of the paper, viz., that it is the duty of the church to take the initiative in this important reformative work.

We had also the pleasure of listening to Mr Gilbert Elliott, who is on a visit to this town from the neighbourhood of Liverpool, who very clearly entered into statistics with regard to work in Liverpool, especially to the late church-going census, and also gave us the experience of a converted police officer, whose beat lay in a low neighbourhood, and who was in the habit of using his walk on his beat for conversing with low characters, and meeting them for prayer and help when off duty.

Mr Robt. Smith, who has recently returned from America, interested the class very much by speaking of this work in New York, and expressed his strong conviction that the church was waking up to its duty and would ultimately find its success bearing very largely on these lines.

We were also briefly addressed by a Lady Member, who showed from her own experience in another town how hard it was for the poor to live good moral lives when whole families were herded together in one small room.

Messrs Wm. Swinburne and Geo. Broadbent also joined in the discussion and whilst favourably impressed with the paper, could not endorse all its suggestions.

Mr Jackson replied *seriatim*, and courageously defended his position, after which the Chairman reviewed the discussion, and brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

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

ASSOCIATION.

Annfield Plain Jolly Tars 2nd and Greencroft Black Watch 2nd played a draw on the ground of the latter, neither side scoring.

Annfield Plain Jolly Tars v Oxhill Exiles.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the home team by three goals to one.

Annfield Plain Jolly Tars v South Moor Juniors.—Played on the former's ground, and ended in a win for the Tars by one goal to nil.

Byer Moor v Langley Park Rovers.—Played at Byer Moor, a good game resulting in a draw of one goal each.

Benfieldside Rovers v Shotley Bridge Rovers.—Played on the ground of the latter. The home team played a very weak eleven, but made it warm for the visitors, the game resulting in a draw.

Craig Lee Wanderers v Helm Park Wanderers 2nd.—Played on the ground of the former. After a good game Helm Park were victorious by three goals to nil.

Consett Royal Oaks v Helm Park Wanderers.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a very pleasant game ended in a draw, each side scoring once.

Lintz Rovers v Shotley Bridge.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a well-contested game resulted in a draw. Mr McGinn was referee.

Consett Young Shamrocks v Oxhill Exiles Juniors.—Played at Consett, and after a very rough game resulted in a win for the Shamrocks by five goals to one.

South Medomsley Heroes v Stanley Daisies.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a good game resulted in a win for the home team by one goal to nil.

Byer Moor Rovers v Lintzford B.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a pleasant game resulted in a victory for the home team by two goals to one.

East Pontop Red Stars v Allendale Park.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a quiet game resulted in a win for the Stars by five goals to none. Ellis and McGregor played well for the home team.

Delves Lane Rangers v Blackfine Swifts.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a pleasant game the home team were victorious by three goals to one.

Leadgate Park Reserve v Oakey's Lilywhites.—This match was brought off on the ground of the latter, in bad weather, and after another splendid game the Park came off victorious by four goals to two.

Tanfield Lea Cæsars 2nd v Tanfield Excelsiors 1st.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the Cæsars by one goal to nil. H. Christopher and J. Gardner played well for the winners.

Blackhill East End v Highgate Wanderers.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a win for East End by two goals to one. J. Tindle, R. Simpson, and R. Newbould played well for the winners.

Tow Law St. Joseph's v Hedley Hill Harriers.—Played on the ground of the latter, in very unpleasant weather, when the "Saints" won by five goals to none.

Crookhall Wanderers B v Consett Celtic.—Played on the former's ground, and after a very rough game the Wanderers were victorious by three goals to one.

Allendale Cottages Juniors v South Moor Shamrocks.—Played at Allendale in windy weather, the home team having matters nearly all their own way. Result:—Allendale, five goals; South Moor, nothing.

Consett Swifts v Consett Royal Oaks 2nd.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a very rough game resulted in a win for the visitors by three goals to one. Spedding played a good game in goal for the Royal Oaks.

Dipton Wanderers Reserve v Hobson Wanderers 1st.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a pleasant game the home team won by four goals to three. Thornton scored the first two goals, Spark the third, and Robson the fourth, it being a well-contested game from start to finish.

Lintzford Red Star Juniors v South Medomsley Heroes.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a pleasant game ended in a draw of one goal each. The Heroes had two through, but one was off-side, and not allowed by the referee.

Malton Colliery Wanderers v Cornsay True Pledges.—Malton journeyed to Cornsay to play their return fixture. The home captain won the toss, and elected to play uphill. Scott set the ball in motion, and after some poor play Walker had hard lines in not scoring for Cornsay, the ball just passing the post. Moore then got possession and ran down the wing, scoring No. 1 for the visitors. This seemed to wake up the homesters, who began to play rather roughly, and again had hard luck in not scoring, Walker kicking over after some give-and-take play. Half-time score—

Malton ....One goal
Cornsay ....Nil

After re-starting, some exciting play followed, and Cornsay equalised. Moore shortly after gained possession, and shot the second goal for Malton. The homesters tried hard to draw level, but were unable to do so, and the game ended in a win for the visitors. Score—

Malton ....Two goals
Cornsay ....One goal

Keeper's Row Harriers (Tow Law) v Wolsingham Athletic Rovers.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a very pleasant game the Harriers came off victorious by three goals to nil. McAninly played well for the winners. Harriers' team—Goal, Moffatt; backs, Work and Richardson; half-backs, McAninly, Quinn, and Hardy; forwards, Routledge and Walton, right wing; Bell, centre; Watson and Gray, left wing.

Allendale Park v Blackhill Park.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted as follows:—Blackhill, two goals (one disputed); Allendale, one goal. The following represented the Park:—Goal, Smart; backs, Kempster and Butler; half-backs, Chilton, Walton, and Tyndall; forwards, Robinson, Tyndall, Askew, Chatt, and Lindsay.

Langley Park Rising Stars v Sleetburn Juniors.—Played on the ground of the latter. The visitors won the toss, and played with the wind, scoring twice in the first ten minutes. They continued to have the best of the play, and crossed over three goals to the good. Langley Park maintained the upper hand till the finish, and finally gained an easy victory by six goals to nil.

Langley Park Excelsiors v Hamilton.—Played on the latter's ground. The home captain won the toss, and elected to play against the wind. Grover started the ball for the visitors, who made a good run and scored. Play remained in the home quarters for a time, and the Excelsiors added two more goals, leading at half-time by three goals to nil. On resuming, play was very even, but the visitors had two goals disallowed. The home team broke away and scored, and the result was—Langley Park, three goals; Hamilton, one goal.

Leadgate St. Ives v Oakey's Lilywhites B.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a hard game resulted in a win for St. Ives by two goals to one. The following represented the winners:—Goal, R. Iley; backs, S. Hudson and H. Foreman; half-backs, W. Jones, H. Devine, and D. Ward; forwards, G. Miller and S. Chaytor, right wing; A. Johnson and W. Buck, left wing; T. Lee, centre.

Waldridge Church Juniors v Craghead Juniors.—Played at Craghead on a very bad field. The visitors kicked off, and easily mastered their much bigger opponents, quickly scoring a goal. Two more goals were put on before half-time. In the second period Craghead tried to win the match by force—namely, rough play. At last one of the home team intentionally kicked a Waldridge player. The referee wished him to leave the field. As he would not, the game ended ten minutes before time. Score—Waldridge, three goals; Craghead, nil.

Consett Y.M.C.A. v Medomsley Reserve.—This match was played at Consett. The home team had the assistance of a strong wind in the first half, but were unable to break through the visitors' defence. Shortly after the interval Jas. Hunter scored for Medomsley, and then the homesters got nicely away, and Conke equalised. After a corner, Roulton again placed the visitors ahead, and Jas. Hunter adding another shortly before time, Medomsley were victorious by three goals to one. Medomsley were represented by the following:—Goal, G. Foster; backs, J. Hornsby and J. Roulton; half-backs, Jos. Bramley, Wm. Hunter (capt.), and H. Pearson; forwards, W. Ryan and M. Watson, right wing; G. Brown and Jas. Hunter, left wing; J. Pearson, centre.

Leadgate Exiles v Boldon Star.—Played at Boldon in boisterous weather. The ground was in a bad state, which made play very heavy. McGee won the toss, and elected to play with a slight breeze in the first half. The home team commenced with great dash, but found the defence too good. The Exiles were the first to score, but a miskick by McGee let in the home team, and P. Connolly scored with a terrific shot amidst cheers. Even play followed up to half-time, when the score was—

Exiles ....One goal
Boldon ....One goal

In the second half, with the wind in their favour, the home team expected to carry all before them, but the Exiles played up splendidly, and surprised the spectators with their fine play. So good was the defence that the home team seldom got over the centre line, whilst the Leadgate forwards played one of their best games, putting on three more goals against the wind. When time was called the game stood—

Exiles ....Four goals
Boldon ....One goal

Tow Law Athletic v Esh True Blues Reserve.—Played on the Athletic ground, the game being the roughest played there. The visitors arrived an hour late, and the game was played in two twenties. The home team won the toss, and choose to play down the slope. Soon after the start the home team made a run, and J. McIntosh centreing in good style, H. Wilkinson banged it through. The visitors claimed off-side, and the referee ruled in their favour. Shortly after Esh claimed hands, but the referee judged otherwise, and let the game go on. The visitors refused to play, although told by the referee to do so, and J. McIntosh scored an easy goal, the goalkeeper not having a ghost of a chance to stop it. The Athletic scored again soon after, but it was disallowed for off-side. At half-time the score stood—

Athletic ....One goal
Esh ....Nil

On the re-start, the home team began to press heavily, keeping the ball in the visitors' goal, but they could not get it through. The Blues tried their utmost to break away, but could not, owing to the good defence of the home backs. The latter part of the game was played in semi-darkness, and at the call of time the result was—

Athletic ....One goal
Esh ....Nil

Wolsingham v Hunwick Rovers.—Played at Wolsingham. The home team won the toss and elected to play with the wind at their backs. Hunwick kicked off, and Wolsingham rushed down to the visitors' goal, but were repulsed, and Hunwick had a run to the other end, Brown saving with a good kick, which gave the home forwards possession, and Williams scored the first goal for Wolsingham. The home men with the wind at their backs, seemed determined to add to their score, and from a good centre by Hinchley, Herron scored the second goal. Soon after the same player landed a third goal, and Charlesworth with a long shot scored the fourth. Hunwick now had a look in, but found the home defence too strong for them. Wolsingham came away again, and one of the Hunwick backs fisted out a shot from N. Hawdon. The referee awarded a penalty kick, which Brown took, and banged the ball past the visitors' custodian. Williams scored again for Wolsingham, and half-time arrived with the score—

Wolsingham ....Six goals
Hunwick ....Nil

Wolsingham had now to face a strong wind, and Hunwick paid a visit to the home goal, but Lunson saved. Williams and Charlesworth got away to the other end, the first-named shooting through, but was ruled off-side. Hunwick came away from the free kick, and found Brown and Lunson plenty of work, and they acquitted themselves right well, the visitors only being able to score once. The home forwards were also very lively, and Hinchley had extremely hard lines in not scoring. The game ended as follows—

Wolsingham ....Six goals
Hunwick ....One goal

The Wolsingham team was as follows:—Goal, P. Barker; backs, Brown and Lunson; half-backs, Harker, J. Hawdon, and Bell; forwards, Charlesworth, Williams, G. Herron (capt.), N. Hawdon, and F. H. Hinchley.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

Medomsley v Stanley Hedley Harriers.—These teams met at Medomsley. The home club were short of Hedley and Baron, who are both ill, but had the assistance of R. Campbell, Dr Mann, and M. Charlton, who played for the first time in the Alliance competition. Mansell won the toss, and elected to play with the wind, and the home team at once pressed. R. Cant sent in a stinging shot, which hit the cross-bar and rebounded into play. Campbell received, and scored with a lightning shot, which travelled into the adjoining field. Shortly afterwards the game was stopped, owing to T. Walton being badly kicked. On the ball being set in motion, the home team still pressed, and Campbell quickly added two more goals, while R. Cant, from a scrimmage, also scored. Half-time result—

Medomsley ....Four goals
Harriers ....Nil

With the wind in their favour, the visitors were more troublesome, but Bramley defended well. From a goal kick the visitors returned the ball, and the home custodian fisted it on to the bar, from whence it rebounded through, thus scoring the only goal for the Harriers. Veitch and W. Cant on the left wing made some splendid runs, and from one of these H. Smith scored, the final result being—

Medomsley ....Five goals
Harriers ....One goal

The following represented the home club:—Goal, T. Bramley; backs, M. Charlton and Wm. Mansell (capt.); half-backs, T. Walton, Geo. Moon, and Dr Mann; forwards, R. Campbell and Robt. Cant, right wing; H. Smith, centre; J. Veitch and Wm. Cant, left wing. Referee, Mr H. Prevett, Dipton (chairman N.W. Durham Alliance).

Tanfield Lea v Dipton Wanderers.—These two clubs met on the ground of the former in an Alliance match, which excited a great deal of interest. This was mainly due to the splendid form both teams have been showing lately. About 700 spectators were present. The visitors won the toss, and Holmes started for the home club against a rather strong wind, but Buck sent well up, and a goal kick was given for the home team. The game was now very exciting, as the homesters were playing hard, and after 20 minutes' play Holmes secured and sent to McNeil, who eluded the backs and scored the first goal amidst great applause. Leadbitter set the ball rolling again, and even play followed. Then the visitors sent in a good shot, but Brown missed the ball, which hit the under side of the bar and went through amidst loud cheers from the Wanderers' supporters. The game was now of a most exciting nature, each side playing in grand form—Buck, Walker, and Dodds being prominent. The visitors claimed a second goal five minutes from half-time, and when the whistle blew the score was as under—

Dipton ....Two goals
Tanfield ....One goal

The referee was not long in getting the teams together again, and the homesters, with the wind at their backs, soon attacked the Dipton goal, but Freek was all there, and Walker and Turpin were playing a grand defensive game. Shot after shot was sent in, only to be returned by the players above-named. The home halves were in their best form, and kept the visitors' forwards at bay, not allowing them to get away. The home custodian only touched the leather once in the first twenty minutes. From a goal kick, Holmes headed to E. Gailes, who sent it through like lightning, Freek having no chance with it, thus equalising amidst deafening cheers. The game from now was of a most stubborn nature, as the Dipton men seemed to gain fresh life, and attacked the home goal, but could not break through the defence of Gaffney and Gailes at back. McDonald returned well up the field, and the Tanfield forwards came away in a line, passing splendidly. The Wanderers gave a corner, which went behind. From the goal kick, W. Christopher returned, and another corner was given. E. Gailes placed it nicely to Holmes, who headed to Fletcher, and the latter did the needful. From now till time the game was very even, and the final score was—

Tanfield ....Three goals
Dipton ....Two goals

RUGBY.

Blackhill Rovers 2nd v Tudhoe 3rd.—Played at Spennymoor, and ended in an easy victory for the home team by three goals and five tries (25 points) to nil.

Blackhill Rovers v North Durham 2nd.—This match was played at Low Fell, Gateshead, in boisterous weather, before a large concourse of spectators. The Rovers won the toss, and North Durham kicked off against the wind. Play settled in midfield for a short while, but the home team soon forced Blackhill to defend. The visitors, by a good dribble, carried play to the home quarters, where minors were scored in quick succession. The Rovers now settled down to some good passing, and neat play between Anderson, Brown, and Smailes enabled the former to drop a nice goal. From the kick-off the visitors went straight for the home line, a minor resulting. From a scrimmage in the home "25," Brown received and transferred to Anderson, who scored under the posts, the kick at goal being a failure. Then Anderson received, and returned to touch in the home "25." The home men soon cleared their lines, and worked their way to the other end, where Anderson secured and passed to Brown, who made a capital run and scored, the kick at goal again failing. The whistle then went for half-time with the score—

Rovers ......One dropped goal, two tries, six minors
North Durham ....Nil

On resuming, the home team soon began to press, but could not score. The visitors getting away with a dribble, forcing North Durham to defend. Anderson got over, but the Rovers had to content themselves with a minor. The homesters pressed, and some fine play amongst their backs resulted in a try, no goal resulting. Play now settled in the visitors' "25," where the leather went into touch. One of the home team got off, and, through some misunderstanding, none of the Rovers offered to stop him, with the result that he planted the ball between the posts, the referee giving a try. The place kick being charged down, the visitors, playing with more dash than previously, quickly added three minors. This was followed by a splendid run by J. Brown half the length of the field, the try remaining unconverted. Shortly after time was called, the result being—

Rovers ......One dropped goal, three tries, 12 minors (10 points)
North Durham ......Two tries, three minors (four points)

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "Off-side."]

MEDOMSLEY SECURE TWO POINTS.

Medomsley met the Hedley Harriers for the first time on Saturday, the unfortunately an Alliance fixture. Although there was some heavy charging on both sides, the game was pleasantly contested, but Medomsley had the measure of their opponents throughout, Bramley and his backs defended well, M. Charlton making his first appearance this season, and with a little more practice he will soon regain his past form. Dr Mann and Moon played a good game at half, T. Walton being of little use after his accident. Veitch and W. Cant were the strongest wing, but they shot badly. On the right wing, R. Cant and Campbell did not combine so well, but made up for it in shooting, both players sending in some beauties. Smith was in much better health, and consequently played a splendid game in the centre.

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For the Harriers, Benson and Brydon were head and shoulders above their companions, and without the former the visitors would have fared badly. Next season Benson should certainly stand a capital chance of obtaining a county cap. About ten minutes before the conclusion, the referee had to order one of the Harriers off the field for disorderly conduct. I trust this will be a warning to players in the North-West Durham division, as week after week regrettable incidents of this kind occur, and no doubt a stringing up for a few weeks would be beneficial, as it would both cool their ardour and help to moderate their language.

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THE EXILES RISE TO THE OCCASION.

The Leadgate men visited Boldon on Saturday to play the Stars. When the interval arrived, with the score one all, the home men were jubilant, as they had now the benefit of the wind, and made sure of winning; but they reckoned without their host, as the Exiles played up brilliantly, and not only prevented Boldon from scoring again, but actually added three more goals to their total. The Exiles all round played one of their best games. Redding in goal had very little to do; the point scored against him could not really be stopped. The backs were good, Tresquare being the pick, and he showed on Saturday what a really capable back he is. The halves played a sound game. Monaghan (good old Jimmy) was in his best form, whilst Haggan did splendidly. McGrahan, a reserve man, officiated at centre half, and in time will find a place in the first eleven. The forwards were the best part of the team. They worked like horses in the second half, and their combination was a great deal better than any ever yet shown by them before. It would be unfair to single any one of them out, as all played a fine game.

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A SPLENDID GAME AT TANFIELD LEA.

The Alliance match between Dipton Wanderers and Tanfield Lea was one of the best games ever seen in the district. Tanfield had to face the wind in the first half, and it was thought that they would have to act mostly on the defensive, but Milburn, W. Christopher, and McDonald were in splendid form at half-back, and by no means allowed the Dipton forwards to have all their own way. McDonald was especially prominent, and by his play reminded the spectators of his best days. The forwards played a grand game throughout, and Holmes fed his wings capitally. E. Gailes was carefully watched by Dodds, but got well away on several occasions. McNeil did well at inside left, and the right wing played very pluckily. Gailes was the best of the backs in the initial half, Gaffney several times missing his kick, but he improved afterwards. Brown should have saved the first goal, but had no chance with the second. The home team were naturally much elated at their victory.

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Freek kept goal brilliantly for the Wanderers. J. Walker and Turpin played a grand defensive game in the second half, and did their utmost to avert defeat. Buck and Dodds were the pick of the halves, and played splendidly throughout. In fact, the half-back play on both sides was the feature of the game. The forwards sadly missed Smith at centre, as Leadbitter was not a satisfactory substitute. Clelland and Turner were both in good form, but the rest were off colour. The Wanderers do not seem to have come up to their best form by a long way, and I am afraid the absence of Tuson has a lot to do with it, as he always inspired the team with confidence. Pull yourselves together, Dipton.

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THE ROVERS GIVE A CAPITAL DISPLAY.

Blackhill Rovers journeyed to Gateshead on Saturday to play the return match against North Durham 2nd, and managed to defeat the latter by 10 points to four. Playing with the wind, the Rovers had all the best of the game, Anderson and J. Brown being in rare form, and they succeeded in dividing the score between them. For the Rovers, Allen, at full back, played a sterling game, and against the wind made a brilliant run from his own "25" to the other before he was put in touch. The three-quarters showed splendid form, and, considering the strong wind, indulged in some neat passing—J. Brown and Anderson being most conspicuous. The halves both did well, especially Smailes. The forwards played a hard game all through, but kicked too hard when near the line, the result being that minors were scored instead of tries. McGhee, McTaggart, Lloyd, and Baker were about the pick.

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For North Durham, the full back was not up to much. The three-quarters did not get in much good work, as the visiting forwards were too many for them. The halves played well, but were constantly off-side. The forwards were a smart pack, but although much the heavier set of men, they had none the best of the scrimmages.

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BYER MOOR DRAW AGAIN.

Byer Moor had Langley Park Rovers for visitors on Saturday, and kept up their reputation for playing draws, this being the fourth out of seven matches. The visitors have a very good team, and if they were to drop some of their rough tactics, their play would gain considerably, and their record would be more satisfactory. The home team, being much the lighter lot, soon had some of their men of very little use; but they played with great pluck. H. Keith (a promising goalkeeper) played a good game, and the backs were as safe as ever. J. Lamb at half-back put in some capital work, while the forwards all did well.

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TO A ROUGH GAME AT TOW LAW.

Tow Law Athletic had a visit from Esh True Blues—a very large and rough team; but the smart players of the Athletic proved more than a match for them. The homesters scored three times, but the referee only allowed one goal. This goal was disputed by the Esh men, and to stop them from going off the field (only ten minutes after the start), the home team allowed them a free kick. Upon this, J. McIntosh (the smart Athletic right winger) left the field, and his side was somewhat handicapped by his absence. The goal he scored was undoubtedly a fair one. The home team, however, managed to keep the ball in the visitors' territory during the remainder of the game, and obtained a victory by one goal to nil.

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MEDOMSLEY RESERVE VICTORIOUS.

The Medomsley second string encountered the Y.M.C.A. at Consett on Saturday, on the latter's ground. A fairly good game being the outcome. The home team had several capital chances of scoring, but were weak in front of goal. Walker, Hagan, and the left wingers were very prominent for the "young men," while Hornsby, Jas. and W. Hunter, Forster and J. Pearson did best for the visitors, who gained the verdict by three goals to one. The Y.M.C.A. play a most gentlemanly game, and Saturday's match proved a very enjoyable one. I am pleased to state that the Consett club have gained such numerous additions to their ranks that they intend to run a second eleven. Prosper Y.M.C.A.!

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A NEW CLUB FOR BLACKHALL MILL.

An Association club has been formed at Blackhall Mill under the name of the Derwent Valley. They journeyed to Prudhoe on Saturday to play their first game against Prudhoe Athletic, and after a pleasant match gained the victory, thus making a good start. The headquarters of the club are at Mr W. H. Stonehouse's, Ship Inn, where every accommodation will be afforded to visiting clubs.

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ALLIANCE DISTRICT MATCH.

The above game will be played on the Wanderers ground at Dipton on Christmas Day, the players being selected from the clubs forming the Alliance, to whose funds the proceeds will go. The teams have been chosen as follows:—*Plains*—Goal, J. McDermott (Cornsay Rovers); backs, W. Benson (Hedley Harriers) and W. McGee (Leadgate Exiles); half-backs, J. Harrison (Hedley Harriers), J. Haggan (Leadgate Exiles), and Jas. Monaghan (Leadgate Exiles); forwards, O. Hughes (Leadgate Exiles) and J. McGowan (Cornsay Rovers), right wing; J. Aston (Cornsay Rovers), centre; J. McGee (Leadgate Exiles) and G. Simpson (Cornsay Rovers), left wing. *Stripes*—Goal, R. Freek (Dipton Wanderers); backs, Jas. Walker (Dipton Wanderers) and Wm. Mansell (Medomsley); half-backs, A. Dodds (Dipton Wanderers), W. Christopher (Tanfield Lea), and J. Milburn (Tanfield Lea); forwards, C. Jackson (Langley Park Rovers) and J. Gilliard (Dipton Wanderers), right wing; W. Smith (Dipton Wanderers), centre; A. M. Hedley (Medomsley) and E. Gailes (Tanfield Lea), left wing. Mr J. Ross, jun., Medomsley, will officiate as referee. Secretaries are requested to communicate with Mr W. G. F. Thompson (the Alliance secretary), intimating whether their players are available or not.

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A CHANCE FOR FOOTBALLERS.

My readers would doubtless observe in our last issue that the Medomsley A.F.C. are promoting a competition for New Year's Day and the day following. The Medomsley club have judiciously obtained the sanction of the Challenge Cup Committee of the Durham Association (under whose rules it will be played) for their competition, so that intending entrants need have no fear of being hauled before that body to answer any questions. I have been favoured with a view of the medals offered as prizes, which are a most handsome collection, and well worth winning.

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NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

	Plyd.	Won	Lost	Drn	Goals For	Goals Agt.	Pts
Leadgate Exiles...	5	4	1	0	21	[illegible]	8
Dipton Wanderers	7	4	3	0	24	13	8
Cornsay Rovers	5	3	1	1	18	[illegible]	7
Medomsley	6	2	2	2	16	15	6
Tanfield Lea	4	2	1	1	10	[illegible]	5
Langley Park R...	8	1	6	1	17	[illegible]	3
Hedley Harriers	3	0	2	1	4	13	1

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LANGLEY PARK ROVERS.

All communications respecting the above club should for the future be addressed to W. E. Shorten, hon. sec., Quebec Street, Langley Park, near Durham.

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MATCHES CANCELLED.

All clubs having dates with Kip Hill Wanderers are requested to cancel them.—Lintz Juniors have cancelled all dates, as they are unable to raise a team.

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MATCHES WANTED.

Leadgate Exiles Juniors have several vacant dates, and would like them filled up. Apply to P. Hanlon, Plantation Street, Leadgate.

Waldridge Juniors have some dates vacant. Apply to W. Selkirk, Waldridge Fell, Chester-le-Street.

Consett Celtic would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 11 to 14. Address—R. Batey, 10, Sunderland Row, Consett.

Tow Law Fell Wanderers would like to arrange matches with junior teams within a radius of six miles. Ages, 13 to 16. Apply to Thomas Richardson, Smith Street, Tow Law.

Shotley Bridge Rovers have a few vacant dates requiring filling up with good juniors in the district. Address—J. Nixon, The Bothey, Shotley Bridge.

Lintz Rovers have still open Dec. 26th and April 16th away, and Dec. 26th, Jan. 1st, and April 23rd at home, and would like some good clubs to take them up. Also want fixtures for 2nd team. Apply to D. McGinn, Brickflats, Lintz Colliery.

Tanfield Lea Cæsars would be pleased to arrange matches with junior teams. Nearly all dates vacant. Ages, 12 to 14. Apply to J. Armstrong, Stable Row, Tanfield.

Consett Shamrocks have still a few vacant dates, and would like them filled up with junior teams within a radius of four miles. Ages, 11 to 15. Address—M. Page, 20, Dixon Street, Blackhill.

Waldridge Juniors 2nd have all dates vacant, and want matches within a radius of four miles. Ages, 12 to 14. Apply to W. Selkirk, Waldridge Fell, Chester-le-Street.

Cornsay True Blues would like to arrange matches with good junior teams. Nearly all dates vacant. Ages, 16 to 18. Apply to Thomas Slade, Cornsay Colliery, near Durham.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. E. Shorten and W. Lowther.—Next week.
C. Hall.—Too late.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By "Annfieldite."]

The postal facilities have been re-arranged so that now there are two deliveries in one day, morning at 8.30, and evening at 5 o'clock, but the afternoon despatch has been discontinued, and the despatches are now 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. It would have been better if the 3.45 p.m. could have been retained as this is growing more and more a great business district, it, of course, needs to be looked after by the inhabitants.

The various Societies are now very busy, making their arrangements for the Christmas time, and as trade keeps up so well and money is fairly plentiful, there will be a large display of suitable things for the season.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM.

White-le-Head Circuit.—At the quarterly meeting on Saturday the returns showed a small increase, and the circuit was reported to be in a better financial position than ever before. Mr T. Brabban was re-elected circuit steward. At the next change Rev James Taylor, of St. Helens, Auckland, will succeed Rev M. Johnson, who, after having superintended this circuit five years, is to take charge of the Hexham Circuit. It was resolved to send a letter of sympathy to the relations of the late Miss M. Taylor, of West Cornforth, who, whilst conducting a mission at Marley Mill, had been suddenly attacked with an illness which terminated fatally on Tuesday last.

Westgate (Weardale) Circuit.—The Westgate Primitive quarter-day was held on Saturday at Westgate. The circuit was not divided. Both ministers consented to stay another year.

Crook Circuit.—At the quarterly meeting of this circuit—Rev. G. G. Tetley in the chair—it was decided to make Waterhouses the head of a new circuit, comprising Esh, Hamsteels, Hedleyhope, and Hedleyhill, with Rev P. Macphail as superintendent. Rev G. G. Tetley announced his intention of resigning the superintendency of the original circuit at the next change, and Rev F. Watson was invited to succeed him. Failing him the selection was to be made by a committee. Rev M. Cuthbert accepted an invitation to remain as second preacher.

Chester-le-Street Circuit.—At the quarterly meeting of this circuit an increase of [illegible] members was reported, and the finances of the station were stated to be in a good condition. Arrangements were made to clear the debt off the Kimblesworth Chapel. Rev John Taylor is leaving the circuit next July, after a seven years' stay. By his chapel grant and loan fund scheme and his private liberality the rev. gentleman has cleared a large amount of chapel debts, and Mrs Taylor has worked hard in sewing meetings, while her purse has not been spared in helping trust funds. Rev James Young, from Hexham circuit, succeeds Mr Taylor. Mr Thomas Telford was re-elected circuit steward.

Stanley Circuit.—The quarterly meeting of the Stanley Primitive Methodist Circuit was held at Stanley on Saturday. There was a good attendance of officials from all parts of the circuit. The Rev T. Archer was appointed chairman, and Mr J. Clough secretary, pro tem. The business of the preacher's meeting was of a routine nature. Mr A. Forster was put on as an exhorter, and three young men from West Pelton were nominated to come up for examination next quarter for the plan. At the full board meeting the various reports were submitted which showed the circuit to be in a good condition, the balance left in the hands of the steward after paying all demands was £15, besides £50 which had been expended in renovating the circuit house. Plans were submitted for the building of a chapel and school for South Moor New Houses, and passed on to the District Building Committee. Mr W. Johnson was nominated for the ministry. Arrangements having been made for various services during the quarter. Tea was provided in the school-room for the delegates, by Mrs Brown, of Stanley.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Dec. 3rd.—Before Col. Leadbitter-Smith (presiding), W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.

NON-MAINTENANCE OF A MOTHER.

Henry Atkinson, [illegible] shopkeeper, living in Scotswood Road, Newcastle, and *Robert Atkinson*, his brother, a labourer, also residing along Scotswood Road, were summoned to show cause why they should not contribute towards the maintenance of their mother.—Mr Ralph Walton, one of the relieving officers, stated that defendants' mother (who belonged to Burnhope Colliery) entered the Lanchester Workhouse on the 14th October, and was still chargeable to the Union. He asked for an order of 2s per week to be made upon each defendant.—Henry said that he paid all the debts on the death of his father, and buried him in a respectable manner. He told his mother that there was a home with him—a better home than she had been accustomed to, and she came accordingly, but on one occasion used frightful bad language, because he [illegible] he would give her a pass for the theatre. She left him on her own accord, but he was quite willing to provide a home for her. He admitted that he had carried on a small business in Scotswood Road, but he was barely in a better position than when he was working in the pit, and he had a family of eight children to support. He never expected that it would come to this that he would be brought to court and called upon to maintain his mother.—Mr Walton mentioned that prior to the woman been admitted to the Workhouse, Henry [illegible] to make any arrangement, but offering a house to her. Many people, witness added, were under the impression that if a home was offered to their parents, the Guardians could not take any proceedings against them.—Henry remarked that there was great credit due to him.—The Bench (interposing): We don't think there is much credit when you let your mother come to the Workhouse.—Defendant: She has not been a good mother to us. She fetched five of us up, and both myself and my brother here were sent to work in the pit before we were nine years old. We could neither read or write. We have not cost [illegible] a penny in bringing up.—Robert Atkinson stated that he was only a poor labouring man earning 22s per week. It was impossible for him to pay 2s weekly. If he did so he should have to appeal to the Newcastle Guardians for relief himself.—Mr Walton said that Robert had two sons working, and it was reported that Henry had some money lying in the bank.—Robert declared that his sons barely kept themselves, while Henry avowed that he was £17 in debt. His books at Messrs Emmerson's would show that.—The Magistrates made orders for each defendant to pay 1s weekly towards their mother's maintenance, and to defray 10s costs in each instance.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

John Elliott and *John McGill*, young men, were charged by Sergt. Liddell with fighting at West Stanley on the 20th ult.—Elliott pleaded that he merely stood up in self-defence. The other man "clicked" his ear, and that was enough for to agitate anybody. (Laughter.)—Elliott was bound over for three months, and ordered to pay the costs.—A warrant was issued against McGill, who neglected to appear.

ARREARS IN BASTARDY.

Peter Dickinson, a miner, of Shields, was sent to prison for two months in default of the payment of over [illegible] arrears in bastardy (and [illegible] costs) due to [illegible] Thompson, of Lanchester.

CANDIDATES FOR AN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

The three boys of John Armer—*James*, *John* and *Anthony*—who were remanded to the Workhouse by the Consett Bench prior to being committed to an Industrial School, were again brought before the court. The Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger) read letters from the Earl's House School stating that they could not admit boys under eight years of age, while the Chadwick Memorial School was reported to be full.—The lads were again sent back to the Workhouse pending the release of the father from Durham Gaol on the following Saturday.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Mary Morton, a girl, was fined 6d and 1d damages and costs, for wilful damage at Burnhope by trespassing in a field belonging to Messrs Tolley, on the 14th ult.

Ness Yates, a boy, for catching birds in a wood belonging to Mr Robinson, at Burnhope Colliery, was fined 6d, 6d damage and costs.

DRUNKENNESS.

About twenty topers were fined at the Court.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, Dec. 7th.—Before W. B. Van Haansbergen (chairman), T. Priestman, and [illegible] Forts, Esqs.

[illegible] AT BLACKHILL.

William Young, an elderly person of very respectable appearance, appeared to answer a charge of being drunk and disorderly conduct at Blackhill, on the 3rd inst. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Sergt. Tate alleged that about 10.30 in the forenoon, whilst on duty in Derwent Street, he found defendant drunk and behaving himself in a disorderly manner.—The Chairman (to defendant): Have you any questions to ask the officer?—Defendant: Yes. (To the officer): What was I doing when you saw me?—The officer: You were on your knees with a knife in your hands "howking" the lime off the wall facing the Board Schools. (Laughter.)—Defendant: I was merely cutting a block of concrete standing in a channel. It's there now. Did I do anything else?—The officer: Yes. On the road to the Police Station you took up a handful of mud and began to analyse the same, and pointed out the different ingredients, nitrogen, and oxygen that it comprised. (Laughter.)—The Chairman: We can't ask you questions, but you can tell us, if you like, if you have ever been in an asylum.—Defendant: Yes.—The Chairman: That accounts for it.—Defendant informed the Bench that he was at a wedding party the night before, and on the morning in question it was very wet, therefore he did not go to work. There were many things which annoyed him very much. The first thing that put him about was the bad sanitary arrangements in places, particularly Middle Street, where he lived. On the road there were certain things which he considered an obstruction and stopping the free passage of water, and he took out his knife, and was in the act of removing the same when the officer came up. There were other things which he could complain about. There was a block of concrete in the gutter, and he cut a channel across it with his knife to allow the water to pass along. (Laughter.)—P.C. Bradley corroborated.—Defendant (to officer): Did I buy a pennyworth of apples on the road to the Police Station?—The officer: You were eating apples when I got up to you.—Sergt. Tate informed the Bench that it was correct about defendant purchasing the apples.—Thomas Hodgson, a bricklayer, Blackhill, spoke to defendant being in a lunatic asylum for some time, and had just been released, and when he touched drink it affected him.—The Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): He'd better be drunk as insane.—The Chairman: Defendant should leave the drink alone.—Defendant: Surely a man can remove a piece of paper off a [illegible] to let the water in. He [illegible] which was preventing the passage of water. He had not tasted a great deal of drink since Saturday, and was at one of the churches on Sunday. (Laughter.)—The Chairman: We will dismiss the case, and if so little affects you, I would advise you to give the drink up altogether.—Defendant: I have not tasted 6d worth since Saturday.—The Chairman remarked that the police were quite justified in bringing defendant before them.—Defendant thanked the Bench and left the court.

AN EXPENSIVE "SPREE" AT MEDOMSLEY.

Thomas McDonald, a miner, of Allendale Cottages, was summoned for doing wilful damage to furniture to the amount of 2s 6d, the property of Robert M. Rutherford, landlord of Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, on the 21st ult.—Defendant, who was defended by Mr J. McCartan (Consett and Durham), pleaded guilty.—Prosecutor asserted that his attention was called to the tap room to see the damage caused by defendant. The damage had been repaired, and it had cost 2s 6d.—The Chairman: What does the damage consist of?—Prosecutor: Defendant pulled a table away from its fastenings, also breaking a portion of skirting board.—Jas. Cant spoke to being present when he saw defendant commit the damage. He accused defendant, when the latter swore and told him that he had nothing to do with it.—McDonald broke the skirting board by pushing against it whilst pulling the table away.—Defendant was ordered to defray the damage and pay 1s fine and costs.

McDonald was further accused of refusing to quit, and also with assaulting the landlord at the same time and place. Mr J. McCartan defended, and said defendant was not guilty. Prosecutor averred that when he went into the room, he asked defendant to pay for the damage and go quietly away. Defendant however, refused to go. Prosecutor asked him again, and McDonald placed his hat on the table, and said he would not do so. Defendant struck at him, but he managed to avoid the blow. Defendant made another attempt, and prosecutor and defendant [illegible] fell to the [illegible] defendant [illegible] to save him [illegible] closed with him, and they again fell. When he was picking defendant up, he kicked him on the face. His face was very much disfigured for several days.

Cross-examined by Mr McCartan: Defendant was sober, but he had partaken of drink in the house. He would not swear that defendant was in the house all the morning. There was nothing in defendant's conduct to call his attention previous to the damage being done. He never prevented defendant from leaving the house until he had settled for the damage. He never knocked defendant about. He wanted defendant to pay the damage, and go quietly away. Defendant never told him that he was going to pay the damage the same evening. He never struck defendant. Defendant was on his back when he kicked him, and he was not drunk.

In answer to the Chairman, prosecutor said that defendant refused to pay the damage.

James Cant adduced corroborative evidence.

Replying to the Chairman, Cant stated that prosecutor was standing against the door, but did not prevent defendant from leaving the house. Defendant did say that he would pay but not then.

P.C. Thorogood deposed that when he arrived at the public-house, defendant was lying on the floor, and the landlord was on the top of him. He heard prosecutor tell defendant to go out, and he led him quietly out of the house.

Mr McCartan submitted that defendant had been at a dance at the [illegible] Hall all night, and when the public-house opened [illegible], defendant with some of his companions went in. After defendant's companions left, a stranger said to defendant that he would bet that he could not lift the table. His client being excited with drink, took hold of the table, and pulled it away. The landlord came into the tap room in a strange and blustering way, and said he would not let defendant out until he paid the damage. The landlord began to [illegible] defendant, and the latter in self-defence struck out. The police spoke to seeing McDonald on the ground and the landlord on top of him. There must have been some exciting cause, or else the defendant would never have done what had already been described.

Defendant averred that he went to the hotel shortly after six o'clock in the morning after coming from the dance. He was sitting at the table when someone bet him that he could not lift the table. He consequently put his shoulder under, and it came away. When the landlord came in he was standing against the table. Prosecutor told him to pay, which he replied, "Get out of the way, I'm going out." He said he would pay the damage on Saturday night.—Prosecutor presently got hold of him and shoved him about and then the disturbance arose. He never refused to quit.

Wm. Rutherford gave evidence of being present when defendant lifted the table. A servant came into the room, and went and told prosecutor. With regard to the damage defendant said he would pay for it. The landlord told defendant that he would have to pay for it, and go out. Prosecutor got hold of defendant, and the latter started to strike at him.

The Chairman said they were unanimous in opinion that defendant was guilty, and for refusing to quit he would be fined 5s and costs. With regard to the assault, they would take a lenient view of the matter and they would only inflict a penalty of £1 and costs.—For the two offences the total amounted to £3 9s 6d.

A FAMILY [illegible] A PUBLIC-HOUSE.

Mary Quigley and *Mary Ann Murphy*, two married women, living in Consett, were summoned for committing an assault upon Sarah Quigley, wife of James Quigley, of Newcastle, at Consett, on the 4th inst.—Mr Thos. Wm. Walford, Consett, prosecuted.—Mary Quigley pleaded guilty.—Complainant attested that she left Newcastle on Friday night by the 7.30 train to Consett to transact some business. She had to call at the "Jubilee bar," so she went into the snug. Defendant came in, and Mary Quigley said "Have you as much money as you used to have?" Complainant never spoke. After other remarks which she took no heed of, Mary Quigley took off her hat and flung it under the grate, and presently dealt her a blow which [illegible] two of her teeth. The landlord came in and took hold of [illegible], and defendants followed her, and Mary Quigley snatched up a glass and flung it at her, which caught her on the brow and [illegible] attempted to strike [illegible] prevented by the landlord.

Rachael Roberts spoke to seeing Mary Quigley strike complainant with a glass.—Alex. Roberts said that his wife and complainant came into his house together. There were persons in the snug, and he heard them talking about a family affair. Things became "very hot," and presently he saw Mary Quigley, who was drunk, strike complainant in the mouth. Complainant was struck with a glass, but he did not see it thrown. Mrs Murphy attempted to strike complainant, but she was prevented.—Defendant said that complainant's teeth were false, and she never broke them. She admitted giving defendant two blows.—Complainant was the biggest rogue in Consett, and she was just as good as her any day. Complainant had called her all kinds of names.—Mrs Murphy said that she never struck complainant yet, because [illegible] (Laughter.) Complainant knocked her down on the seat. She would in all probability have dealt complainant a blow if she had [illegible] enough to get.—The Bench dismissed the charge against Mrs Murphy, and fined the other defendant 15s and costs.

OBSTRUCTING THE POLICE AT BLACKHILL.

William Bradley, hairdresser, of Tinmill Place, Blackhill, again appeared to answer the summons charging him with obstructing the police whilst in the execution of their duty at Blackhill, on November 7th. The case was adjourned from last fortnight in order to allow defendant time to procure some fresh evidence.

P.C. [illegible] alleged that whilst he, along with P.C. Haw, was taking a man into custody defendant came up, and taking hold of his arm exclaimed, "You let the man go."

By defendant: He would swear that he used the words stated.

P.C. Haw corroborated.

Cross-examined: The officer stated that defendant obstructed him first and then [illegible] to Pemberton.

Joseph Cowey, [illegible] Aynsley's shop, stated that 11.15 p.m., he saw defendant standing at the corner end whilst the disturbance was going on.

By the police: He never saw defendant take hold of the officer.

In answer to the Chairman, witness stated that he saw the man strike the police. He was in the shop when [illegible] Defendant had several goods [illegible] his hands.

Joseph Siddle said that he was going up Derwent Street when he [illegible] with a man in charge. He witnessed defendant speak to the officers and Pemberton pushed him away.

Defendant said that it would not be policy on his part to go against the police. It would be for him to help them [illegible]. He simply went and warned the officers against the danger they were in, and told them to let the man go home and summons him.

The Chairman said that they had come to the conclusion that defendant did obstruct the police, and his intention might be good, but nevertheless the police must be protected, and defendant would be fined £1 and costs—altogether £2 5s 6d.

A DRUNKEN SQUABBLE AT CONSETT.

Mary Fagan (married woman), living in William Street, Consett, was summoned for assaulting Daniel McCarthy, on the 24th ult. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Prosecutor said that [illegible] and his wife had been drinking all the day in question. At last they met in defendant's house, and they had a quantity of drink together. He never knew anything more until defendant dealt him a blow on the head with a teapot, causing two wounds.—A witness named McCree said that things went on "very mildly" until prosecutor's wife began to be jealous through her husband's conduct. Defendant attempted to put prosecutor out, and the disturbance commenced.—Mrs McCarthy, in a long rambling statement, told the Bench that she and defendant spent the day in drinking. When in defendant's house prosecutor began to put his arms round defendant's neck. Witness got vexed, and told her husband that there would be a row if he did not desist. Getting up to go out she [illegible] heard a crash, and when she looked round she saw her husband covered with blood. Witness never saw the teapot flung. Defendant was a cowardly woman, and should have attacked her and not her husband, and she would have got her equal.—Defendant was not so drunk as to be unable to make a good mark.—Dr Shannon, assistant to Dr G. Renton at Consett, stated that he examined prosecutor. One of the wounds was about an inch long, which extended over the eye brow, and was likely to be done by a teapot, or falling against anything [illegible]. Prosecutor was under the influence of liquor.—For the defence, Mrs Grant said she assisted to put prosecutor out of the house, and whilst doing so he fell against the wringing machine.—Mrs McCree stated they were all fighting hand over head, and she could not say who fell against the machine. Defendant said that whilst sitting by the fireside prosecutor ordered several things, which did not please her, and the latter slapped his face. Mrs McCarthy afterwards tossed her husband's hat into the fire, and she rose to put them out. The children commenced to scream, and Mrs Grant came upon the scene. Prosecutor fell over two chairs and against the wringing machine, which caused the wounds complained of. She never touched the man.—The Bench were of opinion that it was nothing more or less than a drunken squabble, and dismissed [illegible]

FIGHTING.

Robert Craig and *John Armstrong*, miners, were summoned for fighting at Milkwell Burn on the 20th ult.—Craig was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay costs. A warrant was issued against the other defendant for his appearance.

Thomas Cain and *Patrick Donnelly*, miners, were summoned for a similar offence at Dipton, on the 21st ult.—Cain was bound over, and Donnelly was dismissed.

EDUCATION ACT.

Two cases against *William Johnson* and *Thomas Brown*, of Consett, preferred by Mr Wm. Ward, attendance officer, for not sending their children to school regularly, were adjourned for a month.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AT CONSETT.

William Wesley, hawker, was placed in the dock on a charge of attempting to commit suicide by strangulation, on the 3rd inst., at Consett.

Michael Matthews deposed that he kept a common lodging-house in Green Street, Consett. On Thursday, defendant came and took a night's lodging. During the afternoon he observed that defendant acted in a rather strange manner. About eight p.m., from what he heard, he went upstairs and found the defendant with a scarf tied tight round his neck, and fastened with his braces to the top of the bed. He at once cut the scarf with his knife. "If he had not done so, he would have been hung." He consequently went for Inspector Bendle, and handed the scarf and braces to him.

Inspector Bendle stated that about eight p.m. on the night in question, from what Matthews told him, he went to the lodging-house. On going upstairs he found defendant in bed with part of his clothes on. He got him up, and he had a dazed look, and would not speak. Witness brought him to the police station, and sent for Dr Shannon, who came and examined him. Witness had defendant watched all night. Next morning he charged him with attempting to take his life by hanging himself. Defendant replied, "I don't recollect anything about it. I have been drinking very heavy." The scarf and braces (produced) were given to me by Matthews. There was a red mark round defendant's neck.

Dr Shannon deposed that he examined defendant at the police station, and found him suffering from *delirium tremens*. Defendant had a red mark round his neck, due to strangulation, and caused by the scarf being tied tight round the neck. Defendant had not got over his trouble.

Prisoner, on being charged, said that he knew nothing about it. His wife had left him a short time ago, and this trouble had been preying upon his mind.

The Bench dismissed the case on the understanding that defendant signed the pledge.

ANNFIELD PLAIN SEWERAGE SCHEME.

An adjourned ratepayers' meeting was held at the house of Mr J. Lumley, Annfield Plain, on Wednesday night, for the purpose of investigating the contemplated sewerage scheme for the township, and the precept for a special rate for £1,600, together with remuneration to the assistant overseer. After some discussion and explanations it was resolved that the following gentlemen be a deputation to wait upon the Sanitary Authority at Lanchester, to see if possible to have the money borrowed and spread over a number of years for payment:—Messrs J. P. Smith, G. Wailes, J. Russell, J. Lumley, G. R. Hobson, and R. Kay. The meeting was then adjourned for a fortnight to receive their reply.

A vote of thanks to the chairman (Mr G. Ridley, of Stanley), closed the meeting.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

On Wednesday afternoon, the ordinary meeting of this Board was held in the Benfieldside Edge Road Schools, Mr W. Telford (chairman) presiding. The other members present were: Revs Father J. Foran, G. H. Ross-Lewin, Messrs Wm. Ramsay, Hy. Carss, and the Clerk (Mr R. G. Barclay).

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Cheques are required to-day for the following payments:—

	£	s	d
Salaries of teachers:			
Boys department	31	5	0
Girls department	23	12	3
Infants department	7	10	0
Derwent Street School	8	15	0
Salaries of officers	14	0	0
Accounts:			
A. W. Granger	1	9	6
Consett Iron Company	3	14	7
J. G. Murray	0	10	1
Loan Commissioners	277	8	1
Petty cash	0	10	6
Total	£368	14	6

The report was adopted, and cheques for the various amounts were ordered to be signed.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT TO THE ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,—Owing to the influenza and other illness many of the children have been ill. I have entered seven cases in the book of proceedings to be dealt with to-day.

A. McKEAN.

CARETAKER'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,—On Saturday, 7th of November, in the back-yard of the Infants' School, I had to get part of the drainage pipes taken up and cleaned, as they were stopped up with mud. Several of the pipes required to be taken up as they were nearly filled up.

A. McKEAN.

School Returns for the month of October, 1891.

Inspected Schools.	No. on books	Average Attendance	Admitted	Left	Sick
Board Schools—Boys	258	218			
—Girls	260	207	8	5	32
" —Infants	93	66	—	—	10
Derwent St.— "	125	88	7	3	31
Shotley Grove	84	69	3	—	20
St. Mary's Roman Catholic—	210	149	1	2	29
" —Infants	101	64	1	—	16
Total	1036	856	20	10	132
November, 1890	1095	846			
Decrease					
Increase	41	10			

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,—Owing to the prevalence of influenza &c., the attendance has decreased since last month. I have entered in the book of proceedings the cases to be considered to-day.

A. McKEAN.

The reports were adopted.

APPLICATION.

Mr RAMSAY moved that the application of Rev T. J. Storey, vicar of St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, be granted for the use of the Derwent Street School for their annual gathering in Christmas week.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The returns from the various schools were considered and dealt with in the usual way.

Two parents named Stewart and Reid attended respecting the withdrawing and dismissal of their children from the Derwent Street School, and the committee requested the vice-chairman to investigate and report thereon.

The report was adopted.

TRANSFER OF A MONITOR

Mr CARSS moved that Miss M. E. Elsdon, temporary monitor in Miss Harley's school, be removed to Derwent Street School.

This was seconded by Mr FORAN, and carried.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSISTANT-MASTER.

It was agreed that Mr J. Lubbock, of Skelton, should be appointed an assistant-master in the Boy's School.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSISTANT-MISTRESS.

Out of three applications, Miss May Weaver, of Consett, was selected, the candidate to wait upon the Board for the position of assistant mistress.

There was no other business of importance.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Much watchfulness must be exercised at the present time, and the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked, or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, diptheria, quinsey, coughs, chronic cough, bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as near as practicable to the seat of mischief. This treatment, so simple and effective, is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old asthmatic invalids will derive marvellous relief from the use of Holloway's remedies, which have brought round many such sufferers and re-established health after every other means had signally failed.

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

PRESENTATION TO THE VICAR OF LEADGATE.

THIRTY-THREE YEARS' MINISTERIAL WORK.

One of the most enthusiastic gatherings ever held in Leadgate for some time took place on Tuesday night in St. Ives National Schools. The occasion was the presentation of a testimonial to the respected and esteemed vicar of Leadgate (Rev J. W. Mitchell, M.A.), who is leaving the district where he has faithfully laboured for so many years for that of South Hetton, to which he has been presented by the Lord Bishop of Durham. As soon as it became a fact as to what the Bishop had done in promoting Mr Mitchell to a more lucrative living, as a reward for his long service in connection with the diocese, expressions of regret were heard on every hand as to the loss the parish of Leadgate had sustained in the removal of Mr Mitchell, simply because few men were better known, and looked up to, and more highly respected by the inhabitants than he was, and he was well worthy of his position as the good vicar of the parish of St. Ives. Many are the changes that have taken place since Mr Mitchell first took charge of the district. The present church and schools are the result of his efforts, and during his stay in the parish his courage has been indominatable, and his industry has been as great as his patience. Much could be said of Mr Mitchell's good qualities, but suffice for us to state that he was genial, hearty, humorous, and full of the milk of human kindness towards everyone that he came in contact with, and was besides no respecter of persons. He treated the rich and poor of his flock alike, and where charity was needed he freely dispersed the same. At a large and influential meeting of the inhabitants, held in the Infants' School, on Wednesday evening, October 28th, it was proposed, and unanimously carried, that a testimonial should be presented to Mr Mitchell for his services, and a committee was appointed forthwith, with Mr W. Bears as secretary, and Mr E. Todd as treasurer. A subscription list was opened, and the inhabitants of the district responded well to the same, and the result was Tuesday evening's proceedings. Previous to the presentation, a substantial repast in the shape of a supper was provided in one of the rooms, and was partaken of by a large number of parishioners.

In the new schools, a large and fashionable company was present to witness the presentation. The chair was occupied by Coun. G. Nicholson, who was supported by Rev J. W. and Mrs Mitchell, Rev W. Cockin, vicar of Medomsley; Rev R. Tyson, vicar of Dipton; Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, vicar of Benfieldside; Rev T. J. Storey, vicar of Blackhill; Rev A. P. Mitchell, Guisborough; Mr and Mrs Pumphrey, Elm Park; Mrs Cockin, Medomsley; Messrs E. W. K. Balleny, Little Greencroft; G. Clegg, M. Hobson, W. Wharton, J. Parker, M. Willey, Ed. Todd, Wm. Bears, Dr Allan, Leadgate, and others.

The SECRETARY (Mr Bears) read the following letters:—

Consett Ironworks.

DEAR SIR,—I had fully intended coming to Mr Mitchell's presentation meeting this evening. I regret, however, that I am too unwell, and the doctor advises me to go home, and stay at home, and not go out at all this evening. Pray, oblige me, by explaining to Mr Mitchell my great regret at this, and also the regret I have in losing him as a most useful and valuable neighbour. On the one hand it is sad to see him leaving; but I, on the other hand, have to congratulate him on his appointment to a superior place. This district generally will suffer a loss by Mr Mitchell's leaving, as he has been so hard a worker, and a diligent clergyman for so long a time in support of his church and parish.—Yours truly,

W. JENKINS.

Rev J. Kirk, of Stepney, formerly curate of the parish, wrote:—

"I am sorry I am not able to come to the presentation to your good vicar, Mr Mitchell, on account of the distance, &c., but you will convey to the meeting the assurance of my highest esteem and respect for him. During the whole of the time I was at Leadgate, I always found Mr Mitchell a kind, courteous, and Christian gentleman, and though [illegible] I have had connections with [illegible] I have never found one in all respects like him. I am sure all who know Mr Mitchell will wish him God-speed in his new sphere of duty, and though it is hard to part from old friends and faces, yet there is the pleasing anticipation of an occasional visit and return to the old place."

Rev Edward H. Bousfield, of Milton Abbas, Blandford, late curate of Leadgate, wrote as follows:—

"Will you kindly express to the meeting of parishioners of Leadgate my sense of the value of Mr Mitchell's services? The services here are now modelled on those of St. Ives, Leadgate, and they prevent me leaving the parish; but this fact alone is a testimony to the vicar's influence, and at the time I had very different ideals of what church services ought to be. I consider that in these days any parish is to be congratulated on having had a man given to such extremes, and that Leadgate has received a compliment from the Bishop on its vicar being chosen to fill so important a post as South Hetton must be. My feelings of gratitude towards Mr Mitchell are such that they can only be expressed by carrying out here a copy of his work at Leadgate."

Other letters were read from Rev F. Steggall, vicar of Consett; Rev J. Crennell, vicar of Beamish; and Rev J. Gornall, vicar of Collierley, apologising for their absence.

The CHAIRMAN said that in presiding over that gathering that evening, it gave him very great pleasure to perform such a pleasing duty. They were all aware that Mr Mitchell had been called to a fresh field of labour. He was pleased to see such a large gathering present to do a great homage to whom it was due. (Applause.) It was about 28 years ago since Mr Mitchell came into this parish, which was a new one at that time, and during the whole of that period he had been busily engaged. Shortly after his arrival he set to work in building the church. Further extensions were afterwards made in building operations in the shape of schools, &c., for a considerable time. The last addition made through the efforts of Mr Mitchell was the building they occupied that evening, which had been erected at a cost of something like £800. (Cheers.) Whilst Mr Mitchell looked after the various responsibilities connected with the parish, he also found time to look after the education of the children. (Applause.) In seeing to education, Mr Mitchell did not neglect the spiritual wants of the young and rising generation. (Applause.) They regretted the loss the parish would sustain in the removal of Mr Mitchell, because he was ever ready and willing to help forward any good cause. He had no hesitation in saying that they were met to do honour to whom honour was due, and [illegible] Mr and Mrs Mitchell were well worthy of [illegible] that were about to be presented [illegible]

Mr PARKER, [illegible] of the oldest parishioners of the village, [illegible] gave him [illegible] to bear [illegible] of the good qualities of their [illegible] (Applause.) He had been acquainted [illegible] ever since he entered the district, [illegible] he knew something of his travels [illegible] of the parish during that time, [illegible] Mr Mitchell had received, had given [illegible] satisfaction. The presentation was from [illegible] of all denominations. The removal of Mr Mitchell from the district was almost like a calamity. The promotion of Mr Mitchell and his family, he was sure, had not been sought after, but it came direct from the Bishop, as it was his wish that Mr Mitchell should be removed. (Applause.) He remembered very distinctly the time when Mr Mitchell came amongst them. The first service was held in the National School at the west end of the village, and the reading desk and lectern that they could boast of at that time was the schoolmaster's desk. (Laughter.) Mr Mitchell had laboured hard during his stay amongst them. He (the speaker) had the good fortune to have Mr Mitchell as his next door neighbour at one time. One day he remarked to the rev. gentleman that his high calling and office ought to afford him a better house to live in. Mr Mitchell told him that he was better off than his Master whilst he was upon earth, and that he had a shelter for his wife and family. He (the speaker) next made reference to the great difficulties that Mr Mitchell had experienced during the building of the church, &c., and he (Mr Parker) going down to the bank to draw some money when there was none. The absence of a School Board for the district was entirely due to the efforts of Mr Mitchell. The district had found in Mr Mitchell a great benefactor. The duties allotted to him had been faithfully discharged, whether in preaching the Gospel, administering parochial affairs, visiting the sick, or performing the last rites over those who had been called away. (Applause.) Mr Mitchell was well fitted for the duty that he had been called to fill, and he hoped that he would go forth to his new district greatly encouraged, knowing that he carried with him the best wishes of the inhabitants of Leadgate. (Applause.)

Mr W. McIVOR said that he would but add a few words to the graceful tribute paid to Mr Mitchell by the preceding speakers. In common with the rest of the parishioners, he regretted that they had lost Mr Mitchell's services. The loss of a faithful and earnest pastor must always be a cause for regret. He felt sure that they all keenly felt when they considered that in the future they would see but rarely the kindly genial face so familiar to them all. He had known Mr Mitchell since his childhood days, and he had always found in him a courteous and cultured gentleman—(applause)—and one who had constantly striven to raise the spiritual and social condition of people. (Applause.) Mr Mitchell had ever been earnest and zealous in his endeavours to raise to a higher and loftier plane the moral and intellectual position of his parishioners. (Applause.) He (the speaker) well remembered that long before their legislators thought of free education they had free education in their parish. A good number of years ago, when Mr Mitchell was younger and more vigorous, he had a night school for working men and boys, and acted as teacher himself. The education itself was free, and the only expense incurred by the pupils was the trivial expense of the gas. He (the speaker) was one of the recipients of the benefits of that night school, and he should ever remember with gratitude the sacrifice made by Mr Mitchell, and the zeal he displayed while following the very trying vocation as teacher. He thought that under no other circumstances were Mr Mitchell's kindly and sympathetic nature better displayed than under those circumstances and conditions so inevitable to human life; those conditions of trial and sorrow, where his ready sympathy cheered many a sad and drooping heart, and where, remembered for no other service he would be remembered for his kindness and sympathy. (Cheers.) But whilst regretting Mr Mitchell's departure from their midst, he (the speaker) thought they had also reasons for congratulating him on his promotion. Mr Mitchell's preferment to the parish of South Hetton must be looked upon in the nature of a promotion and a recognition by the Bishop of Mr Mitchell's long and faithful services in the diocese. He believed the geographical limits and conditions of Mr Mitchell's new parish would be better suited to his advancing years, than the large area and rough roads of the present parish. In conclusion, he (the speaker) asked Mr Mitchell to accept the presents which were about to be presented to him from the parishioners and friends outside the parish, not for their intrinsic value, but as a token of their affectionate esteem and regard. (Applause.) He thought all present would endorse his hope that God would bless Mr Mitchell's efforts in his new sphere of labour, and he trusted that the evening of life with Mr Mitchell and his family would be pleasantly prolonged amongst his new parishioners. (Applause.)

Owing to the absence of Ald. W. Jenkins, J.P., Mr ED. TODD, a churchwarden, made the presentation. He stated that he had known Mr and Mrs Mitchell ever since they came to the district. As a churchwarden he had been brought into close connection with Mr Mitchell, and he could say that from the very first their worthy vicar had taken a keen interest in all that pertained to the welfare of the district. (Applause.) Now that Mr Mitchell was leaving them it afforded him great pleasure to present to him a purse of gold and a silver salver, which bore the following inscription:—

"Presented, together with a purse of gold, to the Rev J. W. Mitchell, M.A., by the inhabitants of Leadgate and district, on his leaving the parish for South Hetton, in loving recognition of his faithful services during his pastorate of 28 years. 1891."

(Cheers.) It gave him pleasure also to have to present to Mrs Mitchell this very handsome silver teapot, and he trusted that the two recipients would be long spared for years to come to enjoy their presents. (Cheers.)

Mr MITCHELL, on rising, was heartily applauded, and in acknowledging the gifts was deeply affected. He said that he did not think in all his life that he desired more fully for words to express his feeling than at the present time. The chairman and the various other speakers had spoken kindly of him, and of the kindly feeling that existed in the parish. (Cheers.) He had been conscious of that feeling for a long time, and more so when he looked upon the presents that had been presented to him that evening. (Applause.) The change had come to him unexpected, but it had come, through God's providence, as a very welcome offer, not only on behalf of himself but for them also. A change was sometimes very acceptable for both people and pastor. He was strong and vigorous as yet; but in advancement of years, he felt that he could not hold out to the requirements of the district. Speaking of the parish he was about to proceed to, he said that it consisted of half the population of Leadgate and one-fourth its size, and would be more fitted for him. (Applause.) If he had had his own way he would have taken a quiet country parish. He loved the north country people, but for a long time he had wished for a country living. However, providence had made the change, and he must abide by the same. The chairman had spoken of the great works that he accomplished amongst them, and he would say that whatever he had done had always come from a willing mind. He always tried to do his best for the people of the parish, and he hoped the feeling that existed would go on to the end. (Cheers.) The district was sometimes called "sleepy Leadgate," but he would assure them that they had managed their affairs with as much success as their neighbours that made a great noise. A great deal that he had accomplished was due to the success of his parishioners. The church had been consecrated 24 years last October, and he had been amongst them over 27 years. He would gladly confess of the work done in the district by the dissenting bodies, but the church had taken the lead in a noble self and devoted manner. It gave them every encouragement. If such noble deeds of his own, not only done by himself but by his friends around about him, had met with such approval, he could safely say that a great deal more could be done for the district. Not only with regard to church matters had much been accomplished, but a great deal had been done to "sleepy Leadgate" since he came to it. Through the energy of that body known as the Local Board, the village had undergone a change, but they had not done all they desired. They had one of the most commodious villages in the county of Durham. (Applause.) One thing they needed to be done, and that was that the houses of the working men should be enlarged. (Applause.) This question had been near to his heart for a long time. He remembered once mentioning the question to the late Mr Jonathan Priestman, at that time the esteemed manager of the Consett Iron Company, and he was very glad to say that shortly afterwards some improvements were made. (Applause.) Since then he had broached the directors on the matter, and he was pleased to say that they were going to carry their purposes into effect. (Applause.) If he was to try to give expression to his feelings he would break down. He would always think of the kindness of his parishioners and the clergy of North-West Durham. Better neighbours he never met with. (Applause.) It was with feelings of deep regret which he thought of leaving them. Many would be the faces that he would see no more. Just think of the labours of [illegible] About half of the population of the parish had been baptised in the church, and about the 16th of it had been laid in the churchyard during his stay amongst them. There was a tie between pastor and people. He must thank them from his heart for all their kindness, and for the presents they had given him on that occasion. He thanked all his colleagues, church sidesmen, and Sunday school teachers for the help they had given him. He did not wish to mention any names, but amongst his many benefactors was the Consett Iron Company, and through the kindly aid of the esteemed manager (Ald. W. Jenkins, J.P.), his powers had been helped considerably, and enabled him to do much for the welfare of the parish. (Applause.) He asked all his workers to go on in the good work of the Lord, and to support the new vicar who was about to come amongst them. He would ask the ladies to go on with the good work in decorating the church. It only wanted a stained-glass window to complete the same. The purse of gold presented to him would be very acceptable, but he would inform them that he would have to be very hard pressed before he would part with its contents. (Prolonged cheers.)

Rev A. P. MITCHELL, on behalf of his mother, acknowledged the present. He said that his mother unfortunately did not belong to the modern class of lady speakers. He was sure he was expressing the feelings of his mother and sisters when he said how deeply thankful they were to all for their kindness to his father and themselves during the long years they had been amongst them. His mother was deeply grateful to the friends of the neighbourhood for the present that had been presented to her. His mother would not require a teapot to remind her of the many kindnesses that she had received from their hands. (Applause.)

Rev G. H. ROSS-LEWIN added his testimony to the good character of Mr Mitchell, and said he was a true Churchman. Mr Mitchell had laid a solid foundation, and did not believe in a man having a prayer book and not using it. Mr Mitchell was never ashamed of his church. He would have his reward, and in days to come he would be known as the late vicar. (Applause.) Mr Mitchell would leave the district with the respect of everyone, and the appointment that he had received was one of the best that the Bishop of Durham could have made. (Applause.)

Dr ALLAN, assistant to Dr G. Renton at Leadgate, said that he had known Mr Mitchell for seven years, and he found him to be a man of considerable courage. He treated the rich and poor alike, and spoke a kindly word to everybody. (Applause.)

Rev T. J. STOREY also spoke, and said they could not do better than carry out Mr Mitchell's teaching, and try and follow his example. (Applause.)

The customary votes of thanks, and the singing of the National Anthem brought the pleasant gathering to a close.

On Sunday evening, Mr Mitchell preached his farewell sermon in St. Ive's Church to a large congregation. His address was founded on the [illegible] Epistle to the Philippians [illegible] verses. The rev. gentleman [illegible] assistance that he had received from his parishioners during his stay amongst them, and trusted that the help he had received would be extended to his successor.

At the close of the service, the choir rendered the *Te Deum.*

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[illegible]

Not in the history of Weardale was it ever known a time when there was so much sickness and suffering as at present—principally from influenza and its consequences. The number of people ill is something very unusual. The doctors have a terrible time of it. There has been a number of sudden deaths. Men who were at work on the Monday and Tuesday were lifeless ere the week closed. This autumn has been unusually productive of disease, and will long be remembered. After a wet summer, cheerless and cold all through, a wet autumn has succeeded, and we are continually breathing a damp atmosphere, which tells its tale upon weak-chested people. November, with its unhealthy fogs, spread illness all around. Old people have suffered most severely. Weardale is surrounded by vast tracts of wet and undrained moorland, which attracts rain and, in a season like the one just past, the continual damp air we breathe tells its tale upon the public health. It is a standing disgrace to our legislature that there should be so much waste and uncultivated moorlands spread over a large area of country—and kept so merely for sport—which would make capital land, and which, if properly drained and cultivated, would materially improve our climate, besides giving employment to hundreds who leave our shores to cultivate other lands far away.

The Stanhope Wesleyans had, last Wednesday, a treat of an intellectual character from the Rev Mr Ingram, chairman of the Newcastle district. They have had several similar treats of late.

Mr J. Walton, of Saltburn, and Mr J. V. Walton, of Witton-le-Wear, have each sent a donation of £5 towards the fund for the liquidation of the debt recently incurred by the Stanhope Wesleyans in their chapel renovation, and acquisition of their new organ.

One of the Stanhope shopkeepers was, the other day, surprised to see a customer return with a hat he had bought, but not paid for. The customer told the shopkeeper he had brought him 1s 6d, which was all it was worth—the price being 2s 6d—and he would give him no more for it. The shopkeeper took his hat back, and then ordered the bald-headed man out of his shop in the street *minus* a hat of any kind. He was glad to pay the price asked at the nearest shop.

"Troubles ne'er come in single file, but in battalions." So said the immortal bard of Avon in his day. It is still true to-day. A working man at Frosterley has for some time now been suffering from an internal complaint. When a bread winner in a house is stricken with disease it fares ill with those depending on him for their support. It makes matters much worse when his partner in life is also stricken with disease too. A case of this kind has occurred in Frosterley to Mr and Mrs George Cox. The good lady was suffering from a rupture, which got strangulated, and the aid of Dr Robinson, of Stanhope, was called in, who performed a very critical but skilful operation upon her, by cutting her open and adjusting the strangulated intestine, and I hear she is recovering and doing well.

The lecture and lessons on dairy management by Miss Maidment at St. John's Chapel are the right thing in the right place. The Durham County Council have done well to inaugurate a series of lectures and practical lessons on butter-making in a dale like Weardale. It is a pity they have missed Stanhope. In a dale like this, where the breed of dairy cows is difficult to equal, and the land is second to none in most parts of England for dairy purposes, butter-making ought to be more studied than it is. Weardale ought to produce excellent butter. Generally speaking it does not. Many of the larger farmers produce excellent butter. The exception seems to be among the smaller farmers, whose fault is keeping the cream too long before making it into butter. Some three dozen or more of the maids and matrons of Weardale have entered themselves as students under Miss Maidment, who gives practical lessons in butter-making each successive Friday. No doubt she will find some difficulty in breaking down prejudice against any innovation or improved scientific method; yet if we have to keep pace with other butter-making countries such as Denmark and Normandy we will have to advance on our current methods and adopt generally those of a more scientific character. Judging from the credentials of Miss Maidment, [illegible] who have [illegible] Royal Agricultural and exhibition honours, Weardale is fortunate in securing her services. [illegible] the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and her lectures and practical lessons on butter-making are very instructive. The [illegible] maids and matrons would do well to carry into practice the instructions she gives.

Some of the local newspapers last week gave a very interesting account of the Rev Hugh Gilmore's colonial career and work. He died from internal cancer on October 24th, and such was his popularity in North Adelaide that his funeral was of a most imposing character. The cortege was a mile-and-a-half long, contained 150 vehicles, and included all the local Trades and Labour Councils, Workingmen's Associations, Democratic Clubs, and representatives from other public bodies and religious societies. Such was the esteem and respect in which he was held in Australia. He was deservedly popular. Weardale made him so. Prior to his coming into Weardale, he was little known. It was here he made himself name and fame. The School Board fight at Stanhope, and the successful issue to which he brought it, made him famous. Many will remember his vigorous address, standing as he did, among a number of clergymen, in a waggon in the Market Place, Stanhope, advocating the claims of education to a large gathering of ratepayers from all parts of the dale. He was made superintendent while in the Westgate Circuit, after which he took some of the best circuits in the north. Presenting as he did a rough exterior, he had as kind a heart and as generous a disposition as was ever possessed by man. Once a street Arab, and gathered up from the streets by the great Dr Guthrie, he rose to eminence. He was loved in life, and in death is much lamented.

Benefit concerts for people who have happened accidents, been unfortunate, or off work through illness, are now common in the lower part of Weardale. In this way, many a poor creature's heart is made to dance for joy, and the donors are no worse but better for having helped a neighbour in this way in time of need. There is one poor fellow—John Ridley—who happened an accident at one of the Stanhope quarries, whereby he lost a foot, deserves one. Certainly he is in one of the clubs, but having to go to Manchester for a cork foot, it entails heavy expenses. As he was a member of the Primitive Methodist Choir, perhaps they will take the hint and get up a concert for him this Christmastide.

The Weardale railway extension is the principal topic of conversation, especially in Upper Weardale. There is a chance of getting it up now, as both the Midland and the North-Eastern Companies have each made a survey, and will each have a bill before Parliament seeking powers for railway extensions. Between the two, Weardale is sure to get a railway which would give a lift to its decaying industries.

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. [illegible] service as a curative or palliative [illegible] Dr Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician [illegible] Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: [illegible] extended trial, I have found your [illegible] Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost [illegible] of throat disease."

Business Announcements.

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MR. H. MARKHAM,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

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THE FINEST TEA IN THE WORLD AT THE PRICE,
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COMPARE IT WITH TEAS AT 3s. PER LB.

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A BRAWN kept at Butsfield Abbey. Terms, 5s each Sow. 157h

37 AND 96 are the WINNING NUMBERS of the Pigs drawn for at Castleside. 170h

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SPARROW SHOOTING AT CASTLESIDE.

J. HALL will give TWO PIGS to be SHOT for on Saturday, Dec. 19th, near the Fleece Inn. Usual Conditions; to commence at One o'clock. 171h

EDMUNDBYERS.

SALE OF WORK & CHRISTMAS TREE, on New Year's Eve, and January 2nd. See Bills for further notice. 143h

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

MONDAY December 14th, and during the week for the first time in Consett, the Great Drama, "A GOLDEN CHANCE," with all the Special Scenery and Effects. 207h

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

IN connection with the above, a MUSICAL SERVICE will be held in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, on Sunday Night First, December 13th. To commence at 8 o'clock. Collection. Pledges. All seats free. 142h

CONCERT.

FREE CHURCH ANNUAL CONCERT will be Plain, given in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield on New Year's Day. First-class Artistes have been engaged. Doors open at 6·30; Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock. 173h

BLACKHILL PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

ON SUNDAY, Dec. 20th, TWO SERMONS will be Preached by the Rev ROBERT BALGARNIE, D.D., Bishop Auckland. Morning at Half-past Ten; Evening at Six o'clock. For further particulars see Bills. 147h

PARISH OF TANFIELD.

A MEETING of RATEPAYERS will be held in Tanfield Church Vestry, on Monday, Dec. 14th, 1891, at 7 p.m., to make a Special Sanitary Rate, and transact other Business.

JOSEPH WATSON } Overseers.
GEORGE RIDLEY }
174h

NOTICE.

OLD TEACHERS & SCHOLARS RE-UNION.

THE TEACHERS of the Annfield Plain Wesleyan Sunday School will be glad to have the Company of all old Scholars and Teachers who may have been connected with the School during the last 40 years, on Christmas Day at 2 o'clock. A Social Tea will be provided for all. 82h

NOTICE.—JOHN R. GASCOIGNE, formerly of Old Cornsay, intends COMMENCING BUSINESS as FURNITURE REMOVER and GENERAL CARTMAN, with all kinds of TRAP WORK FOR HIRE, on Thursday, Dec. 17th, 1891, at the Station Hotel, near Witton Gilbert Station, when by strict attention to business he hopes to receive a fair share of Patronage from the inhabitants of the surrounding District. 85h

STANLEY WESLEYAN CHURCH.

ON WEDNESDAY, Dec. 23rd, 1891, REV P. MACKENZIE will PREACH in the Afternoon at Three. After the Service a PUBLIC TEA will be provided. Tea on the Tables at 4·30. In the Evening, the REV P. MACKENZIE will deliver his new and Popular LECTURE on "The Gospel and its Rivals. Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock by J. BUCKHAM, Esq., Lanchester. Tickets for Tea and Lecture, Reserved Seats, 1s 6d; Tea and Unreserved Seats, 1s; Tea only 9d; Lecture, Unreserved Seats, 6d. Reserved Seats by Vestry Door. Proceeds in aid of Church Trust Fund. 140h

JOHN G. ARMSTRONG,
AUCTIONEER, WATCHMAKER, AND JEWELLER,
MEDOMSLEY, R.S.O.

SCALES AND WEIGHING MACHINES REPAIRED. 592g

STOBART'S SALVES may be had at North Eastern Hotel, Hexham; White Horse Inn, Groat 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. 606a

LOOK HERE.—FOR

STATIONERY of every description, FANCY and other USEFUL ARTICLES.

☞ Spectacles for all Sights.

BOOKS BOUND, PICTURES FRAMED
TRY
J. COCKBURN,
STATIONER, CONFECTIONER, &c.,
13 and 14, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

ACCIDENTS AT ALL TIMES—IN ALL PLACES,
INSURED AGAINST BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
ESTABLISHED, 1849.

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CAPITAL, £1,000,000.
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Head Office:—64, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.
W. D. MASSY, } Secretaries.
A. VIAN, }

Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

MR. VALENTINE SMITH,
Assisted by the Principal Members of his
GRAND OPERA COMPANY
WILL GIVE ON
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17th, at 7·30 p.m.,
SELECTIONS FROM THE
"MESSIAH,"
AND A
GRAND MISCELLANEOUS
BALLAD CONCERT.

Prices of Admission—Stalls (Reserved) 3s.; Unreserved, 2s.; Back Seats, 1s. 156h

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of Members will be held on the 12th day of December, 1891. Chair to be taken at 6·30 p.m., when the Business on the following Requisition will be considered:—

Copy of Requisition for Special General Meeting.

"We the undersigned Members of the Consett Co-operative Society do hereby request that a Special General Meeting of the Members of this Society be called at an early date, for the purpose of taking into consideration the advisability of paying a seperate Dividend on all Purchases in the Butchering Department, and also for the purpose of considering the advisability of having the position of Manager and Secretary held by seperate persons, instead of by one as at present."

Signed by

Mr M. T. STOBBS,
,, WM. ROBSON,
,, WILLIAM ATKINSON,
,, ADAM NIXON,
,, NICHOLAS ROBSON,
,, DANIEL WILLIAMS,
,, WM. RICHARDSON,
,, J. T. MUIR,
,, WILLIAM YOUNG,
,, ROBERT CARRUTHERS,
,, ROBERT KILBURN,

Mr ANDREW DICKINSON,
,, THOMAS YOUNG,
,, ROBERT PATTINSON,
,, JOHN WILSON,
,, JAMES THOMPSON,
,, WM. ALMOND,
,, J. H. HALL,
,, THOMAS ROBSON,
,, WILLIAM NICHOLSON,
,, WILSON CLAYTON,
,, JAMES R. MAXWELL.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB
County Cup Holders, 1891.

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT for the CONSETT Y.M.C.A. CONCERT and SUPPER, on Dec. 29th. 184h

MUSIC LESSONS.

LESSONS in PIANO, ORGAN, and SINGING, given by J. SURTEES, Organist of Consett Church, at his own or Pupils' Homes. Graduated scale of Fees.

ADDRESS :—
2, CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL. 123h

JAMES PALLISER,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TEA MERCHANT,
47 and 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

For GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS, J.P.'s Prices and Quality are not to be surpassed.

J.P.'s TEAS at 1s 4d and 2s per lb., are specialities for Christmas.

PLEASE GIVE ONE TRIAL. 116h

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

GREAT SUCCESS OF THE BIRMINGHAM, SHEFFIELD, AND STAFFORDSHIRE SALE COMPANY.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

LAST DAY OF SALE, MONDAY, DEC. 13th. Great Bargains. 10,000 Articles to choose from. EVERY ARTICLE 6½d.

DON'T FORGET MONDAY, DECEMBER 13th.

E. S. BELL AND CO.,
TAILOR AND DRAPERS,

ARE now Showing OVERCOATS, BOYS' REEFERS, and MEN'S SUITS suitable for the CHRISTMAS SEASON.

OVERCOATS from 15s 6d to 30s.
BOYS' REEFERS from 2s 6d to 6s 6d.
MEN'S SUITS from 15s 6d to 35s.
BOYS' SUITS from 2s 11d to 12s 6d.
HATS, CAPS, AND MERCERY IN ALL THE LATEST STYLES.

The Bespoke Trade is under E. S. B.'s Special Care, who has given such general satisfaction for the last 26 Years. A splendid Selection of Fashionable Cloths for the Season. Men's Overcoats and Suits all made at the lowest possible Price.

N.B.—All Garments made on the Premises; not Factory made.

FOR FIT AND STYLE WE CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

E. S. BELL AND CO.,
11, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, DEC. 14TH, 1891.—50 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 10 Fat Cattle; 160 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 5 Store Cattle; 9 Finger Calves, Horse, 14½ h.h.

Entries to Day of Sale.
Sale at Half-past Ten a.m.
199h J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

CHRISTMAS SHOW AND SALE is now fixed to be held on Monday, December 21st, 1891. Additional entries should be sent in at once in order to advertise fully numbers entered.
200h J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr. J. G. Smith.

Consett and Blackhill.
Desirable Investments.

J. G. SMITH is instructed by the Mortgagees to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. William Eltringham's, Station Hotel, Blackhill, on Friday, December 18th, 1891, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon precisely, the following PROPERTIES, all situated in Cemetery Road:—

Lot 1. The DWELLING-HOUSE, known as "Whitehale Lodge," containing Two Sitting Rooms, Three Bedrooms, Two Attic Bedrooms, Kitchen, Bathroom, Lavatory, &c., with Yard and Outbuildings.

Lot 2. The DWELLING-HOUSE, known as "Primrose House," containing Two Sitting Rooms, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Kitchen and Scullery, with Yard and Outbuildings.

Lot 3. A BUILDING SITE, adjoining Lot 2, comprising about 400 Square Yards, with Coachhouse and other Erections.

Lot 4. A BUILDING SITE, adjoining Lot 3, containing 500 Square Yards or thereabouts.

Lot 5. A Seven-Stalled STABLE, with Yard, &c., in the occupation of Dr. Renton, approached from Dixon Street.

Lot 6. Four GRASS FIELDS, with Hay Shed, Byre, &c., extending from Durham Road to the North-Eastern Railway, containing 18a. 2r. 24p., in the occupation of Mr Turner, Dr. Renton, and the Consett Cricket Club.

The above Properties are all Copyhold of the Manor of Lanchester.

Lot 7. The FREEHOLD PROPERTY, 6 and 7, Tin Mill Place, Blackhill, comprising a Shop and Eight Rooms, with Yard, &c., in the occupation of Messrs. Turner and Clements.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Ingledew, Dagget, and Fenwick, Solicitors, 3, Dean Street, Newcastle; or to the Auctioneer.

3, West Street, Gateshead, Dec. 3rd, 1891. 163h

By Mr James Turnbull.

Farm Stock Sale at Bunker Hill, near Leadgate, 1½ miles from Consett Station.

MR. JAMES TURNBULL, having received instructions from Mr JOSEPH RIDLEY, will SELL BY AUCTION on Wednesday, Dec. 16th, 1891, the whole of his VALUABLE FARMING STOCK, &c., comprising:—

5 HORSES.—Bay Horse, 6 years old, 16 h.h.; Grey Mare, rising 4 years, 16·2 h.h.; Brown Mare, 10 years, 16·2 h.h., in Foal to "Young Derwent Lad"; Bay Horse, 7 years, 16 h.h.; Bay Cob, aged. The Horses are a useful lot.

36 HEAD of CATTLE.—7 Cows, calved and to calve; 2 Incalving Heifers; 15 S.H. Heifers, and 1 S.H. Bullock, 2 years old; 6 Yearling S.H. Steers and Heifers; 4 Finger Calves; and 1 Fat Cow.

32 SHEEP.—13 Mule Ewes, Second Crop; 4 H.B. Shearling Gimmers; 10 Mule Hoggs (been with the Ram); 4 Fat Lambs; 1 B.L. Shearling Ram.

Brood Sow and Poultry.

PRODUCE.—4 Stacks of Early Oats; 1 Barley; 2 Wheat, Straw to remain; Quantity of Potatoes.

The usual Implements of Husbandry, Harness, &c. Also, a portion of Household FURNITURE.

Sale at 12.30 p.m.

As the days are short, the Auctioneer particularly requests a prompt attendance. The Horses and Stock are worthy of the attention of Agriculturists and others. 160h

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 1891.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PRIZE SHOW AND SALE OF FAT STOCK.

Upwards of 60 Prize and other Fat Cattle, weights to suit all classes of Butchers.

250 Fat Sheep, including all classes, with a preponderance of Prime 3 and 4 years old Scotch Wedders.

A number of Prime Veal Calves, Dairy Fed Pork, Fat Geese, Turkeys, and other Poultry.

Useful Horse, 15 h.h., quiet, and good worker in all yokes.

Excellent Mare Pony, 5 years old, perfect in saddle or Harness, and sound.

Other Miscellaneous Lots.
Judging at 10·30. Luncheon, 12 o'clock.
Sale at 12·30.
One Week Free Keep on all Prize Stock.
196h J. S. MURRAY.

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.

ANNUAL EVENING ENTERTAINMENT, NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

Sales by Auction.

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

Monday, December 21st, 1891.—Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett.—Sale of the remaining portion of the Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture and Effects, removed for convenience of Sale.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett, on Monday, December 21st, 1891, the following Superior HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and Effects:—Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase, Walnut Loo Table, Handsome Walnut Chiffonier with Marble Slab, Mahogany Sofa, Mahogany Couch in Hair, Leather Couch, 6 Chairs, in Hair-seating, 6 Windsor Chairs, Rocking and Arm Chairs, Useful Kitchen Press, Brass Fender and Fire Brasses, Carpets and Oilcloths, Handsome Mahogany and other Bed-room Furniture, 2 Chests Drawers, a Splendid Lot of Iron and Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses, Feather and Down Beds, 3 Cornice Poles, 2 Plated Tea and Coffee Services, Pair of Spanish Bullock's Horns, Cutlery, Glass and Earthenware, and other Effects, and remainder of Drapery Stock. Also, Excellent Bridgport Organ, with 11 Stops, Knee Swells, Bass and Treble Couplers, and all latest improvements; Splendid Harmonium, 5 Stops, by Alexandre; Revolver in case; Pair of Horse Pistols in case, and other goods belonging a Gentleman leaving the Neighbourhood. 209h

Sale to commence at One o'clock, precisely.

NOTICE.—The Two FREEHOLD COTTAGES, Numbered 35, John Street, and 24, Pitt Street, Consett, occupied by Messrs Malone and Lamb, at a gross Rental of £18 4s, not having been SOLD at the Auction, at the Railway Hotel, last (Thursday) Night, may be Treated for Privately, on application to Mr ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

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.

By Mr. John Crawford.

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

JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL, at the above Rooms, on Monday, December 21st, 1891, a lot of Valuable Mahogany Household FURNITURE, &c. 203h

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr Wilkinson, to SELL BY PRIVATE TREATY, that Valuable BUSINESS PROPERTY situate at Catchgate:—Large Shop and Six Rooms; also Shop and Seven Rooms, Large Building Site at the rear, with Stable and Cart Shed standing thereon. —For full particulars apply to John Crawford, Auctioneer, Consett. 20th

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 Meynel, 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. 905a

By Messrs. Hobson & Nicholson.

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.

WEDNESDAY, December 16th, 1891. Present Entries—

A number of Fat Sheep, Fat and Keeping Lambs, Dairy and Grazing Cattle, Pigs, &c. Also, Grand Shorthorn Bull, 18 months old. Entries taken up to day of sale.

119h GEO. R. HOBSON, WILLIAM NICHOLSON, } Auctioneers.

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

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.

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. Interest, repayable at Three Months' notice.

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Publ (Incorporated) Accountant, Secretary

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 IRWIN PACK HORSE INN.

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

On Monday night, in furtherance of the candidature of Mr John Dunville (unionist) for North-West Durham, Mr Frank Healy, of London, addressed a meeting of the electors at Hamsterley Colliery.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30TH NEXT,
For which
MR. M. B. SPURR

WEATHER CHART FOR DECEMBER.

Mr B. G. Jenkins, F.R.A.S., London, gives the following as the probable weather for this month:—A dry month. Low barometer during the first half of the month. Easterly gales about the 5th, 9th, and 14th. Fog about the 15th. Snow about the 29th. Temperature: A high temperature during the first half; low during the last. Rain: Over an inch. Prevailing winds: N.E. and S.E. Easterly winds predominate.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

TO ADVERTISERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

☞ Advertisements or news sent by train, should be addressed to RAILWAY STATION, CONSETT, *To be called for*. If not so addressed, the railway officials are compelled, by a recent enactment, to post all letters at the nearest post office.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

I am under the impression that the majority of my readers will be at one with me in thinking that those who rely upon the County Council doing much for the furtherance of technical education will lean on a broken reed. It seems to me—and I know pretty well what is being said and done—that the Consett district will have but little difficulty when the day of reckoning comes of counting the gain and balancing the profit and loss account. Instead of a round sum of money being allocated to the district by the Council, to be used as the local committee think fit, it has been arranged to float a course of lectures, to commence in February next, and in the event of the venture turning out a failure the Consett Iron Company, acting under the advice of Mr Jenkins, is prepared to meet the outlay and make both ends meet. Very good for the Consett Iron Company; but the suggestion does more credit to Alderman Jenkins's, the general manager, heart than his head. What the inhabitants of the Consett district have the right to expect is not favours from the Consett Iron Company but justice from the County Council.

THE POINT AT ISSUE.

It is recorded in Holy Writ that there is a time to reap and a time to sow, and the experience of modern times also proves that there is a time to act, in order that the tide may be taken at the flood and thus lead on to fortune. This naturally leads me to refer to the cardinal points at issue between the Durham County Council and the inhabitants of Consett. Are the public to understand that the grant vested in the hands of the council is worth neither more nor less than a few lectures, which the Consett Iron Company, or somebody, has to pay for either in whole or in part? I beg to remind my readers that that is exactly the present position in relation to the Council and the public of Consett. If that is so, it follows that either the Council have little to bestow, or the people of Consett have little to expect. It seems to me that if the details are to be carried out on such lines, it is high time that a new leaf should be turned over, and the word failure written over the preceding one. The public may reasonably look for something better, and if its representatives see to it, they may depend upon it that they will have the pleasure of gathering fruit in due season, if it is not beneath them to conform to the ordinary methods by virtue of which success is assured.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The Consett Wesleyan Band of Hope inaugurated the winter session by a concert in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, on Thursday se'nnight. Mr Geo. Lowes presided over a good audience.

Last (Thursday) night, at the Railway Hotel, Consett, Mr A. Brodie, auctioneer, offered for sale two freehold dwelling-houses situate in John and Pitt Streets, Consett. There was a good attendance. Biddings rose to £110, when the lot was withdrawn.

Mr T. W. Welford, Consett, acted as soliciter for the prosecution in the two cases tried at Durham Assizes last week for the Consett and Lanchester Petty Sessional Division.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—In connection with the above a meeting was held on Tuesday night in the new room of the National Infant Schools—the vicar (Rev F. Steggall) in the chair. Rev Fredk. Glanvil, late missionary in Ceylon, attended as deputation, and gave an appropriate address.

MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON.—At the Practical Examination held in Newcastle, on Dec. 4th and 5th (Dr E. M. Lott, examiner), the following pupils of Mr. Geo. Dryden, Consett, successfully passed in pianoforte playing:—Senior division—First-class honors, Miss M. I. Smith, South Moor. Primary division—Miss Annie Redshaw, Consett, and Master Robert A. Aitkin, Dipton.

MUSICAL EXAMINATION.—The following pupils of Mr T. Jones, music emporium, Church Street, Consett, have passed successfully in the practical examination in pianoforte playing at the Musical International College, London, held in Newcastle, on Dec. 5th (Dr E. M. Lott examiner):—Primary division, Miss Florence Storey, South Pontop Colliery. Junior division, Miss E. M. A. Wilkinson, Catchgate. It is pleasing to note that the latter name has passed three examinations this year—two practical and one theoretical.

THEATRE ROYAL.—*Noble Love*, by Mr Chas. H. Herberte and his talented company, is being performed here this week with successful results. "Will Barton" is ably represented by Mr Chas. H. Herberte, and as "Fancourt Fothergill" Mr Wm. Rodgers is most excellent. Mr Leslie Carter is a good "Charles Standing," whilst as "Reuben Angelo Spriggs" Mr Joe English keeps the audience in roars of laughter, being ably assisted by Miss Ada Burkinshaw as "Madge." Miss Florence Cook Brandon as "Joy Hesselwade" is very pathetic, and is well received, besides being loudly *encored* for her singing of "Far away"; and as "Cora Hesselwade" Miss Ada Garratt is perfection. A speciality introduced by Mr Joe English —viz., "Lightning cartoons," is well worthy of mention. Altogether it is an excellent play, and is equally well played.

THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE-SERGEANT PRATT. —Our readers will hear with regret that another good old servant has left our district—namely, Sergt. Wm. Pratt, who has retired on his well-earned pension after 36 years' service in the Durham County Constabulary, the last ten years having been spent in the Consett division, stationed at Consett Iron Works, at which place he has earned the esteem and goodwill both of officials and workmen. It is gratifying to learn that his long and faithful service is not to be forgotten, for at a meeting of officials and workmen, held in a room at the Police Station (kindly granted by Supt. Oliver), on Saturday—Mr E. Whittaker in the chair—it was decided to present Sergt. Pratt with a marble timepiece and a purse of gold, towards which a good sum has already been subscribed. The subscription list will be kept open until the 2nd January, so that anyone wishing to subscribe can do so by applying to the hon. secretary, P.C. J. Thompson, 1, Puddlers' Row, Consett. It was also decided to have concert, at which to make the presentation, notice of which will be given shortly.

THE Refined Musical and Literary Entertainer, has been Engaged.

THE TEMPERANCE SERVICES.—The customary musical services in connection with the Consett United Temperance Association took place in the Co-operative Hall, on Sunday night; there being a very good attendance. The duties of chairman were performed by Mr Jesse Hall, manager of the Consett Co-operative Society, who, as a teetotaler of 27 years' standing, said he considered himself a fair specimen of a temperance man. (Applause).—It had been arranged for the United Methodist Free Church choir, Blackhill, to contribute to the usual programme of music, but the majority of the members were afflicted with influenza. Mr G. T. Egglestone, the zealous secretary, accordingly had to secure other artistes at short notice.—Miss Egglestone sang, with conspicuous ability, "A hand held out to thee." Mr Robinson, who has a rich tenor voice, which ought to be carefully cultivated, gave an exceptionally good rendering of the song, "Rocked in the cradle of the deep," and the Misses Lumsden contributed the popular hymn, "Jesu, lover of my soul," their voices sweetly and harmoniously blending together. Miss Fawell officiated as accompanist. During the course of the evening Mr Venice Dunn delivered an address on the temperance question. Rev T. Durant offered the doxology, and the proceedings terminated after a collection had beed made on behalf of the working expenses. There can be no doubt that these musical meetings, which are held just after the church and chapel services have ended, are accomplishing a vast amount of good in preventing people—especially the young—from straying along evil pathways, and it is earnestly hoped they will be, at least, self-supporting in a pecuniary sense to warrant the committee continuing their noble work during the winter months. The services will be held weekly, and the programme will be varied. Volunteer artistes are requested to give in their names to any of the committee for future arrangements.

BLACKHILL.

HIGHGATE BAPTIST CHURCH.—On Tuesday night, a lecture of an interesting and highly entertaining character was given in the Baptist Church, Blackhill, by Mr S. B. Burton, of Newcastle, on the subject of "A tour through Palestine." Mr P. Teare, schoolmaster, Benfieldside, occupied the chair, and there was a fair audience. The remarks of Mr Burton were illustrated by a great number of beautiful and brilliant views enlarged by a powerful magic lantern, and the lecture was of a most enjoyable character.—Votes of thanks to Mr Burton and the chairman terminated the proceedings.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

ST. CUTHBERT'S PARISH MAGAZINE for December contains a chronicle for the past month of church news, another instalment of parish records, and a copy of "The dawn of day," which is to enlarge to 20 pages next month.

ST. CUTHBERT'S, BENFIELDSIDE.—A conference of the clergy and lay representatives of the rural deanery of Lanchester was held in St. Cuthbert's Parochial Room, on Thursday, November 26th, after evensong in St. Cuthbert's Church. All the parishes in the deanery—with one unavoidable exception — were represented. The following representatives were elected on the various diocesan institutions. Diocesan Conference, clerical—Revs W. Cockin, M.A., and T. J. Storey, M.A. Lay—Messrs John Booth, Shotley Bridge, and W. Logan, Langley Park. Diocesan fund—Rev W. Cockin, M.A., and Mr Booth. Lay Helper's Association—Rev F. G. Wesley, M.A., and Mr C. F. Scott, St. Aidan's. Church Building Committee—Rev F. W. Glyn, M.A., and Mr T. L. Gledstone. Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts—the Rural Dean (Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, M.A.), and Mr C. F. Scott, St. Aidan's. Church of England Temperance Society, secretary for the deanery—Rev E. G. F. Macpherson, M.A.

TANFIELD.

TANFIELD DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.—At a committee meeting held in connexion with the above society the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That we express our deep regret at the loss we have sustained through the death of our secretary, Wm. Wilson Armstrong."

EDMONDBYERS.

A christmas tree and sale of work is announced to be held in the Board School on New Year's Eve and Saturday, Jan. 2nd, 1892. See bills and advertisement for further particulars.

LEADGATE.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—On Saturday, the 21st anniversary of the Leadgate Industrial and Provident Society was celebrated by a tea and concert. An excellent tea was provided in the Infants' National School, and was partaken of by upwards of 400 members and their friends. The tables were presided over by the following ladies: —Misses Grey, Armstrong, Wanless, Rogerson, Lee, McGowan, Small, and McCabe, assisted by Mesdames Forster, R. Boustead, Walton, and Johnson. The concert was held in the Miners' Hall, and there was a capital company present. Rev J. W. Mitchell occupied the chair, and delivered an address on "Co-operation." A first-class programme of music was rendered by the following artistes:—Messrs Nixon and party, Shotley Bridge (instrumentalists); Misses Dent, Castleside; Mr J. Walton, Leadgate; Mr John McTaggart, Blackhill; Mr T. Clennell, Castleside; Mr B. Duckworth, Newcastle; Mr C. Stelling, Blackhill; and Dr W. Allan, Leadgate. Mr G. Stephenson presided at the piano.

MEDOMSLEY.

CONCERT.—On Monday night, a concert was given in the National Schools, Medomsley, in aid of the church clearing fund. The artistes were Miss Weaver, Consett; Miss Matthews, Blackhill; Rev J. Bridges, Tanfield; Messrs Arnold, J. Symington, G. Dryden (Consett), and others.

CONSERVATIVE SMOKING CONCERT.—In connection with the local Conservative Association a highly successful and largely-attended smoking concert was held at Medomsley on Saturday evening. Mr G. Hunter officiated as chairman, whilst Dr Mann occupied the vice-chair. A good programme was gone through. Songs were rendered by Dr Mann, Messrs A. Wallace, J. Taylor, R. M. Rutherford, W. Mansell, J. Ross, jun., Geo. Moon, J. Mathieson, T. Turner, and J. Royston Booth. Mr S. Mace, jun., and Master Davison contributed several solos on the violin. Mr J. R. Booth delivered an address on legislation affecting combination, and then spoke of the importance of combination for political purposes. Short addresses were also delivered by the Chairman, Dr Mann, and Mr G. Lane. Messrs J. R. Wood and S. Mace, jun., made most efficient accompanists. Votes of thanks to the chairman and those who had contributed to the passing of so enjoyable an evening were heartily awarded, and a general desire was expressed that such social gatherings should be held frequently.

WHITE-LE-HEAD.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday evening, the deputies of White-le-head inaugurated what is intended to be an annual social meeting amongst the men employed in that capacity by a supper at the house of Mr R. Atkinson, Waggon Inn. After ample justice had been done to the excellent repast, provided by the hostess, Mr J. Gray was voted to the chair, and Mr T. Pringle to the vice-chair. The loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly honoured and success to the local trade drunk with enthusiasm, the chairman called upon Mr T. Crisp to do the pleasurable part of the programme, which was to present Mr R. Gladders with a silver-mounted stick, subscribed for by his brothers in occupation. Mr Crisp in a short but pithy speech reminded the party that Mr Gladders born, bred, reared in the place had by his manly conduct and generous disposition endeared himself to those who daily came in contact with him, and hoped he would long live to have as much pleasure to look upon it as thay had in presenting it. Mr Gladders feelingly replied. The rest of the evening was spent in a very harmonious and enjoyable way.

ADMISSION.—Reserved Seats, Numbered, 2s; Second Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d (No Tickets issued).

CATCHGATE.

Mr J. R. Wilson, of the firm of Messrs Bush and Wilson, solicitors, Newcastle, has just been appointed clerk to the Greencroft School Board in the place of Mr W. Dickinson, solicitor, Consett.

THE FORTHCOMING COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION. —On Saturday afternoon, a meeting of miners' representatives was held at Catchgate for the purpose of selecting a labour candidate to be in readiness for the forthcoming election of the County Council for the Kyo, Dipton, and Greencroft division. Mr J. Hall, of Shield Row, was in the chair, Mr Wm. Maudlin, of Pontop, acting as secretary. Several candidates were named; but it ultimately rested between Mr William Fitzpatrick, of Annfield Plain, and Mr J. W. Taylor, of Dipton. A deputation waited on the two chosen candidates, when Mr Fitzpatrick at once stood aside, leaving Mr Taylor the chosen candidate of the miners for the division. A large working committee was appointed to arrange for public meetings to be held and other matters, when the time arrived for such action to be taken.

LANCHESTER.

ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS.—It is generally acknowledged that one of the principal duties of innkeepers is to provide food and lodgings for *bona-fide* travellers, and, if we mistake not, one of the conditions on which their licenses are granted is that their houses are so arranged that travellers can be comfortably accommodated. This it seems is not the opinion of innkeepers within one hundred miles of Lanchester, who, it is stated on good authority, have each refused to give lodgings to a respectable gentleman whose mission to Lanchester recently was to instruct and amuse the inhabitants. We trust for the credit of the licensed victuallers that the charge is groundless, as, if correct, it will no doubt be brought against them on a future occasion. Hitherto the only opposition to the renewal of licenses has come from our police authorities, who have testified whether the occupier has conducted his house in a respectable manner; but another opponent—the temperance party—will probably appear on the scene and insist that the publican shall not only supply drink, but food and lodgings, when requested by those entitled to it.

FUNERAL OF MR JOHN SHIELDS, J.P.—The funeral of Mr John Shields, J.P., of Western Lodge, Durham, whose death occurred on Tuesday morning, took place at Lanchester on Friday. The funeral cortege left Western Lodge at half-past ten, and arrived at Lanchester about half-past twelve. A large number of friends also journeyed by rail. The body was met at the entrance to the church by the Rev Canon Tristram, the Rev Canon Knight (Derby), and the Rev H. E. Fox (Durham), by whom the funeral service was conducted. The funeral was very largely attended. The principal mourners were one of the sons and one of the daughters of the deceased, several members of the family being abroad.

FROSTERLEY.

SKILFUL SURGICAL OPERATION.—A very skilful surgical operation was performed by Dr Robinson, of Stanhope, on Wednesday se'nnight, on Mrs Geo. Cox, of Frosterley, who had a strangulated rupture. The strangulated intestine was put right, and the lady is now doing well.

DEATH OF MRS WALTON.—After a brief illness the death of Mrs Walton, The Poplars, Frosterley, took place on Tuesday. Her sudden death is much regretted, and has cast quite a gloom over the quiet little country village of Frosterley. Well-known in Wesleyan circles, she was first and foremost in every good word and work. Her kind and social disposition, her generous nature, her genial ways, and her kindness to the poor, have won for her the esteem and respect of all classes. The deceased lady was a staunch supporter of the Wesleyan Methodists, but her sympathies went beyond the pale of her own church, temperance societies, bands of hope, and Sunday-school work, found in her a warm supporter and benefactor. Any appeal to Mrs Walton for help on behalf of any good cause, always met with a liberal response. She was widely known, and much respected. She is mother of Mr J. V. Walton (Witton-le-Wear), Mr J. Walton (Saltburn), and Mrs Livingstone, wife of Councillor Livingstone, M.D. (Stanhope).

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

SEWERAGE SCHEMES IN THE DISTRICT.—A Local Government Board inquiry was held on Friday, at Chester-le-Street by Mr Arnold Taylor, deputy chief engineering inspector of the Local Government Board, London, as to schemes for works of main sewerage and sewage disposal respectively for Birtley, Edmondsley, Sacriston, Daisy Hill, and Witton Gilbert.—Mr D. Balfour, jun., representing the engineer (Mr D. Balfour, M. Inst. C.E., F.G.S., of Newcastle and Houghton-le-Spring), explained the plans and estimates of the works. The proposed total loan for the whole of the works is £13,800, including land purchase, the loan for land to extend for fifty years, and for the works thirty years.—After due consideration of the schemes by the meeting, the inspector (Mr Taylor) expressed himself fully satisfied with the proposed works as being most efficient and economical in the circumstances. Referring to the under-drainage of the land, he recommended, from his special experiences over the country, that it be altogether moderate in extent, and laid under foot-roads or permanent wide ridges, as shown on the plans, to carefully secure lateral and not direct filtration, and so as to provide for the best effluent and purification. Provisional orders for the compulsory purchase of the several lands had already been obtained, and the various sites previously visited, and approved of by the inspector.

SHOTLEY FIELD.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—A fruit banquet and entertainment was held in the above place on Shotley Field, on Saturday night, Mr Dickinson, Shotley Field, presided, and made known the object of the meeting. An excellent programme was arranged by Mr T. Hall, of Blackhill. There were three courses of fruit. In the absence of Miss Oliver, Mr Ridley officiated at the harmonium. The usual votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

IVESTON.

On Saturday, Hannah Elsdon, aged 63 years, living at Hanging Stone, near Iveston, suddenly expired while sitting at the bedside. No inquest was held.

BLAYDON.

LOCAL BOARD.—The monthly meeting was held at Blaydon, on Tuesday week, Mr Wm. Douglas presiding.—The Clerk (Mr H. Dalton) presented the month's accounts, which amounted to £315 2s 1d, and the same was ordered to be paid.—The Medical Officer of Health (Dr P. Brown) reported that since his last report two or three cases of typhoid fever had occurred. Fortunately, they were of a mild type, and the patients were now convalescent. There was a considerable amount of illness over the whole district.

WEARDALE.

BENEFIT CONCERT AT ROOKHOPE.—A concert was held at Rookhope on Saturday evening in aid of the family of Joseph Wilson, who, through temporary insanity, is now in Sedgefield Asylum. The artistes were principally local.

Mr Thomas Coulthard, butcher, Westgate, who has been ill for two months, still lies in a most critical state. On Monday, his medical attendant, Dr Hewitson, called in Dr Robinson, of Stanhope, who operated on his chest, and opened a large abscess of the lung.

LECTURES ON DAIRY MANAGEMENT.—A course of lectures appointed by the Durham County Council to be given at St. John's Chapel, Weardale, on "Dairy management" has commenced. The first was given on Friday evening, 27th ult., by Miss Maidment, demonstrator by appointment to the Royal Agricultural Society of England. Mr Rashton, secretary to the local committee, presided. At the close some three dozen maidens and matrons entered themselves as students. The lecture was given in the Town Hall. Miss Maidment's lecture on butter-making was very instructive. The pleasant young lady dwelt on the probable difficulty of breaking down prejudices, and showed that current methods were behind those of Denmark and Normandy. The dairy farmers of those countries, she said, were at present masters of the situation, which ought not to be, as the cattle, meadows and maids of England were undoubtedly the best in the world. Judging by the credentials of Miss Maidment's pupils elsewhere, who have carried Royal Agricultural and exhibition honours, the district is fortunate in securing her services.

PLAN of HALL may be seen, and Seats booked on Application to W. RAMSAY, Blackhill. 115h

During the interval, Silver Medals, which have been generously provided by J. DUNVILLE, Esq., will be Presented to the Members of the Winning Team in connection with the recent Cup Competition. In the unavoidable absence of the donor, the Presentation will be made by Alderman U. A. Ritson, J.P., of Newcastle. 181h

TOW LAW.

A lantern lecture on "Contemporary History," was given in the Wesleyan School-room, Tow Law, on Monday night, by Mr Brewer. Mr A. W. Emmerson occupied the chair.

CONCERT AT TOW LAW.—A concert was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Tow Law, on Monday night. The programme consisted of choruses from great composers, and hymns and chants specially selected. The soloists were: Mrs Rycroft, Witton; Mr J. Hughes, Miss Hughes, Master Hughes, and Mr Josh. Raine. The instrumentalists were: Messrs M'Donald, Hildreth, G. Hind, and J. Hind: conductor, Mr Hobson, harmoniumist, Mr F. Raine. Rev M. Cuthbert occupied the chair. He spoke of the very unfavourable weather. There was a good attendance.

RABBIT AND CAT SHOW.—The second show of the Tow Law and District Fancy Rabbit, Cat, and Cavy Society was held in Dat's Castle, on Saturday, and was largely patronised. Mr Thos. Sneath, of Bowden Close, was judge. The following is a list of the awards:—Belgian hare, any age —1 and 3, J. Teasdale; 2, J. Smith. Silver grey, any shade—1, 2, and 3, R. W. S. Batson. Silver brown—1, J. Teasdale; 2, J. Smith; 3, H. Little. Silver, under six months—1, J. Teasdale; 2, J. Smith; 3, H. Little. Dutch, black or blue—1 and 2, J. Smith; 3, G. Sanderson. Dutch, any colour—1, J. Smith; 2, Batson; 3 G. Sanderson. Himalayans—1, R. W. Batson; 2 and 3, J. Moses. Himalayans, under six months—1, 2, and 3, J. Moses. Angoras, any age—1, Batson; 2 and 3, Little. English, any age—1, J. Garthwaite; 2 and 3, J. Teasdale. Selling class—1, Batson; 2 and 3, J. Greener. Gift class, rabbits—1, Batson; 2, J. Garthwaite; 3, H. Little. Cat, any colour or age—1, G. W. Halliday; 2, G. Sanderson; 3, Batson. Rough cavy, any variety—1, 2, and 3, G. W. Halliday. Rough, under four months—1, G. W. Halliday; 2, J. Smith; 3, G. Sanderson. Agouti or silk—1 and 2, G. W. Halliday; 3, J. Holding. Tortoiseshell—1 and 2, G. W. Halliday; 3, Batson. Tortoiseshell and white—1, H. Little; 2 and 3, J. Moses. Broken colour—1 and 3, G. W. Halliday; 2, H. Little. Smooth, under four months—1, J. Holding; 2, H. Little; 3, G. W. Halliday. Gift class, cavies—1, J. Holding; 2, G. W. Halliday; 3, J. Greener.

STANHOPE.

There was a daily average of 35 workmen off work through influenza last week in one quarry alone, at Stanhope—that of Newlandside. Other quarries have suffered in a similar ratio.

Mr Thomas Foster, of The Square, Stanhope, died very suddenly on Sunday morning. He was at work on the Monday and Tuesday at Newlandside quarry.

Hall Stephenson, the young man who was recently hurt at Newlandside quarry baring by a fall of earth coming upon him, is also recovering very nicely.

It is currently reported that the late Mr John Tinkler, who was interred at Stanhope last week, died worth about £14,000.

Mr John Joseph Collingwood, a workman at Newlandside quarry, got his knee severely hurt by a screw-jack falling against it with great force one day last week.

NEW VICAR.—Rev Mr Jepson, Hartlepool, has been appointed vicar at Stanhope, and has now entered upon his work.

OPENING OUT OF A GYMNASIUM.—A gymnasium was opened in the Hartwell School, Stanhope, on Saturday evening. Rev A. E. Burdekin, curate, delivered a lecture on "Egypt," illustrated by magic lantern views. The rev. gentleman was dressed in Egyptian costume.

A SUCCESSFUL YOUNG LADY.—Miss Clara Smurthwaite, daughter of Mr James Smurthwaite, quarry manager at Newlandside, has received word that she has earned the first prize for pupil teachers of her year of apprenticeship, given in connection with the Durham and North Yorkshire Pupil Teachers' Association. Miss Smurthwaite is a teacher at the Wesleyan day school, Stanhope.

DEATH OF MR FRANCIS VICKERS.—The funeral of Mr Francis Vickers, of Ox Close, near Shadforth, auctioneer and farmer, took place at Stanhope churchyard on Tuesday. Deceased was well-known among the farming class as auctioneer at the local auction marts. He was brother to Coun. J. Vickers, of Tow Law, and son of Mr Francis Vickers, of Belle Vue, Stanhope. He had been ill for some time, and became a little better and went to the Auction Mart on Monday week, where he got a chill and had a relapse, which brought on inflammation of the chest, from which he gradually sank. He was 33 years of age, and was much respected.

LOCAL BOARD.—At a special meeting of the Stanhope Local Board, held on Monday evening—Mr J. W. Roddam presiding—the Board received notice from the North-Eastern Railway Company of the extension of the railway up into Weardale, which might affect their footpaths or drains. No objections were offered, provided the Railway Company made all good again.—A petition from the occupiers of houses living through the gates at the Butts was also received, asking them to repair the road and make it good, which they had torn up by re laying sanitary pipes. The Board decided to make it good.—They also asked for a lamp to be erected down below Dr Robinson's residence for the benefit of those living in the Butts Gardens. It was left over for the present.—There was other routine business.

MR. VALENTINE SMITH'S GRAND ENGLISH OPERA COMPANY.

On Thursday next, Mr Valentine Smith and several of the members of his grand English Opera Company will visit Consett and give an evening concert, consisting of extracts from the "Messiah," and miscellaneous pieces. Mr Valentine Smith (who is a native of Barnard Castle), is well-known in the North of England, having appeared in Italian opera and English opera for many years. He will be assisted by Madame Julia Lennox, the charming soprano, Miss Joy McNeil, the Scottish vocalist, Miss Theresa Gilbert, the gifted contralto, Mr Kneal Campbell, the popular baritone, and Mr T. H. Wood, the eminent basso, Mr Fred. Board, the Birmingham organist, will preside at the piano. As Mr Smith is marked, on the programme to sing "Comfort ye," and "Thou shalt dash them," besides "Come into the garden, Maud," local music lovers may anticipate a great treat.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "CASTLESIDEITE."]

The special services at the Wesleyan Chapel are being conducted by Mr T. C. Elliott this week. The congregations are good.

An excellent entertainment was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Saturday night, by the Leadgate Wesleyan Band of Hope choir. Solos were rendered by Messrs J. Stewart, G. Hedley, and H. Curry; also by Misses L. Bartle and Williams. Readings and recitations were given by Messrs G. Williams, N. Parker, and Miss J. Parker. The chair was filled by Mr J. Ripley. A substantial supper was provided in the school-room by Mrs T. Raine, and realised £3.

The ordinary meeting of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board was held on Monday, when all the members were present, viz:—Messrs T. J. Muse (chairman), R. Walton, M. Lee, C. J. Walker, and W. Pattinson. The attendance officer's (Mr W. Walton) report showed a falling off in the attendance, which is due in some degree to influenza, but in a larger degree to indifference on the part of parents. The master (Mr T. Duckworth) in his report complained of the same thing, and further mentioned that Miss Raine had returned to school after her protracted illness; also that Miss H. Allison, the newly-appointed infant mistress, commenced her duties on Monday morning. Number of children on the roll, 100 boys; 113 girls—total, 213; average present, 150; average absent, 63; percentage, 76; cash to hand, £2 19s 1d; arrears, £3 5s. Cheques were signed for £19 5s 9d. Balance in the bank, £4 8s 7d.

SUSPICIOUS DEATH AT LANGLEY PARK.

POISONED BY STRYCHNINE.

HOW DID HE GET IT?

On Saturday, Mr John Graham, district coroner, and a jury assembled for the third occasion at the Langley Park Hotel, to investigate the circumstances resulting in the death of Thomas Gott, aged 42 years, a coalminer, residing at No. 20, Railway Street, Langley Park, who expired suddenly on the 6th November under very singular and suspicious circumstances. The deceased was well known throughout West Durham as a prominent sportsman, and took an official part in all athletic events which came off in the immediate vicinity. There was a good deal of interest manifested in the inquiry, the room being filled with people.

The Coroner, at the outset, read over the depositions of Elizabeth Gott, wife of the deceased, tendered at the opening inquiry on the 7th ult. Mrs Gott, who sobbed bitterly while in the court, stated that her husband died at two o'clock on Friday afternoon, Nov. 6th, in his own house. He went to work at the Langley Park Colliery on the fore shift on that date, leaving the house about three o'clock in the morning, and seemed to be no worse than usual except that he had complained of a burning pain in his stomach on the previous night. He did not eat anything before he went out, and left home without taking any food with him, which was his usual custom. He carried with him, however, a glass bottle, which his daughter Jane had filled with cold water the night before. Her husband returned from work about eleven a.m. Witness was not aware if he drank the water out of the bottle. Gott partook of some breakfast, and then complained of his stomach. There was, he said, a terrible burning inside his stomach. He asked her to get him a little toast for his breakfast. Witness and the daughter Jane, who is 19 years old, prepared tea and toast. Her husband then washed and dressed himself in his ordinary clothes. The next thing he asked her was to make him some sulphur. She had some powder in the house, in one ounce packets, labelled "Finest Distilled Flowers of Sulphur," similar to the packet handed to P.C. Readman, and bought at the Daisy Hill Co-operative Stores a week prior to her husband's demise. Some of the sulphur had been used in the family, as one of the daughters (Hannah) had come home from service suffering from a skin disease, which went through the whole family. The sulphur was mixed with milk, and her husband drank it, and also imbibed a quantity of cold water, obtained from a tap in the pantry, their water being supplied by the Weardale and Shildon Water Company. Directly he drank the stuff he complained of its taste as being mixed with salts. Mrs Gott, however, herself tasted some of the sulphur but could not find any [illegible]. Her husband told her to throw the sulphur into the fire, adding, "We'll not get any more of it." Just before he said this, Mrs Simpson, a neighbour, had come in. Gott motioned with his hand to his daughter Jane (who was deaf and dumb) to put the remainder of the packet into the fire, but witness did so herself. About 12.30 her husband said he felt sickly, and would like to throw up, accordingly she (Mrs Gott) mixed him some mustard and water, which he drank, but even that did not cause him to vomit. Shortly before one o'clock Gott lost the use of his legs, and witness had to help him upon a seat. Hitherto he had been walking about the house. He then requested her to go to the Langley Park Hotel for some whisky, and on her way home again she met Mrs Simpson running for the doctor. There were some neighbours in the house when she arrived. Soon afterwards Mr Carr, assistant to Dr Sinclair, came and saw her husband. The doctor went to the surgery, and returned with a powder, which he [illegible] and administered to Gott. [illegible] into bed. Her husband never tasted the whisky that she fetched him, and had nothing more to eat and drink than what she had already mentioned.

The Coroner (to witness): Since you gave evidence at the opening enquiry, you have recollected that he had something more?

Witness: Yes. I had then forgotten that he took three pills just before he went out on the morning that he died. Those pills were a part of some [illegible] that he bought himself a month previously from a Sunderland man [illegible] travels about [illegible] medicines. Some of the pills [illegible] P.C. Readman. I also gave the policeman a packet of the sulphur which was purchased at the same time as that contained in the packet given to my husband. I am quite certain that he had nothing else given to him.

The Coroner: Have you ever had any rat or other poison in the house?—Witness: No, never.

Have you ever bought any?—[illegible] life. I [illegible] house [illegible] of the family. I have [illegible] children, one of whom is working and the rest are [illegible] upon my hands. We have been married 22 years, and during that period my husband and myself have always lived happily together.

Ann Simpson, wife of Robert Simpson, also a miner, living at Langley Park, deposed that between eleven and twelve o'clock on the date referred to she went into Gott's house, and found him busy washing himself, and he was trying to be sick. She said, "Gott, what's the matter with you?" He replied, "I have [illegible] some milk and sulphur, and have never been well since I got it." Witness observed, "Tom, milk and sulphur has no taste. I have taken it many a time." He answered, "I have never taken any which had such a queer taste as this. It has a salty taste." Witness went away, but was sent for again shortly after noon, and she proceeded to the house. She said, "Gott, are you no better yet?" He replied, "No, Mrs Simpson, I'm a great deal worse." He requested her to go for the doctor, and she ran and fetched Mr Carr, who came at once and saw Gott. The doctor proceeded to the surgery, and brought a powder, which he gave to Gott, and subsequently sent for more medicine. Witness stayed till Gott died about two p.m. He stretched himself up, and was very much convulsed, just like having fits before he expired. Witness had known the Gotts ever since they came to the place from Beechpark Colliery ten or eleven years ago. The couple agreed very well.

By the Jury: Gott was "twitching" at the back before he took the powder from the doctor. He did not take the second dose of medicine. Witness was under the impression that he blamed the sulphur as being the cause of his illness, as he had been worse ever since he took it. He told her to seek the doctor, as he said that he was dying. He confessed that he had taken some mustard and water.

Elizabeth Plant, wife of Christopher Plant, a miner, spoke to purchasing a quarter of a pound of sulphur at Daisy Hill Co-operative Stores on the 30th October for Mrs Gott. (Bill produced.) There was neither rat nor mice powder amongst the purchase. On the date he died, after he had been lifted into bed, Gott said, "I have 5s. hidden underneath the stairs above the door, which you might get and give to our Bell" (his wife). He was holding her hand at the time, and witness shouted to Mrs Gott to get the money. He did not say anything about any money being due to him in bets about dog racing. He complained to her that the sulphur had made him bad.

P.C. Readman gave evidence of receiving the sulphur, pills, and other articles from Mrs Gott, who told him her husband had desired her to throw into the fire the rest of the packet from which the sulphur had been taken and given to him. Witness asked her if she had another of the same sort of sulphur in the house and she told Mrs Plant to bring an unopened packet out of the window. Witness handed that packet over to Supt. Oliver on Friday night, 20th Nov. Mrs Gott told him then about her husband getting the pills. She gave witness a pill box containing 20 or 30 pills. The articles, after being sealed up, were taken by him on the Coroner's order to Mr W. F. K. Stock, county analyst, Darlington.

The evidence of Patrick J. Davies Carr, assistant to Dr George G. Sinclair, of Esh, was read as under:—He was called on Friday, 6th inst., to see Gott, and on arriving at the house at one p.m. found him sitting in a chair, a woman on his left, and a man on his right hand helping him to keep his seat. His right hand was between his thighs holding to the seat of the chair, his left hand being held by the man on his left side. There was a utensil at the foot in case he might have vomited, an emetic of mustard and water having been previously given to him. Witness examined Gott, and found the pupils of his eyes dilated, the muscles beating, and he was thrown into spasms every four or five minutes, while at times he "clutched" hold of a chair. He complained of a burning sensation and a griping pain in his stomach. His pulse were beating intermittently. Judging from the symptoms, witness perceived that strychnine had got into the system. The doctor gave the man an antispasmodic, which he swallowed with the greatest difficulty, and shortly afterwards got him to take a [illegible]. Gott was assisted into bed, and seemed a little easier. Mr Carr next put a few grains of magnesia into a glass of water, and advised the relatives to give the mixture to Gott in case he was able to swallow it, while he (Mr Carr) went to the surgery to telephone for Dr Sinclair. He returned after the lapse of about ten minutes, and found the spasms stronger and more quicker, the pulse fast failing, and the skin clammy. Death ensued about two p.m., after some convulsions and slight [illegible] about the back.

The Coroner said that the foregoing was the report of a gentleman who had carefully examined his patient, and [illegible].

Dr Sinclair, [illegible], of Esh, described the result of his *post-mortem* examination made on the body of Gott on the [illegible]. Having indicated the various symptoms, witness mentioned that he found the lungs absolutely black, this being caused by working so many years in a dusty coalmine.

The Coroner: Is there no remedy for that, doctor?—Witness: The only remedy I can suggest is that miners should avail themselves of every opportunity during their holidays and leisure moments of going into the country and getting as much pure air as they possibly can.

The Coroner supposed that persons employed in white-lead works, and grinders at Sheffield, who were always working in the midst of specks of dust flying about would be affected in the lungs in a somewhat similar way. Was there no means of preventing this by the use of respirators, implements, or something of that kind occasionally, so as to check certain fine powder finding its way into the stomach and settling on the lungs?

The doctor said that the use of respirators would certainly tend to prevent particles of dust from entering the mouth.

The Coroner remarked that some attention was being paid to watering the coal dust in mines with a view to preventing explosions. He suggested that if this plan could be more extensively adopted it might be the means of keeping the dust down.

Witness: It might be done.

The Coroner: It is a very important question as affecting pitmen and others.

Dr Sinclair added that, in view of the history of the case, he did not feel justified in certifying that the cause of death arose from heart disease.

The report of Mr W. F. K. Stock, county analyst, was read as below:—"I hereby certify that I have analysed the undermentioned stomach and contents received from Dr Sinclair, of Esh, and I find as follows:—Stomach and contents securely packed in stone jar and sealed, described as those of Thomas Gott. The contents of the stomach weighed nine ounces. From a portion weighing three ounces, I separated three-fortieths of a grain of strychnine. This gives nine-fortieths or really a quarter of a grain of poison for the total contents of the stomach. Authorities state from one-half to two grains of strychnine administered is a fatal dose. As the contents of the stomach now reported contained nearly a quarter of a grain of poison unabsorbed, there can be no doubt that death was caused by strychnine poisoning.

(Signed) W. F. K. STOCK.

Darlington, Nov. 18th, 1891."

Dr Sinclair said he quite agreed with the analyst's report.

The Coroner pointed out that although the condition of the man was such that he might have died suddenly at any period, the symptoms before death, as described by Dr Carr, were such as might be expected by poisoning from strychnine. Indeed, there was sufficient strychnine found in the stomach to satisfy anyone that death was due to poisoning.

In reply to the jury, Dr Sinclair said that strychnine tasted "salty." Strychnine might have been in the sulphur. In this case the stomach was well filled, and there was found three-quarters of a grain of unabsorbed poison. During the two hours between the time that the man took the sulphur and he died, a considerable amount of food would have digested, and the strychnine would have got into the system.

The Coroner informed the jury that both the pills and the sulphur—at least the sample packet was said to be the same that the deceased partook—had been analysed by Mr Stock, with the result that he had found no arsenic and traces of strychnine in either article. [illegible] due to strychnine poisoning [illegible].

The jury [illegible].

The Coroner went on to remark that the jury had [illegible] authorities from taking the case further, if any additional information of importance was forthcoming. [illegible]

The Coroner: Unfortunately the wife threw the remainder of that packet into the fire.

Mr [illegible], a juryman, said he had been told that Gott bought some powder and a bottle of medicine at the same time as he purchased the pills. The medicine had been used.

The Coroner: If the medicine was bought and used at the beginning of October, that does not solve the difficulty. Strychnine [illegible].

After a [illegible] the jury returned a verdict to the effect that on the 6th of November, Thomas Gott died from the effects of strychnine poisoning, but how, or by whom, or under what circumstances the strychnine was administered to or taken by Gott there was no evidence before the jury.

This concluded the enquiry.

PROPOSED TRADES COUNCIL FOR THE DISTRICT.

On Monday evening a meeting for the purpose of organising a trade council for the district was held in the club room of the Co-operative Building, Consett. The societies represented were:—Amalgamated Society of Steelsmelters, Associated Iron and Steel Workers of Great Britain (No. 1 and 2 Branches), Cokemens' Association, Operative Bricklayers' Society, Tyneside and National Labour Union, Mechanics' Association, &c. The chair was occupied by Mr T. Hodgson, secretary of the Operative Bricklayers' Society. Mr J. Wildsmith (operatives' delegate), Consett, explained the object he had in view in calling the meeting in order that the different societies ought to be more consolidated together, so that they could get in touch one with another. He thought if they could [illegible] it would be to their advantage—not only with regard to discussing trade questions, but also with regard to several questions. If they formed such a society more interest would be taken in seeing who represented them on the different local bodies in the district. The chairman and other delegates spoke highly of such a society, and said if such a society was formed it would be the best thing that ever came to Consett. Mr Edward Whittaker (Consett) moved "that this meeting is of opinion that it is desirable that a Trades' Council should be formed for the district of Consett, and the various delegates present should recommend the same to their societies and report thereon at the next meeting."—This was seconded by Mr Thomas Cuthbertson, and carried unanimously. Mr T. Hodgson was appointed chairman, and Mr J. Wildsmith secretary *pro tem*, and it was agreed to hold another meeting shortly.—The customary votes of thanks terminated the meeting.

"HOW TO DEBATE."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of sixpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson's bookseller, 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to the matter, a practical [illegible] foreign matches were purchased by [illegible] consumers in this country to the great injury of our own working people [illegible]. If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1,000 a week more in wages, and large numbers of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism.

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, cleansing 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.

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. [illegible], M.D., Ph.D., author of "[illegible]," "Earth-Life," &c. &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52 paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to use 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 prospectus copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co. 48, Theobald's Road, Holborn, London, W.C.

DARKWOOD.

A TALE OF [illegible].

[illegible] How long [illegible] Gwen [illegible] the frightful solitude, the damp, [illegible] these were maddening.

At first she tried to believe herself a prey to nightmare. She pinched herself and rubbed her eyes [illegible]. But she realised with only too great an intensity that she was wide awake, that this was no nightmare but a reality as strange and incomprehensible as terrible.

She rushed to the door and beat upon it with her small fists until they were bruised and bleeding. She shrieked until the corridors rang with the echoes of her cries and her ears were almost stunned with their shrieks.

She knew well—if she had been but calm enough to think—that no one in the upper portion of the ruins could have heard her voice in the subterranean recesses even in its loudest tones, much less could any one outside the ruins, in the gardens or park, hear her outcries.

Her strength was exhausted in this wild outburst, but she was possessed with a [illegible] and terror. She screamed once more loudly, a wild, piercing wail that might have penetrated to heaven itself, and then, breathless, with a rushing roar of blood in her head, she fell against the door gasping and fainting.

Hark! Was that the echo of her own cry? From afar came an answering wail, lost and muffled—a prayer for help!

Clinging to the door, raising her agonised eyes in the darkness, the girl listened, her hearing growing clearer and more distinct.

It came again, that muffled shout as from the bowels of the earth, fraught with anguish, with pleadings, yet weak and faint as by reason of great distance.

There was no echo. Gwen recognised it as the cry she and the Lady Georgina had heard during their memorable visit to the ruins—it seemed now ages ago!

The Lady Georgina had believed it the utterance of a ghost. It certainly was sepulchral, weird, and unearthly.

Gwen was not superstitious. She had no belief in the supernatural, yet, all alone here, to that massive door, in that pall-like gloom, a sick terror sped through all her veins. There could be no living creature in those vaults beside herself! What then was the cause of that shout? Was it the utterance of a mortal throat, or was there truth in the old legend of a ghost in these grim cells, and was this the cry of the spectre haunting the dungeon in which he had perished?

Gwen sank down in a little heap by the door, her lips moving dumbly. Had the words she tried to utter been given sound, they would have been—

"I'm afraid! I'm afraid!"

Yes, fearless and brave as she was by nature, she was afraid there in the darkness, the loneliness, and with that weird sound ringing in her ears.

It came again—again—and yet again, dying out at last in a wild despair that defies description.

Gwen lay huddled upon the floor for a long, long time, stunned and scared, her pale face shining like a star in the dense gloom, and then the hurrying of a rat across her floor, summoned by the smell of the food Pietro had placed for her, perhaps, startled her to new activity.

She sprang up and felt her way along the wall to the chair and crept into it, huddling herself up in a heap within its enclosure, and, with her heart throbbing wildly, waited dumbly.

The rat had been frightened by her movement and had scampered away. He did not return.

The time passed. The minutes seemed like ages. Gradually the girl grew calmer and was able to command her thoughts. Slowly a sensation of what had happened to her burned itself upon her soul.

She remembered how she had sat down at her window to look upon the castle ruin and to dream her [illegible] Lord Darkwood [illegible] prisoner. She remembered all he had said [illegible] of love and marriage. It seemed [illegible].

She crouched in the [illegible] hours, until her limbs had grown stiff, and her body numb from the cold. Then again, with a faint flickering of energy, she crept along the wall to the door, and beat upon it, and shrieked anew for help.

Again, as before, came the ghostly answering cry. But now Gwen no longer feared it. She had either found fresh courage or grown reckless. She shouted; after the echoes died [illegible] shout. She repeated the experiments again and again.

"I have established rapport with the utterer of that cry, be he human or spirit," she thought. "It is something to be [illegible] even by a ghost!"

She was very still for hours thereafter. She crouched at the foot of the door, weak and hushed, and despairing. She was there and thus when Lord Darkwood discovered her disappearance—when her lover and Miss Norreys [illegible]—when Lord Darkwood in his solitude muttered his threats against her. She was there long after [illegible] she finally returned to her chair, and huddled herself into its recess.

She thought of her lover, but she shed no tears. She thought of Miss Norreys, and wondered if Lord Chilton and the lady of Beechmont had read that fatal letter which she had written at the dictation of Pietro.

"That letter has destroyed all my chances of being found," she thought. "They will believe that I have fled. Some time, years hence, they may hear of a skeleton being found in this dungeon. Will they suspect it to be mine? Will they ever dream that I was entombed alive?"

She speculated as to what they were doing. She thought of Miss Norreys at the head of her table, surrounded by her guests, brilliant and beautiful, the cynosure of all eyes. She knew Lord Chilton so well that she thought of him hastening to London in pursuit of her, then journeying to Yorkshire, searching everywhere, but she had no hope that he would discover her.

"I shall die young as my mother did," she thought, drearily, yet without tears. "She perished miserably on the Yorkshire moor. I shall perish no less miserably here. She has a dishonoured grave. I shall have no grave other than this dungeon."

She had thought much, during the past few months, of that poor young mother staggering forth in the wild winter storm to perish, but she thought of her now with an infinite pity and tenderness she had never before felt. She thought, too, of her father, that unknown father, whose face she had never seen, whose name she had never heard. Had he died before her birth? Did he still live? She had had hard and bitter thoughts of him; but now she reflected that her mother must have loved him, he could not have been all bad, and love and pity for him also woke in her tortured breast.

And the hours dragged on. She dozed by fits and starts, and awakened often in tremors of terror. She was aroused finally by the opening of the door of her dungeon, and a sudden radiance within the room.

CHAPTER IX.

THE VISCOUNT AND THE SQUIRE.

Pietro had returned. He stood just within the door, a lighted lantern held above his head. He had deposited upon the bench a fresh supply of food and drink, and was now contemplating his prisoner.

"What time is it?" asked Gwen, hollowly.

He smiled at this first question that sprang to her lips.

"It is a little past midnight," he answered.

"How long have I been here?" she questioned.

"Twenty-four hours, miss."

"Why, I thought it had been days—weeks!"

"Yet you have not touched your food."

"I have not thought of it. I have heard strange cries. What can have made them?"

Pietro was silent an instant. Then he answered, [illegible]:

"Ghosts? Owls? I do not know; but there is no one can get at you. I keep the key of your cell in my bosom."

"And if anything should happen to you, no one would ever find me [illegible]."

"That is true, miss. If anything should happen [illegible] you will die. There is fresh bread—"

"Has Lord Chilton been at the castle to-day?"

"Yes, miss. Your letter was found and taken to Lord Darkwood. Then Miss Norreys and Lord Chilton [illegible] to Beechmont, and then were told that you were gone. Your letter was given the viscount."

"And he did not doubt it?" interrupted Gwen, in a voice of anguish.

"How could he doubt its meaning? He knew your writing, it seems. He could not possibly doubt that you had fled from him, believing yourself no fitting mate for him. He started for London by the first train in pursuit of you."

"Oh, fiend! Monster!"

"I may be both, miss, but I am your master! Your life even is in my hands!" said Pietro, menacingly. "All that a man hath will he give for his life, I have heard say. I offer you wealth, freedom, every earthly blessing, if you will consent to marry me."

The girl sprang up suddenly, her face wan and white and woeful, her great purple eyes full of lurid fire. How haggard she had grown during those twenty-four hours! Her massive bronze-coloured hair had became loosed from its fastenings, and fell over her shoulders in glittering ripples, and obscured her low forehead. Her features were pinched and death-like. Pietro started back in alarm at the change in her.

"If you perish here it is your own fault!" he declared harshly. "I have offered you freedom, wealth, everything; if you choose to die your blood be upon your own head."

The girl flung back her hair from her face, and looked her scorn and contempt of him.

"Yes, I would rather die!" she said. "I gave you my answer last night. I am not afraid to die. I have made up my mind to die. But I should like to know of my parents. Is my father living, Pietro? Who was he? Who was my mother? Were they honourable people?"

She asked these questions with a nervous eagerness that might have moved a heart of stone. But he smiled and shook his head.

"The knowledge you ask is a part of the price I offer for your hand," he answered. "I will tell you all about your parentage if you will agree to marry me. I will take you abroad; you shall be a great lady; you shall have wealth and splendour. I know I am not a very suitable husband for a lady like you, but ladies do marry beneath them—although I am your equal so far as anyone knowns. And people will think me eccentric, not low-born. I shall do you credit, miss, depend upon me for that. I can adapt myself to wealth and luxuries as readily as any man living. I am polished now, a gentleman in looks, if I do say it. Think it over—take me as your husband. You must have had enough of this dark cell to crush your spirit."

"It would take more than twenty-four hours to break my spirit," said the girl, haughtily. "I can die, but I cannot degrade myself by marrying you! Go! leave me to solitude—to despair—to death! Better that than you!"

She made a gesture of dismissal. He hesitated, then responded—

"I go; but I shall come again night by night, until you yield to my demand, or until I find you dead! I go—but remember that I alone of all on earth know your whereabouts. If anything were to happen to me, you are doomed. I hope to find you in a better mood to-night. Another day may bring you to your senses!"

He went out and slammed and locked the door behind him, and his steps were heard echoing along the stony corridors, and receding in the distance.

Gwen was alone again in her dungeon!

A week had passed since she had disappeared. An energetic, even desperate, search had been made for her by those so vitally interested in her and it was still in full process. Lord Chilton, Miss Norreys, and Lord Darkwood worked with equal zeal, sending messengers, following every fancied clue, and leaving no stone unturned in their wild and eager quest, and sleek Pietro, like the spider in his web, watched them all with impassive mien, but with secret exultation and delight.

Lord Chilton had hastened to London, and had learned that Gwen had not been seen by the Myners, and that she had written to them during the past fortnight, and that consequently they had known nothing whatever of her departure from Dunholm Castle.

The viscount showed them the letter which had been found on Gwen's desk, and they also recognised the handwriting as that of Gwen. Not a doubt obtruded upon their mind as to its authenticity. Having satisfied themselves that Gwen had written the letter, they accepted its purport as the expression of her own mind, and never even suspected under what circumstances, and at whose dictation, the letter had been penned.

Having plunged the Myners into a distress and anxiety only less than his own, and derived no information whatever from them, Lord Chilton journeyed to Yorkshire and to Lonemoor. He saw Mr. and Mrs. Quillet, but they also could give him no satisfaction. Believing, in spite of their denials that they must know something of Gwen's movements, the young viscount demanded an interview with the Squire, determined to solicit his interference with his servants.

The housekeeper went to her master with the demand of her visitor, and, to her great surprise, the Squire consented to see Lord Chilton. The latter was accordingly ushered into the library, where its master sat in a half gloom continually, busy with his thoughts or with his books.

The Squire arose, tall and gaunt and grim of visage, with haggard eyes and shaggy beard, and bowed to him—the melancholy wreck of the proud and genial gentleman of less than twenty years ago. He greeted Lord Chilton with grave and stately courtesy, and motioned him to a chair.

"I do not receive visitors," he said, "but I am glad to meet you, Lord Chilton. I received a letter from you recently, which I did not answer, but which has been much in my mind of late."

"I wrote you in relation to Miss Winter, who was so long an inmate of your house," replied the viscount. "Since writing that letter, Squire Markham, I have discovered Miss Winter, only, however, to lose her again. I came to ask you to use your influence with your servants to induce them to give me her address. They tell me they do not know where she is."

"Then I should believe them," said the squire, coldly. "They are foolish and wilful, but I never knew them to lie."

"But they must know! Miss Winter must have communicated with some of her old friends!"

"That does not follow. She is a person to fling off all restraint, I should say," said the squire. "Lord Chilton, do you know who this girl is whom you wish to make your wife?"

He regarded the young man with keen and piercing gaze, his shaggy brows contracted in a heavy frown.

"I know, sir, that she is the most beautiful girl in England——"

"Nonsense. Come, come, Lord Chilton, this girl is no fit wife for you. She comes of bad blood. She had no father. Her mother came to this house, [illegible] in her death. [illegible] the girl is worse than nobody. Take the advice of a man old enough to be your father, my lord, and let this girl follow in her mother's steps without involving you and your honourable name in her disgrace."

"You have never seen Miss Winter, sir," said Lord Chilton. "Had you ever seen her, your words would be unpardonable. You have been prejudiced against her by the Orkney family. A purer, truer, nobler lady exists on this earth than Miss Winter. And as to bad blood, I do not believe in [illegible] of good blood, sir, as any one must believe who looks upon her. The poor lady who came to your door [illegible]. She must have been a wife or widow, who wandered from her home in some hallucination. That she [illegible] to believe."

An odd look came over the squire's face; he took a step toward his guest, and then retreated, his visage growing harder, colder, grimmer than before.

"Men are fools, my lord," he exclaimed. "If you marry this girl, you will repent it in good time. Believe me, these unequal marriages do not turn out well. At first the glamour of love will blind your eyes to the inequality between you, but by and by you will wish that she had family birth, fortune, and all those things which people respect. And the girl is a pauper outcast—take me, my lord, as the daughter of a pauper outcast, and the day will surely come when you will feel this truth in bitterness of anguish [illegible]. No doubt she is anxious to satisfy you. [illegible]"

"[illegible] Since you are so [illegible] I will [illegible] withhold it. I found Miss Winter five days since. She was a governess in Shropshire under an assumed name, that of Miss Myner."

"An assumed name," interrupted the squire, bitterly. "Aye, she is secret, no doubt."

"The name of Winter was not her own, and her former governess begged her to take her name, which she did. Miss Winter had been persecuted by young Orkney, her name of Winter was a byword [illegible], and she adopted the shelter of the honest name of her kind friends as a refuge from these annoyances and troubles," said Lord Chilton, gravely. "She became a governess, and I found her quite by accident. We renewed our vows, in that glad hour of meeting, Squire Markham, and she promised to marry me soon. Yet the next morning she fled, leaving me this letter. Read it."

He gave it to the squire, who perused it carefully.

"She has a greater sense of propriety than I thought," said the old man, calmly, as he restored the letter. "She sees that she is no match for you. And you have found no clue to her?"

"None whatever. I have been to London; but the Myners have not seen her. I came here, but the Quillets declare that, until they received my telegram, they did not know that she was not intending to remain at Dunholm Castle."

The squire started, growing ashy pale.

"Where is she?" he demanded, in a strange, terrible voice.

"At Dunholm Castle, Shropshire. Miss Winter was governess there."

"In whose family?"

"Lord Darkwood!"

Squire Markham gave utterance to a groan that [illegible]. He [illegible] appalled.

"The girl in his house!" he muttered. "Heavens! what a fatality!"

He arose and walked to and fro restlessly, regardless of his wondering visitor. His rugged features worked in a singular and mighty agitation. His soul, that had seemed so long torpid and frozen, was now like a wild sea lashed to a hurricane. For some minutes he was oblivious of Lord Chilton's presence; but at last he came to himself with a start and halted, leaning against a tall-backed chair, his features working strangely.

"Pardon me, my lord," he said, in a broken voice, while his burning eyes emitted a strange gleaming. "I—the name you uttered is the name of a man I hate! And the girl was in his house!"

"Yes, she has been an inmate of Dunholm Castle for several months."

The squire leaned more heavily upon the chair.

"Did—did he know who she was?" he asked, almost in a whisper.

"He knew her as Miss Myner, not as Miss Winter," answered the young viscount, beginning to think his host of unsound mind, and growing uncomfortable.

"You are sure that he did not suspect her real identity?" demanded the squire, still in that hollow whispering tone.

"Quite sure. How could he suspect?"

"How came she under his roof?"

"He advertised for a governess, and Miss Winter answered his notice—answered it as Miss Myner."

"What a fatality!" again muttered the old squire. "There is a Providence in these things. Strange—strange!"

He moved unevenly towards his guest, and dropped heavily into the chair he had before occupied.

"My lord," he said, after a brief pause, "the girl has gone, it seems, or she has another lover. She is not a suitable match for you, and I advise you to let her go. I cannot assist you in your search for her. I do not believe my servants know where she is."

"Then I will not intrude upon you longer, sir."

"Stay!" said the squire, arousing himself by a painful effort. "I have a question to ask you. In your letter you gave your address as 'Beechmont, the property of Miss Norreys.' Who is Miss Norreys?"

"The daughter of the late General Norreys, who died a year or two ago in India. She is a great heiress, very beautiful, very noble, very lovely."

"Her first name?"

"Sicily."

"Sicily Norreys! It is as I suspected. She is my niece by marriage. Her father, the late General Norreys, was the brother of my dear dead wife," said the squire. "She visited at Lonemoor in her childhood. I remember her well, a lovely little girl, who was very fond of me and of my wife. I should like to see her."

"She has taken up up her permanent residence at Beechmont," said Lord Chilton, surprised at the relationship between the lovely lady of Beechmont and the grim proprietor of Lonemoor. "She has many friends, but I did not know that she had any connections in England."

"She would not be likely to speak of me, yet she was very fond of me once, and might have written to me announcing her return. Perhaps she thinks me still abroad. I am a lonely, childless old man, my lord. I intend soon to leave this country for ever. Before I go I will see Miss Norreys, and, if I like her as well as formerly, I will make my will in her favour. It is singular that she should have established herself in a home of her own, since she is not married. And it is singular that she is not married, with all her wealth and beauty."

"It is not too late," said Lord Chilton, rising. "Miss Norreys is still young. And there is a report that she is now betrothed," he added. "She has made a conquest since her arrival in Shropshire, and is likely to be married soon."

The viscount had received this statement from Lord Darkwood himself, upon the day of the visit to the castle ruins. The marquis had been eager to proclaim an engagement between himself and Miss Norreys, but had dared to do so only to Lord Chilton, of whose attention to Miss Norreys he was jealous.

"Indeed," said the squire, "who is the gentleman she is to marry?"

"Lord Darkwood."

Again Squire Markham's face grew ashen.

"Lord Darkwood!" he repeated, huskily. "The deuce!"

He seemed literally stunned.

Lord Chilton delayed his departure, not liking to break in upon his stupor with adieus.

But presently the old man roused himself, and stood up, grim and stern as before, and said, hoarsely—

"I beg you pardon, my lord. You have brought me strange news to-day. I am not quite myself, I think. I beg that you will not repeat to Miss Norreys what I have said to you concerning Lord Darkwood. I will see her myself. I have that to tell her that will put a stop to her marriage with him, even did she love him, which I doubt. When she hears my story she will throw him aside like a worn-out glove. I am making my final preparations for departure. In the course of a few days when they are completed, I will visit Beechmont and see Miss Norreys, on my way to the Continent. But do not tell her this."

"I will not."

"I wish to take her by surprise," said the squire, wearily. "Do not mention my name to Lord Darkwood. And now, my lord, to satisfy your doubts of my old servants, I will question them in your presence."

He rang the bell and sent for the housekeeper and butler.

When the pair appeared, the squire commanded them to inform Lord Chilton of Miss Winter's whereabouts, if they themselves were aware of it.

"We don't know, sir," declared the butler. "Miss Gwen went to London, and the Myners got her a situation as governess and companion to a lord's daughter in Shropshire, and Miss Gwen was known there as Miss Myner. She has been there for months, and never told us that she intended to leave that place. We did not know that she had left it until Lord Chilton told us. We have not heard from Miss Gwen for a fortnight."

The housekeeper corroborated this statement.

That they told the truth was apparent. Even Lord Chilton was convinced of their honesty and sincerity, and his heart was very heavy as he thanked the squire and took his leave. Gwen had not been heard of, or from, by her friends in London or here. Where could she be? She had left most of her clothing at Dunholm Castle, had not collected her last quarter's salary, and the mystery of her departure was very dark to the viscount.

He drove back to Penistone, and made an effort to find there the detective officer who [illegible] the history of the unfortunate woman who had perished so miserably many years ago on the Lone Moor, and who was buried in Penistone churchyard. The detective officer had been at Penistone, as he well knew, had pursued his investigations very secretly and thoroughly, and was lodging at the [illegible] Rose and Crown. Lord Chilton drove thither and inquired for Mr. Craft. The landlord informed him that Mr. Craft had gone to Manchester, and might be absent one day or several.

There was no use in waiting to see him. Lord Chilton cared very little for Gwen's parentage in his present anxiety about Gwen herself. He left a note for the inspector, and took the first train southward, hurrying back with all speed towards Shropshire.

"I may hear the news of her there," he thought. "She may have sent for her box and the money due to her. Miss Norreys' agent may have discovered her. I am impatient to be back to Beechmont and Dunholm Castle. If she is not already found, we will begin anew at the beginning. We will inaugurate a search that must result in her discovery. Where is she, my poor little Gwen? Where is she?"

(*To be continued.*)

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, and they can see their own friends; the only care 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 is the greatest female medicine ever discovered. It removes all stoppages, and by purifying the blood it gives 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, but if they can be made to do their work, nothing in the world is equal to them. I deposited £[illegible] and challenged all the doctors in the world [illegible]. No one accepted my challenge. Handyside's Consumption Cure, 3s 10d; Blood Purifier, 2s [illegible]d; Health Restorer, 1s; Handyside's Pills, 1s per box; Rheumatic Cure, 1s per bottle.

Handyside's Mother [illegible] Syrup, a ready relief for bad stomachs, eating and drinking what has not agreed with them; no connection with Mother Siegel'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 "Handyside, 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. Handyside, 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.

HEALTH RESTORED. Remedy Free.—A late 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, [illegible] Street, Southwark, London, S.E.

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

"BUCHU-PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney, bladder complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. All 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.

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

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.

DRUNKENNESS 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.

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

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

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary meeting was held on Wednesday [illegible], Councillor Geo. Nicholson presiding. [illegible] Messrs E. Todd, T. Kesaleyside, Luke [illegible], J. Parker, M. Robson, the deputy clerk (Mr Coupland, jun.), and the surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff).

THE ALLEGED FEVER IN QUARRY STREET.

The Medical Officer (Dr G. Renton) wrote:—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of [illegible] ult., and in reply have to say that if my report for September was late it was owing to the delay of the messenger. With regard to other [illegible], as no cases of zymotic disease were reported to me, or came under my notice, I had nothing to report to your Board. No cases of fever in Quarry Row have been reported to me, nor upon investigation do I find that any such [illegible] existed, except in the imagination of certain people.

The letter was received with satisfaction.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The Technical Education Committee reported:—That we ask the Durham County Technical Instruction Committee to make arrangements, when convenient, to have a course of lectures at Leadgate—subjects, "Mining" or "Metallurgy"; also at Iveston a course of agricultural lectures, and to supply Iveston Schools with a set of Mr Sutton's natural grasses, which would be a great acquisition, as the schools are situated in an agricultural district.

The report was adopted.

DR ARMSTRONG'S REPORT.

The Committee to investigate this matter with regard to the complaints contained in Dr Armstrong's yearly report for the County Council reported as follows:—In answer to an enquiry respecting our medical officer, as a Board we are quite satisfied with him. We get his report on the health of our Local Board district monthly, with an annual report with statistics of births and deaths, and other information. The Notification of Infectious Diseases Act is not in operation. The local medical practitioners invariably inform our inspector of any cases under their treatment. As a Board, we are one of the constituents authority of the local hospital, were there is a disinfecting apparatus that is available in cases of necessity.

The report was adopted, and the Clerk was instructed to forward a copy of the report to the Clerk of the Durham County Council.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Subjoined is the Surveyor's (Mr Thos. Longstaff) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month the following manual and team labour has been done:—

Durham Main Road—About 30 tons of limestone broken, and 70 tons laid on by barrows, part scraping done, and the same carted off, and a few ashes put on the footpaths.

Other roads—Iveston village and bank a little manual labour done; Annfield Lane, about 40 yards of slag put on by barrows, and other general repairs done to this road. Redwell Hills Road, dressing-up and scraping done, also the same carted off. Watling Street, ashes carted to footpath and spread on.

Annexed are the monthly paybills:—

Durham Main Road—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Manual labour	6 8 7	
Team labour	1 1 0	
		7 9 7
Other Roads—		
Manual labour	6 14 6	
Team labour	1 1 0	
		7 15 6
Total		£15 5 1

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. LONGSTAFF.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr T. Longstaff) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—Since your last meeting, I have inspected your district, and find the ashpits, privies, and other manures not so well carted out as when I reported to you last month. The Consett Iron Company's ashpits have been neglected by their contractor this month, but I hope either he or the Company's own carts will soon have them out. The gas burnt 130 hours in November. About 27 of the lamps on Redwell Hills Road and the north side of the railway have burnt only half light for eight nights. At the latter part of Nov. one or two were out. Iveston oil lamps have burnt well during the month. According to your orders, I attended the court at Consett, on Nov. 23rd, to prosecute Robert Eccles for non-removal of his ashes and privy manure, and got a conviction. Mr Eccles had to pay 21s, and remove the said ashes, &c. Also, according to your orders given to me last month, I visited Quarry Street, where the dangerous fever and the stopped-up drain was supposed to exist, but I found no fever, nor stopped-up drain. The medical officer has not found such to exist.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. LONGSTAFF.

The reports were adopted.

DOCTOR'S REPORT.

The Medical Officer submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month, the following forms of zymotic disease have been reported to me as having occurred in your district, viz:—Scarlet fever, whooping cough, measles, and influenza. Scarlet fever—two cases occurred in Railway Street. Of whooping cough four cases came under notice, and of measles three. Influenza has again visited the district with great severity, and it has been computed that one fourth of the entire population have been attacked. Unfortunately several deaths have resulted.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
G. RENTON, M.D.

Blackhill, December 8th, 1891.

The report was adopted, and the Board arose.

CHRISTMAS STOCK SALES AND SHOWS.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Mr James Turnbull held his tenth annual Christmas Prize Show and fat stock sale at Chester-le-Street, on Monday. Owing to the scarcity of turnips and the open autumn there was not the usual quantity of stock ready for auction, and the entries were thus not up to last year's total, whilst chiefly owing to the wretched weather which prevailed yesterday the exhibits were again reduced, but the quality of the stock was fully equal, if not superior in points, to those of previous years. The trade for beef was extremely brisk, especially for good "lyred" cattle. Bullocks made up to 8s 3d per stone, and heifers to 8s 0d per stone. Sheep were a good trade, selling at a considerable advance on last week's rates. Bacon pigs sold up to £6 [illegible], whilst good [illegible] 8 stones realised to 40s. The stewards were—Cattle: Messrs J Brewis, T Young, E J Weightman, H Wilkinson, J Stothard, G E Forster, J E Coxon, W Coxon, and C Snowball. Sheep and pigs: Messrs R Oswald, T Kirton, H Potts, J Howdon, J B Turnbull, W R Liddell, J Lyne, J Thornton, M Adamson. It was owing to the excellent manner in which their duties were fulfilled that much of the success of the prize show was due. For cattle the judges were Mr W Hand, Chester-le-Street; Mr C Robson, Chester-le-Street; and Mr M Penman, jun., Gateshead; the sheep and pigs being judged by Mr C Charlton, Sunderland; Mr Penman, jun.; and Mr Miller, Hartlepool. The Birtley Iron Company took first prize in the class for the best pair of fat cattle, which were sold to Mr Hand, Chester-le-Street Co-operative Store, and Mr Cooper, West Stanley Co-operative Store, for £41 and £37 10s respectively. The h c ticket was awarded to a pair from the Earl of Durham, Fieldes, both of which were sold to Mr Duncan, Newcastle Store, for £37 10s and £31 10s. In the second class for fat bullocks the Birtley exhibits already named took first and second prizes, the Earl of Durham taking the h c card again. Mr Thornton of [illegible] Farm, was awarded first in the open class for heifers, and also h c in the same class, the former going to the bid of Mr Gibson, Durham, at £[illegible], and the latter to the same purchaser, whilst the Earl of Durham's heifer also sold to Mr Gibson, was second. For the best fat bullock, open to tenant farmers, prize presented by Messrs Burrell and Co., Newcastle, Mr Thornton was first and second, Mr Gibson paying £[illegible] for one and Mr Kirkup, Pelton Fell, giving £[illegible] for the second. Mr Oswald, [illegible] Hall, was awarded h c, and the bullock became also property of Mr R Wade, Birtley, at £27 10s. The prize for the best fat heifer, tenant's class, fell to Mr Thornton, and Mr Armstrook, Paley Houses, was first in the class for tenants' cows, Mr Kirkup becoming the buyer at £24 10s. Mr Dryden, Shipcote, was second, and Mr Henderson, Pelton Fell, third, the purchasers being Mr Monkhouse, Durham, at £27 10s, and Mr Tranmere, Ferryhill, at £24 10s. Mr J Weightman, [illegible], was awarded first for the fat bullock in the open class, Mr Thornton being second. The purchaser of these animals was Mr Penman, jun., at £22 and £21. Mr Gibson purchased the best butcher's fat heifer shown by Mr Thornton. This was awarded special prize given by Mr [illegible], Chester-le-Street. To the Birtley Iron Co. was awarded the cup for the best animal in the show [illegible] Mr Rogers [illegible] cattle spice. For the best five hoggs, the Birtley Co. were first and second—Mr Charlton, Sunderland, buying both lots, the first at 62s and the second at [illegible] a head. The Birtley Company were also first for shearlings, fat ewes, and fat male shearlings, the lots going respectively to Mr Hand at 80s, Mr Tindall, [illegible] House, for [illegible], and Mr Hand for 67s. Mr Stothard, of Frankland, took second awards for shearlings and fat male shearlings, which were sold to Mr Gibson at 56s, and Mr Clark, Durham Co-operative Store, for 53s each. Mr J Atkinson, Andrew's House, was given second prize for five ewes, the Pelton Fell Store buying the lot for 45s each. For the best pork pig under eight stones, open to tenants and cottagers, Messrs Fenton, of Birtley, were first, Mr Robson becoming the possessor at 40s. Two bullocks from Messrs Jewry, Pelton Fell, averaged £26 10s, and Mr Dryden, of Shipcote, secured the best price for one cow. A cow consigned by Mr Walker, North Moor, Sunderland, realised £20, and bullocks from Mr Darling, Plawsworth, made up to £24 10s. Other buyers at the mart were Mr Chisholm, West Pelton; Mr Henderson, Chester-le-Street; the Birtley Co-operative Store; Mr Adamson, Burnopfield; Mr Swinburn, Stanley; Mr Atkinson, The Causey; Mr Monkhouse, Durham; Mr Henderson, Gateshead; Mr Manley, Newcastle; Mr Greenfield, Chester-le-Street; Mr Dunkin, Colliery Row; Mr Dixon, Durham; Mr Hunter, Langley Park; the Messrs Hunton, Rindon Hill, Sacriston; Mr Adamson, Pit Hill; Mr Lake, Durham; Mr Graden, Pelton; the Messrs Tindall, Shiny Row, Newbottle, and Fence Houses; Mr Walton, Durham; Mr Wylam, Herrington; Mr Wake, Fence Houses; Mr Applegarth, Renshaw; Mr Swainston, Sacriston; Mr Wright, Craghead Stores; Mr Ralph Reed, Sacriston; Mr Lamb, Chester-le-Street; and Mr Cummings, Pelton.

"RUPTURE."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSSES is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell you IMITATIONS of our Moc-Main. J. White and Co. have no agents.

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

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer." Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion, impotence, of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. 1s. Chemists.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." 4s. at chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

"WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?"—Messrs. Elliman, of Slough, give this title to a unique little publication brought out for the purpose of advertising Elliman's Embrocation, but made generally attractive by its really exceptionally good illustrations. Mr John Sturgess has drawn a number of striking pictures of hunting, coaching, polo, &c., and Mr Sturgess, jun., has supplied episodes of athletics, &c., the whole covering a wide range of sport. The illustrations (19 of them) in a larger size are to be obtained separately from the former. They have the advantage that in this form their present commercial association disappears, and they would cut as really capital pictures upon their own merits. "WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?" would be sent free for Twopence in stamps, and the 19 Sporting Prints for P.O. 2s. 6d. or stamps 2s. 8d. Sent abroad for P.O. 3s. 6d. Elliman, Sons and Co., Slough.

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

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UNIONIST DEMONSTRATION AT CONSETT.

MR T. W. RUSSELL ON THE IRISH QUESTION.

SPEECHES BY MR J. DUNVILLE, ALDS. RITSON & LUCAS.

On Wednesday night, a Unionist demonstration took place in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, to promote the candidature of Mr John D. Dunville (Liberal Unionist) for North-West Durham, in opposition to Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P. The front of the platform was decorated with a number of exotic and other foliage plants and flowers by Mr R. Charlton, nurseryman, Benfieldside, while the background was embellished with the names of "Beaconsfield," "Balfour," "Hartington," and "Dunville," besides such mottoes as "Success to the union," &c. The hall was well filled, some 800 ladies and gentlemen being present. The gathering was certainly the biggest and most important Unionist demonstration ever held in the immediate locality. Before the commencement of the speech-making selections of music were performed by the Langley Park Temperance Mission Band. The chair was occupied by Ald. U. A. Ritson, J.P., Newcastle (President of the North-West Durham Conservative Association), and he was accompanied on the platform by Mr T. W. Russell, M.P. for South Tyrone; Mr Dunville; Mr and Mrs R. G. Dunville, Dublin; Miss Ritson, Newcastle; Dr Geo. Renton, Blackhill; Ald. Lucas, Gateshead; the Hon. J. G. P. Vereker, J.P., and Mrs Vereker, Hamsterley Hall; Mr C. D. W. Balleny, Delves, Consett; Mr Thos. Colquhoun, West Stanley; Coun. J. T. Forster, Burnhope; Messrs J. Lax, Shotley Bridge; R. Walton, Lanchester; F. Healey, London; J. G. Murray, Unionist Agent, Consett; Geo. J. Christopher, Blackhill; Robt. M. Rutherford, Medomsley; T. Lowden, Hamsteels; and others.

Mr J. G. Murray read letters of apology for non-attendance received from Ald. T. Richardson, Newcastle; Messrs J. H. Burn, Cullercoats; J. E. Backhouse, Darlington; J. W. Walton-Wilson, J.P., Shotley Bridge; W. Hill, Ushaw Moor; Rev W. Featherstonehaugh, Edmondbyers, and other gentlemen.

The Chairman said Mr Dunville had been selected by the Liberal Unionists and Conservatives to fight their battle. He trusted they would put forth such efforts as would secure him the proud position of Unionist member for the division. (Cheers.) Mr Dunville was winning for himself the esteem of the Unionists and the respect of his opponents by his straightforward utterances and the manly way in which he had answered all the questions put to him at his various meetings. (Applause.) Mr Dunville was prepared to give cordial and hearty support to Lord Salisbury in upholding the integrity of the British Empire and the independence of the nation. (Applause.) Mr Ritson next enumerated facts and quoted statistics showing the advantages accruing to the country generally under the present administration as compared with the effects of former Gladstonian Governments, and spoke with regret of the absence, through illness, of one of the speakers—Ald. T. Richardson, of Newcastle.

Mr Dunville, who was well received, moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting tenders to Mr T. W. Russell, M.P., a cordial welcome to North-West Durham—(cheers)—and expresses its thanks for his great and self-denying services in the interests of the union of Great Britain and Ireland, and at the same time recognises with satisfaction the many beneficial and useful measures affecting all classes of the community passed by the present Unionist Government, at the highly successful manner in which the finances of the country have been regulated, at the creditable maintenance of peace with foreign powers, and at the patriotic action of the Unionist party in successfully resisting all endeavours made for the disintegration of the empire during the last five years." (Loud cheers).

—He said he looked forward with eagerness to the coming contest, and—in spite of what the Gladstonians might say to the contrary—with great hopes of success. (Applause). The Gladstonian programme at Newcastle promised everything to everybody, and very probably no one would receive anything at all. (Cheers). He was told that a Gladstonian working man of Newcastle had described this programme as a "blooming plant." (Laughter). That criticism was perhaps more severe and probably quite as truthful as any which they (the Unionists) had ventured to apply to it. (Laughter and cheers). He hardly believed that, in the event of the Radicals being returned to power, they would adhere to their programme. The Government which had passed so much useful and beneficent legislation in the past, might safely be trusted in the future to continue the good work. (Cheers). Mr Dunville then criticised the Newcastle programme, and described the scope of the Birmingham programme. He finished with an earnest appeal to the electors to support the present Government, who had accomplished so much in the interests of the people of this country—especially the working classes, giving them prosperity at home and peace abroad, and were prepared to follow out the same line of action in the time to come. (Applause).

Mr J. Lax seconded the resolution in an effective speech.

Ald. Lucas, in supporting the resolution, said he was present as a Liberal Unionist, and he was proud of the name. He was a Liberal Unionist because Liberal Unionism, as he understood it, gave him the right to think for himself. It was because he believed the action of the present Government, supported by the action of the Liberal Unionists, was conducive to the interests of all classes of the community that he was there to support them. (Cheers). The present Government had passed a Free Education Act, which was the greatest and most beneficent measure ever given to the country during the past 50 years. (Applause). Even if Lord Salisbury's Ministry had done nothing else, they were entitled to his warmest support for this particular Act. (Cheers). The speaker recounted various other measures placed on the statute book by the Unionist Government, and averred that old Toryism was dead, and would never recover again. (Cheers). If the Gladstonians had been in office now, what would their foreign policy have been? (Laughter). They were talking of "scuttling" out of Egypt. For his part, he strongly objected to England giving up a single fraction of her territory without some equivalent. He was glad to hear, however, that the present Government intended to remain in Egypt till their mission was accomplished. (Cheers). Mr Morley had given utterance to the words, "One man one vote." (Applause). He quite agreed with that idea, but they must first have a redistribution of seats and equal electoral districts. If the Radicals were so anxious for "one man one vote," why did not Mr Gladstone embrace the opportunity of giving such a measure prior to 1885? He to some extent favoured the system of "faggot" votes.

This resolution was carried with five dissentients.

Mr Russell, who was accorded a most enthusiastic reception, said he was glad some of their opponents were present that night. He had great respect for their hon. member Mr Atherley-Jones. (Cheers.) He also knew the Unionist candidate opposing him, and he sincerely trusted that Mr Dunville would be successful at the next election. (Cheers.) He had come there to deal with a specific question. He was an Irish member, representing, not the majority of the Irish people, but the minority. That minority, because it was a minority, and because all that it had was at stake in this controversy, had an overwhelming right to be heard. It had a right to a fair hearing and a calm judgment at the hands of the electorate of this country. That minority had no privileges. The only ascendency in Ireland was the ascendency there was in every civilised country. Many in England were of opinion that Ireland was an oppressed country. No reader of history, no candid man, could read the history of Ireland without feeling shame and concern at what was done in the past. But the present generation were not responsible for that past; they were only responsible for the treatment of Ireland to-day. He was going to maintain and to prove that so far from Ireland being an oppressed country, Ireland had many advantages and many privileges that were denied to either England or Scotland. (Cheers.) Was Ireland oppressed in the matter of Parliamentary representation? As a matter of fact, if Ireland was represented according to her population, instead of having 103 members, she would have 70. She had at the present moment an excess of between 25 and 30 per cent in the matter of representation in the Imperial Parliament. It was sometimes said by Gladstonians, "What is the use of this representation if the Imperial Parliament refuses to listen to their demands?" His answer to that was that for the past twenty-five years the Imperial Parliament had been doing little else save legislate for the best interests of Ireland, and in accordance with the demands of the Irish representation. As the people of Ireland lived by the land, it was of the utmost importance that the land laws of the country should be just and equitable. Nobody would be prepared to stand over the Irish land code of past generations. But, as representing nobody but tenant farmers and agricultural labourers, he said the land laws of Ireland now were not only just and equitable, but they were generous, and were laws such as no other farmers in the world possessed. (Cheers.) If an Irish farmer paid his rent no landlord could evict him, and what his rent should be did not depend upon his landlord, but upon an independent tribunal, which was set up to decide between the tenant and the landlord as to what was a fair rent. Every sixpence that the tenant put into the soil and every improvement he made was protected by law. His interest was conserved and protected, and was a saleable and marketable commodity. If the tenant wanted to own the freehold he had only to arrange with the landlord as to the price of the land. More than 20,000 farmers had so arranged within the past five years. (Cheers.) The average price had been 17 years' purchase of the judicial rent which the court fixed. The State advanced every farthing of the money, and the farmer repaid it to the State in 49 yearly instalments, and the joke of the whole thing was that these 49 yearly instalments were 30 per cent less per annum than the rent he had to pay to the landland. (Cheers.) Again, whatever advantages there might be in religious equality, Ireland possessed them. She had the protection of the ballot just as England has. She had had a system of education that was practically free for 60 years. She had a press that was free up to the point of licentiousness. If editors of newspapers had been imprisoned, it was not because of expressing their political convictions, but for inciting to crimes, outrages, and intimidation. He avowed that Ireland had no legitimate grievance that was not common to the rest of the empire. The Crimes Act was only in force in one county—Clare. So far as the west country was practically concerned, the Act was virtually a dead letter, but at any time a district could be proclaimed if necessary. The Crimes Act was simply placed on the self, and if Mr Gladstone's friends began to coerce and intimidate their neighbours in Ireland, that Act would be taken down from the shelf. If the Unionist Government remained in power he was certain it would not be wanted. (Cheers.) The only ground of oppression was reduced to this, that the Gladstonians said Ireland was oppressed because the Imperial Parliament declined to do what a vast majority of the Irish members desired in the matter of Home Rule. Did they think we were bound to give whatever a majority of the Irish members asked? Sir William Harcourt was not prepared to endorse that ground. Any such position as that must be adhered to with some limitations. It came to this—that it was not because the Irish people demanded it, but because they demanded what Sir William Harcourt agreed with that he was prepared to give it. The province of Ulster had nearly half the population of Ireland, and in any redistribution of seats the south of Ireland would suffer and the north of Ireland would gain. Were they prepared to force Home Rule upon the half of Ireland, so far as population was concerned, when that half declared through the majority of her members that she would resist it to the last grasp. Some Gladstonians said they were prepared to do so. If they were, where was the cry about coercion? Who was the real coercionists then? The Unionists coerced Ireland for wrong-doing, but that would be coercing Ulster and forcing upon her a system of Government that she loathed and detested, not for crime or wrong-doing, but for passionate loyalty to the English connection. (Loud cheers.) He submitted that in a demand of that kind they must take into account the nature of the demand itself. It must be settled not with relation to Ireland alone, but in relation to the regard of the whole kingdom. The plan of disintegrating this empire at the end of the nineteenth century was almost insanity. (Cheers.) The minority in Ireland objected to it, first, because of the character of the Irish politician; second, because of the claim of the Irish priests. They could not as Unionists put the slightest reliance upon the Nationalist members' pledges and promises. Mr C. S. Parnell had asserted that he only accepted Home Rule, not as a final settlement, but as a stepping stone to something better. Mr Russell described the results of their work in New Tipperary, and said if it had not been for a Unionist fund of between £3,000 and £4,000 which he had to administer, the people there would have been starving. Men capable of such insanity, such wickedness, and such foolery as those who had brought them to that position had no right to ask to be trusted by the people of Ireland. (Cheers). They had no right to ask the men of the North of Ireland to trust their property to the same men, to be at the mercy of idiots, knaves, and fools, who had proved themselves capable of wrecking and ruining one of the fairest towns in the south of Ireland. He said that during the last ten years the character of these men, written in crime, bloodshed, and intimidation of every kind, was written over three out of the four provinces in Ireland. They should not have these men to rule over them. (Cheers). The Irish Catholic clergy claimed to guide and direct the politics of the country. The effect of a Home Rule Bill would be to promote that claim. The moment such a bill was proposed it became the duty of ever lover of freedom—and there were Catholics who were as strong upon this as Protestants in Ireland—to protest against any such claim, to protest against its advancement, and to protest against its enforcement. Whenever they passed the Home Rule Bill for Ireland, they practically set up the Roman Catholic Church as the Government of Ireland, and the Roman Catholic priests would in reality constitute the Irish Parliament. The Protestants had bought their freedom at a great price. They were not going to surrender it at the bidding of a statesman of any degree whatever. Nothing would make them submit to it (Cheers). He asked his friend Mr John Morley what he had to say to a claim of this kind from the Irish priesthood? Mr Morley was the vindicator of Voltaire, the eulogist of Rousseau, and the man who had sketched with a master hand the Revolution in France which struck down nobles and clergy alike. He wanted to know from Mr Morley, there in the centre of his own district, whether he endorsed a claim like that, and did he propose to submit the free-born men of Ulster to any such a claim or to any such a power? (Loud cheers). If Mr Gladstone refused to give the country the scope of his Home Rule Bill, and rushed the measure through the House of Commons without consulting the electorate of the country in relation to its terms, then the House of Lords would be morally justified in rejecting the Bill, and appealing to the country anent the matter. The House of Lords was a Court of Appeal to protect the interests of the people. (Applause). He wanted to know—(cheers and cries of "No")—if any Radical would object to that Court of Appeal? However, Mr Gladstone was waiting to see how the cat jumped, and if at the next election he happened to secure a majority independent of the Irish party, then he would give them a very moderate Home Rule Bill. He would then be able to dictate his own terms to the Irish party. If, on the other hand, he got a majority only with the co-operation of the Irish party, then he would have to concede to the Nationalists whatever they demanded. (Cheers). He counselled the Unionists to give an Ireland Local Government, the same as they enjoyed in England, and then let them leave Ireland alone. The speaker next criticised and ridiculed the Gladstonian Newcastle programme, and expressed his opinion that at the next election they would have to vote on the question of Home Rule, and nothing else but Home Rule. All the minor items on the programme would be dropped. None of the other measures would be touched upon. If Home Rule was granted, they destroyed the Imperial Parliament by turning out the Irish members, and they would have to elect another Parliament to do their own work. He briefly touched upon other matters, and concluded a trenchant and eloquent address by calling upon all the electors to accord their hearty and unanimous support to the Unionist cause at the next election.

The address lasted nearly two hours, and at the close the speaker was greeted with vociferous cheering.]

Mr R. Walton proposed, and Mr F. Healey seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, and this was carried by acclamation.

A person at the back of the hall shouted "Three cheers for Gladstone," which were also given.

The most enthusiastic and successful meeting separated as the band struck up "God save the Queen."

The special correspondent of *The Times*, in an article on election prospects, writes as follows:—

"In the North-Western Division Mr Dunville (Liberal Unionist) will endeavour to wrest Mr Atherley-Jones's seat from him, and, seeing that the Unionist organisation is on a much better footing than it was five years ago, he should be able to make a good show. Still it cannot be forgotten that Mr Atherley-Jones is thoroughly in touch with the miners, and that Mr Dunville, although working hard to make himself known, has no local connection with the constituency."

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF SUPT. OLIVER, OF CONSETT.

It is with unfeigned sorrow that we have to announce the serious indisposition of Supt. James Oliver, of Consett—the oldest superintendent of police in the County of Durham. Over a fortnight ago, Mr Oliver was laid low with influenza, but he partly recovered from the effects of the malady, and was enabled, on Tuesday night week, to transact some constabulary business in his own office. On Monday, however, pneumonia supervened, and since that period Mr Oliver has been dangerously ill—indeed, his condition has been critical. He is being attended by Drs Renton and Shannon, and two professional nurses were constantly at his bedside. Yesterday (Thursday), it was believed that he was gradually sinking, but towards night there was a slight glimmer of hope for his ultimate recovery. What makes the circumstances assume a more saddening aspect is fact that Mrs Oliver is unwell, and incapacitated from waiting on the patient. The illness of the worthy superintendent is causing the gravest anxiety and concern, for Mr Oliver is extremely popular and held in the highest esteem by all sections of the community—rich and poor alike. Callers are frequently asking about his condition, and there is a constant stream of telephonic and telegraphic messages of enquiry from all parts of the north.

At 11 o'clock he was reported to be much worse and was gradually sinking.

This morning, Supt. J. Oliver is a little easier, having passed a better night.

LECTURE ON "HEAT AND COLD" AT BURNOPFIELD.

A lecture was delivered in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield, on Saturday night, by Mr J. S. Chippendale, of the Brunswick Science and Art School, Newcastle. The subject was "Heat and cold." The chair was occupied by Mr Geo. Watson, of Burnopfield Colliery, who in a few remarks introduced the lecturer.

The Lecturer said that heat was not a matter that could be weighed or was anything that passed from one substance to another, but that it was simply an agitated condition of the particles of which substances are composed, and which causes them to have a tendency to fly apart from each other and thus expand anything that was heated. This he proved by various experiments. One of which was that a copper ball which easily went through a ring before it was heated would not pass through after the ball was warmed. A bar of iron was heated and fixed tightly between two points, and as this bar cooled and contracted it broke a strong metal casting in two. To show that heat may be evolved from two cold substances, a drop of sulphuric acid was applied to a mixture of chlorate of potash and sugar, the result being an immediate fire. To show also that cold can expand bodies as well as heat a metal cylinder was filled with water and tightly plugged, and was buried in a mixture of ice and salt. The extreme cold thus produced soon froze the water in the cylinder, and caused it to expand so much in the form of ice that in a very short time the cylinder flew apart in two pieces. A small quantity of water enclosed in a glass ball and heated in a tobacco pipe over a flame exploded with a loud report, shattering the pipe-head to atoms. The uses of clothing were also demonstrated not only to keep out cold but to keep the heat of the body in.

At the close of the lecture, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Lecturer by Mr Saunders, seconded by Mr Robinson, and was carried by acclamation.

The Chairman announced that Rev F. Walters, of Newcastle, would deliver the next lecture, and that arrangements had been made with the Durham County Council for a series of lectures at Burnopfield. Technical instrution will commenced in January, and Dr Garnet, of the Durham College of Science, will deliver an address on the subject.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT AT WEST-WOOD.

On Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, children's concerts were held in the Medomsley Westwood Board School in connection with the prize scheme for attendance. The concert was advertised for Monday and Tuesday evenings, but owing to the inclement weather it was postponed till the two following evenings. The room was packed with an appreciative audience. Mr Cooke, Westwood, took the chair, and made the presentation of prizes. Mr J. T. Hume opened the concert with a pianoforte solo, and was followed by "The Professor," an action song, which was well received. Miss E. Fletcher gave the recitation, "Family cares." Then followed a musical drill by the children of standard II., and the spirited way in which it was done merited the applause it received. The next was a "Laughing song," which was a decided hit. Miss E. F. Robson then rendered "Invalid Dolly" in a very effective way, the upper standards taking up the chorus part. The vocal waltz, "Fairy moonlight," was next put on, and the little fairies with their fairy wands, and the chorus equally fairy in dress, produced a very pretty effect, making this piece a favourite with all. Master Wigham next made his *debut*, and scored his first success with the "Young Trombador," which was given in costume. As soon as possible the children again exchanged places, and those of standard II. very tastefully went through the "Morris dance," which was thoroughly appreciated. "Tit-Bits Christmas song," by the upper standards, and a piano and violin duet, by Masters Mallaburn, brought the first part to a close. The prizes, which were arranged on a table, were presented in the interval, those to the girls on the first, and those to the boys on the second evening. We regret we have not space to insert the names of the prize-takers. The second part opened with a pianoforte solo by Mr Hume, and then came the musical drill of the upper standards, a new feature of which was the foot drill and the lounge. "The little gipsies," in their fantastic dresses and tambourines, now took the stage, and in their dance which follows each verse drew applause from the audience. Master Wigham, as mother's messenger, though he confused his message, was by no means confused himself, and in spite of the long programme had to repeat it. The German band by the little ones also met with success, as did the "Maypole dance." The maypole looked remarkably well when plaited. "Fairy voices" now followed, and the fairies were a great success in their ring and maypole movements, and gained many admirers. Then to be up to date the "Sneezing song" well illustrated what was meant by a touch of influenza. "The bogie man," "The British soldier," and the final chorus, in which the children thanked the audience and chairman for assistance, finished the programme, and closed a most enjoyable evening.

Unionist Meeting.—A political meeting was held in the British School-room, Quebec, on Tuesday evening, when addresses were delivered in furtherance of Mr J. Dunville (Unionist), for North-West Durham, by Mr Frank Healey, of London, and Mr Booth (Unionist Agent), Consett, Mr T. Lowden in the chair. There was a fair attendance of the electorate who were enthusiastic during the proceedings, some of whom being recognised Gladstonians. The subject was "Good government and good wages."

ILLNESS OF LANCHESTER UNION OFFICIALS.

At the fortnightly meeting yesterday (Thursday) of the Lanchester Guardians—Mr Wm. Logan (chairman) presiding—it was reported that the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), the chaplain (Rev F. W. Glyn, M.A., J.P.), and one of the relieving officers (Mr John Moon, of Blackhill) were seriously indisposed, and unable to attend to their duties. Mr J. E. Parker, the Sanitary Inspector, has only just recovered from an attack of influenza, while Mr John Gibson, school attendance officer for the eastern district, is suffering from the same malady.

BLACKHILL UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Consett circuit of the above denomination was held in Park Road Church, Blackhill, on Saturday. There was a good attendance of local preachers. Few complaints were made respecting disappointments, but two local preachers sent in their resignations. They were not accepted, however, and the minister was deputed to see them and report. At the evening, there was a considerable augmentation of members, a strong contingent being present belonging the "home" church, owing to it being the time for the consideration of the invitation. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed,

The Treasurer read the financial statement, from which it appeared there was a small balance, but as there were some accounts not to hand, the reported balance would be considerably reduced.

The Chairman then intimated that as the next business was the question of the invitation, he would retire from the meeting, not as a legal or moral obligation, but as a matter of delicacy, and he would ask the circuit treasurer to take the chair, and report to him the result of the meeting's deliberations.

The Treasurer, as chairman, said that unquestionably the circuit was in a "higher tone" now than when the minister came to it; that undoubtedly he possessed very high intellectual abilities, and that the circuit would not be so well served by a less able man, and, moreover, as they had been able to meet all expenses without any very special effort, he (the chairman) thought that they ought to invite him to stay another year.

The following resolution was at once moved, seconded, and supported:—"That we invite Mr Bromley to stay a fourth year, at a salary of £140 per annum."

As an amendment, it was moved and seconded:—"That, as it would amount almost to an insult to offer Mr Bromley less than £140, yet as the church cannot continue to put forth those special efforts as they had done to meet the amount (which fact ought to be admitted), we do not invite Mr Bromley."

An animated—almost one-sided—brief discussion followed.

The vote on the amendment was taken, the numbers being seven for and 25 against the amendment. There was considerable applause for about a minute.

The Chairman then pronounced the benediction without putting the motion to the meeting.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

To-morrow's Fixtures (Saturday, Dec. 12th).

Consett Y.M.C.A. v North-Eastern clerks, at Consett.

Blackhill Rovers v Jarrow Wanderers, at Blackhill.

Consett Fell v Hobson Wanderers, at Consett.

Tow Law v Newcastle West End Reserve, at Tow Law.

Dipton Wanderers v Blyth, at Dipton.

Leadgate Exiles v Tanfield Lea, at Leadgate (N.W. Durham Alliance).

Stanley Hedley Harriers 2nd v Jarrow 2nd, at Stanley.

Consett Fell B v Science and Art 3rd, at Newcastle.

Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's v Newcastle Brighton, at Newcastle.

Esh True Blues v Stanley Stars, at Stanley.

Cornsay Rovers v Howden-le-Wear, at Howden-le-Wear.

Blaydon v Romandale, on the latter's ground.

Science and Art v Leadgate Park, at Newcastle.

Esh True Blues 2nd v Stanley Stars 2nd, at Esh.

Lintz Rovers v Tow Law St. Joseph's, at Tow Law.

Blaydon 2nd v Romandale 2nd, at Blaydon.

Medomsley v Haverton Hill, at Medomsley.

Medomsley Reserve v Derwent Cottages Ramblers, at Medomsley.

Lintz Rovers 2nd v Blackhill Park, at the Lintz.

Lintzford Red Stars Juniors v South Medomsley Heroes, at South Medomsley.

Waldridge Juniors v Chester-le-Street Excelsiors, at Chester-le-Street.

Medomsley Church Choir v Consett Fell Rangers, at Medomsley.

Consett Swifts v High Row Strangers, at Consett.

Waldridge Juniors 2nd v Chester-le-Street Excelsiors 2nd, at Waldridge.

Leadgate Exiles v Tanfield Lea.—This Alliance match will be played on the Exiles' ground, and should provide a splendid game. The following will represent the Exiles:—Goal, P. Quinn; backs, Wm. McGee (capt.) and W. Treaquare; half-backs, Jas. Monaghan, J. Haggan, and Peter Hughes; forwards, O. Hughes and T. Kelly, right wing; Chas. Quinn, centre; J. McGee and J. McMahon, left wing. The Tanfield team will be chosen from—Brown, Gaffney, Gailes, McDonald, Christopher, Milburn, Fletcher, Robson, Smith, Holmes, Gailes, McNeil, and Christopher. Kick-off at 2-30.

Medomsley v Haverton Hill.—These clubs will meet at Medomsley. The home team will be chosen from the following:—Bramley, Mansell, Baron, Dr Mann, Walton, Moon, Cant, Campbell, Smith, Hedley, Veitch, Charlton, Cant, and Taylor.

Medomsley Reserve v Derwent Cottages Ramblers.—At Derwent Cottages. The Medomsley team will be selected from—Forster, Pearson, Bailey, Hunter, Abbott, Hornsby, Wilson, Ryan, Brown, Roulton, Hunter, Pearson, and Bramley.

Blackhill Rovers v Jarrow Wanderers.—To be played at Blackhill. The following will do duty for the Rovers:—Full back, J. Aitken; three-quarter backs, A. Ward, J. Brown, and G. Hewitson; half-backs, G. Smailes (capt.) and T. Robson; forwards, G. Sayers, G. Davison, A. McGhee, J. G. Askew, R. Stobbs, G. Aitken, J. Todd, W. Brown, and A. Taylor. Reserves, J. McTaggart and T. Gibson.

Lintz Rovers v Tow Law St. Joseph's.—To be played at Tow Law. The visitors' team will be as follows:—Goal, M. Watson (capt.); backs, H. Nevins and J. Haywood; half-backs, P. Hughes, McKenna, and Lee; forwards, A. Hughes and McGurk, right wing; J. Gannon, centre; T. Watson and J. Weedy, left wing. Reserves, Heslin and Sinclair.

Tow Law v West End Reserve.—This match will be played at Tow Law, when a good game may be expected. The subjoined will represent Tow Law:—Goal, J. H. Allison; backs, Temperley and Hilton; half-backs, Waites, Wilson, and Blair; forwards, Coulson (capt.), Potts, Waites, Graham, and Watson.

Consett Fell v Hobson Wanderers.—To be played at Consett. The home team will be selected from the following:—Bell, Skelton, Oliver, Ternent, Gray, Stafford, Dunn, Wake, Atkinson, Carruthers, Harkness, Carlill, Eustace, Watson, and Kempster. Kick-off at 2-30.

Consett Swifts v High Row Strangers.—To be played at Consett. The Swifts' team will be:—Goal, B. McKie; backs, J. Siemam and R. Wake; half-backs, J. McGuckian, J. Pescod (capt.), and J. Allison; forwards, G. Forster and T. Wintes, right wing; J. Wake, centre; R. Barron and G. Eustace, left wing.

Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's v Brighton (Newcastle).—At Newcastle. The "Saints" will rely on the following—Goal, P. Sharp; backs, W. Blackmoor and T. Brabban; half-backs, S. Grant, J. Gibbens, and J. Ringer; forwards, P. Cullen and T. Grant, right wing; G. Grey, centre; D. Lowery and W. Douglas, left wing.

Tow Law v St. Helen's C.I.—Played at Tow Law, the home team winning easily by five goals to nil.

Medomsley Church Choir v Flint Hill Albion.—Played at Flint Hill. Medomsley won by four goals to nil.

Consett Fell B v Blackhall Mill Rovers.—Played on the Rovers' ground, resulting in a draw of two goals each.

Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's v Burnopfield Temperance.—Played on the latter's ground, and after a very pleasant game the "Saints" won by three goals to one.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Benfieldside—Mr Murray held his weekly mart on Monday, but many of the entries did not get forward owing to there being a downpour of rain from morning to night, but for the stock forward there was an excellent demand. Fat cattle, to £15; fat sheep, to 41s 6d; lambs, to 31s 6d; pigs, to £3 2s 6d; calves, to 15s; cows, to £13; geese, to 7s; chickens, to 2s 2d. A number of miscellaneous lots were also disposed of.

PRESENTATION TO MR. COOKE, OF WESTWOOD.

A presentation supper was held in the Temperance Hotel, Ebchester, on Friday evening, Mr Robert Milburn, of Westwood presiding. After a substantial supper had been partaken of, an adjournment was made to an adjoining room for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr Cooke on the occasion of his marriage.

The Chairman called upon Mr W. Hogg to make the presentation.

Mr Hogg, in presenting the testimonial, which took the form of a large and splendid marble clock, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr W. R. Cooke, under-manager of Westwood Colliery, on the occasion of his marriage, as a token of esteem for services rendered to charitable purposes for upwards of eight years, 3rd December, 1891," spoke very highly of Mr Cooke as a man whose object had always been to do his utmost to relieve and assist his fellow-men in cases of need. This usefulness had ever increased with his opportunities, consequent on his becoming an official of the colliery, and the many years during which he had taken a leading part was but a sign of the earnestness with which the recipient endeavoured to reduce want and suffering, and he trusted, by God's help, that he might long be spared to continue this good work, and he further hoped that his example might be an inducement to others to take heart and do likewise.

The Chairman supported and supplemented what Mr Hogg said, and then called upon Mr Daniels to make a presentation to Mrs Cooke, which consisted of a lady's splendid gold albert.

Mr Daniels, in making the presentation, spoke in high terms of Mrs Cooke's willingness to give any assistance in time of need, and hoped that Mr and Mrs Cooke, blessed with health and happiness might long be spared to enjoy the goodwill which they truly deserved.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman and gentlemen who had made the presentation, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a sociable manner.

PRESENTATION TO MR. G. J. CHRISTOPHER, CONSETT.

On Wednesday afternoon, about 25 tenants and *employes* of County Councillor Richard Murray, the well-known brewer and wine and spirit merchant, Benfieldside House, assembled at the Freemason's Arms Hotel, Consett, and partook of a sumptuous dinner, most ably provided and served up by the host and hostess, Mr and Mrs Edward Wylam. After full justice was done to the admirable feast, Mr N. Elsdon, Consett, took the chair, and Mr Vincent Wray, West Stanley, filled the vice-chair. Mr Geo. J. Christopher, agent for Councillor Murray, was presented with a massive marble timepiece, in black and gold; while Mrs Christoper was the recipient of a set of solid silver salts and spoons, the articles bearing the subjoined inscription:—"Presented to Mr and Mrs G. J. Christopher, by the tenants and *employes* under Mr R. Murray, C.C., as a mark of esteem. Dec. 9th, 1891." There was a very large company. The loyal toasts having been suitably disposed of,

The Chairman proposed, "The health of Coun. Murray," and spoke of the good qualities embodied in the character of that gentleman. The sentiment was heartily received. Messrs Brown, Tow Law; Ellison, Tow Law; and Siddle, Kyo, suitably responded.

The Vice-Chairman next offered "The trade of the district," and said that commercial prosperity was necessary for their general welfare.

Mr Ed. Wylam, in replying thereto, averred that the trade of the neighbourhood of Consett would compare favourably with any other town in the whole world. (Applause). He had, moreover, good authority for saying that there were hopes of even better times being in store for the inhabitants of the immediate locality. (Cheers).

The Chairman, in submitting the toast of the evening—"The health of Mr and Mrs Christopher"—explained that they had assembled together for a special purpose—viz., to present suitable testimonials to Mr and Mrs Christopher as a mark of appreciation for the affable, kind, and courteous manner in which Mr Christopher treated the numerous customers of Councillor Murray in all his business transactions. (Applause). He considered that Mr Murray had been exceedingly fortunate in securing the services of such an able and experienced gentleman as Mr Christopher—(applause)—and believed that no other individual took a greater interest in his master's business than Mr Christopher did. (Applause). Such a beneficial and reciprocal state of affairs was doubtless very gratifying to the parties concerned. Mr Christopher took an important and active part in carrying on the particular trade they were interested in, and he was glad that gentleman's services to the trade were so generally appreciated. (Applause). Many people gained a livelihood by means of the business in which Mr Murray was engaged, and he hoped that that gentleman would go on prospering as he had done in the past. (Applause). It was his (the chairman's) duty to present to Mr and Mrs Christopher the articles which had been subscribed for by their many friends, and he trusted that these testimonials would stimulate Mr Christopher to carry on the good work in the same way, and maintain the cordial feeling which existed between Mr Murray and his *employes* and tenants. (Loud applause).

The toast was received with musical honours.

Mr Christopher, who was enthusiastically cheered, stated that he rose utterly unable to find words to return thanks on behalf of his wife and himself for the very handsome presents they had just given him. He could assure them that it had always been his great endeavour, during the time he had been in Mr Murray's employment, to do his duty—not only to the master, but also to his customers and dependents. (Applause). He told them on the occasion of their visit to the brewery at Sunderland that the most amicable relations existed between Mr Murray and his tenants. The two trips to Sunderland were only what was actually due to the tenants and customers, and he was glad that the handsome and generous manner in which they were treated by Mr Murray had been a source of gratification and pleasure to them all. He would do his day's work for Mr Murray as long as he possibly could, and it would always be his aim and object to act fairly and squarely between that gentleman and his tenants and customers. (Applause.) He might perhaps have lacked a little firmness in the performance of his duties; but he could truly say that as long as he had been treated courteously he had always been civil to his tenants. He was sorry that his wife—owing to domestic duties—was not able to come personally and receive the gift, but he accorded his sincere thanks to the subscribers for their handsome presents, which should be handed down to his family to show the esteem in which their parents were held by the inhabitants of the district. (Applause.) He concluded by proposing "The health of their worthy chairman," whose name was known throughout North-West Durham. (Applause.)

The request was heartily complied with, and Mr Elsdon briefly returned thanks, expressing the pleasure it gave him in meeting so many of his customers.

Other toasts followed, and some first-class songs were sung by Messrs Wilson, J. Fegan, Blackhill; R. M. Rutherford, Medomsley; Ellison, Geo. J. Christopher, the Chairman, Vice-chairman, and others, the enjoyable proceedings ending with "The host and hostess" and "Auld Lang Syne."

We may add that Messrs W. Tober, White-le-Head, and M Coates, Catchgate, acted respectively as secretary and treasurer to the testimonial fund. The articles were purchased from Messrs Bunn and Dick's, Newcastle.

Dunston Pioneer and Teams District Observer.—This is the title of an illustrated monthly issued at Dunston. The proprietor endeavours to make the venture a success by the insertion of local articles of interest to the inhabitants, and judging from the appearance of this magazine, his efforts have not been in vain.

RAILWAY FATALITY AT WESTWOOD.

Early yesterday (Thursday) morning, a sad accident happened on the Consett branch of the North-Eastern Railway, near Westwood. It appears that Patrick Donaghie, aged about 44 years, living at Blackhill, and employed as a coke-drawer at the Consett Iron Company's Westwood Collieries, was walking from Blackhill along the railway. It was dark at the time, and he failed to see the approach of the goods train from Newcastle, due at Consett before 7 a.m. It is supposed that the engine knocked him down, as his head was severely fractured. About a quarter-past seven, P.C. Hadwin found the man lying on the railway, the body still being warm. Dr Mann, who examined the deceased, said that death must have been instantaneous. The body was removed to Blackhill to await a coroner's enquiry. Deceased leaves a wife and family of nine or ten children.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Sunday special sermons were preached in the above chapel at Annfield Plain, by Mr J. W. Winter, of Leadgate, to large congregations. On Monday night, Rev T. Archer preached in the same place of worship.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

Bradley Cottages—3rd inst., the wife of William Hardy, of a daughter.

Allendale Cottages—2nd inst., the wife of Thos. Atkinson, of a daughter.

Kyo—The wife of Thomas Martin, of a son.

New Ridley—Dr Syntax Inn, 8th inst., the wife of John G. Robson, of a daughter. 180h

Ryton—7th inst., the wife of J. B. Richardson, of a daughter.

Riding Mill—Minsteracres, 5th inst., Mrs Silvertop, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Medomsley—Parish Church, 7th inst., by license, Jonathan Eddy, Leadgate, to Barbara Stoddart, second daughter of Robert Stoddart, Bradley Cottages.

Lanchester—Register Office, 28th ult., E. Heron to R. Swan, both of Ushaw Moor.—5th inst., G. Clough to S. E. Retty, both of Stanley.—Same day, J. Thompson to B. Emmerson, both of Consett.—9th inst., John Cowen, Stanley, to Sarah Ann Hunter, Annfield Plain.

Blanchland—St Mary's Abbey Church, 3rd inst., by Rev J. C. Dunn, M.A., James Ellerington, of Acklington, to Mary Jane, daughter of Jos. Hutchinson, of Blanchland.

Westgate—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 28th ult., George Middleton, Swinehope House, to Hannah Hodgson, both of Weardale.

DEATHS.

Consett—Delves Terrace, aged 74, John, husband of Isabella Tait.

4th inst., aged 5 years, Mary Graham; 7th inst., aged 2 years and 4 months, Amelia, beloved daughters of Henry James and Sarah Saxty. 154h

Victoria Street, 6th inst., aged 3½ years, Thomas, youngest son of Thomas and E. H. Barry.

East Parade, 10th inst., aged 12 days, John, infant son of Robert and Elizabeth Barker.

Blackhill—Highfield Villa, 3rd inst., aged 19, Arthur Edwin, son of Pattinson and the late Anne Osborne.

15th Hawthorn Terrace, 6th inst., aged 60, Joseph Sawers.

14, Dale Street, aged 44, James Donaghie. To be interred on Sunday at 2·30. Friends, please accept this intimation. 195g

Leadgate—North Cross Street, 8th inst., aged 52, Thomas, beloved husband of Sarah Monkhouse. To be interred at St. Ive's Cemetery, on Sunday, at Three o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation. 144h

Iveston—4th inst., aged 52, Matthew Thompson, late of Nenthead.

Hanging Stone—6th inst., aged 63, Hannah, wife of the late John Elsdon, of Sunniside Farm.

West Stanley—Oakey's Cottages, 6th inst., aged 62, Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Anderson.

Havannah, 9th inst., aged 67, Sarah, wife of James Proudlock.

Burnopfield—Sheephill, 9th inst., aged 58, Thomas, husband of Elizabeth Robson.

Byer Moor—6th inst., aged 52, Thomas, husband of Margaret Baker.

Blanchland—3rd inst., aged 86, Phœbe, widow of the late Matthew Keenleyside, of Buckshot.

Stanhope—The Square, 6th inst., aged 59, Thomas Forster.

6th inst., aged 9 months, Annie Gibson, granddaughter of Wm. Collingwood.

8th inst., aged 43, William Golightly, bellman.

Frosterley—The Poplars, 8th inst., Margaret, wife of the late Joseph Walton.

Tow Law—6th inst., John Henry, son of John H. and Phœbe Barlow.

Ouston—4th inst., aged 36, Robert, husband of Mary Slowther.

Prudhoe—Beaumont's Cottages, 7th inst., aged 69, Hannah, wife of Abram Nicholson.

Winlaton—Front Street, 7th inst., aged 57, Henry, husband of Ann Bruce Smith.

Gardner's Square, 9th inst., aged 77, Alice, wife of Robert Robson.

Chester-le-Street—Pictree, 2nd inst., aged 69, Thomas Scott, shepherd.

Mickley—7th inst., aged 67, Thomas, husband of Jane Soulsby.

Pelton Fell—Hot Hills, 6th inst., aged 83, Thomas, husband of Elizabeth Simms.

Shadforth—Oxclose Houses, 4th inst., aged 33, Francis Vickers.

Gibside—Hillhead, 2nd inst., aged 34, William Boyd.

West Pelton—Grange Villa, 3rd inst., aged 29, Ann Elizabeth, wife of James Garnham, and eldest daughter of R. D. and E. Welsh, of East Stanley.

Whickham—3rd inst., aged 86, Mary widow of the late Robert Kirsopp.

Eltringham—3rd inst., aged 24, Sarah, wife of Geo. Liddle, and daughter of Thomas Peel, of Low Prudhoe.

Middlesbrough—8th inst., aged 76, Ann, beloved wife of the late John Wake, of Crookhall. To be interred at Linthorpe on Saturday. *Cortege* to leave the house of her son-in-law, W. Atkinson, 110, Union Street, at Twelve o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation. 155h

Edinburgh—20, Fountainhall Road, 28th ult., aged 20, John Edward, youngest son of the late Michael Patterson, C.E., formerly of Shotley Bridge. 165h

New Jersey, America—July 1st, 1890, P. J. Whelan, late of the *Consett Chronicle*. 193g

In loving memory of Sarah Ann, the beloved wife of William Stobbs, and loving daughter of James and Ellen Smith, who died at Greencroft, Dec. 14th, 1890, aged 34 years.

"A faithful friend, a mother dear,
A loving wife who God did fear;
Upright and just in all her ways,
In truth and justice spent her days.

We miss thee when the morning shines,
We miss thee when the night returns,
We miss thee here, we miss thee there,
Dear wife we miss thee everywhere."

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