nal Poetry.
MEMORIAM.
d in Pietermaritzburg, South
ctober 20th, 1882.
rt is pained for thee,
n silence there,
y company,
ement with Despair,
nd Love went far
Shepherds gaze;
u wert ever dear:
oice of honest praise.
Tears shed ing,
ilosophic thought
f—warm, gushing, strong,
reavement's tender heart;
from us apart
far 'neath other skies,
ning fraught
s and sympathies.
her charms retain—
t her powers attest—
f the brave
ive visions blessed;
tal eye may rove,
d moments o'er,
's eye invest
pleasures known before.
hy quiet tomb
ngs of another sky,
down to me may bloom
eath th' enchanted eye
sing their lullaby,
r lays to listening ears;
...
the smiling years.
to sleep in English earth,
born and nurtured here,
know and prized thy worth
d drop the generous tear;
might scatter there
its cinctured brow,
y bosom dear
t bloom above thee now.
sunrise skylark pour
n o'er the sod.
e clay thy spirit pure
like to meet her God,
ore abroad,
glories Heaven can give,
Christ Himself hath trod,
Eternity to live.
our Tears and Woe,
ge what we call death;
le of Sorrow flow
t where the clay has breath;
d to eyes of Faith,
pon a fairer shore,—
Hope's vital promise saith
ure for evermore.
J. L.
c., 1882.

day School Anniversaries, &c.
test notice, and at the *cheapest*
JACKSON, "Guardian" Office,
furnished
.—Mr Wm. Raw, auctioneer,
for sale by auction at Mr
ck Bull Inn, Lanchester, on
elling-house belonging to Mrs
ing five rooms, attic, &c., at
Lanchester. There was a fair
s Brotherhood, Lanchester, and
ckhill, were the bidders, but as
nsiderably below the value, the
sold. Thomas Maddison, jun.,
solicitor for the vendor.—Mr
for sale on the evening of the
house of Mr George Brown's,
sett, the dwelling-house, No. 8,
Consett, now occupied by Mr B.
ere was a large attendance of
bidding brisk, which was com-
W. Davison at £200, and continued
n. W. Graham, R. Jackson, T.
Eledon, W. Rippon, J. Muir, and
5 was reached, when Mr James
ett, became the buyer for that
tokoe, Esq., of Sunderland, was
ndors.
AT USHAW MOOR COLLIERY.—
mmittee of the Durham Miners'
passed a resolution inviting the
the Council Meeting, to be held
ember, in the Miners' Hall, Dur-
pose of receiving a testimonial,
ld watch and a purse containing
his kindness to the women and
men on strike.—At a meeting on
president, Mr John Lee, in the
nt-secretary read the expenditure
which was passed as satisfactory.
H. Smith) then read the receipts
rday, Monday, Tuesday, and that
rning, amounting to £52, from
ies. The following collieries in
ears on the list of subscribers:—
anden Hold, Chophill, Derwent,
twood, Guernsey Pet, Shield Row,
—A vote of thanks to the donors
ing to a close.—The strike hands
e the anniversary of this unfor-
n Dec. 23rd.

MAS O. MOIR,
(Late MURRAY'S),
STABLES, CONSETT.
ES of all descriptions on hire. Hearse,
aches, and Mourning supplied on the

arriages, and Deaths.
ARRIAGES.
At the Register Office, on the 2nd inst.
to Miss M. J. Winter, both of Burn-
day, Mr F. Jackson, Leadgate, to Miss
n, Medomsley.—Same day, Mr M. W.
l, to Miss M. H. Nuddlemast, West
day, Mr Alexander Smith to Miss M.
th of Biggin Drift.
St. Ives Church, on the 7th inst., Mr
Telford, of Consett, to Miss Barbara
nata.
High House Wesleyan Chapel, on the
the Rev. C. M. Greenway, Mr Wm.
tt, to Miss Sarah Brown, of Ireshope
At the Wesleyan Chapel, on the 2nd
Rev S. Adcock, Mr Joseph Allison, to
Wilkinson, both of Tow Law.
DEATHS.
alger Street, on the 3rd inst., aged 76
Gowland.
Cort Street, 5th inst., Ann, wife of
erts.
GE.—5th inst., aged 57 years, Rachael,
Egglestone.
COLLIERY.—7th inst., aged 18 years,
rton Barron.
5th inst., aged 62 years, Mary, wife of
erdson.
On the 2nd inst., aged 23 years, Thos.
Cherry Inn, 5th inst., infant daughter of
Mary Ann Myers.
inst., Mr William White, late of Gate
t Allen.
5th inst., aged 60 years, Mary Stoker,
iam Stoker.

OBERT BEALL,
TAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE,
RANITE AND STONE,
WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
s and Estimates on application.
ut in Town and Country. 510c

blished by ROBERT JACKSON, at the
ric Printing Works, Front Street,
Friday, December 8th, 1882.

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 1,165 {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, December 15th, 1882. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MONEY ADVANCED, in large and small sums in Town or Country, on Personal and Household Security, Farm Stock, Second Mortgages, Deeds, Life Policies, Building Society or any other Shares or Interest, repayable to suit borrowers' convenience, as may be arranged.—For reference apply to Mr. JAMES FREDDICK, House and Commission Agent, Consett; or by letter to M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 64, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (opposite Angus, Coachbuilder.) M. L. R. does business entirely on his own account. Established 1860. 671q

Lost.

LOST, from Newbiggin, TWO BLACK-FACED LAMBS. Any information of the same will be rewarded.—Apply to J. W. ARMSTRONG, Newbiggin.

Found.

FOUND, a COCKER and SETTER PUP; White, with Liver-coloured Ears, and Three Spots on right side. If not claimed within three days will be sold.—Apply at High Stables Farm. 202r

Wanted.

WANTED, a Domestic SERVANT; must be able to milk.—Apply at 26, Harvey Street, Consett.

SERVANT Girl WANTED, for a Public House.—Apply at the King's Head, Lanchester.

TWO APPRENTICES WANTED to the Dress-making.—Apply Miss LAIDLER, Tanfield. 214r

WANTED, a strong Girl as SERVANT.—Apply to A. BROWN, Co-operative Society, Annfield Plain. 207r

WANTED a Servant Girl who can milk and make herself generally useful in a farm house.—Apply to THOMAS CARTER, Medomsley. 200r

WANTED immediately, Two GENERAL SERVANTS.—Apply to Mr. RAWES, Turf Hotel, Front Street, Consett. 122r

BIRMINGHAM GOODS.—Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, Harmoniums, Miscellaneous Goods. AGENTS WANTED. Wholesale Illustrated Catalogues Post-free.—Address, HENRY MAY, Birmingham. 137r

REGISTRY OFFICE.

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

GREENCROFT SCHOOL BOARD.

WANTED, for the above Board School, a SEWING MISTRESS. Salary £10 per annum.—Applications to be sent to me on or before the 3rd day of January, 1883.

W. W. THOMPSON, Clerk to the Board.
Lanchester, December 7th, 1882. 191r

WANTED.—Persons wishing to EMIGRATE to AMERICA can be booked by American, White Star, Inman, or National Lines, at £4 and £4 4s. to New York or Philadelphia. Free Passages to Queensland for Farm Labourers and Female Domestic Servants, and Assisted Passages to Miners, Mechanics, and others.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 186r

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

To Let.

FURNISHED APARTMENTS for One or Two Gentlemen.—Mrs. PROUD, The Villa, Consett.

LODGINGS for Respectable WORKING MEN, at Mrs. ROUTLEDGE'S, Medomsley Road, Consett.

TO LET, TWO COTTAGES, at Leadgate.—Apply to Mr. GEORGE HAWDON, Leadgate. 193r

For Sale.

FOR SALE, HAY, in large or small quantities.—Apply to JOHN NEVIN, Lintz Colliery. 182r

FOR SALE, a LATHE.—Apply to GEO. LUMLEY, Consett Brickworks. 114r

FOR SALE, a Two-wheeled GIG, with a SNOW SLEDGE combined. — Apply to THOMAS LONGSTAFF, Leadgate. 187r

TWO-HORSE POWER STEAM ENGINE, for SALE.—Apply at the "Guardian" Office, Consett. 603q

FOR SALE, WAGGONETTE, with Moveable Top, for one or a pair; also, WHITECHAPEL, nearly new.—Apply to HUGH BOAG, Shotley Hall.

CLEARING OUT Two and Four-Wheeled TRAPS, HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, RUGS, &c., &c. Also, 1 SLEDGE.—Apply to JOHN BRODIE, jun., Shotley Bridge. 190r

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

DIARIES FOR 1883.—FOR SALE, at ROBERT JACKSON'S Cheap Printing and Stationery Establishments, 9, and 10, Newmarket Street, and 59, Front Street, Consett. 112r

SLEIGHING.—A large variety of English, American and Russian Snow Sleighs for HIRE or SALE. Runners fitted to Private Carriages for use as Sleighs. —Apply Messrs. ATKINSON and PHILIPSON, 27, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 201r

FOR SALE, Cheap, the following valuable BOOKS, Handsomely Bound:—Mechanical Engineering, with Working Drawings, by BURN; The Carpenter and Joiners' Assistant, by NEWLANDS; Beautiful Family Bible, cost £3 10s.; and the Works of Bunyan, in best Morocco.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 216r

£10, £20, £50, £100, £500

OPTIONS on Stock Exchange Securities. Acknowledged the best and safest plan ever devised for making large profits from small investments with great rapidity. Explanatory book (second edition) SENT FREE.—Address GEORGE EVANS and Co., Sworn Brokers, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London. 128r

Price One Shilling and Sixpence each.

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

FOR SALE, an unlimited supply of PIANO-FORTES, in Black and Gold, Walnut, and Rosewood Cases, by English and Foreign Makers, on our SPECIAL HIRE SYSTEM, for 50s. per quarter for three years, when the Instrument becomes the Property of the Hirer. Every Instrument warranted for seven years. HARMONIUMS from 10s. 6d. per month, on the same system.—DAWSON & Co., Pianoforte and Harmonium Warehouse, and Music Sellers, 1 and 2½, Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 6lbs. of INDIAN TEA (the Finest Tea in the world). Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half o each kind as you may direct.

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

TO KEEP YOUR HORSE IN GOOD CONDITION
USE
JOHN HUME AND SON'S
OPTIMUS HORSE MIXTURE.
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 127r

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
THE RENOWNED TEA DEALER

WHO, after an experience of Twenty Years' Competition in the District, has been acknowledged by his Annually Increasing Business, to have gained the High Reputation of always keeping a Very Superior Class of Goods (which are not generally kept in Stock), at Prices which not only Compare with any other House, but defy Competition in the North of England, as he Buys direct from the Principal and Best Markets, for Cash, which places him in the position to make the above assertion.

W. A. wishes to draw the attention of the Public in general to his

LARGE STOCK JUST RECEIVED FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

Which includes a

LARGE VARIETY OF PICKLED GOODS,

NAMELY:—Salmon, Lobster, Rabbit, Sardines, Roast Beef, Corned Beef, Brawn, LIBBY'S Lunch Tongues. McCALL'S Paysanden Ox Tongues, Chicken, Ham and Tongues, Sausage.

A LARGE ARRIVAL OF THE FINEST INDIAN TEAS!
FRENCH COFFEE IN ONE POUND AND HALF-POUND TINS!

CURRANTS AND RAISINS—SULTANAS AND MUSCATELS. FIGS AND PRUNES.
CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S JAMS, JELLIES, SAUCES, & PICKLES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.
LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF.
HUNTLEY AND PALMER'S FANCY BISCUITS OF ALL KINDS AND QUALITIES.
ALSO, A LARGE STOCK OF CHRISTMAS LOAVES, FROM 4lb. TO 4lbs.

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

☞ WILLIAM AYNSLEY refrains from quoting Prices. Only a visit to his Establishments will be sufficient to convince the Public how just is the remark made—that he is not only the Cheapest Grocer in the District, but in the North of England.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

WINES & SPIRITS FOR THE PRESENT SEASON

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

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

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

WINES

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

SPIRITS

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

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

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

ECONOMY IN ALES. OCTOBER BREWINGS.

NINE-GALLON CASKS.—CASH PRICES.

	NINE GALLONS.		EIGHTEEN GALLONS.
Mild Ales	10s. 6d., 12s., 13s. 6d.	Indian Pale Ale	18 Gallons for 24s., 27s.
Bitter Ales	10s. 6d., 13s. 6d.	Mild Burton	18 Gallons for 21s., 24s.

BOTTLED ALES AND STOUT.—PER DOZEN.

	HALF-PINTS.	PINTS.		HALF-PINTS.	PINTS.
Bass & Co.'s Indian Pale Ale	2s. 0d.	3s. 6d.	Maunders' Invalids' Stout	2s. 0d.	3s. 0d.
Bass & Co.'s Sparkling Mild Ale	1s. 9d.	2s. 8d.	Nourishing Stout	1s. 9d.	2s. 9d.

Fine Old.	HALF-GALLONS.	GALLONS.	Fine Old.	HALF-GALLONS.	GALLONS.
Glenlivet Whiskey	9s., 8s., 6s. 9d.	18s., 16s., 13s. 6d.	Old Tom Gins	From 6s. 0d.	From 12s. 0d.
Fine Old Jamaica Rums	9s, 8s, 6s. 9d.	18s, 16s, 13s. 6d.	Brandies	From 6s. 9d.	From 13s. 6d.

BRITISH WINES.—PER BOTTLE.

Port Wine	1s. 2d.	Orange	1s. 2d.
Sherry	1s. 2d.	Raisin	1s. 2d.
Tent	1s. 2d.	Raspberry	1s. 2d.
		Ginger	1s. 2d.

GOODS DELIVERED DAILY TO ANY PART OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, the Oldest Insurance Agent in the District, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurance of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt Settlement of Claims.

☞ Note the Address:—ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. Dealer in Steamship Shares. 782q

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

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

HUGHES & CO.'S PHARMACY,
(LATE CURRY)
(From HOOPER & Co.'s., London),
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL.

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEG to inform the inhabitants of Consett and the surrounding district that they have PURCHASED THE BUSINESS OF MR. CURRY, CHEMIST, and also to intimate that all Drugs sold are of the purest quality.

☞ ALL KINDS OF HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES KEPT IN STOCK.

HAVING had many years' experience in some of the leading establishments in London, and also in Agricultural Districts, we feel confident every satisfaction will be given; we hope therefore to merit a share of your patronage.

GENUINE PATENT MEDICINES.

PURE CHEMICALS OF ALL KINDS IN STOCK.

A VARIETY OF OTHER ARTICLES USUALLY SOLD BY CHEMISTS & DRUGGISTS.

HUGHES' BALSAM OF HONEY. An invaluable remedy for Coughs and Colds, especially for Children.

QUININE AND IRON WINE.

CURRY'S STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES. An excellent preparation.

CATTLE DRINKS, &c.
OILS, PAINTS, AND COLOURS.

☞ ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

HUGHES & CO.,
(LATE CURRY) 123r
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

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

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.

☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

THE AUCKLAND UNION
PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1857.
Offices—56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland.

THE Directors are prepared to ADVANCE MONEY on approved securities. The payments may spread over 16 years, or any less number, to suit the means of borrowers.

INVESTING SHARES may be entered at any time, and withdrawn, if required, at a month's notice.

PROFITS are divided every three years.

The Interest and Profits paid to members on Completed Shares has averaged 6¾ per cent. per annum.

Any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. GEO. STILLMAN, 56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland; or Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOTT, 22, Nelson Street, Consett.

ESTABLISHED 1778.

REID & SONS' GOLD AND SILVER PLATE

REID AND SONS' GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY.

REID AND SONS' GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

REID AND SONS' CLOCKS, ELECTRO-PLATE, &c.

In large variety of Prices and Patterns.

N.B.—Illustrated Sheets and Catalogues Free on application. 797q

41, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

COOKE'S NEW DRAPERY
ESTABLISHMENT,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

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

Business Announcements.

CHAMPAGNES.
PAUL RUINART AND CO., OF RHEIMS.
ERNST BIESTERFELD, Sole Agent.
No. 1 BROAD CHARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
A choice stock always on hand.—Sub-Agents Wanted.

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

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

STATIONERY OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
AT
JASPER COCKBURN'S
CHEAP STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENT,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Printing executed, News Papers and Periodicals supplied, Books Bound, Pictures Framed. Books not in Stock, can be had at Two Day's Notice. 687q

Agent for the Eureka-Tinted Perescopic Spectacles.

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

RESPECTFULLY announce that they have commenced Business as above, and as they intend to conduct their Business in a straightforward manner and at Moderate Terms, they hope to secure a share of public patronage.

☞ All Orders left at either Address will be promptly attended to. 697q

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN 920p

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

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

N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 384c

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

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

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.
Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

THE SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE TO THE WEST.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; R. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 833p

J. STEPHENSON,
IRONMONGER AND FANCY GOODS REPOSITORY, PLUMBER, GAS-FITTER, PAINTER, AND TIN PLATE WORKER,
☞ NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he has commenced business as above.

Any article made to order in TIN, ZINC, COPPER or IRON.

A large Stock of PAPER-HANGINGS, COCOA MATS, MATTING, OILCLOTH, &c., always on hand.

J. S. hopes by strict attention to business, and good workmanship, to merit a share of public patronage.

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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, December 15th, 1882.

MUCH SPEAKING.

Many people say things which they had better left unsaid. Many, on the other hand, by their reticence hinder conversation and check the flow of though. But few are endowed with the faculty of expressing what others feel yet would never perhaps have uttered. We fancy Earl Fortescue possesses the latter peculiarity, for although the attention of most of us has been directed for some months past to the desirability of framing rules for debate, he has the ingenuity and and courage to tell us that debating itself is very frequently an evil. Some one in his country asked him to become a member of a Debating Society, and he refused, on the ground that there is already too much talk, and that what the country wants is work. The remark is not devoid of truth: it is the embodiment of many an unexpressed opinion, and although it is right that young men should learn how to clothe their thoughts and in what manner to express them, there is no necessity in our day to specially promote the art of eloquence. It would be scarcely right to assert that oratory has had its day: it is easy to see, however, that it has lost many of the influences it used to be wield. If a Demosthenes were to arise now, we should regard his mission as almost purely sensational. Were Pitt and Fox to repeat themselves, they would perhaps fail to command the applause of listening senates. We glory in our Premier as being almost the sole inheritor of the eloquence of the past; yet it is questionable whether our admiration would be so great, did he not unite with a fluent tongue an unprecedented capacity for hard work. A mere orator would have little chance in our day, and we are drifting unconsciously into a short and practical style of speech indicative rather of reasoning than of feeling; so that what Earl Fortescue admires may become general sooner than he imagines. Incisive language is the best remedy for superfluity of debate. It is practised by some already. Lord Salisbury is a master of it, so also is Sir C. Dilke, and Mr Chamberlain has given several proofs that he is quite aware of its effectiveness. The fact is that, with the knowledge we now possess in every department of literature, politics, and social science, the stirring words of the orator are less needed than of yore. It is possible, of course, to imagine that the enthusiasm of eloquence might in some circumstances again become serviceable; but with our present experience we can hardly conceive how. What we shall henceforth value most highly will be a concise method of expressing our thoughts as likely to be most indicative of capacity for work. We are not certain that the objections to redundancy of speech might not apply with equal force to the overmuch writing which characterizes the present age. To opinions as expressed in newspapers there is indeed no end, and some of our cotemporaries are showing a tendency to extend rather than to curtail their remarks on current events. Much reading, like much speaking, must to many persons be a weariness of the flesh, and it would be well perhaps if brevity and compression were aimed at instead of the longest columns and the greatest quantity of space. Both in speaking and writing the chief merit in future, we apprehend, will be conciseness. Whatever, then, is likely to check this tendency is unworthy of support. Earl Fortescue believes Debating Clubs to be of this character, and we are not disposed to disagree with him.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

Even the urbanity of Earl Granville is tried by the pettishness of the French Government, which is bound in a measure to reflect the pettishness of the Parisian press, with regard to the defunct Dual Control. There is probably a vast amount of diplomatic difficulty ahead with regard to Egypt yet. Indirectly the French grievance may be troublesome even more than directly. The ridiculous pretentions of our neighbours in Central Africa and Madagascar are confessedly based upon the principle of "compensation." A leading Parisian journal, by the way, with characteristic ignorance, ascribes the disfavour with which French claims in Madagascar are regarded to the machinations of "the Methodists." The Malagasy Envoys will be much lionized during their stay here. Another lion is Count de Lisle Adam, who mildly demands money from our Government on the ground of being a descendent of Adam—not the father of us all, but Count Adam, the last hereditary Governor of Malta.

When Her Majesty declared the Royal Courts "open" it was only in a conventional and limited use of the word. It took a day to remove the seats, chairs, &c., which had been erected in the Central Hall, and it will take several days to completely fit up the numerous Courts. In the meanwhile the judges sit at Westminster, of which they are supposed to have taken a solemn farewell.

I hear from a gentleman who has resided many years in Japan, and who appears to be a perfectly competent and impartial witness, that amongst European residents in that most trying of climates the two classes who suffer most are heavy drinkers and—total abstainers. The moderate men, who come in for such intemperate abuse from Good Templars and Blue Ribbonists, should make a note of this statement. Japan, by the way, seems to be rapidly winning the right to be reckoned amongst thoroughly civilised nations. The growth of new ideas may be best illustrated by the fact that the works of Carlyle and Herbert Spencer are highly popular amongst Japanese students. Unhappily, the most eager ambition of these Easterns is to master the Western methods of warfare. It may or may not be true, as some assert, that the real origin of the Japanese awakening, which is the greatest social phenomenon of this age, lies in the national desire for a grand revenge upon the Caucasian races. At any rate, our pupils are forging a tremendous weapon which they may some day use against their masters.

It is a perfectly ridiculous fiction which necessiates the presence of an alderman upon the Bench of the Central Criminal Court beside the presiding judge. He has nothing in the world to do except sit still in his robes beneath the City sword, and endeavour to look wise. Yet Mr Justice Hawkins did not feel justified in continuing on the Bench in the accidental absence of a City magnate to "see fair." And judge, counsel, jury, and prisoners were kept waiting a whole hour whilst a messenger was searching the City for a disengaged alderman.

We are having a cycle of fires, as we recently had a cycle of floods. It is a bad time for the Insurance offices. The *Alhambra* was a strange sight as I saw it early on Thursday morning. Leicester Square was crowded. The engines were playing vigorously upon the great building, of which little except the front wall remained standing. And the fire brigade men with their brass helmets were visible upon escape ladders, balconies, and adjoining roofs. The building, in spite of its stucco front, was a majestic as well as a remarkable one. In its renovated form it will no doubt be externally a finer structure. Internally it could not present a much more imposing appearance, or be decorated with more oriental richness of colour. As a speculation it has paid well since it commenced its career as a theatre. It has latterly paid 17 per cent, and a couple of Dukes were members of the proprietory company. From the time that the Lord Chamberlain's temporary ban was removed its performances have been not less decorous than those of the majority of other London theatres. The air of scandal which continued to hang round it was not associated with anything which met the eye or ear.

A grander and more costly illumination was reserved for Friday morning. The great fire which destroyed several well-known business houses in the neighbourhood of Wood Street occasioned a glare which woke thousands of City residents at an abnormally early hour. It seemed as though the whole city were in conflagration. Sparks of fire fell like rain in Ludgate Hill, and it was difficult at first to distinguish from whence they came. Between the two fires probably more than three millions' worth of property has been destroyed, and perhaps not much fewer than 2,000 persons have been thrown temporaily out of employment.

A sad tale comes from Essex of agricultural distress, and it is probable that in that low-lying country, a kind of Great Dismal Swamp between the Thames and the German Ocean, the effect of a succession of bad seasons is felt with unusual acuteness. Land is in many cases going out of cultivation, and farms will not be taken even on the terms of having them rent free and paying the taxes. What is more distressing still is that the worst is apparently not over, and the present autumn has been so wet that there will be no wheat sown till spring.

The Bishop of Rochester has addressed a letter to the clergy to be read by them to their congregations. It is a lengthy document, and deals with the statistics of church accommodation in South London. The growth of the South-Eastern portions of the Metropolis is amazingly rapid, and it is no wonder that ecclesiastical organisation is left behind in the race. There are several parishes containing more than 20,000 souls, and very many containing 15,000 and 10,000. Plumstead, New Bermondsey, and New Cross, as might naturally be expected from the enormous artizan populations, are the most destitute of spiritual appliances. In a Westerly direction Battersea and Wandsworth with their miles and miles of new workmen's houses are almost as bad. Dr Thorold at present only proposes to raise £50,000 and to build two new churches. But it is evident that a much more comprehensive scheme is required really to cope with the situation.

Cabinet re-construction has been going on for some time, and even yet the final arrangements (if we may speak of finality in such a mass of frail mortality as Cabinet Ministers are made of) seems far from complete. All that is certain is that four Ministers in the Cabinet together fill up seven places, so that there are at least three vacancies, if not four. Two are almost certain to enter the Cabinet—Lord Derby and Sir Charles Dilke, and may be described as the oil and vinegar of the social salad; but which is to throw in the salt or the "mordant mustard" is the secret yet to be divulged.

Mr Childer's move from the War Office to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer is something more than a recognition of special administrative ability during the Egyptian campaign: it is also a special mark of confidence on Mr Gladstone's part. It is true that there is no hope of an heroic Budget next year; but it will require no little financial skill to make ends meet, and for this Mr Childers is perhaps better qualified than any member of the Cabinet.

Mr Gladstone's jubilee has been marked by no special public act of recognition of the "People's William," as he was once grandiloquently called by the journal with the largest circulation. Since then he went into temporary eclipse, and as cynically known in Society as the Grand Old Man. But, whether grandiloquently flattering or grandly cynical, it is certainly the case that his reputation has stood the test both of flatterers and mockers, which is something.

It was a fairly temperate day for the Prince of Wales to open the City of London School on the Embankment on Tuesday. We may be congratulated on the addition of a public building, simple but effective, in character at once with its surroundings and not out of character with the disciplinary ends for which it was erected. Either a palace or a prison-like structure would be unsuitable for a boy's school, and so would a church or a theatre. The architect has, happily, kept clear of these conceits; hence his success.

How sequacious we critics are! The *Spectator*, getting a cue, I suppose, from some quarter, took up the note that Dean Church, the Dean of St. Paul's, was to go *per saltum* to the Primacy. It was amusing for the doctrinaire organ of diluted Unitarianism to write in this tone of commendation of a decided and even dogmatic High Churchman. But having once taken this tone, I remark that not a few London Correspondents have seen in this one of those Augur's hints which, like prophecies of the Derby favourite, are generally conspicuous only for being wrong.

It was whilst Dr. Tait was Bishop of London that Mr Mackonochie first made his appearance in the Ecclesiastical Courts. The St. Alban's controversy has raged ever since. The conflict has now ended through the affecting efforts of the Archbishop, whilst upon his death-bed, to promote peace in the Church. Mr Mackonochie has not yielded a single point in dispute. He changes the scene of his labours, but nothing more. Indeed, he goes to a Church where the ritual is even more extreme than at St. Alban's. His only concession at parting is to take with him the picture of the Virgin which, in defiance of authority, he had hung in his Church. Mr Suckling, his successor, is so advanced in his opinion that he was selected to take the place of Mr Lowder at St. Peter's. If peace is indeed secured by the dead Archbishop's arrangement, it will only be because that arrangement must be taken to mean that henceforward the Ritualists may do as they please.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE, BLACKHILL.

ANNIVERSARY ENTERTAINMENT.

The third anniversary of the opening of the Sons of Temperance Hall at Blackhill was celebrated on Saturday evening last, under very auspicious circumstances. The members of the division—"Star of Hope"—mustered in force, and there was consequently a full house.

Mr Arthur Lowes (Consett), opened the proceedings by giving out the well-known hymn "Hold the fort," which was followed by prayer.

Mr John Thompson, G.W.P. (North Shields), was then called to the chair. Mr Thompson, who met with a very cordial reception, said he was not sure whether he should address the audience as "Ladies and gentlemen," or not, so few of the former had put in an appearance. He did not doubt, however, that that fact was due to the state of the weather; he and his friend had been quite surprised to find that the snow lay at such a depth at Blackhill, and that was probably the reason why there was so small a sprinkling of ladies present. He was glad at any rate that so many members had responded to the annual call, and he was sure they would have a jolly evening; there was no good reason why teetotallers should not have a spree; the public-house was not the only place where a pleasant evening could be spent. (Hear, hear). He thought that it said much for the society with which they were connected, that its members could come together in such force on such a night. It was double evidence that they were making progress. Nine or ten years ago they did not make such headway; now, however, the question had become more general and their position had changed accordingly. The practical effects of temperance were just being felt and the movement was at length commanding the notice which it deserves. The branch of teetotalism with which they were more immediately connected was of the utmost importance to the parent stem, from the fact that the most lasting impressions were formed in youth; and that the same was true of the principles of temperance was evidence to show. Of the youths who joined the movement not more than three to five per cent. of the members broke the pledge, and that was very few all things considered. The society numbered at the present time about 2,300 members made up of something like thirty divisions or lodges. That was a very respectable family for him to be father of, and they would doubtless think him a very patriarchal fellow. (A voice: "And so you are.") (Laughter). In some localities the members were not so well circumstanced as at Blackhill. He should like to see every division with a comfortable hall similar to the one the anniversary of which they had met that night to celebrate. (Cheers). But besides the temperance there was another aspect to the question. It was within the reach of all to do something to benefit in some degree those around them, and although the duty might never again devolve on him to visit Blackhill, at least in the same capacity, he trusted that they would never forget that it was not simply the principles of teetotalism which they were combined to advance, but virtue and nobility of character in every phase and form. (Loud applause).

Mr Gillies sang at this point, "The anchor's weighed," an old favourite, to which he did full justice. Miss Emma Muse also sang a popular song with much grace and expression, and being *encored* gave the beautiful song "Angels ever bright and fair," with much finish and pathos. During these musical variations the audience was regaled with fruit and other dainties.

Mr J. Johnston, P.G.W.P., Newcastle, was then called upon to address the meeting. He said it gave him a very considerable degree of pleasure to be present with them that evening. He had been at Blackhill on the occasion of the opening of that hall two or three years ago, and if his memory did not fail him, they had certainly a larger company that night than they had at the opening ceremony. He did not see why it was that they could not have enjoyable meetings of that class more frequent. (Hear, hear). Judging from those who had preceded him he was of opinion that they had some very clever teetotalers in the district who might be asked to take part in such meetings. Bro. Gillies had sent him a bill with quite an array of names who were to have taken part in that meeting. Some of them had, unfortunately, not turned up, but from their apparent social standing he was led to think that his speech would be nowhere among men whose addresses would no doubt be divided into firstly, secondly, and thirdly. (Laughter). There was a few observations, however, which he wished to make particularly. It had been said that the temperance question was hardly what could be called a political question; but he did not agree exactly with that view of the subject, because one of the grandest facts in relation to the subject at issue was that it was by political reform that the change, which they all so much desired was to be brought about, nor did he require to go far to prove that such was the case. He did not attach very much importance to the sayings of Conservative statesmen yet there was a saying ascribed to the late Earl Beaconsfield to the effect that "If you want to bring in any measure; or if you want to gain any particular point you will first have to make your subject popular." Well now there was a deal of common sense in that hint; and that was exactly what temperance advocates were trying to do. For a number of years they had been endeavouring to make the temperance movement popular. He could remember when the temperance question was not so popular as it is to-day. Twenty years ago temperance advocates were hooted at, but in the intervening years the subject had been popularised and total abstainers could not only meet without molestation, but their cause had been taken up by distinguished members of Parliament. (Cheers). That was so far satisfactory, but in reality the power was invested in the hands of the working classes themselves, and with them the matter rested, and by temperance legislation only would final triumph be attained. Mr Johnston spoke at length, and was listened to with marked attention. His utterances were characterised by vigour of expression, and sterling good sense.

Having to leave by the last train, the very best thanks of the meeting, was on the motion of

Mr Arthur Lowes and seconded by Mr Geo. Lowes, given to the strangers whose presence had contributed largely to the success of the meeting, viz., Messrs Johnston and Thompson.

Mr Arthur Lowes was then voted to the chair, and the entertainment was prolonged for nearly an hour, fruit being served at intervals, while appropriate songs were charmingly rendered by Mr Gillies and Miss Emma Muse, Mr Leybourne Urwin accompanying on the harmonium with excellent taste and musical skill. Mr R. Frankland gave several recitations in his usual happy style, and

Mr Isaac Unsworth delivered a long but at the same time very racy speech, which well-nigh kept the audience in one continuous roar of laughter.

Votes of thanks to the friends who had kindly aided the project by their assistance was proposed by Mr W. Campbell (Shotley Bridge), seconded by Mr Kirk was rapturously accorded, and the proceedings afterwards terminated.

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.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The regular meeting of this Board took place in the Reading-room at Leadgate, on Wednesday afternoon, when the following members were in attendance,—viz., Messrs R. W. Shaw (in the chair), W. H. Hedley, T. Lammonby, J. J. Hedley, the clerk (Mr M. Coupland) and the surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff).

The minutes of the last ordinary meeting, and likewise of an adjourned meeting, were read and ordered to be signed by the Chairman.

THE FONT FARM SEWERAGE.

Concerning this matter, the Clerk announced that he had written, as instructed at last meeting, to the Consett Iron Company, informing them that the Board had accepted their terms, and had directed their Surveyor to proceed with the work forthwith.

The Surveyor said that nothing had as yet been done, on account of the severe weather. It rained almost every day since the last Board meeting, until the snowstorm began.

It was agreed to let the question remain on the minutes until operations were commenced, when the Surveyor was instructed to report progress each month.

NEW GENERAL DISTRICT RATE.

The Finance Committee estimated the expenditure for the next half-year to be about £550, and they recommended that a general district rate of 8d in the pound be prepared and approved by the Board.

The Clerk stated that this would realise from the gross rateable value the sum of £325 13s 4d, which, together with the £280 balance in hand, would meet the expenditure for the ensuing six months.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr J. J. Hedley seconded, that the new rate of 8d in the pound be sealed and levied.

The proposition was carried.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

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

To the Chairman and members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the month of November the following work has been done, and paybills will come before you for the same:—

Durham Main Road.—A great amount of scraping done, and carting off the same; also dressing the side of the road. Annfield Lane—Carting and laying-on 50 yards of slag, and part water-tabling and guttering done, besides lengthening the conduit near East Castle; also, carting ashes on to the footpaths on Annfield Lane and Redwell Hills Road; scraping this latter road and laying a few tons of soft stone by the side of the road; breaking a few tons of limestone, and attention paid to the water courses in two other lanes. Owing to the recent snowstorms, accounts for snow shovelling will come before you at your next meeting.

Annexed are the monthly pay bills:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Durham Main Roads:						
Manual labour	4	8	0			
Team labour	1	7	0			
				5	15	0
Other Roads:						
Manual labour	7	13	7			
Team labour	6	14	3			
Materials	0	5	0			
				14	12	10
Total				£20	7	10

I beg to remain, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
Thos. Longstaff.

ADDITIONAL EXPENSE OF SNOW CUTTING.

The Surveyor applied to the Board for a grant of an additional sum of £20, for the cost of cutting the snow in the public streets. He had a number of hands so employed, all of them requiring to be paid once, and some twice, every day.

The Surveyor's request was acceded to.

THE INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Appended is the Inspector's monthly report submitted by Mr Longstaff:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—Since your last monthly meeting, I have inspected your district several times, and I do not find anything of note to complain of. The sewer drain at Iveston Lane Ends near Mr Johnson's cottages will require to be lengthened about thirty yards, and connected with one main drain. A plan of byre for Mr Lammonby, to be erected behind his new property at Leadgate will come before you to-day. Gas burnt during the month of December, 225 hours.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Thos. Longstaff.

Leadgate, Dec. 13th, 1882.

THE NEW PROPERTY NEAR IVESTON.

The Surveyor explained, by the aid of a block plan, that Mr Johnson had put in a 6-inch sewer in part of his new houses on the highroad leading from Iveston to Boggle Hole Bank Top, the length being about 50 yards. Another 30 yards would have to be laid in to connect said drain with the main sewer, and if the Board would do this at their expense, Mr Johnson would transfer his portion of the sewer to the Board. Consequently Mr Bell would have to connect his drain-pipe with the Board's sewer. He (the Surveyor) thought it a fair way of dealing with the matter.

After some discussion, it was proposed by Mr Lammonby that the Inspector's Report be adopted; and that the sewer at Iveston be lengthened at the expense of the Board subject to Mr R. Johnson giving an assurance to hand over that portion of the same in front of his cottages to this Board.

Mr W. H. Hedley seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Surveyor likewise stated that Mr Johnson wished to construct a footpath four feet wide in front of the above named houses.

Mr W. H. Hedley said that so long as Mr Johnson effects an improvement without interfering with the turnpike and makes it a easier passage for the public in travelling past the place, he could see no objection to it.

The Surveyor replied that it would undoubtedly be a great improvement.

The Chairman concurred with the remarks of Mr Hedley, and the requisite permission was granted.

FINANCE.

The Board's monthly accounts, represent a sum total of £53 9s 5d, recommended by the Finance Committee to be paid.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr Hedley, seconded by Mr Lammonby, that cheques be signed for the several accounts submitted.

MR LAMMONBY'S PLAN.

A plan was presented by Mr Lammonby for the erection of a cow byre at the rear of his new premises at Leadgate, but no dimensions were indicated on the same, owing, as Mr Lammonby explained, the builder having been unable to obtain exact measurements in consequence of the snow lying on the ground.

It was eventually agreed to allow Mr Lammonby to proceed with the erection of the byre, subject to the supervision of the Surveyor, providing that he shall produce a plan at the next Board shewing exact dimension, &c., when it will be sealed.

THE RESIDENT REGISTRAR QUESTION.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr Davies, secretary to the Consett and District United Friendly Societies, thanking the Board for their assistance in endeavouring to obtain a resident registrar for births and deaths in Consett. Although their efforts, Mr Davie said, were unsuccessful, they nevertheless intended, at the first opportunity, to fight the question again.

The Clerk said the Leadgate Board was the only Local Board that sent a petition up to the Registrar General, the other Boards merely forwarding written communications.

On the motion of Mr W. H. Hedley, seconded by the Chairman, it was decided to enter the letter from Mr Davies upon the minutes.

This was all the business transacted.

A MONDAY CHRISTMAS.

Christmas Day this year falls on a Monday. An old manuscript poem, the authorship of which is unknown, says:—

> If Christmas Day on Monday be,
> A great winter that year you'll see,
> And full of winds both loud and shrill;
> But in summer, truth to tell,
> High winds shall there be, and strong,
> Full of tempests lasting long;
> While battles they shall multiply,
> And great plenty of beasts shall die.
> They that be born that day, I ween,
> They shall be strong each one, and keen;
> He shall be found that stealeth aught;
> Tho' thou be sick, thou diest not.

Seventeen years ago Christmas Day fell on a Monday, and 1866 was the year of the Austro-Prussian war, a year of disastrous storms and gales, and a year when the cattle plague was prevalent. Eleven years ago, in 1871, Christmas Day fell on a Monday, and the twelve months following saw us with cattle plague in the North, and more or less storms, but as to "battles" we must go back a few months in 1871 for the capitulation of Paris and the conflict with the French Commune. Six years ago we had a Monday Christmas, and now another, the fifth within eighteen years. Already we have the winds and tempests, but whether the other ills will follow the future only can show.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

The ordinary general meeting of this body took place in the Police Court Buildings at Lanchester, on Thursday se'nnight, when there were present—Messrs George Alder (chairman), Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., John Wilkinson, Wm. Logan, W. Cummings, J. Towns, the clerk (Mr C. Maynard), and the surveyor (Mr W. Dixon).

The minutes of the two preceding meetings were read and confirmed.

KITSWELL LANE.

The Surveyor was authorised to offer Mr Thompson Allen the sum of £10 for the purchase of and obtain title for a strip of land for the improvement of Kitswell Lane.

FLINT HILL LEVEL CROSSING.

A letter was read from Mr Cuthbert Berkley, agent for Messrs Bowes and Partners, Marley Hill Colliery, stating that he was sorry the Board desired to put the firm to the expense of fixing gates and keeping an attendant at this crossing, as there had never been an accident at that place. He therefore asked the Board to re-consider their decision; and in case they could not do so, then they would have to carry out the wishes of the Board.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr Wilkinson, seconded by Mr Cummings, that the order of the Board respecting the erection of gates at each side of the Flint Hill Level Crossing be confirmed.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Appended is Mr Dixon's monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Highway Board.

Gentlemen,—Large quantities of stone have been laid on during the past two months, also slag screens and ashes put on various footpaths. We have had heavy rainfalls during the last two months, but no serious damage has been done. Many of the roads in your district are blocked up with snow. The ploughs have been out to open them wherever they can travel, but many will be too coarse, except fresh weather comes in.

Contracts.—The contracts for carting are nearly all completed. I find that breakers are bad to get for the townships of Holmside, Knitsley, and the main roads at Medomsley. The contractor for making the channel at Langley Park has completed his work.

Busty Bank.—I have met Mr R. Clark and Mr Geo. Ridley, with the surveyor for the Whickham Local Board, at Busty Bank, Burnopfield, and he suggests having an enlarged plan shewing the width of land awarded for the public highway, a tracing of which has been sent to the Whickham Local Board. Part stone has been laid on the road recently.

Pitfalls.—The owners of the Willow Pit have filled up a portion of the fall on the main road near Annfield Plain. I have met Mr Reed, colliery viewer, at Lintz Colliery, about the pitfalls on Lintz Bank. He promised to restore the road to its proper gradient.

West Stanley Level Crossing.—The owners of Oakeys Colliery have put gates at their level crossing at Stanley.

Extraordinary Traffic.—The Harehope Gill Mining Company have sent cheque to the Board's treasurer for £10 4s; and the contractor for making the railway at Lanchester has promised to forward cheque for £15.

Dipton Sewerage.—The sewerage drain is now being made along the side of the road, without breaking up the metalled part. More care has been taken by the contractor to restore the disturbed portion of the road.

Consett Water Company.—More attention has been paid to the pipe-track, and some limestone laid on the place.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Wm. Dixon.

Surveyor's Offices, Lanchester,
7th December, 1882.

The report was accepted.

A BRIDGE ACROSS THE DERWENT.

The Rev Dr Greaves, of Muggleswick Vicarage, wrote to the Board pointing out the necessity there was for a bridge across the River Derwent from Muggleswick to Carlo Waste. The river, he said, was at times so much swollen, as to allow passage for a horse and cart only. The rev. gentleman also drew attention to the state of the highroad between Castleside parsonage and Healeyfield Farm, which was covered with stones and mud, left by the contractors since July last.

The Surveyor said the portion of the highway complained of had been put all right since the date of the letter—7th November. The road, however, would still require some attention, and the contractors had taken more pains in repairing the road since he called the attention of the Highway Board to the matter.

Respecting the first portion of the rev. doctor's communication, it was explained that the question of erecting a bridge across the River Derwent at the place indicated has been before the Board on several occasions, but as the population in that locality was very thin, no decisive steps had been taken in the matter.

The Clerk was instructed to reply to Dr Greave's note.

EXTRAORDINARY TRAFFIC.

The Surveyor intimated that the extraordinary traffic on the Edmondbyers Main road had ceased, and the Harehope Gill Mining Company had paid the damage so caused; and with regard to the damage to the road at Lanchester, the Railway Company had promised to repair the same.

This was all the business of interest before the Board.

Summer *versus* Winter Pauperism and Able-bodied Paupers.—We have collected the following interesting information relating to the number of paupers of all classes in receipt of relief in July of the present year, distinguishing the adult able-bodied from the total, and the able-bodied children under 16 years of age, and also the number relieved on the 31st of December. Comparing the figures of the two months, our readers will find summer or winter in many cases scarcely effect the numbers:—*Lanchester.*—Total, 163 indoors, 8 males, 10 females, and 17 children, against 188; total, 3 males, 18 females, and 36 children; and 821 outdoors, 19 males, 108 females, and 312 children, against 812; total 25 males, 108 females, and 311 children.—*Weardale.*—Total, 70 indoors, no males, no females, and no children, against 73; total, no males, no females, and no children; and 541 outdoors, 9 males, 63 females, and 162 children, against 563; total, 11 males, 72 females, and 177 children.—*Chester-le-Street.*—Total, 97 indoors, no males, 7 females, and 6 children, against 96; total, no males, 10 females, and 12 children, and 801 outdoor; 3 males 75 females, and 238 children, against 705; total, 70 females, and 209 children.

ACTION FOR LIBEL AND SLANDER.

QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION.

Sittings at Nisi Prius, at Westminster, before Mr Justice Lopes and a Special Jury.

STARR v. HALL—STARR v. HALL.

These were two separate actions brought by the same plaintiff against the same defendant to recover damages for libel and slander. The hearing commenced on Friday last, and has also taken the whole of the first four days of this week.

Mr Charles Russell, Q.C., Mr Edward Clarke, Q.C., and Mr Frank Safford appeared for the plaintiff; Mr Henry Matthews, Q.C., Mr Bompas, Q.C., and Mr Arnold Morley were for the defendant.

The plaintiff, who who some 12 years ago was an hotelkeeper in Finsbury Square, E.C., has since that time earned his living by founding and promoting Starr-Bowkett building societies. He is also a member of a firm of printers carrying on business under the style of the Metropolitan and Provincial Printing Society. The defendant, Mr Willian Hall, is a member of the Shoreham Harbour Board, and holds several other public offices there. The first of these actions related to a libel published and to slanders uttered by the defendant on December 13, 1881, at a meeting called together by the plaintiff at Brighton, so that with a view of founding another of the Starr-Bowkett societies there, he might explain the principles and working of his system. At this meeting the defendant had moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the principles on which Starr-Bowkett societies are formed are injurious to the encouragement of thrift among the working classes and opposed to the soundest principles of public morality; and, further, it emphatically condemns the dishonourable manner in which Mr Richard Benjamin Starr betrays his fiduciary position in the formation of these societies." The plaintiff complained further that the defendant had also said at this meeting.—"I have come to make my comments against the principles of this society and to show Mr Starr is a dishonourable man." The defence as to this action was a justification—first, on the ground that the matter and words complained of were true in substance and fact; and, secondly, that, if not so, they had amounted only to a fair comment made *bona fide* and without malice on a matter of public interest. The second action was brought in respect of a libel published by the defendant on December 21 and of three slanders uttered by him on the same date at another public meeting at Brighton, and also a libel contained in a handbill circulated a fortnight afterwards in Derby. The defence to this action was a justification and a plea that the libels did not amount to more than a fair criticism, but in this second action the defendant had also alternatively paid £5 into court in the event of his failing in his plea of justification. The matters complained of in this second action consisted of the same resolution as that which had been proposed by the defendant at the previous meeting of December 13, and of the following words used by Mr Hall when referring to a quotation from a speech made at Maidstone by Sir Sydney Waterlow, which had been printed in the prospectuses used by the plaintiff:—"I shall treat Sir Sydney Waterlow as I have treated his Lordship the Bishop of Durham, and ask him whether the statement of the prospectus was a forgery." The plaintiff further complained of these words used by the defendant,—"You know there is the proverbial honour—the honour that is common among thieves. I will show Mr Starr had not that honour, not because he was not a thief, but because he had not that honour." "Having been successful seven years ago in driving an ingenious swindler from this town, I thought I would come again and drive another swindler from Brighton." The handbill circulated at Derby gave notice that at a meeting to be held in that town it was intended to move practically the same resolution as Mr Hall had proposed at Brighton. With reference to the ingenious swindler whom the defendant claimed to have previously driven from Brighton, Mr Hall, in his cross-examination, stated that in this he had intended to refer to the case of a man who had gone about in that town obtaining subscriptions for a Mariners' Aid Society, when, as he had really admitted, he had kept all but some 12 per cent. of the subscriptions. The defendant did not deny in the box that he had called the plaintiff a thief without honour, but he said he had only meant in doing so to make use of a common proverb in relation to what had passed between Mr Starr and one Enright. As to what he had said about the Bishop of Durham, Mr Hall explained it in this way,—In a circular printed by the plaintiff a quotation was made from a speech of the Bishop of Durham on the subject of the great benefit that accrued to the working classes from ideas and habits of thrift and providence. The quotation was in the plaintiff's prospectus put in inverted commas, in which were also included the following words:—"Among the many institutions that aim at and utilize these ideas are the Starr-Bowkett Building Societies." The plaintiff, it appeared, had, a year before Mr Hall had called public attention to the mistake by which these words had by a clerical error been put in the mouth of the bishop caused the stereotype plate from which the circular had been printed to be destroyed.

From the evidence adduced in the case, it appeared that the plaintiff had been successful in starting considerably over 500 Starr-Bowkett societies, and that he had been remunerated in the following way:—A society founded by him paid him £5 and expenses and costs out of pocket, for which sum he gave a lecture, besides attending on two other occasions. From the secretary he got £5, from the surveyor £2 or £3, and from the solicitor £20 or £25, for securing them their appointments in the societies. A witness, named Enright, called for the defence, swore that he had been the secretary of a Starr-Bowkett building society, of which the solicitor had died. He had told the plaintiff of the death, and the new solicitor had paid the latter £25 for his appointment. Enright further swore that Mr Starr had promised to divide with him the amount received from the new solicitor, but had paid him only £2 10s, telling him that he had only received £5. The plaintiff positively swore that he had never told Enright that he had received only £5 from the solicitor in question, and that, as a fact, he had never received less than £20 from any solicitor. Mr Starr, in consideration of the payment to him of the £5 by a society, made himself responsible for all moneys expended on its formation in the event of its not being successfully established. It did not appear that he had ever failed in an attempt to establish any, nor was it any part of the defendants' case to contend that his societies were not financially prosperous. It appeared that in one case, with the facts of which the defendant had been acquainted, Mr Starr had supplied, as he, indeed, usually did, the printing and stationery, books, seal, &c., to the society, of the value in this case of £37. Of this sum he had received £3 as a commission from his co-partners in the printing business on the understanding that he was to be responsible for the debt. Subsequently, one of his partners had written a letter to the secretary of the society in question offering him £1 if he would get the account passed by his directors, but it was not shown that the plaintiff had had any knowledge of this letter at the time. This account for £37 had been the subject of an action in which the printers had obtained a verdict for their bill. The Starr-Bowkett building societies, it may be mentioned, differ entirely from the permanent building societies. They have a system of appropriations by ballot, though in many cases this had been altered to appropriations both by ballot and by sale. The double system of appropriations did not appear to have been that proposed by the plaintiff, but to have been adopted by the society after their establishment by him. Each society consists of several hundred members holding groups of shares, generally two or four, on each of which they make a weekly payment of 6d. Appropriations often of £100 and £200 are made from time to time out of the moneys so subscribed, and by the plaintiff's system they were the subject of a ballot. This was denounced by the defendant as a kind of gambling, and, therefore, as having an immoral effect on the members. When every member of a Starr-Bowkett society has had an appropriation, the society comes to an end by the return of the amount of the subscriptions to the several members, together with a share in the accumulated profits. Starr-Bowkett societies not only differ from others by being thus terminable, but also in some other respects—notably in allowing the amount lent on a house to be equal to its full value and in lending the amount of the appropriations to the members without charging them any interest.

It was urged on behalf of the plaintiff that the accusations made against him by the defendant had be wholly without excuse, and that, however strongly the system of his remuneration and the act of his receiving moneys from the officers of the societies without the knowledge of the directors might be disapproved of, the defendant had not been justified in making accusations against him of the damning character contained in the libels complained of. The plaintiff, it was urged, had had to earn his livelihood, and had never suggested that he pretended to do all the work of founding his societies without being paid for it. He was not a man who had ever held himself out as a philanthropist, but one who had believed, and probably with good reason, that the system which he had elaborated was a useful one to the working classes. The learned counsel for the plaintiff, who characterized the defendant as a volunteer crusader, asked the jury to give substantial damages.

At the close of his Lordship's summing up, which lasted more than two hours,

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and on their return into Court, after an absense of very nearly an hour, they found a verdict for the plaintiff in both actions, with £50 damages in the first and £200 damages in the second.

CONFERENCE OF CO-OPERATIVE DELEGATES AT CONSETT.

A conference of delegates from the branches belonging to No 4 district (West Durham and South Northumberland) of the Northern Section of the Central Co-operative Board, was held in the Lecture Hall of the Consett Co-operative Society, on Saturday afternoon last. There was not such a good attendance as anticipated, no doubt on account of the exceedingly boisterous weather; but representatives were present from various branches, including Consett, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, Derwent Flour Mill, Tantobie, Burnopfield, Northern Section of the Congress Board, Co-operative Printing Society (Newcastle), Co-operative Wholesale Society, and several other members connected with the local Co-operative Societies.

The chair was occupied by Mr Geo. Lowes, president of this section, who, in opening the proceedings, said it gave him unbounded pleasure to welcome the various delegates to that conference. He was sorry to say that the meeting was not a success numerically; but he had no doubt that it would be a success in the business transacted. (Hear, hear). In past years delegates alone were allowed to be present, but they had found it expedient to invite members of Co-operative Societies to attend to take part in the discussion on the various papers read. That night a paper of a very interesting nature was going to be read on "Co-operation and the Land Question," by Mr Jesse Hall, manager of the Consett Society, which, he had no doubt, would be well worthy of the attention of the assembly, as it was a very important question. (Applause). He then called upon

Mr Hall, who was received with a warm ovation. After some preliminary observations, he read his paper, which was as follows:—

"Having been requested to read a paper at this conference, I had some little difficulty in deciding upon a subject; ultimately I decided to fix on the popular one of the "Land for the People," or to put it soberly, co-operative agriculture by co-operators, which takes in all the many phases of this popular cry, and includes all who care to be identified with co-operation. At the outset I may state that I feel assured that in agriculture there is a wide field for co-operative enterprise, and a safe and sure investment for any surplus capital that may be accumulated by co-operative societies. I have no faith that the nationalisation of the land, or peasant proprietorship, will be of any permanent benefit to this country, or tend in the least to improve agriculture or the people connected therewith. Much may he said on this subject, and to my mind too much is being said by certain individual agitators; but as an exposition of this scheme I would refer you to the speech of Mr Fawcett, M.P., at Liverpool, a few weeks ago. My opinion is that the cry of the land for the people does not mean what it says, but would stop at a section of the people. I believe also, that the nationalisation of the land would be a national injustice rather than a blessing, and that peasant proprietorship is at once impracticable, and as such impolitic, and not worth the consideration of us as co-operators. All this may be admitted without in the least detracting from the idea of assimilating the ownership of the land with the cultivator, yet there is the utmost difference between allowing a system to have free play, and artificially stimulating it by State help or legislative enactments. I regard, however, the improvement of agriculture as of national consequence notwithstanding, and to give a true and national stimulus to this industry, the landowner and land worker must be assimilated, or in other words the true co-operative principles must be applied to agriculture by the people, if they desire to reap the full advantages to be derived from this source of production.

Mr Sedley Taylor characterises the work of our agriculturists as slack, clumsy, and wasteful, and shows how superior is the operations and beneficial the results, obtained on farms conducted on the co-operative or profit sharing principles in Germany at present, and points out that if any doubt may be felt as to how far the English labourer can be made to understand the central principle of profit sharing, and to be induced to put forth the sustained effort necessary to the enjoyment of the result; any such hesitation, he believes, should be removed by the examples and experiments made at Ralahine, in Ireland, about half a century ago, when the principles proved to be so luminous, that although the trial was made during an acute crisis of agrarian discontent and violence, it issued in remarkable success, and on the evidence of Mr E. T. Craig and Mr Pare, left an influence for good on the people that is even yet felt by those living that were connected with this little community between the years 1831-3.

The present low and depressed state of agriculture may be attributed to a variety of causes, and the means of improvement are being wisely and well considered at the present time by all classes of politicians and social economists. Mr Mongredin says it is not by taking from one person to give to another that the removal of poverty is to be effected, and asks the question, is the permanent condition of the workman to be one of privation? and states that his condition can only be ameliorated by improved productive processes, the effect of which is to be an increase in the mass of wealth available for distribution between himself and the capitalist. Mere expenditure is not the most beneficial to the other labouring classes without reference to its objects and outcome. Diversion of labour, free commercial enterprise, the intelligent employment of capital, machinery, and science; facilities of intercommunication, education, and morality; these are promoters of wealth. Its obstructions are insecurity, superfluity of unproductive consumers, wars, commercial isolation or protection, and ignorance and immorality. The surest promise of prosperity to the capitalist and labourer is to be looked for in increased production; and where do we find such incentives to this as are to be found in the principles of co-operation, wisely and well applied to the land by true and genuine co-operators? I am persuaded we have all the elements within ourselves necessary for conducting co-operative farming. We have not the land, howeve; but it is possible to purchase land. We have the money; and there is from time to time opportunities to purchase choice portions of good agricultural land in different parts of the country. Only the other day some of the choicest land in Northumberland was sold in Newcastle at prices that would have been a good and safe investment for co-operative capital. But, again, if we have not the inclination to purchase, there is a possibility of renting land on terms that would be advantageous as an experiment. Thus, then, the possibility of getting the land, either by purchase or to rent, being admitted, we may surely admit also that we have the intelligence and skill to direct and develop it. As to the produce, why every distributive store is in a position to deal with the whole produce of an average-sized farm. But, apart from any particular plan or mode of procedure, my desire in writing this paper is to awaken or create an interest amongst co-operators to see to their interests and duties relative to this subject, we may economise by distribution as much as possible, but as true reformers and economists we must turn our attention to improving and economising production, and nowhere is shown the opportunities for this true development as in connection with the land. We have tried it here and proved it to be a success, and therefore, from experience and on the evidence of our best and tried friends, whose names are household words with co-operators, I recommend co-operative farming to this conference, and through this conference, to the co-operative movement generally. Much remains to be said on this subject, as it is impossible to deal with a subject of this kind exhaustively in a short paper. But I trust that some word has been said that will cause this matter to be fully and fairly investigated and a practical issue ultimately decided upon." (Applause).

Mr Hall, in explaining the reason for taking such a subject for his paper, said that farming was one of the most important benefits to the inhabitants of the world. One-fourth of the capital of this country was invested in that industry, and it gave employment to one-fourth of its population. After quoting some statistics from a work by Sir James Caird on the requirements of food for this country, with the weight and cost of the same, he gave a very volminous and weighty speech on the produce of land during which he contended that co-operative farming would not only be a benefit to the Societies, but also to the country in general. It was far better to have potatoes, and other farm products, straight from the field than to have it come from foreign lands, as it usually did. That Society had rented some land years ago, and it had given a profit of 50 per cent. Why not go on a larger scale? There was the land league, which was agitating for the nationalization of the land: but he thought they were going the wrong away about it to get this. It was not consistent to think that, considering the greatest land-owners were in high positions in Parliament, they would alter the laws to go against themselves—that of handing over their lands to the poorer classes. It was absurd to think of such a procedure. The only way of securing the land was to purchase it, or if they could not, let them rent it, and in time purchase it. Some would think that if they bought the land it would pay them much better. This he contended was not so; they could rent the land far better than buy it, and if advantageous, they could make terms with landlords, very few of whom were against securing good tenants, and he thought a little experience of co-operators as farmers would command farms anywhere. He was sure that the Legislature would pass measures during the ensuing Session of Parliament that would at once put the tenant and landlord in their proper position, and give a great impetus to the agricultural industry of this country. (Hear, hear). He could, without the least hesitation, recommend that industry on commercial grounds as likely to prove beneficial, and at the same time, successful, if they went into it in a proper manner. (Applause).

The Chairman here announced that the paper was open for discussion, and he hoped all present would participate in it.

Mr Shotton (of Consett), in a brief speech, thought the paper that had just been read was of great importance, and he had no doubt it would succeed if properly gone into. If they had not money to buy land, let them rent it, and he had no doubt that in time they could buy it. He heartily supported the paper.

Messrs Nicholson (Blaydon), W. Crooks (Secretary, Blaydon), T. Harrison (Consett), while not doubting the possibility of co-operative farming, were of opinion that it would be exceedingly unwise to rent land while the present laws of Legislature were in vogue, as they were very unfair. Landlords had let waste land to tenants for a lease of years, and after he had worked and toiled hard, and got the land into splendid condition, the landlord had come up and informed him that he was going to raise the rent, as the land was much better. This, they thought, was exceedingly unfair, and suggested that as long as this was allowed to exist, they should not rent farms. There were thousands of acres of land in England that was kept for no use, it being in possession of large landowners. It was for the nationalization of this that the Land League was agitating for—for Government to take possession of them, and sell it to the poorer classes at rates which would suit them. Until this was done, it was useless attempting to go into co-operative farming.

Mr J. Charlton (Consett) thought that if they could buy the land it would be very advisable to commence co-operative farming; but if they had to rent it he thought they ought to let it alone until a thorough revision of the legislature rules had been enacted with regard to the letting of land. (Hear, hear).

Mr Carr (Consett) and Mr Robinson (Shotley Bridge) both heartily supported the paper of Mr Hall's, expressing themselves certain that the Land League might agitate for generations, and they would not gain their ends. It was a most preposterous thing to think that the very persons who had possession of the land in the United Kingdom would make laws to go against themselves. They thought Mr Hall's plan of procedure was one that would call forth attention, and they suggested that they go into co-operative farming, which, they asserted was one of the greatest importance. (Applause).

After a long discussion on the subject had taken place, Mr Hall, in a cool and self-possessed manner, met the various arguments entered against his paper in such a manner as to convince his audience that if they once got co-operative farming in movement they could agitate for Government to make the laws so as to let land according to its value; and if a man rented land in a barren state, and cultivated it, and the landlord wanted to raise the rent of the land, then for him to pay the tenant for the amount of good he had done to it, which would be valued by a professional valuer appointed by Parliament. This he thought would answer the question of renting the land. It would not do to wait until the alterations agitated for by the Land League came to pass, as he thought they never would; therefore, he asked them to exert all their energies in commencing co-operative farming. (Applause).

The Chairman, after some remarks in support of the paper, called upon the statistical secretary (Mr Robinson) for his report.

Mr Robinson, who was received with applause, said he was sorry to say that he had not made out a report. He had been ill during the past year, and could not possibly have made a report up. He, however, promised to supply them with one at their next conference if he lived that long.

Mr Crooks then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Hall for his excellent paper, and hoped that it would be brought before all the branches of co-operation in England for consideration.

This was seconded by Mr Nicholson, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr Hall having responded to the expression of thanks, a similar vote was accorded to the Chairman for the excellent manner in which he had discharged his duties, who briefly responded, which brought the proceedings to a close.

The party then adjourned to partake of a very substantial and well-laid supper, presided over by Misses Warren and E. A. Spencer, to which full justice was done.

After votes of thanks to the waiters and the committee for the excellent manner in which they entertained the company, they returned to their respective homes.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES AT CONSETT.

PROPOSED RE-ARRANGEMENT OF THE SCHEME.

A meeting of the committee and other ladies and gentlemen interested in the promotion of a course of lectures to be given in the Consett Centre in connection with the Cambridge University Scheme, took place in the Consett National Schools, last Saturday night. In the absence of both president and vice-president, the Rev F. Steggall (vicar) was elected to preside. About thirty persons were in attendance. The meeting had been specially convened to consider a communication from Professor Roberts, on the 4th December, and to determine what action should be taken thereanent. The letter of Mr Roberts stated that certain complications that have been looming in the distance for some days have at length presented themselves. One of their lecturers, Mr Molton, who is lecturing in the Tyneside, West Durham, and Northumberland centres, is seriously ill, and his medical adviser desires him to abstain from lecturing this next term. The only lecturer who could take Mr Molton's place is Mr Hodgson, whom the University had appointed to the Consett centre next term. If he takes Mr Molton's work there, he will not be able to give a course on "The mind and how we use it" at Consett. The syndicate regret altering any arrangements, but in the present case there is no help for it. After naming other possibilities, the writer proceeded to explain that Mr Harold Cox, of Jesus College, will be the lecturer on "Political Economy" in this district next term, and he has kindly promised to give his course at Consett if desired.

A protracted conversation ensued, and eventually it was resolved, "That, owing to unavoidable difficulties having arisen with regard to the course of lectures decided upon by the Committee to be delivered at Consett in the Lent Term, a special meeting be called for next Saturday night to determine whether a course of lectures in connection with the University or from other sources be proceeded with."

It was likewise agreed, on the suggestion of Mr Ainsworth, that the Secretary (Mr Hyden) be requested to apprise Professor Roberts of the meeting, and if he should deem it necessary to attend and offer any advice on the subject, he was at perfect liberty to do so.

A vote of thanks to the Rev F. Steggall for taking the chair brought the meeting to a termination.

Yesterday (Thursday) the secretary, Mr Hyden, received a telegram from Mr Roberts, intimating that Mr Hodgson can give the course of lectures first agreed upon at Consett, upon "The mind and how we use it." Arrangements for the delivery of the same must be made before Christmas and if possible at the meeting held to-morrow (Saturday) evening.

Local and General News.

The Assizes.—The following fixtures were made on Monday:—Newcastle-on-Tyne: Mr Justice Denman and Mr Justice Day, Thursday, January 11th; Durham, January 18th.

Concert at Tow Law.—A concert was given on Wednesday night in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law, in aid of of the fund for the repairs of the Parish Church of St. Philip and James. The committee were enabled, after paying all expenses, to hand over the sum of £3 15s 10d.

Law.—Mr William Oxley Foster of West Stanley, who served his articles of clerkship with Messrs. Botterell and Roche, in Sunderland and London, succeeded in obtaining second-class honours at the recent examination of the Incorporated Law Society. Out of 100 candidates for the Honours Examination there were 4 in the 1st class, 8 in the 2nd class, and 10 in the 3rd class.

North-Eastern Railway Traffic Returns.—Apart from a decrease of £1,863 in passengers, every department of the North-Eastern Railway, for the week ending the 9th inst., presents an improvement. For merchandise and cattle, the increase is £2,382; minerals, £2,433; and dock dues, £138. The net increase on the week is £3,090; and the total increase up to date is £126,352.

Blackhill Wesleyan Band of Hope.—On Friday night last a band of hope meeting was held in connection with the Blackhill Wesleyan Sunday School. There was a very fair attendance, Mr Spence being in the chair. Recitations were given by the Chairman, Mr R. Frankland, and Masters Raw and Spence jun.; songs by Miss E. Shimmin; and violin solos by Master F. Eltringham, who were all accompanied on the harmonium by Mr T. Wright.

Accident to a Fireman near Tow Law.—On Friday night, a fireman named Chapman, in the employ of the North-Eastern Railway Company, and residing in Gurdey-street, Darlington, fell from the tank of a mineral engine, near Tow Law Station, and sustained somewhat severe injuries to some of his ribs. A telegram to this effect was received at the North Road Station about six o'clock, and Chapman was afterwards removed by a special engine and van to Darlington, and subsequently conveyed to his home, where his injuries were attended to by a mediacl man.

Alleged Embezzlement by a Miners' Secretary.—On Tuesday, at the Bishop Auckland Police Court, before Mr J. Jobson and Mr Nelson, James Turner, local secretary to the Thistleflat branch of the Durham Miners' Union, surrended to bail on two charges, one of embezzling £30 from the funds of the Northumberland and Durham Miners' Permanent Relief fund, and a second of falsifying his quarterly accounts.—After hearing the evidence, the magistrates committed prisoner to take his trial at the next Quarter Sessions, taking bail, himself in £100 and four sureties in £25 each.

Lecture at Blackhill.—The Rev A. Baillie, pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Blackhill, lectured in his own church, on Monday evening last, on "Lord Macaulay, the celebrated English historian, orator, essayist, and poet." There was a meagre audience, owing doubtless to the condition of the roads, and the intense frost which prevailed. The Rev E. W. Jenkins (Highgate) occupied the chair. Mr Baillie was very sorry that Mr Jenkins, of Consett Hall, had been prevented by indisposition from taking the chair on that occasion. He had that evening received a letter from him (which he read) and something else besides—a very handsome donation to the organ fund. (Applause). They had, however, another Mr Jenkins with them and a Welshman too; he was sure they were much indebted to him for his timely aid that evening. (Loud applause). Mr Baillie then proceeded with the subject of his lecture which he handled with consummate skill. Organ recitals were executed at intervals by Miss Pescod with much taste and ability. Votes of thanks to the lecturer, the Chairman, and the organist, brought the meeting to a close. Proceeds were in aid of the organ fund.

The Stanley and Oxhill Coursing meeting has, owing to the severe frost, been postponed until further notice.

The Representation of North Durham.—At the annual meeting of the North Durham Liberal Association, at Jarrow, on the 11th of January, steps are to be taken to secure a second Liberal candidate to run with Mr Palmer, for North Durham, at the general election. After the business meeting of the association, Sir Farrer Herschell will adress a public meeting.

A Collision at Langley Moor.—An action was brought on Tuesday in the Durham County Court by Mr Brown, a colliery cashier, to recover a sum of £6 18s for injuries to a pony phaeton, which was run into at Langley Moor Bridge, near Durham, on the 22nd of September, by a cart driven by Mr Wm. Madgin, a butcher, residing at Brandon. The phaeton contained two ladies besides the plaintiff at the time of the collision, and was upset (as was the cart) and considerably damaged, and the occupants had a narrow escape. Eventually his Honour (E. J. Meynell, Esq.) gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff for the full amount claimed.

Tampering with a Colliery Engine.—A man named Whatmore was charged at Ludlow on Monday with maliciously damaging an engine at Park Pit Colliery, Clee Hill. One of the lessees of the colliery deposed to leaving the engine right on Saturday afternoon, the fire being made up to burn slowly. Next morning he found the reversing gear of the engine moved back right for motion; the steam regulator opened wide to put the engine at full speed; the water gauge was empty; the jet pipes had been turned on; the water was gone out of the boiler, and a casting joint melted in the smoke box. If the morning had been dark and the workmen had descended they might have lost their lives. Witnesses having deposed to seeing the prisoner in the cabin and on the engine, he was committed for trial.

Temperance Meetings at Bornopfield: A Lecturer Lost in a Snowdrift.—As would be noticed in our advertising columns a series of Temperance meetings would be commenced on Monday 4th inst. The esteemed Vicar Rev. W. Stirrupp, opened the services assisted by his enegetic curate the Rev C. Couchman, and a choir of young ladies and gentlemen. Mr Fawcett conducted the meetings. The meetings were well patronised considering the extreme severity of the weather, and on Wednesday night, the meeting was held at the Lintz, Mr Fail being in the chair, but Mr Fawcett was not present he being compelled, through severe cold and being snowed up, to return home unable to find his way through the snow, and we are informed that in his letter to the Rev C. Couchman of Thursday last, he was almost lost in a snow drift between Lintz Green and Burnopfield, and consequently he with much disappointment to himself and his numerous friends had to cancel his engagement until a future time. We understand that sometime in January he will re-visit Annandale and Ebchester at the invitation of the Good Templars to re-organise that body in these districts.

Hexham Rural Sanitary Authority.—At the monthly meeting of this Board, held on Tuesday, in the Court House, Hexham, Mr D. Brown in the chair, with regard to the arbitration case, arising out of damage caused by the Prudhoe Sewerage Works, between the Duke of Northumberland and the Authority, and the award in which was in favour of the former, a letter was read from Mr Leadbitter, stating that his Grace would not claim costs from the Authority. Dr. Maclagan, medical officer of health, in his report, called attention to the fact that 12½ per cent. of the deaths were not registered by properly qualified men. No medical man could give a certificate unless he was qualified, but in the case of a sudden death an inquiry was held by a coroner, and if he did not think it worth while to call in a doctor, he gave a certificate of the cause of death, of which he knew little or nothing.—The Chairman: The causes of death are registered?—Dr. Maclagan: The names are registered so far as they are put in books, and the cause of death are certified, but not by qualified practitioners.—The Chairman: Are there any steps we can take to get this done?—The Clerk: We can send an extract from the medical officer's report to the Local Government Board.—Dr. Maclagan: That would be a very good thing to do.—The Clerk's suggestion was adopted.

Subsidence of Land.—On Saturday at Westminster, in the Court of Queen's Bench, before Mr Justice Field and Mr Justice Stephen, the case of Wilson v. Sharp came before the Court. This was the argument of a rule *nisi* obtained by the defendants calling upon the plaintiff to show cause why judgment of non-suit should not be entered for defendants. The action was brought in the County Court of Bishop Auckland, to recover compensation for damage done to crops by reason of the subsidence of land through mining operations. It appeared that in two previous years the defendants had paid compensation, paying in November, 1881, for damage caused in that year. On the 31st of August, 1881, the mortgagee of the colliery took possession of it, and on behalf of the plaintiff it was stated that there was evidence that there was no working by the mortgagee before the 1882 crops were damaged. The defendants, however, contended that by paying the two previous years the claim was discharged as far as they were concerned, and that the mortgagee was the person who should be presumed to have done the damage. It was also contended that there was no cause of action shown by plaintiff, and the judge ought to have entered a nonsuit.—Their lordships dismissed the appeal, with costs.

"A Home in Sickness."—It is not generally known that persons of the artizan and lower middle classes may now obtain the advantages of Hospital treatment and nursing by paying such a weekly sum as their means allow. The Bolingbroke House Pay Hospital, the second year's Report of which has just reached us, was founded by subscriptions given by those who believed that many persons who now resort to General Hospitals as objects of charity, would gladly pay for medical treatment according to their means, and the result has so far proved very gratifying to the subscribers. The institution is based on the self-supporting principle, and in the second year the number of patients have doubled—a large proportion of them coming from the country. It is managed by a Committee, upon which are such names as the Rev Canon Erskine Clark, the Trustee; Sir Trevor Lawrance, Bart., M.P., Mr Vaughan Morgan, and others, and there is a Consulting Staff, who are connected with some of the chief London Hospitals, an acting local Staff, and Resident Surgeon and Nurses, and wards are provided for adults of both sexes and children, while, as far as possible, privacy is maintained, and the surroundings give a "Home"-like effect to the rooms. There is a large class of persons who live in lodgings and whose friends are far distant, to whom such a place as this "Home in Sickness" would be a great boon when they were taken with some serious illness which demanded Hospital treatment. Every variety of case usually admitted to Hospital is received, except such as are incurable and cases of fits and insanity. Bolingbroke House, though only four miles from Charing Cross, is on the verge of one of the Surrey Commons. It is doing a distinct work, and one that must commend itself to all who know how often medical charities are imposed upon by persons who can well afford to pay a reasonable proportion of their cost. Ordinary charitable hospitals could not receive payment from their patients, and hence the establishment of the Bolingbroke House Pay Hospital, further particulars of which will no doubt be furnished by the Honorary Secretary, Mr J. S. Wood, Woodville, Upper Tooting, S.W.

Business Announcements.

NINTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

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

ESTABLISHED 1830. 962p

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES

(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,

PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

CHRISTMAS, 1882.

JOSEPH MURRAY,

TEA DEALER, GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

16, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

IN again thanking the Public of the District for the very liberal Patronage bestowed on him during this last year, begs to state that he has in Stock a First-class Assortment of Goods of every description at his usually Low Price. As the old way of quoting prices is so misleading to the Public (the Lowest Quality of Goods being only priced) he refrains from doing so, all he asks is—Try my Goods and judge for yourselves.

FLOUR—EXTRA SUPERS, FINES, MASLIN, WHEAT MEAL, ENGLISH & SCOTCH OATMEAL.

BUTTERS—DANISH, IRISH, AND AMERICAN, FRESH EVERY WEEK.

LARD—PURE BLADDER AND PAIL.

BACON, HAMS, AND SHOULDERS. CUMBERLAND, IRISH, AND AMERICAN. CUMBERLAND CUT, FINEST QUALITIES.

FINE STOCK OF CHEESE, CONSISTING OF AMERICAN STILTON, ENGLISH STILTON, CHESHIRE, DOUBLE GLO'STERS, DERBYS. CHEDDARS, GOUDAS, EDAMS, and a large lot of AMERICANS, at all Prices.

TEAS—ALL QUALITIES OF THE FINEST PICKINGS FROM INDIA AND CHINA, BOTH SEPARATE AND BLENDED.

COFFEE, WHOLE AND GROUND, PURE, OR MIXED WITH THE FINEST CHICORY.

CURRANTS. RAISINS—VALENCIAS, SULTANAS, and MUSCATELS

BISCUITS, CAKES, SEEDS, SPICES, FIGS, PRUNES, JAMS, RICES, AND TINNED GOODS of all kinds and qualities, and a General Assortment of Goods of every description required in the Trade.

AGENT FOR THE CELEBRATED BOTANIC BEER, in 9, 18, and 36 Gallon Casks and Bottles.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ALL PARTS OF THE DISTRICT PUNCTUALLY.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:— 185r

JOSEPH MURRAY, 16, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,

NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN,

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

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

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF

PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

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

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

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED

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

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF

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

AGENT FOR CATTLE AND POULTRY SPICE.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 825q

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!!

M. ALMOND,

TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

TAKES the present opportunity of thanking her numerous customers and the public generally for their liberal patronage and support in the past, and hopes by still continuing to keep a good article, at a reasonable price, to merit a share of their favours in the future. She has

NOW RECEIVED A LARGE STOCK OF GOODS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON,

INCLUDING A SPLENDID LOT OF

CHEESE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, BACON, HAMS, AND SHOULDERS.

PICKLED GOODS—SALMON, LOBSTER, RABBIT, SARDINES, LUNCH TONGUE, ROAST BEEF, CORNED BEEF, JAMS, JELLIES, PICKLES, &c.

FINE NEW CURRANTS, RAISINS, CITRON PEEL, CANDIED PEEL, &c.

PEAK, FREAN, & CO.'S BISCUITS KEPT IN STOCK.

NEW SEASON TEAS OF THE FINEST QUALITY (INDIA AND CHINA). The marvellous "Arabi" Packet Tea, 2s. 6d. per lb., and a Large Assortment of Goods too numerous to mention, which for Quality and Cheapness cannot be surpassed.

PORT, SHERRY, GINGER, ORANGE WINE, &c, 1s. 2d. PER BOTTLE.

NOTE ADDRESS:—

M. ALMOND, CENTRAL GROCERY ESTABLISHMENT

56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

GOODS DELIVERED PUNCTUALLY TO ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. 205r

IMMENSE REDUCTION of EMIGRANS RATES to CANADA and UNITED STATET for a short time only.—Apply at once to J. WETHERALL, Emigration Agent, Oxhill, Chester-le-Street. 85r

J. McINTOSH,

(Cutter for the late Mr. T. S. Atkinson, of Consett),

HAS Commenced Business on his own account, at TAYLOR'S BUILDINGS, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL.

ALL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

BROOKS'

CELEBRATED

FELT 2s. 6d. HAT,

59, CLAYTON STREET,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 754q

Business Announcements.

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

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

HUGH MORTON and CO.'S preparations for the Winter Trade eclipse any effort they have made for previous seasons. Their Stock is larger, and the value better, and as they are Manufacturers certainly cheaper, than can be shown elsewhere. Hugh Morton and Co., cannot here give a detailed List of Prices, owing to the smallness of their profits and the costliness of advertising; and as mere quotations without reference to quality are misleading, they earnestly request the public, before purchasing, to call at their Stores and examine their immense Stock and be guided accordingly. Boys' Overcoats with Capes, from 2s 11d to 12s 11d. Youths' Overcoats, from 16s 9d to 25s 6d. Men's Overcoats, from 16s 11d to 39s 6d. Also the "Marvel" Guinea Overcoat, in Naps, Diagonals, Worsted, &c., recommended by the Press as a "marvel of Cheapness and Excellence." Men's and Boys' suits and Trousers in unlimited variety, and at all prices to suit purchasers. Important Rule.—All goods not approved can be exchanged or the money returned, whichever the customer prefers.

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

WALTER WILLSON'S

GREAT ANNUAL

DISTRIBUTION AT COST PRICE!!

FROM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH, TO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,

INCLUSIVE,

AN IMMENSE STOCK,

BOUGHT WELL FOR CASH.

	Per Lb.
FINEST BACON, by Side or Half Side,	7½d.
TEA, of Good Quality,	1s.
CURRANTS, of Good Quality,	3d.
FINEST LEMON PEEL,	5½d.
FINE NEW SULTANAS	5d.
TAPIOCA AND SAGO,	2s. 3d. per Stone.

And all other Goods equally Cheap.

Kindly give your Orders early in the week. The crush will be very great on Saturdays.

SEE HANDBILLS FOR PRICE LIST.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

WALTER WILLSON,

THE WHOLESALE GROCER,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

KNOWN EVERYWHERE!!

CONCLUSIVE TESTIMONY IN FAVOUR OF THE IMPROVED

MAGNETIC BELTS,

CHEST PROTECTORS,
LUNG AND NERVE INVIGORATORS,
KNEE CAPS. SPINE BANDS,
WRISTLETS. ANKLETS, SOLES,
GLOVES, &c., &c.

The MAGNETIC CHEST PROTECTOR should be worn by all persons who suffer from Colds and other chest complaints during the winter season.

Mr. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following TESTIMONIALS recently received. Further particulars will be found in Descriptive Pamphlet, Gratis on application, sent Post Free.

BRONCHITIS.

Hodgson's Mills, Blyth, September 22rd, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—In October last, on the recommendation of a friend who had tried your appliances, I purchased a Magnetic Chest Protector for my wife. She had been a frequent sufferer from Bronchitis, and was then ill with a severe attack. In less than a week the Magnetism had greatly relieved her breathing, and every day afterwards there was a gradual improvement until she was fairly well. In addition to the good it did at that time, she has worn it since as a protection against another attack, and I am glad to say it has proved most effective.—Yours, &c.

Mr D. Lamont. GEORGE TURNBULL.

The MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATOR is specially applicable to Bronchitis, Asthma, Weakness of the Lungs, Palpitation of the Heart, Consumptive tendency, and is most invaluable as a *preventive* of all Chest Affections, Coughs, Colds, &c.

BRONCHITIS.

Prudhoe-on-Tyne, September 19th, 1882.

SIR,—I am happy to say that I have received a great amount of good from the Lung Invigorator I got from you last year. I suffered from bronchitis and a severe cough This brought on spitting of blood, which continued for some time, and left me very weak. It was at that time I began to wear the Invigorator and feel its good effects. It relieved the sore cough and eased my breathing. My chest and back used to have a cold feeling, but now I am quite warm and comfortable, even if the day is cold and damp. I feel confident that it has benefited me in many ways, and I take every opportunity in recommending your appliances.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. W. R. SIMPSON, Newsagent.

THE MAGNETIC WAIST BELT exercises a beneficial influence on the Liver and Digestive Organs, stimulating them to more vigorous action, and thus aiding in the formation of healthier blood, purifies and invigorates the entire system. It cures Lumbago, Rheumatic Pains in the back, Sciatica, Debility, &c,

LIVER COMPLAINT.

Whitehall Road, Gateshead, September 21st, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—Something like two years ago I suffered very much from my liver, and tried everything that was recommended to get relief, but all to no purpose. I might get momentary relief after a dose or two, but only for a time. I resolved to try one of your belts as a last resource, and am happy to say after about a fortnight's wear I found relief. I may state that my symptoms were general depression and severe pain in the stomach, which the belt effectually removed. You are quite at liberty to use this in any way calculated to benefit others suffering from the same complaint.—Yours, &c.,

Mr D. Lamont. THOMAS FOSTER.

THE MAGNETIC KNEE CAP has proved to be of immense service in removing and relieving Rheumatic and other affections of the Knee-joint, Weakness, Stiffness, Swelling, &c., &c.

PAIN IN THE KNEE.

Orchard Field, Blackhill, September 23rd, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—The Knee Cap I got from you nine months ago has done my knee a deal of good. It was injured many years ago. A small bone displaced caused me much pain, and nothing relieved me till I got the knee cap. It has removed the pain and greatly strengthened the knee.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. ANDREW DARRIE.

THE MAGNETIC LEG APPLIANCE can be applied to the thigh or any part of the leg, and is recommended for Rheumatic pains, Weakness, Swelling, Varicose Veins, Bad Circulation, Coldness, Sprains, Cramp, &c.

Mr. WILLIAM CRAWFORD, Secretary of the Miners' National Union writes:—

15, North Road, Durham, 21st Sept., 1882.

DEAR SIR,—Some years ago I had one of my legs severely injured. During last year I felt a weakness and constant aching pain, which partly confined me to the house and rendered walking—except for short distances—impossible. A few months ago I procured one of your Magnetic Stockings, and the good it has done me is beyond conception. I am now free from pain and aching, and can walk as well as ever without experiencing the slightest difficulty or hindrance. It has been, and is still, to me a blessing indeed.

Very truly yours,

Mr. D. Lamont. WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

THE MAGNETIC CORK SOLES are of rare value to those who are troubled with cold feet. Thousands have tried and found them effective.

FURTHER TESTIMONY, REDUCED PRICE LIST.

SEE DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET, GRATIS OR POST FREE.

D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT, 44A BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—The Appliances are forwarded Post Free. Consultation by letter carefully attended to. 70

Business Announcements.

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

NEWCASTLE to AMERICA for £4 10s. EVERY TUESDAY.—Apply for Berths to JAMES DALY, 2, Shakespeare Street, Consett; THOMAS ERRINGTON, Post Office, Carrville; J. MACKAY, Burns, Chester-le-Street; JOHN HILLARY, Auctioneer, Tow Law; and GEO. ALDERSON, 7, Middle Row, Sunniside. 398q

A. B. DAVIDSON,
MARINE SURVEYOR,
COMMISSION AND INSURANCE AGENT,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
Agent for Avon Mills Rubber Factory,
Lloyds' Agent, 572q
19, DEAN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

REVELY AND KELL,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

BEG to announce that they have removed their Business from Mosley Street to more Commodious Premises.

No. 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET. 764o
NEWCASTLE.

ROBERT BROWN, METHELD, & CO.
NURSERY AND SEEDSMEN,
214, NEW MARKET, NEWCASTLE.

SEASON'S BULBS.—Flower Roots, viz., Hyacinths Crocuses, Snowdrops, Tulips, Narcissus, Ranunculus, Anemones, Gladiolus, &c., &c. Wreaths and Everlasting Flowers, Fruit Trees, Shrubs and Forest Trees; Flowers, Fruits. 86r

SURGICAL DENTISTRY.

HENRY DELLOW,

SURGEON DENTIST,

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

17 Years with the late Messrs. NIGHTINGALE.

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

TRANSFER OF BUSINESS.

HENRY AMOS begs to announce that he has PURCHASED the whole of the BUSINESS of Mr. THOMAS ROBINSON, Engineer, Consett, and that he will CONTINUE THE BUSINESS AS BEFORE, and hopes by strict attention to all orders entrusted to his care to merit a share of public patronage.

Millwright Work, Horse-Shoeing, and all General Smith Work done on the shortest notice and on reasonable terms.

Wringing and all kinds of Agricultural Machines Supplied and Repaired on the shortest Notice.

HENRY AMOS,

(late ROBINSON), 80r

GIBSON STREET, CONSETT.

THE CENTRAL PHARMACY.

THOMAS MILNER,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,

By Examination,

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he has commenced business as a Legally Qualified Chemist and Dispenser of Medicines, at

7, SHAKESPEARE STREET,

OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE,

CONSETT.

T. M. having had long experience in First-class Dispensing, Agricultural, and General Retail Trade, is thoroughly acquainted with the requirements of the District, and will endeavour by strict attention to Business, and punctuality in the despatch of Orders, to merit an increasing share of the patronage of the community.

The Stock is now complete with

GENUINE DRUGS, PURE CHEMICALS, PATENT MEDICINES, SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS,

And a variety of other Articles usually Sold by Chemists and Druggists,

TARAXACUM (Dandelion) and PODOPHYLLYN PILLS, invaluable for the Liver and Stomach.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

FELLON AND OTHER DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES, and other Horse & Cattle Medicines of every description.

OILS, PAINTS, AND COLOURS.

Country Orders punctually attended to. 102r

Public Notices.

THE SYCAMORES, ROWLEY.

NOTICE!—The GAME upon this Estate is now strictly preserved.

January 2nd, 1882.

NOTICE.

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

MUSIC!! MUSIC!!!

MR. W. T. DAGLISH has pleasure in announcing that he is prepared to give LESSONS ON THE HARMONIUM.—Terms on application.

South Medomsley Cottages, Dipton. 7r

Re the Estate of RICHARD MCEVOY, late of Benfieldside Edge Road, Deceased.

WE, the undersigned, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that particulars of all CLAIMS and demands upon this Estate are to be sent to Mr. EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill, who will receive all Debts owing to the Estate.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1882.

EDWARD SLOANE, } Executors.
210r JACOB DOWSON, }

RALPH BENJAMIN RITSON, DECEASED.—Pursuant to an Act of Parliament 22 and 23 Vic., cap 35, intituled "An Act to further amend the Law of Property and to relieve Trustees," NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of RALPH RITSON, commonly called RALPH BENJAMIN RITSON, late of Castleside, in the county of Durham, gentleman, deceased (who died on the 27th day of April, 1882, and whose will was proved on the 28th day of October, 1882, in the Durham District Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice by UTRICK ALEXANDER RITSON, of No. 18, Hawthorn Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Esquire, and WILLIAM HENRY RITSON, of Lanchester, in the county of Durham, Esquire, the executors therein named), are hereby required to send the particulars in writing of their claims and demands to us, the undersigned, the solicitors for the said executors, on or before the 1st day of February, 1883, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased, or any part thereof, so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated the 4th day of December, 1882.

CLAYTON and GIBSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
211r Solicitors for the said Executors.

Public Notices.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

THE Leadgate Wesleyan Methodist Choir will give their Annual SERVICE OF PRAISE, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Leadgate, on Christmas Day, December 25th, 1882. The Service will consist of Solos, Trios, Quartets, Anthems, &c.

Organist, Mr. J. W. HEDLEY; Conductor, Mr. J. DAVISON; Mr. E. B. FOSTER, will preside.

Doors open at 6·30; to commence at 7 o'clock p.m.

ADMISSION:—Reserved Seats, 1s.; Unreserved Seats, 6d. Tickets may be had from the Members of the Choir, and at the Door.

For particulars see Programmes. 199r

A GRAND CONCERT

Will be held in the

GREENCROFT BOARD SCHOOLS, CATCHGATE

ON

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 20TH, 1882,

WHEN

MADAME ATKIN (*Nee* Miss ROBERTINA HALL); From Art Gallery Concerts, Newcastle-on Tyne.

MR. WHITEHEAD,

Principal Tenor, and

MR. NUTTON.

Principal Basso, of Durham Cathedral Choir, assisted by the following distinguished Professional and Amateur Talent:—

MISS ALLAN. | MR. ARKLESS.
MISS THIRLWELL. | MR. CHATT.
MR. THIRLAWAY.

PIANISTS, MISSES HOBSON & THIRLAWAY.

Doors open at 7; to Commence at 7·30. Carriages may be ordered for 10·15

ADMISSION:—Reserved Seats, 2s.; Unreserved, 1s.; Back Seats (a limited number), 6d. 204r

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB.

THE Committee of the above Club have much pleasure in announcing a GRAND VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL

CONCERT

TO BE HELD IN THE

NATIONAL SCHOOLS, CONSETT,

ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 20TH, 1882,

BY

MR. J. H. AMERS' CONCERT PARTY,

Comprising the following well-known Artistes:

MADAME FRANCES BROOKE,
Alexandra and Crystal Palace Concerts.
MISS PAULINE FEATHERBY,
Albert and St. James' Hall Concerts.
MDDLE. RIES,
(Solo Violinists), Art Gallery Concerts, Newcastle.
MR. ARTHUR THOMAS,
Principal London and Provincial Concerts.
MR. HENRY PRENTON,
Covent Garden Concerts.
MR. ROBERT SMITH,
(Solo Clarionet) Art Gallery Concerts, Newcastle.

MR. J. MURRAY, ACCOMPANIST.

ADMISSION:—Reserved Seats, 2s; Area and Gallery, 1s.

Doors open at 7·15; Concert to commence at 7·45.—Only Tickets-holders admitted up to 7·30. Tickets may be had from any Member of the Club. 269r

CARRIAGES MAY BE ORDERED FOR TEN O'CLOCK.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

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

By Mr. William Raw.

Miners' Arms Inn, Highgate.—Valuable Full Licensed Public House and other Property for Sale.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, honoured with instructions from Miss H. HEWETT, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on the Premises, Miners' Arms Inn, Highgate, on Wednesday, December 20th, 1882, Subject to the Conditions which will be read at the time of Sale.

Lot 1.—All that Old-established and Valuable FULL LICENSED PUBLIC HOUSE Known as the "Miners' Arms" Inn, Highgate, Situate on that central and busy part of the Main Road from Blackhill to Shotley Bridge, and now in the occupation of Mr. William Robson, as Tenant thereof, containing, on the Ground Floor, Parlour, Tap-room, Snug, Spirit Cellar, large New Bar, with Cellar underneath; Kitchen, Washhouse, &c., on the Second Floor; large Commercial or Lodge Room, 30 feet by 15 feet, Sitting-room, and 4 Bed-rooms.

The House is in First-class Repair, both inside and out, together with

TWO COTTAGES

Adjoining, in the occupation of Messrs. Angus and Swinburn, and large Garden. Also, all those BUILDINGS WHICH WERE USED AS A BREWHOUSE,

And Let at the Yearly Rental of £85 12s.

Lot 2.—All that

DWELLING HOUSE

With 3 Rooms, Shop, Scullery, &c., with Warehouse, together with

TWO COTTAGES

Adjoining, now in the occupation of Messrs. Swinburn, Westgarth, and Jamieson, as Tenants thereof; also, the large

YARD & THREE & FOUR-STALLED STABLE

And Let at the Yearly Rental of £31 12s.

The Tenants will, on application, shew the Premises, and further particulars can be obtained on application to Messrs. WATSON & SMITH, Solicitors, 6, Sadler Street, Durham; or to the AUCTIONEER.

Sale to commence at 3·30 p.m.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 181r

By Messrs. Fegan and Murray.

Railway Hotel, Middle Street, Consett.

MESSRS. FEGAN & MURRAY will SELL BY AUCTION, at the house of Mr. GEORGE BROWN, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Monday, December 18th, 1882, a large quantity of LINEN AND WOOLLEN GOODS, comprising — Bleached and Half-bleached Table Cloths, in all sizes; Twilled Sheets; Ready-made Shirts and Shirtings; Dress Goods, &c.

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

The above Goods are warranted to be sound and perfect. 197r

By Mr. J. Crawford.

Victoria Garesfield Colliery.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by Mr. T. WATSON, who is Emigrating, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday, December 23rd, 1882, at the above place, the whole of his Household FURNITURE.

Sale at One o'clock.

For particulars see Bills. 192r

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
26, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly and on reasonable terms. 822p

Mr. A. T. Crow.

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

THE NEXT SALE of HORSES, CARRIAGES, HARNESS, &c., will take place on Tuesday, December 19th, 1882.

SALES BY AUCTION EVERY TUESDAY.

740q JOHN PEEL, Proprietor.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

Royal Auction Mart, Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside.

MESSRS. NICHOLSON & MURRAY will hold their CHRISTMAS STOCK SALE of COWS, FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, on Monday, December 18th, 1882, when the following PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN:

	1st Prize.	2nd Prize.
Best Fat Bullock	£2 10 0	£1 0 0
Best Fat Heifer	2 10 0	1 0 0
Best 3 Half-bred Sheep	2 10 0	1 0 0
Best 3 Grey-faced Sheep	2 10 0	1 0 0
Best 3 Black-faced Wether Sheep	2 10 0	1 0 0
Best 3 Shropshire Downs	2 0 0	1 0 0
Best Dairy Cow, of any breed	2 0 0	1 0 0
Best Durham Short-horn Cow, with or without Pedigree	2 0 0	1 0 0
Best Fat Pig	2 0 0	1 0 0
Best Sow Pig, for Breeding Purposes	2 0 0	1 0 0

Stock to be Penned at 10 o'clock; Judging at 11; Dinner at 12.

Sale will commence punctually at One o'clock.

PRESENT ENTRIES:

66 Prime Black-faced Wethers.
24 Grey-faced Wethers.
20 Black-faced Ewes, fat.
15 Half-bred Wethers.
12 Shropshire Downs.
19 Cows, Calved and to Calve, some of them the pick of the County.
12 Half-bred Irish Heifers
10 Prime Fat Steers and Heifers.
4 Fat Heifers.
10 Fat Pigs.
4 Young Boars, and 4 Young Sows, Prize Breed, from Mr. Joseph Robinson, South Benwell.

Sale to commence with 30 Bags of Potatoes (Scotch Regents), and 40 Bags of Onions. 203r

By Mr. J. Jenkins.

Trafalgar Street Sale-rooms, Consett.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday First, December 18th, 1882, in the above Sale-rooms, a large quantity of First-class Household FURNITURE,

Mr. JOHN JENKINS, Auctioneer,

Comprising—Mahogany Lobby Drawers; Mahogany Cheffioneer Desk Bed; Ash Desk Bed; 3 Bed-room Drawers; Washstands and Dressing Tables; excellent Couch; 2 Mahogany Sofas; Mahogany Cheffioneer; 2 Mahogany Tables; 2 Kitchen Tables; Night Chair; Easy Chair; 6 Mahogany Balloon-backed Chairs; 6 Polished Chairs; Windsor and Cane Chairs; Iron Chair, with Cushions; Tester and French Iron Bedsteads; Feather, Down, and Flock Beds; 2 large Pieces Oilcloth; Rugs and Mats; Mantlepiece Mirror; Parlour and Kitchen Fenders and Fireirons; 2 Rocking Chairs; together with a large quantity of other useful Goods.

Sale to commence at One o'clock. 213r

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

A. PHILLIPSON,
GENERAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE-AGENT, &c., DIPTON.

CASH ADVANCES made, and FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly, and upon Reasonable Terms. 27c

EMIGRATION TO AMERICA
Great Reduction in Fares by the American Line.
ONLY £4 PER ADULT!
For reliable information, apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton, or to WILLIAM ROBINSON Medomsley. 126r

Business Announcements.

Give me leave
To speak my mind, and I will through and through
Cleanse the foul body of the infected world
If they will patiently receive my medicine.—Shakespeare.

J. ROBERTS'
RENOWNED
BUCHU BITTERS.

The best bitters ever introduced for Biliousness, Nervous Affections, Digestive Derangements, Debility (in its varied forms), and all Kidney Disorders.
Prices 2s 9d per bottle of 40 doses.
1, NEW BRIDGE-ST. and 97, CLAYTON-ST., NEWCASTLE.

TO OUR READERS.

On Friday, December 30th, 1882, will be presented to every purchaser of the *Consett Guardian*, a copy of JACKSON'S CONSETT ALMANACK.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, DEC. 15TH, 1882.

ECHOES FROM BLACKHILL.

[BY INCEDO.]

The Consett and District Cricket Club have announced another grand evening entertainment and [were I to follow the usages of a certain school, I should add—"For particulars see small bills." But what with winds raving and snow-flakes eddying, there is but scant information to be gleaned in that quarter. The last effort made by the committee of this crack club was a success financially, but in order to raise the amount necessary for the object in view, a further effort is deemed desirable; and the committee, knowing that the inhabitants of Consett and district are a music-loving people, have engaged Mr Amers' far-famed concert party, who, it is arranged, will make their debut at Consett on Wednesday evening first. The artistes are well-known in the musical world, having appeared in the metropolis, and the chief provincial towns with much acceptance. The programme, which is now before the public, is a most interesting one, and lovers of high-class music may expect a treat.

The subject of irregular attendance at our district schools is a burden too great for any mere mortal to bear. I have groaned beneath it for eight long days, and having at length come to the end of my self-imposed pilgrimage I hasten to part company with a most gruesome attendant. I intended to have embodied my opinion on the irregular attendance question in my last week's note on school and schoolmasters, but finding that the paragraph was assuming somewhat lengthy proportions I inadvertently committed myself by stating that I would revert to the subject this week. This was a departure from my usual rule and the ghost of the subject has haunted me since. At eventide, and abroad among the "beautiful snow," mysterious voices seemed to say: "Well, and what do you know about the matter?" "Ha, ha! there is nothing new under the sun." I have heard of nocturnal sprites who wandered to and fro on the sublunary sphere till someone spoke to them, or listened to their woeful tale. Acting on this principle I now proceed to answer the question which is, upon the whole, a very sensible one. What do I know about the matter? that's the point; and in reply I assert that it is one of the most glaring of our social evils—a veritable dark cloud without the proverbial silver lining. I do not suppose that any good end would be served by dwelling on the cause from which the evil springs; because, although traced to the parent stem, that would not in the least degree diminish the effect, nor the baneful influence arising therefrom. Irregular attendance at school is, I believe, the natural outcome of existing things—an undreamt of epidemic upon the vitals of our national life, and which bids fair to baffle the skill of the most accomplished. I have read that in a certain campaign the soldiers were afflicted by a disease which modern physician had never heard of, and which it is said was occasioned by the men sleeping with their boots on; and so it is with the evil under notice. An Act has been passed to the effect that the youth of our land shall be trained after the usages of the schools, and the latter in turn assert that in order to impart the proscribed mental training efficiently the pupil shall conform to certain rules which schoolmen have long since found to be absolutely necessary for the vital existence of the art. This, then, is where the matter rests; the schools assert their prerogative, and the masses, unable to comprehend that "'tis the mind that makes the body rich," have no fellow-feeling, and but little sympathy with those whose duty it is to instruct the young. The grievance is a most serious one, and strangely enough has not one single redeeming feature. Like the hapless nigger, who taking his ebony mate for better or worse, found after marriage that she was all worse and no better; so is this vexed question of irregular attendance. It is difficult to say who is the greatest loser—schoolmaster, parent, or child. All are losers, individually as well as collectively; and all round the loss is irreparable, because it has been beautifully said—

"As every grain of gold is precious,
So is every moment of time."

Irregularity is, I believe, the greatest difficulty with which the schoolmaster has to contend; he may rise superior to the contumely of a clique, but no antidote has as yet been given to the world whereby the wide-spreading effects of irregularity can be successfully counteracted; and like many another pernicious habit it extends far beyond its original starting point and embraces within its corroding tentacles the innocent as well as the guilty. The studies of the regular school-goer are retarded by the spasmodic return of the absentee, and the general work of the school is correspondingly delayed. No play of logic is necessary to show what that implies. A systematic delay of the work—and such, in substance, is irregular attendance—mean a pecuniary loss to the master; nor is this all, his reputation may be at stake, for he cannot obviously be in two places at once—side by side with the worker and the lagard. How then is the evil to be remedied? The fault rests in the main with the parents—upon that point there cannat very well be two opinions. The rank and file of the people are not prepared for educational reform at railway speed, and this is, I believe, the very germ of the whole matter. It would not be very charitable to say that this feeling arose from ignorance, because "evil is wrought for want of thought," and want of thought is, I have no doubt, the chief cause of much of the bad feeling which at present exists on this subject. Could the people be led to understand and to thoroughly appreciate the value of education, the attendance-officer would find his trade and occupation gone. This is the pivot upon which the subject occilates, and till the chasm is bridged there will be no material change, except that which comes in the wake of the rolling years. Two of our local School Boards have had the subject under discussion, but nothing definite has been arrived at. The Aberdeen School Board issued a pamphlet a few weeks ago which is calculated to do a deal of good; it contained rules and maxims for the guidance of children attending school. Could an experiment of this nature not be tried in our district? and add to the rules and maxims a simple but sensibly-written article on the advantages of education.

Local and District News.

An evening mail arriving at Stanhope Station at 6·16, commenced on Monday.

Messrs. Bond and Whiteley are making considerable additions to their steelworks at Tow Law for the manufacture of wheels.

The Weardale Board of Guardians on Friday re-appointed Dr. Montgomery medical officer for Derwent district.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY.—Among the successful candidates, on whom the degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred at a Convocation on Tuesday, we notice the name of Dr Alfred Mantle, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., late House Physician to the London Hospital, now of West Stanley, in this neighbourhood.

CONSETT WESLEYAN SCHOOL.—On Monday night, Mr Blythe, of the Miners' Relief Fund, gave three exhibitions of his moving diorama, in the Gibson Street Schools, to large and enthusiastic audiences. The entertainment was of a highly-interesting and attractive character, and each scene was graphically described by Mr Blythe. The proceeds were in aid of the Consett Wesleyan Day School Fund.

ST. CUTHBERT'S, BENFIELDSIDE.—The "Dies Iræ" was sung by the choir of St. Cuthbert's after morning prayer on Sunday. The ancient requiem hymn of the Church was most impressively rendered. Reference was made to the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, in the evening sermon, and the exquisite hymn for the burial of the dead, "Now the labourer's task is o'er," 401 (Ancient and Modern) was sung before the Benediction.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT SOUTH DERWENT COLLIERY.—On Monday last, Thomas Temperley, a colliery cartman at the South Derwent Colliery, for about three years, was following his usual work when he fell off his cart upon the back of his head, and died on Wednesday morning.—An inquest on the body of the deceased was held at Mr Joseph Lumley's, the Railway Tavern, Annfield Plain, yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, before Mr Graham, district coroner, when a verdict that deceased was accidentally killed was recorded.

LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—Miss Coates, a lady from London, has been conducting special religious services at this place in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. The services have been continued every night for the past month with much success. About one hundred persons have professed a saving interest in religion. Miss Coates is a young lady of prepossessing appearance, and has a winning and gentle manner in presenting the Gospel. An important feature in her services is the charm of her singing. Her labours are continued at Blackhill, and are secured for Consett also.

PROPOSED CEMETERY FOR TOW LAW.—The members of the Tow Law Local Board have memorialised the Home Secretary to close the churchyard and to constitute the Board the Burial Authority for the district. The Board have already opened negotiations for the purchase of two acres of land as a cemetery.

PELTON.—On Saturday evening, about forty members of the White Hall Amateur Bicycle Club, under the captaincy of Mr Joseph Robson, held their first annual supper at the hostelry of Mr Geo Favell, Pelton Colliery Hotel. The repast was served up in splendid style by the hostess, several songs and toasts were given by members of the club, and a jovial evening was spent.

EXPLOSION OF A BOILER AT THE LANCHESTER POLICE STATION.—Yesterday, (Thursday) afternoon, about four o'clock, whilst the magistrates were sitting in the Lanchester Police Court, a peculiar hissing noise was heard, and upon Supt. Oliver leaving the court to ascertain the reason, he found that the boiler, which contains about thirty gallons of water, used to heat the court and cells, had exploded. No actual damage is done, further than a new boiler will have to replace the exploded one, which has not been in use more than four years.

THE RESTRICTION IN THE IRON TRADE.—CONTINUANCE OF THE AGREEMENT.—A meeting of the Cleveland ironmasters was held at their offices, Middlesbrough, on Tuesday, for the purpose of considering the advisability of continuing the agreement which has been in force for the past twelve months to restrict the production. The agreement was to restrict the make to the extent of 12½ per cent., and it expires on the 31st of the present month. After some conversation it was resolved to continue the restriction for other three months.

BOARD SCHOOLS CATCHGATE.—A fashionable evening concert will be given in these schools next Wednesday night, in order to raise funds for establishing a permanent reading room in that village. A splendid array of professional and local talent will appear, including Madame Atkin (*nee* Miss Robertina Hall) Newcastle; Messrs. Whitehead and Nutton, of Durham Cathedral; and Orpheus Glee Party from Durham. The Rev. John Gornall, the now vicar of Collierley, will occupy the chair. The public may therefore anticipate a rich musical treat.

SHOCKING DEATH NEAR BURNHOPE.—On Sunday last, a miner named William Robson (34), of Walkridge Fell, left that village (accompanied by his cousin, John Hardy, for the purpose of visiting some friends at Burnhope Colliery. The pair arrived at James Hardy's, landlord of the John's Castle beerhouse, at Craghead, shortly after seven o'clock in the evening, where they remained a short time, and subsequently resumed their journey to Burnhope. After proceeding half-a-mile further on, Robson fell down to the ground and died instantly.—An inquest on the body of the deceased was held by Mr Coroner Graham, at the house of Mr Ruben Oxley, Craghead, on Monday afternoon. A verdict stating that Robson expired through the rupture of a blood vessel in the brain was recorded.

LECTURE AT CATCHGATE.—On Tuesday night, the Rev A. Baillie, Presbyterian Minister, of Blackhill, delivered his popular lecture in the United Methodist Free Church, Catchgate, on "Sir Walter Scott," which was very instructive and amusing. The lecture was well received and frequently applauded. The Rev G. Lord, the newly-appointed minister among the Free Churches ably occupied the chair. Both gentlemen received a hearty vote of thanks at the close. The proceeds were in aid of providing a social tea for the widows and deserving poor in the district. The committee are working very zealously in order to make the social treat as good as they can, and many of the local gentlemen in the neighbourhood are assisting the committee in carrying out so praise-worthy an object.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Health's Defences. None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather so prevalent during the autumnal and early winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, or quinsey will attack those most watchful of their health; but they can readily arrest any of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin over the affected parts, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known, safe, and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger without weakening or even disturbing the system in the slightest degree.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.—A special meeting of this Board took place at the Parliament Street Buildings, on Tuesday night, when the following members were present:—Messrs John Calvert (in the chair), Thos. Siddell, George Hawdon, J. H. Hudson, William Shell, J. W. Davison, J. Collinson, Rev F. Steggall, and the Clerk (Mr Welford). In consequence of the extraordinary snowstorm and the thickness of snow lying in the streets of Consett, it was resolved that the Board should obtain a snow plough forthwith, and Messrs Shell and Hudson were appointed a committee to superintend the construction of the same.—The Surveyor was also instructed to use every effort in getting the snow cleared off the public streets as early as possible.—This was all the business.

VISITATION OF THE BISHOP OF DURHAM.—Yesterday (Thursday) morning the Lord Bishop of Durham delivered his primary Charge to the Clergy of the Rural Deaneries of Durham, Houghton-le-Spring, Ryton, Chester-le-Street, and Jarrow, in Durham Cathedral. His lordship was accompanied within the altar rails by the Very Rev the Dean of Durham, Canon Evans, Canon Tristram, Archdeacon Watkins, Archdeacon Hamilton, Archdeacon Long, and his chaplains. There was a numerous attendance of the Clergy in their surplices and hoods, and on the roll being read over by the Chancellor of the Diocese (Mr John Booth) very few failed to answer to their names. Hymn 355 (A. and M.), "O, Thou who makest souls to shine," having been sung, his Lordship offered prayer; after which, he explained to those present that he had divided his charge into two portions, that portion relating to the work and administration of the diecese would be delivered that day before this Archdeaconry, the other portion relating to matters of wider Church interest, he reserved for his visitation in the Archdeaconry of Auckland. The Bishop then delivered his Charge from the altar rails.

DURHAM DIOCESAN INSPECTION.—LIST OF LOCAL CANDIDATES.—The following class list contains the names of those who had gained first and second classes in the pupil teachers examination held Oct. 21st, 1882. All those whose names appear in the first class obtained a prize of books from the Diocesan Board. *Fifth Year.*—First class: Robt. Shong, Chester-le-Street; Joseph Corker, Pit Hill; John Surtees, Stanley; John and Mary Jopling, Chester-le-Street. Second class: Frances Pallister and James W. Melviile, Pit Hill; R. W. Hepple, Chester-le-Street; Isabella Hardy, Oxhill Board School; Elizabeth B. Thirlaway, Marley Hill Board School. *Fourth Year.*—First class: Alice E. Rindell, Tanfield. Second class: Mary E. Short, Lintz Colliery; Fanny Ferguson, Chester-le-Street; Archibald Jackson, Pit Hill. *Third Year.*—First class: Edward Errington, Marley Hill Board School. Second class: Isabella Brown, Pit Hill; George F. Scott, Chester-le-Street: R. R. Herdman, Collierley Board School. *Second Year.*—First class: William Brabban, Marley Hill Board School; Edward Robson, Stanley. Second class: Annie Elizabeth Robson, Fatfield; Mary A. Hawke, Stanley. *First Year.*—Second class: Elizabeth J. Parker, Leadgate; Jas. McCullock, Fatfield; George Hindhaugh, Burnopfield; Lydia Wilkinson, Kyo School Board. *Candidates.*—Second class: Francis A. Wallace, Stanhope; Annie Scott, Pit Hill.

Original Poetry.

INVOCATION—INVITATION.

Extract from an unpublished poem entitled "From Eden to Calvary."

O Father, Thou who ever art the same,
Breathe on me now, inspire me to proclaim
Thy wondrous love to Adam's fallen race;
Redeem'd from sin by Thy abounding grace—
O Lord! I long to help amidst the throng,
And tell Thy wondrous mercies in a song,
In stirring tones, that all may started hear,
And strike deep on each lost one's sullen ear,
And stir them up to seek that only way
That leads to heaven and everlasting day:
Then let redemption's glorious theme inspire
My thoughts, my words, and set my soul on fire,
To rouse the sleepers from their false repose
To see the gulf beneath them and its woes?
O may they wake to see Thy grace divine,
And see the glories that around Thee shine;
And see Thy wondrous love to every human soul,
Redeem'd from death while endless ages roll.
O haste the time when every land shall know,
The precious gift Thou didst on man bestow;
And see Thy love, and majesty and power.
Reveal'd to man in his most darksome hour!

Come then poor sin-stain'd shivering mortals,
Look up by faith and see yon glorious portals;
By faith we know the mortal eye can see,
Far through that azure and ethereal sea;
And through these portals lies a shining way
That leads to bliss and everlasting day.
But know'st thou, sinner, how that way was bought
That you and I may enter in for nought?
But there are terms ere we can enter in
To reach that land all undefiled by sin.
Believe, believe, O mystery profound!
Ope wide your ears and hear the joyful sound;
A sacrifice is found—the ransom paid,
The Father's only Son came to our aid.
He left his throne, threw all his glory by
And came to earth for sinful man to die,
Faith in that blood shed for our fallen race
Alone can bring the guilty sinner peace,
And ope the way to that bright land at last
When all his trials and troubles here are past.

Consett. D. IMRIE.

ANOTHER SNOWSTORM.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT.—On Saturday last a severe snowstorm passed over Consett, but towards evening the storm had entirely abated. On Sunday the sun was visible most of the day. Large blocks of frozen snow continued to fall from the roofs of the houses on to the footpaths, rendering it extremely dangerous for pedestrians to get along the streets, and several persons narrowly escaped receiving severe injuries thereby. The steep descent from Consett to Blackhill and Shotley Bridge was exceedingly slippery, and many adults slipped down on to the surface, breaking their legs and arms and sustaining other serious injuries. On Monday and Tuesday, the weather was quite settled, and the Local Board's surveyor availed himself of the opportunity afforded of getting the footpaths cleared and carting a large quantity of snow off the streets on to the Blue Heaps. On Wednesday and yesterday (Thursday) showers of snow again began to descend, and from the general appearance of the sky we may expect the storm to continue for some days to come. The Stockton and Darlington Main Line between Consett and Tow Law has been opened out. The weather is intensely cold.

LEADGATE.—A great quantity of snow has fallen in and around Leadgate, and has drifted in places to an enormous height. In Front Street, the snow is piled up on each side of the highway, and during this week, the Surveyor had nearly a dozen men engaged in cutting a passage through the thoroughfares.

CASTLESIDE.—The snow lies in this neighbourhood to about three feet in thickness, and has drifted in certain places to ten and a dozen feet high.

LANCHESTER.—At Lanchester, yesterday (Thursday), the snow continued to fall most of the day, lying on the ground generally about one and two feet in depth.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT.—Annfield Plain and the surrounding district has been visited by a most severe snowstorm, and the frost has set in very keen, and put a stop to a great deal of out-door work. The roads in all directions from Annfield Plain have been totally blocked up, and had to be opened-out by the snow plough. In some parts of the road the snow drifted as high as from four to seven feet, and a large number of men had to be employed it shovelling it away. The traffic on the highways has been stopped for some days. The brakes which run from that neighbourhood to Newcastle were not able to get for some days; the carrier was also unable to reach that city; and it was with much difficulty that the grocers and butchers in the district could supply their customers with the needful provisions. The colliery managers were most energetic in clearing the railways in order to keep the pits working, and in getting the workmen supplied with fire coal during this most severe winter weather. There has been an average thickness of two feet of snow for some considerable distance. We are sorry to have to report that many people have fallen down on account of the slippery state of the roads, and in some cases these have sustained severe injuries which in one case nearly proved fatal. A workman who had indulged too freely in intoxicants during this week whilst reeling home in the small hours of the morning, fell down in the street and was found afterwards almost frozen to death. His wife and neighbours got him into the house, and used every means in their power to bring him round. The snow at Low Kyo has drifted as much as ten feet thick; in fact several carts are embedded in the snow.

TOW LAW.—The storm had remarkable results in this district. The new Commercial Hotel was blockaded above the front door, cutting off all egress in that way. Mr W. Rutter, of Boulder House, lost a number of sheep. At Dan's Castle the drift was enormous, and some cottages were all but concealed. A butter dealer, named Moses, was stopped with his cart between Tow Tow and Wolsingham, but was fortunate in receiving the assistance of two police-officers who came up. The Weardale Highway Board's snow-plough, with six horses, cleared the road between Wolsingham and Tow Law. On account of the great snowdrift in the cutting, and the frost partly giving, the line is blocked, and passengers have to pass from one train to another. Every endeavour is being made to remove the *debris* and the snow, and to get the line cleared. Snow still continues to fall, and unless a change takes place a complete block is inevitable.

DURHAM.—On the railway, trains from the West and South were a little behind time, and it was feared that any considerable fall would close both the Derwent Valley and the Dareness Valley railways, on which large gangs of men were organised to clear away the snow drifts as they accumulated.

WOLSINGHAM.—The storm of snow only abated at noon on Saturday. Most of the roads are blocked, the snow generally being level with the walls and bridges. Mr Backhouse's have been snowed in since Wednesday, as the road leading to St. John's, Wolsingham, is from three up to twelve feet deep with snow. The railway from Crook to Tow Law is again blocked.

WEARDALE.—The storm still continues in Weardale. Shepherds are using snow shoes, or "skeys" as they are called here. The half-yearly pays of the lead miners were to have taken place on Saturday, but owing to the storm have had to be postponed. A large number of men are being employed to open out the roads.—Another correspondent states:—There has not been such a quantity of snow on the ground for thirty years. The letters from Darlington were two hours behind the usual time. In Burnhope a shepherd left home about nine in the morning on Wednesday. As he never returned all day, a search party was formed, which found him about ten p.m. in a very exhausted state. He was found on the edge of a rock. If he had gone a few feet more he would have been killed. He lies in a critical condition. A number of sheep have been lost. A marriage was to have taken place at High House on Saturday. The bride and bridegroom and minister were there, but the registrar was unable to get from Stanhope, so the marriage had to be postponed. All out-door work is suspended.

HEXHAM.—The carriers from Blanchland and other places did not attend Hexham on Friday last, the roads, in all probability, prevented their getting in to town.

MR. GLADSTONE'S JUBILEE.

Mr Gladstone on Wednesday received over 150 telegrams congratulating him on the attainment of his fiftieth year of public service. Telegraph messengers followed each other in quick succession to the official residence in Downing Street, and huge bags of congratulatory letters arrived at each post. All day, Downing Street was lined with the carriages of those in high circles who were visiting the Premier. Mr and Mrs Gladstone received visitors all day. Many of those calling were political friends. Earl Granville, Lord Hartington, Lord Wolverton, and other prominent persons made calls. Among those from whom telegrams and letters were received were the following:—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Speaker, those members of the Cabinet who were out of town, several ambassadors to the Court of St. James's and those who had been attached to the foreign embassies, and several Greek bodies, one in London, the others from Greece. The calls from personal friends were too numerous to mention, and the same might be said of the Premier's political supporters. A great number of letters were received from admirers. It would be impossible for Mr Gladstone to answer all the kind letters he has received. An address from the London and Counties Liberal Union, and from upwards of 200 other Liberal Associations and Clubs, was presented to the Prime Minister. Appended thereto are the signatures of the officials of 223 Liberal Associations and Clubs of the metropolis, home counties, and some contiguous shires. Among the representatives of the Liberal Associations and Clubs affiliated with the Union were Mr Samuel Morley, M.P., Lord Aberdare, Sir Sidney Waterlow, Mr H. Cowper, M.P.; Vice-Admiral Luard; Mr W. Fowler, M. W. H. James, Mr H. Campbell Bannerman, Mr J. S Balfour, Mr Shaw Lefevre, Mr C. McLaren, Mr T. C. Thompson, Sir Thomas Brassey, Mr Arthur Peel, Mr J. W. Buxton, Mr W. S. Caine, Mr Waddy, Sir W. C. Lawrence, members of Parliament; Lord Mount Temple, Lord Waveney, Lord John Henry, Marquis of Landsdowne, Mr A. G. Ketching, F.R.S., Sir S. M. Peto, &c. In the address, the signatories, after offering sincere congratulations to Mr Gladstone upon the completion of fifty years of public life, express an earnest desire that the Premier would attend a great public meeting in or near London to celebrate at once his own jubilee and that of the first Reform Act. This would stimulate the growidg activity of Liberalism in the South of England. A written reply is promised at an early date. An address in congratulatory terms was also received from His Highness the Khedive of Egypt.

The County Court Office, Consett, will be closed on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 23rd, 25th, 26th, and 27th days of December, 1882.

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

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

ACCIDENT AT BURNOPFIELD.—A young man named Joseph Chrisp, employed as groom to Mr Handcock, of Barcus Close, was one day this week assisting the servant man to unload a cart load of coals. On account of the snow, the ground was slippery and the cart moved suddenly backwards, crushing the young man severely against the wall, and breaking his breast-bone. Medical aid was immediately procured, and the youth is, we are glad to say, progressing favourably.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WHICKHAM.—The twentieth anniversary services, commemorative of the restoration of this church in 1882, were held on Tuesday, at which the Venerable Archdeacon Watkins was the preacher, both morning and evening. Notwithstanding the severity of the weather the church was well filled with numerous and hearty congregations, whose thank offerings amounted in all to £19 2s.

LANGLEY MOOR.—A highly interesting entertainment, in connection with the Blue Ribbon Army, was given in the New Connexion Chapel, on the 2nd inst., when solos, recitations, &c., were rendered in a creditable manner by Miss E. Ferry and Misses Genner, Messrs Jos. and Jas. Smith, Chalder Golledge, J. M. Doughty, and others. The chair was filled by Mr S. Galbraith, of Medowfield. Previous to the entertainment a public tea was held.

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

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

THE SHOCKING TRAGEDY AT EAST CASTLE.

CORONER'S INQUEST AND VERDICT.

On Monday afternoon, Mr John Graham, district coroner, held an inquiry at the house of Mr Miles Handy, at Catchgate, into the circumstances attending the death of Robert Wharton Barron aged about 18 years, who was killed at East Castle Colliery, on the Thursday previous, under the painful circumstances detailed in these column last week. After the jury had been empannelled, they proceeded to view the body, which was subsequently identified by Wm. Palmer. The witnesses who were examined were Thomas Turner, Ralph Nattrass, Robert Wanless, and John Palmer, who admitted that whilst the accused, George Hanson, was working on the bank about two o'clock on the day referred to, they stormed the place with a volley of snowballs, and that Hanson had eventually to shelter himself behind the pillars of the screens. Hanson was wet through at the time, and the fact that a number of the balls struck him aroused his anger and thoroughly aggravated him. They further admitted that they had no business at the pit on that day, since it was not working; but they would not swear to seeing the accused strike the deceased the fatal blow.—Turner, the only youth who was working along with Hanson at the time of the occurrence, testified to the prisoner snatching the iron drag out of his hand and fling it towards where the deceased youth was standing, but although he did not notice the bar hit Barron, he observed him fall on the ground bleeding profusely from the head. Immediately after that happened he (witness) went away.

Dr Richards, of Leadgate, assistant to Dr George Renton, said the deceased had received a heavy blow on the side of the head, which knocked in a portion of the skull. The bone having pierced one of the main arteries, had thus caused hæmorrhage, from which death would occur instantly.

The Coroner having summed up the evidence, the jury, after a brief consultation, returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased, Robert Wharton Barron, met with his death through a blow on the head, supposed to have been inflicted by an iron bar, but by whom given there is not at present sufficient evidence to show.

ACCUSED BEFORE THE CONSETT BENCH.

At Consett Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs A. Town and R. Dickinson, Geo. Hanson, a strong, powerful-looking labourer, was brought up on remand charged with the manslaughter of Robert Wharton Barron, at East Castle Colliery, on Thursday afternoon last.

Sergeant Thornton adduced that about half-past four o'clock on the afternoon above-mentioned, he received information that a man had been killed at East Castle Colliery. He proceeded to the village, and apprehended the prisoner, and on accusing him of killing Robert Wharton Barron, by striking him upon the head with the iron drag (produced), he said "Yes, I did it; but I did not do it intentionally."

The Chairman: Did the prisoner strike the deceased with the drag, or was it thrown at him?

The Sergeant replied that it was thrown at him.

Mr Oliver desired the prisoner to be further remanded, and prisoner was asked if he had any objections to offer. He replied, "I did not do the deed intentionally. They (the youths) were throwing snowballs at me."

The case was again adjourned.

ACCUSED COMMITTED TO THE ASSIZES.

At Lanchester Police Court yesterday (Thursday), before Matthew Kearney, Esq. (chairman), Capt. Edward Leadbitter Smith, and Geo. Hedley, Esq., *George Hanson* was brought up on remand from Consett, accused of causing the death of Robert Wharton Barron (18), at East Castle Colliery, on Thursday afternoon last.

Mr Malcolm (Durham) appeared to prosecute; and Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) defended.

Francis Turner, a youth, stated that on Thursday, 7th inst., about two p.m. he was standing at the pit heap near the pulley frames, at East Castle Colliery. He saw a number of young men on the pit heap throwing snowballs at each other, Robert Wharton Barron, the deceased, being amongst them, snowballing with the rest. The prisoner was on the bank attending to his work at the time. He saw a snowball hit the prisoner. Witness had the iron drag produced by Sergeant Thornton in his hand, having only just picked it up and gone behind the pulley frame. The pirsoner was standing close against him, and snatching the drag out of his hand, he saw him swing it with an underhand motion and throw it among the lads who were annoying him. Witness saw Barron fall, and bleeding profusely from the forehead. He never heard the deceased speak; nor did he see the drag again after it was thrown, until it was shown him the same night in the colliery office.

Ralph Nattrass, miner, East Castle Colliery, testified to seeing the deceased fall to the ground and expire immediately afterwards.

Robert Wallace, hewer, at the old Bantling Colliery, said he was on East Castle Pit Heap on December 7th last, between one and two p.m., when he saw the deceased lying there, and he assisted in carrying him home. Witness did not see the drag thrown, but observed the prisoner going across the "flat sheets" immediately after the deceased fell down. The prisoner did not offer to render any assistance, and did not seem in the least concerned.

Captain Smith: How many snowballs hit the prisoner?

Witness: Well, I saw one or two.

Mr Hedley: Was the prisoner attending to his work at the time?

Witness: Yes, he was.

Robert Crout Richards, surgeon, practising at Leadgate, saw the deceased on Friday last, after he had been seen by Dr Charlton on the previous day. In conjunction with Dr George Renton, he made a *post-mortem* examination of the body of the deceased. There was an incised wound in the scalp to the left, and a little below the distinct "prominence" on the back of the head. The wound was of triangular shape, measuring an inch across the triangle. The apex of the triangle pointed upwards. This wound bled both upwards and inwards to a fracture of the skull. Both tables of the bone were driven inwards, and the shape edge of the broken bone had cut across a blood vessel that runs on the internal surface of the bone. The fractured bone caused a wound in the brain, and either the bleeding or the injury to the brain was sufficient to cause death very shortly after the injury. There was a wound between the eyebrows, about an inch in length, which might have resulted through the deceased falling down. The bridge of the nose was also bruised, and the skin was grazed on the left eye. Otherwise the body was perfect. The drag produced would be likely to inflict such a wound as he had described, sufficient to cause death.

Sergeant Thornton spoke to arresting Hanson immediately after the occurrence, and charged with killing Robert Wharton Barron by throwing the iron drag (produced) at him. The prisoner replied, "Yes, I did it; but did not do it intentionally." The iron drag he (witness) obtained on the pit heap soon afterwards, and was identided by Francis Turner as the same instrument thrown at Barron.

The prisoner, on being charged in Court, said he had no statement to make, except what he had already said to the police sergeant. His solicitor (Mr Welford) reserved his defence.

The prisoner was committed to take his trial at the ensuing Assizes on the charge of manslaughter.

On the application of Mr Welford, bail was accepted for his appearance—the prisoner himself in the sum of £50, and two sureties of £25 each.

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STRANGELY WOOED, STRANGELY WON.

By INA LEON CASSILIS,

AUTHOR OF

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

CHAPTER VI.

THE SEVENTH.

"For there's luck in odd numbers," quoth Rory O'More.
S. Lover.

"Plase, miss, a parcel for you," and with a bright knowing smile, Kathleen, Mrs. Desmond's only servant, placed a neatly done-up package on the table of the sitting-room, and retired.

It was towards evening, and Hyacinth was just going upstairs to get ready for the drive over to Clanmorris, whither her own and her mother's dresses had preceded them; for nothing but a jaunting-car was to be had in or near Ballygoyle, most of the better-off people possessing one of their own; so the Desmonds, as well as some others of the guests, would dress at Clanmorris. Hyacinth went to the table, and opened the package, laughing. She knew very well what it contained; it was the sixth she had had that day. Last year she had made her *début*—her grown-up *début*, that is—at a ball at Clanmorris House, but before that she had been to children's parties, one of them in Galway. At that Galway party—her first—her bouquet was provided by Tracy Mansfield; but Terence O'Conor and two other youths had also sent flowers, anonymously. That party so greatly increased the number of the little colleen's admirers that next time she appeared more than half-a-dozen bouquets were sent, and all anonymously, so that her selection had to be made hap-hazard, or by merit, or conjecture as to any particular sender. Last year she had had some splendid flowers; and one or two bouquets, she thought, must have come from better off people than either Tracy or Terence, though she had selected the offering that came, she believed, from Tracy, and she turned out to be right.

"Who sent *that*, I wonder," said Mrs. Desmond, joining in the girl's laugh. "What an odd idea it is to give no name. I suppose it is on the 'fair field and no favour' principle, and this evening they will all be watching to see whose flowers you select."

"Yes," said Hyacinth; "and I might take that horrid Fitzgerald's bouquet. I won't select Tracy's this year."

"Why not, dear?"

"He will be too conceited," said Hyacinth, sedately.

"Take care, Hyacinth, don't grow into a coquette."

"A coquette!" said the girl, starting. "With Tracy?" She looked up, met her mother's eyes, and flushed crimson. "You don't mean anything, do you, mother?" she said, falteringly.

"No, no, my dear child!—you look like a frightened fawn. Look at the flowers—be quick, or we shall be late."

Hyacinth continued her task, though her fingers trembled somewhat, and presently held up a lovely bouquet, which, after duly admiring, she compared with the others.

"I like this best," she said, "and I will take it, unless a better one comes; that would be the seventh, and there is luck in sevens."

Hyacinth fully believed this. She had a good share of Irish superstition.

The car was at the door, and both ladies were ready to start, when suddenly Kathleen rushed in breathless.

"Och, miss, another bucket!" (bouquet); "ye must take it—'tis the siventh; ye must, indade, miss; 'tis sure to be a beauty."

"Who brought it, Kathleen?" asked Hyacinth, taking from the servant a square wooden box.

"A boy, miss; and, av coorse, he didn't say where he came from. There'll be luck in this wan, miss—the siventh."

Hyacinth opened the box, and drew forth what was evidently a choice bouquet, for the scent of the flowers came through the layers of silver paper in which it was enveloped; and the box was no common one, but of satin wood, the lid delicately painted.

"Who can it be from?" said the girl, wonderingly.

"Never mind, my dear," returned Mrs. Desmond, "it's the seventh, the lucky one, so you must take it. There is no use in unfastening it; you could not do it up like that again. Come along, or we shall really be late."

Thus adjured, Hyacinth followed her mother out, and handing her into the car, jumped up after her, and they drove away.

It was more than an hour later that Vincent Lorraine mounted Damian in the courtyard of Castle Curramore, a light wrap coat over his evening dress, and in the breast pocket of that coat a loaded six-chamber revolver on half-cock. It was a gloomy-looking place, this castle, in which the brilliant favourite of the fashionable world of London was living a solitary and threatened life. It stood far from any other dwelling, on high ground, and within half-a-mile of a straggling wood, or, rather, small forest, in which in ancient days savage assailants of the then lords of Curramore had doubtless found shelter. A great part of the building had been destroyed, and other parts had fallen into ruins through neglect. The central tower, however, remained, and a considerable portion of the rest of the castle, and it would even now have sustained a siege of some days against enemies armed only with rude and ineffective weapons, for the lofty walls that surrounded the castle on all sides could not easily be broken down, and people attempting to scale them could be "picked off" from the castle windows or ramparts. The gate was a very solid structure, and, if that were gained, the central door of the tower would offer a stubborn resistance to pickaxes or improvised battering rams.

The dusk was falling; it was that half-light which enables one to see objects without being able to distinguish what they are, or calculate accurately the distance at which they appear.

Margaret Finnigan stood by her master's side, and looked up anxiously in his face.

"Take care, sorr," she said, "it's just a noight loike this the villuns would choose for mischief. The Holy Vargin presarve ye! Ye'll be careful, Misther Lorraine?"

"Aye, Margaret. The man who shoots me must not miss; and my sight is keener than most men's. I have proved that many a time. Good-night. I'll be back at Curramore by daylight, never fear." And he rode away under the frowning archway onto the road, stretching away gray and dreary over the broken country.

But though he talked lightly, and felt reckless, still he kept a look out, especially where the road, after traversing a stretch of moorland, passed between two hedges, admirably calculated for concealment. He passed no one; there was not a sound on the roadway save the quick stroke of Damian's hoofs, and now and then the soft tenor of his master, singing a snatch now of a German lied, now from an Italian opera; and so he rode onwards, thinking far more of Hyacinth's dark eyes than of his own peril.

He had ridden full two miles on the Ballygoyle road, and now drew near to the gnarled oak which stood at the junction of two roads, the one leading to Clanmorris, the other towards Ballygoyle village. Damian was going at a brisk trot, and was just turning the corner into the Clanmorris road, when Lorraine's quick ear caught the sound of a click, and in the same flash of time—it was less than a second—reined in his horse, so sharply that Damian reared up, pawing the air. There was a loud report, and a bullet whizzed past before Lorraine's face, so close that the wind of it swept his brow; another second—it was no more—a dark form darted from behind the tree towards the shelter of the hedge; but that second was enough for Vincent Lorraine. Quick as lightning the revolver was in his hand, and levelled, with unerring aim, at the flying form: another sharp report ran through the welkin—there was a wild, piercing cry, and a heavy body dropped among the grass behind the hedge.

"One scamp settled," said Vincent Lorraine, coolly, returning the weapon to his pocket. "I daresay this will be the last for to-night. Soh! Damian," patting his horse's neck, "we must push on."

And the master of Curramore rode on without even looking to see what effect his shot had had, with hand and lip as steady as if to narrowly escape assassination and to shoot the murderer were among the ordinary incidents of an evening ride. He laughed once, as if the ludicrous side of the affair were the most apparent to his mind, and conjectured which of the men it was with a far less vivid interest than he would have bestowed on the entries for even a second-class race. But there was another conjecture in his heart, and it was that—and no thought of what he had passed through—that made that heart beat, and the dark eyes glow, and the firm hand close like a vice over the bridle.

And Hyacinth stood before her mother, smiling, to have the finishing touches put to her dress. One ball had not despoiled the creamy-white satin of its freshness, and some costly old lace that had belonged to Mrs. Desmond's mother further adorned it; there were pearls on the girl's white throat and in the small ears, and she had bracelets of gold and pearls; but her soft, curling hair needed no ornament, and had none. No toilette could have been better chosen for Hyacinth Desmond, and no more exquisite picture of beauty—beauty both of form and expression—could man or woman see than this young Irish girl.

"I will do! and now the bouquet," she said, laughing. "I would not look at it till the last moment."

She turned to the table where it still lay in its tissue envelopments, and was proceeding to remove the chrysalis when a tap came at the door and in sailed Dorine, in pink satin and lace and flashing jewels.

"Are you ready, Hyacinth?" she said, as Hyacinth turned to admire her friend.

"Yes, I am ready. You look splendid, Dorine."

"So do you, my dear." But Dorine would far rather Hyacinth looked less "splendid." Dorine had no small share of vanity; but Hyacinth's beauty was too striking to be neutralised by any self-complaisance.

"What!" Miss O'Conor added, "have not you undone your seventh bouquet yet—the lucky one! Suppose it turns out to be the worst?"

"Still it would be the seventh, and—Och! Holy Mary!" cried the girl, holding it up with wide open eyes of fun and perplexity, "isn't it perfect! oh, mother!" under her breath.

The bouquet was a triumph of taste and floriculture; nothing but the most exquisite and costly flowers had gone to its composition, white prevailing, but a touch of crimson here and there giving colour and serving to throw the white into stronger relief. Hyacinth knew too little of hothouse flowers to form any estimate of the costliness of her lucky bouquet; but Dorine drew a long breath as she bent over the fragrant blossoms.

"Why, Hyacinth," she said, "who *could* have sent you this? I never saw such flowers, even in Dublin. This—and this," touching two or three, "to say nothing of others, must have cost I don't know what; and look at the holder!"

Hyacinth looked, feeling rather bewildered; she had seen, vaguely, that it was silver, or had the appearance of silver; but now she examined it more attentively. It was frosted silver; silver tassels dependent from it, and Dorine laid her white gloved finger successively on flashing spots, looking straight into Hyacinth's face.

"Turquoise, amethyst, ruby," she said, slowly; "this never came from any Irishman you know, Hyacinth. There is only one person who could have sent it."

The girl drew back, flushing deeply, while Mrs. Desmond took the bouquet from Dorine's hand.

"It came anonymously," she said, "like all the rest, and happening to be the seventh and last Hyacinth selected it. I suppose Mr. Lorraine must have sent it; but you see, Dorine, she is the only girl about here he knows as yet, and a man like he would be certain to make a costly offering if he made it at all. Hyacinth should not have brought it if we had seen it at home; but it is too late now." And she gave the flowers back into Hyacinth's hand. Dorine smiled—not a pleasant smile—and said—

"And there's luck in odd numbers, isn't there? But you know, Mrs. Desmond, I don't think he should have sent a bouquet that everyone will know could only have come from him."

But Hyacinth Desmond looked up with a flash in her black eyes.

"Faith," said she, "where is there more harm in Mr. Lorraine sending me a bouquet when I have seen him three or four times, and last year Mr. Fitzgerald sent one and he had only seen me once at a party; and so it does not matter if the whole world knew that the flowers came from Vincent Lorraine."

That was true enough, and it was not easy for Dorine to raise any objection to Lorraine offering such a courtesy on the ground of his evil repute, since she (Dorine) had treated that drawback to the handsome and wealthy Englishman as of comparatively small consequence, and in Hyacinth's hearing.

"I thought you didn't like him, that is all, dear," she said. "Come on. I suppose he will flatter himself that you chose his gift, knowing it was his."

"I will take care to undeceive him, then," said Hyacinth, secretly wishing she had made any other choice; and yet, if she could have had time to analyse her own feelings, not sorry he had sent the flowers.

"That will take him down," said Dorine, laughing, as the two girls traversed the corridor towards the ball-room. "I have no doubt he considers himself irresistible. I daresay he will try to make you believe that he went to Dublin on purpose to get that bouquet."

In her own mind Miss O'Conor thought it not unlikely that Lorraine had made the journey to Dublin for that especial purpose, but she did not wish Hyacinth to think so, and Hyacinth was still too innocent to imagine Vincent Lorraine would cross Ireland merely to obtain a bouquet for her.

"Of course," said she, coolly, "he got the flowers in Dublin, but he must have gone on other business."

"What will Tracy say, Hyacinth?"

Hyacinth started, but frowned haughtily,

"I am not accountable to Tracy, Dorine."

IMPORTANT CASE AS TO WORKING OF MINES.

BELL *v.* LOVE AND ANOTHER.

On Friday and Saturday, in the Court of Appeal, Westminster Lord Chief Justice Coleridge and Lords Justices Baggallay and Lindley resumed the hearing of the arguments in this case, which came before them by way of appeal by the defendants from a judgment of Justices Manisty and Williams upon special case. The action was brought by Mr Charles Earnest Bell, of Park House, near the city of Durham, to recover from the defendants, Joseph Horatio Love and Robinson Ferens, colliery owners, working coal and other mines under the plaintiff's premises, damages sustained to his premises in consequence of the defendants' mining operations. The removal of the minerals had lowered the house and land in question and, in consequence of such subsidence, the plaintiff's house had been cracked and damaged. At the time of the passing of the Enclosure Act, 1772 (11th Geo. III.), the land in the occupation of the plaintiff formed part of the moor and waste of the manor, barony, and borough of Elvet, and by the Act the land in question became vested in Mr Thomas Phillipson, whose successor in title was Mr Marmaduke Charles Salvin. The present plaintiff became Mr Salvin's tenant in 1877. Underlying the land were seams of coal and other minerals which were worked by the lessees of the Dean and Chapter of Durham from a date prior to 1823, without leaving support for the surface. In 1877 the defendants began to work the mines under the plaintiff's premises, and they removed the coals without leaving any support for the surface, and consequently the strata between the coal mine and the surface of the land subsided, causing damage to the plaintiff's premises to an extent in excess of the sum paid into court by the defendants, viz., £82 10s, as defined by the Inclosure Act, 1772. The questions proposed for the opinion of the Divisional Court were, whether the defendants were liable to pay the plaintiff any, and if so, what, compensation beyond that mentioned in the Inclosure Act, 1772, and whether the plaintiff was entitled to have his house and lands supported by the mines and minerals comprised in the lease held by the defendants. Judgment was given by the Provisional Court in favour of the plaintiff on both points. Hence the present appeal by the defendants.

The Solicitor-General (Sir F. Herschell, Q.C., M.P.), Mr Meadows White, Q.C., and Mr Edge appeared for the appellants; Mr C. Russell, Q.C., M.P., and Mr Ridley represented the respondents.

Mr Charles Russell, on behalf of the respondents, submitted that when the land in question was allotted to the predecessor in title of Mr Salvin, the lord of the manor—in this case the Dean and Chapter of Durham—limited their own rights to the mines. The scale of compensation laid down by the Inclosure Act was never intended to meet a case like the present.

Mr Ridley followed on the same side.

Lord Coleridge thought that, for the purpose of giving a final decision, the name of Mr Salvin, the owner of the property, ought to be added to the case.

The Solicitor-General agreed to this proposition, and assuming Mr Salvin to be a party to the suit, replied on the whole case.

On the conclusion of the arguments, the court reserved judgment.

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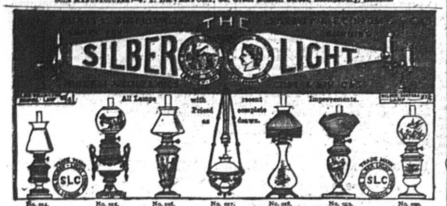
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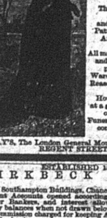
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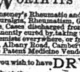
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SECOND EDITION.

THIS DAY'S NEWS.

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

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.

In the neighbourhood of Consett to-day a rapid thaw has set in, and the snow is quickly disappearing. A dense fog prevailed during the day. Another change is observable in the state of the weather in Newcastle and Gateshead this morning. The frost seems to have completely given way, and the melting snow and ice are making the streets very slushy and disagreeable to pedestrians.

THE SUDDEN DEATH AT CONSETT.

We regret that the account we gave in a portion of our issue last week of the death of a blastfurnaceman named Michael Limpskay, of Consett, was somewhat inaccurate. The deceased, it seems, had been confined to his bed for some time previous to his death, and was not out on Friday last. Dr O'Donnell gave up the case as being hopeless on the preceding day; consequently he was not called in, but visited the house in the ordinary course of his round, when he found that the man had expired.

MAN REPORTED KILLED BY THE SULTAN.

HIS MAJESTY'S MENTAL CONDITION.

("STANDARD" TELEGRAM.)

VIENNA, Thursday night.

The following, which has reached me from a thoroughly trustworthy Turkish source, will give some idea of the mental condition of the sovereign of Turkey, respecting which so much has been said of late. It would appear that some time ago one of the chief servants in attendance on Abdul Hamid approached his Majesty for the purpose of presenting to him a written petition. Seeing the man nervously place his hand within his coat and seek to remove something from an inside pocket, the suspicion rapidly arose in his Majesty's mind that the man was about to draw a revolver with which to assassinate him. Seized with terror, the Sultan rapidly drew a revolver, which he always keeps loaded on his person, and firing it at the man, killed him on the spot. Nothing more dangerous was found upon the person of the dead man than a letter petitioning Abdul Hamid to allow a few week's leave of absence in order to visit his family in the provinces. The matter was, of course, carefully hushed up, so that very few of the outside world are aware of the event.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.]

THE MAAMTRASNA MASSACRE.

EXECUTION OF THE THREE MURDERERS

In Galway Gaol this morning, at twenty minutes past eight o'clock, Myles Joyce, Patrick Joyce, and Casey, were hanged for the massacre of a whole family at Maamtrasna. The culprit Myles Joyce, during the process of pinioning, protested again and again that he was as innocent as a babe, and continued to proclaim his innocence upon the scaffold. All three died with a perceptible struggle. Marwood was the executioner. There was no disturbance and the excitement was not so great as might have been expected.

The three prisoners received the sacrament from the Roman Catholic Priest, but all refused breakfast this morning. Myles Joyce when being pinioned resisted Marwood, protesting somewhat vehemently, and he was assisted by two warders to the scaffold, but the other prisoners walked unassisted.

After the drop fell either the hand or arm of Myles Joyce became entangled in the rope, and Marwood was compelled to push the body down with his foot. The executioner, however, is certain death was instantaneous. Sentries were posted around the Jail last night and this morning, but not more than a dozen persons assembled outside.

FAILURE IN SOUTH WALES.

The Vernon Tinplate works at Briton Ferry, South Wales, employing 800 hands have been closed, the proprietors having recently failed.

A SHIP ASHORE NEAR YARMOUTH.

The Central News Yarmouth Correspondent telegraphs that Her Majesty's ship Ariel went ashore early this morning at Winterton, during the thick fog. Intelligence was at once sent to Yarmouth, and Her Majesty's schooner, which was in Yarmouth Roads, went to her assistance. The Ariel has now been got off, sustaining little or no injury.

DEPARTURE OF SIR EVELYN WOOD.

Sir Evelyn Wood and his staff arrived at Dover this morning, and left at ten o'clock for Calais on the way to Alexandria, *via* Brindisi.

MR FAWCETT.

Bulletin states that Mr Fawcett has passed a fairly good night; rheumatism is still present, but in other respects he holds his ground.

THE NAVAL SCANDAL AT ABERDEEN.

The Clyde Court Martial resumed at Portsmouth to-day, when Robert Allcock, a retired gunners, mate, stated that he had sold various stores at Aberdeen by Gunner Fitzgeralds orders.

ANOTHER FIRE IN LONDON.

Another fire broke out in the city of London to-day at the Queen's Arm's restaurant, Cheapside. The fire is now at (one o'clock) burning furiously.

SPLIT IN THE FRENCH MINISTRY.

PARIS, Friday.

The differences among the Members of the French Cabinet have led to the abandonment of the Tonquine Expedition. The resignation of the Minister of Marine is expected.

LORD DERBY'S SPEECH.

The *Sickle* of to-day warmly approves of Lord Derby's speech.

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, December 11th.—Before A. TOWN, Esq. (chairman), and R. DICKINSON, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Ralph Thomas failed to surrender to bail entered on his own recognisances for being guilty of a charge of drunkenness.—P.C. Wood said that on the 6th inst., he found the defendant in the streets at Consett, helplessly drunk, and locked him up.—A fine of 10s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment, was imposed.

Joseph Robson pleaded guilty to a charge preferred by the above-named officer, of being drunk and incapable at Consett, on Saturday night last, and was fined 5s and pay 5s 4d costs.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE AT CONSETT.

Francis Timeny and *James McWade*, ironworkers, were brought up on a charge of highway robbery with violence. Mr W. Dickinson (Consett) appeared to prosecute.—Thomas Allen, coke drawer, of Queen Street, Consett, said that on Saturday night last he was standing at the corner of Princess Street, Consett, shortly after eleven o'clock, when the prisoners came up and threw snowballs at him. He told them to desist, whereupon McWade "tumbled him over," and Timeny held him on the ground. After kicking and beating the prosecutor, the prisoners took the albert (produced) off him.—To the Bench: Not a word passed between him and the prisoners until he told them to "knock off" snowballing. He blamed McWade for stealing the guard. He had seen the albert since; it was found in the middle of the road. The swivel was broken off.—Timeny: Did I get hold of you at all?—Prosecutor: Yes, you did.—Timeny: I am sure I did not. You are swearing but lies.—McWade: When a snowball hit you, did I not come across to you and say "How are you doing?"—Prosecutor: No you did not.—Timeny: This lad (pointing to McWade) himself knows that I wasn't there.—Sergt. Thornton deposed that from information received, he apprehended the prisoners at one o'clock on the succeeding (Sunday) morning. Subsequently he charged them together at the Police Station with committing an assault and robbery. McWade said he knew nothing about the affair, and had never seen the man; but Timeny made no reply.—P.C. Oxnard stated that he charged the prisoner Timeny in the Police Office with assaulting and robbing Thomas Allen of a gold albert chain, when he replied "I was not there; McWade is the man." Witness was present when Sergt. Thornton charged both prisoners together, but on this occasion Timeny had nothing to say.—The prisoners were, on the application of Mr Dickinson, remanded for eight days, bail being refused.

SHOPLIFTING AT BURNOPFIELD.

A young woman of prepossessing appearance, named *Rachael Hardacre* (22), was placed in the dock on a charge of burglarously entering the premises of Mr John Kyle, grocer and draper, of Burnopfield, on the 27th July last, and stealing therefrom a large quantity of drapery goods and wearing apparel.—Sergeant McClymont adduced that he received the prisoner into custody on Saturday night last, about eight o'clock, as she was being released from Wakefield gaol, where she had been serving a term of imprisonment for horse stealing at Sheffield. He charged her with breaking into Mr Kyle's shop, and stealing numerous articles, including hats and bonnets, jackets, muffs, collars, ties, elastic-side boots, dresses, and other goods, of the value of £4, besides some coppers. Some of the articles the prisoner said she did not steal herself, but obtained help from a person named Ralph Tomlinson. The man who assisted the prisoner in the burglary was now undergoing five years' penal servitude for commiting a robbery afterwards. The prisoner states that she is a married woman, her husband having left her at Knaresborough in August last.—Supt. Oliver now asked for the case to be adjourned, and on the prisoner being asked if she had any reason to offer why she should not be remanded for a week, replied that she was innocent of breaking into the shop.—The case was accordingly remanded.

HOUSEBREAKING AT BLACKHILL.

Two young men, named *Samuel Martin* and *Robert Clark* (who had only just been captured on a warrant executed by Sergeant Cruickshank) were put into the dock accused of breaking into the dwelling-house of Mary Hagan, of Middle Street, Blackhill, on Friday night last.—Prosecutor alleged that about midnight the two prisoners and another man named Brown came to her house, and after demanding admission, they broke in the door. Prosecutor and her two children were in bed at the time. After entering the house, Clark got hold of the coalrake and threatened to kill her if she screamed out. A neighbour, hearing the noise, then came, and demanded admittance. Whilst the prisoners were opening the door for this woman to enter, she (prosecutor) rushed past them out of the house. The prisoners afterwards turned her children (who were quite naked) into the street on a bitterly cold night. Prosecutor peeped through the keyhole, and saw the prisoners entirely ransack the house, one of them going about in the meantime with a rolling pin in his hand. They forced open the drawers, read her private letters, threw a muff, a locket and chain, and two brooches, into the fire, and burnt them. Prisoners also broke some plates, dishes, and a teapot, and stole a snuff-box, chains, lockets, &c., to the value of about a sovereign. The muff alone was worth 8s. The prisoners, prosecutrix added, came to her house last (Sunday) night, and asked her to "make the case up."—The prisoners voluntarily remarked that they were the worse for drink at the time, or else they would not have been there.—They were remanded for eight days, the Bench declining to accept bail.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, December 14th.—Before M. KEARNEY, Esq. (chairman), Capt. EDWARD LEADBITTER SMITH, and GEORGE HEDLEY, Esq.

TRESPASS IN PURSUIT OF GAME.

Thomas Gill and *Matthew Burns* were charged with trespassing in search of conies at Ushaw Moor on December 2nd. Neither of the defendants appeared, and Sergeant Reed informed the Bench that both had absconded.—The sergeant alleged that about four p.m., on the day before-mentioned, he saw the defendants near to Ushaw Moor ferriting rabbits on land over which Mr Brodie Cochrane has right of shooting. He observed them take three rabbits.—The defendants were fined 40s each, including costs, and a warrant issued for their apprehension.

ASSAULT AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

A young man named *Thomas Andrews* was brought up in custody charged with being drunk and disorderly and also with assaulting James Scaife, at Annfield Plain, on Saturday the 9th inst. The prisoner pleaded guilty to both charges.—The prosecutor, who is manager for Messrs. Tyler Bros, Annfield Plain, said that about half-past five o'clock on Saturday night last, he heard a noise outside the shop, and on proceeding there, he saw the defendant sitting on a portion of the window which had previously been broken. Prosecutor told the prisoner to get away, when the latter knocked him down and kicked him about the body until P.C. Minto came up and got hold of him.—The prisoner alleged that he was drunk at the time, and was sorry for what he had done.—The Bench ordered him to pay a fine of 10s and costs in each case, or go to prison for one month, with hard labour.

DRUNK AND REFUSING TO QUIT.

John Price, *Thomas Thompson*, and *John Hinds*, were summoned by James Musgrove for being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the Queen's Head Inn, at Lanchester, on Thursday, the 16th ult.—Thompson and Hinds failed to appear, and the Bench mulcted them in a fine of 10s each and pay costs; Price was let off with a fine of 5s and the expenses.

USING THREATENING LANGUAGE.

Matthew Richardson was placed in the dock accused of threatening to take the life of Ann Rawlings, at Quebec, on the 28th of last month.—The complainant said that the defendant had threatened to kill her the same as they were "toppling over the Fenians in Ireland just now" (laughter), and used some very filthy and obscene language towards her.—The defendant denied the charge, asserting that he only called her an "old post-tub" and nothing more (renewed laughter). The defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for the ensuing six months, and pay 9s 6d as Court fees.

THE ALLEGED CHARGE OF STEALING WATER.

Ann O'Brien was charged, on remand, with feloniously taking and stealing two buckets full of water of the value of one penny, the property of Messrs. Ferens and Love, of Cornsay Colliery on the 23rd of November last.—Mr Oliver, of Durham, who appeared for the prosecution, said the case was partially argued before the magistrates a fortnight ago, when the Clerk (Mr Granger) raised an objection on the ground that the water was a natural product. The water Mr Oliver said, passed through a meter belonging to the Shildon and Weardale Water Company into the pipes laid in by Messrs Ferens and Love, and conveyed right to the houses of their workmen at the colliery. All the water that passed through that meter belonged to the firm, as they paid the Water Company for every drop so used. It is not water running in a stream or standing in an open pond. It is confined in Messrs. Ferens and Love's pipes, and the defendant had on several occasions been warned that she had no right to take the water without paying for it.—The Magistrates Clerk: Whoever warned her had no business to do so.—Mr Oliver was proceeding to quote the opinion of the Queen's Bench Justices on the question, when the Chairman said they could not go past the opinion of their clerk, but they would hear Mr Oliver's evidence, and then if necessary state a case for a higher court.—Mr Oliver thought it only right to show the Bench the arguments upon which he relied on.—He thereupon called Mr Charles Davison, manager of Cornsay Colliery, who said that some years ago Messrs Ferens and Love laid the Weardale and Shildon Company's water on to their colliery, and put in underground pipes for a distance of a mile, and laid certain branch pipes up the colliery rows into each of their streets. To those pipes were attached a number of taps, Messrs Ferens and Love, at their own expense, put in the main and the distributive branch pipes. The water is registered by a meter before it enters the pipes belonging the colliery. The meter belonged to the Water Company, but the firm paid a certain rental for it. The reason one mile of piping was laid by Messrs Ferens and Love was because the Cornsay Colliery was out of the Water Company's district. On the 23rd November last, he saw the defendant at the tap behind Gillow Street, on the premises of Messrs Ferens and Love. He spoke to the defendant about it, and told her that the water belonged to the firm, and that she had no right to take it, but that she could obtain by paying the colliery owners. She used very abusive language towards him, and said she would have the water. She went away with the bucket of water which he saw her draw from the tap, and witness saw her return and take another bucketful from the same tap.—The defendant: Why didn't you ask me for the money for the water the same way as you ask the other people?—Witness: We have never called on anyone to collect the money. Any person taking the water always go to the office and pay for it.—The defendant having been charged, elected to have the case dealt with summarily. She said that she was guilty of taking the water, but the prosecution could not prove where she carried it to. The water was for a next-door neighbour, and her son paid Messrs Ferens and Love for it.—The magistrates dismissed the case, but allowed Mr Oliver a case for a higher court.—The defendant asked for her expenses for the two days that she appeared at the Court, but this application was not entertained.

SHOP ROBBERY AT BURNOPFIELD.

Rachael Hardacre, a young woman, was brought up on remand charged with burglariously entering the shop of Mr Robert Kyle, grocer and draper at Burnopfield, on the night of the 27th July last. Mr Welford, of Consett, represented the prosecutor.—William Kyle, son of the prosecutor, said that on the 27th July last, he closed the shop at eight o'clock. On the following morning, when he opened the place about eight o'clock, he found some old boots lying on the floor and afterwards ascertained that the shop had been broken into. He missed the following articles: An umbrella, a woollen checked shirt one brown tweed shooting suit, felt hat, blue pilot overcoat, pair of laced-up boots, one pair of red worsted braces, lady's drab cloth jacket, trimmed with grey fur, a grey cloth petticoat, pair of red and black corsets, black and white broken check woollen shawl, pair of lady's elastic-side boots, pair of brown leather gloves, with fur tops, lady's umbrella, with black handle, white handkerchief with red border, the whole being valued at £7 10s. He then gave information to the police.—Jane Kyle, the daughter, identified the jacket produce as her private property, having been placed in the shop along with the other articles produced.—Charles Thompson, sergeant of the borough police at Sheffield, said that on the 3rd of August last, he took the prisoner into custody at Leeds in company with a man named Tomlinson. She was wearing the jacket produced at the time; and had in her possession the black umbrella. On the 17th August he received a certain communication from Supt. Oliver, describing the stolen property; and in consequence of that witness took possession of the property, and charged the prisoner and Tomlinson together with breaking into a shop at Burnopfield and stealing the things now produced. The female prisoner said she bought the grey jacket and paid for it. Tomlinson, in her presence replied "I bought the pilot coat in Newcastle, but I wont say where I got the money from."—Sergt. Wm. McClymont deposed that on Saturday last, he proceeded to Wakefield and received the prisoner into custody. He charged her with breaking and entering the shop of Robert Kyle, grocer and draper, of Burnopfield, on the night of the 27th July, and stealing therein the articles enumerated above. She replied "I didn't steal anything. Ralph Tomlinson gave me the jacket and umbrella." Witness brought her to Consett and locked her up.—P.C. William Longstaff, of Burnopfield, adduced that on the 28th July, he received information from Mr Kyle that his shop had been broken into, and a quantity of wearing apparel stolen. Witness went to the shop, and found an entrance had been effected by a pane of glass being broken, and the latch having been pushed back. He found that a quantity of wearing apparel had been disturbed and left lying about the shop.—He found some clothing belonging to a female in a very dirty state, besides an ecclistical gown belonging to a Catholic priest.—The prisoner, after being charged, said that she had not broken into the shop on that night. The jacket and umbrella, she got from a man named Ralph Tomlinson. She received some other articles from Mrs Hughes, of Gateshead.—Prisoner was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions.

THE HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT CONSETT.

Two ironworkers, named *Francis Timney* and *James McWade*, were likewise put forward, on remand from Consett, on a charge of highway robbery with violence. As the stolen property had been recovered, the Bench agreed to the offence as one of assault on Thomas Allen.—The prosecutor said that on Saturday last, about eleven 11·10 p.m., he was standing at the corner of Princess Street, Consett, when the prisoner McWade threw a snowball at him. Subsequently the prisoner knocked him down, got on the top of him, and severely kicked him; then they took the gold albert (worth £7) from him. Both the prisoners struck at prosecutor, and he was unable to go to work the next morning.—McWade said that the prosecutor tore his coat.—The prosecutor, however, denied this.—Timney: How far was I off when McWade ran at you?—Prosecutor: You were standing close by.—Timney: Did I hit you when you were down or up?—Prosecutor: When I was down.—The Magistrate's Clerk: Had you known prisoners before this happened?—Prosecutor: Yes, I knew them both very well.—John Carr, puddler, who was in company of the prosecutor on the night in question, spoke to the prisoners pelting Allen with snowballs, and when he told them to stop, they violently attacked him. McWade struck at him first, and Timney shouted, "Give it to the b——." After the struggle the prosecutor missed his gold albert.—The Chairman, after a brief consultation with his colleagues, read out a list of thirteen convictions for various offences previously recorded against the prisoner Timney, and two convictions against McWade. Both prisoners were ordered to pay a fine of 20s including costs; in default, to undergo one month's hard labour.

THE EXHIBITION OF MODELS AT CONSETT.

Taking into consideration the unfavourable state of the weather, the exhibition now being held in the Primitive Methodist Schools at Consett, continues to be fairly patronised. The room is prettily decorated, besides being comfortably warmed, and the numerous models and appliances on view render it one of the most interesting and instructive exhibitions ever held in this town, and well worthy of a visit from all classes of the country. The following are among the chief exhibits:—From James Laing, Esq.: Models of mail steamer "Kashgar"—mail steamer "Durban"—passenger steamer—skeleton of wooden vessel. From Messrs J. L. Thompson and Son: Model of grain and cattle steamer—half model of screw collier "Gertrude." Messrs R. Thompson and Son: Half models of iron and composite barques—planked vessels and sailing ships—model of screw steamer. Messrs Austin and Son: Model of screw steamer—half models of screw steamer "Kerula," sailing clipper, trawler, and sailing ship. Messrs C. Mitchell and Co.: Model of steel merchant steamer "Batoum"—screw steamer—floating dock (with illustrations). Messrs W. Richardson and Co.: Half model of screw steamers "Warrick" and "L'Euni." Messrs A. Leslie and Co.: Models of twin steamer "Calais-Douvre"—paddle steamers "Duchess of Sutherland" and "Morpeth." Mr E. Harris: Model of man-of-war "Victor." Mr J. Milburn: Man-of-war "Henry Elizabeth." Mr Turnbull: Model of Royal Yacht. Mr Worrall: Model of screw steamer "Hannah"—engine, &c. Mr T. Hudson: Tank engine. Mr E. Trow: Threshing engine—No. 1 Locomotive. Mr J. Maxwell: Pumping engine. Mr J. Chaytor: Horizontal and vertical engines. Microscope from Rev F. Steggall; stereoscope from Mr C. P. Douglas; and numerous other articles.

HOUSEBREAKING AT BLACKHILL.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

Yesterday (Thursday), at the Lanchester Petty Sessions, two young men named *Samuel Martin* and *Robert Clark* were charged with breaking into a house of ill-fame at Blackhill, kept by Mary Hagan, on Friday night last.

Mr Oliver, of Durham, prosecuted; and Mr Welford, of Consett, appeared for the prisoners.

The prosecutrix, who is the wife of Edward Hagan (but who is now living apart from her husband), residing at No. 3, Middle Street, Blackhill, said that about twelve o'clock on Friday night last, she heard a loud knocking at her door when she was in bed. She inquired who was there and received no reply. She asked a second time, and someone shouted out "Martin." Another voice afterwards exclaimed "Force the door in you b——." Prosecutrix had retired to bed with her two children about ten o'clock. The door, which was locked, was burst open, and the prisoners, with another man named Brown, then rushed into the house. She called for help and shouted "Police!" and some of the neighbours came to her assistance. The staple was knocked out out of the stencil, but one of the prisoners knocked it in again, and then re-locked the door and put the key in his pocket. Clark took up the poker, and another prisoner snatched hold of the coalrake, and swinging it round his head, exclaimed "I will kill the first b—— that comes into the house." Prosecutrix heard two neighbours, Elizabeth Bartley and Elizabeth Dinney come to the door, whereupon Martin said "Open it and let the woman (meaning the prosecutrix) go out." The prisoners then unlocked the door and tried to drag Mrs Bartley inside. The prosecutrix made her escape outside, and her two children (who were stripped naked) followed her. She remained at Mrs Bartley's house about an hour, and subsequently proceeded to Mrs Dinney's, where she stayed all the night. She returned about nine o'clock the next morning and found her house in a state of utter confusion. The place had been thoroughly ransacked; the drawers were all open, but nothing was broken. She missed a muff, locket and chain, two small brooches and a snuff-box. Prosecutrix saw all these articles the day previous—she kept them in a little box. She gave information to Sergeant Cruickshank on Saturday morning. She never saw any of the prisoners before.

Mr Welford: What do you do for a living?—Prosecutrix: I take in washing.

Do you do anything else?—No; I do not.

Are you sure of that?—Yes, I am.

Why did your husband leave you?—For certain reasons.

What reasons?—I left him because he used me very badly.

Does he allow you any money?—No. I never asked him for anything.

Have you ever seen the prisoners before?—No; I have not.

Will you swear that you were never in their company before?—Yes; I will.

When they knocked at the door did you not open it yourself, and when they had entered, did you not lock them inside?—No I did not.

When did you first miss the articles?—On the following Saturday morning.

Why did you not inform the police at once?—I went to Sergeant Cruickshank's, but he was not at home.

Why did you not go and see some of the other policemen?—Because I did not know where they lived.

Mr Welford was proceeding to put a number of questions to the prosecutrix respecting her immoral character, when he was told by the Chairman that unless he was prepared to prove that such was the case, he had no right to put these questions, however bad or immoral the character of the woman might be.

Mr Welford said it was necessary for him to satisfy the Bench of the character of the prosecutrix, in order to show for what purpose the prisoners visited her house on that particular night.

The Chairman replied that they had no right to break into her house, whatever might be the object of their visit.

Mr Welford explained that he could prove that the prisoners did not break into the house, but that they were admitted by the prosecutrix herself.

The Chairman and Clerk thought it was not fair for Mr Welford to ask the prosecutrix such questions, and that gentleman bowed to the decision of the Bench.

Elizabeth Dinney, who lives next door to the prosecutrix, alleged that on the night in question she was in her house, and about twelve o'clock she heard a noise as if someone was battering at her door. She went outside and saw three men standing at Mrs Hagan's door. She knew the prisoner Clark, and he told her to go back into the house. As she refused, Clark hit her with a snowball. Witness saw the men walk inside, and subsequently heard a woman's voice shout "Murder!" and "Police!" Mrs Bartley then appeared on the scene, and they both succeded in opening the door, when the prosecutrix came out. Witness saw the three men in the house, and they caught hold of Mrs Bartley, and then locked the door. She could smell some flannel burning inside.

In cross-examination by Mr Welford, witness said that Mrs Bartley, the prosecutrix, and herself went into the house the same night, after the prisoners had gone away. The prosecutrix then told her that the men had taken away a silver chain and locket, and two brooches. The prisoners did not attempt to pull Mrs Bartley into the house.

Elizabeth Bartley, another neighbour, stated that at twelve o'clock on Friday night last, Mrs Dinney came to her house, and having told her something, she went to Polly Hagan's house and demanded admittance. One of the prisoners asked who was there, and someone said "It is Mrs Bartley, let her in." The door was opened and the prosecutrix ran out into the street. No one interfered with her in the least. Witness saw the two prisoners and another young man in the house. The door was closed and locked after the prosecutrix got outside.

In cross-examination, the witness stated that she peeped through the keyhole into Mrs Hagan's house and saw all that transpired inside. The window was opposite the door; a ladder reaching into the upper storey stood at one side of the window, and a pair of drawers at the other side. Witness swore that she could see through the keyhole right around the room. She saw the prisoner's ransacking the drawers, and heard them read a policy of insurance.

Sergt. Cruickshank deposed that from information he received he apprehended the prisoners on Monday last, about 150 yards from the Police Station. He searched the prisoners, but was unable to find any of the stolen property about them.

Mr Welford, speaking on behalf of the prisoners, explained that about 11·15 p.m. on Friday last, they went to the prosecutrix's house, and the magistrates would gather for what purpose from his cross-examination. They knocked at the door and it was opened by the prosecutrix, who asked them to enter. They remained inside a short time, when a rap came to the door. When the prisoners opened it the prosecutrix ran out into the street, and never returned again. They remained about an hour, when they left and went home. Both prisoners emphatically denied any knowledge of the brooches, chains, or lockets. Mr Welford then called

Mrs Hogg, who alleged that she had caught her husband in Mrs Hagan's house on several occasions and that he had been sleeping with the prosecutrix for some time. She had been the means of seperating witness from her husband.

Mr Welford, at this point, asked the Bench if it was necessary to call any more witnesses, and the Chairman thought it was useless hearing further evidence.

The prisoners were committed for trial at the forthcoming Assizes.

Mr Welford applied for bail, but the magistrates declined to grant it, as they said the Assizes would be held shortly; and it might appear that there were some extenuating circumstances if the prisoners were allowed bail.

SERIOUS RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR CONSETT.

TWO PERSONS INJURED.

A mineral train ran into a snowdrift on the Consett branch of the North-Eastern Railway yesterday (Thursday) morning, between Consett and Tow Law. The train being a heavy one, it had an engine behind as well in front. The front engine buried itself in the drift, but the men in charge escaped unhurt. The engine in the rear telescoped many of the trucks, threw nearly all of them off the line, and the driver and fireman were both badly hurt. The line was soon afterwards cleared, and the last train from Consett which runs through to Darlington arrived at that place half-an-hour late. The workmen are keeping a close surveillence on that portion of the line.

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.*

DR. BOLTON AND THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I see that in your last week's *Guardian* that at a meeting of the Consett Local Board, held on Wednesday last, mention is made of my complaint to the Board of Guardians, respecting the room I had to vaccinate in. The one previously used by me being taken up by the County Court officials. I had then to remove to a room below, soon it was occupied by the Clerk to the Local Board.

The Vaccination Officer then pointed out to me the present room, which I found was little better than a pantry. When I last vaccinated there in October it was damp, close, and quite unfit for public vaccination.

The Clerk is under a mistake when he says that I had my closet removed into the ante-room, as he terms it, for such is not the case.—I remain, sir, yours faithfully,

W. T. BOBSON.

Ebchester Hill, Dec. 14th, 1882.

THOMAS O. MOIR,
(Late MURRAY'S),
LIVERY STABLES, CONSETT.
CONVEYANCES of all descriptions on hire. Hearse, Mourning Coaches, and Mourning supplied on the shortest Notice.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BLANCHLAND.—Coat House, 12th inst., the wife of Richard Johnson, of a son.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—Shakespeare Square, 9th inst., aged 58, Betty, wife of William Waugh.

HEBBUCK, near Consett, 12th inst., aged 36, Dorothy, wife of Mr Henry Oliver.

CASTLESIDE.—13th inst., aged 2 years and 4 months, Rebecca, daughter of William and Margaret Bainbridge.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY, 9th inst., aged 67, Margaret Anderson.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—No. 32, Clavering Place, on the 13th inst., aged 65, Thomas Temperley. To be interred at Lanchester, at 3 p.m., on Saturday, the 16th. Friends please accept this the only intimation.

TANFIELD LEA.—On the 12th inst., aged 63, Isabella Blenkinsop, widow of the late Thomas Blenkinsop.

WEST STANLEY.—21st ult., Mr Francis Elliot, late of Coxhoe, aged 69.

LEAVENWORTH, Kansas, U.S., on the 25th ult., aged 71 years, Mr Thomas Atkinson, for many years at Job's Hill Colliery, and lately of Sunniside.

PELTON.—11th inst., Mr Augustine Wheldon, in his 83rd year.

WHICKHAM.—On the 10th inst., aged 74, Walter Johnston.—On the 8th inst., aged 45, John Weightman.

WOLSINGHAM.—Queen's Head Inn, 4th inst., aged 45, Elizabeth, wife of Mr Thomas Ord.

BLAYDON.—On the 11th inst., in his 63rd year, Joseph Bates.

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MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE, GRANITE AND STONE,
HIGH LEVEL WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
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an ADV[E...]
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WANTED a servant... herself generally... Apply to THOMAS CARTE...
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NOTICE to Memb... Co-operative Soci... Dipton Branch, an APP... Department.—Applications... Room, on Tuesday Nigh... Seven o'clock.
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