question, condemning the confiscations of , and the unjust retaining of ill-gotten by the present cruel landaucracy of Ireland, h he proposed the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McNally, and carried prolonged cheering:—"That this meeting its gratitude to the promoters of the Irish gue for the zeal they have displayed in the long-existing wrongs of the Irish farmers before the United Kingdom; and, that we protest against the conduct of of Justice May for using expressions pre- o a fair trial being given to Mr. Parnell colleagues. Moreover, we wish to express e that, out of respect to the dignity of the , our Government will not tolerate a judge ert in the forthcoming State Trials, after ility of doing that which would disqualify ary individual from sitting on a common On the motion of Mr. P. Coyle, seconded E. McCann, it was decided to forward a the above resolution to the Hon. W. E. e.—It was also unanimously agreed to es- branch of the Land League at Consett, purpose a meeting will be held on the t.—After hearty votes of thanks to the , collectors, and subscribers, one of the portant and enthusiastic meetings ever held district was brought to a close. The people d cheering for Parnell, the Land League, Ireland.

Markets.

ASTLE CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—Our farmers of wheat have been small to-day, and little coast, but a good arrival of American, most of owever, went direct to millers. There was a ling in the trade than last week, and, although all business was done, prices were the turn r fine samples of foreign, secondary and English changed. Barley very dull, and all but the best . Maize, beans, and peas slow at less money. to 6d cheaper. Flour rather easier.

ASTLE CATTLE MARKET, Tuesday.—At this arket the arrivals from a distance consisted of of cattle from Aberdeen and the counties of the st coast of Scotland; and 341 beasts from Ire- The show of stock presented for sale exhibited e of 177 beasts, and 1,380 sheep as compared st of last week. Respecting quality, whether be the principal market of the festive season or re was an excellent and useful supply of home- ttle, with a total absence of over-feeding. Owing ate stormy weather, there were no foreign cattle , and only one cargo has arrived at the Sana- while sheep were a middling display. The supply comprised 1,674 head. This has been one of the fficult markets to report that was ever held in ttle. The Christmas Market being announced nday, the stress of weather at sea preventing eign cattle (about 300 head) from coming to hand, most important markets and sales being held this will have a tendency to deprive our annual show ovine race of many of its attractions; but, be it may, sales were very irregular to-day, and with a fair good finish made about 3d per stone money, but most other sorts, more especially bul- ed slowly at about late rates, with a slow, dull The number of sheep was 4,460. The mutton was in an unusually active state at extreme cur- . Pigs—846 were shown, against 1,468 in the onding week of last year. Trade was in an active t fully late rates. The day was pleasant, though y cold for holding the market, and the weather is and sunny, with a settled aspect. Prices for this aking offal, are as follows:—

, prime heifers, per stone	9s 6d to 9s 9d
ary sorts	6s 3d .. 7s 3d
class oxen	9s 0d .. 9s 3d
ing	6s 6d .. 7s 0d
and inferior	5s 6d .. 6s 6d
	6s 6d .. 9s 6d
(good vendable wedders) per lb ..	9½d .. 10d
ing	8½d .. 9d

WCASTLE HAY AND STRAW, Tuesday.—Old land £4 0s 0d to £6 0s; this year's growth, £3 0s to 0d; new land hay, £5 0s to £7 0s; this year's h, £3 10s to £6 0s; clover hay, £3 10s to £4 10s per wheat straw, 1s 4d to 1s 9d; barley straw, 1s 3d 5d; oat straw, 1s 5d to 1s 8d per thrave. Carts of at market, 132; carts of straw, 37.

Correspondence.

C. F. COOKE'S
OCERY AND DRAPERY WAREHOUSE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

December 7th, 1880.

AR SIR,—My anonymous Friend sends me the ed as a COMPANION to the Poetic Testi- al of November. Will you kindly convey appreciation to this unknown kind writer, through next issue; also, wishing the realisation of this Acrostic to all my Friends.—Yours truly,

C. F. COOKE.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS unto you,
M y friends and neighbours all;
E re with this year you bid adieu
R esolve on COOKE to call.
R oam where you will, go where you may,
Y ou'll find none can excel
C OOKE's famous Shop; while every day
H is praise the people tell;
R eplete with Goods for winter use
I n each Department now,
S o all my friends I would induce
T o go these Goods to view.
M ay this New Year to one and all
A happy New Year be!
S uccess attend on every call
We make on C. F. C.

R. COOKE.—Enclosed is a copy of a few lines ing an Acrostic, the first letter in each line when together forming the words "A Merry Christmas." thank you very much for the encomium you tendered although I was surprised to see my humble produ- in the columns of the *Consett Guardian*.—Wishing to preserve my incognito, I remain, yours, &c.,

A WELLWISHER.

GEORGE HOPE,
SCULPTOR, GENERAL CARVER, AND MARBLE MASON,
THE LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.
MONUMENTS, Tombs, Headstones, and Tables erected in Marble, Stone, or Granite. Inscriptions neatly executed. 849n

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

LENDALE COTTAGES—On the 11th inst., the wife of James Drummond, of a son

MARRIAGES.

CHESTER—At the Register Office, on the 11th inst., Mr. G. Robson, Ebchester, to Miss S. England, of Derwent Cote.—At the same place, on the same day, Mr. R. Savage, to Mrs. M. E. Jones, both of Con- sett.—At the same place, on the same day, Mr. C. Bernie, Westwood Cottages, to Miss M. Carr, Eb- chester.—At the same place, on the same day, Mr. C. Anderson, to Miss M. A. Robson, both of Lead- gate.—At the same place, on the 16th inst., Mr. W. Wigham, to Miss H. Telford, both of Blackhill.— At the same place, on the same day, Miss C Telford, both of Blackhill.

DEATHS.

NSETT—At 11, Shakespeare Street, on the 14th inst., aged 11 weeks, George, the beloved son of Edward and Elisabeth Routledge.
At No. 4, Sherburn Terrace, on the 12th inst., Maria, wife of John Chandler, aged 28 years.

ROBERT BEALL,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE, GRANITE, AND STONE,
HIGH LEVEL WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Special Designs and Estimates on application. Inscriptions cut in Town or Country. 510o

Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at the Atmospheric Printing Works, Front Street, Consett, Friday, Dec. 17th, 1880.

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 1,060. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, December 24th, 1880. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

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

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

BISHOP AUCKLAND EQUITABLE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

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

THE DIRECTORS are prepared to RECEIVE LOANS of FIVE POUNDS and upwards, at 5 per cent. interest, payable Half-yearly.
ADVANCES made and Shares entered at any time.
THE ENTRANCE FEES are abolished.
THE REPAYMENT of an Advance on Mortgage of £100 is 15s. per Month, [or £9 per Annum, which covers Interest and Redemption.
PROFITS divided equitably amongst Members.
WM. V. THOMPSON, Secretary.
Offices: 25, Market-place, Bishop Auckland. 608n

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!!

A PRESENT to each Purchaser of our GUINEA GOLD RING.
F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 318s

JOSEPH WILKINSON,
BONESETTER AND TEETH-EXTRACTER,
KYO. 568o

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, without first obtaining the said Company's permission, will be prosecuted according to Law.
By order of the Directors,
August 21st, 1875. M RICHLEY, Secretary.

THE
WONDERFUL LUCKY BAG,
ONE PENNY EACH,
At ROBERT JACKSON'S, "Guardian" Office
Front Street, and
☞ 9 and 10, NEWMARKET STREET, Consett.

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

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

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

SMITH'S DIARIES FOR 1881
ARE NOW READY, AND TO BE OBTAINED AT
ROBERT JACKSON'S
STATIONERY WAREHOUSE, 9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. 629o

VENETIAN BLINDS, Wholesale and Retail; Old Blinds Painted, Varnished, or Refitted on the shortest notice; Fittings of every description kept in tock; Lines, Tapes, Pullies, Rollers, Slides, &c. Ladder Tape made in every size, 1½d. per foot, or 4s. per dozen yards, at
G. H. STEWART'S,
VENETIAN BLIND MANUFACTURER,
VENETIAN HOUSE,
1, WESTMORLAND TERRACE, & 2 DUKE ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 602o

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

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

OVERCOATS..........from	£1 5 0 upwards.
SUITS.................. „	1 18 0 „
MOLE TROUSERS.... „	0 10 6 „
LADIES' JACKETS.... „	1 5 0 „

☞ READY-MADE SUITS, 30s. and upwards.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other Building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry must first obtain the consent of the Secretary of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default therefore, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Person will be Prosecuted as the Law directs. The Secretary can be seen daily at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.
By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1870.

Business Announcements.

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

HENRY ROGERS
(Late of Consett),
AUCTIONEER and COMMISSION AGENT, 16, TYNE STREET, BLAYDON. 698n

TISSUE PAPERS
IN ALL COLOURS, SUITABLE FOR DECORATIONS AT CHRISTMAS, EXCEEDINGLY CHEAP, AT
ROBERT JACKSON'S
STATIONERY WAREHOUSE,
9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

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

JAMES FROSDICK,
BILLPOSTER, DISTRIBUTER, AND HOUSE AGENT,
4, ROSE MOUNT, CONSETT.

MRS. CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL, WEAR TERRACE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

THE Three Junior Pupils sent to the late Local Examinations of the University of Durham passed:—Two in honours; one of them in first-class, and gained a prize. Four Pupils passed the last examination of the School of Art. One passed the last Cambridge examination in honours. 277o

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

J. YOUNG,
3, SIEMEN STREET, BLACKHILL,
HAS just received from London a large Assortment of Screen and other PICTURES, OLEOGRAPHS, CENTRES, FIGURES, LANDSCAPES, and SEA VIEWS. Cut out Reliefs of FLOWERS, FIGURES, BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, and ANIMALS. CHROMOS of every kind cheap. 625o

W. H. PLATT & Co.,
Manufacturers of all kinds of
STEAM ENGINE AND PUMP PACKING,
SPECIALLY made for and adapted to Marine, Locomotive, and Stationary Engines, Pumps, &c.
PRICE LISTS and SAMPLES on application to their sole Agent,
STEPHEN DAVISON,
CUSTOM HOUSE CHAMBERS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 443o

WILLIAM NICHOL,
SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER,
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT
(Nine years with Mr. N. BROWN),
BEGS to thank his numerous Customers for their liberal support since he commenced business, and to inform them that he has now on hand several Sets of Silver and Brass-mounted Harness, Riding Saddles and Bridles, Hames Chains, Bits, Spurs, &c., and Cart and Plough Harness. Also, several Sets of Second-hand Harness and Riding Saddles.
Orders from Colliery Owners, Farmers, and others, requiring Work done will be promptly attended to.

Parties Furnishing will do well to Visit
WILLIAM WILKINSON'S
FURNITURE WAREHOUSE,
CATCHGATE,
Where they will find a large and well-assorted Stock of FURNITURE, HARDWARE, PERAMBULATORS, LOOKING GLASSES, CLOCKS, WATCHES, and JEWELLERY, Wholesale and Retail.
A PRESENT to each Purchaser of Half-a-Guinea Wedding Ring.
WASHING and MANGLING MACHINES.
AGENT for MCDOMET and ELLIOTT'S DRILLING MACHINES for Coal and Stone.
HORSE NAILS, Patent and Hard Wrought.
AGENT for HICKMAN and CLIVE'S COFFIN FURNITURE.
FLOCKS, FEATHERS, and RABBIT DOWN always on Hand.
☞ N.B.—A large Assortment of New CRYSTAL, PERISCOPIC, & EUREKA SPECTACLES always on Hand. 181o

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON
TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and SPLITTING MILLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.
Try the EXCELLO HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.
Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.
HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
(Warehouse, Catchgate),
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,
ESTABLISHED 1817.
Agent for the Live-Stock Condiment Company's CHAMPION SPICE, for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Poultry, Game, Stacking Hay &c. 390o

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 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA (the Finest Tea in the world). Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind, as you may direct.
WILLIAM STEWART AND SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES (over 60 Set-up).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.
DINNING AND COOKE, HOT WATER ENGINEERS,
IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

FINEST OLD
VATTED SCOTCH WHISKEY.
Price, 18s. per Gallon. Nett Cash. Supplied in Casks or Cases.
PORTS, SHERRIES, CLARETS, CHAMPAGNES, &c., all from First-class Shippers.
Price List on application to
WM. MILLER, JUN.,
WINE MERCHANT, QUEEN'S HEAD YARD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

J. W. BENSON,
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER
By special warrant
TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
And by Special Appointments to
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, AND H.I.M. THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA,
PRIZE MEDALS—LONDON, DUBLIN, AND PARIS

BENSON'S WATCHES, Of every description, suitable for all climates, From 2 to 200 Guineas. Chronographs, Chronometers, Keyless, Levers, Presentation, Repeaters, Railway Guards', Soldiers', and Workmen's Watches of Extra Strength.

BENSON'S CLOCKS, For Churches, Turrets, or Public Buildings, Dining or Drawing-room, Library, Carriage, Church, Hall, or Shop. PERPETUAL CALENDARS, WIND DIALS, &c. Novelty—"EARLY ENGLISH" CLOCKS In Wood and Ormolu, Decorated with Blue China, Wedgwood, &c., From £5 5s. Made solely by Benson.

BENSON'S GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY, Of every description, in the Richest and Newest Designs, at the Lowest Prices, compatible with good workmanship. Brooches, Bracelets, Necklets, Lockets, Rings, Earrings, &c.; and, also, in Diamonds and Precious Stones.

BENSON'S "Workman's" £5 5s. Silver English Lever. Warranted.
BENSON'S "Everybody's" Silver Watch, £3 3s., with Crystal Glass. Warranted.
BENSON'S Silver and Electro-plate for Race and Athletic Meetings, Presentations, or Household Use, Special Designs and Estimates Free.
BENSON'S New PAMPHLET of WATCHES, the most comprehensive in the WORLD, giving Prices and Illustrations of every kind. Just Published, 2 Stamps.
BENSON'S New PAMPHLET of CLOCKS, the Largest yet Published, with Designs and Prices. Free, 2 Stamps.
BENSON'S New PAMPHLET of JEWELLERY, Illustrated. 2 Stamps.
BENSON'S New PAMPHLET of SILVER and ELECTRO-PLATE, Illustrated. 2 Stamps.
BENSON'S New PAMPHLET of TURRET CLOCKS, Illustrated.
Watches sent Free and Safe by Post. Watches, Clocks, Jewellery and Plate Repaired by Skilled Workmen. Plate, Jewellery, and Watches Exchanged. Clubs, Merchants, and Shipphrs Supplied.
STEAM FACTORY AND CITY SHOW ROOMS—LUDGATE HILL;
WEST-END ESTABLISHMENT—25, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON.
ESTABLISHED 1749.

WINES AND SPIRITS FOR EVERY-DAY USE
Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 220 varieties.

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.
This "SELECTED LIST" of W & A GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS comprises two descriptions only of each class of Wines and Spirits, the first selected on account of its moderate price, and the second for its fine quality combined with greater age.

AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT & LEADGATE
PRICES THE SAME AS AT HEAD ESTABLISHMENTS

WINES		Per Bottle	Per 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 pure Spanish Sherry. 2 years old		1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle C *Pale from Spain* An excellent type of nutty 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 produced. 7 years old		1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A pure full-bodied Wine. 1 year in bottle ..		1/	12/
CLARET Castle C *from France* A fine-flavored and well-matured Medoc Wine		1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A Sparkling dry Champagne ..	Bottles	2/1	25/
	Half-Botts.	1/3	14/6
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Foil* The choicest Wine of the District ..	Bottles	2/6	30/
	Half-Botts.	1/5	17/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 1 A pure Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	Bottles	2/2	26/
	Half-Botts.	1/3	15/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 3 A high class delicate Champagne ..	Bottles	3/6	42/
	Half-Botts.	1/11	23/

SPIRITS	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
GIN Castle UP Highly rectified at W&A Gilbey's own Distillery. 33 per cent. under proof	2/	24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's own Distillery. Strength, proof	2/10	34/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle UP Pure Dublin Whiskey 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle DO Very fine Dublin Whiskey. Strength, proof ..	3/3	39/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle UP Pure Malt Whiskey. 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle SO A high-class Scotch Whiskey. Strength, proof ..	3/3	39/
BRANDY Castle UP Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac 33 under proof	2/6	30/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac Proof ..	3/6	42/
COGNAC Castle D An excellent Cognac Brandy of fine flavor. 33 under proof ..	3/6	42/
COGNAC Castle FO A very fine Champagne Brandy. Strength, proof ..	5/	60/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP A well-matured Jamaica Rum. 33 per cent. under proof..	2/3	27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle JO A very fine Jamaica Rum. Strength, proof ..	3/3	39/
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	2/8	32/

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

SINGLE BOTTLES *Single Bottles of any of W & A Gilbey's 220 varieties of Wines and Spirits can be purchased as samples*
EXPORTATION .. *W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits can be obtained free of duty from their Excise Bonded Warehouses.—For Prices see Special Export List*
PAYMENTS .. .. *In order to give every possible advantage to consumers cash payments are absolutely necessary, as all prices are arranged upon that principle*
COMPLETE LIST *A Complete List of W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits, containing full particulars of 220 varieties, sent free on application*

Business Announcements.

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.
VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legac 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.

ESTABLISHED 1778.

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

JOHN 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. 384o

RE J. RAMSDEN AND Co.,
OF
LOW STREET, KEIGHLEY, YORKSHIRE
BANKRUPTS.

THE
LONDON AND NEWCASTLE TRADING COMPANY
69 AND 71, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE,
HAVE been declared the purchasers (through J. M. WINTER, Esq., Accountant, of Newcastle), of the above Bankrupts' Stock, amounting at cost to £1,283 19s. 9d., at the large Discount of 38½ per cent from Cost Price. This Stock, which is clean and in good condition, and consisting of Rich and Fashionable Goods, will be prepared and offered for immediate Sale, to which they invite the personal attention of the public of Newcastle and District, as some astounding Bargains will be offered in every department.

ABSTRACT OF STOCK.

	£	s.	d.
Dress Goods	162	2	7
Wool and Union Shirtings	31	11	10
Flannels and Blankets	130	5	5
Hosiery, Corsets, and Gloves	101	9	0
Laces and Trimmings	84	17	4
Furs	46	11	3
Ribbons	40	5	5
Silks, Velvets, and Velveteens	54	12	0
Shawls and Wool Squares	24	9	1
Skirts	15	6	4
Jackets, Mantles, and Ulsters	311	4	5
Costumes	81	7	2
Men's Mercery	26	6	2
Millinery	149	8	9
Woollen Cloths	24	3	0
	£1,283	19	9

SALE ON SATURDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, TO CONTINUE FOR 14 DAYS ONLY.

☞ DRESSMAKING ON THE PREMISES. ☜

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
69 AND 71, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
(In connection with the London and Newcastle Tea Company).
726o

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND CATCHGATE,
HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 673o

The Consett Guardian.

RISING MEN.

Although the world is said to know nothing of its greatest men, it can discern with tolerable clearness those who are in the way of achieving greatness. And it is a pleasure to observe statesmen and politicians rising step by step to an eminence which shall make them famous for all time. There are men—happily not a few—who are showing this tendency at the present day in a somewhat remarkable manner. Sir Charles Dilke is one of them. Not so very long since he was what is termed a very advanced thinker. Politicians of the old-fashioned type tabooed him because of his extremely Radical opinions. He was not only a Liberal in the widest sense of the word as understood in this country, but he had been even rash enough to praise a Republican form of government, and there was no institution, however time-honoured, which he was not prepared to attack. Did he not go in strongly against decayed corporations? was he not ever seeking out schemes in order to expose them? Yet he is now an Under Secretary of State, and seems destined in time for high ministerial office. If the transition is somewhat surprising, it is not of the kind to displease. Sir Charles has shown himself to be a statesman of no mean order. Nor is there any reason for supposing his wisdom has come with responsibility. Suffice it that he knows how to conduct a department as well as those who have been trained to office, and whose traditional aptitude has conferred on them the title of "Heaven-born Ministers." Sir Charles Dilke, moreover, is not alone in his glory. He is only one of several, though perhaps he may give a tone to others of whom it is possible to speak in the same terms of commendation. Mr. Mundella was a politician like Sir Charles Dilke of a very advanced school. He represented one of the most Radical towns in the kingdom. He was always supposed to be more in favour of pulling down than of building up, and it was said that his genius was confined to readiness of speech. He is no sooner in office, however, than he shows that administration is as much his forte as eloquence. The Education Department under his guidence is already reviving from the stupor into which it was cast by the soporific tendences of the previous Government. The country feels it is once more on the track of progress, and that whatever is practicable will be well carried out by the Vice-President of the Council. Mr. Chamberlain is another instance of falsified predictions; for, instead of wild and theoretical propositions, he has succeeded in carrying during his short period in office the Fees and Expenses Bill, the Grain Cargoes Bill, and the Merchant Seamen's Payment of Wages Bill. He may be safely entrusted to deal with other subjects, which are ripe for legislation, and which will, naturally, come under his supervision. In truth, the junior member for Birmingham, like the others we have named, is daily improving as an administrator, and preparing himself for a much higher position. Then, we have a decidedly rising man in Mr. Fawcett, whose transformation from a dreamy enthusiast to a statesman of real ability is little short of marvellous. He had studied Indian affairs, though few knew whether his ideas were practical or visionary. He was an intelligent exponent of certain principles of Political Economy, but as no one ever supposed he would make his work within a few short months in so prosaic a department as the Post Office. We have only space to mention Mr. Trevelyan and Mr. Grant Duff. These with the individuals we have mentioned are experimental administrators; but they are fully justifying the selection of the Premier. The country may derive satisfaction from their success; for a new stratum has been hit upon, and it may now be safely predicted that, whatever losses may be sustained by the removal of the older stock of statesmen, we have plenty of good men and true fit to fill their places.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

Was he a wag who invented the thought of assembling Parliament on old Christmas Day? A merry Christmas in Ireland is alas! this year out of the question, so unless we suppose Mr. Gladstone incapable of joke how are we to explain his closing Twelfth night for his next message of peace to the sister island? Perhaps the best jokes are the *impromptus*—which come out by accident, like some which I once heard in a husband and wife's quarrel over a canary bird, whether the cage was to be hung up in the window or not. After several shiftings of the poor bird from one window to the other some one burst out with the joke that this was "Bird Cage Walk." The punster confessed that he blundered into it. Has our Premier in the same way stumbled into a joke, or, as a very great number of thoughtful people in this country of every shade of political opinion hope, has he really proved himself equal to the critical situation, and will he have when Parliament meets a genuine, statesmanlike message of good-will and peace as well for the unfortunate landowners in Ireland as the misguided people who set laws human and divine at defiance. It is certain that something far wiser than the counsels of such firebrands as Mr. Lowther will be needed in order to carry the olive branch into the disturbed regions of the sister isle. In gathering round the Christmas fire this year probably we have stronger reason to cultivate the Christ-like attributes of Charity than during many years past. Special laws will unquestionably be needed to deal with the great political difficulty of the day. On the one hand justice must be supported with firmness, but on the other a caution is not beside the mark, lest the outrages which have shocked every honest-minded man should engender a vindictive spirit of hopeless revenge.

It seems somewhat difficult to realise that before I write my next week's letter Christmas-day will have come and gone; for though there are many signs of the coming festival obvious to the observant, an inattentive person might pass through London without noticing anything unusual in its aspect. For one thing, we have missed this year the heralding of Christmas by a considerable spell of "seasonable weather," which often, as last year, serves as a continuous reminder of the coming feast. Except for the shortening of the days the meteorological conditions surrounding us might have passed up till now for those of early November, or even October. Some people, with hardy constitutions and with all creature comforts surrounding them, have indulged in mild grumbling at the unseasonably genial weather, which only on a few days has even been made unpleasant by winter rain; but there can be no doubt that the unusual geniality of this December has prevented an immense amount of physical suffering among the poorer classes of London. Not only has out-door work gone on unimpeded, but people limited to scanty diet, thin clothing, and little fuel have not felt the same pinches of want as they do in a hard frost. And it should be considered that there are thousands of such people always to be found in London, however good trade may be in a general way. As a sign of the present favourable condition of the Metropolitan poor, I may state that I have only noticed one gang of men singing about the streets lately, and they looked more like a company of casual paupers trading on seasonable feelings than like labouring men out of work.

Through the meeting of Parliament being fixed for the closing days of the Christmas holidays, we have more West End people in Town to keep Christmas than would otherwise be here; and this, of course, must give a certain stimulus to Metropolitan trade; but, independently of this fillip, which will chiefly effect West End tradesmen, I fancy the general run of shopkeepers will have little reason to complain of the season's takings—though they always do complain, simply because their own sanguine expectations are not entirely satisfied. In such shops as I have entered the attendants seemed to have quite as much business on hand as they could well attend to, and customers have been overhauling everything that could come under the denomination of Christmas goods. The range of such goods is now very wide here. Of course, it includes most things edible and potable, and naturally people seek the aid of drapers, tailors, milliners, hatters, and such like, to give them a more presentable personal appearance for the holiday season. Then, there are not only the regular booksellers, with Christmas books or numbers of periodicals, but all grades of stationery and fancy shops, with their seasonable cards and other trifles, in which a large trade is now done. By the way, among heaps of pretty souvenirs of the season which have reached me, I cannot refrain from a word of commendation for the beautiful and original designs of Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co., which certainly distance all competitors. The best among them are pretty photographs of Bethlehem decorated with borders of flowers which the botanist may find on the plains of Palestine, and containing well-selected words set to the divine music from Handel's "Messiah." Very appropriate this, and preferable to the silly attempts at versification which make it difficult to select among many otherwise beautiful specimens of typography. Such rather peculiar announcements as "Cristmas Cutlery," "Christmas Travelling Bags," &c., may be seen posted up in shop windows. In fact, every trader whose business can be forced into any plausible relation with the festival tries to make his market out of the spirit of liberal expenditure which characterizes the season. I notice, however, one interesting novelty. Not only wine merchants have been advertising their Christmas Hampers, but some wiser efforts have been made among the friends of Temperance to provide a pleasurable glass which shall not intoxicate, and in which the health of "those whom we love and who love us" may be drunk with impunity. I have seen statistics of thousands of bottles of Zoedone having been sold to meet this social requirement; but the Zoedone which I have tasted supplies a poor insipid beverage after all. Something better was wanted, and it comes to us under the label of "Rubine", in pretty bottles, looking for all the world like Champagne—pleasant to the palate, stimulating and agreeably effervescent. I shall have another word at some convenient time to say for this delectable draught, which will certainly prove a formidable rival to anything of a similar description in the market.

Of course, our market-places are now crowded with supplies especially intended for the season. Such crowds as flock to view that harbinger of a London Christmas, the Cattle Show at Islington, have later gathered to contemplate at Smithfield the carcases of many of the plethoric beasts that excited admiration in the northern suburb, and, notwithstanding that we read of whole lots of turkeys being sold at an enormous sacrifice in Normandy because they would not stand the journey to London in the late wild weather, there seems to have been no lack of specimens of the species—the royalty of poultry—in the London markets, while the goose tribe has been plentifully represented, as usual. Poultry and game seem, in fact, as indispensable nowadays for Christmas feasting in London as is still the traditional roast beef. And by the side of animal food we have rare supplies of the vegetable kind. Covent Garden can furnish, among a multitude of better and more seasonable things, "green peas at Christmas" to those who like to pay for the ill-timed dainty. But the most conspicuous feature at this market is the vast show of Christmas evergreens, which forms, however, only a fraction of the vaster supply that comes in by many waggonloads on market mornings, to be dispersed all over the Metropolis before the greater portion of Londoners are awake in these dark days. It would be interesting to know how many acres of land in various localities are devoted to plantations and nurseries for the Christmas evergreens and Christmas trees consumed, if not required, by London. Even the misletoe is especially cultivated in a wholesale way for the delectation of the youths and maidens in this province of houses. I have never seen more holly boughs and fewer holly berries than this year. The bitter May frost which destroyed the peaches and apricots and carried dismay into the hearts of Devonshire farmers, who saw the hopes of a cider-crop perish in a single night, carried death to the incipient holly berries, and a brisk trade even in Covent Gardens has been done in artificial holly garlands, to provide, however poorly, a substitute for Nature's coral wreaths.

In spite of even the considerable national and political drawbacks which I have mentioned, I have no doubt that Londoners in their way will enjoy the three successive holidays which most of them will obtain through the introduction of Sunday and the consequent keeping of Boxing Day on Monday. And I trust it may be so throughout the country—that hope and confidence in the future will with the new year take the place of anxiety and despondency, and some good feeling be evoked by the festival, even among the disaffected spirits in Ireland. Fain could I wish their mood would change to fit them to enjoy what I heartily wish to you, Mr. Editor, and to all your readers—

A Merry Christmas.

MARY MARSTON,

By GEORGE McDONALD L.L.D.,
Author of "Annals of a Quiet Neighbourhood," "The Seaboard Parish," "Robert Falconer," &c.

CHAPTER VI.—*Continued.*

Tom Helmer had arrived among the first, and had joined the tenants in their feast, faring well, and making friends, such as he knew how to make, with everybody in his vicinity. When the tables were [illegible] and the rest of the company began to [illegible], he went about searching anxiously for Letty's sweet face, but it did not appear; and when she did arrive she stole in without his seeing her, and mingled with the crowd about the door.

It was a pleasant sight that met her eyes. The wide space was gaily illuminated with coloured lamps, disposed on every shelf, and in every crevice of the walls, some of them gleaming like glow-worms out of mere holes; while candles in sconces, and lamps on the window-sills and wherever they could stand, gave a light the more pleasing that it was not brilliant. Over head, the night-sky was spangled with clear pulsing stars, afloat in a limpid blue, vast even to awfulness in the eyes of such—were any such there?—as say to themselves that to those worlds also were they born. Outside, it was dark, save where the light streamed from the great windows far into the night. The moon was not yet up; she would rise in good time to see the scattering guests to their homes.

Tom's heart had been sinking, for he could see Letty nowhere. Now at last, he had been saying to himself all the day, had come his chance! and his chance seemed but to mock him. More than any girl he had ever seen, had Letty moved him—perhaps because she was more unlike his mother. He knew nothing, it is true, or next to nothing, of her nature; but that was of little consequence to one who knew nothing, and never troubled himself to know anything of his own. Was he doomed never to come near his idol?—Ah, there she was! Yes; it was she—all but lost in a humble group near the door! His foolish heart—not foolish in that—gave a great bound, as if it would leap to her where she stood. She was dressed in white muslin, from which her white throat rose warm and soft. Her head was bent forward, and a gentle dissolved smile was over all her face, as with loveliest eyes she watched eagerly the motions of the dance, and her ears drank in the music of the yeomanry band. He seized the first opportunity of getting nearer to her. He had scarcely spoken to her before, but that did not trouble Tom. Even in a more ceremonious assembly, that would never have abashed him; and here there was little form, and much freedom. He had, besides, confidence in his own carriage and manners—which, indeed, were those of a gentleman—and knew himself not likely to repel by his approach.

Mr. Mortimer had opened the dancing by leading out the wife of his principal tenant, a handsome matron, whose behaviour and expression were such as to give a safe, home-like feeling, to the shy and doubtful of the company. But Tom knew better than injure his chance by precipitation; he would wait until the dancing was more general, and the impulse to movement stronger, and then offer himself. He stood therefore near Letty for some little time, talking to everybody, and making himself agreeable, as was his wont, all round; then at last, as if he had just caught sight of her, walked up to her where see stood flushed and eager, and asked her to favour him with her hand in the next dance.

By this time Letty had got familiar with his presence, had recalled her former meeting with him, had heard his name spoken by not a few who evidently liked him, and was quite pleased when he asked her to dance with him.

In the dance, nothing but commonplaces passed between them; but Tom had a certain pleasant way of his own in saying the commonest, emptiest things—an offhand, glancing, skimming, swallow-like way of brushing and leaving a thing, as if he "could an' if he would," which made it seem for the moment as if he had said something: were his companion capable of discovering the illusion, there was no time; Tom was instantly away, carrying him or her with him, to something else. But there was better than this—there was poetry, more than one element of it, in Tom. In the presence of a girl that pleased him, there would rise in him a poetic atmosphere full of a rainbow kind of glamour, which, first possessing himself, passed out from him and called up a similar atmosphere, a similar glamour about many of the girls he talked to. This he could no more help than the grass can help smelling sweet after the rain.

Tom was a finely-projected, well-built, unfinished, barely furnished house, with its great central room empty, where the devil, coming and going at his pleasure, had not yet begun to make any great racket. There might be endless embryonic evil in him, but Letty was aware of no repellant atmosphere about him, and did not shrink from his advances. He pleased her, and why should she not be pleased with him? Was it a fault to be easily pleased? The truer and sweeter any human self, the readier is it to be pleased with another self—save indeed something in it grate on the moral sense: that jars through the whole harmonious hypostasy. To Tom, therefore, Letty responded with smiles and pleasant words, even grateful to such a fine youth for taking notice of her small self.

The sun had set in a bank of cloud, which, as if he had been a lump of leaven to it, immediately began to swell and rise, and now hung dark and thick over the still, warm night. Even the farmers were unobservant of the change: their crops were all in, they had eaten and drunk heartily, and were merry, looking on or sharing in the multiform movement, their eyes filled with light and colour.

Suddenly came a torrent sound in the air, heard of few and heeded by none, and straight into the hall rushed upon the gay company a deluge of rain, mingled with large, half-melted hailstones. In a moment or two scarce a light was left burning, except those in the holes and recesses of the walls. The merrymakers scattered like flies—into the house, into the tower, into the sheds and stables in the court behind, under the trees in front—anywhere out of the hall, where shelter was none from the perpendicular, abandoned downpour.

At the moment, Letty was dancing with Tom, and her hand happened to be in his. He clasped it tight, and, as quickly as the crowd and the confusion of shelter-seeking would permit, led her to the door of the tower already mentioned. But many had run in the same direction, and already its lower storey and stair were crowded with refugees—the elder bemoaning the sudden change, and folding tight around them what poor wraps they were fortunate enough to have retained; the younger merrier than ever, notwithstanding the cold gusts that now poked their spirit arms hither and thither through the open ings of the half-ruinous building: to them even the destruction of their finery was but added cause of laughter. But a few minutes before its freshness had been a keen pleasure to them, brightening their consciousness with a rare feeling of perfection: now crushed and rumpled, soiled and wet and torn, it was still fuel to the fire of gaiety. But tom did not stay among them. He knew the place well: having a turn for scrambling, he had been all over it many a time. On through the crowd, he led Letty up the stair to the first floor. Even here were a few couples talking and laughing in the dark. With a warning, by no means unnecessary, to mind where they stepped, for the floors were bad, he passed on to the next stair.

"Let us stop here, Mr. Helmer," said Letty. "There is plenty of room here."

"I want to show you something," answered Tom. "You need not be frightened. I know every nook of the place."

"I am not frightened," said Letty, and made no further objection.

At the top of that stair they entered a straight passage, in the middle of which was a faint glimmer of light from an oval aperture in the side of it. Thither Tom led Letty, and told her to look through. She did so.

Beneath lay the great gulf, wide and deep, of the hall they had just left. This was the little window, high in its gable, through which, in faraway times, the lord or lady of the mansion could oversee at will whatever went on below.

The rain had ceased as suddenly as it came on, and already lights were moving about in the darkness of the abyss—one, and another, and another, was searching for something lost in the hurry of the scattering. It was a waste and dismal show. Neither of them had read Dante; but Letty may have thought of the hall of Belshazzar, the night after the hand-haunted revel, when the Medes had had their will; for she had but lately read the story. A strange fear came upon her, and she drew back with a shudder.

"Are you cold?" said Tom. "Of course you must be, with nothing but that thin muslin! Shall I run down and get you a shawl?"

"Oh, no! do not leave me, please. It's not that," answered Letty. "I don't mind the wind a bit; it's rather pleasant. It's only that the look of the place makes me miserable, I think. It looks as if no one had danced there for a hundred years."

"Neither anyone has, I suppose, till to-night," said Tom. "What a fine place it would be if only it had a roof to it! I can't think how anyone can live beside it and leave it like that!"

But Tom lived a good deal closer to a worse ruin, and never spent a thought on it.

Letty shivered again.

"I am quite ashamed of myself," she said, trying to speak cheerfully. "I can't think why I should feel like this—just as if something dreadful were watching me! I'll go home, Mr. Helmer."

"It will be much the safest thing to do: I fear you have indeed caught cold," replied Tom, rejoiced at the chance of accompanying her. "I shall be delighted to see you safe."

"There is not the least occasion for that, thank you," answered Letty. "I have an old servant of my aunt's with me—somewhere about the place. The storm is quite over now: I will go and find her."

Tom made no objection, but helped her down the dark stair, hoping, however, the servant might not be found.

As they went, Letty seemed to herself to be walking in some old dream of change and desertion. The tower was empty as a monument, not a trace of the crowd left which a few minutos before had thronged it. The wind had risen in earnest now, and was rushing about like a cold wild ghost, through every cranny of the desolate place. Had Letty, when she reached the bottom of the stairs found herself on the rocks of the seashore, with the waves dashing up against them, she would only have said to herself, "I knew I was in a dream!" But the wind having blown away the hail-cloud, the stars were again shining down into the hall. One or two forlorn-looking searchers were still there; the rest had scattered like the gnats. A few were already at home; some were harnessing their horses to go, nor would wait for the man in the moon to light his lanthorn; some were already trudging on foot through the dark. Hesper and Miss Yolland were talking to two or three friends in the drawing-room; Lady Margaret was in her boudoir, and Mr. Mortimer smoking a cigar in his study.

Nowhere could Letty find Susan. She was in the farmer's kitchen behind. Tom suspected as much, but was far from hinting the possibility. Letty found her cloak, which she had left in the hall, soaked with rain, and thought it prudent to go home at once, nor prosecute her search for Susan farther. She accepted, therefore, Tom's renewed offer of his company.

They were just leaving the hall when a thought came to Letty: the moon suddenly appearing above the horizon had put it into her head.

"Oh," she cried, "I know quite a short way home!" and, without waiting any response from her companion, she turned and led him in an opposite direction, round, namely, by the back of the court, into a field. There she made for a huge oak, which gloomed in the moonlight, by the sunk fence parting the grounds. In the slow strength of its growth, by the rounding of its bole and the spreading of its roots, it had so rent and crumbled the wall as to make through it a little ravine, leading to the top of the haha. When they reached it, before even Tom saw it, Letty turned from him and was up in a moment. At the top she turned to bid him good night, but there he was, close behind her, insisting on seeing her safe to the house!

"Is this the way you always come?" asked Tom.

"I never was on Durnmelling land before," answered Letty.

"How did you find the short-cut, then?" he asked. "It certainly does not look as if it were much used."

"Of course not," replied Letty. "There is no communication between Durnmelling and Thornwick now. It was all ours once, though, Cousin Godfrey says. Did you notice how the great oak sends its biggest arm over our field?"

"Yes."

"Well, I often sit there under it, when I want to learn my lesson, and can't rest in the house; and, that's how I know of the crack in the haha."

She said it in absolute innocence, but Tom laid it up in his mind.

"Are you at lessons still?" he said, "Have you a governess?"

"No," she answered, in a tone of amusement. "But Cousin Godfrey teaches me many things."

This made Tom thoughtful; and little more had been said, when they reached the gate of the yard behind the house, and she would not let him go a step farther.

(To be continued.)

TELEPHONIC PROGRESS IN DURHAM.

Several months ago Messrs. Ferens and Love, colliery proprietors, of this city, had telephonic communication established between their colliery offices at Cornsay (a distance of about ten miles) and their central office in the Market Place, in Durham; and as, for a length of a mile or two, their wire is one of a large number forming the underground cable of the Postal Telegraph Department, the continued success of this telephonic line has been watched with considerable interest for some months by electricians and others in the neighbourhood, more especially as many doubts were frequently expressed by competent authorities and experts respecting its working, in consequence of induction and interruption from the adjacent wires underground as well as overhead. The complete telephonic apparatus was specially arranged, supplied, and fitted for Messrs. Ferens and Love by Messrs. Harrison and Cox-Walker, of Darlington; and they used for the purpose Hemming's micro-telephone transmitter, by which the speaking power of the instruments is much increased. The complete success which has attended this experimental line is undoubted, and Messrs. Ferens and Love speak of the convenience and excellent performance of the instruments in the highest terms. In proof of their satisfaction they commissioned Messrs. Harrison, Cox-Walker, and Co., a few weeks ago to extend telephonic communication, by means of similar instruments, to their Honghall and Shincliffe Collieries. This was completed on Saturday last, and the speaking from the Durham office to both these collieries (Honghall being an intermediate office on the line) is both loud and clear. There can be no doubt of the great value and convenience of such verbal communication between the central offices and the collieries themselves, and the extensive use of this telephone for the purpose seems imminent.

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A CHRISTMAS LOVE.

BY GEO. MANVILLE FENN.

Chapter I.

THE COMING OF MARS.

"Christmas indeed! Marry, a pretty sort of a Christmas No feasting or junketings, but sword drawing and blood letting and shooting with arquebus and culverin."

"And no time for a bit of courting or saying soft words."

"Courting? Soft words, Andrew? Nay there'll be no more of that. It seems to me that the country's cursed, and we shall have no more of the happy old Christmas times."

"Why not, Pru?"

"Why not, man!" said Prudence, scornfully. "How can there be, with the master taking one side, and the mistress another, and Miss Letty looking pale and white because her brother's away amongst the dangers? I never go to bed at night without dreaming that master Charles is brought home stiff and stark and the snow ruddy with his blood. There, go to, and bring in plenty of wood, man. Let's have a good fire if we can have no other cheer."

"Give a lad a kind look first, Pru," said Andrew beseechingly.

"Kind look? Not I, Andrew. Wait till there's peace in the land and then I'll talk."

I was not playing the eavesdropper, but I could not help hearing these words, spoken beneath my window, and they were so true that they seemed to burn into my brain. For the happy days of the past had indeed seemed to be passed away, and in my girlish fashion I used to add to my prayers every night a short thanksgiving that I had neither lover nor husband dragged from me to the wars.

I used to pray like this because Grace Noble, my dear friend, and girlhood's companion, had been betrothed a year before, just at the Christmas feasting, and after a year's courting she and her brave handsome lover were to be wed.

Nine months later he was carried home to die, shot through the breast by one of Cromwell's Ironsides, and he never spoke again.

It was now Christmas Eve, and from my window the country looked very lovely clothed as it was in purest white, with the sun glittering from millions of crystals, and flashing from our great mere as from the polished breastplate of some cavalier.

It was very beautiful, I thought, but as the idea occurred to me that the wind-swept-ice upon the lake resembled the chilly steel, I shuddered and recalled our maiden Prudence's words about my brother, when, perhaps it was only the sun caused it, but my eyes seemed to become blurred, and I could see blood-red spots upon the glistening snow.

"But Charles is too brave and strong," I said to myself. "He will come to no harm."

The words brought me no comfort, so I descended sighing heavily, and feeling the next moment how the unhappy civil war had cast its shadow upon every home, for as I entered the old parlour there stood my father by the great glowing fire, while my mother, with compressed lips, was by the table.

I knew that he would say it, for there was a laughing pucker about the corners of his eyes as he glanced at me, and then kissed me tenderly, and he always looked at me like that, after he and my mother had had words.

By having words, I do not mean that they had had a quarrel, for they loved one another with a true husband and wifely love. My dear father was as proud of my mother's upright bearing, and smooth white brow, as she was of his handsome, manly face, and bluff, hot-tempered ways. The words they had had were on political matters, for in these evil days too many families were divided, even as was ours by my brother Charles Nugent siding with the Parliamentarians, and becoming one of their leading captains in a regiment of horse, while my father was a staunch adherent of the king.

"And to think that my only son—a grown man, bearing his royal master's name, should have taken the side of the crop-eared, psalm-singing, canting knaves!" said my father, drawing me close to his side, while my mother drew herself up.

"Not his master," said my mother quietly. "My son Charles is the servant of the Parliament."

"Your son, eh?" said my father maliciously. "Well, I'm glad you've laid sole claim to the rebellious dog. Bah! I'm ashamed of him."

My mother shook her head quietly, as my father glanced at her sidewise.

"Letty, my child," he said, patting my cheek, "you're a true royalist after all. Ah," he continued, passing his hand over his closely cut hair, "You ought to be ashamed of your mean, pusillanimous father, who had not the strength of mind to hold to his opinions."

"On the contrary," said my mother, "our child——"

"Oh, this is our child, is it?" said my father, laughingly, "I am allowed a share in Letty. Thank you, madam."

"Our child, Letitia," continued my mother, in a quiet measured tone of voice, "is very proud of her noble minded father,"—she glanced lovingly at him as she spoke—"proud because in these unhappy times he curbed his own will and desires, and spared his home from desolation by refraining from taking a side which he knew was wrong and opposed to the principles of his brave and gallant son."

"No, she is not," cried my father, giving me a squeeze, "she is ashamed of him for being so weak as to let himself be talked into having his ears cropped by his wife and his [illegible] bigoted boy."

"What will [illegible] have for breakfast, father dear?" I said kissing him, and glancing laughingly at my mother as I whispered in his ear "God save the King!"

"Hurrah! God save the King! Well done Letty. What a house this would be if it were not for my little staunch Royalist. What will I have for breakfast, Letty? Why the chine, my darling, and the remains of those quacking Puritan knaves of wild ducks, I shot on the frozen mere. Your mother spoiled my appetite child, you have given it to me back."

Five minutes later we were in our places at the breakfast table, and my father stood up and said the customary grace, finishing off with an addition of his own invention which he always added when he wished to tease my mother.

"For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly thankful; and starve and bring all snuffling crop-eared knaves to perdition evermore. Amen."

My mother frowned but said nothing, while my father, now all smiles, took his plate of cold chine cut by mother's hand, and then proceeded to refresh himself with a draught of our own home-brewed ale.

"Regular sharp, seasonable weather," said my father, as he glanced through the lattice window at the open country, white with the heavy fall of snow of the past night, lying heavy on the trees, and bearing them to the earth, while the frost-tamed birds as they flitted about, shook the white powdery crystals from the boughs till they fell in little showers, sparkling in the sunshine like tiny gems.

"Yes, most seasonable for Christmas," said my mother, beaming now, and heaping a hot plate with crisp brown ham, and golden eggs, which she herself took round to my father, placing it before him, and pressing his hand in the act.

"Thanks, Madge," he said, smiling in reply, as she resumed her place. "But Christmas! Bah! who's going to keep Christmas in such sorry times when thousands of good men and true are starving and being hunted through the country. Who's to keep Christmas now?"

"We shall," said my mother quietly, "a right good festive Christmas, I hope."

"Without company," said my father, gazing into the bottom of the silver-mounted horn from which he drank his ale.

"Nay," said my mother, "Parson is coming, and pretty mistress Ann Bickerstaff, and there are the two maidens, her cousins."

"All cheese and no bread," said my father. "Heigho! All the lads are fighting, hunted, or slain."

"Nay, nay," said my mother, smiling at me, "Master Edward Falkner is asked."

"Hang him!" cried my father, banging the table with his fist. "He wants my Letty, and she don't care a fig for him I'll be sworn."

"We shall see," said my mother quietly, as I felt the colour rise to my cheeks, not that I cared for Master Falkner, but because my name was brought into the conversation.

"If he comes I'll make him drink the king's health," growled my father.

"Nay, love," said my mother; thou art too much of a gentleman to insult thy guests."

I could not help smiling at the vicious manner in which my father acknowledged his defeat by cutting and stabbing the great loaf.

"And I have," continued my mother, with the glow of

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pleasure brightening her cheeks and eyes," some hope that Captain Nugent, whose regiment was to be at Rye about this time, will ride over and spend a few days in his old home."

"Hope he will not," said my father angrily, but with a merry twinkle in his eyes as he glanced at me. "I don't want the scapegrace here. If Charley chooses to be a Roundhead, let him keep away from his loyal father."

But my mother was not going to be tempted into another discussion that morning. She only said:

"No one will be more pleased to see our brave boy than you, James. Poor fellow, I hope he will soon be here. Yes, Pru, what is it?" She continued in her quiet grave voice, as buxom mistress Prudence came bustling in.

"Soldiers, madam—dragoons on horseback. A great red-faced roystering captain, and ten men coming up to the door."

My father uttered an expletive which my mother tried to cover by saying hastily:

"Indeed, Pru! I did not hear them coming."

"Snow's too deep," said my father, as the snort of a horse, and the jingle of spurs was heard. "What do they want here?"

"Rest—refreshment—forage, and the malignant who has taken refuge somewhere here," said a deep, rough voice; and a great heavy-looking weather-tanned man with closely cropped hair, and shaven face came swaggering in.

He was dressed in buff jerkin, with steel morion and breastplate, while great jack boots came nearly to his hips; and he looked from one to the other with an insolent leer, his bold eyes resting longest upon me.

"Ah, just ready," he continued rudely, as, approaching the table, he took my father's freshly filled horn of ale and nodded familiarly at my mother and me. "Your health, my dears," he said tossing down the ale. "That's better," he continued as he thrust first one and then the other of his snowy boots close to the blaze and made them hiss.

My father's face flushed, and he glanced angrily at my mother, as the visitor turned his back to us, drew off his great gauntlet gloves, and threw them in the high-backed fireside chair, while at the same moment shadows passing the window proved to be those of horsemen going round the house.

"Whose house is this?" said our visitor, insolently, after a few moments pause, as he faced round and gazed full into the resentment-flushed countenance of my father.

"Mine," said my father, sternly, "as it was my forefathers' before me."

"Then it is going to be mine now," said our visitor brutally; and then with a coarse low laugh, "with your wife, and your man-servant, and your maid-servant, your ox and your ass, and every thing that is yours. Why, ha, ha, ha! I left out my pretty young mistress here. Fill up that ale flagon girl. Look here," he continued, "we have traced here the footprints of an enemy of the Lord and the great Protector. We followed the steps last night on to your land, and then lost our way in the darkness. This morning they were covered by the snow. Now then, where is the malignant? Bring him out, for concealment will be in vain. My men have surrounded the house, and will shoot down any one they see attempt to run."

"Sir," said my mother, checking my father by a look, as he was about to burst into a passionate exclamation, "you have left the door open. It is very cold."

She stood pointing towards the door, and the man burst into a coarse laugh; but as she stood erect and fixed her beautiful eyes upon him, he ceased laughing, hesitated, and finally crossing the room, gave the door a kick which sent it close with a loud bang, when he returned muttering something about obliging ladies.

"Stop though," he exclaimed roughly; "is this some ruse? Speak, where is the malignant."

"This is the house of Master James Nugent," said my mother, with dignity. "Captain Charles Nugent, of whom you may have heard, sir, is our son. We should not harbour rebels against the State."

The man uttered a long low whistle, and stared uneasily from one to the other.

"Well, Mistress Nugent, whether you would harbour him or not, the rebel has taken refuge here or in this neighbourhood and we must search."

"Search if you think it necessary," said my mother calmly. "As our son is a soldier, any of his comrades should be welcome here. Will you be seated sir, and break your fast."

Our visitor was evidently a bully at heart, one of those who bluster, and frighten people by their fierce ways. He was ready to insult and bully if not maltreat all those whom he encountered when in authority; and but for the knowledge that ours was the home of a brother officer, who might call him bitterly to account, we should doubtless have fared ill at his hands. My great dread was that my father might be tempted in his anger and annoyance to fiercely resent this insolent intrusion, but my mother's calm dignity, and the cold searching glances she directed at our visitor, seemed to master him entirely, and in a rough but decidedly quieter manner he became somewhat apologetic.

"Breakfast, Mistress Nugent? Yes, I will, and for two of my men as well. We are sharp set. The others you will give a bite and sup to in your kitchen with your buxom wench. But we must first make our search, or the malignant may be taking flight while we refresh the the inner man. Ladies," he continued pompously, as with a bombastic swagger he made for the door, "have no fear. You shall not be harmed."

"God save the——."

My father could say no more, for just then my mother laid her hand upon his lips, as the Puritan captain tramped out of the room.

CHAPTER II.

THE SEARCH FOR THE MALIGNANT.

"I prithee be silent, James," whispered my mother. "Do you wish to do us harm?"

"No, sweetheart," he said, kissing the hand he took from his lips, "or I would have said it in the swash-buckling knave's teeth. A pretty cut-purse canting knave, to come swaggering into an honest gentleman's house! But there they go to search," he continued, as the leader and several men passed the window, holding their horses' bridles in their hands, and evidently about to stable them in one of the outbuildings. "Search, indeed! That means wring fowls' necks, and help themselves to all they can find. I'll go and protect my belongings at all events."

"Nay," said my mother firmly; "thou shalt not go James. You may forget to be prudent, and for our boy's sake, let there be no angry words."

"Well, my Queen of Sheba," he said reluctantly, "I'll stop in, for if I were to see one of the closely cropped dogs helping himself to aught of mine, I should assuredly smite him, as they say, hip and thigh."

"And my brave husband would be cut down by a trooper's sword for his pains," said my mother quietly, as she laid her hands upon his shoulders affectionately, and pressed him back into his chair. "Letty," she continued, "bid Prudence place the chine, and loaves of bread, with plenty of ale on the kitchen table. I warrant me the men are hungry after their ride through the snow."

"Did'st ever see a great coward led more easily by a silken thread, Letty my child," said my father, with a comical smile upon his face, as I ran over to him and kissed him, "I've lost all my manhood now."

"Nonsense, father dear," I said laughingly, and then ran out into the kitchen.

As I opened the door there was the sharp report of an arquebus outside, and Pru shrieked aloud, while as I ran to the window, it was to see a couple of the dragoons cantering over the snow in pursuit of a running man, one of the dismounted men being slowly engaged in re-loading his piece.

"Why are they chasing our Andrew?" cried my father, excitedly, as he too ran to the window. "Ah, mind! run lad, run. Oh that I should have to stand quiet here. Look, girl, look, the cowardly ruffian has ridden him down."

My heart seemed to rise to my lips as I saw our man Andrew run swiftly over the snow with the dragoons in pursuit. Andrew doubled, and evaded his pursuers several times, the men cutting at him with their swords, as he stopped short and let them pass several times over. But the poor fellow seemed to be growing spent, and his feet to be getting clogged with the snow, so that at last one of the men overtook him and seemed deliberately to force his horse to trample him under foot.

I felt giddy with excitement for the moment, as I saw Andrew roll over in the snow, but the next minute he was afoot again, and running off in a fresh direction.

The effort was in vain though—there was no escape, for the second dragoon deftly threw a rope over our serving man's neck, dragged it tight, and thus haltered, poor Andrew gave up; the dragoons turned their horses' heads after threatening their captive with the points of their swords, and came slowly back towards the manor.

"The ill-looking ruffians!" muttered my father, fuming with rage. "Ah Letty, my child, what a degenerate Nugent I am, not to draw my sword and run to that poor fellow's help."

My heart again beat painfully, as he turned to the door, and I followed close behind, to play my mother's part of protectress, should it be needful, and check my father in any outburst of anger against our visitors.

"Have you got the scarecrow?" cried the captain, as poor Andrew was dragged ignominiously up to the door.

"Ay, Master Barnaby," said one of the men with a hoarse laugh; "roped and ready for the nearest tree. Shall we search him?"

"What has my man Andrew been doing? said my father quietly.

"Your man?" said the Captain. "Is this thy serving man?"

"My man Andrew, who works about the place," replied my father, biting his lip, and looking pale with suppressed anger.

"Then why did he run?" cried the Captain angrily. "Hark ye, Master Nugent; we were searching round there by that old ivy-covered stable of thine."

"Ay!" said my father, "the old ruined chapel."

"Chapel or stable, or home of papist mummeries," cried the Captain, "it's all the same. My men were searching when this dog ran out, and one of my fellows fired at him. How do I know that he [illegible] our man?"

"I tell you he is," said my father, hotly; and the Captain laid his hand upon his sword. "What made you run away, Andrew?" said my father, turning to the poor fellow who looked white and dazed with fright.

"Anan, master, anan!" he faltered.

"I say what made you run, my lad?" said my father again.

"I was scared, master," replied Andrew, looking timorously from one to the other; and certainly his aspect supported his words.

"Scared, thou prating ass!" cried the Captain scornfully. "Be not scared again when search is going on or the bullet sent in chase may pierce thy skin; set him at liberty and continue the search."

The man who held the rope gave it a jerk, and then proceeded to unloose it, freeing Andrew who gave me a peculiar look as he passed close by.

"Are you hurt, Andrew?" I said, for the poor fellow looked very pale.

"Only a bit bruised mistress," he said with shaking voice.

"Why Andrew, man," said my father, "you look as if you had seen a ghost."

"Yes, master," said the poor fellow, with a shiver, and giving me another strange glance he turned away.

The troopers searched everywhere, their actions seeming to fascinate me, as regardless of the cold I watched them, thinking of the consequences to the poor cavalier whom they had hunted down, and who might have taken refuge in our place. They thrust their long swords into the hay and straw as they went through barns and stables, and ended by coming in and searching the house from top to bottom.

"He must have escaped during the night," said Barnaby at last, gazing suspiciously from one to the other.

"Very likely," said my father.

"You know he did," said Barnaby suddenly, and, laying his hand upon the table, he approached, his face close to my father's and gazed at him searchingly.

"No stranger but you has set foot within our door for days," said my mother calmly. "Breakfast is now freshly spread, Captain, if you will partake of our hospitality."

Barnaby glanced from one to the other uneasily, cowed as he was by my mother's firmness but angered by the fire that blazed in my father's eye. He evidently longed to make an onslaught upon the meal, but at the same time he felt an itching to show his powers as a fighting man where he could do so safely, and that seemed to be the case here. Failing, too, in the capture of the hunted Royalist, he longed to make a seizure of one suspected of harbouring him.

A storm was evidentally brewing, for my father could brook the fellow's insolence no longer, and trembled, for I knew too well by his eye that my mother would soon be unable to restrain him. Thrice over I had seen him glance at the sword standing in the corner, and now the time seemed to have come, for after a moment's hesitation, the Captain turned sharply round, seized me by the wrist and exclaimed, as he dragged me close to him, "I shall get the truth from you."

CHAPTER III.

MY BROTHER CHARLES.

"You insolent dog!" roared my father, the fury of whose wrath now burst forth, and, unarmed as he was, he dashed forward and caught the puritan soldier by the throat.

I did not shriek out even though he hurt me terribly as, retaining my wrist with one hand, the Captain tried hard with the other to drag his sword from the sheath, striking my arm violently while the two men who were at the door presented there pieces as if about to fire at my father.

How the matter would have ended I dare not think, for at last I was thrown violently aside, the Captain wrenched himself free from my father's grasp, and as he made for the corner where his sword was placed, the Captain dragged forth his own, and, following quickly, made a deadly thrust. But at that moment there was a heavy step in the outer passage, the men's pieces were thrown up, and before Captain Barnaby could recover himself to make a second thrust which must have had effect upon my mother, who had rushed to my father's side, two strong hands were inserted into the neck of our visitor's back piece, and he was sent staggering into a chair.

In a moment though, he was up again, half blind with fury, and sword in hand made at the new arrival—my brother Charles, who carelessly struck the point aside with his gloved hand.

"Put up your sword, sir, or I place you under arrest," exclaimed my brother sternly, as he stood there flushed and angry, as brave and soldierly a figure as I had ever seen; and as I saw him stand up there, stern and commanding, scorning to draw his own weapon, but pointing at that of Barnaby with his gloved hand, I could feel how it was that he had so quietly climbed to be one of the trusted Captains of the Lord Protector Cromwell.

For a few moments Barnaby seemed disposed to advance and strike, but my brother's stern gaze made him shrink, and lowering the point of his weapon, he seemed to hesitate for a moment, and then thrust the sword impatiently into its scabbard with a heavy clang.

"How was I to know it was you attacked me behind?" he cried, scowling at my brother.

"I attacked thee behind sir because you are not fond of showing your enemy your face," said my brother scornfully. "I was not aware that Cromwell's Ironsides drew upon unarmed men, Master Barnaby. Dear Mother, I am glad I came," he said, as he reverently took and kissed her hand.

"I did not know—that is, we tracked a malignant here, Captain," said Barnaby, in a hesitating, confused manner.

"You mean, sir," said my brother, taking my hand and drawing me, white and trembling, to his side, that you did not know that this was the house of one of your officers—my father's house. No enemy of the state would be harboured here. Good mother, I grieve that you should have suffered this indignity. Father, you shall be put to no more annoyance. Master Barnaby, have your men searched the place?"

"Yes—well," was the sulky reply.

"Then sir, as you are on duty, why do you stay? I shall report your conduct to the General."

"But Captain,"—stammered Barnaby.

"Lose no time, sir," said my brother sternly. "The enemy must be in the neighbourhood."

Barnaby muttered impatiently, and then placing his steel cap upon his head, he roughly saluted and turned towards the door.

"Stay, sir," cried my mother, with all her old dignity. "Charles, my son, this gentleman and his followers were about to partake of our hospitality. Master Barnaby's zeal made him treat us harshly, but we Nugents know how to forgive. I prithee ask him to stay and partake of our poor Christmas fare."

"Master Barnaby," said my brother, sternly, "when did you and your men have refreshments?"

"Ten o'clock yesterday, Captain, at Rye," said Barnaby, hastily glancing at the table.

"Then sir, my mother, a true English lady, bids you stay and you are welcome. On her behalf I ask an apology from you to all here."

"And I make it, or a score of them," said Barnaby, roughly, "Good Mistress Nugent, Master Nugent, and you my fair young lady, I, a rough soldier, beg your forgiveness. May we fall to?"

My father bowed coldly, nodded shortly at my brother, and left the room, while as I followed him, my brother Charles and my mother came close behind, leaving the troopers to supply their wants in peace.

"So these are the Lord Protector's Ironsides," said my father angrily, as we stood together in the further room.

"There are black sheep in every fold, father," said my brother quietly.

"And these are Christmas Lambs," retorted my father. "Ask them to stay to-morrow, and let us all feast, Madge," he continued, turning to my mother, with angry spots blazing in each cheek. "And I had had the spirit of a fly, I had run the bully through."

"You are angry, father," said Charles, laying his hand upon his shoulders, and kissing him upon the cheek; and then with a sad smile, "I am sorry you should have suffered this indignity, but these are rough times—rough as they are sad."

"They are my boy, they are," cried my father, whose eyes lit up as he gazed upon the stalwart form of my brother. "Gad, Charley," he continued, laying his hands upon the steel breastplate my brother wore, "You're a brave soldier, every inch of you, and should be a general. How you made yon bully quail. Ah, if you had served your king I had been as proud of you as——"

"He is now, Charles," said my mother, nestling up to his side. "There, there, this is home and Christmas time: let those blustering fellows go, and we will have no talk of king or protector now."

My father shook his head and smiled.

"There," he said, "I'll hold my tongue in honour of the way our boy here settled that braggart captain. Now if the king had been——Tush! I forgot," he said with a good-humoured smile.

The party in parlour and kitchen had their wants supplied, and then my brother gave orders that those on guard without should be relieved, for several patrolled the fields and lanes about the manor grounds. Then the second party took their place, and seeing that my mother's attention was entirely taken up with my brother Charles, I called up Pru, and donning my hood, went out over the crisp snow to where we had left the ladder yestereve, when the snow came down so fast that we left the holly half buried, and the ivy where it grew.

For we had been cutting holly and yew for our Christmas garnish, and had but to join to it some of the black berried ivy with its dark green leaves, from where it ran riot over the old ruined chapel at the end of the house past where the gable window looked down from the haunted room.

For we had a haunted room in the old manor—a room we never used—not from dread, for we had no belief in the old legend of a former owner being slain soon after the place was built in the seventh Harry's days. Slain he was by treachery they said, and since then at certain seasons he appeared to bewail his fate, and point to the blood stains on the floor—blackened stains they were which my father always vowed were never made by blood of man.

In old days ours had been the manor, and goodly buildings had been joined thereto, but during Bluebeard Harry's reign they and the old chapel had been destroyed, so that several were roughly thatched for barns, while the stones of the little chapel remained almost untouched, save by time, and were ornamented by the clustering ivy which clothed them from foot to roof.

CHAPTER IV.

I TOUCH THE GHOST.

The snow looked very beautiful in the bright sunshine, as it sparkled and lay in dazzling patches of white on every tuft of leaves, while the old gabled house seemed softened in its outlines by the silvery wool that hung so softly on the lichened tiles, and in the grand mullioned windows.

Even the very ladder, that stood with its top resting amidst the leaves, had every step covered with the soft snow, but it fell off in loose flakes, as I placed my foot upon the first rung, and a shower fell on my head from the leaves above.

"Take care mistress Letty," said Pru. "We've had trouble enough for one day."

"Ay, Pru, I'll take care," I said merrily, as, knife in hand, I climbed higher, forgetting in the bright crisp air the morning's troubles, and thinking only of the festival to come. "Catch," I said, as I cut and threw down wreath after wreath of the glossy leaves and deadened berries of sombre hue.

"Yes, I'll catch," said Pru gloomily, as I climbed higher, and stood on a level with the top, where the finest bunches grew; "but it don't seem like Christmas time, mistress, with those rough soldiers here. Don't tell a soul, for Andrew would kill me if he knew, but two of them kissed me on the cheeks, they never touched my lips, and I made them tingle for it, I warrant me."

"Ay, but you liked it, my buxom wench," said a rough voice. "A right pleasant picture by my sword."

Looking down as I stood in the act of throwing the great bunch of ivy I had cut, I dropped my knife for I found myself gazing full at the insolent admiring face of master Barnaby, who directly after, stooped and picked up a little branch.

"I shall wear this in my head-piece in remembrance of thee, fair Mistress Letty," he continued with an ugly leer; and starting in my repugnance of the man, I stretched forth my right hand over the flat roof amongst the ivy, and uttered a sharp cry of alarm, for an icy hand grasped mine, and as I turned to look, there, half hidden in the snow and leaves, was the face of a man, who was lying hidden by the ivy on the chapel top.

"Why my timid little snow-bird," said Master Barnaby, in bantering tones, "I did not even touch the ladder, and as to glancing at those pretty ancles why I did not dare for fear of the lightning of those eyes. Shall I help you down?" he continued, laying his hand upon the ladder.

"No, no," I gasped, as I pressed towards the ivy.

"For the love of heaven do not speak," whispered a voice at my ear—"do not betray"—

"What's that you whispered, little dove?" said Barnaby, while Pru stared, in a dazed manner, from one to the other.

"Nothing, nothing," I cried hastily, as I trembled so that I could scarcely speak, while the icy hand still made prisoner of mine. "I am frightened," I stammered. "Go away, or I must jump down."

"Jump down! Nay, nay, you'd sprain those pretty ancles, at which I just ventured to steal one peep. Don't slay me, little lady," he continued, with an insolent look, while I did not know whether to be glad or sad as he exclaimed between his teeth, "Curse him! what did he want to come for now."

For just then my brother came slowly from the house, frowning angrily as he saw my position, and the companion I had at my feet.

Striding forward quickly, he exclaimed—

"Captain Barnaby, to your men. As the refugee was seen coming in this direction I will have the place searched once again. My father's house must be beyond the suspicion of having harboured an enemy of the state."

"As you will, Captain," said Barnaby sulkily, and my brother turned sternly to me.

"Letitia, my child," he said, "It would be more maidenly to leave that task until the soldiery are gone. You had better come down."

I felt white and red by turns as I took tightly hold of the ivy to descend, and in so doing drew it aside, revealing to my timorous gaze the upper portion of a man's figure, half buried in the snow, while a pale handsome face looked imploringly in mine and seemed to say "You will not betray me to mine enemies?" There was a cut across the forehead, and the long tangled hair was matted with blood and snow, while the lips looked blue and were drawn from the teeth in a ghastly manner, and the sunken pinched-in cheeks told plainly of pain and privation.

The lips did not part again, but the eyes seemed to fascinate me, and spoke volumes, agitating me so that I slipped and nearly fell, my brother catching me as I reached the ground.

"Why, Letty," he said, "a slip like that should not alarm you so. What is it, child?" he continued, gazing at me curiously, "you seem to have been terribly startled."

"Nothing, nothing, brother," I stammered. "That man—that man. Here quick, Andrew," I cried, "take away that ladder."

"No," said my brother, quietly, "let it stay." The men may want it to search that ivy.

My heart sank within me, for a strange interest had been stirred in my heart which began to beat as it had never throbbed before. It was all so plain to me now: this young cavalier, wounded, and fleeing from his enemies, had reached our home during the snow storm, found the ladder reared against the ruins, climbed up, and sunk down senseless perhaps, while the pitiless storm beat down upon him the long night through, when we were sheltered and warm.

The political matters of the day had never troubled me before, save that I had laughingly proposed to side with my father; but now I felt a Royalist at heart, and my eyes flashed as I passed Barnaby and wished for a man's strength that I might strike him down.

What should I do? Find my father and tell him the news?

He would, I felt sure, try and save the fugitive, but there was not a moment to lose, for my brother had said he would have the ivy searched and then?—Oh, it was horrible. He would think I had betrayed him: when I felt as if I could dare anything to save so brave a man in his sore peril.

I believe at that moment I hated my brother, as I half staggered in, for I was aware of the fact that he evidently suspected me, and he was watching me curiously as I entered the house.

I paused for a moment by the window, keeping back with my hand pressed to my throbbing breast, as I watched my brother standing near the ruins, for I was in dread lest he should himself ascend the ladder, and so discover the fugitive, the touch of whose icy hand still lingered in my own, making my every nerve to thrill with the strange excitement.

There was the heavy trampling of feet over head, and I knew that the men were going over the house once more, while Charles began to pace up and down impatiently, awaiting their coming, when I knew that he would at once have the ivy searched. Another few minutes and they would be downstairs once more, when with my brother's stern ideas of duty, and that brutal Captain hunting like some beast for his quarry—Oh! it was too horrible to bear, and I shuddered at the thoughts of the fugitive's fate.

"Good heavens, what can I do?" I mentally exclaimed. "My father would help me were he here, but my mother would say, leave all to my son. And he would shoot him like a dog," I moaned. "I dare not confide in Prudence or Andrew. Should I appeal to Charles while alone? No, no, no, I dare not. His stern sense of duty, would make him instantly give up the fugitive to certain death—yes, death, and this the time of feasting and peace and hope. What should I do?"

My brain swam as these thoughts rushed with maddening swiftness through my mind, but I recovered myself somewhat as I felt that I alone must act, and at once.

The men were beginning to descend, and watching my opportunity I was creeping upstairs, and reaching the passage, was making for the haunted room, when I ran right into the arms of Master Barnaby.

"Aha, little dove," he said, in a low voice, "then you have run into the right place at last. Now then what will you do, scream for help, or pay forfeit with those pretty lips?"

I struggled to escape, but I dared not cry out, for if I did I knew that I might destroy my plans at a time when life depended upon my silence.

"Ah! I knew she would not cry out," said the ruffian as, holding me tightly to his breast, he kissed me again and again, till shuddering and panting, I struggled free, and ran down the passage, sobbing with rage and shame.

"But I must save him," I cried, unlocking the door, tearing out the key, and shutting and securing it, as Barnaby's heavy step was heard outside.

Then I heard him try the door, as I crouched upon the floor, and finally go away muttering.

"What will he think of me!" I moaned, as I listened to his departing step. Then darting to the casement, I opened it softly, forcing back the frozen snow, which clung to the sill, and crackled at my touch.

I could now look down upon the top of the chapel ruins, a mass of dark ivy and dazzling snow, where, knowing what I did, I could just make out the figure of the fugitive cavalier.

"Quick!" I whispered, "this way for your life;" and it was none too soon, for I could hear the men below.

There was a dull rustling amongst the ivy, and the snow fell here and there as I saw the figure rise painfully to hands and knees, and begin crawling slowly towards me.

It was evidently only by a great effort, and twice over the poor fellow groaned and stopped, but at last, just as he reached the wall beneath my window, I felt that all was over, for my brother's voice came up clearly through the frosty air.

"Now Master Barnaby," he said, "there is the ladder, so gallant a soldier may like to lead his men to the attack. Your quarry is, I fancy, hidden here, and I would not rob you of your capture and the reward."

"Thanks, captain," cried Barnaby, as I stood there petrified, with the ashy appealing face below gazing up into mine. His lips moved, and a sadly piteous smile of thanks, crossed the cavalier's face, as his eyes seemed to say "I can do no more—it is too late."

No, it was not, for as the ladder rustled on the frosty ivy, and I saw first the blade of a naked sword, and then a great buff glove above the top of the wall, there was a sharp crack, an oath, and a heavy fall followed by a roar of laughter from the men, and I knew instinctively that the ladder which bore my weight so well, had broken beneath the burly form of the puritan.

It was salvation; and evidently nerved by the chance to make another effort, the figure in its stiffened clothes, rose up, caught my hands, climbed partly in at the open window, and then with a low sigh of pain and misery, sank across the sill lifeless and inert."

"Oh, quick!" I moaned, "they are coming to search."

"I know," he said in a hoarse whisper. "I am spent."

"Oh, heaven help us!" I panted. "Try, try, once more."

"I cannot," was the hoarse hopeless reply. "Let the dogs shoot me, sweet, I can do no more, and I shall die with my last look fixed upon an angel."

"No, no, for pity's sake," I gasped. "Now try, try."

But there was only the same hopeless look for answer to my appeal; and to my horror as I clung to him, I saw that he was so numbed and helpless, that he was slowly slipping back.

I can hardly tell how I found the strength, but half maddened with horror, as I heard the sound of the men coming with a fresh ladder I twined my arms round him as he was fast sinking back, and raising him a little more and a little more I finally dragged him through the open window into the room to fall heavily upon the boards marked with the old blackened stains.

Hastily pushing away the snow from the window, I removed all other traces that I could, and closed the casement to stand panting with my exertion, and wondering what I should do.

"You must not stay there," I whispered "they may come and look in at the window, and if so you are lost."

I felt the folly of my words for I knew that if they came on to the roof, they would probably see the marks beneath the window, and if they climbed up and gazed in there would be snow marks enough fallen from the cavalier's clothes, and—horrible! I shuddered as I gazed—the efforts made had caused a wound to recommence bleeding, and there were veritable blood stains now upon the floor.

In obedience to my words however, and partly helped by me, he half crawled, was half dragged to the corner where no one could see, and I then hastily pulled an old piece or two of furniture close to the window, covering the stains upon the boards.

Then listening, I heard the rustling made by the men outside, who had reached the roof, several having climbed there, and crawled about, one it seemed falling headlong as he slipped over the ivy, and probably destroying the traces made by the fugitive, for they did not seem to have been found.

As the minutes passed I began to breathe again more freely, and looking at the fugitive, I could see that he was lying motionless with half closed eyes.

Stealing out of the room and locking the door behind me, I crept down stairs, and securing the bottle of strong waters and a piece of bread, I once more hurried up to the room, when to my horror I found some one standing listening there in the dark passage.

To go back was impossible, and I could not pass, but stood there trembling, till the dark figure turned sharply round, and I saw that it was my father.

He stared at me as I stood there motionless and detected, and then drawing me forward and opening a door so as to admit the light, he exclaimed with a look that told me he surmised all,

"The ghost is moving, child."

I did not answer, but stood trembling, for a stern and angry look seemed to come into his eyes, but only to fade away and give place to a pleasant and benignant smile.

"Is the ghost a Royalist at heart, my child?" he said at last, seeming the while to be listening to the voices outside.

Still I could not answer, but stood gazing at him, wondering whether he was angry with me or no, for I knew that to harbour a Royalist was now a deadly sin.

"I'm going down stairs, Letty," he said at last, "for my eyes are very bad to day, and I cannot see—I see nothing—nothing at all: but beware of the ghost my child, for there are evil spirits as well as good, and my darling child is my all in all."

I gave a sob as I threw one arm round his neck and kissed him.

"God bless you, little one!" he whispered; "it is an act of Christmas love. God save the king!"

"God save the king, father," I answered with throbbing heart, and the next moment I was alone.

CHAPTER V.

A LIE FOR LOVE.

As he descended I unlocked the door, crept in, and relocked it before hastening to the corner and placing the refreshments before my guest.

"I will bring more soon," I whispered, "and coverlids. But eat and drink."

For answer he turned his great grey eyes upon me wistfully, smiled, and closed them once again with a weary sigh.

Placing my hand upon his breast I started at its coldness, while the pulsation seemed feeble in the extreme. Then knowing that I must act if I wished to save his life, I let a few drops of the Nantes spirit brought to Rye by the smugglers of our parts fall between his parted lips, and as he made feeble efforts to swallow them, I trickled in more and more.

By degrees he revived slightly, then with a sigh he gazed full at me in a vacant manner, till at last a look of recognition beamed from his great wistful eyes, and raising his arms he passed them round my neck, as I bent down close to him.

"Kiss me, my child," he whispered faintly, and my face began to glow, and my heart beat; "It is over—I am spent—dying."

"No, no," I whispered back, placing my arm beneath his head, and trickling a few more drops between his lips.

"Heaven bless you! [illegible] said, with a weary sigh. "The knaves have dogged me to my death."

"There was a pause, and trembling and awe-stricken, I drew him closer to me, trying to impart some warmth to the icy form, when he again unclosed his eyes.

"A true woman," he muttered—"an angel of pity and —Oh, heaven, is this death? Jesu,—have mercy—bless this sweet saint!"

His head sank back, and I felt ready to shriek for help, but I knew that it should merely summon his executioners, and letting a few more drops fall between his lips, I hastily chafed his hands, and bathed his forehead with the strong waters; but there was no response to my care, and at last I gazed down trembling and sad—gazing on the placid white face with reverence, as I thought of those who loved him—mother—sisters—perhaps wife or his betrothed, and with the hot tears raining down from my eyes, I bent lower, till my lips rested upon his pale forehead, from which I swept the dank blood-stained curls.

So young—so handsome—and his crime? Merely that he was faithful to the king, his master.

Poor proscribed, hunted Royalist, my sympathies in that short time had grown so strong with the pity near akin to love, that I was ready to dare all now in his defence, not knowing then how soon I should be called upon to act.

My hand had torn open his doublet, and was pressed now upon his breast. Yes, his heart still beat—yes, more strongly; and with rising hopes I trickled a few more drops of the Nantes between his lips, when I started, for there was a heavy step upon the stairs—yes, a heavy martial step, which came into the passage; and I was creeping away to listen, when the cavalier's eyes unclosed, and glancing eagerly down I saw that he too heard the step.

"Sweet," he whispered, "you have saved me but to die. They are coming now. Good bye. Remember Philip Lee. They gain a sorry victory after all. God save the King!"

His eyes closed once more, and he lay as if dead as the step paused at the door, and I ran across the room to press my hands angrily against the panel and keep it fast.

"Open this door," said my brother, sternly.

Then there was a pause, during which I could hear my heart throbbing as if it would burst its prison.

"Open this door," he cried again; and as I made no reply, I heard the noise as of a steel-clad shoulder pressed against it; the lock cracked, there was a loud splintering noise, and I was driven backwards as the door flew open, nearly falling to the ground, but recovering myself to face my angry brother.

"As I suspected," he exclaimed, glancing from me to the wounded man and back. "Letty, my froward sister, this comes not of your mother's teaching. That man is Sir Philip Lee, for whom, dead or alive, five hundred pounds are offered. You foolish girl, to undermine the reputation of your brother, and your own. But there, the hawk has entered the dovecote and been winged. Below there. Barnaby—Bar——"

"Stop!" I half shrieked, as I struck my hand across his lips. For in those brief moments of agony I saw a brave young cavalier thrown helpless across a horse, to be led off to an ignominious death, and for what?

I could not bear it, and in my frantic excitement I clung to my brother, as he turned upon me in wonder.

"Are you mad, Letty?" he cried.

"No," I cried, "but I shall be, if you hurt a hair of his head."

"Folly!" he exclaimed, trying to shake me off, "the man is an enemy, and," he added bitterly, "he must die."

"No, no," I panted, "he is no enemy—he is my lover. I am to be his wife."

As I spoke, shamefaced and wild, I broke from my brother, and threw myself on my knees beside the man to save whom I had uttered this falsehood, while my brother stood as if petrified, gazing at me aghast, and then, turning hastily away, he left the room.

I could not raise my head for very shame, and I did not see him go, but crouched there with beating heart, listening for his return with the armed men.

But no: minute after minute passed, then quite an hour, and then there was the jingle of arms, the dull snow muffled tramp of horses' feet; a sharp order in my brother's voice. The sounds grew more and more distant, then gradually died away, seemed as if returning, and then there was the faint neighing of a horse, and all was silent.

It seemed an age as I crouched there listening, till the sun began to shine through the window, and its bright rays were like the harbingers of hope as I wailed forth the one word "Saved!" and buried my face in my hands.

"He is my lover, I am to be his wife," was whispered faintly by my side; and I started back in horror and shame.

"No, no," I cried, "It was a lie. I lied to save your life;" and I looked with burning cheeks at the man who lay helpless by my side, and gazing trustfully in my face.

"No lie, Sweet[heart]," he whispered, "true words, my darling, if you w[ill] let it be so;" and as he spoke he feebly drew my hand to his lips, and held it there. "No lie, little one," he murmured, but a declaration that must have been heard above. God grant me life to claim you, for I swear that if I lived it should be true."

My hand fell from his grasp, as in the faintest whisper he said those words; and then for a space he gave no sign of life, while I gazed from one to the other as in a dream, for my father had entered the room with my mother, and she, with all the matron's skill, bound up our visitor's wounds, tending him after as she would have tended her own son, and he was our only Christmas guest.

Fever and his wounds led him together closely along the edge of that dark gulf that all must cross alike; but as the new year began to dawn the patient nursing bore fruit, and we knew that he would live, and live he did to escape by my father's aid in a fishing lugger across the seas, from whence, time after time, we heard news of him; and then for years there was silence, as great and striking changes were wrought in the land.

I was growing pale and thin, none asked me why, but still I hoped, and at last one Christmas Eve again, when the snow was deep upon the ground, I sat, thinking alone, late in the afternoon by the ruddy light of the burning logs. Dreams of the past—of that eventful year—came thick and fast, and a feeling of sadness came over me as the hopes that I had nurtured seemed to be dying away, when suddenly——I had heard no step—a dark shadow seemed to be leaning over me and I dared not move.

There was no chilly feeling of horror, no sense of dread: but a kind of joyous excitement thrilled me, and I could not stir lest I should break the charm, when a rustling noise was heard behind my chair, a heavy cloak fell to the ground, a plumed hat was dashed upon the floor, and I was clasped in arms that held me a willing prisoner, as the lips near mine whispered my own old words.

"He is my lover—I am to be his wife."

At that moment a light flashed into the darkened room, and my mother and father entered, to start back in surprise.

"Sir Philip Lee!" exclaimed my mother. "Back here!"

"Yes, madam, with his promised wife."

"Sir Philip Lee back in England!"

"Yes, Master Nugent, with his Majesty, who desires nothing better than to see you, and grant such favours as you ask."

"My wife has one—I none," said my father.

"And that?"

"I know," I said. "The safety of my brother when the King comes home."

"For that I'll answer," he replied. "And now for a happier Christmas than I've known for years. I ask no leave, good mother—sweet saving Puritan," he said, kissing her tenderly, "nor of you, my stout Royalist father; neither do I ask it of you, sweet little saint, who gave me life when I was dying, and made yourself my wife. Master Nugent, the times have kept us divorced, but now to all the world this is my dearest partner and wife—my Lady Lee."

And my father cried, as he grasped his hand then, and again, and again, over the festive glass, "God save the King!" while I, in modest thankfulness, blessed my lot and my Christmas love.

A German [illegible] interior counties wanted a minister to preach at his child's funeral, and was not particular as to who came—so he said: "Choo, go and call der circus preacher to come, and if he can't den get der locust preacher, and if der locust preacher can't come why den get the extortioner" (exhorter.)

Business Announcements.

JOHN CRAWFORD,

AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER & VALUER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

MONEY advanced upon Goods on the Shortest Notice.
Business done promptly, and upon reasonable Terms.

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.

COALS AND FIREWOOD.

BEST COALS at 7s. 6d. per Load of 15 Cwt.,
COARSE COALS at 5s. 6d. per Load of 15 Cwt.,
GOOD SMALL COALS at 5s. 6d. per Load of 15 Cwt.,
COKE FOR STOVES, &c., at 3s. per Load of 8 Cwt.,
Delivered to any part of Consett.

COALS, COKE, AND FIREWOOD
In Lots of 1d. and upwards.

APPLY TO

ROBINSON CURRY,
DELVES LANE DEPOTS, OR, TIMBER YARD AND SAW MILL, GIBSON STREET. 687o

GAS FITTINGS AND LAMPS.

J. C. HALLIDAY'S great CHRISTMAS CLEARANCE SALE of Chandeliers and Paraffin Lamps has commenced. An early call requested for Special Bargains. Splendid Three-Light Chandeliers at 30s. Duplex Lamps from 7s. 6d.—Gas Fitting and Lamp Depot,
85, GRAININGER STREET, NEWCASTLE.
Plumbing and Gas Fitting as usual. 727o

HALL AND CO.,
(Late GIBSON and CO.)
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

BEG to announce that they have Opened Extensive Premises at Nos. 5, 7, and 9, Drury Lane, Newcastle, and that the Business at Tynemouth will be conducted at the same Premises as heretofore.
NOTE ADDRESS:—
5, 7, and 9, DRURY LANE, NEWCASTLE, and
PERCY PARK ROAD, TYNEMOUTH. 763o

CHRISTMAS CARDS!
NEW YEAR'S CARDS!!
CHRISTMAS CARDS!!!
IN GREAT VARIETY AND AT ALL PRICES,
AND THE WONDERFUL SHILLING BOX OF CHRISTMAS STATIONERY,
AT

ROBERT JACKSON'S
STATIONERY WAREHOUSE,
9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET, AND
"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CONSETT. 722o

XMAS PRESENTS! XMAS PRESENTS!

WM. LISTER AND SON'S
EXTENSIVE STOCK OF SILVER PLATE, WATCHES, JEWELLERY, &c.

IS now replete with all that is New and Fashionable, and specially adapted for Christmas and New Year's Gifts. PRICES EXTREMELY MODERATE.

12, 14, and 16, MOSLEY STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 781o

CARRIAGES.

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

CHRISTMAS!! CHRISTMAS!!!

C. F. COOKE

HAS ON HAND AN IMMENSE STOCK OF FIRST-CLASS

BRITISH WINES,
INCLUDING
PORT, SHERRY, RASPBERRY, CURRANT,
GREEN GINGER,
AND OTHER WINES.

C. F. C. HAS just received a Dairy of Fine CHESHIRE CHEESE at 9d. per pound; Good AMERICAN as low as 4½. per pound; FINE at 6d. per pound. Finest BUTTER at 1s. 4d. per pound; GOOD at 1s. 2d. per pound; BUTTERINE at 1s. per pound. 707o

WINTER SAVE at least 25 per Cent. on Winter CLOTHING
WINTER Clothing by making your CLOTHING
WINTER purchases at HUGH CLOTHING
WINTER MORTON and CO'S Pub- CLOTHING
WINTER lic Supply Stores for CLOTHING
WINTER Clothing direct from the CLOTHING
WINTER Factory, No. 55, Grainger CLOTHING
WINTER Street, corner of Nelson CLOTHING
WINTER Street. CLOTHING
WINTER All goods marked in plain CLOTHING
WINTER figures, and sold for ready CLOTHING
WINTER money only, with one small CLOTHING
WINTER profit on factory cost. CLOTHING
WINTER Garments not approved CLOTHING
WINTER can be exchanged, or the CLOTHING
WINTER money returned if desired, CLOTHING
WINTER the only exception being if CLOTHING
WINTER worn or damaged. CLOTHING
WINTER Full lists of prices cannot CLOTHING
WINTER be given, the articles kept CLOTHING
WINTER being too numerous for an CLOTHING
WINTER advertisement. A few quo- CLOTHING
WINTER tations are submitted, and CLOTHING
WINTER customers may depend on CLOTHING
WINTER finding all articles equally CLOTHING
WINTER cheap. Men's Overcoats, CLOTHING
WINTER wear u and durable, 10s. 9d., CLOTHING
WINTER 18s. 9d., 21s. 6d. Men's CLOTHING
WINTER Suits, equal to bespoke, CLOTHING
WINTER 18s. 9d., 21s. 6d., 25s. 11d. CLOTHING
WINTER Men's Trousers very ser- CLOTHING
WINTER viceable, 5s. 11d., 6s. 11d., CLOTHING
WINTER 7s. 11d. Youths' Overcoats, CLOTHING
WINTER Tweeds and Naps, 8s. 11d., CLOTHING
WINTER 10s. 9d., 12s. 9d. Boys' CLOTHING
WINTER Overcoats, lined with CLOTHING
WINTER Tweed, 4s. 11d., 5s. 11d., CLOTHING
WINTER 6s. 11d. Boys' Overcoats, CLOTHING
WINTER with capes, from 6s. 11d. CLOTHING
WINTER Boys' Suits, from 2s. 11d. CLOTHING
WINTER PUBLIC CLOTHING
WINTER CLOTHING SUPPLY STORES
WINTER 55, GRAINGER STREET, CLOTHING
WINTER Corner of Nelson Street, CLOTHING
WINTER NEWCASTLE. CLOTHING

Business Announcements.

REMNANTS! REMNANTS!!

HUNDREDS OF REMNANTS!

Are now being OFFERED CHEAP!
At the NOTED DRAPERY STORE—

LUTON HOUSE,
22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Also, a Large and Choice Selection of
MILLINERY BONNETS AND HATS, AND LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S ULSTERS.

T. S. ATKINSON, PROPRIETOR.

N.B.—Come as early as possible to secure the Great Bargains which are to be had.

REMNANTS! REMNANTS!!

JOHN HALL'S PRICE CURRENT.

Flour—Splendid Supers, 2s. 1d per stone; Fines, 1s 11d.; American, 4s. 6d. per stone. Indian Meal, 1s. per stone; or 18s. per sack of 20 stones. Large Indian Corn, 1s. per stone, or 7s. 6d. cwt.; Rough Barley or Small Wheat, or small Indian Corn, 1s. 2d. per stone. Mixed Poultry Food; Poultry Rice. Hums's Optimus Horse Feed; Thorley's Cattle Spice; Cotton and Linseed Cake; Ground Cake; and Linseed, always in stock, and at reasonable Prices.

CAREFULLY NOTE PRICES OF PROVISIONS:—
Bacon, 4½d. to 6½d. per pound; Hams, whole, 7d. per pound. Beef—Corned, 6d. per pound; 2lb Tins of Roast Beef, 1s. each. Cheese, 6d., 7d., 8d., and 10d. per pound. Finest Danish Butter, 1s. 5d. Pure Lard, 5d. to 7d. per pound. 1lb Tins of Milk, 6d. each. Candles—Dips, 4½d. per pound; Wax, 7d. per pound. Soaps—Primrose Pale, 2d. per pound; Almond, 3d. per pound; White Curd, 4d. per pound; Extra Pale, 3d. per pound, or 10d. per quarter-stone; Best Pale, 6d. per pound, or 1s. per quarter-stone; Best Mottled, 4d. per pound, or 1s. per quarter-stone. Rice, 2d. per pound, or 6d. per quarter-stone; Rice Flour, 3d. per pound; Corn Flour, 5d. per pound. Sugars—Good, 2½d. per pound; Crystallised, 3d. per pound; Finest Loaf, 4d. per pound. First-class Currants, 4d. pound; Raisins, 4d. per pound; Finest Sultanas, 6d. per pound. Teas—a good Leaf and a good Liquor, at 1s. 8d. per pound; Parcels of 6lbs, at 1s. 6d. per pound; a First-class Family Tea, Mild, Pleasant, and Syrupy Liquor, 2s. 8d. per pound, or in 24lb. Parcels, at 2s. 6d. per pound (in all Teas a proportionate reduction for quantities). All 1s. 1½d. Patent Medicines, from 9½d. per Bottle or Box; Mother Siegel's Curative Syrup, 2s. 3d. per Bottle; Kno's Fruit Salt, 2s. 3d. per Bottle Mohler's Oil, 1s. 6d. per Bottle, &c.

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

JOHN HALL,
WHOLESALE AND FAMILY GROCER, ANNFIELD PLAIN. 482o

CASH DRAPERY SUPPLY STORES,

NEXT DOOR TO THE POST OFFICE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

JOHN VARDY AND CO., PROPRIETORS.
(LATE W. FLENDER AND CO.)

WE have purchased largely of Plain DRAPERY of 500 Articles at lowest Oil Prices, and are giving our Customers the advantage.
We are Selling the Best Calicoes, at the Price, in the County of Durham.
Our Stock of Flannels, Shirtings, and Linens is Large and Cheap.
Our Dresses surprise everybody (being so Cheap) and always give satisfaction to the wearer.
We keep a Large Stock of Millinery and Fancy Goods.
We hold the Largest and Cheapest Stock of Ready-made Clothing in the District.

All Buyers of Drapery Goods will Save Money by Visiting the
CASH DRAPERY SUPPLY STORES AT ANNFIELD PLAIN,
JOHN VARDY, & CO., PROPRIETORS.
49n

☞ A TRIP TO NEWCASTLE
FOR NOTHING!!! ☜

OPENING OF NEW PREMISES.

DONALD BAIN,

THE WELL-KNOWN CHEAP DRAPER, HAS OPENED THE CENTRAL PREMISES,
No. 23, GRAINGER STREET
(TWO DOORS FROM NUN STREET), NEWCASTLE,

WHERE you will be supplied with the Newest, Best, and Cheapest DRESS and DRAPERY GOODS in the Provinces. Apart from this, D. B. will allow to Purchasers of Thirty-five Shillings worth of Goods THEIR FULL RAILWAY FARE, within a radius of Thirty Miles from Newcastle.

NOTE NUMBER AND ADDRESS—23, GRAINGER STREET. 457n

DENTAL SURGERY

EIGHTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

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

ESTABLISHED IN NEWCASTLE 1830. 637n

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,

THE RENOWNED TEA DEALER,

WHO, after an experience of Eighteen 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, Lunn's Lunch Tongues, McCall's Paysandon Ox Tongues, Chicken, Ham and Tongue, 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, PICKLES, 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 6LBS.

A SPLENDID STOCK OF CHEESE, INCLUDING 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.
N.B.—CONSETT.—A Delicious, Sparkling, Phosphated Iron Beverage. Non-Alcoholic. Price 6s. 6d. per Dozen, in Half-Champagne Bottles.
N.B.—AGENT FOR GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS (for Particulars, see Circulars).

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

Business Announcements.

FRONT STREET, CONSETT. FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

THOMAS LATHAM,

Is now showing a
CHOICE SELECTION OF NOVELTIES IN NEW AUTUMN AND WINTER DRAPERY, MILLINERY, AND MERCERY GOODS.

PRICES LOWEST IN THE TRADE. TERMS—CASH.

COME and See the Goods, and Compare Prices with any other House in the Trade, and T. L. feels certain you will admit he is the CHEAPEST DRAPER IN CONSETT.

THOMAS LATHAM,
NEXT DOOR TO MR. DAVISON, OPPOSITE NORTH EASTERN BANK,
5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 559o

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!

M. ALMOND,
THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED GROCER IN THE DISTRICT,
INVITES THE PUBLIC TO INSPECT HER LARGE AND CHOICE
STOCK OF GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS
WHICH SHE HAS PURCHASED FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON, INCLUDING—
SPLENDID STOCK OF CHEESE.
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF NEW FRUIT.
NEW ARRIVAL OF THE FINEST NEW SEASON TEAS.
SALMON, LOBSTER, PICKLES, JAMS, ETC
ALL OF WHICH SHE IS OFFERING AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

BRITISH WINES AT 1s. 2d. PER BOTTLE.

NOTE ADDRESS:—
M. ALMOND,
CENTRAL GROCERY ESTABLISHMENT, 56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WATCHES CLOCKS AND JEWELLERY
ON EASY TERMS BY JOINING
DAVISON'S CLUBS.
FOR TERMS APPLY TO
J. W. DAVISON,
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 773o

EMIGRATION TO TEXAS, U. S. A.

LARGE NUMBERS of FARMERS and AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS WANTED. Passage, with Rations, £6 6s. *Gateshead Observer* says—"Finest climate under the Sun." New York, from Newcastle, £4 18s.
Passengers booked to all parts of the World at lowest rates.
Apply, for all Particulars, to North of England Emigration Offices, 32, Blackett Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Pamphlet and Map sent for 3 Stamps to defray cost of postage. 720o

STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

WHY PAY RENT?
WHEN BY A SMALL WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTION YOU CAN SECURE YOUR OWN LANDLORD.

THIS Society advances to its Members in full, Sums of £100, £200, £300, or £409, to be Repaid in from 1 to 12½ Years without Interest.
Subscription—6d. per week per £100 Share. Entrance Fee—1s. per Share. 734o
It will shortly be opened here by the Promoter, R. B. S.

PLUMBING AND GASFITTING.

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

CHRISTMAS BEEF!!

H. NICHOLSON,
BUTCHER,
MIDDLE STREET AND FRONT STREET,
CONSETT,

TAKES the present opportunity of thanking his numerous Customers and Public in general for their patronage and support during the last fourteen years, and begs leave to announce that he has secured a good selection of

PRIME BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK,
☞ FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON, ☜
COMPRISING—
2 Prime SHORT-HORN HEIFERS;
1 Prime SHORT-HORN OX,
Bought from RD. MURRAY, Esq., Benfieldside House.
ALSO,
2 Neat-Cutting HEIFERS, from the Dublin Market. Bought from J. DICKINSON, Esq., Sheffield.
MUTTON AND PORK.—FINEST QUALITY.
Hoping to Merit your Support. 709o

CHRISTMAS IS HERE AGAIN!
AND IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN OUR
PRESTIGE,
JOHN PARKER,
LEADGATE & ANNFIELD PLAIN,
RESPECTFULLY announces to his numerous Friends and Customers that he has purchased for his
CHRISTMAS BEEF & MUTTON
Five splendid BULLOCKS and HEIFERS; likewise, Twenty of the Best-classed WEDDERS from the famed Pastures of the Earl of Durham.

THE ABOVE CONSISTS OF:—
1 Shorthorned Bullock, over 70 Stones.
1 H. B. Highland Kyloe Bullock.
1 Black Polled Heifer.
2 Pure West Highland Kyloe Heifers, guaranteed Specimens, computed Weight, 60 Stones each.
10 Leicester and Cheviot Wedders.
10 Mule Wedders.

POR K!
"Hoy Bhoys! Where is yez goin' wid th' Pigs?"
"Whisht, ye Divil! The Pigs 'll hear yez. Shure it's to PARKEN's Shop they'ar goin'; but it's to NED KENNELSIDE's they think they'ar goin'."

GRAND XMAS SHOW AND FANCY BAZAAR,

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS, AND IRONMONGERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,
Will on Friday First, December 17th, 1880, and Two Following Weeks, make their Grand Annual
SHOW OF FANCY GOODS, TOYS, DOLLS, &c.,
Suitable for
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.
☞ To prevent confusion, F. A. and E. W. invite an Early Call.

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 repayments may spread over 16 years, or any less number, to suit the means of borrowers.
INVESTING SHARES may be entered at any time, and withdrawn, if required, at a month's notice.
PROFITS are divided every three years.
The Interest and Profits paid to members on Completed Shares has averaged 6s per cent. per annum.
Any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. GEO. STILLMAN, 56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland; or Mr. JOHN ELLIOTT, Palmerston Place, Consett. 300o

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

5,000 Magnificent PRESENTS to be given away for CHRISTMAS.

The Anglo-French Jewellery Company, Ladypool Lane, Birmingham, in order to introduce their business before the public, have, at considerable expense, resolved to present to every person applying for the same a
FRENCH POCKET TIME INDICATOR, Patented.
This admirable little article is the size and shape of an ordinary watch, has strong metal cases, steel works, balanced action, enamelled dial, crystal glass dome, patent adjusting swivel ring for attaching to watch guard. Each denotes every hour time, and in fact no one, either male or female, should want for a watch, when such an opportunity as this offers, as the chance which will never occur again. The Time Indicator is warranted for 3 years. To secure one of these little articles the sum of 1s. 4d. must be forwarded, either in P.O.O. or stamps, or two will be sent for 2s. 6d. with the full name and address filled in the form below, and enclosed to the Anglo-French Jewellery Co., Ladypool Lane, Birmingham.
A Handsome Christmas Gift to every Purchaser. We have resolved to give away, up to December 31st, 1880, with every Pocket Timepiece, a neat and useful companion, in Aluminum Gold, case suitable for lady or gentleman. None sold without this coupon—

CONSETT GUARDIAN

This Coupon entitles sender to Pocket Timepiece with handsome present, on receipt of 1s. 6d., or 2 for 2s. 6d., 3 for 3s. 6d., 4 for 4s. 3d.

Name.....
Address.....
Town.....

Address—The Manager, Anglo-French Jewellery Company, Ladypool Lane, Birmingham.
IMPORTANT.—As the quantity is limited, intending purchasers are requested to send at once. Orders received after these are sold out will be returned. 709o

Public Notices.

SEAHAM EXPLOSION RELIEF FUND.

THE following CONTRIBUTIONS received from the Collectors are hereby acknowledged, and will now be forwarded to the Treasurer of the Seaham Relief Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Employees of the Consett Iron Company—			
At Blast Furnaces	11	15	0
" Forges	21	17	4
" Plate Mills	25	9	6
" Coke Ovens and Brick Works	8	17	3
On Railways	5	5	3
Mechanics & Engineemen at Iron Works	12	3	7
Colliery Mechanics, &c	2	0	0
	£90	8	5
Consett Iron Company, Limited	50	0	0
Mr. Wm. Jenkins, Consett Hall	5	0	0
" W. H. Hedley, Medomsley	3	3	0
Rev. W. Cockin, Medomsley	1	1	0
Mr. M. A. Savage, Leadgate	1	0	0
Mr. R. Jackson, Consett	1	0	0
" W. Scott, Consett	0	10	6
" M. Campbell, Blackhill	0	10	6
" John Carr, Ebchester	0	10	0
Rev. H. Linthwaite, Ebchester	0	10	0
Mr. T. Dunn, Consett	0	10	0
" J. J. Heeley, Leadgate	0	10	0
Rev. Canon Kearney, the Brotha	0	10	0
Miss Keenleyside, Crook Hall	0	10	0
Mr. G. Belle, Greenwood	0	10	0
The Misses Curtess, Hamsterley Hall	0	10	0
Rev. T. Smith, Blackhill	0	10	0
Mr. J. Smith, Medomsley	0	10	0
Inhabitants (not included above) of—			
Blackhill	2	13	6
Consett	6	16	6
" Parish Church Collection	16	14	9
Ebchester	2	6	0
Leadgate, Iveston, &c	10	2	6
Medomsley	3	18	6
	£199	8	2
Deduct Expenses, Advertising, Stationery, &c	2	15	6
776	£196	12	8

W. H. HEDLEY, Treasurer
J. HEYMEN, Secretary
For Local Committee.

ents.

HAM, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

N NEW AUTUMN AND
D MERCERY GOODS.

TERMS—CASH.

e in the Trade, and T. L. feels certain you
R IN CONSETT.

HAM,

ORTH EASTERN BANK,

ONSETT. 559c

S! CHRISTMAS!

N D,
ER IN THE DISTRICT,
ARGE AND CHOICE
ND PROVISIONS
E SEASON, INCLUDING—

NEW SEASON TEAS.
ON, LOBSTER, PICKLES, JAMS, ETC
WEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

PER BOTTLE.

N D,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

XMAS SHOW AND FANCY BAZAAR.

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NCH POCKET TIME INDICATOR, Patented.
dmirable little article is the size and shape of an
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action, enamelled dial, crystal glass dome, patent
swivel ring for attaching to watch guard. Each
orrect solar time, and in fact no one, either male or
hould want for a watch, when such an opportunity
ers, a chance which will never occur again. The Time
is warranted for 5 years. To secure one of these
icles the sum of 1s. 4d. must be forwarded, either in
r stamps, or two will be sent for 2s. 5d. with the full
nd address filled in the form below, and enclosed to
glo-French Jewellery Co., Ladypool Lane, Bir
ndsome Christmas Gift to every Purchaser. We have
to give away, up to December 31st, 1880, with every
Timepiece, a neat and useful companion, in
m Gold, case suitable for lady or gentleman. None
hout this coupon—

This Coupon entitles sender to Pocket Time-
ece with handsome present, on receipt of 1s.
., or 2 for 2s. 5d., 3 for 3s. 6d., 4 for 4s. 3d.
Name..........
Address..........
Town.......... GUARDIAN.

—The Manager, Anglo-French Jewellery Company,
Ladypool Lane, Birmingham.
TANT.—As the quantity is limited, intending pur-
re requested to send at once. Orders received after
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Public Notices.

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Blast Furnaces	11	15	0
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Plate Mills	25	9	6
Coke Ovens and Brick Works	8	17	3
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. H. Hedley, Medomsley	3	3	0
V. Cockin, Medomsley	1	1	0
. A. Savage, Leadgate	1	0	0
. Jackson, Consett	1	0	0
. Scott, Consett	0	10	6
. Coupland, Ebchester	0	10	6
n Carr, Ebchester	0	10	0
H. Linthwaite, Ebchester	0	10	0
Dunn, Consett	0	10	0
J. Healey, Leadgate	0	10	0
anon Kearney, the Brooms	0	10	0
Keenleyside, Crook Hall	0	10	0
Pells, Greenwood	0	10	0
isses Surtees, Hamsterley Hall	0	10	0
. Smith, Blackhill	0	10	0
Smith, Medomsley	0	10	0
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ackhill	2	13	6
nsett	5	16	6
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	£199	8	2
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	£196	12	8

. HEDLEY, Treasurer
YMER, Secretary } For Local Committee.

Public Notices.

28 IS THE WINNING NUMBER of the Chamber Set Raffled at Leadgate. 794o

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

GRAND CHURCH BAZAAR

IN the Consett National Schools, in Christmas Week, December 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. For Particulars see large and small Bills. Music every night.

CONSETT.

A PIGEON SHOOTING HANDICAP will take place on New Year's Day and January 3rd, 1880, when J. ROBSON will ADD £3 TO ENTRANCE MONEY. 2s. 6d. each Lot. Entries to be made to J. ROBSON or J. T. ARMSTRONG, Number One, Consett.

A TEA PARTY AND BALL

WILL be held at Mrs. BROWN'S, Traveller's Rest Inn, Delves Lane, Consett, on New Year's Eve, for the BENEFIT OF MRS. ELLIOT, a Widow, who hopes Friends will show their kindness and respect by being present. Tea on the Tables at Four o'clock; Ball to commence at Seven. Tickets—for Tea, One Shilling; for Ball, Sixpence. 779o

CONSETT WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

ON Christmas Day the Annual XMAS TREE will be held in the Gibson Street Schools. There will also be a POLYTECHNIC and PICTURE GALLERY. Amongst the Curiosities shown there will be an Alligator, Crocodile, and Two Sea Turtles. Full Details in Bills. 774o

LANCHESTER UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

TO BUILDERS

And all Persons engaged in the Erection or Extension of Property within the District of the said Authority.

Attention is hereby drawn to the following points, viz:—

NO New Buildings or Extensions are to be commenced until Plans have been submitted to the Authority.

Two days notice in writing is to be given to the Surveyor by the Builder.

1. Before the actual commencement of the Work.
2. Before any Drains or Foundations are covered up.
3. Before any Alterations or Amendment ordered by the Surveyor are covered up.

Notice is to be given to the Surveyor before Occupation, and within one month after the completion of any Work or Building.

All Drains are to be of Socketted Glazed Stoneware, laid with good Falls, Trapped Inlets, Clay Joints, proper Junctions and Bends, and good Ventilation. No Drains are to be laid under or into any Dwelling-house.

Subsoil Drainage, Damp Course, and Rain Water-spouts are to be provided in every case.

Privies are to have their Floors 8in. above the ground, and be Ventilated.

Cesspools are to be built in Cement and made Water-tight.

Ashpits are to be Cemented out or Paved, Covered, and Ventilated.

This Advertisement is not to be construed as in any way superseding the Bye Laws, in which full Particulars of the above, and all other matters connected with Building are set forth, but rather as calling the attention of all persons engaged in Building to the necessity of *obtaining a copy of the Bye Laws* from the Surveyor, and *complying with them in every respect.*—By Order,

J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE,
Surveyor to the L. U. R. S. A.

Lanchester, 25th November, 1880. 768o

To Let.

GARDENS to LET.—Apply to GEORGE BROWN Railway Hotel, Consett.

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

TO LET, at Stanifordham Bank, within Ten Minutes Walk from Consett Iron Works, a COTTAGE, with Three Rooms, and a large Garden.—Apply to W. R. TAYLOR, Stanifordham. 795o

TO LET, ROOMS from 2s. per Week. Also HOUSE and SHOP close to Newcastle-on-Tyne Quayside Ferry Landing.—Apply to Mr. J. TAYLOR, Pawnbroker, 19, Broad Chare. 517o

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP at Annfield Plain; suitable for a Grocer, Butcher, or Draper: with Spirit, Wine, and Wholesale Beer License attached if required.—Apply to W. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c., Consett.

TO LET, and Entered immediately, a Superior DWELLING-HOUSE in East Parade, Consett, occupied by Mrs. SUDDES.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

TO LET or SELL, a Newly-Erected DWELLING-HOUSE, situated in Benfieldside Edge Road, and containing 7 Rooms; also, Bath-room, Scullery, and Pantry, with good yard and Garden behind.—Apply to Mr.P. Gibson, Foundry Row, Blackhill. 752o

TO LET, at Catchgate, a First-class HOUSE, with six Rooms, Yard, and every Convenience; suitable for a Doctor, Clergyman, or Colliery Manager (late in the occupation of Mr. THIRLWELL).—Apply to GEO. ROBSON, Harperley Mills, Lintz Green. 639o

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, with Five Rooms and other Outside Buildings, situate at Catchgate, via Lintz Green Station, Newcastle, now occupied by WM. FITZPATRICK, Tailor and Draper. This is a good Opening for a Draper, Grocer, Boot and Shoe Trade, or any other Business. To be Entered upon February Term.—Apply to WM. WILKINSON, Furniture Broker and Ironmonger, next door. 796o

For Sale.

WELL-WON OLD LAND HAY FOR SALE (this year's).—Apply to W. J. Scott, Consett

FOR SALE, several HORSES, COBS, and PONIES, quiet to Ride and Drive in Double and Single Harness.—Apply to Mr. JOHN BRODIE, Shotley Bridge, or JOS. BELL, Highgate. 217o

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

Wanted.

WANTED, a Strong SERVANT GIRL.—Apply at the "Guardian" Office. 769o

WANTED, APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply to Miss THOMPSON, 13, Cort Street, Blackhill. 798o

FOR SALE, a Strong SPRING CART: an extraordinary Cheap Bargain.—Apply to Messrs. IRWIN BROS., Tanfield.

AGENT wanted to push First-class Lubricating Oils. Commission—10 to 15 per Cent.—Box 322, Post Office, Liverpool. 571o

WANTED, a good Strong GIRL; accustomed to Farm Work generally; must be a good Milker.—Apply to Mr. A. THOMPSON, Low Thornley, Rowlands Gill Station.

WANTED, Auctioneers, Shopkeepers, and Hawkers to Sell BIRMINGHAM GOODS. Illustrated Wholesale Catalogue post free.—Apply HENRY MAY, 694, Birmingham. 702o

WANTED, an AGENT for Consett and District for the Sale of REARLEY'S Celebrated BOTANIC ALE. Liberal Terms.—Apply by Letter to R. REARLEY, Botanic Ale Stores, 34, Albert Road, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

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

Lost.

LOST, either in the neighbourhood of Stanley or Consett, a MACINTOSH COAT.—A Reward of Five Shillings will be given on applying at the "Guardian" Office, or WM. ROWE, Leadgate.

Money Wanted.

WANTED, by the Trustees of the Westwood Chapel (now building), a LOAN of £150 or £200. Security—the Promissory Note of the Trustees; or, Mortgage on the Chapel. Interest—Five per Cent.—Full Particulars on Application to Rev. F. WOOD, Blackhill, Durham. 771o

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL BY AUCTION, at Mr. DOBSON'S, Fountain Hotel, Medomsley Road, Consett, on Monday, January 3rd, 1881, a large quantity of CATTLE, HORSES, SHEEP, CONVEYANCES, and HARNESS of all kinds and description.

30 Fat Sheep.
20 Keeping Lambs.
15 Cows, in Calf and to Calve.
12 Horses, suitable for different purposes.
12 Conveyances.
6 Bridles.

Further Particulars next week.
All Entries to be made to Mr. DOBSON, Mr. GEO. BROWN, or to the AUCTIONEER. 761o

By Mr. W. Nicholson.

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, DEC. 27TH, 1880.

PRESENT ENTRY—20 Prime Fat Cattle; 50 Fat Sheep, 6 pure Ayrshire Young Cows and Heifers, close to Calving, and direct from the Breeder in Ayrshire. Further Entries respectfully solicited.

W. NICHOLSON, AUCTIONEER,
Stow House, Cornsay, Durham. 770o

By Mr. Thomas Blandford.

Browney Bank Colliery, near Lanchester.

MR. THOMAS BLANDFORD will SELL BY AUCTION, at Browney Bank Colliery, near Lanchester, on Saturday, the 18th of December, 1880, the whole of the COLLIERY PLANT, &c., consisting of an Eight-Horse Portable Engine, by Chaytor and Shuttleworth; Pug Mill and Belting; Pair of Edge Stones; 2 Love's Patent Brick-making Machines; 2 Brick Machines: small Fan Blast; large Weighing Machine, by Pooley; 39 Pit Tubs; Pooley's Weighing Machine for Tubs; Self-acting Incline and Drum and Wire Rope; a large quantity of Tramway Plates; 7 Brass Brick Moulds; lot of Quarl and Brick Moulds; quantity of Bar and Rod Iron; quantity of Pit Props; Sawn Trees; Sleepers, &c.; about 4,000 of lin. Boards; Old Wire Rope; Tub and Bogie Wheels and Axles; Footlathe; about 50,000 common Bricks; 2 Brick Tables; 6 Barrows; Fire Bars; Grindstone; 4 Bags of Bolts and Nuts; 4 Bags of Nails; Bag of Rivets; 3 Dozen Shovels; Anvil; Pair of Bellows; Stocks, Taps, and Dies; Horse-shoeing Tools; Cross-cut Saw; Vice; a quantity of Pairs of Tongs; Pitmen's Picks; Scrap Iron; Sledge Hammers; the Material of the Heapstead; Desk; Table; Form; Stool, &c.

Sale to commence at Twelve o'clock precisely.
Corbridge-on-Tyne, December 14th, 1880. 775o

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Trafalgar Sale-rooms, Consett.

Relinquishing Business on account of Ill Health.—Important Sale of Valuable Household Furniture, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding of all kinds, and Sundries.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mr. JOHN JENKINS, who is Relinquishing Business on account of Ill Health, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the above Sale-rooms, on Monday, December 27th, 1880, the whole of the STOCK-IN-TRADE of Household FURNITURE and Miscellaneous EFFECTS, including large Mahogany Dining Table, 12ft. by 6ft. 6in.; Walnut Cheffioneer and Bookcase; Mahogany Couches and Sofas; Mahogany Easy and Rocking Chairs; Kitchen and Bed-room Drawers; Windsor and Cane Chairs; large assortment of Brass and Iron Tester and French Bedsteads; Parlour and Kitchen Fenders and Fire Irons; Cornice Poles; Mantlepiece Mirror, in Gilt Frame; Feather, Down, and Flock Beds; Spring Mattress; Pictures; together with a large assortment of Miscellaneous Lots too numerous to mention.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt. 793o

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

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

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

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

EDITORIAL NOTICE.

THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE TO NEWSAGENTS AND THE PUBLIC

☞ The "Consett Guardian" will be issued on the afternoon of Thursday next, December 30th. Advertisers and Correspondents will please note this, and kindly forward their communications in time for publication.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, DEC. 24TH, 1880.

ECHOES FROM BLACKHILL.

[BY INCEDO.]

What are the Consett folk doing, I wonder? I have lost my patience, if not my temper, over the covered marked scheme! Week after week I have pored over the pages of the *Guardian*, ransacked the business announcements, overturned Mr. Aynsley's "famous Zoedone," tumbled over "hundreds of remnants," the property of T. S. Atkinson, Luton House, and, finally, lost myself amongst Thomas Latham's "winter drapery," in quest of some stray paragraph referring to this momentous question. I say momentous, because a covered market for Consett means prosperity to the tradesmen of Blackhill, and ruin to those who occupy high-rented shops in Consett. This may seem a paradoxical statement, but it is not so. The matter stands exactly thus: it is well known that the people of Blackhill crowd weekly to Consett to make their purchases, nor would the erection of a covered market affect this habit in any way, so far as the purchaser is concerned; but observe how the tradesmen would benefit by the change. Why! instead of standing behind the counter, with a long face, the grocer or draper, for that matter, could tumble his goods into a cart and trundle to Consett with the living stream. And how would it fare with the tradesmen in Middle Street, Consett, who pay high rents and heavy taxes? Well, they could go to the covered market. True, but so could any paltry back-street tradesman. It will thus be seen that Blackhill has nothing to loose, but much to gain by the opening of a covered market at Consett. But if the undertaking is too much for the mental calibre of our Consett friends, they might have the candour to make an "open, fair confession" to that effect, and steps might be taken to carry out the project.

How long the men of Consett have talked about building a Town Hall I cannot tell; but a century or two hence, when the subject may have bloomed into maturity, they will find a model at Blackhill well worthy of all the notice which they can bestow upon it. Even now may be seen from that sterile range of hills known as the Blue Mountains, the glittering minarettes and gilded padagos of that "thing of beauty," better known as the Central Hall. Here, I am told, the curious may behold bewitching nymphs dancing on their tiptoes, and disporting among the gaslights like midges in the sunbeam. I have not visited the place myself, for, like, Wordsworth,

"I have a vision of my own,
Ah why should I undo it."

But, alas! there is "no rose without a thorn." This reminds me that the Consettonians congratulated themselves when their theatre was closed—and some there were keen of sight and strong of nerve who averred that they saw his sooty majesty wing his flight from Consett. It is to be hoped, now that a Theatre has been opened in our midst, that the old gentleman will not return to this district. We do not want him here, and have quite enough to do with ourselves.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT NEAR MEDOMSLEY.

On Friday afternoon last, Mr. Coroner Graham and a jury held an inquest at the Stag's Head Inn, Medomsley, on the body of John Corr (not Cole, as reported in our last impression), a farm labourer. The body having been viewed, the following evidence was given:—

Edward Corr said: I am a labourer, and am employed at Leslie's shipbuilding yard at Hebburn. The body that the jury have seen is that of my father John Corr, forty-five years of age. He came to Medomsley four months ago, and had previously worked in the shipbuilding yard at Hebburn.

Mary Beck deposed: I live at East Medomsley Farm, which I manage for my brother. On the 14th December, about ten o'clock in the morning, Corr left the farm with a horse and coup-cart to go to one of the fields for a load of turnips. The field was about a mile distant, and I expected him back about twelve o'clock or soon after. As he did not return, I went to the field about three o'clock to see what had become of him. On getting there I saw the cart standing, and a small load of turnips in it. The limbers were on the ground, and the cart was standing across the bank as though the horse had been resting. I noticed that the cart-saddle was on the ground, between the limbers. I next saw the horse lying on his side, about half-a-dozen or eight yards down the bank below the cart. It was a steep bank, and the ground was hard frozen. The horse had no harness on it except the bridle. Corr was lying on the ground near the end of the cart limbers. He was on his back, with his head downbank. I noticed that there was a little skin off his nose, and there was also a black mark on his chin, but there was no other mark as far as I could see. Seeing that he was dead, I came away and gave an alarm, and had the body removed.

The CORONER: Did it appear to you as though the horse had slipped down the bank?

Miss Beck: Yes.

Jane Robinson, wife of Mr. William Robinson, landlord of the Stag's Head Inn, said: I saw the dead body about five o'clock in the evening. It was then stiffened. I helped to lay it out on the same evening. There was a slight cut across the upper part of the nose, from which a small streak of blood had trickled down his face. There was also a small bit of skin off the chin, but beyond these two marks there was no appearance of injury to the body.

At the request of the Coroner, Police-constable Cummin produced the hame-sticks, the strap of which had been cut.

The Coroner said there seemed to be no other evidence, from the position in which the cart was found, the condition and position of the horse, and the fact that the ground was hard and slippery, he thought they might reasonably infer that the horse had slipped down, and that Corr had endeavoured to release it from the cart, and that whilst doing so the animal had suddenly attempted to get up, and in this way fallen over him and crushed him in such a way as to occasion his death. He thought they might fairly come to the conclusion that Corr had been accidentally killed by being crushed through the horse falling upon him.

The jury concurring, a verdict to this effect was returned.

THE FEMALE CHRISTYS AT THE CENTRAL HALL, BLACKHILL.

Those birds of passage, the Female Christys, have flown. Their varied entertainment at the Central Hall, Blackhill, was a truly enjoyable treat, and the only thing we regretted was that it came to an end. Everything was done with such precision, such rapidity and such thoroughness, that the most hypercritical critic would find it difficult, nay almost impossible, to discover a flaw. To single any one performer out of such a serried host of talent would be but an invidious task, and one which we have no inclination to undertake. The whole was such an unbroken success, that we left the Hall, not dazzled by the brilliancy of any particular star, but bewildered by such a collection of shining lights. To enumerate the beauties of the performance would be but to recapitulate the programme. Nothing succeeds like success, and the Female Christys may rest assured that they will leave a favourable and lasting impression behind them wherever they may go. Having enjoyed their performance ourselves, we can heartily recommend it to all who wish to spend a pleasant evening, and who care to be amused in a rational manner by accomplished and well trained artistes. The choruses were admirably rendered, and the effect of the voices when subdued and muffled was strikingly effective. Miss Jessie McIntyre was, like Zoedone, the very essence of life, and would infuse vitality into any audience. Miss Lizzie Gesson presided at the harmonium with an ease and grace which it was a pleasure to behold, and her vocal powers were on a par with her instrumental skill. Miss Kate Ruby's performance on the cornet—well we need not "trumpet" her praises, for she did this literally and effectively herself. The two sisters Herberte, hailing from the Green Isle, sang a duet in a manner irresistibly pretty, and their bright laughing faces and merry twinkling eyes were a picture in themselves sufficient to drive away all care from a "heat oppressed" brain. Strange to say, these "Female" Christys included three inevitable males. First and foremost, Mr. Merrilees himself, whose masterly manipulation of the violin evinced rare skill and musical dexterity. Instead of ten minutes we could have wished ten times ten minutes with Mr. Charles Blamphin, who is a host in himself, and who discoursed a variety of popular airs on his harp with consummate skill. Mr. King's burlesque of the School Board was a splendid "take-off," and his facial contortions were as extraordinary as they were laughable. We wish the troupe every success, and shall give them one and all a hearty welcome when they come back again to cheer and enliven our leisure moments, as we understand they intend doing at some future date. HISTRIO.

Local and District News.

The County Court Office, Shotley Bridge, will be closed on Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, the 24th, 25th, 27th and 28th days of December, 1880.

ACCIDENT AT BLACKHILL.—On Saturday last, an accident of a serious nature happened to Alexander Fraser, residing at Roger Street, Blackhill. While walking on the street near the Tin Mill, he slipped on the ice and broke his leg. Dr. Bolton was sent for, and set the limb, but pronounced the fracture to be of a very bad nature.

CONCERT AT BILLY ROW, NEAR CROOK.—On Saturday evening last, the members of the East Hedley Hope Primitive Methodist choir gave a concert in aid of the Billy Row Wesleyan Chapel, to a small but appreciative audience. The programme consisted of anthems, quartetts and songs, and was exceedingly well rendered. Mr. R. Bird was conductor, Mr. G. E. Chipchase harmoniumist, and Messrs. C. Cook and Ralph Bird violinists. The programme, though large, was very efficiently rendered.

POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW AT DURHAM.—The fifth annual show of poultry and pigeons in connection with the Northumberland and Durham Poultry and Pigeon Association, was held on Tuesday in the New Markets, at Durham, and brought together by far the finest collection of poultry and pigeons which has been seen in the North. The arrangements were of the most excellent order, and besides the liberal money prizes, the association offered six silver cups valued at £2 each, as well as eleven special prizes of 10s. each, for competition for poultry, six cups, and a like number of special prizes of the above value respectively, for competition in the pigeon department of the show. This brought forth 845 entries of poultry and 400 of pigeons, besides 10 of dressed fowls, making a total of 1,251. The selling classes attracted most attention, and contained amongst them a number of cheap and exceedingly good-looking fowls, and the pens were closely inspected throughout the day. The attendance during the afternoon was not perhaps so large as on the occasion of the first of the association shows, but after five o'clock the Markets filled rapidly, and locomotion through the alleys amongst the pens became a matter of some difficulty. Besides the attraction of the poultry show, a magic lantern entertainment was conducted at intervals in the Poultry Market by Mr. David Browell.

IMPORTANT CASE UNDER THE EMPLOYERS' AND WORKMEN'S ACT.—At the Hexham Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, before Mr. R. Wallis, chairman, and Major Waddilove, Thomas Robson, Hagg Colliery, was summoned by Thomas Taggart for refusing to pay him 20s. wages under the Employers' and Workmen's Act, 1875.—Mr. J. Baty, jun., appeared for the defence.—Complainant stated that for the past four months he had been employed at the Hagg Colliery. On the 3rd of this month Mr. Pell the viewer, and Mr. Potts, the overman, kept a sovereign off his wages for "tommy" tickets. His wages were 24s. per fortnight, and one pay day he had only 10d. to receive in money. He had always received these "tommy" tickets.—In defence Mr. Baty argued that this case did not come under the Truck Act. The man was engaged at so much a ton, and nothing was said about tickets. After he had been there a day or two he sent his daughter to Mr. Potts to ask him to advance something. She got a ticket to get some goods, as they had no food in the house. The colliery people had no connection with the shops in the village.—After hearing the evidence for the defence, the Bench made an order for the payment of 15s., deducting off the original claim 4s. for house rent and 1s. for money lent; but the Bench made no order for costs, as they considered it was a hard case, the man having got value for these tickets.

DURHAM DIOCESAN INSPECTION.—The following are the names of local pupil teachers who have obtained first and second classes in the late diocesan examination. All whose names appear in the first class receive a prize of books from the Diocesan Board:—

FIFTH YEAR.

First class.—Mary J. Cragie Stanley. Second class.—Lizzie Robinson, Burnopfield; Margaret A. Nicholson, Flint Hill; Mary J. Curry, Stanley, and Eobt, Dodds, St. Mary's, Gateshead, equal.

THIRD YEAR.

First class.—Joseph Corker, Pitt Hill. Second class.—William J. Anderson, Oxhill Board; Laura Todhunter, St Stephen's, Newcastle, and John Surtees, Stanley, equal; Annie B. Davison, Flint Hill; Mary E. Archer, Easington Lane, and Isabella Hardy, Oxhill Board, equal.

SECOND YEAR.

First class.—Alice Riddell, Tanfield. Second class—Mary Elizabeth Short, Lintz Colliery; Isabella Brown, Pitt Hill; Alice J. Blyth, Harton, and Elizabeth Pickering Oxhill Board, equal.

FIRST YEAR.

Second class—Edward Errington, Marley Hill Board; Isabella Wheatley, Westwood Board; Frederick J. Davison, Belmont, and Wm. McKay, Annfield Plain Board, equal.

CANDIDATES.

Second class.—E. Robson, Stanley; John J. Hutchinson, Hedley Bank; Eleanor Audus, Burnopfield; Wm. Brabban, Marley Hill.

FOOTBALL AT BURNOPFIELD.—The tie between Burnopfield and Sunderland, which has proved to be the most stubbornly contested as yet of the second round, was played off on the ground of the Burnopfield on Saturday. It was first played on the Sunderland ground on the 11th inst., and on that occasion each team scored two goals. By the rules of the Association the captain of the Burnopfield team had the next choice for ground, and, of course, elected to play a home match. The day was one well calculated to daunt any but enthusiasts in the game. A snowstorm prevailed during the match, and the Sunderland captain having lost the toss, had to kick off against a strong wind, which, accompanied with a driving sleet, was blowing into the Sunderland goal. The play at once became fast; the Burnopfield team pressed their opponents, who at once answered to the call, and soon carried the ball into the Burnopfield quarters, where Allan, dropping on the ball, carried it to the Burnopfield goal, but the shot failed, the heavy wind carrying the ball safely past the goal. This piece of play infused great spirit into the Sunderland team, and following up the ball with vigour, Chappel made a narrow shot, which failed, and a goal kick resulted. Coates next managed so get possession of the leather, and dribbling past all his opponents, sent the ball in dangerous proximity to the Burnopfield stronghold; but the wind was again favourable to the defenders, and the ball was carried past the goal. The Burnopfield team now got possession of the ball, and carried it to the other end of the field. A shot at goal failed, the ball passing over the tape. For the remainder of the first forty the Sunderland team played a capital defensive game, and, despite all their efforts, the Burnopfield team could not score. In the next forty the Burnopfield team made the utmost of their staying powers, and for the first twenty minutes kept the ball well out of their goal; but the Sunderland team, working well together, would not be denied. Allan got possesssion of the ball, and dribbling through the whole opposing team, placed the first goal to the credit of Sunderland. The game now degenerated into shots at the Burnopfield goal, and Allan in a short time added another goal to the Sunderland score. The home team in vain tried to get away with the ball; but Allan, Roberts, and Coates were always there when wanted, and at the call of time Sunderland were victors by two goals to nil. It should be mentioned that the Sunderland backs played well. Teams:—Burnopfield—J. Graham, goal; B. Mason (captain) and J. Bewley, backs; J. H. Brown and F. Bulley, half backs; J. Harrison, J. Town, W. J. Cawthorne, J. Rodham, R. Wharton, and W. Fisk, forwards. Sunderland—J. Grayston, goal; R. Singleton and J. Sewell, backs; W. Elliott and J. T. Taylor, half backs; J. Allan, W. C. Chappel, J. Coates, E. G. Watson, J. Anderson, and G. Roberts, forwards.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CONSETT.—We observe that Mr. W. C. Osborne has taken the above hall for a short season, commencing on Christmas Eve, with a powerful dramatic company. The lessee, Mr. D. Jenkins, has appealed to the justices for a license to perform stage plays, which has been granted pursuant to Act of Parliament. Mr. Osborne's company are well-known as most talented artistes, and their productions are of the best. Those who have time on Christmas Eve would do well to go and judge for themselves.

IMPORTANT SEWING MACHINE CASE.—At the Seaham Harbour County Court, on the 1st inst., the Singer Manufacturing Company sued Mr. Forster, a property owner, for the sum of £6 10s., the value of a sewing machine. The machine in question was hired by a person named George Nichol, who rented a cottage from the defendant, to whom he was £1 15s. in arrears for rent. The machine was seized and sold by auction. His Honour, in giving his decision at Sunderland County Court on Thursday last, ruled that it was a privileged article, and gave judgment for the plaintiffs for the full amount in 28 days.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Indigestion, Stomach and Liver Complaints.—Persons suffering from any derangements of the liver, stomach, or the organs of digestion should have recourse to Holloway's Pills, as there is no medicine known that acts on these particular complaints with such certain success. Its peculiar properties strengthen the stomach, increase the appetite, and rouse the sluggish liver. For bowel complaints it is invaluable, as it removes every primary derangement, thereby restoring the patient to the soundest health and strength. These preparations may be used at all times and in all climates by persons affected by biliousness, nausea, or disordered liver; for flatulency and heartburn they are specifics. Indeed, no ailment of the digestive organs can long resist their purifying and corrective powers.

A NEW KIND OF MEASLES.—The attention of the medical world has been of late called to the spread in England of a new kind of measles, known as German measles or rotheln, and we understand that cases of it have occurred in some neighbourhoods in the south of this country. It seems to some to be a kind of mixture of measles and scarlet fever; but Dr. Dackworth, of St. Bartholmew's has pointed out in the *Lancet* that it has a peculiar and specific nature of its own. He describes it as having a measly eruption, but the patches become diffused, and resemble scarlatinal rash, and that a special noteworthy point in cases of rotheln is the tendency to enlargement of the lymphatic glands about the jaw and neck, which does not occur in true measles. As some alarm has been caused by its occurrence, it is satisfactory to learn that it is not considered in any way more dangerous than common measles.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.—This church, after being closed for extensive repairs, &c., was re-opened on Sunday, and the interior of the sacred edifice now presents an appearance which, for comfort and for chaste and effective decoration, can hardly be surpassed in the diocese. The special preachers on the occasion were the Rev. J. W. Mitchell, vicar of St. Ives, Leadgate, and the Rev. Wesley Farrar, vicar of Castleside. The congregations were good, in spite of severe weather from the south-west, and the collections liberal. The cost entailed is about £200, which it is proposed to raise chiefly by a bazaar to be held in Christmas week, beginning on Monday next. It is also intended to comprise a polytechnic and various entertainments, which will be held in the magnificent suite of rooms forming the Consett National Schools. The bazaar will be opened by W. Jenkins, Esq., J.P., and is under the special patronage of Mrs. Jenkins and other ladies of the district.

ELECTION OF IRONWORKERS' REPRESENTATIVE AT CONSETT.—Mr. Charles Finn, who has represented the Consett ironworkers on the Board of Arbitration during the past twelve months, has been re-elected to that office. The election took place on Tuesday, and from the fact that a second candidate was in the field, the event caused a good deal of interest amongst the operatives. Four gentlemen had been nominated, namely, Mr. Finn, Mr. Daniel Williams, Mr. James McArdle, and Mr. Bernard Ward, but at the beginning of the present week the two last-named gentlemen retired in favour of Mr. Finn, who, it is but fair to say, has on all occasions ably, faithfully and intilligently discharged the onerous and delicate duties devolving upon him. The poll was taken at the pay-office attached to the works, and at the close it was found that Mr. Finn had been elected by an overwhelming majority, having received no fewer than 1,021 votes, against 376 recorded for his opponent.

PENNY READINGS.—The fifth of the present series of penny readings was given on Tuesday evening in the Wesleyan School, Gibson Street, Consett. Mr. Davison took the chair at 7.30. and after a few brief remarks, called on the band for a selection, which was very efficiently rendered. The choir, mustering in strong numbers, then gave a part song, "Hurrah! Welcome the Day," appropriate to the season, and which was succeeded by a reading from Mr. Robert English, combining amusement with instruction, the subject being the "Cobbler and the Deacon." Mr. R. C. Foster then sang a song entitled "Man Know Thyself," in which the hearers were forcibly reminded to first cure their own faults and then their neighbours. A concertina solo followed from Mr. N. Siddle, which was very warmly encored, and in response he played with great taste "The Last Rose of Summer." Mr. A. Jackson then gave a most interesting reading from the Rev. J. Jackson Wray, which, though somewhat long, kept the audience in wrapt attention. A pleasing selection of Scotch airs was next given by Mr. Lennox on the dulcimer in his usual style, followed by another part song from the choir, "Hail Happy day." Mr. N. Siddle again appeared in "Coming Thro' the Rye" on the concertina, being once more encored, and a performance from the band brought a very enjoyable evening to a close. Master W. Stokoe kindly presided at the harmonium in the unavoidable absence of Mr. C. Stelling. We are glad to understand that the committee have in preperation an excellent programme for next Tuesday.

STARTLING DISCOVERY AT BLYTH.—On Monday forenoon, the skeleton of a human being was discovered on Blyth Links, by Mr. Gilbert Twizel, shipwright of Blyth, who quickly raised an alarm, and soon a large number of the inhabitants congregated at the spot. The remains had been embedded several feet from the surface, but the recent high winds hand so shifted the sands as to lay the skeleton partly bare. When found, the remains were in a reclining position on the left side, with the knees partly drawn up, and the skull lying upon the left arm. The skeleton appears to have lain in the sand many years, and is evidently the remains of a man of large stature, between 17 and 20 years of age, and when found the head was lying to the east and the feet to the west. The skull has been minutely examined by Dr. H. D Ward, who is now in possession of it. The teeth are in a perfect state of preservation. On each side of the skeleton were found the remains of decayed pieces of wood, and it is supposed that the remains must have been interred in some kind of box. The skeleton when first dug open was complete, but on being exposed to the air it crumbled away. The discovery has caused some sensation in the town, and, strange to say, the skeleton of a woman was found about 300 yards from the spot some fifteen years since. About a century ago soldiers were encamped on Blyth Links, and the skeleton found on Monday is supposed by many to be the remains of a soldier.

Business Announcements.

ALLAN'S

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(2) Post Office Orders to be made payable to the Secretary and Manager, EDWARD A. POWELL, Esq., at the HEXHAM Post Office.

☞ The Drawing for Prizes will take place publicly, and the Names and Addresses of the principal Prize Winners will be published with the List of Winning Numbers, which will be forwarded gratis to Subscribers.

CONSETT "GUARDIAN" ORDER FORM.

Please supply me with Lot for which I enclose P.O.O. value or Stamps value

Name..........

Address..........

....

Date..........1880.

The following Letters are selected from a large number received from Prize Winners in previous Distributions.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADDRESS—
THE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CLUB COMPANY,
BEAUMONT STREET, HEXHAM-ON-TYNE.

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

A lady said to Dr. Johnson: "Do you really believe, Doctor, that the Dead Walk after Death?" "Madam," said the Doctor, "I have no doubt about it. I have heard the 'Dead March in Saul.'" The Public can purchase a splendid Instrument to play that immortal Air, as well as Tunes more joyous, at Prices and Terms suited to every one's means, from the Musical Instrument Club Company, Pianoforte, Harmonium, and American Organ Manufacturers, Beaumont Street, Hexham-on-Tyne.—Full Illustrated Price List, 200 Pages, Post Free 18 Stamps.

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.

NEW WORK BY DR. HENRY SMITH.
NOW READY, PRICE THREEPENCE.
200 Pages, by Post, in Envelope, free to any part of the World
DISEASES PECULIAR TO MEN: CONSTITUTIONAL OR ACQUIRED: Their Cause, Consequences, and Treatment, by the POSITIVE REMEDIES, the result of Thirty Years' Special Practice.
Every man, young or old, should have this Book in his possession, as a Guide to the Cure of Diseases Peculiar to Men. It contains a concise description of the various SPECIAL DISEASES PECULIAR TO MEN. The Author's remarks on the treatment by the Positive Remedies being the result of over Thirty Years' special Practice.
DR. HENRY SMITH, 8, Burton Crescent, London, W.C.

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

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

Local Postal Arrangements.

CONSETT.
Postmaster, ... Mr. R. FRASER.
First delivery of letters at 7·30 a.m.; Second, (at window of Post Office) at 9a.m.; Third, at 6·50p.m. The letter box closes at 12·5 (noon), 5·55 p.m., and 8 p.m.
Money Orders are issued from 9 a.m. to 5·30 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 7·30 p.m.
Telegrams received from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.
The PILLAR BOX at top of DELVES LANE is cleared daily (except Sundays) at 5·40 p.m.

BLACKHILL.
Postmaster, ... Mr. E. SLOANE.
First delivery of letters at 7·15 a.m.; Second, (and at window), at 8·30 p.m.; Third, at 6·50 p.m. The letter box closes at 12·20 p.m., 6 p.m., and 8·30 p.m.
Money Orders issued from 9 a.m. to 5·30 p.m., and on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Telegrams received from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
The PILLAR BOX at HIGHGATE is cleared daily (except Sundays) at 4·50 p.m.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
Postmistress, ... Miss J. LESLIE, Front Street.
Letters arrive and are delivered about 8 a.m. Window delivery at 10 a.m. Letters are despatched at 11·50 a.m., 5·30 p.m., and 8 p.m.
The Money Order Office is open from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.
Telegrams are received from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m. Sundays from 8 a.m till 10 a.m.

LEADGATE.
Postmaster, Mr. E. KINLESIDE, Front Street
The letter delivery commences at 8 a.m. A bag is also despatched from Blackhill at 9 a.m., and letters can be obtained at this office on application after 9·30 a.m. The letter box is closed at 5·30 p.m.
Money Orders are granted to the public from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and on Saturdays until 8 p.m.
Savings' Bank business is transacted during the same hours.
The Telegraph Office is open to the public from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m., and on Sundays from 8 a.m. till 10 a.m.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.
Postmaster, ... Mr. E. REED.
Letters delivered at 9·30 a.m.
Money Orders from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 to 10 a.m.
The PILLAR BOX at CATCHGATE is cleared at 3·25 p.m.

DIPTON.
Postmaster, ... Mr. E. MADDISON.
Letters delivered at 9 a.m. Box closes at 4 p.m.
Money Orders from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

LANCHESTER.
Postmistress, ... Mrs. CUMMING.
Leters delivered at 8·40 a.m. Box closes at 6·15 p.m.
Money Orders issued from 9 a.m. to 5·30 p.m.
Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays 8 to 10 a.m.

Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH
TRAINS.—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.		1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G P.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	2,G P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·45	9·40	12·30	2·40	5·36
Scotswood	„	5·52	9·47	12·37	2·47	5·42
Swalwell	„	5·59	9·54	12·43	2·53	5·49
Rowland's Gill	„	6·9	10·4	12·53	2·3	5·59
Lintz Green	„	6·15	10·10	12·59	2·9	6·5
Ebchester	„	6·28	10·23	1·12	3·22	6·18
Shotley Bridge	„	6·34	10·29	1·18	3·28	6·24
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.			1·25	3·35	
	dep	6·42	10·37		4·40	6·33
Knitsley	„	6·54	10·49		4·52	6·44
Lanchester	„	7·3	10·58		5·1	6·53
Witton Gilbert	„	7·14	11·9		5·12	7·4
Durham	arr.	7·26	11·20		5·21	7·15

DOWN TRAINS—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS		1,2,G. A.M.	1,2 G. A.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G P.M.	1,2,G P.M
Durham	dep.	7·25		11·45	3·30	8·0
Witton Gilbert	„	7·37		11·57	3·42	8·13
Lanchester	„	7·50		12·10	3·55	8·25
Knitsley	„	8·2		12·22	4·5	8·37
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)					4·15	
	dep	8·15	9·10	12·35	3·45	8·50
Shotley Bridge	„	8·20	9·15	12·40	3·50	8·55
Ebchester	„	8·24	9·19	12·44	3·54	8·59
Lintz Green	„	8·34	9·29	12·54	4·4	9·9
Rowland's Gill	„	8·39	9·34	12·59	4·10	9·14
Swalwell	„	8·47	9·42	1·7	4·17	9·22
Scotswood	„	8·54	9·49	1·14	4·24	9·29
Newcastle	arr.	9·5	10·0	1·25	4·35	9·40

SUNDAYS.

LEAVE	a.m.	p.m.	LEAVE	a.m.	p.m
Newcastle	7·30	7·15	Benfieldside	8·35	8·20
Scotswood	7·37	7·22	Shotley Bridge	8·40	8·25
Swalwell	7·44	7·29	Ebchester	8·44	8·29
Rowland's Gill	7·54	7·39	Lintz Green	8·54	8·39
Lintz Green	8·0	7·45	Rowland's Gill	8·59	8·44
Ebchester	8·13	7·58	Swalwell	9·8	8·53
Shotley Bridge	8·19	8·4	Scotswood	9·14	8·59
Benfieldside (arr)	8·25	8·10	Newcastle (arr.)	9·25	9·10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.
First, second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains—

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.		P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	7·10	4·10		
Scotswood	„	7·17	4·17	....	7·30
Swalwell	„	7·24	4·25	....	7·37
Rowland's Gill	„	7·34	4·35	....	7·44
Lintz Green	„	7·40	4·41	....	7·54
Ebchester	„	7·53	4·54	....	8·0
Shotley Bridge	„	7·59	5·0	....	8·13
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8·5	5·7	....	8·19
	dep.	9·20	....	....	8·25
Knitsley		9·32	....		....
Lanchester		9·41	....		....
Witton Gilbert		9·52	....		....
Durham	arr.	10·5	....		....

STATIONS.		A.M.		P.M.
Durham	dep.	7·56	......	....
Witton Gilbert	„	8·7	......	....
Lanchester	„	8·20	......	....
Knitsley	„	8·32	......	....
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8·45	......	....
	dep.	8·50	......	....
Shotley Bridge	„	8·55	......	5·30
Ebchester	„	8·59	......	5·35
Lintz Green	„	9·9	......	5·39
Rowland's Gill		9·15	......	5·49
Swalwell		9·22	......	5·55
Scotswood	„	9·29	......	6·2
Newcastle	arr.	9·40	......	6·9

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY
GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.		P.M.		P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·45	....	12·30	....	2·30
Benfieldside	„	6·50	....	1·30	....	4·30
Rowley	„	7·0	....	1·40	....	4·40
Burnhill Junction	„	7·10	....	1·50	....	4·50
Tow Law	„	7·23	....	2·3	....	5·3
Crook	arr.	7·35	....	2·15	....	5·15
	dep.	7·45	....	2·30	....	5·25
Bishop Auckland	„	8·10	....	2·54	....	6·0
Darlington	„	8·42	....	3·40	....	6·4
Stockton	„	9·10	....	4·8	....	7·18
Middlesbro'	„	9·33	....	4·20	....	7·33
Saltburn	„	10·10	....	4·55	....	8·10

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.		P.M.		P.M.
Saltburn	dep.	5·45	....	11·15	....	4·5
Middlesbro'	„	6·21	....	11·37	....	3·29
Stockton	„	6·31	....	11·45	....	3·37
Darlington	„	7·15	....	12·45	....	5·5
Bishop Auckland	„	7·43	....	1·13	....	5·33
Crook	arr.	8·8	....	1·36	....	5·58
	dep.	8·15	....	2·20	....	6·5
Tow Law	„	8·27	....	2·32	....	6·20
Burnhill Junction	„	8·42	....	2·45	....	6·35
Rowley	„	8·52	....	2·55	....	6·45
Benfieldside	arr.	9·5	....	3·5	....	6·55
Newcastle	arr.	10·0	....	4·35	....	9·40

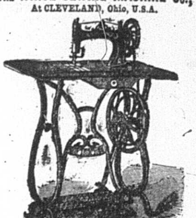
Business Announcements.

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The Latest Improved and Most Perfect

SEWING MACHINE

Ever introduced to the English Market,
MANUFACTURED BY
THE WHITE SEWING MACHINE Co.,
At CLEVELAND, Ohio, U.S.A.



IT has been pronounced by skilled Mechanics the Perfection of Invention. It is quite Noiseless, Simple in Movement, never gets out of order. A Marvel of Easy Running; the Treadle movement so light that a Child can operate it.

See a "WHITE" before Purchasing.
Warranted by Legal Guarantee for Five Years.
Will Sew any Material. Do more than any other Machine.
A great Variety of Attachments.

Also the "PEERLESS" Hand Machine,
Price £3 12s.
The Best and Lowest Price American made Machine in the Market.
Agents and Wholesale Dealers Wanted.
Send for Circulars to the
WHITE SEWING MACHINE Co.,
19, Queen Victoria St., London, E.C.

Washing-Day Reform.
HARPER TWELVETREES' VILLA WASHER, WRINGER, and MANGLER, does the Family Wash in Four Hours, without rubbing or boiling. Carriage paid; free trial; easy Weekly Payments.—80, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.

PARALYSIS, RHEUMATISM, &c.—For Cures by "Halse's Galvanic Apparatus," send 3 stamps for Pamphlet to Mr. HALSE, 40, Addison Road, Kensington, London.

TOUJOURS WHISKEY.
A Blend of the Finest Stills in Scotland, 44s. per dozen case, as supplied for many years to the House of Commons. Dr. TICHBORNE, F.C.S., says:—"I have carefully analysed the 'TOUJOURS,' and, although submitted to a rigorous test, I find it *perfectly free* from the impurities generally found in Whiskey: it is also equally good in flavour, as it is pure in quality."

PALOMINO SHERRY.
The most exquisite of Xerez Wine, 35s. per dozen. Specially shipped to our firm.

VIRGIN MADEIRA.
A Pure Wine of our own shipment, 30s. per dozen. Highly recommended to Invalids.

SIR CHARLES CUNINGHAM & CO. 9, Old Jewry, E.C.

THE THREE MAGAZINES FOR 1881.
A New Volume of each just commenced, affording a convenient opportunity for New Subscribers.
1. Monthly, 6d. THE QUIVER. FOR SUNDAY READING.
2. Monthly, 7d. CASSELL'S FAMILY MAGAZINE.
3. Monthly, 6d. LITTLE FOLKS. The Magazine for Girls & Boys.
Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., Ludgate Hill, London.

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SPECIALITY.
"THE UNTEARABLE TWEED" (REGD.)
is specially manufactured for us, and is of new and special design. We, fortunately, placed extensive orders for both Summer and Winter substances before the late great advances took place in the price of the raw material, and therefore can supply articles made from this now Fashionable and Favourite Fabric as under:—

SUITS - 42s.	TROUSERS - 12s. 6d.	OVERCOATS - 25s.
SUITS - 50s.	TROUSERS - 16s. 6d.	OVERCOATS - 30s.
SUITS - 63s.	TROUSERS - 21s.	OVERCOATS - 42s.

Price List, with Easy Rules for Self-Measure, and Patterns GRATIS and POST FREE. Remittances must accompany all orders; in the event of Goods not being approved (if not worn or injured) they will be exchanged.
E. MOSES & SON, *Merchant and Bespoke Tailors, Habit Makers, Hatters, Hosiers, Boot and Shoe Manufacturers, and General Outfitters.*
Only Address} Minories and Aldgate, LONDON.

"THE NOSE MACHINE" applied to the nose for an hour daily, so directs the cartilage that an ill-formed nose is quickly shaped to perfection. 10s. 6d. post, secretly packed for stamps. ALEX. ROSS, 21, Lamb's Conduit Street, London.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.
GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.

BRASS, REED, STRING, & DRUM & FIFE BANDS, PIANOS, ORGANS & HARMONIUMS at *Wholesale Prices* at J. MOORE'S, Buxton Rd., Huddersfield. Prices with drawings of every Instrument post free. Music for any kind of Band. Bandsmen's Caps. Patronized by Army, Navy, & Rifle Corps. Second-hand Instruments bought or taken in Exchange.

PRESENTS. BARNARD's PRIZE MEDAL Bassinets, Music & Dressing Stands. Illustrated list of B. Barnard, Patentee, 107, St. Paul's Rd., Highbury, London.

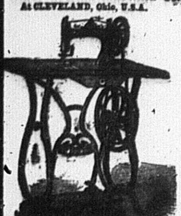
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, and NEURALGIA,
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.
A few doses quite effectual.—Caution.—The extraordinary medical reports on the efficacy of Chlorodyne render it of vital importance that the public should obtain the genuine, which is protected by a Government stamp, bearing the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne." See decision of Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, the *Times*, July 16th, 1864.
Numerous testimonials from eminent Physicians accompany each bottle.
From W. C. WILKINSON, Esq., F.R.C.S., Spalding.
I consider it invaluable in Phthisis and Spasmodic Cough: the benefit is very marked.
From Dr. M'Millman, of New Galloway, Scotland.
As a Sedative, Anodyne, and Anti-Spasmodic, I consider Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne the most valuable medicine known.
Sold in bottles. 1/1½, 2/9, & 4/6 by all Chemists.

NOTICE.—THE TESTIMONY OF MEDICAL GENTLEMEN AND THE PROFESSIONAL PRESS HAS BEEN UNQUALIFIED IN PRAISE OF
LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE,
as possessing most important elements, calculated to restore and maintain health, with perfect vigour of body and mind;—"Have it in your houses and forget it not in your travels."
DR. PROUT.—"Unfolding germs of immense benefit to mankind."
DR. MORGAN.—"It furnishes the blood with its lost saline constituents."
DR. TURLEY.—"I found it act as a specific in my experience and family in the worst form of scarlet fever, no other medicine being required."
DR. S. GIBBON (formerly physician of the London Hospital). —"It is the best preparation of the kind I have ever met with. Its usefulness in the treatment of disease has long been confirmed by medical experience. I have been in the habit of using it in private practice for many years. In hot climates it is of especial value."
DR. SPARKS (Government Medical Inspector of Emigrants from the Port of London) writes:—"I have great pleasure in bearing my cordial testimony to its efficacy in the treatment of many of the ordinary and chronic forms of Gastric Complaints and other forms of Febrile Dyspepsia." —It is of immense value in Prickly Heat.
DR. J. W. DOWSING.—"I used it in the treatment of forty-two cases of Yellow Fever, and I am happy to state that I never lost a single case."
DR. W. STEVENS, in his works on Cholera and Fever, states: "Since its introduction the Fatal West India Fevers are deprived of their terrors." Price 2/6, 4/6, 11/- & 21/- each bottle. H. LAMPLOUGH, 113, Holborn, London.

THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER.
THOMPSON'S BURDOCK PILLS
purify the foulest blood, & remove every disease of the stomach, liver, & kidneys. Pure blood gives health. Thousands have been cured by these wonderful Pills whose diseases could not be reached by any other medicine. Sold by all Chemists in boxes, 1/1½ & 2/9; or from the establishment, 44, Oxford-st., Swansea, for 15 or 35 stamps. All sufferers are highly recommended to try them.

Business Announcements.

THE WHITE
Latest Improved and Most Perfect
SEWING MACHINE
Ever introduced to the English Market.
MANUFACTURED BY
WHITE SEWING MACHINE Co.,
At CLEVELAND, Ohio, U.S.A.



...s been pronounced by skilled Mechanics the Perfection of Invention. It is quite Noiseless, Simple ...ement, never gets out of order. A Marvel of ...unning; the Treadle movement so light that a Child can operate it.
...a "WHITE" before Purchasing.
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In Bottles, 1s. 2s. 6d., and 5s. each.
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Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, Dec. 20th.—Before A. To̶wn, Esq. (chairman), J. Priestman, Esq., Jas. Annandale, jun., Esq., and R. Dickinson, Esq.

Drunkenness.—Stephen Lochrane, Consett; Jas. Donnelly, labourer, Dipton; Jas. Parker, labourer, Burnopfield; Joseph Ledger, miner, Wood Houses, Dipton; and Joseph Laidler, ironworker, Blackhill, were severally charged with having been drunk. Parker was fined 10s. and costs, and the others 5s. each and costs. The cases were proved by Sergt. Cruickshank, P.C. McClymont, P.C. Turner, and P.C. Longstaff.

Highway Act.—John Riley, hawker, Sheriff Hill, was summoned for allowing his horse and cart to stand on the highway for an unreasonable time. P.C. Turner said the horse stood on the road near Burnopfield for thirty-five minutes.—A fine of half-a-crown and costs was impsed.

Assault.—Michael Mulhatton was charged with having assaulted William English, a stocktaker, at Consett, on the 18th inst. The evidence showed that Mr. English was walking along the street when the defendant, without receiving any provocation whatever, struck him a violent blow. Defendant was fined 10s. and costs.

A number of persons were fined for neglecting to send their children to school.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Dec. 16th.—Before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), Rev. J. P. De Pledge, and Capt. Smith.

Mischievous Boys.—Three lads named Winter, Winfield, and Pearson, all of Esh Colliery, were summoned for wilfully damaging property belonging to Messrs. Reay and Johnson, at Quebec Colliery. For some time past the tickets have been removed from the waggons at the complainants' colliery, thereby causing great delay and inconvenience. Defendants were seen at the place where the waggons usually stand, and soon afterwards it was found that several tickets had been removed. The lads were followed, and one of them (Pearson) admitted that they had pulled the tickets off.—Mr. Fletcher, viewer, said the owners did not wish to press for a severe punishment.—The Chairman said the lads deserved a sound whipping. They would have to pay the court expenses (5s. each), but if brought up again on a similar charge they would be punished most severely.

Breach of the Mines Regulation Act.—Robt. Wynn and John Styles, putters, Quebec, were summoned for a breach of the Coal Mines Regulation Atc by riding on a set of tubs at Quebec Colliery. Mr. Fletcher said he was in the mine, and saw the defendants riding on a set of tubs. As soon as they saw him they jumped off, but got on again after the tubs had passed him. It was a dangerous practice, and one of the workmen had been severely lamed in this way.—Defendants were fined 10s. and costs, 17s. 6d. each.

Trespassers.—George Hindson, Thomas Young, Hugh Errington, George Brunskill, and Joseph Grant, miners, were summoned for damaging a certain fence belonging to Mr. Alexander Barrass, farmer. On Saturday, the 13th inst., defendants were at Stanley Greyhound Coursing, and were seen by P.C. Nicholson to leave the main body of sportsmen and trample down a fence behind Mr. Barrass's stackyard. It also transpired that defendants were not ticket-holders, and had not, therefore, any right to be present.—Brunskill said he never trespassed at all. He was, he said, with Col. Joicey's keeper all day. The other defendants also denied doing damage in any way.—The magistrates, however, believed the testimony of the policeman, and fined defendants 9s. 1d. each, including costs.——William Brown, William Smith, Wilkinson Shield, Anthony Brown, and Joseph Whitfield, miners, were ordered to pay a similar fine for damaging Mr. Barrass's fences on the same occasion.—The Chairman said when farmers gave permission to course over their land it was necssary that they should be protected.

Keeping a Dog without a License.—Henderson Bell, miner, WestKyo, wassummoned by P.C. Nicholson for keeping a dog without a license. Defendant said the dog was not his. He "gave it away twelve months sine, and it was still a pup." (Laughter.)—The Chairman: How can it be a pup if you had it twelve months ago?—Defendant: I mean three months. (Renewed laughter.)—A fine of 7s. 6d. and costs was imposed.

DURHAM COKEMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Durham Cokeburners' Association was held on Saturday, at Mrs. Brown's Rose and Crown Hotel, Durham. Mr. J. Dunn, the president of the association, was in the chair, and there was a very full attendance of delegates.—Mr Hart (secretary) presented the yearly report, which was of a very satisfactory character, and showed the association to be in a good working and financial position.—The report was adopted.—The election of officers next took place, the whole of them being re-elected.—After the transaction of some routine business the meeting proceeded to consider the resolutions passed at the meeting of the North of England United Coal Trade Association, held in Newcastle on Wednesday last, in reference to the resolution of the Miners' Federation Board on the Employers' Liability Act, copies of which appeared in the *Journal* on Saturday. After considerable discussion, no definite resolution was formulated until it was seen what course the kindred Associations of the Federation Board took in the matter.—The meeting was a very harmonious one throughout, and adjourned shortly before four o'clock.

THE DURHAM COAL TRADE.

THE DEUPTIES' ADVANCE OF WAGES.

On Saturday evening, Mr. William Hedley, secretary to the Durham Deputy and Deputy-Overmens Association, received the decision of the Coal Trade Association in reference to the request made by the deputies for an advance of wages. The result of the application is a considerable advance in their wages, commencing in January. On Thursday last Mr. Hedley and a deputation from the Deputies' Association met the coalowners at the Coal Trade Office, Newcastle, and spoke in support of an application—(1) To be paid a uniform rate of wages throughout the county, together with a uniform number of hours from bank to bank to constitute a shift; (2) that the wage sought to be paid be 4s. 9d. for face work. 4s. 6d. back-bye, and the hours to be eight per shift from bank to bank, (Saturday excluded; the same to be "baff" Saturdays seven hours, and "pay" Saturdays six hours per shift. After some discussion the owners gave their decision, which was specifically stated in the communication received by Mr. Hedley on Saturday morning, and is as follows:—"That an advance of 3d. per shift would be made on deputies wages, so that the maximum wage does not exceed 4s. 8d. per shift in those pits working eight hours from bank to bank and back-bye shifts, which do not exceed 4s. 4d. This alteration to take effect from the first pay, commencing January next." The other questions as to Saturday working were referred to the committee to consider.

THE DURHAM MINERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

The annual general meeting of the Durham miners' Association was held on Saturday, in the Miners' Hall, North Road, Durham. Mr. John Forman, president, occupied the chair, and there was a full attendance of delegates. The officers of the association having been re-elected, the meeting proceeded to consider the masters' resolution on Employer's Liability Act, which Mr. Crawford had received the previous day, in reply to the resolution formulated by the Durham Miners' Federation Board, and sent to the owners from the representative meeting of the Miners' Association held in Newcastle last week. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:—"That this meeting has heard with regret the further expressed statement of the Owners' Association on the 15th inst. adhering to their resolution on the 24th November last, by which the workmen were asked to enter into a mutual insurance, the effect of which will be to contract out of the provisions and protection afforded by the Employers' Liability Act. We cannot but regard such a resolution as the outcome of an unwarrantable interference with the legitimate right of the workmen, in order that preventible accidents may be reduced to a minimum. That being the object of the Act of Parliament, we shall most positively refuse to enter into any arrangement that shall take away the right of the workmen to sue for compensation where the cause of an accident or accidents are traceable to negligence or incompetency. This meeting has been deeply pained to see the undignified attitude assumed by the Owners' Association in threatening to discontinue the payment of certain monies, called by them gratuities. These include what is known as smart money, &c. We beg to remind the owners that in all our arbitration cases these moneys and priveleges have been put down by them as adding to, and therefore forming part, as the actual wages received by the workmen. This being so, they are as much a portion of the *bona-fide* wages of the workmen as any other portion which they received; and, therefore, before their payment can be discontinued we shall claim from the owners a legal notice, in keeping with arrangements entered into between them and us. While adhering to this position, we are not only willing, but wishful to enter into any arrangement with the owners for the carrying out of the Act of Parliament, or take away their right to sue in some way or other under the provisions of the Act."

Honours by a Pupil Teacher.—Miss Mary J. Craigie, of Beamish, who completes her apprenticeship at Christmas as a pupil teacher at the Stanley National School under Mr. T. Darney, has had a highly successful career, she having obtained a first-class and a prize of books each time during the five years, and also the previous year as a candidate. Miss Craigie has also been fortunate enough to gain admission into Durham Training College with a first-class pass both in secular and religious subjects.

A correspondent writes to say that in the vicinity of Pelton a nest of starlings are lodged near the upper ceiling of a cottage, and the same pair of birds brought up two lots during the summer. These little bread-winners, evidently, will be fully occupied during the Christmas recess.

Leadgate.—A yearly club was established on Saturday evening last at the house of Mrs. Lumley, the Golden Lion Inn, when 30 members were admitted. After the business of the meeting was concluded, the members and several friends sat down to a substantial repast provided by the worthy hostess and placed at the disposal of the company in her usual style. The chair was taken by Mr. Ashdown, and the vice by the secretary, Mr. R. Jackson. After the cloth was drawn, the chairman proposed the "Queen" in a masterly style, and other loyal and constitutional toasts followed, and were intermixed with songs from the chairman, Mr. Baty, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Applegarth, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Black and others, many of which were greatly encored, particularly "Nelly Brown," "The Lads of Choppington," and the "Swallows Return" by Mr. Baty; "Blaydon Races of 1862" was well given by Mr. R. Bell, and "Teddy, O'Neil" and the "Union Jack," by Mr. Applegarth. The "Chairman," "Vice-Chairman," and "Prosperity to the Club" were given and duly responded to, and then the "Hostess" was given and drank in a bumper with musical honours for the able and well got-up repast, with a hearty cheer that she might be spared to "cater again and again" for the members of the club; after which the eleventh hour made its appearance, and the signal was then given to depart with an outburst of feeling for their next merry meeting.

Serious Charge Against a Colliery Manager.—At the Bishop Auckland Police Court on Monday, James Barnes, manager and resident viewer at Adelaide Colliery, near Shildon, appeared in answer to his recognisances, having been apprehended on a warrant charged with embezzling several sums of money, the property of his employers, Messrs. Joseph Pease and Partners. Mr. J. T. Proud appeared to prosecute, and stated that the firm did not wish to press the case, and asked the Bench to deal with it summarily, as the prisoner was an old servant, and bore an excellent character, and would plead guilty. The pays were fortnightly, and the prisoner had obtained the money by adding figures—for instance, if there was a sum of £3 3s. 6d. on the pay sheet, he would add the figure 1 to the 3, making it £3 13s. 6d. This caused a surplus of money, and to dispose of this he placed other men's names on the bill, and put the money in his pocket. This system, Mr. Bigland, the head viewer, said had gone on for three years, but from last June they could not trace any defalcations, though they had fully investigated it.—The Bench intimated that it appeared to have been done systematically, and they had therefore decided to go fully into the case.—Prisoner was remanded till Thursday, bail being accepted.

THE DURHAM MINERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE DISPUTE AT SOUTH MOOR.

The annual meeting of the Durham Miners' Association was held on Saturday, in the Miners' Hall, North Road, Durham, Mr. John Foreman presiding. Messrs. William Crawford, N. Wilkinson, W. H. Patterson, and John Foreman were unanimously re-elected to their old posts as corresponding secretary, treasurer, financial secretary, and president repectively. The treasurer's and auditor's reports were unanimously passed. Mr. Nicholas Wilkinson produced his report on the present position of affairs at South Moor. In doing so he stated that in consequence of the rumours which had reached the officers and Executive Committee as to the position of matters at South Moor, he had on Thursday last made a careful inquiry into what had taken place there, on the occasion of his journey to the colliery to pay the men their weekly allowance from the funds of the association, and the result of his investigations it was highly important should be known to the miners of the county. In the Charlie Pit he found fifteen of the old hands and thirteen new men working, and in the Lousia Pit sixteen old hands, whilst there were four hands from Craghead, which belonged to the same owners. Out of the six mechanics for whom the 200 or 250 men employed at the colliery originally turned out on strike, one man had gone to work, but the remainder firmly stood by the other sections of workmen who were out. Mr. Gray, the manager, had sent for all the old hands, with one exception, and informed them that their work was ready for them to return to. The man excepted was William Cawthorne, the local lodge secretary. The men, however, had refused to return to work until the difficulty for which they originally turned out was settled. Of the new hands who had been employed, some four or five had intimated their intention of giving in their notices that day (Saturday), whilst other had made inquiries as to whether the association would pay the cost of the removal of their effects elsewhere if they gave in their notices to leave Messrs. Hedley's collieries. The officials at Graghead Colliery had intimated to about a score or so of the workmen at that place that they would be required to commence work at South Moor, and if they did not do so they would receive their notices to leave Messrs. Hedley's employment. It was found, he said, that men had been engaged by Messrs. Hedley ostensibly to start work at Craghead Colliery, but in reality for South Moor Colliery, to which place their effects were carted and placed in the houses from which the old hands had already been ejected, under circumstances as they all knew too well, and to which he (Mr. Wilkinson) would not further refer. It was necessary, however, for the men to know that in engaging for Graghead they were in reality engaging for South Moor, and that if they did commence work at the former place they would each of them either have to fill the place of a man who had been compelled to remove to South Moor, or, after the lapse of a few days, they would be told that they would have to commence work at that colliery, with the alternative, on their refusing to do so, of having to leave the colliery—always a difficult and costly thing for a man to do who had a house and family to drag after him wherever he went, but especially so at the present bitter and inclement season of the year. In conclusion, he intimated that there was no resolution required in the matter that day, the necessary resolutions having been adopted at previous meetings of the Executive and the Council, and the sole object of his report was to keep the members and the public thoroughly posted as to the position of affairs at South Moor, and to protect men from other collieries from being entrapped into engagements, and from being innocently led into blacklegging.—After a few remarks from the President, the Council proceeded to the other business on the programme.

The following letter bearing on the above has been published by a contemporary:—

Sir,—Mr. Wilkinsons's statements with regard to the action of the officials at Craghead Coiliery, are either gross errors or malicious lies (the author of the statement is best aware which) and so absurdly contrary to anything that has happened here, that had the report been confined to the Union alone, and not offered to the public, I would have considered it quite unnecessary to take any notice of the matter, being fully assured the workmen here, thoroughly understanding Mr. Wilkinson's motives, are as indifferent to his counsel as I am to his opinion. The public, however, should know that none of the men at Craghead have at any time been told they must work at South Moor, nor have they been threatened with notice for not complying, and I defy Mr. Wilkinson (or anyone else) to bring forward even *one* case to prove his assertion. On account of the re-building of twenty-nine cottages at Craghead, a number of the workmen are living at South Moor, and were doing so long before the disturbance took place, the rule being to get houses at Craghead in turns, and every man previous to being engaged for this colliery has been made aware of this arrangement, agreed to it, and in every instance gone first to South Moor and awaited his turn for a house nearer to his work. Matters standing thus, and there being no likelihood of getting the cottages completed on account of the weather, eight men living at South Moor and working at Craghead asked to be allowed to start at South Moor. Only four were allowed to do so, and only at their urgent request. They are working there yet and doing well. I may also state that the houses at South Moor, of which we make use in this way, are not necessarily the houses of ejected workmen, but are over and above what are required to keep South Moor in full work. Again, no man is or has been ostensibly engaged for Craghead and sent to South Moor, and only the brain of a man disposed to still dirtier actions could have conceived such a plan. We are besieged here daily by men seeking work, and I certainly think Mr. Wikinson's continued endeavours to prevent men coming here by keeping Craghead so prominently before the public, has been the means of my securing some of the best hands in the county. Wishing Mr. Wilkinson a merry Christmas on these reflections.—I am, yours truly,

JAMES FIRLEY, Manager.

Craghead and Holmside Collieries,
Chester-le-Street, Dec. 21, 1880.

LANCHESTER AND QUEBEC PPIVATE COURSING MEETING.

Field Stewards—Messrs, W. Hand, Hy. Brownless, J. Errington, J. Musgrove, and J. Marley. Flag Steward—Mr. Geo. Greenwell. Judge — Mr. Wilkinson. Slipper — W. Deighton. Hon. Sec. — Mr. John Cokerill.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 22.

The FORD STAKES, for 12 all-aged greyhounds, at £3 10s each. Winner, £22; second, £10; third, £3 10.

I.

Mr. J. Errington ns bk w b Omelette, by All's Well that Ends Well—Lill, beat Mr. Sam. Coxon's r w d Hanlan, by Waterloo—Polly

Mr. William Nicholson ns w bk d Mack, by Little Engine—Moss Rose, beat Mr. T. Waugh ns bk w b Red Girl, by Red Light—Lizzie Dodds.

Mr. H. Brownless ns w bk b Oak Leaf, by Oak Tree—Minute Gun bitch, a bye, Mr. James Marley's bd w b Miss Bowstring, by Statesman—Bonny Bee absent

Mr. D. Brookhouse's w bk b Hazardous, by Talbot—Tarset Lass, beat Mr. Wm. Hand ns f w d Langley Dale, by Weardale—Miss Annie

Mr. Thomas Potter ns bk w b British Fly, by British Flag—Smallhope, beat Mr. N. Brownless ns r or f w d Grand Finale, by Whalton Tom—Seventy-one

Mr. W. Oliver ns bk w or td b p Dispute, by Bendigo—Defiance, beat Mr. John Cockerill's be w b Madam du Barry, by Pass—Home Again.

II.

Mack beat Omelette — Dispute beat British Fly
Hazardous beat Oak Leaf

III.

Dispute beat Hazardous — Mack a bye

IV.

Mack and Dispute divided.

Yesterday (Wednesday) morning, there did not seem to be the slightest prospect of a day's coursing, kindly granted by Mr. Matthew Kearney, of The Ford, Lanchester, being brought off. At twelve o'clock, however, it was decided to go on with the meeting, it being stated that the land to be covered was chiefly grass, and not near so bad as was imagined. The result verified the prediction. During the first hour hares turned up sufficiently plentiful to run the card once down, and before four o'clock the stake was reduced to a division between Mack and Dispute. The fur was of a good sort, and some good trials were witnessed. Mack, a Northumberland dog, ran very fast, indeed the fastest dog in the stake. Dispute, the other divider, is a handy looking animal, and the way in which she got through the stake at the recent Stanley Meeting made such a favourable impression that she was backed to-day with much confidence. The company was not so large as it would have been had the weather been finer. The arrangements of the meeting under such discouraging circumstances were admirably carried out. Mr. Wilkinson was only at variance with the crowd twice, and Deighton handled the slips like an artist. At the close of the coursing a substantial dinner was served by Mr. P. Hodgson, at the Blue Bell, when the health of Mr. Kearney was pledged in a bumper.

THE NORTHERN IRON TRADE.

THE WAGES QUESTION—REFUSAL OF AN ADVANCE.

On Saturday the following award was received at the office of the Iron Trade Board of Arbitration at Darlington:—

In the matter of the workmen's claim that the 7½ per cent. reduction taken off on October the 6th, 1879, shall be returned to all shinglers, forge rollers, mill heaters, rollers, and shearmen employed at all plate and sheet mills connected with the Board of Arbitration,

I have given the most careful and anxious consideration to the statements made and the arguments addressed to me in support of the above claim at the largely attended and protracted meeting of the Board, and of the special representatives of the classes interested, held at Darlington on Saturday, November the 27th last.

I have carefully passed in review the proceedings of the Board meetings held at Darlington on Aug. 21st and Oct 1st, 1879, which led to the reduction of 7½ per cent. now sought to be returned, also the relief afforded by, or in subsequent harmony with award of December 27th, 1879, in the Consett contractors and helpers' case.

I have also considered the bearing on the question of

1. My award of September 18th, 1879, whereby I rejected the owners' claim of a general reduction of five per cent.

2. My award of April 23rd, 1880, establishing the workmen's claim that the present sliding scale should be based on a puddling rate of eighteenpence (and not as proposed by the employers of fifteenpence) above shillings for pounds of selling price, with equivalent forge and mill rates and wages.

This full review of the question in all its bearings has brought me to the conclusion that the workmen's present claim has not been established, and, I, therefore, feel bound to disallow it, and I hereby award and determine accordingly.

If, however, there be at any works special and exceptional cases of low average earnings by any of the classes on whose behalf the present claim is preferred, such low average earnings being likely to continue indefinitely, I am of opinion that the Standing Committee should not allow the sliding scale agreement to be a bar to redressing any proved exceptional case of hardship of this character.

The very able and yet temperate manner in which the claim, which is the subject of this award, maintained before me, induces me to depart from the generally sound rule of giving no explanation in connection with an award, and I, therefore, add:

1. That my award of September 18th, 1879, rejecting the owners' claim for a general reduction of five per cent., and my award of April 23rd, 1880, conceding the full amount claimed by the workmen as the basis of the present sliding scale were undoubtedly influenced favourably for the general body of ironworkers by my having deemed it my duty to make the special reduction which I have now been asked to restore, but which I feel reluctantly compelled to maintain.

2. That the grounds on which that special reduction was made and is now maintained are so exceptional as, in my opinion, to render groundless the apprehensions that were expressed before me at the recent sitting, on November 27th, that other special reductions might be expected to follow.

For this fear I think there is no justification.

DAVID DALE.

Reform Club, London, Dec. 17th, 1880.

Markets.

Newcastle Corn Market, Tuesday.—At this day's market there was very little wheat shown by the growers, but a fair quantity coastwise, and little from abroad. Owing to the near approach of the holidays and close of the year, there was very little disposition for business, and in the little done buyers had the advantage, but holders mostly held for last week's prices. Best malting barley firm but other sorts very dull. Beans, peas, and maize 3d to 6d lower. Oats quiet. Flour slow at 6d decline.

Newcastle Cattle Market, Tuesday.—At this day's market the arrivals from a distance consisted of 36 head of cattle from Aberdeen and the counties of the north-east coast of Scotland; 1,300 beasts, 306 sheep, 24 calves, and 240 pigs from foreign; and 265 beasts and about 400 pigs from Ireland. At our Christmas market to-day there has been the largest show of cattle on offer that was ever known at this market. This may be accounted for by the large number of foreign cattle, as, owing to the stormy weather at sea, there were nearly two weeks' supplies, or 1,300 head against 158 in the Christmas market of last year; also, a portion of which went from this market to Wakefield last week and came back unsold. In respect of quality, there was no breed which requires any special remark. The falling off in the Aberdeens is the only regretable feature. It is very questionable whether ever we shall see this model type of the bovine race so numerous at Newcastle again as in bygone years. There were four extraordinary good Canadian bullocks, which had been fed in the Kelso district for some months past. For all that has been said or written against over-feeding there were still some of those animals shown, but butchers were very shy in engaging with them, and it is to be hoped that we have seen the last of such wilful waste. But, take the show as a whole, there will be no scarcity of good beef, yet it was not to be compared with our annual festive shows for nice-cutting heifers of thirty or thirty-five years ago.

STATE OF TRADE.

The supply of beef comprised 2,972 head. Those of prime quality, either bullocks or heifers, ranging in weight from forty-four to sixty imperial stones, were in fairly good request, and moved freely off, the former realising 9s 9d, and in exceptional cases 10s, but the general top figure for beef was 9s 9d, while bullocks would range from 9s 6d to 9s 9d, but the latter was only in some instances obtained. To give an accurate price of bulls, cows, and inferior is an impossibility, as rates were very irregular, with a slow, dull finish, and part remained unsold. The number of sheep was 4,546. The unprecedentedly large weight of beef had a somewhat unfavourable influence on the mutton trade, 9½d per lb being about the general top figure. Pigs—1,134 were shown against 1,545 in the corresponding week of last year. Trade was active at late rates. The day was favourable for holding the market, and the weather is open but rather raw and cold. Prices for this day, sinking offal, are as follows:—

Beasts, prime heifers, per stone	9s 6d to 9s 9d
Secondary sorts..................	6s 3d .. 7s 3d
First-class oxen	9s 0d .. 9s 3d
Middling..........................	6s 6d .. 7s 0d
Cows and inferior...............	6s 0d .. 6s 9d
Pork	6s 6d .. 9s 6d
Sheep (good vendable wedders) per lb ..	9½d .. 9¾d
Middling........................	8½d .. 8¾d

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £4 0s 0d to £6 0s; this year's growth, £3 0s to £5 0s 0d; new land hay, £5 0s to £7 0s; this year's growth, £3 10s to £6 10s; clover hay, £3 15s to £4 10s per ton; wheat straw, 1s 4d to 1s 8d; barley straw, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; oat straw, 1s 4d to 1s 7d per thrave. Carts of hay at market, 126; carts of straw, 41.

Hexham Corn Market, Tuesday.—Average attendance at our market this morning. Large supply of oats, average of barely, but wheat was only in small supply. There was no change to note in prices.

Hexham Provision, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 6d to 1s 7d per lb; eggs 6 to 8 for 1s; geese, 9d per pound; chickens, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; ducks, 3s 0d to 3s 6d each; rabbits, 2s 10d to 3s 0d per couple; potatoes, 6d to 8d; onions 1s 0d to 1s 8d; apples, 2s 0d to 2s 6d per stone; cabbages, 1d each; lemons, 3d each; grapes, 8d per lb; flour, extra superfines, 2s 4d; superfines, 2s 2d; fines, 2s 0d; maslin. 1s 10d; oatmeal, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per stone. Hares, 4s 6d each.

Newcastle Fruit and Potato, Saturday.—Grapes 5d to 10d; pears, 3d to 6d; tomatoes, 6d to 8d per lb; large cabbages, 1½d each; beans, 6d to 7d per peck; apples, 1s 6d to 2s 0d; Scotch potatoes, 7d to 8d; large onions, 1s 4d; small onions, 1s 0d to 1s 4d per stone; damsons, 6d to 8d per quart, oranges, 25 for 1s; cucumbers, carrots, turnips, rhubarb, and other classes of vegetables sold at low rates.

Correspondence.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—As I was requested by a resolution passed at a public meeting to act as the honorary secretary to a bazaar in aid of St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, I may be pardoned for asking you to accord me space in your columns to appeal to the public for help. Charles Reade, the eminent author, says with reference to the Charity,

"The fatal scurvy, the foul leprosy, the maddening eczema, are all skin-diseases; and all far more common than supposed, causing the sufferers to be despised or shunned, whereas internal maladies invite the boon of sympathy. Take the fate of domestic servants so afflicted. Their employers dismiss them, however meritorious, and their friends shun them; mental despair too often follows, and they say with the Patriarch Job whose bodily affliction, selected by knowledge and malignity in person, was a disease of the skin, "my misery is greater than I can bear."

"Against such a weight of suffering, shame and sorrow, what is the special provision in our enormous city? I am acquainted only with one small hospital—that ought to be a great one, and will be in a year, if the public pleases.

"This is St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin in Leicester Square, where the Medical Officers prescribe on an average for nearly four hundred patients every week. It has already admitted 25,175 new patients.

"It is open without payment to all creeds and all races, the sole credentials for admission being disease and poverty. A leper from India, a Jew from New York, a labourer from New Zealand, mariners from Germany, a clerk from France, have been some of its inmates."

The bazaar will take place in June next. In the meantime St. John's Hospital labours under a heavy load of debt. I beg you therefore to let me urge your readers to subscribe *now* to the Bazaar Fund, and their amounts shall be at once handed over to the hospital. A more deserving charity does not exist. I shall also be glad to have the names of ladies who will help the bazaar. Contributions may be sent to the chairman of the Hospital, The Right Hon. W. N. Massey, M.P., 71, Chester Square, S.W.; to its treasurer, Major Mercier, High Road, Knightsbridge, S.W.; to the following members of the Board of Management—The Marquis Townshend, Balls Park, Herts., Sir Chas. Palmer, Bart., Dorney Court, near Windsor; and Col. Gourley, M.P., Sunderland; also to the London County Bank, Albert Gate, S.W.; and the London Joint Stock Bank, Pall Mall, S.W.; and to your obedient servant,

Rosa Freeland, Hon. Sec.

12, Ovington Gardens, S.W., Dec. 20th, 1880.

THE VOLUNTEER CONCERT AT STANLEY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Mr. Editor,—Might I trouble you to insert a few lines with reference to the Stanley concert in your columns? Anybody with half an eye could see that the remarks of the "Stanley Folk," in last week's *Guardian*, were meant to make mischief, so I hope you will excuse me taking up a portion of your valuable space. Everyone will agree that some allowance should be made for amateurs. Perhaps the people thought the concert was scarcely up to the mark, but we cannot be expected to please everybody. In my humble opinion, I think the performers acquitted themselves very well indeed. I thought the day had gone by when volunteers were scoffed at, but it seems not. There was not the slightest cause for the double-meaning remarks about our worthy Captain and other officers, but the day may come (and that not far off) when the people will see the use of the volunteers, and instead of showing disrespect feel proud of them. As your correspondent has it, the committee are going to repeat the dose. I hope all the people who appreciate the cause will give us a bumper house at our next concert at West Pelton.—Yours truly,

A Volunteer.

Beamish, 23rd Dec., 1880.

C. F. COOKE'S
GROCERY AND DRAPERY WAREHOUSE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

December 7th, 1880.

Dear Sir,—My anonymous Friend sends me the enclosed as a COMPANION to the Poetic Testimonial of November. Will you kindly convey my appreciation to this unknown kind writer, through your next issue; also, wishing the realisation of this witty Acrostic to all my Friends.—Yours truly,

C. F. COOKE.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS unto you,
M y friends and neighbours all;
E re with this year you bid adieu
R esolve on Cooke to call.
R oam where you will, go where you may,
Y ou'l find none can excel
C ooke's famous Shop; while every day
H is praise the people tell;
R eplete with Goods for winter use
I s each Department now,
S o all my friends I would induce
T o go these Goods to view.
M ay this New Year to one and all
A happy New Year be!
S uccess attend on every call
We make on C. F. C.

Mr. Cooke,—Enclosed is a copy of a few lines forming an Acrostic, the first letter in each line when put together forming the words "A Merry Christmas."

I thank you very much for the encomium you tendered me, although I was surprised to see my humble prodution in the columns of the *Consett Guardian*.—Wishing still to preserve my incognito, I remain, yours, &c.,

A Wellwisher.

758o

Accident at a Tyne Shipbuilding Yard.—On Monday evening, between four and five o'clock, while an attempt was being made at Messrs. Mitchell's shipbuilding yard, Walker, to launch a gunboat just completed to the order of the Chinese Government, the vessel, after moving a short distance on the slips, stuck, and all efforts to get her into the water proved unavailing. The launch had accordingly to be postponed. In consequence of the occurrence, the passenger boats and other traffic on the river was completely suspended for about thirty-five minutes, and a great amount of dissatisfaction was expressed by those on board the various crafts.

Strange Affair near Durham.—The Scotch Express Fired at.—The Scotch express, leaving London at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, was fired at about four miles south of Durham, on Tuesday, afternoon. The bullet pierced the window of a first-class compartment, and injured a Newcastle gentleman named Hoyle, who was looking out. The bullet grazed the right side of his face, but did not seriously injure him. Both the railway and county police are investigating the matter.

GEORGE HOPE,
SCULPTOR, GENERAL CARVER, AND MARBLE MASON,
THE LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

MONUMENTS, Tombs, Headstones, and Tables erected in Marble, Stone, or Granite.
Inscriptions neatly executed. 849n

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Consett—At Newmarket Street, on the 17th inst., the wife of Mr. James Cragill, of a daughter.

Catchgate—On the 9th inst., the wife of W. E. Bell, grocer, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

Gateshead—At Bensham Road Wesleyan Chapel, on the 22nd inst., John A. Adamson, of Consett, to Rebecca Hanah, youngest daughter of Mr. Michael Spencer, Swalwell.

ROBERT BEALL,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE, GRANITE, AND STONE,
HIGH LEVEL WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Special Designs and Estimates on application.
Inscriptions cut in Town or Country. 510o

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