The Consett Chronicle

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM ADVERTISER.

NO 106, VOL. 3. [REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.] FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1897. PRICE, ONE PENNY WEEKLY.

Business Announcements.

NATHAN ELSDON,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURER,
ALE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
AND GENERAL AUCTIONEER,

THANKS his friends for past patronage, and, in soliciting a continuance of their confidence, assures them that it will always be his endeavour to give them the utmost satisfaction in all Branches of his Business.

SALES CONDUCTED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

OFFICE:—DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

FOR GOOD VALUE IN HOME-MADE FURNITURE BEST SHEFFIELD CUTLERY, and SILVER-PLATED GOODS, try

JOHN LOWES,
JOHN STREET SQUARE, CONSETT
(Back of British School, Medomsley Road).
The House for Musical Instruments by Best Makers.
PIANOS BY PFEIFFER, STRAUSS, LANGE, &c.
AMERICAN ORGANS BY STERLING.
MELODEONS from 4s. 6d. upwards.
A Large and Varied Stock of WALLPAPERS.

Five Minutes Walk from Consett Station.

JOHN T. WESTON, JUNR.,
Auctioneer and Commission Agent,
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND ESTATE AGENT.

SALES CONDUCTED WITH CARE, EFFICIENCY, and on the most REASONABLE TERMS.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ENQUIRIES INVITED.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Sale Office:
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

JACKSON GREEN,
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND COMMISSION AGENT,
SATLEY, TOW LAW.
FURNITURE, STOCK, AND ALL CLASSES OF SALES TAKEN.
PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

PAINTS, OILS, AND COLOURS.

GEO. PATTRICK,
CHEMIST, SEEDSMAN, WINE MERCHANT,
5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
IS THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE DISTRICT.

Paints, own make, 4d per lb, 4s per stone. All colours.
Tin Paints, 4d. per lb.
Varnishes, oak, 1s 6d; carriage, 2s; mahogany, 2s; Japan, 2s.
French Polish, 2s; Knotting, 1s 6d.
Brush Polish, 2s. All per pint.
All kinds of Stains, 6d. per bott [illegible] ir. 5d.
Aspinall's Enamels, 6d.
Dry Colours, blue and green 4d. per lb; red, yellow, and brown, 2d. per lb.
Paris White, 1s. per stone.
Brushes, Size, and all other Goods at Cheapest Rates.

ROBERT STOKER,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

FURNITURE, STOCK, and all Classes of SALES Solicited.

CLIENTS WILL RECEIVE EVERY ATTENTION.

VERY GOOD & VERY CHEAP
ARE THE
BOOTS & SHOES
AT
FAWCETT'S,
A Large Variety Always in Stock.
WHITE-LE-HEAD.

SIX GOLD MEDALS AWARDED, 1896-97.

KER'S ALE The Beverage of the Future.
KER'S ALE Purely Hop Bittered.
KER'S ALE Non-Alcoholic.

Contains all the Tonic and Refreshing Qualities of Beer.

Can only be had from the Brewers, J. KERSHAW and SONS. We can now supply the Public with our Gold Medal Mineral Waters—

Fermented Stone Ginger	"Verdo"
Dandelion Stout	Syphons Soda Water
Champagne Cider	„ Potass Water
Jubilee Drink	&c., &c.

LEMONADE, &c., &c.
Awarded Six Gold Medals for PURITY, CLEANLINESS, and QUALITY.
Can be had from the Makers—

KERSHAW & SONS,
PLANTATION STREET, LEADGATE, AND GATESHEAD.

MARTIN BECK.
BILLPOSTER,
21, RAMSEY STREET, STANLEY,
GOOD PRIVATE STATIONS.

NEW LAUNDRY
FOR THE CONSETT DISTRICT.

THE CHESTER-LE-STREET STEAM LAUNDRY COMPANY have OPENED an AGENCY for CONSETT and DISTRICT.

AGENT:—MR. J. COCKBURN,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

PARCELS FORWARDED WEEKLY.

To post your bills
Just take the train,
See GEORGE MCNEAL
At Annfield Plain.

GEORGE MCNEAL,
BILLPOSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND WEST STANLEY,
CO. DURHAM.

JOSEPH ROBINSON,
DISPENSING & FAMILY CHEMIST,
STANLEY and ANNFIELD PLAIN,
Directs attention to his seasonable supply of
PURE DRUGS and CHEMICALS.
PERFUMERY.
ÆRATED WATERS.
HORSE and CATTLE MEDICINES.
SHEEP DIPS, &c.

Agent for Glendenning's Beef & Malt Wine.

ROBINSON'S LUMBAGO PILLS
The Surest Remedy for Lumbago, Sciatica, &c.

TRY ROBINSON'S CIGARS.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY'S

ESTABLISHMENTS

AT

CONSETT,
BLACKHILL,
LEADGATE,
STANLEY VILLA,
AYNSLEY'S BUILDINGS,
WEST STANLEY,
AND
BLACKHALL MILL,

ARE REPLETE WITH AN

Assortment of Suitable Goods

FOR THE

FESTIVE SEASON,

Second to None in the County,

COMPRISING A CHOICE SELECTION OF

CHRISTMAS CHEESE:

Per Pound.	s.	d.
Prize Medal Cheshire		10
Finest Gloucester		9
Wensleydale Flat		9
Wensleydale Stilton		10
English Stilton	1	3
Choicest Gorgonzola		9
Cream Edams		6
Finest Gouda		6

Finest American, 5½d., 6d., & 7d.

Hams for the Season:

PERFECT HAMS, Sweet and Mild, about 9 and 10 Pounds,

Fivepence-Halfpenny per Pound.

Boned and Rolled, Halfpenny per Pound Extra.

Bacon:

Wiltshire Smoked, Irish, Cumberland, and Selected American.
Cooked Hams, 1s. per Pound.

CAMBRIDGE & GERMAN SAUSAGE.

Choicest Pure Lard, 4d. per Pound.
English Lard, 5d. per Pound.
Danish Butter, 1s. 1d. per Pound.
Choicest Butter, 1s. per Pound.
Margarines, 4d., 6d., and 8d. per Pound

CAKES:

A Large Assortment. Over Twenty Kinds to Choose from, including the Royal Chelsea, 6d., 8d., 10d., and 1s.

Very like Home Made.

Huntley and Palmer's Reading Biscuits. A Good Selection.

Bread and Pastry of every Description.

ROWNTREE'S CHOCOLATES,

7d per Qr., or 4s. per 2lb. Box.

FLOUR:

FAMILY PRIDE, 1s. 10d. per Stone.

Makes Perfect Pastry.

Seatree's Health Meal, 11d. per 7lb Bag.

Prunes, Dates, Muscatels, Figs, Almonds, and Tinned Fruits of Every Kind.

See WINE LIST.

Christmas, 1897.

JOSEPH MURRAY,

Wholesale and Retail Grocer,
Flour, Provision, and Wine Merchant,
CONSETT, HIGH SPEN, & CRAGHEAD.

IN presenting our Christmas List of Goods for the Festive Season, we respectfully desire to thank our numerous patrons for their kind support and liberality through the previous years. Our aim in the future, as in the past, will be to give value for money, and by buying in the best markets on the best terms, we can claim our goods to be as cheap, if not cheaper, than any establishment in the district. Customers may rely on being carefully and attentively attended to, and, by having good stocks to select from, we feel sure that our already extensive trade will be still further advanced and developed in the future, to the advantage of all. Orders by post or otherwise carefully attended to, and goods delivered over the district.

CAKES.

We have a Splendid Stock of Iced and Ornamented Cakes, &c. We make Slab Cakes a speciality, and are prepared to quote for any quantity, and guarantee the quality. Splendid lines in Fruit, Rice, Seed, Sultana, Cherry, &c., &c.

BISCUITS.

From the best makers: Huntley and Palmer's, Peek, Frean, and Co., Jacob and Co., Walker and Co., Powell and Co., &c., &c. Special Lines in Fancy Tins of Biscuits from 3d upwards.

CHOCOLATES.

We have a very nice assortment of Fry's Fancy Boxes, at all prices, and a large variety of loose Chocolates from all makers, at lowest prices.

FRUITS, &c.

We have a first-class selection. Currants cleaned and packed in cardboard packets, ready for use. Splendid new Valencia and Sultana Raisins. A few old Valencias, in good condition, to clear out at 2½d per lb. Muscatels, "the very choicest," in clusters, Lemon, Orange, and Citron Peels, Jordan and Valencia Almonds, Apples, Oranges, Figs, Prunes, Dates; Barcelona, Brazil, and Walnuts; Table Jellies, &c., &c.

PROVISIONS.

"We are noted for choice PROVISIONS." In Provisions of every description our selection is of the finest, and at prices that are bound to draw the attention of buyers who require a really good article at a moderate price. See the windows for Choice Cuts, and then buy; you won't regret it.

Cumberland, Smoked Wiltshire, Irish Rolls, Square Shoulders, Rolled Shoulders, Cumberland Cut, Sides; Hams from 5½d per lb., and a special line in dainty little Hams at 6d per lb.

BUTTERS, PAIL AND BLADDER LARD.—We guarantee to be pure, and of the finest quality. Our finest Danish Butter is simply perfection.

Rich Gorgonzola, Gouda, Edam, Cotherstone, Derby, and American Cheeses at all prices, from 4d per lb.

CHESHIRE CHEESE.—We have secured a parcel of very rich Prize Dairy Cheshire Cheese, which we would recommend to those who like a bit real good Cheshire. 10d per lb.

Hugon's Refined Beef Suet, Tinned Beefs, Tongues, Lobsters, Salmon, Pressed Tongue 1s per lb., Potted Chicken and Tongue, and other Pastes, Plumtree's Potted Meats, Pickles, Sauces, ½-gallon Bottles Pickles, 1s 3d per bottle.

Special line in 3-gill Bottles Worcester Sauce, 5d per bottle.

Special line in 3-gill Bottles Capt. Currie's Relish, 6d per bottle.

TEAS. COFFEES. COCOAS.

Splendid Value in Teas, from 1s 2d per lb. Our 1s 10d Tea is a Speciality, and cannot be beaten at the money. Our 2s 6d "Tiger Brand" Pure Ceylon, is a Tea which will please the most particular.

With our 2s 6d Presentation Blend, we are giving splendid presents, both useful and ornamental, consisting of Cases of Carvers, Cases of Knives and Forks, Spoons, Ladies' and Gent's. Watches, Clocks, Striking Clocks, Opera Glasses, Barometers, Nickel Silver Teapots, Bronze Ornaments, &c., &c. N.B.—This Tea and Presents show the most exceptional value ever offered to the public, and are not to be beaten in any shop in the district.

Fresh Ground Coffee. Coffee mixed with finest Chicory.

Dr. Tibble's Vi-Cocoa. Fry's, Van Houten's, Suchard's, Cadbury's, and Sirius' Cocoas.

FLOURS.

Our selection of Flours is tip-top, as we only buy from the most noted Makers by the Patent Process, and at cheap prices, considering the advances.

Whole Meal in ¼ and ½-stone Bags.

English and Scotch Oatmeals. Quaker Oats, "Union Jack" Rolled Scotch Oats.

Bran, Boxings, Cakes, and all Feeding Stuffs, at lowest market prices. Prices on application.

SWEETS.

Bottled Sweets, Box Sweets, ¼d, ½d, and 1d lines for retailers, at wholesale prices; Cokernut, Scotch, a real treat.

TOBACCO.

R. Sinclair's Golden Twist Tobaccos. Packet Tobaccos of all kinds. Cigars and Cigarettes.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN WINES.

British Wines—Port, Sherry, Ginger, Rasp, Raisin, Tent, Cowslip, &c., 1s per bottle.

Foreign Port Wines, 1s 4d, 1s 8d, 2s 1d, 2s 6d, and 3s per bottle.

Fine Old Tawny Port, 3s 6d per bottle.

Foreign Sherry Wine, 1s 4d, 1s 8d, 2s 1d, 2s 6d, and 3s per bottle.

Clarets, 1s 4d and 1s 6d per bottle.

Champagne, 4s 6d and 2s 6d per bottle.

Burgundy, "Oomoo" Brand, 2s per flagon. (Flagon 3d, returnable.)

Glendenning's Beef and Malt Wine, 3s 9d and 2s per bottle.

Glendenning's Invalid Port, 3s per bottle.

Glendenning's Cocoa Wine, 3s 9d large bottle.

Syphons of Soda, Potass, and Lemonade.

A SPECIAL LINE IN 1-lb. JARS MINCEMEAT, 6d PER JAR—LIKE HOME MADE.

JOSEPH MURRAY,
Consett, High Spen, and Craghead.

A RECORD SEASON IN A RECORD REIGN.

JAMES DALY & CO.,

RETURN Thanks to the many Thousands of kind Friends who this Season have entrusted them with their esteemed Orders, and respectfully beg to draw the Attention of the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District, to their large and carefully Selected Stock of Flour, Groceries, Provisions, Ales, Wines, and Spirits, for XMAS and NEW YEAR, at very lowest possible prices.

Our Celebrated Yorkshire Flour is still to the front. Increasing Sales of Tons Monthly testify that it stands A1 on the Market.

PURE CEYLON TEA,

AT 1s, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, and 2s per lb. Finest obtainable, 2s 6d.

SUGARS:—Moist, Crystals, Castor, Lump, &c., from 1½d to 2d per lb.

Currants, Raisins, Spices, Candied Peel, Almonds, Jam, Marmalade, Tinned Meats, Tinned Fruits, &c., in great variety at Lowest Prices.

BACON AND HAM:

DALY'S BREAKFAST BACON and BELFAST ROLL cannot be equalled.

A Choice Selection of HAMS, ROLLS, and SHOULDERS.

CHEESES:

Dutch, Edam, American, Cheshire, Wensleydale, Gorgonzola, &c., in Prime Condition for Christmas and New Year Trade.

Pure DANISH and IRISH BUTTERS, MARGARINE, and Mixtures.

We are the Proprietors of the Celebrated "DREAMLAND" Bland, the Cream of Scotch Whiskey; also "FAIRYLAND," or Irish Cream, and we are the Sole Wholesale Agents in this District for the "ROYAL" Blend, as supplied to the Prince of Wales. COLERAINE—Pure Malt as supplied to the House of Commons, and John Jameson and Sons' Famous

OLD IRISH WHISKEY.

IRISH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Irish	2s 0d
Old Malt Irish	2s 3d
Kirker, Greer and Co's	2s 6d
Dunvilles' V.R.	3s 0d
Fairyland (10 Years Old)	3s 2d
Coleraine (Pure Malt)	3s 6d
John Jameson and Sons	3s 6d

Quarts at 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, and 4s 6d.

SCOTCH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Good Scotch	2s 0d
Old Matured Scotch	2s 3d
Old Highland	2s 6d
Renowned Highland	3s 0d
Roderick Dhu	3s 0d
Old Glenlivit	3s 0d
Glencadam (8 Years Old)	3s 2d
Dreamland (10 years Old)	3s 2d
Robinson's Strathvegan	3s 4d
Royal Blend	3s 6d

QUARTS at 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, and 4s 6d.

BRANDY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Brandy	3s 6d
Old Do.	4s 0d
Very Old Vintage Brandy	4s 6d
30 Years' Old Vintage Brandy	6s 6d

CHAMPAGNE AND OTHER WINES.

GIN.

	Per Bottle.
Good Gin	1s 9d
London Gin	2s 0d
Special Gin	2s 6d
Extra Special Gin	2s 9d
Holland's Gin	2s 9d
Old Holland's Gin	3s 0d

Quarts, 3s and 3s 6d.

RUM.

	Per Bottle.
Good Rum	2s 0d
Old Jamaica Rum	2s 6d
Very Old Jamaica Rum	3s 0d

Special Rum, 3s and 3s 6d per quart.

BURGUNDY WINE.

Emu Brand, 2s per flagon.

PORT WINE.

Spanish Port, 1s, 1s 3d, and 1s 6d per bottle.
Fine Old Port, 2s per bottle.
Very Fine Old Port, 2s 6d per bottle.
Extra Special Port, 3s per bottle.
SHERRY WINE, 1s 6d, 1s 9d, 2s, and 2s 6d per bottle.
CLARET, 1s 3d, 1s 9d, and 2s per bottle.
GINGER WINE, 1s and 1s 3d per bottle.

Agents for VAUX'S PALE ALES and Highly Nourishing STOUT. Pints, 2s 9d per dozen; Gills, 1s 9d per dozen.

ALLSOPP'S ALES AND STOUTS, 2s 6d per dozen pints.

MELVIN'S ALE, in casks of 9 Gallons, from 8s each.

MCEWAN AND YOUNGER'S ALES on Draught.

FOR DETAIL PRICE LISTS, APPLY TO
JAMES DALY & CO.,
2, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
THE
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER,
VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE,
BENFIELDSIDE.

Appointed by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

THE SUNDERLAND WORKING MENS BUILDING SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1853.

MORTGAGES granted on approved Security. Investments received at 4 per cent. Interest. Ordinary Shares Issued, payable by Instalments.

For particulars apply to J. W. FORSTER, Ironmonger, Shotley Bridge (Agent in succession to the late Mr Joshua Lax); or to J. W. CAMPBELL, Secretary, Sunderland.

FRED CABLE,
NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
WHOLESALE
MANUFACTURING TINSMITH.

LARGE STOCK of DAIRY GOODS and MILK BOTTLES, from 1 Gill to 20 Gallons, and all kinds of KITCHEN UTENSILS kept or Made to Order.

BAKERY GOODS Made to Order.

Established 1854. Workshops—139 Haymarket.

FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.
A SPECIAL LOT OF DELICIOUS
HAMS
At Lowest Market Prices. Best Value for Money at all times, at

G. D. POWELL'S,
CASH PROVISION STORES,
4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
Goods delivered anywhere in the district.

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

THE NOTED GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS STORES AND FLOUR WAREHOUSE.

JOHN LOWES,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.,
Co. Durham.

Valuations effected for Probate. Auction Sales of every description undertaken on most reasonable Terms. RENTS AND DEBTS COLLECTED.

Agent to Castle Line Shipping Company, also North British and Mercantile Insurance Company for Fire and Life, and Ocean Accident Company.

MUSICAL TUITION.

MISS F. L. STELLING, A.L.C.M.,

GIVES LESSONS on the Pianoforte and in Theory. Pupils prepared for Examinations.

Terms on application.

ROGER STREET, BLACKHILL.

VIOLIN PUPILS WANTED.

T. H. WOOD, CONDUCTOR,
NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

FOR TERMS AND PARTICULARS
APPLY 3, FOSTER STREET, DELVES LANE.

M. FAWELL,
GROCER PROVISION MERCHANT, TEA DEALER, AND DRAPER,
FRONT STREET & DELVES LANE,
OPPOSITE THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE" OFFICE.
CONSETT.
VANS CALL IN ALL PARTS OF THE DISTRICT.

LUMLEY'S
IS
THE NOTED SHOP
FOR
CHEAP SUITS.
6, SHERBURN TERRACE,
CONSETT.

MUSICAL TUITION.

GEORGE DRYDEN, A.L.C.M., SILVER MEDALLIST (Organist of Medomsley Church), gives LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and THEORY OF MUSIC.

G.D. devotes particular attention to the Preparation of Candidates for Examinations, his Pupils having gained over 50 Certificates, including THE SILVER MEDALLIST for 1890; also FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD-CLASS HONOURS IN EVERY GRADE.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 40, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

CARDS! CARDS!! CARDS!!!

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CARDS.

FOR above visit ARMSTRONG'S SHOW ROOMS, at Rear of Shop. Splendid Assortment, unequalled in the District.

Note the Address—M. G. ARMSTRONG, West Stanley Post Office.

THE NORTHERN
ACETYLENE GAS & CARBIDE CO.,
ACETYLENE GAS AND LIGHTING ENGINEERS,
79, HIGH BRIDGE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Sole Agents for Kay's Patent Acetylene Gas Generators.

The only Safe and Reliable Acetylene Gas Generators for the Manufacture of Acetylene Gas on a Commercial Scale.

INSTALLATIONS executed on our System up to any number of Lights.

SPECIAL Acetylene Gas Generators for the Lighting of Towns, Street Lighting, Railway Stations, Collieries, Workhouses, Hotels, Engineering and Boiler Works, Private Mansions, Halls, Schools, &c.

SPECIAL Portable Gas Generators, with or without Acetylene Gas; Wind-proof Arc Lamps for lighting Shipyards, Dockyards, Railway Yards, Contractors' Purposes, Examining and Working Inside of Boilers, Tunnels; Discharging Ships' Cargo, Docks and Wharves.

Complete Catalogues on application.

Christmas Advertisements.

JOHN COLLINSON,
BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER, AND LEATHER MERCHANT,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to thank his numerous Customers in Consett and District, and has pleasure in directing attention to the Large Stock he has always on hand. These Goods will be found to unsurpassed for Style and Durability.

SOLE AGENT FOR THE PNEUMATIC BOOTS AND SHOES.

LADIES' & CHILDRDN'S BOOTS, SUITABLE FOR EVERY SEASON.

Special Selection for
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR PRESENTS.
OVERSHOES, CLOGS, &c., FOR WINTER WEAR.

6, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT,

J. R. BRODIE,
TAILOR, WOOLLEN DRAPER, HATTER,
MEN'S MERCER, &c.,

BEGS to thank the Public of Consett and the surrounding District for the liberal support which he has always received, and hopes by attention to Business, and selling goods of the Best Quality at Reasonable Prices, to merit a continuance of their favours.

SUITINGS AND OVERCOATINGS.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS & GLOVES IN PROFUSION.

THE CASTLE WATCH WORKS FOR WATCHES.

JOHN T. CASTLE,
WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND SILVERSMITH,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

IN Returning Thanks for the Liberal Patronage he has received during the past year, has pleasure in drawing the attention of the Public to his Splendid display of Jewellery, Sterling Silver and Electro-Plated Goods.

J. T. C. has the Finest Stock of Wedding and Engagement Rings in the District.

See the Handsome show of Clocks, Timepieces, Ladies' and Gents.' Watches, Alberts, Bracelets, and Brooches at Wholesale Prices.

Very Special Show of JEWELLERY in
XMAS PRESENTS.

CHRISTMAS, 1897. NEW YEAR, 1898.
Get your supply for Christmas and New Year
from

H. CHAYTOR,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
WEST STANLEY.

SOLE AGENT in Stanley for ALLSOPP'S ALES and STOUTS—2s 6d per dozen full pints; 1s 9d per dozen Half-Pints.

Try our SCOTCH and IRISH WHISKIES, 3s per Quart. Sole Agent in Stanley for M'Connell's OLD IRISH WHISKY—eight years old—3s per Bottle. CHALLENGE WHISKEY, 3s 6d per Bottle. HENNESSY'S and RENAULT'S BRANDIES. BRITISH WINES, PORT, SHERRY, RASPBERRY, GINGER, &c., 7d per Bottle. Agent for Glendenning's MALT and BEEF WINE.

Note the Address—
HANNAH CHAYTOR,
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY.

STANLEY.

H. ARMSTRONG AND SON,
PORK BUTCHERS AND CONFECTIONERS,
FRONT STREET,

THANK their friends for the kind Patronage bestowed on them during the time they have been in business.

XMAS CAKES, FANCY BREAD & CONFECTIONS.
TRY ARMSTRONG'S PORK PIES.
NOTE ADDRESS:—ARMSTRONGS,' FRONT ST.

NORTH-EASTERN HOTEL, BLACKHILL.

ISABELLA CHRISTOPHER

BEGS to Thank her old friends and Customers for their valued patronage during the great many years that she has conducted the above Hostelry since her late lamented husband's death. She has pleasure in wishing them the Compliments of the Season, and desires to call attention to her Wines, Spirits, Brandies, Ales, &c., the whole of which have been specially selected for the Festive Season, and she has confidence that the Liquors she supplies will give satisfaction.

SPARKLING MILD AND BITTER ALES.
WINES OF THE BEST VINTAGES.
WHISKIES AND BRANDIES OF THE MOST MATURED QAULITIES AND FAMED BLENDS.
Choice Tobacco and Cigars.

W. B. FOGGON,
BUTCHER,
32, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

DESIRES to thank his Patrons in Blackhill and Neighbourhood, and wishes them the COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

PRIME ENGLISH BEEF AND MUTTON AND DAIRY-FED PORK.

---

22 YEARS IN BUSINESS.

THE "LION" TEA WAREHOUSE, DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

G. J. ROBINSON,
GROCER, TEA DEALER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT.

RETURNS Thanks to his numerous Customers in Blackhill and District, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season. He hopes, by continuing to supply the very Best Quality of Goods at Moderate Prices, to merit a continuance of the confidence which has so long and generously been bestowed upon him. He has confidence in offering special value for Christmas Goods.

SEE HIS WINDOWS FOR
CHRISTMAS DISPLAY.

SCOTCH ARMS.
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

MRS. BURNS

BEGS to Thank her numerous Patrons, and wishes them
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

W. RICHARDSON,
DRAPER AND HOSIER,
BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL,

IN wishing his numerous Customers the Compliments of the Season, takes this opportunity of Thanking them for the Patronage they have so liberally bestowed upon him, and has on hand a Large and Varied Stock of General Draperies at lowest prices.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

A. E. TURNER,

BEGS once more to Thank his Friends and Customers for their kind patronage, a continuance of which he will endeavour to deserve.

MILLINERY DEPARTMENT
Conducted by MRS. MUIR

Note the address:—
ALBION HOUSE, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

BLACKHILL.

JAMES PALLISER,
FAMILY GROCER,
WHOLESALE AND RETRAIL TEA DEALER,
47 & 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL,

THANKS the inhabitants of Blackhill and Neighbourhood for their esteemed Patronage during the long period of 22 years, and wishes them the compliments of the Season. He has pleasure in announcing Special Value in all classes of Goods for Christmas and the New Year.

CHOICE FRUIT FOR THE PRESENT SEASON.

PRIME CHESHIRE AND OTHER CHEESES.

Good Tea at 1s 4d. per lb.; Best Crystal Sugar, 1½d. per lb.; Best Loaf Sugar, 2d per lb.

SHOTLEY.

NICHOLAS BROWN,
SADDLE & HARNESS MANUFACTURER,
19, FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

IN returning thanks to his numerous customers for the liberal support they have given him, during the last 50 years, wishes them
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR.

He begs also to announce that he has taken his son, THOMAS HENRY BROWN, into partnership, and trusts for a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed upon him in the past.

A Large Assortment of FANCY GOODS also in Stock.

JOHN G. WADE

DESIRES respectfully to thank the people of Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, and the inhabitants of North-West Durham generally, for the large measure of support that has been accorded to him since commencing Business as

TAILOR AND DRAPER,
AT FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
Where he has on View a Large Selection of
SUITINGS AND OVERCOATINGS,
SILK HANDKERCHIEFS AND GLOVES IN GREAT VARIETY.

Ladies' dress Capes, Lace Shawls, Umbrellas, Macintoshes, Furs, &c. Choice Assortment of Hats, Caps, Ties, Gloves, Silk Mufflers, &c. Ladies' Costumes & Dress Material in all the Latest Styles.

TAILORING in all its Branches executed on the Premises by First-Class Workmen.

This suit of mine, oh! isnt it fine.
Where do you think I bought it?
At CONNOR'S Shop, in the Front Street,
Ah! would you have thought it!

Connor makes an article for wear and for duration.
Everything that he turns out creates a great sensation.

JOHN O'CONNOR,
TAILOR AND HOSIER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

DESIRES to thank the inhabitants of Consett and Neighbourhood for the generous Patronage with which they have favoured him, and hopes, by supplying the Best of Goods, combined with First-class Workmanship, to merit a continuance of their esteemed orders.

SUITS MADE TO MEASURE.
PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED.

G. J. BROWN,
HAIRDRESSER AND PERFUMER,
PARK ROAD, CONSETT,

WISHES his customers the Compliments of the Season, and begs to remind them that he has every convenience for shaving expeditiously.

HAIR FASHIONABLY CUT.
GIVE HIM A TRIAL.

W. NICHOL,
SADDLER, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

TAKES this opportunity to thank his Customers for their kind support in the past, and by good workmanship and moderate charges he hopes to merit a continuance of their esteemed orders.

SADDLES, BRIDLES, AND EVERY KIND OF WORK EXECUTED WITH DESPATCH.

MISS F. COOKE,
HOSIER,
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

DESIRES to return her sincere Thanks to the Public of Consett and District for their esteemed custom, and has pleasure in directing attention to her Large Consignment of New Season's Goods, comprising the Latest Novelties.

PINAFORES & LADIES' FANCY APRONS and HOSIERY in great variety.

Gentlemen's Socks, Cycling & Football Stockings. Wools of all kinds.

STOCKINGS KNITTED AND RE-FOOTED on the Premises.

At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year.

MOUNT PLEASANT HOTEL, CONSETT.

P. COYLE

WISHES his old Friends and Customers the Compliments of this Festive Season, and desires to Thank them for their most liberal patronage during the many years that it has been his privilege to cater for their wants and comfort at the above hotel.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES
of the Choicest Blends.
Sparkling Beers and Stout of the Finest Quality.
WINES, TOBACCO, AND CIGARS
of the Very Best Brands.

BLACKHALL MILL.

J. F. KEEN,
SHIP INN,

BEGS to return his warmest Thanks to his Friends and Customers for their kind and liberal support, which he will endeavour to merit in the future as in the past. He wishes them a Merry Christmas, and hopes that the incoming year will bring increased Prosperity to the Neighbourhood, and that all will participate in it.

SPARKLING MILD & BITTER ALES
THAT CANNOT BE EQUALLED.
OLD SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES
OF THE FINEST BLENDS.

P. KEENLEYSIDE,
MILLINER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

Newest designs in Felts, Straw, and Chip Hats and Bonnets. Neatly Trimmed.

ALL ORDERS EXECUTED WITH DESPATCH.

ESH.

C. D. MORIN,
CROSS KEYS,

BEGS to Thank his Customers for their kind support in the past, and will be glad to see his old Friends during the Festive Season.

SPARKLING BITTER AND MILD ALES.
WHISKEY OF THE FINEST QUALITY.

LANGLEY PARK.

GEORGE RITCHIE,
GROCER AND DRAPER,
POST OFFICE,

THANKS his customers for their liberal Patronage, which he will endeavour to merit by supplying
GOODS OF THE BEST QUALITY.

GOLDEN LION, LEADGATE.

JOHN DONNELLY,

TAKES the opportunity which the end of the year affords of Thanking his numerous Friends and Customers for their liberal support, which he will strive to continue to merit by assiduously attending to their comfort and selling only the very best Articles. He wishes them a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR, and begs to say that he has in Stock MILD ALES and SPARKLING BITTER BEER and PORTER in Perfection.

WINES, TOBACCO, and CIGARS.

SMELTERS' ARMS, CASTLESIDE.

ANNIE TOMBLESON

RETURNS Thanks to her Friends and the Public generally for the liberal support bestowed on her during her Management of the above old-established Hotel, which the proprietor, Mr Edward Wylam, has entirely Renovated at great expense; and she trusts, by attending to their wants and comfort, to merit a continuance of their support.

BURTON MILD & BITTER ALES, WINES, SPIRITS, &c., of the best quality.

GOOD STABLING AND LOOSE BOXES

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

MISS F. H. REED,
POST OFFICE, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

HAS a Large Stock of APRONS, PINAFORES, and UNDERCLOTHING, BABY LINEN, HOSIERY, GLOVES, DOLLS, FANCY HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.

A Special Lot of FANCY-WARE & PERFUMERY.

AGENT FOR PULLAR'S DYE WORKS.

CONSETT.

REMEMBER
WALTER WILLSON'S
GREAT
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COST PRICE SALE.

For Prices, &c., See Posters and Circulars. See Price List for CHOICE CEYLON TEA at 1s. 4d. per lb., and other Goods at Extraordinarily Low Prices.

ESTABLISHED IN 1848.

THE NEW YEAR IS OUR
Year of Jubilee!

SEND YOUR
CHRISTMAS ORDERS
AT ONCE TO
TURNBULL BROTHERS,
THE GENERAL PROVIDERS,
Leazes & Lintz Colliery.

Our Motto is to please, and our reputation is at stake.

Buy our GROCERIES, and they are sure to please.

Try PREMIER PRIZE PACKET TEA, at 2s 4d per lb. Beats all others at the price.

In Provisions we only touch the Choicest.

NO MIXTURES OR RUBBISH KEPT.

All FLOURS, &c., at Mill prices.

Old Whiskies, in bottle, 2s 6d and 3s.

Old Whiskies, 1 Quart Stone Jars, 3s, 3s 6d, 4s.

Counsel Whisky, 3s per bottle, or 4s 6d per Quart.

Nothing equals COUNSEL in this District.

Wines, all kinds, from 8d to 4s per bottle.

Clarets and Champagnes.

Bottled Ales and Stout—Gills, 1s 6d per dozen; Pints, 2s 6d per dozen.

Ale in Casks, XXX, 10s 6d each.

Burton (from Burton-on-Trent) 10s 6d., &c., &c., &c.

We take this opportunity of Thanking our Patrons for the Liberal Support they have given us in the past, and hope, by giving personal attention to Business, to still receive your valued Orders, which will have the best attention of yours obediently.

TURNBULL BROS.,
THE GENERAL PROVIDERS,
LEAZES
AND
LINTZ COLLIERY.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS:—
Burnopfield, R.S.O.

JOHN OXLEY

BEGS to intimate that he has a GRAND BRAKE to seat 20 persons, and a First-Class Selection of OPEN and CLOSED CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE on most Reasonable Terms.

WEDDING PARTIES specially catered for.

BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS FRUIT FROM
JOHN OXLEY, CATCHGATE.

CATCHGATE.

T. R. SIMPSON

BEGS respectfully to inform the inhabitants of the surrounding District that he has a Grand Stock of Pianos, Organs, Harmoniums, Violins, Violin Cases, Bows, Music Stools (66 different patterns), Music Cabinets, Metronomes, Glass Insulators, Metal and other Music Stands, conces, Violin Strings, Music Wire, &c., &c.

GEORGE WILLIAM TROTTER,
BUTCHER, SOUTH MOOR,

THANKS his Customers for past favours, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season.

Try the FAMOUS PORK SAUSAGES,
And don't forget that, as usual, TROTTER'S GEESE Are the BEST in the DISTRICT.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, LTD.,
TOWN HALL BUIDINGS, CONSETT,

GIVE a Free Life Insurance Agreement with all Pianos and Organs sold by him on the Three Years' System.

Send for Catalogue and Particulars.

MANAGER: GEO. A. WILLIAMS.
(Also at Leeds, London, &c.)

W. WHITFIELD,
LEADGATE,

For the BEST VALUE in
TEA,
FOR THE CHOICEST NEW
CURRANTS
AND
RAISINS.
FOR THE FINEST
Cheshire & American
CHEESE,
FOR
DELICIOUS BACON,
FOR HIS SPLENDID
FLOUR
CHEAPEST AND BEST
ALL AT
SPECIAL LOW PRICES

W. WHITFIELD.
LEADGATE.

JAMES R. HUNTER,
BUTCHER, LANGLEY PARK,

IN returning his sincere thanks for past Favours, desires to inform his Customers that he has purchased for the Festive Season 7 very Superior Shorthorn BULLOCKS, fed by the Consett Iron Company, Stobilee Farm. Splendid Cumberland PORKERS. HUNTER'S Meat is second to none in the country.

R. ROBSON,
PAINTER & GLAZIER, LEADGATE,
DEALER IN OILS, PAINTS, PAPERHANGINGS, WREATHS, CROSSES, &c.,

DESIRES to thank the Public for their patronage in the past, and hopes for a continuance of the same during the coming year.

THIS BEATS ALL!

COME AND SEE THE
CASH CLOTHING COMPANY'S
CHRISTMAS GOODS.

Largest CASH CLOTHIERS in the World.

Branch: 30, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

THE ORIGINAL TEMPERANCE JUBILEE BAR,
No. 1. THOMAS STREET, CONSETT.

TOBACCOS, AERATED WATERS, AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS of all Descriptions.

PROPRIETRESS:
MRS. CANNON.

GRAND CHRISTMAS DISPLAY
OF
DRAPERY AND FANCY GOODS
AT
J. A. CASTLE'S,
THE NEWCASTLE DRAPERY & CLOTHING STORES,
FRONT STREET, DIPTON.

TREMENDOUS BARGAINS FOR CHRISTMAS.

JOHN PATTERSON,
FRUITERER AND TEA DEALER,
ESH NEW WINNING,

THANKS the inhabitants of New Esh Winning and surrounding District for their liberal Support, and invites an inspection of his Large and Varied Stock of Goods.

CHRISTMAS CHEER!
CHRISTMAS CHEER!

NATHAN ELSDON
ALE AND PORTER,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
ÆRATED WATER MANUFACTURER,
DELVES LANE,
CONSETT.

HAS pleasure in returning his hearty Thanks to the Public of Consett and the surrounding District for their generous and increasing patronage during the past year, and in so doing wishes all

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

He desires to state that he has the Largest and Best Stock of

WINES AND SPIRITS
In the district; also
SPARKLING ALES & SUPERIOR PORTER,
IN BOTTLES AND CASKS.

ALL
CONNOISSEURS OF WHISKY
SAY THAT
NATHAN ELSDON'S
SPLENDID BRANDS ARE THE VERY BEST.

For the Festive Season he has stocked some of the Finest Whisky that money can buy, and

TO THE THOUSANDS

Who patronise him at Christmas and New Year, he will give to the purchaser of a bottle of his Splendid Whisky

A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE.

Whisky, per quart	5s, 4s, 3s.
Rum ,, ,, ...	ditto
Gin ,, ,, ...	ditto
Bottles of Whisky	3s 6d, 3s, 2s 6d
,, Rum...	ditto
,, Gin	ditto
,, Sherry	4s, 3s, 2s 6d
,, Port	5s, 4s, 3s, 2s, 1s 6d
,, Ginger Wine	1s 6d
,, Black Beer	1s 6d
,, Brandy ...	4s, 4s 6d, 5s, 7s 6d

Nine Gallon Casks of Good Ale, Bitter or Mild, 10s and 12s. Bottled Ales and Stout, 1s 6d and 2s per dozen, the best in the Market.

NATHAN ELSDON'S
MINERAL WATERS

Require no puff, for they have been in increasing demand every year during the twenty he has been in business. They are highly recommended by the Medical Faculty. In bottles and syphons.

SURTEES LESLIE,
PAINTER AND DECORATOR,
FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

BEGS to Thank his Customers for the liberal support they have accorded him, and hopes to merit a continuance of the same.

Paper Hanging, Writing, Gilding, Glazing, and Picture Framing.

WILLIAM WHEATLEY,
BUTCHER, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

THANKS the Public for the liberal support that has been received for more than Fifty years, and hopes for a continuance of the same.

Prime English Fed Beef and Mutton.
Dairy-Fed Pork, which will be found suitable for the Festive Season.

Call at the "Board," and see Mrs Clark,
Drink her Beer, and you'll feel fresh as a lark.

THE BOARD INN, IVESTON.

MRS. CLARK thanks her Customers for past Patronage, and calls attention to her
SPARKLING MILD AND BITTER ALES,
of Prime Quality.

JOSEPH CHEESEMAN,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
IVESTON.

THANKS his Customers for their kind support, a continuance of which it will be his endeavour to merit. He desires to call attention to his

CHOICE STOCK OF XMAS FRUIT, &c.

CATCHGATF.

J. J. ROBINSON,
BUTCHER,

THANKS his Customers for their Support, and asks them to call at his Establishment to look at his

PRIME CHRISTMAS BEEF.
PRIZE MUTTON AND DAIRY-FED PORK.

WM. J. THOMPSON,
SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER,
CATCHGATE.

IN thanking his Customers for their past support, desires to call attention to his large and varied Stock of SADDLERY, HARNESS, and other Requisites. Repairs done promptly, and the best of workmanship guaranteed, at Moderate Charges.

GEORGE HOBSON,
MILLER AND SEEDSMAN,
HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE,
TANTOBIE, R.S.O.

TAKES the opportunity which the end of the year presents of thanking his numerous Customers for their very cordial and liberal patronage during the long period of Fifty-two years; and in wishing his old Friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year he hopes for a continuance of their Favour, which he will assiduously endeavour to merit, by supplying all kinds of Seeds and other Articles of the very best Quality at the Lowest Possible Prices.

Price-Lists on application.
PATENT BROADCAST HAND SEED SOWER.
The Little Wonder.

For a drop of Good Whisky all come here.
And smoke our Cigars and drink our Beer.

HAMSTEELS NEW INN.

THOMAS CHAMBERS,

THANKS the Public for the Patronage that has been so liberally bestowed upon him, and wishes to say he will be glad to entertain his Friends during the present Festive Season. A bottle of his celebrated 7-YEAR OLD SCOTCH WHISKY is better than all the doctors' medicine in the country, while his sparkling SPECIAL INDIAN PALE ALE Invigorates and strengthens. NAP AND CHAMPION CIGARS. Good Stabling.

WATERHOUSES.

After you hunt and run until you fag,
Call and see friend French at the Stag.

GEORGE FRENCH,
STAG'S HEAD,

BEGS to wish all his old Friends the Compliments of this Festive Season, and desires to say that

REFRESHMENTS FOR MAN AND BEAST

will always be found ready at his ESTABLISHMENT.

EVERYTHING OF THE BEST

WATERHOUSES.

J. McCALLUM,
NEW HOUSE ROAD,

CALLS attention to his Large and Varied Stock of CHRISTMAS CARDS, TOYS, and PRESENTS. Tobaccos and Cigars.

Pipes and Pouches in Great Variety.

ROBERT MOFFITT,
JOINER AND CARTWRIGHT,
MEDOMSLEY.

DESIRES to Thank his Customers in Medomsley and District for their esteemed Patronage, wishes them the Compliments of the Season, and hopes, by prompt attention to Orders, to continue to merit public support. All kinds of Joinery and Cartwright Work promptly executed.

MRS. E. WILSON,
BURNOPFIELD,

IN thanking her Customers for their past generous support, desires to call attention to her Special Show of TOYS, DOLLS, AND GAMES. 'Xmas Cakes and Loaves made to Order.

TRAVELLERS' REST,
LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

Stay, traveller stay, and have a rest,
And drink a glass of the Travellers' best.

N. CARRICK,

DESIRES to thank the Inhabitants of Burnopfield and the District for their encouraging Support, which he will strive to merit in the future as he has in the past. The entertainment that his House affords cannot be surpassed, and he promises his Customers a Hearty Welcome during the present Festive Season. He has pleasure in wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

THE FINEST ALES IN THE MARKET.
GRAND OLD SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES.

AT Christmas Play and have Good Cheer. If you want a drop of GOOD BEER, pay a Visit to the

RED OX INN, DIPTON,
WHERE
JOHN TEMPLE,
Will be pleased to supply you with
BEER, BEER, GLORIOUS BEER.

THE BUTE ARMS, DIPTON.

GEORGE BROWN,

BEGS to Thank his numerous Customers in Dipton and Vicinity for their esteemed Patronage, and has pleasure in wishing them all a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

He hopes to be favoured with their presence and orders during the Festive Season, and offers them Good Value and Full Measure.

THE BEST IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.
Mild and Bitter Ales on Draught and in Bottles.
CHOICE TOBACCO AND CIGARS.
Good Stabling. Good Standage for Travelling Shows.

STANLEY.

JOSEPH WATSON,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

BEGS to thank his Customers for their kind support in the past, and calls attention to his Christmas Show of
PRIME BEEF AND MUTTON.

DAIRY-FED PORK.

SHIELD ROW INN.

JOSEPH WATSON

THANKS the Public for their Patronage and Support, which he hopes to merit in the future as in the past. When you Buy
IRISH WHISKY, GET McCONNELL'S.
ONE BOTTLE TELLS ITS OWN STORY.
SPARKLING MILD AND BITTER ALES.

A. H. SWINBURN,
BUTCHER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

IN Thanking his Customers for their encouraging support during the last 19 years he has been in business, begs to intimate that he has provided for them during the Festive Season some of the PRIMEST ENGLISH-FED BEEF and MUTTON, and DAIRY-FED PORK.

PAY HIM A VISIT.

GEORGE STACEY,
CONFECTIONER,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

WISHES all his Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and returns Thanks for the many favours which have been bestowed upon him.

TRY STACEY FOR SWEETS.
CHRISTMAS AND OTHER PARTIES CATERED FOR.

F. W. DIXON,
TAILOR, DRAPER, AND HATTER,
VICTORIA BUILDINGS,
WEST STANLEY,

TAKES the opportunity to Thank his Friends and customers for their very encouraging support in the past. He begs to wish them the
COMPLIMENTS OF THE FESTIVE SEASON,
And desires to say that it will be his endeavour in the future, as it has been in the past, to give satisfaction to those who entrust him with their esteemed Orders.

A CALL IS RESPECTFULLY INVITED.

JOHN BATES,
CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN, STANLEY,

TENDERS his thanks to the public of Stanley and District for their kind support during his long residence (extending over 20 years) in their midst; and hopes to merit a continuance of their favours. Ladies' and Gent.'s Gold and Silver WATCHES. All REPAIRS done on the premises. SPECTACLES to suit all sights.

TRY
MRS. ARMSTRONG'S,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,
FOR
LEICESTER PASTRY,
AND YOU WILL OBTAIN SATISFACTION.

A LARGEST REFRESHMENT ESTABLISHMENT,
With Best Accommodation in the District.

WILSON BROTHERS,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

BEG to call SPECIAL ATTENTION to their SPLENDID DISPLAY OF XMAS CAKES.

IF YOR WANT FIRST QUALITY IN
PROVISIONS, FLOUR, TEA, CONFECTIONERY, ITALIAN GOODS, AND GENERAL GROCERIES,
JUST GIVE US A TRIAL.

LESSEES OF
SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

AGENTS FOR
NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.

Ye Goode Old Chrystmasse Cheere.

FREEMASONS' ARMS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

CHRISTMAS, they say, comes but once a year, and the return of the Festive Season gives

EDWARD WYLAM

The pleasure and opportunity of wishing his Friends and Patrons a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and cordially thanking them for their support during the time that he has occupied the above Hotel; and he hopes by keeping only the

BEST MILD & BITTER ALES, STOUT, WINES, SPIRITS, &c.,

To merit a continuance of their favours.

FIRST-CLASS ORDINARY DAILY.
Comfortable Beds Good Stabling.

FRUIT! FRUIT! FRUIT!

CHRISTMAS, 1897.

FOR the Choicest Brands of English and Foreign
FRUITS, APPLES, ORANGES, GRAPES, FIGS, NUTS, &c., &c.,

Don't fail to see our window. Unsurpassed for Quality and Price. Goods forwarded to all parts, wholesale and retail.

HEWITT'S,
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT.

Let it be fine or rain, or blowing e'er so hard,
Stop and take a drink with the Immortal Bard.

SHAKESPEARE HOTEL,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

WILLIAM KENNEDY

DESIRES to thank his numerous Customers for their past support, and wishes them A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

He will be pleased to receive a visit from his patrons during the Festive Season; and hopes to supply them in the future, as in the past, with Articles of the Best Quality.

CHAMPION BURTON AND OTHER BITTER BEERS.
WINES OF THE FINEST VINTAGES.
CIGARS AND TOBACCO OF THE CHOICEST BRANDS.

Rest, Traveller, rest, and drink a cheerfull glass,
Nor think the door of the Travellers' Rest to pass;
Here's what cheers man in his daily course,
And affords entertainment for his horse.

THE TRAVELLERS' REST,
DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

MARY THOMPSON

BEGS to return thanks to her Friends and Customers for the Patronage that she has in the past received from them. She wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hopes, by selling only the Best Liquor, to merit a continuance of their favour and support.

UNEQUALLED MILD AND BITTER ALES AND PORTER in perfection, on Draught and in Bottle.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS.

THE SHOP TO BE SUITED.

J. L. BRODIE,
TAILOR,
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to thanks his Customers for their kind Patronage, which it will be his endeavour to merit and retain.

He calls attention to his
STYLISH SUITS TO MEASURE
For the Winter Season.
They wear well, are made of Warm Material, AND COST VERY LITTLE MONEY.

Note the Address:
J. L. BRODIE,
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,
HAVELOCK STREET.

J. H. COURTNEY

THANKS the Public of Consett and District for the support hitherto accorded to him, and hopes to merit a share of their future Patronage.

Genuine Melton Mowbray Pies and Pastry.
Hot Joints and Pot Pies Every Day.
Fruit Loaf from 4d. per lb.
Suppers and Parties catered for on reasonable terms.
Rooms to Let for Small Meetings.
Catering for Parties, Dinners, &c.
Estimates given.

J. H. COURTNEY, Sole Proprietor.

1897. CHRISTMAS. 1897.

ROBERT ELTRINGHAM,
(Late OLIVER),
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

BEGS to thank the inhabitants of Stanley and District for their esteemed patronage, and has the pleasure in inviting an inspection of his Stock of

CHOICE CHRISTMAS AND NEW SEASON'S GOODS.

New arrival of CHRISTMAS FRUITS.
Choice Selection of CHRISTMAS CHEESE.
PRIME HAMS AND BACON.
CHOICE DANISH BUTTER.
TEAS, COFFEES, TINNED GOODS,
BISCUITS AND CAKES,
FLOUR, BOXINGS, BRAN, &c.

JOHN NATTRASS,
STANLEY
(OPPOSITE THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS),

RETURNS his thanks for the encouraging support that he has received in the past, and hopes for a continuance of public favour.

NATTRASS'S for Hats and Caps, Collars, Ties, Shirts, Pants, Stockings, Socks, Studs, Yarns, Wools, &c.

E. GIBSON,
MILLINER,
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY,

DESIRES to thank her Customers in Stanley and neighbourhood for their kind support, which she will endeavour to merit and retain by assiduously attending to their wants.

PINAFORES and FANCY APRONS in Great Variety.

JOHN CALVERT,
GROCER, DRAPER, JEWELLER, AND GENERAL DEALER,
HIGH STANLEY,

WISHES his Friends and Customers a Merry 'Xmas and a Happy New Year. All kinds of Ready-Mades. SUITS made to order. CALVERT has a Little of Everything, so pay him a visit, and test his Goods.

T. S. PARKER,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

BEGS to thank the Public of Stanley and District for their liberal support, and desires to call attention to his

PRIME BEEF AND MUTTON AND DAIRY-FED PORK.

SEE THE WINDOWS
OF THE
DANISH BUTTER COMPANY,
(UNDER THE NEW THEATRE,)
VICTORIA BUILDINGS,
STANLEY.

GET YOUR CHRISTMAS FRUIT
FROM
JAMES MASTERMAN,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

A LARGE Assortment of Choice Apples, Oranges, Pomegranates, Grapes, Dates, Figs, Bananas, Nuts, Preserved Fruits, Pure Sweets, Biscuits and Vegetables always in Stock.

Christmas Advertisements.

A CHOICE ASSORTMENT
OF GOODS
(SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS)
AT
R. C. FORSTER'S
IRISH LINEN WAREHOUSE,
AND
GENERAL DRAPERY, CLOTHING, AND OUTFITTING
ESTABLISHMENTS
11 and 12, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

Pure Linen Cambric HANDKERCHIEFS, at 3½d to 1s. each.

Hemstitched Cambric HANDKERCHIEFS, pure Linen, from 4½d. up.

A Great Variety of Silk Squares, Mufflers, Aprons, Pinafores, &c., bought specially for Christmas.

Dent's GLOVES in the Leading Qualities. A Special Fur Top, lined, Kid Glove, at 1s. 11½d.

Real Irish TWEED SUITS, Men's size, 21s. 6d. up. The best value ever known in Consett.

THE CHEAP CLOTHIER AND PEOPLE'S FRIEND.

CHRISTOPHER LUMLEY,
SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,

EMBRACES the opportunity which the *Consett Chronicle* affords him to Thank his customers for their liberal patronage during the long period of 22 years. He takes credit to himself for being the first to introduce really CHEAP CLOTHING for the Working Classes, and, having given up the Pawnbroking Business, so long carried on by his late father-in-law, Mr Calvert, he is now in a position to devote all his attention to the Ready-made Department.

CLOTHING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
☞ SUITS MADE TO ORDER FROM 25s. UPWARDS

THE RAILWAY INN,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

JOSEPH LUMLEY

DESIRES to thank his Customers for the very encouraging support that he has received during his occupancy of the above Hotel, now upwards of 22 years; and he hopes, by assiduous attention to business, to merit a continuance of public favour and Patronage. He wishes his Friends and Neighbours the compliments of the Season, and begs to intimate that he has provided for their Refreshment and Entertainment during the Festive Season.

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES
Of the most noted Blends.
SPARKLING BITTER AND MILD ALES.
CHOICE WINES, CIGARS, AND TOBACCO.
Good Stabling.

JOHN HALL AND CO.,
GROCERS, DRAPERS, & TEA DEALERS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

TENDER their heartiest Thanks to the people of Annfield Plain and the surrounding District for the encouraging support that they have hitherto received, and which they have always endeavoured to merit by supplying Articles of the best quality and at the very lowest Prices. They wish them

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR,

And beg to refer them to the Bill of Fare which they have prepared during the Festive Season.

G. E. AND M. T. MILBURN,
BUTCHERS,
MEDOMSLEY,

DESIRE to thank the inhabitants of Medomsley and District, and wish them the Compliments of the Season. They beg to intimate that they have built a new and commodious shop near to their old premises, and state that they have purchased

A GRAND SELECTION OF FAT STOCK
For the
CHRISTMAS SEASON.

BEEF—1st prize at Hexham, the property of W. Ridley, Esq., Shillford, also from W. Thompson, Esq., Capheaton. Prize Sheep from Blackhill Mart. Dairy fed Pork.

HAT AND FEATHER,
MEDOMSLEY.

JOHN GEORGE ARMSTRONG,

HAS pleasure in Thanking his numerous Customers in Medomsley and District for their esteemed patronage, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He begs to invite a trial of his First-rate Liquors, which he has specially obtained for the Christmas and New Year Season.

WINES, WHISKIES, AND BRANDIES OF THE FINEST BLENDS.
Mild and Bitter Ales.
CHOICE TOBACCO AND CIGARS.

FORSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.,
GROCERS AND DRAPERS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

BEG to thank their Friends and Customers for their liberal Patronage in the past, and wish them very heartily, the

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.
See the Splendid Display of
CHRISTMAS AND GENERAL GROCERIES
Of the Best Quality.

Special Drapery Show for Christmas and the New Year.

You may depend on obtaining Good Value for your money at
FORSTER, RUSSELL, & Co's ESTABLISHMENT.

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN BOOT SHOP.

STRAWBRIDGE'S NEW BUILDINGS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

JAMES STRAWBRIDGE,
BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER,

BEGS to thank the inhabitants of Annfield Plain and District for their very generous Support during the past year, and wishes to inform them that he has a New and Varied Stock of BOOTS and SHOES, in all the leading Lines and Latest Fashions of the day.

REPAIRS Neatly and Promptly Executed as heretofore and at the old Prices.

JANE WARD,
STIRLING CASTLE, CONSETT,

BEGS to return her sincere Thanks to the Public generally for their esteemed support; and she hopes, by the careful management of her house, and by supplying the Best Liquors, to merit a continuance of public patronage. She wishes her Friends and Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and invites a trial of her well-selected Stock of Wines, Whiskies, and Ales for the Festive Season.

PERFECTION IN CONECTIONERY.

MRS. A. POTTS,
PARK ROAD, CONSETT,

THANKS the inhabitants of Consett and vicinity for the kind support, which she will try to deserve.

Chocolates, Sweets, &c., in great variety.
Home Made Cakes.

JOHN ALLISON,
MASON AND BUILDER,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT,

BEGS to return Thanks for the support that has been accorded him during the many years that he has been in Business. It has always been his endeavour to turn out good substantial Work; and he hopes, by strict attention to Business and carrying out his Contracts in a workmanlike manner, to continue to merit a Continuance of public favour and support.

Estimates Given for Cement Footpaths.

CEMENT, CHIMNEYTOPS, SANITARY PIPES, SINKS, FIREBRICKS, &c.,

Repairs done on Reasonable Terms.

THE SPORTSMAN'S ARMS.
DIPTON.

WILLIAM HERRON.

THANKS his numerous Friends for their kind Support since he took over the abovenamed House. Nothing but WINES, SPIRITS, and CIGARS of the Best Quality kept. W. H. wishes all a Jolly Christmas.

CONSETT.

GEORGE WADE, JUN.,
IRONMONGER, JOINER, &c.,
55A, FRONT STREET,

INVITES AN INSPECTION OF HIS LARGE STOCK OF CUTLERY, comprising:—

Pen and Pocket Knives, Table Knives and Forks, Sugar and Jelly Spoons, Razors, and Scissors, from the Best Makers.

Paints and Enamels of all Colours, and Varnish Stains.

Powell's Royal Plate Polishing Cream, sold in bottles at 1s each.

Fret-Saw Outfits at Reasonable Prices.

Sheba Liquid Gold Paint, in 6d and 1s Bot.

A large assortment of Joiners' Tools of the Best Makes. GENERAL IRONMONGERY.

COMMERCIAL INN,
STANLEY.

ROBERT BOAL

WISHES all his numerous Friends and Customers

A MERRY XMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

He has in Stock a Large Variety of Splendid Liquors for the Season, and trusts to receive a continuance of favours which have been so liberally bestowed upon him.

FINEST SPIRITS.
REALLY GOOD ALES AND STOUT.
TOBACCO AND CIGARS.
NEW COMMERCIAL ROOM, SNUG, AND BAR now OPEN.

ROBERT HAND,
BUTCHER,
13, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

THANKS his Customers for their liberal support in the past, and hopes for a continuance of the same. He also begs to intimate that he has purchased the following for the Christmas Season:—The CHAMPION HEIFER at BENFIELDSIDE MART, winner of three first prizes; also, BULLOCK fed by Mr Foster Hall, Toft Gate; also, a neat HEIFER, from Messrs Anderson, Black Hedley; B.F. WETHERS from Mr. Lowery, Cornfield House. DAIRY FED PORK from Mr Rawes, Middle Heads.

GEORGE R. HOBSON,

FAMILY GROCER & PROVISION DEALER,

WINE, SPIRIT, ALE, AND PORTER MERCHANT,

CATCHGATE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

WISHES his Customers the COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON, and begs to Offer for their Consideration the following

PRICE LIST:
WINES, SPIRITS, &c., OF THE FINEST QUALITY.

Old Irish Whiskey, 1s 8d, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 4s per bottle.

Fine Old Scotch Whiskey, 2s and 2s 6d per bottle.

Very Old Scotch Whiskey, 3s, 3s 6d, and 4s per bottle.

Old Jamaica Rum, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle.

London Gin, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle

Holland's Gin, 2s 8d per bottle.

British Wines (various), 1s 1d and 1s 3d per bottle.

Brandy, 4s, 4s 6d, 5s, and 6s 6d per bot.

Fine Sherry, 1s 6d, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle.

Good Port, 1s 6d, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle.

Champagnes, Clarets, &c., of various brands, always in stock.

ALES AND STOUT,

In Casks of 4½ Gallons and 9 Gallons, at 1s per Gallon and upwards; in Bottles at 1s 6d per dozen, in six dozen lots.

ORDERS BY POST RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

GEO. R. HOBSON,

AGENT FOR
WHITBREAD AND CO., LTD.,
ALES AND STOUT.

Half-Pint Bottles - - - 1s 6d per dozen.
Imperial Pints - - - 2s 6d per dozen.

IN PRIME CONDITION.

Delivered to any part of the District.

BE SURE YOU GET WHITBREAD'S THIS CHRISTMAS.

MRS. W. F. TAIT,
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER,
JEWELLER, ETC.,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

LARGE ASSORTMENT of New and Second Hand Silver Lever watches, Ladies' Gold and Silver Watches and Alberts. All kinds of Silver and Electro-Plated Goods for presents. Spectacles to suit all sights.

J. E. KINLESIDE,
POST OFFICE, LEADGATE,

SENDS his Customers a Christmas and New Year's Greeting, and begs to draw attention to his choice selection of

TOBACCOS, CIGARS, AND CIGARETTES
Grand assortment of Pipes and Pouches.
STATIONERY OF SPLENDID QUALITY.
SPECTACLES A SPECIALITY.
KINLESIDE'S SPECIAL CIGARS.

WM. LEE,
THE WORKINGMAN'S BUTCHER,

will have for Xmas

GRAND BEEF & MUTTON
AND LOCAL DAIRY FED PORK,
PRIME GEESE, TURKEYS, & DUCKS
AT PRICES TO SUIT YOU ALL.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
20a, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

JOHN R. WOOD,
30, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS respectfully to thank the inhabitants of Consett and District for their past support, and intimates that he has a Choice Selection of PIPES, POUCHES, CIGAR and CIGARETTE HOLDERS, CASES, WALKING STICKS, &c., suitable for Christmas and New Year's Presents.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN CIGARS.
Agent for Ogden's Noted Tobaccos and Cigarettes.
All the popular kinds of Cigarettes and Tobaccos always in stock.

NOTE THE ADDRESS.

MISS AND MR E. J. SLOANE,

MUS. BAC., TRIN. UNIV. TOR., NATIONAL GOLD MEDALLIST, TRINITY COLLEGE, LONDON, L.MUS., L.C.M., ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

THANK the Inhabitants of the District for their Cordial and Hearty Recognition of their labours as Teachers of Music, and in wishing their Friends and Pupils the Compliments of this Festive Season, desire to say that they will continue to give Lessons on the

ORGAN, PIANO, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, COMPOSITION, CANON, FUGUE, AND HISTORY,

And, by assiduous attention and care, they hope to merit a continuance of Public Favour.

E. SLOANE, SEN.,

Has always a number of the Best and Cheapest Instruments in the District in Stock, including Pianos, Organs, Violins, &c.

ORGANS AND PIANOS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

THE PEOPLE'S SHOP.

JOHN COULTHARD,
GENERAL DRAPER, MILLINER,
READY-MADE CLOTHIER, &c.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
DIPTON,

BEGS to return thanks to his Friends and Customers for the support that has been given to him in the past.

CHEAP CLOTHING FOR THE MASSES.

WILLIAM MILBURN,
PORK BUTCHER,
17, HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT,

CALLS attention respectfully to his Large Supply of SAUSAGES, RABBITS, GEESE, and POULTRY, Suitable for the Festive Season.

M. SWAINSTON,
FISH, ICE,
AND
RABBIT DEALER,
73, DERWENT STREET,
BLACKHILL.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

JOHN WILSON,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
15, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

THANKS his Patrons for past Favours, and invites attention to his supply of CHRISTMAS GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,

FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS,
Always on hand.

GOOD CHEER FOR CHRISTMAS!

A. GARBUTT,
FRUITERER, GREENGROCER, &c., FRONT STREET,
LEADGATE,

BEGS to thank his numerous Customers for their Patronage during the past year, and has pleasure in announcing that during the Festive Season he will have Fresh Supplies of FRUIT, VEGETABLES, RABBITS, &c., daily.

J. Kershaw and Sons,

In wishing their Customers the Compliments of the Season, thank them for past favours, and hope for a continuance of the same.

Ker's Ale. Ker's Ale. Ker's Ale.

The leading Non-intoxicant, and has the Largest Sale in the North.

J, K. & S. still hold the reputation for being UNSURPASSED, and for pure

GOLD MEDAL
MINERAL WATERS.

KER'S ALE
has been awarded the only

TWO GOLD MEDALS
at the 1896-97 Exhibitions.

The three objects you ought to notice when buying our Mineral Waters are

PURITY, CLEANLINESS, & QUALITY.

These can only be guaranteed by buying from

J. KERSHAW & SONS.

When buying ask only for KERSHAW'S. We are the only Makers of the GOLD MEDAL leading non-intoxicant,

KER'S ALE.

Please Note the Address. Orders delivered free by our own waggons to any part of town or country.

J. KERSHAW & SONS,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
ALE AND PORTER BOTTLERS,
PLANTATION STREET,
LEADGATE.
Also, Back Askew Road, Gateshead.

"Christmas comes but once a year,
And when it comes, it brings good cheer."

FOR QUALITY AND REASONABLE PRICES, GO TO

M. FAWELL,

FOR TEA, COFFEE, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, &c., FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.

FINEST TOMATOES 5D PER TIN; LUNCH TONGUES, 9½d Per lb.; FRUIT LOAVES, 5d to 8d per lb.; LARD, 4d to 5½d per lb.

Our Drapery Department, which is well-stocked and carefully selected, includes Silk Handkerchiefs, Mufflers, Fancy Aprons and Pinafores, Shawls, Gloves, Ties, Fronts, &c., suitable for the Season. A Cheap Lot in Jackets and Capes—Extra Value.

Address—40, FRONT STREET, and
1, DELVES LANE, CONSETT
(Near the Station).

THE OLD FAVOURITE IS STILL TO THE FORE.

C. F. COOKE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,
HAS THE
FINEST SHOW IN THE DISTRICT
OF
CHRISTMAS
AND
GENERAL GROCERIES,
WITH A
SPECIAL DRAPERY SHOW,
WELL WORTHY OF AN INSPECTION.

DON'T YOU FORGET THIS.

J. G. BRYDSON,
TEA DEALER & PROVISION MERCHANT
LANCHESTER,

THANKS his Customers for their kind patronage, and begs to call attention to his Splendid Assortment of Seasonable Goods.

BRYSDON'S IS THE BARGAIN HIVE.
First-Class PROVISIONS at Popular Prices.

LANCHESTER.

R. JACKSON,
GLASS, CHINA, HARDWARE AND OIL DEALER,

THANKS the Public of Lanchester and surrounding Neighbourhood for their liberal Patronage in the past, and hopes by supplying goods of the Best Quality to merit a continuance of their favours. HORSE-SHOEING and BLACKSMITH WORK done expeditiously and cheaply.

FLINT HILL INN,
THE NOTED HOUSE FOR
BITTER AND MILD ALES.

MRS. ELIZABETH GALLAGHER

THANKS her numerous Customers for their past Favours, and hopes to have the pleasure of Entertaining them during the present Festive Season.

LANCHESTER.

MRS. FAIRBANK,
MILLINER, DRAPER, &c.,

RESPECTFULLY invites attention to her Choice Selection of Fancy Goods for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND TOYS,
SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS,
IN ENDLESS VARIETY.

SEE THE WINDOWS.

KING'S ARMS HOTEL, LANCHESTER.

JAMES HUMBLE

DESIRES respectfully to tender his sincere thanks to the Inhabitants of Lanchester and the vicinity for the very encouraging support which he has always received. He wishes them the

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON,

And by assiduously attending to the wants of his Customers, and those who favour him with their Patronage, he hopes for a continuance of the same.

FINEST IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.
BEST MILD AND BITTER ALES.

LANCHESTER.

JOHN WALBURN,
BUTCHER,

TENDERS his thanks to the People of Lanchester and the surrounding District for their kind support, and in wishing them the Compliments of the Season, he hopes, by selling

MEAT OF THE PRIMEST QUALITY,

to merit a continuance of the Patronage which has been so liberally bestowed upon him in the past.

He has a Splendid Show of
CHRISTMAS BEEF AND MUTTON, AND DAIRY-FED PORK.

FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS,
WHAT TO GIVE AND WHERE TO GET IT.

J. COCKBURN,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

CARDS, DOLLS, MECHANICAL TOYS,
PURSES, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,

And a variety of Goods too numerous to mention.

INSPECTION INVITED.

W. ROBINSON,
DRAPER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, MEDOMSLEY,

DESIRES to thank his numerous customers in Medomsley and the surrounding districts for their support in the past, and in wishing them the Compliments of the Season, trusts by strict attention to Business to merit a continuance of it in the future.

BLUE BELL INN, LANCHESTER.

JOHN SNAITH,
PROPRIETOR OF THE ABOVE HOTEL,

DESIRES to Thank his Customers for their Support in the past, and begs to inform them that he has on hand a Large Stock of Old and Well-Matured

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES
AND
PURE RUM.
HAVING STARTED THE
WHOLESALE BUSINESS,

He is prepared to supply any quantities of the above

ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE,
AND AT THE CHEAPEST RATES.
McEWAN'S AND BASS'S ALES
of the best quality.
RITCHIE'S AND McKENZIE'S STOUTS

Are a speciality. Mineral Waters of all descriptions are always kept in Stock.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S UNDERCLOTHING FOR CHRISTMAS.

MRS BATES,
8, TINMILL PLACE, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to tender her sincere Thanks to the people of the District who have given her their support since she opened the above. She has in stock a splendid assortment of LADIES' & CHILDREN'S UNDERCLOTHING, SUITABLE FOR XMAS PRESENTS.

W. WRIGHT,
FRUITERER AND CONFECTIONER,
FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

RETURNS thanks for the kind support accorded him by the inhabitants of this District since he commenced business, and trusts that by supplying good articles he will merit a continuance of the same.

ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

GOOD CHEER FOR CHRISTMAS.

JOHN GAMBLES,
GENERAL DEALER, GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
1, ST. AIDAN STREET & 31, DIXON STREET,
BLACKHILL,

DESIRES to thank his numerous friends for their kind patronage during the period he has kept his stores, and wishes them a very MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. At the same time he desires to inform the public of Blackhill that anything from a needle to a sack of flour can be had at his Establishment. Everything of the best quality. Splendid stock of GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, &c., for the Festive Season.

DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS.

A BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY OF BABY LINEN,
BABY CLOTHING, LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING,
And GENTLEMEN'S HOSIERY
Is now on VIEW at
MRS. EMMA BRODIE'S,
PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

MRS. BRODIE thanks her Customers for their past favours, and solicits a continuance of the same.

THE PLOUGH INN,
MOUNTSET.

THOMAS WATSON

THANKS his Customers for their patronage during the time he has kept the above house, and by keeping

ARTICLES
OF THE
BEST QUALITY,

Hopes to merit a continuance of the same. He wishes all his friends a

MERRY XMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

H. WOOD,
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,
30, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to thank the Public for their liberal support in the past, and a continuance of which he hopes to merit in the future.

GOOD WORK GUARANTEED.

REPAIRS DONE AT MODERATE CHARGES.

ALARUM CLOCKS FROM 3s 6d.

THE BEST IN THE TRADE AT THE PRICE.

XMAS PRESENTS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

MARSHALL AND SONS,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
AND
BLACKHILL.

WE are again showing some Beautiful NOVELTIES in JEWELLERY, suitable as Presents for the present Season, at marvellous Prices.

BROOCHES, BANGLES, DRESS and FANCY RINGS, and SCARF PINS, in Great Variety.

A Present of a Solid Silver Albert to all purchasers of our Ladies' and Gent.'s Silver Lever Watches.

GEORGE WADE,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND
SOUTH SHIELDS AND EAST BOLDON,

RETURNS his sincere Thanks to the Public and his Friends for the liberal support accorded to him during the past 30 years, and begs to announce that he has purchased for the coming Festive Season the following

PRIME FAT CATTLE:

1 RED SHORTHORN STEER, 1 HALF-BRED GALLOWAY STEER (bred and fed by the Earl of Durham), 1 WEST HIGHLAND KYLOE (bred and fed by the Earl of Durham), 1 GALLOWAY STEER (bred and fed by the Marquis of Londonderry), 1 HALF-BRED HEIFER (bred and fed by the Marquis of Londonderry), 1 HALF-BRED HEIFER (bred and fed by the Marquis of Londonderry), 1 BLACK-POLLED ANGUS BULLOCK (from Col. Briggs, of Hylton Castle), and HEIFERS and BULLOCKS from other Noted Feeders.

SHEEP:

1 Pen Half-Bred Cheviot WEDDERS, 3 Pens of Mule SHEEP (from the Earl of Durham), 3 Pens of Wethers (from the Marquis of Londonderry), 20 Black-Faced WEDDERS (from Joseph Angus, Esq., Healeyfield), and other Sheep bred and fed in the neighbourhood.

REAL DAIRY-FED PORK
From Mrs Glendenning, of Rowley.

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.

POST OFFICE, DIPTON.

FRED. HODGSON,
HAIRDRESSER AND TOBACCONIST,

BEGS to return thanks for past favours, and hopes to merit a continuance of Public support.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS.
FANCY GOODS IN GREAT VARIETY.

WILLIAM SUDDES,
JOINER, COACHBUILDER, AND UNDERTAKER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to thank the Public for their Patronage, and trusts, by prompt attention to all Orders, to merit a continuance of their support.

CARTWRIGHT—SOUND WORKMANSHIP.
REPAIRS PROMPTLY EXECUTED.

UNDERTAKING.—Coffins made on the shortest notice.

A BRILLIANT IDEA!

BUY YOUR
CHRISTMAS CLOTHING
AT WOOD'S.

The Money you save in the transaction will come in handy to buy your wife a Christmas Present.

J. W. WOOD'S

CLOTHING & DRAPERY
ESTABLISHMENT,
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY.

Splendid Show
OF
Winter Clothing
WITH
Grand Selections
IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

Don't
Miss
This
Chance.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESS:

J. W. Wood,

FRONT STREET,
WEST STANLEY.

CORNSAY COLLIERY AND WATERHOUSES.

GEO. T. STOREY,
JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, CABINETMAKER AND GENERAL SMITH,

DESIRES to thank his numerous customers, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He trusts to merit a continuance of the patronage so freely bestowed upon him during the past year.

REPAIRS NEATLY EXECUTED.

CORNSAY DRAPERY STORES.

GEO. A. WHERLEY,
GENERAL DRAPER AND CLOTHIER,

WISHES his customers the Compliments of the Season, and begs to thank them most cordially for the support which he has received since commencing business, and hopes to merit a continuance of public patronage and support.

CALL AND SEE HIS STOCK.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

LEYBOURNE URWIN,
PLUMBER, GAS AND SANITARY ENGINEER.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, AND STANLEY.

AGENT FOR
WELSBACH INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT.
FITTINGS AND SHADES in endless variety.
LARGEST STOCK IN DISTRICT.

ACETYLENE GAS.

All fittings supplied, and work carried out in connection with the above.

See our Show Rooms at
SHOTLEY BRIDGE, OR BRANCHES.
Orders Promptly Attended to.

FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

NICHOLAS PARKER,
STATIONER & NEWSAGENT, & GENERAL DEALER,

WISHES all his Friends and Customers the Compliments of the Season, and trust that Prosperity will attend them during the incoming year. He begs to invite attention to his

MATCHLESS SHOW OF
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

Bring your Children to look at his
STOCK OF TOYS, DOLLS, &c.

LANCHESTER.

GO TO
REED'S ESTABLISHMENT
FOR YOUR
NEWSPAPERS AND GROCERIES,
AND YOU WILL GET
GOOD VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY.

RED LION INN, DIPTON.

WILLIAM YOUNG

BEGS to return his sincere Thanks to the Inhabitants of Dipton and Vicinity for the large measure of Support that he has received during his occupancy of the above Old Established Hostelry, and, by assiduously attending to their wants and comforts in the future, he hopes for a continuance of public favour and patronage. He wishes his friends

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR,

And begs to say that he has provided for the Festive Season some of the

☞ FINEST SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES.
SPARKLING MILD AND BITTER BEER.
Good Stabling.
Hearse and Mourning Coaches on Hire.

WATLING STREET, LEADGATE.

M. D. GREENER,
GROCER AND BUTCHER,

TAKES the opportunity which the close of another year affords of once more heartily thanking all those who have dealt with him, many of them during more than twenty years. He has always endeavoured by strict attention to business, and dealing in everything of the best Quality, to give satisfaction to his numerous Customers; and assures them that nothing shall be wanting on his part to merit a continuance of the Patronage which has been so liberally bestowed upon him in the past.

PRIME BEEF & MUTTON FOR CHRISTMAS.
DAIRY-FED PORK.

A. ATKINSON,
FRUITERER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,

HAS pleasure in thanking her numerous Customers in Leadgate and District for their esteemed Patronage, and in wishing them the Compliments of the Season, begs to draw attention to her Stock of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. Fruits for Christmas and the New Year. Large Selection always on hand.

If you're low in spirits and feel rather dull,
Call in and see Smith at the Black Bull.

BLACK BULL INN,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

W. SMITH

WILL be glad to see all his friends during the coming Festive Season. It is his heart's desire to make them happy, and he has provided sumptuously for them.

MASONS' ARMS, LEADGATE.

T. S. LONGSTAFF

HAS much pleasure in thanking his many Customers in Leadgate and Neighbourhood for their support, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He begs to commend to their notice his

STOCK OF LIQUORS

Specially selected for the Festive Season, and hopes to merit their esteemed Patronage in the future as in the past.

WINES, WHISKIES, AND BRANDIES OF STERLING VALUE.
MILD AND BITTER ALES.
A1 BRANDS OF TOBACCO AND CIGARS.
Good Stabling.

QUEEN VICTORIA HOTEL, LEADGATE.

F. COLLINGWOOD

HAS pleasure in thanking his many Friends and the inhabitants of Leadgate and District for their generous Patronage, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He has obtained a

HIGH-CLASS SELECTION OF LIQUORS

For the Holiday Season, and hopes to be favoured with the orders of his Patrons, and merit their approval.

FINEST WHISKIES AND BRANDIES
Fully matured and of the Best Blends.

WILLIAM YOUNGER & Co.'s EDINBURGH and INDIAN PALE and MILD ALES in Splendid Condition.

EXCELLENT WINES, TOBACCO & CIGARS.
Good Stabling.

EDWARD TODD,
BUTCHER, TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND
PROVISION MERCHANT,
LEADGATE,

DESIRES to thank his Customers for their support during the long time that he has been in business, and by killing meat and selling articles of the best quality, he hopes for a continuance of public patronage. PRIME ENGLISH BEEF and MUTTON for the Festive Season. Dairy-fed Pork.

GEORGE TEASDALE,
SPORTSMAN'S ARMS,
LEADGATE,

WISHES all his old friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and assures them of a hearty welcome when they call. His

STOCK OF BEER AND WHISKY

is the best that can be produced; the former being light and sparkling, and the latter mellowed with age.

O. WHERLEY,
WATCH, CLOCKMAKER, AND JEWELLER
(BELOW PONTOP ROWS),
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

DESIRES to thank his Customers for their support in the past, and hopes to merit a continuance of public favour by strict attention to business and reasonable charges. At his New and Convient Premises, he has in stock a varied assortment of Clocks, Watches, and Gold and Silver Jewellery.

WILLIAM GRAY,
GROCER AND DRAPER,
BURNHOPE,

IN returning his thanks to the Inhabitants of Burnhope and the surrounding District for their esteemed Patronage, desires to take the opportunity which the end of the year affords of heartily wishing them

THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

It has always been his earnest wish and endeavour to supply his Customers with

GROCERIES AND DRAPERIES OF THE BEST QUALITY,

At prices which leave the very lowest margin of Profit, and he trusts that this fact warrants him in hoping for a continuance of public favour and support.

QUEEN'S HEAD, LANCHESTER.

JOSEPH TOWNS

TAKES the opportunity which the Festive Season affords, of returning thanks to his old Friends in Lanchester, and the vicinity for their Patronage during the many years that he has occupied the above well-known hostelry: and in presenting his Compliments to them, he desires to say that his endeavour will always be to still merit a share of that favour which has been so liberally and uniformly accorded to him in past years.

WINES, BRANDIES, SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES OF THE BEST QUALITY.

SPARKLING BEER AND STOUT IN PERFECTION.

Business Announcements.

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,
THE JUBILEE PHARMACY,
SHAKESPEARE STREET, AND FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

RESPECTFULLY draws the attention of the Public to his Splendid Display of MEDICINES and APPLIANCES suitable for the Season of the Year; also a lot of Choice PERFUMES, in Japanese Boxes, suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

SPECTACLES, in great variety.
HAIR, TOOTH, and NAIL BRUSHES.
SPONGES, &c.
SHAVING SOAPS and SHAVING REQUISITES, in great variety.
SHOCOLATES, in Fancy Boxes and Packets.
COUGH LOZENGES, in 3d. and 6d. Packets.
MEDICATED JUJUBES, in great variety.
ST. GERMAIN PORT WINE, 1s 6d, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s 6d, and 4s per bottle.
COCOA WINES, INVALID BEEF, and MALT WINES, in great variety.

☞ Every Purchaser of 4s worth of Goods during the Month of December will receive a Cplendid Engraving, called "Love's Melody," the original painted by Mr Sheridan Knowles, the painter of "The Sign of the Cross."

POSTAL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

MARSHALL AND SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, AND ALSO BLACKHILL.

PRESENTS.—We still continue to give to all purchasers of a Lady's or Gentleman's Silver Watch a handsome Gold-Plated Albert and Appendage. ½ Dozen Silver-Plated Spoons with our Gold Wedding Rings. Spectacles to suit all sights.

N.B.—See that you get to the right shop, NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS.

JOSEPH WHITEHEAD,

CORN MILLER AND FLOUR DEALER, CONSETT,

BEGS to intimate to farmers and horse and cow keepers that the best and cheapest place to buy Feeding Stuffs of all kinds and of the best quality is at his Mills and Warehouses in Consett. Oil and Cotton Cakes, direct from the Manufacturers, at the Lowest Possible Prices. Dealer in Bibby's Cake and Meals. Hay and Straw in large or small quantities, from 4-stone trusses to 100 tons, at Market Prices. Agent for Gas Lime. Goods delivered to any part of the neighbourhood.

A NEW BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT HAS BEEN OPENED BY

J. MORGAN,

THE WELL-KNOWN HARDWARE DEALER OF VICTORIA STREET, AT

29, HARVEY STREET, CONSETT,

AT which Establishment there will be kept a large assortment of RUGS, OILCLOTHS, LAMPS, and every Household Requisite.

TOYS AND CHRISTMAS PRESENTS in Great Variety; also, MORGAN'S NOTED LAMP OIL.

J. M. hopes to see many old Friends and a Crowd of New ones at his Harvey Street Establishment.

WANTED 1,000 PEOPLE

TO SEND A POSTCARD TO

TURNBULL BROTHERS.
LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD,
FOR A
DOZEN BOTTLES OF STOUT.

POSTCARDS FREE ON APPLICATION.

J. SIDDLE,

HOUSE AND CHURCH DECORATOR, PAINTER,
PAPERHANGER, GILDER, GLAZIER, &c

PAPERHANGINGS IN EVERY VARIETY.

SPECIALITIES:—LINCRUSTA-WALTON, ANAGLYPTA AND CORDOLOVA DECORATIONS, ARTISTS' CASES.

ARTISTS' MATERIAL OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. PLAQUES, OPALS, DRAWING STUDIES, AND OTHER FANCY ARTICLES, &c., ALWAYS ON HAND.

IT IS A WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT THE BEST

HORSE CORN & FEEDING STUFFS

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION ARE TO BE HAD AT

S. HOBSON'S Mills,

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE.

NOTED FOR FLOUR &c., OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY.

☞ POST *VIA* TANTOBIE, R.S.O.

MR. E. J. SLOANE, MUS. BAC.,

Trinity University, Toronto; National Gold Medalist, Trinity College London; L. Mus. L.C.M.; Organist of St. Mary's Church, Blackhill.

LESSONS ON ORGAN, PIANO, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, CANON, FUGUE, &c.

Pupils prepared for all Musical Examinations.

THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL

W. WHITFIELD,

FLOUR DEALER,
PROVISION MERCHANT,
LEADGATE.

BLASTING POWDER, SQUIBS, &c., ALWAYS IN STOCK.

THE BEST HOUSE

For TEAS AT ALL PRICES.
For COFFEE, FRESH ROASTED DAILY.
For PROVISIONS OF ALL KINDS.
For BREAD AND CAKES.
For JAMS AND MARMALADE.
For SWEETS AND CHOCOLATE.
For PATENT MEDICINES.
For TINNED MEATS AND FRUITS.
For SOAP, AT MAKERS' PRICES.
For OIL AND COTTON CAKES.
For HORSE AND CATTLE FOODS.

When requiring, drop a post-card for prices to

JOHN HALL & CO.,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

T. A. MOFFITT & Co.,

HARDWAREMEN, PLUMBERS, & STREET LAMP MANUFACTURERS.

CHEAPEST SHOP FOR EVERY DESCRIPTION OF CHANDELIERS, HALL LAMPS, BRACKETS, &c.

Contractors to Local Boards and District Councils For Street Lighting in both Gas and Oil.

125, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD.

URWIN & COMPANY,

WHOLESALE POTATO MERCHANTS,

GENERAL DEALERS IN FEEDING STUFFS.

WAREHOUSE LEADGATE.

ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

W. FERGUSON & SON,

BUILDERS' SUPPLY STORES,
PRUDHOE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HARDWARE MERCHANTS, LATHRENDERS, SANITARY ENGINEERS, PLASTER ENRICHMENTS, ENCAUSTIC AND MOSAIC TILES, CONCRETE MANUFACTURERS, MANUFACTURERS OF SANITARY GOODS AND FIRECLAY SPECIALITIES, &c. STABLE FITTINGS.

Ranges, Cooking, Heating, and Register Stoves, Baths, Marble, Slate, Metal, and Wood Chimney Pieces, &c.

Christmas Advertisements.

XMAS 1897——NEW YEAR 1898.

SPECIAL DISPLAY OF JEWELLERY, WATCHES, CLOCKS, ELECTRO PLATE, &c.
SPLENDID RANGE OF Gold and Gem Rings, Silver Rings, Watches, and Brooches.
UP-TO-DATE PATTERNS OF Clocks, Chains, Bangles, Scarf Pins, Lockets, &c., &c.
MARVELLOUS DISPLAY OF NOVELTIES IN Gold Charms, Silver Charms, Diamond, Ruby, & Signet Rings.
VARIED SELECTION OF USEFUL PRESENTS, COMPLETE IN Plush and Leather Cases.

☞ SPECIAL PRESENTS WITH OUR NOTED WEDDING RINGS. ☜

JOSEPH MARSHALL & SON,

(CHARLES A. MARSHALL),
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
3, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.—BRANCH:—PARK ROAD.

CHRISTMAS, 1897.

TO our many Friends, Customers, and the General Public.—We tender our most hearty Thanks for your generous Support during the year just closing, and wish you all

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Which we trust will be one of commercial activity, and thus bring peace and plenty to all.

We would also desire to say that owing to our large and increasing trade we are making very extensive additions to our Warehouses, and introducing into our Workshops a most complete plant of Wood-Working Machinery which, when completed, will enable us to place before you

OUR NOTED HOME-MADE GOODS
On More Reasonable Terms than ever.

We make a point to study the interests of our customers, and trust that with extended courtesy, greater adaptability, increasing energy, and fair dealing, you will give us that generous support and recommendation which you have always extended to us during the past 40 years.

We are, yours faithfully,

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT. and LONDON HOUSE, STANLEY.

Note.—Our Toy and Fancy Goods Bazaar is now Open. Don't miss the Latest Novelties.

Consett and Stanley.

For picture books, and cards, and toys,
To interest and amuse;
For pretty gifts to girls and boys,
And all the latest news,

CALL AND SEE

THOMAS RAMSHAW,

NEWSAGENT AND STATIONER,
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY.

T. R. begs to express his Thanks to the Public for their kind Patronage during the time that he has been in business, and to invite an inspection of his Grand Display of Christmas Cards, Toys, and Picture Books, suitable for the Festive Season.

Newspapers and Periodicals punctually delivered to any part of Stanley, South Moor, and the adjoining villages.

Try RAMSHAW'S Famous Sweets, the Best and Cheapest in the town.

SEE THE WINDOWS AT

HAVANNA HOUSE

GRAND DISPLAY OF NEWEST GOODS
FOR XMAS AND NEW YEAR TRADE
AT

FRATER'S

Noted Cheap General, Mantle, Jacket, and Ready-made Clothing Warehouse,
HAVANNA HOUSE, WEST STANLEY.

'XMAS AND NEW YEAR.

WE again take the opportunity of inviting our Friends and the Public generally to an inspection of our usual display for the

'XMAS AND NEW YEAR SEASON,

Consisting of TOYS and GAMES in great variety, DOLLS, LADIES' BAGS, PURSES, JAPANESE ORNAMENTS, LADIES' COMPANIONS and WORK BOXES in Plush and Leather, WRITING CASES, CIGAR and CIGARETTE CASES, GOLD and SILVER BANGLES and BRACELETS, BROOCHES and other Jewellery, DRESS RINGS, WEDDING and KEEPER RINGS, WATCHES, CLOCKS, ALBERTS, ELECTRO-PLATE, and Novelties in great variety. Come and see before making year purchases elsewhere.

F. WELCH & CO.,

WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS, AND FURNISHING IRONMONGERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY.

ESTABLISHED 1847.

M. ALMOND,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
GROCER, PROVISION MERCHANT, &c.,
Front Street, Consett,

CHRISTMAS SPECIALITIES.

Hams. Hams. Hams.
Splendid Quality, from 5½d per lb.

Cheese. Cheese. Cheese.
Prize Dairies, Cheshire, Wensleydale, Gorgonzola, Canadian, Edams, Dutch, &c.

Finest Danish Butter.

New Fruits. New Fruits.
Finest Vostizza Currants. Sultana, Valencia, and Muscatel Raisins. Figs. Peels, &c.

Sole agent for the Noted **Li-quor Tea,**
2s 6d per pound. Prizes given to all Purchasers.

CHRISTMAS, 1897.

BLACKHILL.

S. LOWES,

BUTCHER,

BEGS to thank his Customers in Blackhill and Neighbourhood for their Patronage, and wishes them the COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

PRIME CHRISTMAS BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK.

FOR XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS, TOYS, LOCAL VIEWS, PICTURE BOOKS, MOTTOES, PRESENTS OF ALL KINDS,

GO TO

B. C. BARKUS,
CONFECTIONER AND NEWSAGENT,
DERWENT VIEW, BURNOPFIELD.

ALEX. CUMBERLEDGE,

GROCER,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

THANKS his Customers for their generous patronage during the last eight years, and asks for a continuance of the same. A Special Lot of Hams, Cheshire, American, and Edam Cheese, also a Large Stock of Groceries—very finest quality at extremely low prices. Local agent for the celebrated Bombay Tea Co. Quality Unequalled,

JOHN MORGAN,

HARDWARE DEALER
(Late of Victoria Street, Consett),

WISHES to make it known to his many customers that he has removed his business to more commodious premises, No. 8, Harvey Street, at which place he trusts to be further favoured with their esteemed orders.

RUGS OF ALL KINDS A SPECIALITY.
HARDWARE GOODS OF ALL KINDS.
CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS, &c., &c.

Note Address:—
J. MORGAN,
No. 8 HARVEY STREET, CONSETT.

BLACKHALL MILL.

GRAND XMAS SHOW
OF
Toys, Fancy Articles, Watches, Jewellery, Albums, Ornaments, Games, etc.,
AT
AUGUSTUS WELSH'S

HUNDREDS OF PRETTY THINGS.

COME AND SEE THE
GRAND DISPLAY.
All to be sold at Marvellous prices.

Christmas Advertisements.

EDWARD LOCKEY,

FAMILY BUTCHER,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

DESIRES respectfully to return his sincere Thanks for the most liberal support that he has always received from the Inhabitants of Consett and the District. He most heartily wishes them the Compliments of the Season, and trusts that an era of prosperity will set in with the New Year. He calls attention to the following Bill of Fare:—PRIZE HEIFER (from Burnfieldside Auction Mart) fed by Mr Drummond, also BULLOCK (from Mr J. Hunter, Medomsley), TWO HEIFERS from Mr J. E. Nicholson, Manor House, Lanchester, and Mr Bushby, Hole Row), FIRST PRIZE HOGGS (fed by Mr Cowen and Mr Drummond, of Kiln Pit Hill). Also a Fine Lot of DAIRY FED PORK.

IF YOU WANT
THE VERY BEST FISH
DON'T FORGET TO CALL AT

THOMAS CRICK'S,

PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

T.C. always has a good supply of Fresh Fish on hand. Kippers, Smoked Haddocks, Loch Fyne Bloaters, &c.

CRICK'S IS THE BEST KNOWN SHOP IN TOWN.

Mark the Address:
PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

GEORGE HARRISON,

MANAGER OF THE BUTCHERING DEPARTMENT,

WISHES his Customers the Compliments of the Season, and takes the opportunity of intimating that for his Christmas Show he has selected:—

1st Prize Bullock, the winner of three specials:

1st Prize Heifer, fed by Mr Potts, Shotley Field;

1st Prize Heifer and two 2nd Prize, from Harrison's Mart, Carlisle; and

Prime Scotch Wethers from Mr John Sherlock and Mr J. Angus, Healeyfield.

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Good beer to drink, and prime cigars to smoke,
In perfection are sold at the Royal Oak.

JOSEPH DUFFY,

ROYAL OAK INN, CONSETT.

BEGS to Thank his Patrons for their Support, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He begs to intimate that he has secured for their delectation some prime brewings of

Mild and Bitter Ales,
Wines of the Finest Vintages, and
Cigars of the Finest Brands.

J. TOWNS,

BUTCHER,
MIDDLE STREET AND TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT,

DESIRES to return thanks to his Customers for the support which has been so liberally bestowed upon him in the past, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He begs also to intimate that he has purchased the following for the Christmas Season:—

PRIME BEEF,
From Mr John Reed, Carlisle.
PRIME MUTTON,
From Mr W. J. Stephenson, Espershields.
PORK,
From Mr A. Cameron.

H. NICHOLSON,

BUTCHER,
23, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

TAKES this opportunity of Thanking his customers and general public for their patronage. He will have on Sale for Christmas time the Beef of one Prize Polled OX from the Dublin Show, and one Prime Select Polled OX, bred and fed by

THOMAS STEPHENSON, ESQ., BLANCHLAND.

Sheep and Dairy Fed Pork of Best Quality.

Hoping to maintain your trade and support by selling at reasonable prices.

THOMAS LATHAM'S

CHRISTMAS SHOW
AND SALE
Will Commence on FRIDAY First and Continue for 21 Days.

A SPECIAL DISPLAY of NEW GOODS, NOVELTIES, and SPECIAL LINES suitable for Christmas Presents and New Year's Gifts, comprising:—

TOYS, WORK-BOXES, PHOTO FRAMES, GAMES, SCENTS, PURSES, BAGS, CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S CARDS, ORNAMENTS, &c., &c.

DOLLS. DOLLS. DOLLS.

Hundreds of Dolls from 1d to 2s 6d each. See the Windows.

T. LATHAM also begs to call attention to the large Stock of

MILLINERY GOODS.

Flowers. Feathers. Ribbons.
Ladies' Silk Handkerchiefs and Silk Scarfs.
Ringwood and Cashmere Gloves.
Ladies' Umbrellas, with fancy handles, 11½d to 7s 6d.
Ladies' Fur Necklets from 11½d each.
Our Noted Kid Gloves, 1s 11½d per pair.
A splendid lot of Infants' White Pinafores from 4½d to 2s 6d each.
Ladies' White Fancy Muslin Aprons.
Ladies' Fancy Coloured Aprons.
Children's Frocks. Lace Collars. Belts.
Laces. Motto Pockets. Wool Shawls.
Gent.'s Silk Ties, newest shapes.
Also, a large Stock of

DRAPERY GOODS.

Coloured Cotton Blankets from 1s 4½d each.
Cloth Wool Blankets from 5s 11d to 21s per pair.
Lace Shades from 9½d to 6s 11d per pair.
Antimacassars. Toilet Covers. Table Cloths.
Floor Oilcloths. Oilbaizes.
Beautiful Fancy Tartans from 5¾d to 1s 11½d per yard.
Double-Width Dress Materials from 6½d to 1s 11d per yard.
Gent.'s Shirts and Shirtings.
Men's, Youths', and Boys' Ready-Made Clothing.
Hats. Caps, &c.

SPECIAL SHOW OF
FRIDAY FIRST & FOLLOWING DAYS,
AT
THOMAS LATHAM'S,
THE NOTED CASH DRAPER,
TYNE HOUSE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

A. SHIELD,

FRUITERER AND GREENGROCER,
MIDDLE STREET,
CONSETT,
AND
ROYAL BUILDINGS,
BLACKHILL,

HAS pleasure in announcing that he has opened a Branch Establishment at the above address. Fresh supplies of Fruit and Vegetables daily. A grand supply of Goods for Christmas.

ORDERS PROMPTLY EXECUTED.

HEAD SHOP:—
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

GEORGE MURRAY,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
FRONT STREET, DIPTON.

ALL groceries and provisions sold at Newcastle Prices. The latest patterns in wall papers, and 100 patterns kept to select from. Dealer in patent medicines. Bread Baker for Tea Parties. Wedding cakes of the most artistic design. Funerals catered for. The noted Boot and Shoe Shop, next door to his Grocer's Shop. All kinds of ready-mades kept in stock.

Christmas Cheese, Bacon, Hams, Butter, Tea, Spices, Cakes, Fruits. Wines and Spirits of the finest quality. Good Irish Whisky, 1s 10d per bottle; 3s per quart. Noted Scotch Whiskies, 3s 3d per quart. Wines and other spirits correspondingly cheap. Orders will receive prompt attention. Goods delivered free.

T. FARNSWORTH,

GENERAL DEALER,
26, VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT,

IN thanking his large and increasing number of Customers for their patronage in the past, desires to inform them that he has in stock a large quantity of Articles in GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, and HARDWARE, suitable for Parties, Dinners, &c., during the Festive Season.

The Famous
"DAYLIGHT" and "WHITE ROSE" OILS
To be had here.

MANCHESTER HOUSE,

West Stanley.

☞ SEE

JOHN DARNEY'S

GRAND
CHRISTMAS SHOW
OF
HATS, CAPS, COLLARS, TIES, etc.,
Finest Selections
IN THE DISTRICT

Darney's Diary
presented to all Xmas Purchasers.

JAMES WALTON,

FAMILY GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
LANCHESTER,

WISHES his customers the compliments of the Season, and begs to call attention to his

SPLENDID CHRISTMAS DISPLAY

of CHRISTMAS HAMS, CHEESES, RAISINS, CURRANTS, SPICES, &c.

If you want the best value in Christmas Groceries and Provisions, call at

WALTON'S

TRY OUR DELICIOUS TEAS.

OUR ANNUAL 'XMAS SHOW AT THE

CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY,

DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

NOW OPEN and will continue to the end of the Month. 'XMAS PRESENTS! 'XMAS PRESENTS! MECHANICAL TOYS, PLAQUES, VASES, SHIPS, GUNS, ENGINES, SOLDIERS, ANIMALS, MUSICAL BOXES, PAINTS, TOOLS, GAMES, LADIES' COMPANIONS, GLASSES, ORNAMENTS, &c., too numerous to mention. A large Assortment of PICTURE and REWARDS. 'YMAS and NEW YEAR CARDS a Speciality. PRIVATE 'XMAS CARDS. Calendars and Mottoes. Come in time for a Good Selection.

Specially fitted SHOWROOM at rear of Shop Walk through Front Shop.

HAVE YOU Received

A Copy of our Special Christmas List? In it you will find quotations of seasonable goods of the finest quality, and at moderate prices. We don't pretend to give our goods away at Christmas, but aim at giving thoroughly good value all the year round. We have been in the Grocery business in Consett for **28 years**, and understand the requirements of the inhabitants. We have some splendid lines in Provisions; Mild Small Hams at about 5s. 9d. each, Choice Wiltshire Smoked Bacon, Prize Dairy Cheshire Cheese, and an unsurpassable stock of Fruits, and Fancy Goods.

T. SWAINSTON,
12, Middle Street,
CONSETT.

GEORGE OXLEY,

BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, SOUTH MOOR,

THANKS his Customers for their patronage, and invites attention to his Fine Christmas Display of

BEEF, MUTTON, HAMS, &c.

Give OXLEY a Trial this Christmas.

MISS ASHBURN,

FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

HAS for Sale this Christmas a Splendid Supply of Choice Confectionery, Christmas Cakes, and Fancy Bread.

REFRESHMENTS & DINNERS at Moderate Prices.

Don't forget ASHBURN'S when you visit Stanley.

Christmas Advertisements.

MERRY NIGHTS MAKE SAD MORNINGS.
BUT DON'T FORGET THAT
JABEZ SWINDALE,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
5, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,
CAN SET YOU RIGHT.

Get a Bottle To-day of SWINDALE'S SPEEDY SPECIFIC for Asthma and Bronchitis in 1s Bottles.

Prepared only by
J. SWINDALE, Chemist, Bessemer Street, BLACKHILL.

Branches: CONSETT AND LEADGATE.

GEORGE STOREY,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, DIPTON.

THANKS his Customers for their past favours, and respectfully solicits an inspection of his
CHRISTMAS SHOW,
which he considers superior to those of preceding years.

Give him a trial this Yuletide, and you will never regret doing so.

PHILIPSON BROS.,
BLACKHILL,

THANK their numerous Customers for their Patronage during the Year 1897, and hope by a continuance of
LOW PRICES AND GOOD QUALITY
To deserve a still greater share for the Year 1898.

RAILWAY HOTEL,
CONSETT.

NOW that the Festive Season is approaching, and the demand for Choicest Brands of Wines, Liquors, and Spirits so great, the Proprietor of the above old-established Hotel,

George M'Cann,

has secured a Large and Varied Stock to select from, including the following leading lines:—

John Jameson's "Special" 4s. per bottle.
Robertson Sanderson's "Mountain Dew," 3s. 6d. per bottle.
Fine Old Scotch and Irish Whiskies, 2s. 6d., 3s., and 3s. 6d. per bottle.
Quarts, a "Speciality," 3s. 6d. per bottle.
Fine Old Jamaica Rum, 2s. 6d., 3s. and 3s. 6d. per bottle.
Henessey's Noted Brandy, 6s. per bottle.
Marvellous Value in Port, Sherry, and Claret.
William Younger's 90s. Ale, and Bass' "Special" in Prime Condition
Liquors, Benedictine, Chartereuse, and Cherry Brandy always in Stock.

Trusting to receive a share of patronage and support. WITH BEST WISHES TO ALL.

COME TO
J. AND J. PARKER'S
FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS, TOYS,
WILD BEAST SHOW, MUSICAL BLOCKS,
AND OTHER MECHANICAL TOYS,
ALSO
LADIES' HANDBAGS, APRONS,
COLLARETTES, GLOVES, PINAFORES,
AND OTHER USEFUL PRESENTS.

OPENING
OF THE
NEW GROCERY CASH STORES
AT
HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.

GLORIOUS NEWS FOR CHRISTMAS!

Cuthbert Green,

GROCER & PROVISION MERCHANT,

BEGS to inform the Public that he has opened the
NEW SHOP
Which has been built at the above place, where he will sell at unheard-of prices.

The two Purchasers of
THE LARGEST AMOUNT
IN
CHRISTMAS WEEK
Will each receive a
PRESENT OF TWO HAMS, 14lb & 12lb weight.

He desires to call attention to his
CHRISTMAS PRICE LIST,
Which will bear favourable comparison with any price list in the Kingdom. He calls special attention to his
CHRISTMAS CAKES,
Which he can confidently recommend.

TEA! TEA!! TEA!!!
First-Class Family Tea, 1s 4d per pound.
All Teas Reduced 2d per pound during Sale.

SOAPS, SEEDS, CANDLES.
SUNDRY ARTICLES AT VERY LOW PRICES.
TEA AND OTHER BISCUITS.

PROVISIONS, FRUIT, TEA & CAKES,
Considering Quality, are
THE CHEAPEST IN THE DISTRICT.

A TRIAL IS RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

Note the Address:

Cuthbert Green,

ROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.

Business Announcements.

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEVAER, LUER COMMISSION AND EMIGRATION AGENT
AND HOUSE AGENT
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
ALL CLASSES OF SALES TAKEN.
PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.
BAILIFF under the Law of Distress Amendment Act.
Sale and Emigration Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

FOR
FIRST CLASS GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,
GO TO
GEO. J. ROBINSON,
TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.
A Large Assortment of
CHEESE, BUTTER, BACON, LARD, &c., always on hand.

People of all creeds and from all nations
Get their bills put up on my stations.

JAMES FROSDICK

IS the only BILLPOSTER that has rented Stations within the three districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills posted and Distributed at the lowest rates.

PAINLESS DENTISTRY—Comfort and Fit Guaranteed — Prices Reasonable. Attendance every Saturday, 2 to 5-30. Mr. Townend, Dental Surgeon, at Cockburn's, Stationer, Front Street.

£1 REWARD.

WILL be given for INFORMATION leading to the Conviction of the Thief or Thieves who Broke and Stole a HOLLY BUSH at the entrance to WHITE HALL LODGE, BLACKHILL, Last Week-end. J. S. MURRAY.

Sales by Auction.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

SATURDAY FIRST, DECEMBER 18TH.

SPECIAL SALE for PORK, PIGS, GEESE, TURKEYS, POULTRY, RABBITS, &c., to commence with Pigs at TWO o'clock, prompt.

CHRISTMAS SHOW AND SALE.

100 GRAND FAT CATTLE, 45 entered for competition.

420 PRIME FAT SHEEP, 300 of which are entered for competition.

Cattle to be in the yard at 9. Judging at 10.

Sale to commence with the sheep immediately after.

J. S. MURRAY.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, December 27th.
40 to 60 DAIRY COWS and HEIFERS.
11 FAT CATTLE, including a Consignment of neat HEIFERS from Mr W. Hall, Stanley Farm, Crook.
65 FAT SHEEP and HOGGS.
12 FINGER CALVES.
Load of TURNIPS.
HALTERS, etc.
Entries to day of Sale.
Sale at Half-past Ten a.m.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, December 27th, 1897.

The WEEKLY SALE will be held as usual for FAT CATTLE and SHEEP, CALVES, &c. Several Horses and Ponies entered. Sale at One o'clock.

J. S. MURRAY.

Public Announcements.

MR THOMAS HOLLAND, the pleasing Tenor Singer, is OPEN FOR ENGAGEMENTS at Concerts, Bazaars, Socials, Sacred Concerts, or Oratorial Works. Pupil of Mr. Jeffery, Cathedral Organist and Choir-master at St. Nicholas's, Newcastle. Address—
17, PROSPECT TERRACE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STANLEY.

Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1897

A CHRISTMAS TREE
AND
SALE OF WORK
Will be held in the
STANLEY BOARD SCHOOL,
To be Opened at 2-30 p.m., by
DR. MORISON,
Of Catchgate.

Tea at 4-15 in the Evening. Entertainment will be given, Vocal and Musical, under the direction of Mr HARTLY, assisted by friends; instrumental, by Mr CULL's String Band.

ADMISION: Tree and Tea, 1s. Tree only, 3d.

☞ PROCEEDS FOR CHURCH FUNDS. ☜

DRAW FOR TANFIELD LEA SILVER MODEL BRASS BAND.

1 (793), 2 (1,924), 3 (1,135), 4 (1,654), 5 (495), 6 (2,467), 7 (1,705), 8 (1,420), 9 (58), 10 (702), 11 (1,890), 12 (1,529), 13 (1,527), 14 (1,212), 15 (1,175), 16 (2,279), 17 (825), 18 (1,209), 19 (778), 20 (1,816), 21 (697), 22 (1,599), 23 (232), 24 (1,888), 25 (1,769), 26 (1,200), 27 (1,699), 28 (1,116), 29 (1,358), 30 (1,740), 31 (2,298), 32 (501), 33 (654), 34 (2,165), 35 (1,793), 36 (1,701), 37 (1,324), 38 (716), 39 (1,736), 40 (2,048), 41 (1,102), 42 (907), 43 (1,916), 44 (2,461), 45 (1,276), 46 (661), 47 (528), 48 (2,005), 49 (339), 50 (1,366), 51 (2,271), 52 (740), 53 (1,003), 54 (1,095), 55 (2,055), 56 1,817), 57 (204), 58 (127), 59 (1,380), 60 (1,955), 61 (1,735), 62 (1,652), 63 (357), 64 (987), 65 (2,308), 66 (2,129), 67 (1,920), 68 (1,922), 69 (214), 70 (246), 71 (1,551), 72 (767), 73 (230), 74 (2,152), 75 (890), 76 (1,282) 77 (728), 78 (1,429), 79 (1,300), 80 (462), 81 (2,436), 82 (1,796), 83 (490), 84 (97), 85 (627), 86 (858), 87 (121), 88 (750), 89 (2,207), 90 (2,199), 91 (2,064), 92 (2,358), 93 (108), 94 (1,614), 95 (1970), 96 (1,143), 97 (1,307), 98 (459), 99 (2,053), 100 (1,828), 101 (1,592), 102 (1,034), 103 (239), 104 (735), 105 (451).

Winners of prizes must apply to Thos. Curry, Eden Row, East Tanfield; and must bring their tickets with them.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.

A GRAND CONCERT

Will be held in the TOWN HALL, Consett, on FEBRUARY 2ND, 1898, in aid of the above object.

Particulars in future announcements.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.

(Also of the Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.)

Resident Manager, Mr. LLOYD CLARANCE

For Two Nights only,
Great Trials of strength by the
BROS. CATTANI,
and a strong Company.
Football, Comic Singing, and other Contests each evening.

Monday, December 27th—Important Engagement for the Holidays, Messrs GILBERT and NEILSON's Grand English Opera Company

Monday and Friday, MARITANA; Tuesday, FRA DIAVOLO; Wednesday, THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT; Thursday and Saturday, THE BOHEMIAN GIRL. No advance in the price.

GRAND SACRED CONCERT on Sunday December 26th, by the members of the opera, &c. Seats may be booked for dress circle at Archibald Ramsden's Piano Warehouse, Town Hall Buildings, Consett, by letter or telegram.

Prices of Admission:—Private Boxes, £1 1s; Single Seats, 3s.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Back of Dress Circle, 1s. 6d.; Side Boxes, 1s.; Pit, 6d.; Gallery, 4d.

Box Plan at Ramsden's.

Doors Open at 7 o'clock, Commence 7-30. Early Doors Open at 6-45.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.

LESSEE AND MANAGER……… MARK H. LINDON.

Friday December 24th Christmas Eve, Monday December 27th, and three following nights

FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES.

THE BROOMS AMATEUR MINSTRELS.

A GRAND ENTERTAINMENT will be given in the BROOMS ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, on December 29th, 1897.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL & PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LTD.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

THE 138th QUARTERLY MEETING will be held in the Church Hall,—Entrance by Parliament Street,—on Friday Evening, December 31st (New Year's Eve). Chair to be taken at 6-30.

For Agenda See Balance Sheets.

By Order
THE COMMITTEE,
ED. HUNTLEY, Secretary.

Excursions.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

Excursion trains will run as under:—

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31ST.,

From BLACKHILL at 9-21 p.m. (with bookings from ANNFIELD PLAIN, SHIELD ROW, &c.) to PETERBOROUGH and LONDON for Three or Five Days. Passengers holding three days' tickets return from King's Cross at 11 p.m., on January 4th, and Peterborough at 12-55 a.m., on January 5th. Those holding five days' tickets return from King's Cross at 8-45 or 10-30 p.m. and Peterborough at 10-20 p.m., on January 6th.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1ST.

LEAGUE FOOTBALL MATCH AT NEWCASTLE.

NEWCASTLE UNITED v. WALSALL.

From BLACKHILL at 12-10 p.m. (with bookings from SHOTLEY BRIDGE, EBCHESTER, and LINTZ GREEN) to NEWCASTLE, returning at 9 p.m., the same day.

For further particulars see bills.

GEORGE S. GIBB,
General Manager.

York, December, 1897.

To Let.

LARGE LOCK-UP SHOP TO LET, near Waterhouses Station, suitable for barber.—Apply, Hammell, Esh Winning.

TO LET, FOREST LODGE: 4 Rooms, Garden, Stable, Byre, &c. The Hythe Farm House and Garden.—Apply to Mr CRAGGS, Red Houses, Woodlands.

Tenders.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL.

WANTED TENDERS for the Ballasting of about 600 yards of Footpath at Biggin. Tenders to be received on Tuesday, the 28th instant. The lowest or any tender nor necessarily accepted. JOHN JAMES THOMPSON,

Lanchester, 21st December, 1897. Clerk.

STEAM SAW MILLS, LANCHESTER.

TENDERS invited for the Labour only of Mason's, Bricklayer's, and Excavator's work in the erection of Six Houses at Lanchester. Apply to JOHN BUCKHAM, Timber Merchant, Lanchester.

Wanted.

YOUNG WOMEN (two, strong; wanted at once.—Apply, Robert Boal, Commercial Hotel, West Stanley.

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF AND MALT
WINE.

3/9 per Bottle. 2/- per Half-Bottle.

Wm. Aynsley, Grocer & Wine Merchant, Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate, and Stanley.
T. Milner, Chemist, Consett.
Jos. Murray, Grocer & Wine Merchant, Consett.
Geo. Pattrick, Chemist, Consett.
Dryden & Co., Grocers & Wine Merchants, Consett.
N. Elsdon, Wine Merchant, Consett.
Richard Murray, Wine Merchant, Blackhill.
J. Snaith, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester.
Mrs. Glendinning, King's Head Inn, Shotley Bridge.
Mrs. Temperley, Commercial Hotel, Leadgate.
Mrs. Cawthorne, Colliery Hotel, Hobson Colliery.
J. Irwin, Pack Horse, Tanfield.
T. Lumley, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain.
G. R. Hobson, Wine Merchant, Catchgate.
T. Armstrong, Wine Merchant, Blackhall Mill.
Turnbull Bros., Grocers, Burnopfield.
W. Wright, Burton House, Burnopfield.
T. Calvert, Grocer, Medomsley.
W. Dixon, Oak Inn, South Moor
J. Robinson, Chemist, Stanley & Annfield Plain.
R. Browell, Miner's Arms, Spen.
J. Moses, Post Office, Tow Law.
S. Leighton, Craghead Hotel, Craghead.
J. Whitfield, Forester's Arms, Frosterley.
W. Young, Red Lion Inn, Dipton.
J. Curry, Wine Merchant, Stanhope.
Dover & Co., Wine and Spirit Merchants, Belle Vue House, Dipton.
J. Gladders, Oak Tree Inn, Tantobie.
T. Gatiss, Earl Grey Inn, Kyo.
W. Oyston, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Esh.

THE
Consett Chronicle
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1897.

A SEASONABLE GREETING.

WE wish our readers the compliments of the season. The wish is formally, yet not the less sincerely, tendered. It is matter of gratification to us—and we are sure the feeling will be shared by our patrons—that the circle of our readers and subscribers is ever widening. The *Chronicle* is still in its infancy, being little more than a journalistic two-year old; but in a newspaper, childhood is not attended with that helplessness which is natural in, and inevitable to, infancy, for then little ones are

Fragile beginnings of a mighty end,
Angels unwinged whom human care must tend
Till they can tread the world's rough path alone.

We do not know that we have shown so much of the "fragile," and as for the "mighty end," that is for the future to determine. We have endeavoured in the *Chronicle* to suit the public taste and gauge the public sentiment, not by truckling to the caprice of a few, or pandering meekly to those in authority, but by speaking out fearlessly, and expressing opinions, sincerely entertained, and giving them to the public, however unpalatable they might be in some quarters. This, we believe, is the true mission of a newspaper. We have sought—not without a certain degree of success—to give a faithful account weekly of all that transpires in the district, where such news is of interest to the public, and we have endeavoured to make the *Chronicle* as bright and attractive to our readers as it is possible to make it. In the language of the advertiser, we tender our thanks to those who have supported us in the past, and, to keep by the advertisement still, even though the phraseology is trite, we shall seek to merit a continuance of those favours. The season which is now upon us is one which has ever been an incitement to individual and general retrospective. It is a time when pater-familias loves to be surrounded by every human link in the domestic chain; when the yule log burns cheerily in the grate; when the warmth within is brightened by the cold without; when kindly greeting is extended from friend to friend; when the world, indeed, joins hands, and, forsaking for the time all the sordid cares of an over-wrought commercialism, gives expressions of good-will towards all men. This is Christmas. What hallowed memories the season revives! The children look for the mysterious visit of that immortal personage SANTA CLAUS, and also for the pleasing and tangible evidences of his having crossed the threshold; the elders themselves, happy in the fact of their children's happiness, contrive to persuade themselves that SANTA CLAUS is not so apocryphal as he is really credited with being. Then there is the Christmas fare, which is relished by young and old, without any thought of the hateful re-action. What boots it to them? "There is no joy without alloy"; and as Christmas is a time of good cheer, they enter into it, and partake of it, with a heartiness which is part of the season itself. A literary coterie in London, some years ago, entered upon the discussion of the question, "Should Christmas be abolished"? The question, of course, could not be decided, even by literary men of great name and fame; and even if they had decided it, their finding would in no wise have been absolute. The favourite Christmas card and the favourite Christmas number, with its manifold Christmas annual, may be overdone; but the sentiment associated with Yule-tide is so deeply rooted in the hearts of Englishmen at least, all the world over, that the task of visiting the moon would be nothing compared with the task of endeavouring to suppress that kindly feeling—that good old sentiment—which wells out of every heart at such a season as this. Another few days, and the year 1897, which has been so full of significanse in the annals of our country, will have dropped into history. While bidding good-bye to the old, and extending a welcome to the new year, may we quote the words of the late Poet Laureate that the bells will

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring out the false, ring in the true,
Ring in redress to all mankind?

LIZA DUBBS VISIT THE PUBS.

The visit of Ebenezer and his illustrious spouse, Liza, to the public houses in North-West Durham, will appear next week.

CHRISTMAS SALE AT BENFIELDSIDE AUCTION MART

At the Benfieldside Auction Mart, on Monday, Mr J. S. Murray, the popular auctioneer, held his sixteenth Christmas show and sale of fat cattle and sheep. There were brought under the hammer over 100 head of prime cattle, about 60 being entered for competition, and 420 fat sheep, upwards of 200 being scheduled for competition. There was a very large attendance of farmers, butchers, and dealers. The stock was in good condition. The champion beast was a really magnificent heifer from Mr Richard Gledson, of Highfield, Wittonstall, who also carried off the chief award for the best pair of heifers, and likewise the best beast fed on Bibby's cake. Other successful exhibitors were:—Messrs Anderson, Black Hedley; Robert Dixon, Broad Oak; W. Potts, Shotley Field; J. Drummond, Kilnpit Hill; and James Teasdale, The Riddings. The judges were:—Messrs Geo. Harrison, Consett; T. S. Parker, West Stanley; John Robinson, Catchgate; Geo. Milburn, Medomsley; George Watson, West Stanley; A. Swinburne, West Stanley; E. Lockey, Consett; and John Lumley, Leadgate. Appended are their awards, with the purchasers and the prices obtained:—

CATTLE.

Bullocks, W. Potts, Shotley Field, 1, buyer, Mr George Harrison, Consett Stores, £23 5s; J. and A. Anderson, Black Hedley, 2—Mr George Harrison, £24 5s; T. A. Stephenson, Newbiggen, Blanchland, 3—Mr Jos. Watson, West Stanley, £20. Heifer, Richard Gledson, Whittonstall, 1—Mr R. Hand, Consett, £28; R. Gledson, 2—Mr Swinhoe, Dipton Stores, £29 10s; Rich. Murray, Elm Park, Shotley Bridge, 3—Medomsley Stores, £24. Cows, Richard Murray, 1—Mr A. Moralee, Blackhill, £22; Mr J. E. Nicholson, Manor House, Lanchester, 2—Mr William Foggon, Blackhill, £21 5s; Mr John Davidson, Byerside, 3—Mr William Hill, Blackhill, £20 5s. Pair of bullocks, J. and A. Anderson, 1—bought by Mr J. Lumley, Leadgate Stores, £22 10s; R. Dixon, Broad Oak, 2—Mr Geo. Harrison, Consett Stores, £23 15s and £23 respectively. Pair of heifers, Rich. Gledson, Whittonstall, 1—Mr Hand £28, and Mr Swinhoe £29 10s; Drummond, Kilnpit Hill, 2—Mr Edward Lockey, Consett, £22 12s 6d, and Mr J. Lumley, Leadgate Stores, £22 10s; J. Teasdale, The Riddings, 3—Mr R. Milburn, Consett, £18 10s. Champion Prize: Richard Gledson, 1. Fat beast fed on Bibby's cake: Richard Gledson. The other purchasers of cattle included Messrs E. Lockey, Consett, £13 10s; Barrass, Blackhill, £13 15s; E. Todd, Leadgate, £15 10s; J. Rutherford, Medomsley, £19 2s 6d; J. Lumley, Leadgate Stores, £20 5s; G. Parker, Blackhall Mill, £19; Geo. Storey, Annfield Plain, £17; M. D. Greener, Leadgate, £20 15s; T. Parker, West Stanley, £20; S. Storey, Annfield Plain, £17; H. Davison, £18; Nelson, Chopwell, £17; Geo. Thompson, Allan-ford, £18 7s 6d; West Stanley Stores, £17 2s 6d; A. H. Swinburne, West Stanley, £18; N. Morallee, Blackhill, £19; A. Angus, Healeyfield, £14 2s 6d; Shotley Bridge Store, £15 17s 6d.

SHEEP.

Pen of five fat hoggs, Leicester or half bred, W. Cowen, Grey Mare Hill, 1, buyer Mr Ed. Lockey, Consett, 50s each; E. Stokoe, Hedley, Stocksfield, 2, Geo. Watson, West Stanley, 51s; J. Lowery, New House, Minsteracres, 3, J. Rutherford, Medomsley, 47s. Pen of five shearlings, Leicester or half-bred, Richard Murray, 1, M. J. Lumley, Leadgate Stores, 50s; Richard Murray, 2, Mr. R. Barrass, Blackhill, 53s; W. Potts, 3, R. Milburn, Consett, 50s. Pen of five shearling mules, W. Potts, 1, Mr G. Watson, West Stanley, 53s; J. and A. Anderson, 2, Mr J. Rutherford, Medomsley, 49s; J. Teasdale, 3, Mr Andrew Wallace, Blackhill, 47s. Five mule hoggs, W. Cowen, 1, Mr Edward Todd, Leadgate, 40s; W. Cowen, 2, Mr T. Sinclair, Leadgate, 39s. Pen of five ewes, R. Murray, 1—Mr George Milburn, Medomsley, 49s; J. Drummond, 2 — Mr J. Rutherford, Medomsley, 38s; W. and G. Taylor, Summerfield, 3—Mr J. Bolam, Blackhall Mill, 46s. Pen of five black-faced wedders, Leybourne and Angus, Healeyfield, 1—Mr Wm. Foggon, Blackhill, 64s; Leybourne and Angus, 2—Mr Edward Todd, Leadgate, 51s; Jas. Teasdale, The Riddings, 3—Mr Geo. Watson, West Stanley, 42s. Pen of five black-faced shearling wedders, John Carr, Edmondbyers, 1—Leadgate Stores, 45s; T. Copeland, Muggleswick, 2—Shotley Bridge Stores, 41s; T. A. Stephenson, 3—Mr Robt. Milburn, Consett, 35s. Pen of five black faced ewes, Leybourne and Angus, 1—Mr T. Sinclair, Leadgate, 35s; J. Martindale, Muggleswick, 2—Mr W. Parker, Blackhill Mill, 42s; T. A. Stephenson, 3—Mr W. Hill, Blackhill, 28s. The other purchasers of sheep included: Messrs T. Rain, Dipton; Bean, Shotley; A. H. Swinburne, West Stanley; W. Wheatley, Shotley Bridge; J. Robinson, Leadgate; F. Swainston, Consett; G. Harrison, Consett, &c.

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY AT STANLEY, ANNFIELD PLAIN, CATCHGATE, & BURNOPFIELD.

[BY "FREE LANCE."]

STANLEY.

Stanley, as *Chronicle* readers are all aware, is a progressive town, and during the past twelve months, it has gone forward very rapidly in many respects. Our footpaths are now vastly superior to those in vogue in the closing days of 1896. A Registration Court, for the first time in the history of the town, has been held within its precincts; the right to hold a Petty Sessional Court in Stanley has been conceded; our Councillors are to be increased in numbers from nine to fifteen; and, to crown all, our mid-week footballers have fairly got their arms round the Sambottee Challenge Cup. The Church people have succeeded in clearing off the debt which had been hampering their efforts for so long; and the local cricketers are in the same happy position. Surely a grand year's work for progressive Stanley!

The tradesmen of Stanley are a go-a-head set; and pretty as were their display of 12 months ago, the present glory of them is infinitely greater. On Monday morning I journeyed forth on a tour of inspection, and starting from my castle in Clifford Road, I travelled proudly along our noble Front Street till I came to the shop presided over by

Mr ROBERT PEARSON, the far-famed Wednesday cricketer, and his good lady. Mr Pearson has on hand a most varied selection of hats, caps, ties, cuffs, silk handkerchiefs, and articles suitable for Christmas gifts from young men to their sweethearts.

Just below Mr Pearson's shop are the premises occupied by Mr WELCH, and visitors to this attractive place of business will find provided for inspection a tempting display of clocks, watches, and other articles, at prices to suit all pockets.

Mr ROBINSON, chemist, Stanley, is widely known, and his famous pills, which have long been advertised in the columns of the *Consett Chronicle*, are warranted to cure all, or nearly all, "the ills that flesh is heir to." At Christmas time one is apt to over-joy the festivities, and, in the event of any of my readers doing so, I would advise them to take a doze of Robinson's Pills. Almost immediately facing Mr Robinson is

Mr ROBERT ELTRINGHAM's grocery establishment, and here the genial proprietor, assisted by Tom Robson, has been extremely busy during the last few days making his window Christmas-like in appearance. Their joint efforts have been crowned with complete success, and all the necessaries for the manufacture of a first-class yule cake and Christmas pudding are here obtainable.

At FORSTERS', the old-established wine and spirit merchants, the oldest tradesmen, by the way, in the district, there is obtainable any quantity of Scotch and Irish whiskies, rum, gin, brandy, &c., &c. A little spirit added to the ingredients purchased at Mr Eltringham's establishment will doubtless exercise an improving effect on yule cake or Christmas pudding.

Recrossing the street again, I enter Mr JOHN DARNEY's establishment, and at once find myself engaged in a pleasant discussion with the genial proprietor concerning the performance of the Lilywhites on the previous Saturday. Mr Darney is a keen sportsman, and, as I talk with him, happy recollections of a day we spent footballing at Prudhoe last season flit across my mind. Mr Darney's Christmas stock includes a choice selection of gent's scarfs and ties, hats and caps, collars and cuffs, handkerchiefs, wollen underclothing, &c. Mr Darney has arranged his window with great taste. I understand that he is presenting a diary to his patrons as a seasonable present.

Up the street, I journey, my next stoppage being at Mr PARKER's butcher's shop, where there is exhibited a grand display of Christmas beef and mutton. Roast beef is still the staple food of the English people, and those who patronise Mr Parker this Yuletide will have no cause for complaint either as to price or quality.

Travelling across to the establishment of Councillor ARMSTRONG, I was delighted with the exquisite show of Christmas cards and seasonable novelties, which have been arranged most temptingly by Mr Armstrong and his clever assistant, Miss Newton. Here also is to be seen the Stanley Library, a collection of excellent books, sold at remarkably low prices. Lovers of high-class literature ought to patronise Mr Armstrong's library.

Retracing my footsteps, I made a brief inspection of Mrs CHAYTOR's windows, which I found to be well stocked with whiskies and other spirits, with beer sufficient to supply the requirements of the nation, and cigars, cigarettes, &c., that would delight the hearts of such keen lovers of the weed as the noted "People's William." I may add that Mrs Chaytor is the sole agent in the district for Allsopp's famous ales and McConnell's whisky.

A little lower down the street is Mr T. C. FRATER's establishment. Mr Frater, who has for many years acted as People's Churchwarden at St. Andrew's Church, is one of the oldest tradesmen in the district, and he does an enormous trade in drapery, millinery, and mantles. He has a splendid variety of fancy goods, alike useful and ornamental, suitable for Christmas or New Year presents. The windows are well worthy of inspection, both time and talent having been expended in making them bright and attractive.

Hastening past the new Board Schools, I come to the large branch shop belonging to Mr WILLIAM AYNSLEY, of Consett, which is presided over with ability and success by Mr William Aynsley, jun. Here is presented to view a choice assortment of seasonable groceries, provisions, wines, spirits, &c. Mr Aynsley is the sole local agent for W. and A. Gilbey's wines and spirits, Lathom's cakes, Whitbread and Co's. ale and stout, and the renowned Mazawattee tea.

K stands for King, as well as Kirkup, and Mr P. H. KIRKUP may well be termed the Boot King of Stanley and West Pelton. He is now selling, at prices to suit rich and poor alike, over £1,000 worth of boots and shoes. What Whiteley is to London, Mr Kirkup is to Stanley; and those who visit his establishment this Christmas will find that out, for he has on hand almost every imaginable article. Here may be seen and obtained hams, fruits, and fruit cakes, with spices and all requisities for making your Christmas pudding. Mr Kirkup has on hand a fine assortment of cherry and rice cakes and other tasty luxuries. He is also selling a special brand of tea, purchasers of a certain quantity of which are presented with a splendid almanack, "The Trossacks," one of the finest pictures ever offered to the public of Stanley. Anyone desirous of engaging in conversation with Mr Kirkup has only to mention canaries, dogs, or the *Consett Chronicle* reporter, and he will find him quite ready for a wordy warfare.

Mr JOHN NATTRASS is known far and wide for the keen interest he always manifests in the doings of our city fathers. He is also justly celebrated for the excellence of the men's mercery, stockings, caps, fronts, &c., which he always has in stock. Rugby and Association footballers alike swear by Nattrass's pants and jerseys.

Miss GIBSON will doubtless be patronised this Christmas by the great majority of the gentler sex. Her display of ribbons, hats, bonnets, &c., and other articles of ladies' and children's attire, is without doubt one of the brightest and prettiest in North-West Durham, and we would advise our lady readers to pay a visit to the establishment.

Mr ALEX. CUMBERLEDGE has recently removed from his premises adjoining the Wesleyan Church to more commodious premises opposite the Co-operative Store. Mr Cumberledge is exhibiting a splendid lot of hams and cheeses of splendid quality, at most reasonable prices.

Mr J. S. MORTON, the capable manager for the local establishment of the Danish Butter Company, has for sale some splendid teas, margarines, lard, sugars, eggs, and cheeses. Mr Morton sells an enormous quantity of American cheeses. He has now on hand specially-selected quantity of Gorgonzola.

Mr FRED. DIXON is still to the fore as a maker of gentlemen's suitings. Mr Dixon's overcoats possess a deservedly high reputation, and his collection of ties, collars, cuffs, and handkerchiefs is second to none in our progressive town.

Mr JOHN W. WOOD has on exhibition a very full and pleasing selection of all kinds of draperies. During the year, Mr Wood has found it necessary to largely increase his premises; so it is very obvious that his business is increasing by leaps and bounds.

Mr THOMAS RAMSHAW presents to view perhaps the brightest window in the district, the collection of Christmas cards, sweets, and toys, being most charmingly arranged. Mr Ramshaw's collection of Christmas cards is the largest in the locality, and during the past few weeks, he has done a roaring trade in this particular line. The windows are admirably arranged, and night after night crowds of people are to be seen admiring them. Should there be a fire in Stanley, all that is necessary is to apply to Mr Ramshaw, who will supply a fire engine, with half-a-dozen firemen and a couple of horses for the small sum of sixpence. Mr Ramshaw is one of the local agents of the *Consett Coronicle*, and sells more than double the number of *Chronicles* than any other paper published in North-West Durham. Apart from his newsagency, Mr Ramshaw sells an enormous quantity of sweets. He has also now on exhibition a splendid menagerie, the animals being fed twice daily by the renowned lion tamer, Mr Matthew Patterson.

Mrs CUNNINGHAM is again to the fore with a splendid show of Christmas cakes and chocolates. So sweet indeed does every thing in the shop appear that in passing by one feels strongly tempted to have a taste of the good things. Mrs Cunningham is well known for the excellence of her bridescakes, and young men and maidens who intend having the knot tied this Christmastide ought to purchase their wedding cake here.

Mr GEORGE STACEY is likewise the proprietor of a first-class refreshment establishment, and anyone in need of a first-class Christmas dinner can rely on being well supplied by Mr Stacey's genial better half. Stacey's pies are renowned all over the globe; and this Yuletide Mr Stacey has taken the precaution to have his windows tastefully filled with a well-selected variety of sweets, chocolates, &c.

Miss ASHBURN is showing some excellent Christmas confectionery, and lovers of the old-fashioned yule cakes can have all their wants supplied at her well-managed establishment. The prices charged by Miss Ashburn are surprisingly low, and the excellence of her cakes is undeniable.

Mr Dale, the courteous local manager for the well-known grocer, Mr WALTER WILLSON, has on exhibition, at the startingly low prices for which Mr Willson is so justly celebrated, a huge quantity of groceries, provisions, teas, cakes, cheeses, &c., suitable for consumption at this festive season. The window display is very fine, and reflects every credit on all connected with the work. Mr Willson has a huge and growing trade in Stanley, South Moor, and surrounding villages. Small profits and quick returns is, I believe, the motto adopted by Mr Wilson and his capable assistants, and this is certainly the case at Stanley, where surprise at the enormous trade gained within a few years is only equalled by astonishment at the remarkably low prices at which the goods are sold.

Mr JOHN CALVERT, whose business premises are situated at High Stanley, deals in almost every commodity, either eatable or otherwise. Almost every want can be supplied by a visit to his establishment, at very low prices, and Mr Calvert is thus widely celebrated as a benefactor to his fellow men. He is not a preacher, though the Rev. J. A. Dixon thinks he would make a capital "local."

Mr A. H. SWINBURN intends coming out as a candidate for Council honours next spring, but he has been too busy recently filling his windows with the best beef and mutton obtainable for the advantage of his numerous customers to have had the opportunity of presenting his address to the electors of our famous city. However, he takes this opportunity of wishing everybody the compliments of the season.

Mr J. BATES, the "father" of local watchmakers, even as Mr George Hobson is the "father" of the Lanchester Guardians, is again in line with all competitors in the jewellry and watchmaking business. Mr Bates is a noted songster, and just now his favourite chorus is,

"Why don't you marry the girl, my lad,
Why don't you marry the girl?
You can buy the ring at Bates's shop,
And then you can marry your girl."

Mr JOSEPH WATSON is one of our local grand old men. He has recently opened a brand new hotel at Shield Row, undoubtedly the finest building, with the best fittings and accommodation for either man or beast in the district. (*Vide* Coroner Graham.) At this hotel, of which, by the way, Miss Watson makes a most capable manageress, the finest liquors obtainable anywhere are to be had. Mr Watson knows full well that man cannot live by "Beer, beer, glorious beer," or even whisky, but that something more substantial is needed; and he has provided for the other requirements of the inner man at his butcher's shop, at the entrance of Stanley, where, under the management of Mr George Watson, there has been placed on show a grand collection of Christmas cheer.

"London House" is the name of the splendid five-storied buildings in Front Street, belonging to Messrs Davison and Sons. Young couples who contemplate starting housekeeping on their own account can here obtain suites at marvellous prices; and juveniles in search of dolls will not need to wander past this mammoth establishment, for Messrs Davison have within the last fortnight received a huge stock. In fact, they have now on hand two tons of dolls of all sorts, sizes, and shapes, and at prices ranging from one halfpenny to a sovereign. The dolls are selling rapidly, so would-be purchasers will have to hurry up. Messrs Davison make a speciality of bamboo goods, and also do a heavy trade in carpets, rugs, mattings, and fire screens. Another branch in which good business is done, is that of glass, china, and earthenware. The windows have been very prettily decorated by the manager, Mr Allison, and crowds gather nightly round the windows.

It is not often that a castle is to be seen in the street of a mining town, but in this respect, as in so many others, Stanley is ahead of other places. The castle we refer to is replete with a splendid stock of clocks, watches, timepieces, rings, bracelets, and jewellery, at prices to suit all classes. Mr J. T. CASTLE is the proprietor of the establishment, and visitors will always find him courteous and obliging.

The largest refreshment house in Stanley is that presided over by Mrs ARMSTRONG, known to fame as the Victoria Cafe, and situated in proximity to Mr Lindon's charming theatre. Excellence in cooking, cheapness, and courtesy go hand in hand at this establishment, and the result is pleasing to patron and proprietor alike.

Mr H. ARMSTRONG is an earnest Wesleyan, and a successful pork butcher and confectioner. The "People's William" is fond of looking in at Mr Armstrong's, and quite enjoys the task of devouring one of Mr Armstrong's famous pork pies. Mr Armstrong's Christmas display is superior to that of any other tradesman in the same line of business in Stanley.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Messrs FORSTER, RUSSELL, and Co. are again to the fore with their display of seasonable groceries and draperies. Mr Russell, who manages the business, is one of those gentlemen of whom it may be said that "He is a jolly good fellow" without fear of denial. Whenever the *Chronicle* reporter enters his shop, Mr Russell smiles, and beseeches our representative to try his sweets and fruit, an invitation which, it is needless to say, is never refused. The drapery department is well stocked with hats, frills, ribbons, and other articles dear to the female heart, and the young ladies of the district may be seen nightly gazing through the windows with a delightful expression on their countenances.

Miss REED, the courteous and popular postmistress, has again a pleasing display of ornaments and fancy goods. A fragrant odour fills the atmosphere, for various kinds of scents are here in abundance. Christmas cards, excelling those of former years, in numbers and variety, are daintily arranged.

Mr JAMES STRAWBRIDGE, otherwise known to the fame as "Doctor Jim," is an earnest worker as a founder of Ratepayers' Associations and other public bodies. He is something more. In his own person, he carries on the threefold business of bootmaker and dealer, barber, and pork butcher, and carries them on moreover with conspicuous success. Mr Strawbridge's business premises are splendidly situated in proximity to the Co-operative Store, and his business is increasing by leaps and bounds.

Mr THOMAS LATHAM is once more to the fore with his exhibition of Christmas novelties; and those who visit his premises will have no difficulty in making a suitable selection of the present they intended making to their husband, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, or sweetheart. A number of beautiful ornaments are for sale at very low prices, and the children (little dears) with others of larger growth will enjoy their sight-seeing on Christmas Eve when they visit Mr Latham's premises. Mr Latham has also an enormous stock of new dress materia and fancy millinery.

Christmas again! Once more the energetic *Chronicle* agent, Mr. J. HUMBLE, has his windows well filled with seasonable literature, toys, and articles, suitable for Christmas presents. Mr Humble is courteous and obliging in manner, and these qualities have had much to do with his success.

Messrs F. WELSH and Co. are held in deserved repute as clock and watch makers, jewellers, and ironmongers. Their large premises are now replete with a grand stock of goods suitable for Christmas presents in the shape of jewellery, toys, games, and numerous useful and ornamental articles.

Boys all like fruit, and knowing that full well, Mr ROSTRON has obtained a large supply of apples, oranges, and other fruits, which the youngsters and their parents too, will delight in eating. Mrs Rostron, not to be behind her lord and master has prepared a quantity of excellent cakes which are certain to sell well and eat better. Try them.

Mr CHARLES F. COOKE, the grand old man of local tradesmen, has one of the finest displays of groceries and draperies in the district. Since last Christmas, Mr Cooke has altered and enlarged his premises, the old Primitive Methodist Chapel having been converted into a drapery shop, with results satisfactory to Mr Cooke and pleasing to the public of this rising village.

THOMAS WESTON AND SONS are the principal fruiterers here, their business being so extensive as to require two establishments, one in proximity to the Post Office and the other at Annfield Plain, otherwise Cornwall. Seasonable fruits are exhibited in enormous quantities, and a special supply of Christam hams of the very best quality is on sale at extremely low prices.

Mrs W. F. TAIT, of Front Street, has continued the business commenced several years ago by her recently deceased husband, and her assortment of watches, alberts, guards, and other articles is equal to any in the locality.

JOHN HALL AND COMPANY have a large number of specialities appropriate for the season, and at both their grocery and drapery establishments, the window displays are extremely attractive. Hall's tea and coffee have long been favourably known throughout the district, and there are but few houses in Annfield Plain to which provisions from this firm are not supplied. Mr John Forster Smith is at the head of the firm. He is an energetic gentleman with keen business instincts.

Mr O. WHEELEY's shop is pleasantly situated in proximity to the Wesleyan Church, and visitors to the establishment cannot but be favourably impressed by the neatly-arranged collection of clocks, watches, and jewellery. Mr Wherley is the soul of courtesy and is deserving of success.

Mr JOS. CHARLTON, of Prospect Terrace, has done well during the several years that he has been in business. Believing that the parents in the district will give their children a treat at this season of general rejoicing, he has purchased, and is offering for sale, a large selection of toys suitable for placing in the children's stockings on Christmas Eve.

The bill-posters in the district know how to go about their work, and cover the hoardings to advantage. This is especially so of Mr GEORGE MCNEAL, who has also a branch at Annfield Plain, and MARTIN BECK, Stanley.

CATCHGATE.

The Father of the Guardians has been in business for the long period of 52 years at Harperley and Catchgate, and during that period he has earned the esteem of all the dwellers in the district. HOBSON's flour is well-known and greatly used in the district. Mr Michael Hobson, who is acting manager at Catchgate, is a worthy son of a worthy father. We believe that we are right in stating that Mr Hobson, junr., is local agent for a well-known cycling firm. So if you want a bike, gentle reader, go to Hobson's.

Mr GEORGE R. HOBSON, the genial postmaster at this centre of civilization, in addition to his duties as a Government official, carries on a business as wine, spirit, ale, and porter merchant; and, all who are not disciples of Sir Wilfrid Lawson and Mr G. D. Powell will enjoy a Christmas visit to his establishment. Mr Hobson, who, we are happy to state, is recovering from illness, is the local agent for Whitbread's ales and stouts.

Hunting is perhaps not so popular in North-West Durham as it ought to be, but there are a good number of gee-gees to be found scattered here and there throughout the district, and to the owners of these noble animals, Mr WILLIAM J. THOMPSON appeals for patronage. Mr Thompson is well known as a saddler and harness-maker. His prices are always reasonable; and perhaps all that is necessary to be added is the information that he takes a keen interest in the ancient game of draughts.

Mr J. J. ROBINSON belongs to a family known wherever the English language is spoken—the great Robinson family, second only to the Smiths in numbers, and second to none, as Mr Robinson assures his patrons, in every respect. This particular Mr Robinson is a jovial-looking gentleman, whose very appearance is in itself an advertisement for the fine old English beef which he sells in such huge quantities.

Food for mind and body is to be obtained from Mr THOMAS ROBSON, stationer and confectioner. Mr Robson only started in business a few months ago, but he has already built up a thriving business, and we wish him continued success.

Jack Frost often visits us at Christmastide, and when the roads are slippery we often find it necessary to have our horses sharped, so as to prevent accident. Mr EDWARD GRAYLEY is the man to apply to in such cases. He will make any horse so surefooted that it will be able to climb the Alps without accident.

"Music hath charms," and visitors to Mr T. R. SIMPSON's establishment will find plenty of musical instruments to charm away the most bitter fit of the "blues" that mortal man could possibly be attacked with. In addition to musical instruments of all kinds, Mr Simpson has on stock a pleasing variety of pipes, cigar holders, and the weed favoured by Sir Walter Raleigh.

Mr JOHN OXLEY is well known in Catchgate. He has a first-class brake with which he frequently conveys cricket and football teams to their destinations. Mr Oxley is also willing to convey any of our readers to church either to be married or buried, the former for preference. Turkeys, geese, rabbits, and all kinds of Christmas fruits are sold at Mr Oxley's commodious establishment.

"Music hath charms," and visitors to Mr T. R. SIMPSON's establishment will find plenty of musical instruments to charm away the most bitter fit of the "blues" that mortal man could possibly be attacked with. In addition to musical instruments of all kinds, Mr Simpson has in stock a pleasing variety of pipes, cigar-holders, and the weed favoured by Sir Walter Raleigh.

BURNOPFIELD.

Mr WM. CUTHBERTSON, butcher, Crookgate, invites the public to have a look at his shop this season. He has not neglected to be in his place at the various fat stock sales which have been held recently, and he has been ready with his bids when he noticed a few likely animals. The Christmas display is quite up to the best show which Mr Cuthbertson has ever made at this season, and the tempting cuts which temporarily adorn the shop cannot fail to excite a desire to purchase on the part of those who are desirous of having a tasty bit of meat for Christmas.

Mr B. C. BARKUS, the *Chronicle* agent at this charming village, resides in a pleasantly situated house facing the Derwent Vale. Seasonable literature he has provided on an abundant scale; and of Christmas and New Year cards, there appears to be an endless variety. The windows are very neatly decorated.

TURNBULL BROTHERS, the general providers, have business establishments both at Leazes and Lintz Colliery, and, as usual, their preparations for the festive season have been on a very large scale. The old whiskies are to be had at prices which will compare favourably with those of any other dealer in the district, and Turnbull's speciality, "The Counsel" brand," may be had at 3s per bottle, or 4s 6d per quart. Apart from their wines, ales, and whiskies, Messrs Turnbull possess a high reputation for provisions. Only the very best are purchased. Their teas have long held a high reputation. The firm was established in 1818, and the New Year will therefore be their year of jubilee. We trust that the success which has crowned their efforts in the past will be even exceeded in the future. Messrs Turnbull's almanacks are always good, and their reputation in this respect will not suffer by the two which they offer to their patrons this Yuletide. "For those at Sea" is specially good, and well worth framing. "Innocence and Guilt" is also a good picture. The Christmas cards exhibited at the drapery department are even better than was the case last year.

Mrs E. WILSON, of Busty Bank, has the most pleasing selection of toys, dolls, games, &c., in the village. She is also, as in former years, paying special attention to the preparation of Yule cakes.

BLACKHALL MILL.

Mr AUGUSTUS WELSH has an excellent Xmas display which embraces toys, fancy articles, watches, jewellery, etc. The advertisement states that there are hundreds of pretty things, and we believe that this is no hyperbole, for Mr Welsh's stock is large and assorted. Those who would like to purchase a present for their friends at this season need have no difficulty in making a choice from Mr Welsh's extensive stock.

Erratum.—The transaction relating to the transfer and sale of pigs, in contravention of an Order of Durham County Council, which resulted in a farmer and auctioneer being fined, took place at Lanchester Auction Mart, and not at Tow Law, as incorrectly stated in our report of Lanchester Police Court last week.

CORNSAY.

Mr G. A. WHERLEY, draper, is a tradesman who has met with a good measure of well-merited success. He has a large and well-selected stock, and as he has, like his brethren in other places, made a special display for Christmas, his customers are sure to favour him with their patronage at this season.

Mr J. SMITH, butcher, is a man who can be depended upon for a piece of good meat, whether it be for a special Christmas dinner, or for the ordinary mid-day meal at all seasons of the year. Pork is also of the choicest quality, and Mr Smith's customers never fail to be satisfied with what they purchase from him. There is an excellent Christmas display, as will be seen by those who visit Mr Smith's premises.

Christmas Advertisements.

Established in 1868.

T. J. MUSE,

PROVISION MERCHANT, DRAPER, AND GENERAL DEALER,

CASTLESIDE HOUSE, CASTLESIDE,

BEGS respectfully to Thank his numerous Friends and Customers for the grand support that they have been pleased to give him for such a great number of years. He heartily wishes all the Compliments of the Season, and, in hoping for a continuance of their valued and esteemed Orders, he desires to say that he is still determined to supply them with

GOODS OF THE BEST QUALITY,
AND AT THE
CHEAPEST RATE.

BURNOPFIELD.

W. DODDS,

BLACK HORSE INN,

BEGS to return Thanks to his Friends and Customers at Burnopfield and the surrounding neighbourhood, for their kind support, and has much pleasure in wishing them a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Everything in this Establishment is of the Best.

SPARKLING MILD AND BITTER ALES.

Scotch and Irish Whiskies.

PRIME STOUT.

Salter & Salter

6, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

BEG to return Thanks for past patronage and if you want a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—

Keep your Feet Warm and Dry!

TRY OUR

Men's Waterproof Boots,

WARRANTED.

LADIES' BOOTS,

SPECIAL LINES FOR WINTER.

Boys' and Girls' Boots,

FROM 1s 11d

DANCING SHOES, SLIPPERS, GAITERS, LEGGINGS, GOLOSHES, SNOW BOOTS.
USEFUL PRESENTS.

A PICTURE GIVEN TO EVERY PURCHASER ABOVE 4s.

SOUTH MOOR, HOTEL.

THOMAS OXLEY,

Proprietor.

BEGS to announce to the inhabitants of South Moor and District that his New and Commodious Premises are now open, and trusts by constant attention to meet all the requirements of the public generally.

ALES, WINES, AND SPIRITS,
CHOICE TOBACCO AND CIGARS.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

WALTER ROCHE,

WHEAT SHEAF INN,

THANKS the Inhabitants of Shotley Bridge and vicinity for their support during his occupancy of the above well-known Hostelry, and hopes for a continuance of the same.

SPLENDID BEERS AND WHISKIES
Of the Finest Blends.

THOMAS JAMES,

MILLINER AND DRAPER,
DURHAM ROAD, WATERHOUSES.

DIRECTS attention to his Christmas Specialities in FANCY GOODS, TOYS, and CHRISTMAS CARDS. GENT.'S HATS, CAPS, and TIES. Boots and SHOES in Great Variety.

MRS A. WARD,

BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER,
QUEBEC.

THANKS her Customers for their kind patronage during the time that she has been in business, and invites attention to her

GRAND CHRISTMAS DISPLAY.

REMEMBER!

Walter Willson's

TWENTY-THIRD ORIGINAL

AND

Only Genuine

GREAT ANNUAL

Christmas Sale.

Walter Willson

BEGS to Thank his numerous Customers for their increased Patronage at his well-known Store,

FRONT STREET,
WEST STANLEY.

CROOKGATE, BURNOPFIELD.

WILLIAM CUTHBERTSON,

BUTCHER,

BEGS to inform the Public that if they wish to obtain a Prime Joint of the
BEEF OF OLD ENGLAND'
this Christmastide, they are to call at his Shop.
Splendid MUTTON and Dairy-Fed PORK.

ESH CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

BUTCHERING DEPARTMENT.

JAMES DAVIS

BEGS to announce that his purchases at the Christmas Sales include 1 of the First Prize Black Polled BULLOCKS and 1 of the First Prize Blue Grey HEIFERS from Gateshead Auction Mart; 1 very neat Black Polled BULLOCK, bought from Mr S. Troldohl, Newcastle; 4 West Highland Kyloe HEIFERS, bred and fed by Mr R. Crowe, Cornsay House; 4 Prize Black-faced SHEEP, from Mr Crowe; 5 HOGGS, from Mr John Suddes, Biggen; and 20 Home-fed PIGS.

J. HAMMELL,

DIRECT IMPORTER OF TOYS & FANCY GOODS,
GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, &c.,
ESH WINNING, NEAR DURHAM.
Wholesale and Retail; Trade Supplied.
13 Cwt. of Dolls already sold this Christmas.

[PUBLISHED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT.]

THE EARL'S SECRET,

BY

J. MARSDEN SUTCLIFFE,

Author of "Romance of an Insurance Office," "By Mutual Consent," "A Martyr to Justice," &c., &c.

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CHAPTER XXXII.

A thick November fog hung over the city like a funeral pall, penetrating the office where Randal Dale was sitting a few days after his interview with Lady Dalton, describing to his client, Michael Delaney, the abortive result of his unfortunate visit to Traxford Lodge.

"She means to fight us, whenever the case reaches the Lords; of that you may take your solemn oath," Randal Dale was saying. "Though for the life of me, I cannot see that she has a leg to stand upon. But for all that, she speaks as confidently of winning as though she held the trump-card up her sleeve, and was only waiting for the right moment to arrive in order to play it."

"She must have got hold of some confounded mare's-nest," said Delaney, irritably.

"So I think," returned Randal Dale; "but a few weeks will decide the matter one way or another. Our case comes off in a fortnight. But, come," he continued, "stay and dine with me. Dinner will be served in the next room presently. There is only Poliosky and McBride, but afterwards you will find a set of very pleasant fellows, and we shall have a jolly evening which will drive away the doldrums."

And Delaney, who was nothing loth, suffered Randal Dale to conduct him to the adjoining chamber, which was more like a fairy palace than an adjunct to a London solicitor's office.

Randal Dale had signalised the retirement of Mr. Stopher from the firm by removing from the dim and dingy suite of offices in Crutched Friars to a magnificent suite of chambers in one of the new and palatial blocks of buildings that have gone so far to modernise the City, the precise locality of which it is not necessary to particularize. To what use he placed the suite of apartments, other than the three rooms devoted to his profession, it is one of the objects of this chapter to make plain to the reader.

"A perfect Monte Cristo," exclaimed Delaney, looking round the room with delighted astonishment.

"Without the fabulous amount of gold," replied Dale, smiling.

"Well, however that may be," said Delaney, "I am surprised and pleased at the princely air of comfort and luxury palpable here. Have you made it your private residence?"

"Oh, no, it is my place of business," returned Randal Dale, with an emphasis on the word "business." "My private residence is in Hyde Park Square as before. That," he continued, pointing to a couple of handsome folding doors, "leads to my drawing-room, where I only receive my particular friends."

"Are you doing anything in the House?" said Delaney, with a nod in the direction where he supposed the Stock Exchange to be.

"Very little; I intend shortly to close all my Exchange transactions, and confine myself for the future entirely to private speculation. I mean cards, of course," he added, seeing that Delaney failed to take in his meaning. "It is the safer game of speculation of the two."

"Then cards and stock-jobbing are equivalent terms with you?"

"Precisely; except in one sense," said Dale. "You can play at cards for any amount of stake you like, with less anxiety of mind, and you can know in a moment whether you are losing or winning. No, I prefer a quiet game at unlimited loo, écarté, or a go at baccarat, rouge-et-noir, etc., any day of the week, to the dread anxiety one experiences daily and hourly in these bi-monthly bargains in rotten foreign stocks and shares."

At that moment a tall bent figure appeared in the doorway, with a ragged beard and a general appearance of untidyness, wearing large green spectacles.

"Ah, Monsieur Dale, I have a profound secret;" but perceiving that Randal Dale was not alone he suddenly drew back. "Pardonnez-moi, I vas told you vas alone."

"Come in, Poliosky; it is all right. You have met Lord Traxford before. We are delighted to see you," said Dale, with a toadying air; for Poliosky, despite his shabby appearance, was one of the richest men in the city, and the husband of the lovely Mrs. Poliosky.

"Vel, Monsieur Randal, vat can I do for you?" said Poliosky, after making his apologies for his short-sightedness. "Going to sell, eh?"

"Catch me at that game," said Randal, "when Turks are rising."

"Oh, yes, again de Russians, but de bonds have gone down five-eighths since tree o'clock."

"They will get up again at ten to-morrow," said Dale.

"You tink so?" said Poliosky, with a facetious expression. "Den all I can say is dat you are von vera mush sanguine man."

"Too sanguine by half," said Captain McBride, who entered at that instant. "Why," said he, "only last night, in that very room," pointing to the drawing-room, "he played in such a style that everybody thought he'd break the bank; but the luck suddenly left him, and was within an ace of breaking him. Dale never thinks of chances. His constant cry is, 'What matter? In for a shilling in for a pound.'"

"Vell, ven I was a boy, about so mush high, I learned von leetle trick," remarked Poliosky.

"And what might that be?" asked Delaney, smilingly.

"To be cautious, and always stake a half as better dan de whole."

"He nearly put me in a hole last night," whispered Dale to Delaney.

The conversation was interrupted at this point by the arrival of dinner, which was partaken of in a leisurely manner, for the new-comers meant to make a night of it.

"Vat do you say, Monsieur Randal?" said Poliosky, when dessert was placed on the table by two tall footmen in gorgeous livery. "Shall we adjourn? Dere is a quartette of us. Suppose dat ve quit de salle à manger, and enter vat I call de evening Stock Exchange."

"Agreed," said Dale, briskly, ringing a silver bell, at which signal the large folding-doors with gold and silver-worked draperies attached to them opened wide, and he ushered his guests into what the broker had christened "de evening Stock Exchange."

If Delaney's surprise was great when he first beheld the magnificence of Dale's sitting-room, he was in ecstasies when he had time to survey the noble chamber they now entered. In the centre stood an immense round table covered in green baize, and immediately over it was suspended from a highly ornamental ceiling a splendid crystal lustre, lighted by a hundred gas jets, giving a brilliant appearance to the luxuriously-furnished room, which was plentifully supplied with richly upholstered chairs and tables of costly woods, evidently intended for whist, écarté, and other games of a similar nature.

Already a considerable number of Randal Dale's convivial friends were assembled, some of whom had already commenced the evening's occupation. Dale and Delaney, arm in arm, took the circuit of the room, the former bowing when he could catch their eyes, to the members of this proprietary club, who had assembled, and were now deep in the mysteries of "Rouge et Noir."

"Will you play, monsieur?" said a gentleman, who was seated smoking a cigar at one of the tables, addressing Delaney.

"What at?" answered the latter, looking at the speaker with considerable surprise, unable to recall the features of Colonel de Rancy, though something in the stranger's appearance awoke a vague idea in his mind that they had met before.

"Vingt-et-un."

"What, single-handed? Not if I know it."

"Do as you please, monsieur; my friend here will take a hand at écarté," nodding at Count Ivan Damarikoff.

"Ecarté? That's my favourite game," said Delaney.

"Why didn't you say so at first?" said Colonel De Rancy, politely, as Delaney took the opposite seat.

"I think I have seen you before," said Delaney, somewhat confused.

"Very likely. Where?" asked de Rancy.

"I cannot recollect just now," said Delaney, somewhat confused. "Perhaps in Paris."

"I was in Paris, not many weeks ago. Will you shuffle or shall I?" asked De Rancy.

"Oh, you, certainly," replied Delaney, with his eye still fixed on the face of the stranger, and cudgelling his brains to remember when and where he had last seen him.

"Tres bien; my deal," said Colonel de Rancy.

"The stakes?" asked Delaney, shuffling the cards.

"Maximum 20—100, the minimum 10—50; that is hundreds and fifties."

"A mere bagatelle!" exclaimed Delaney.

"Yes; but we don't play here to prostitute the game," said his opponent cynically, "and when we get into a sinking condition we hold out a helping hand. Therefore, you perceive, we play more for pleasure than for profit."

The reference to a sinking condition went straight home to Delaney, who could not help thinking that the phrase was used with a sinister meaning.

But he soon dismissed the unwelcome recollection of the yacht race and grew absorbed in the game. They played several games with spirit and excellent temper, until Delaney fancied he saw a flash of intelligence from Count Ivan transmitted to his opponent, and, beginning to open his eyes to the fact that he was losing a good deal, he began to lose his temper likewise.

"The deuce of a trump is in the cards," muttered Delaney, looking over his hand.

"I play the king," he said, a moment later, "and take the trick."

"And that just puts you in the four hole," said Count Ivan to Delaney, with a grim smile.

"What have you to to do with that? Mind your own business, please."

"Just so," answered the Russian, contemptuously.

"And now," said De Rancy, who was dealing, "a kingdom for a king."

"By Jingo, and there he is," said Count Ivan.

"I never saw such luck," exclaimed Delaney, peevishly. "You seem to have a king whenever you please."

"What do you mean?" demanded Count Ivan, threateningly, with a dangerous glitter in his cold blue eye.

"Nothing that concerns you," replied Delaney, hardly able to control his feelings.

"But it does concern me; and I call upon you, as a gentleman, to tell me what you mean by your remark."

"What's the row?" said Dale, who came up during the altercation.

"Oh, a trifle," answered Count Ivan. "This gentleman is losing his games and losing his temper."

"It is false," shouted Delaney.

"Come, come, gentlemen, don't quarrel, if you please," said Dale, and turning to Delaney, he asked, "How many games have you played?"

"Eight twenties," said Colonel de Rancy, looking at his tablets.

"Is that all?" said Dale, turning up his lip with a contemptuous curl. "A mere bagatelle."

"Let us double or treble the stakes, then," said Delaney, angrily.

"Don't be a fool," whispered Dale in his ear, "De Rancy is a skilled and scientific player. I can see by the way he plays he will suck you as dry as an orange."

"I will risk that," replied Delaney. "The luck will turn. I will try once more," said he, as he shuffled the cards. "Double stakes."

"So let it be," said De Rancy.

"Who has won?" shouted Poliosky, who had just quitted the green baize table with his hand full of bank notes. "Ecarté," added he, looking at the players. "It is von pretty leetle game. Vat are de stakes, monseur?" turning to Count Ivan.

"Three thousand two hundred," replied the latter, who appeared to be much elated at his friend De Rancy's success.

"Tree tousand! tree tousand!" exclaimed Poliosky, excitedly. "Monsieur, my lord, I vill bet you ten to one on de player."

"That's my friend De Rancy," said Count Ivan.

"I mean de player," said Poliosky, looking at De Rancy for a second.

"Done and won," cried Count Ivan, almost in a breath.

"I have been swindled," said Delaney, coolly; "but I will have my revenge."

"What's that you say?" cried Count Ivan, his anger visibly rising.

"That I have been deliberately robbed," said Delaney, sullenly.

"You are as great a liar as you are a thief," said De Rancy, excitedly approaching closer to Delaney as he spoke, as if with the intention of inflicting upon him personal chastisement.

"Oh," said Delaney, in astonishment, "I think I know you now. I recognize the voice. We have met before."

"We have."

"Zentlemen, zentlemen; messieurs, zentlemen, zentlemen," cried Poliosky, energetically; "we are not in Vitechapel, or vat you call de New Cut. Arrange de leetle meeting if you really vish to fight, vich vill be more satisfaction to all de parties concerned. Dat is de properest vay to do; at least it is de custom in my country."

During the above speech, which was uttered with considerable impetuosity and volubility, Delaney was prevented by Count Ivan from attacking De Rancy. All his fury was therefore concentrated on Count Ivan. They were struggling together in what appeared to be a death or life encounter.

"Leave him to me," shouted Count Ivan. "I am able to deal with the scoundrel."

But Delaney, with a violent effort, threw his antagonist to the ground, and immediately afterwards having got his hands free, drew forth from his breast pocket a small stilletto dagger. His arm was raised, and the weapon flashed in the air, when a friendly hand struck in and arrested the descent of the premeditated blow. When the would-be assassin found himself foiled he turned fiercely round with a fearful oath, and met the gaze of the man whose body he supposed had been washed out to sea. A startled cry broke from his lips as he recognised Tom Dalton, and pale and trembling with fear Delaney rushed from the room.

(TO BE CONTINUED).

BENFIELDSIDE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held at the Bank, Shotley Bridge, on Thursday evening, when there were present: Messrs J. Eltringham (Chairman), E. Sloane, J. Heymer, C. Parnaby, E. Telford, W. M. Annandale, G. Eltringham, R. Eccles, George J. Robinson, J. Annandale; with the Clerk (Mr J. B. Lazenby), and the Surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The report of the Surveyor was as follows:—During the month your district has been inspected, and on the whole the ashpits are very well cleaned out. A few notices were served for the removal of refuse, and these were promptly attended to. As instructed, I had an interview with Mr Rutherford, and requested him to submit a plan for his wood stable. This he has done, and the plan was laid before your Building Committee. The sanitary alterations to the property from No. 1 to No. 6 Back Derwent Street, Blackhill, has been carried out satisfactorily during the month. Mr W. Raw has commenced with the alterations to Silver Street property.

SEWAGE WORKS REPORT.

The Surveyor also reported:—As requested, I have ascertained the probable cost of materials and labour required for taking out the present filtering materials, and to re-construct the filtering bed with the following materials: Small coal filtering will cost about £66; coke ashes, £20. The settling tanks are not big enough now, on account of the large increase of new property being built since they were laid down. A great number of houses have been built both in Consett and Blackhill during the last two years that are discharging sewage into these tanks. I would suggest that steps be taken to have them enlarged at the beginning of next year. They can be made larger by raising the present wells (say two or three feet). This no doubt would meet the requirements for some time to come. To raise the walls two feet would cost about £43. The total cost for materials and labour for carrying on the sewage works for the year ending September, 1897, is £91 5s 1½d. I would suggest that a new valuation be made of the several properties in Consett and Blackhill that are discharging their sewage in these works, and the apportionments be made and collected.

THE DEPOSIT AT BLACKHILL.

A letter was received from Mr W. Ramsay, secretary of the Consett and District Cricket Club, in which it was stated that the above club were prepared to allow the cricket field as a deposit at Blackhill for another year on the same terms.—Agreed.

DR. HILL'S SUGGESTION.

A letter was also received from Mr Simey, in which he desired to urge upon the Council the great importance of close attention being paid to Dr Hill's suggestions for preventing the spread of infectious diseases. An extract from the report of the Medical Officer was also read. This drew attention to the scavenging and removal of refuse as regarded private property at Blackhill which did not appear to be satisfactorily performed. In Armstrong Street, Murray Street, and other streets in that portion of the district, the condition of the out-offices indicated the absence of regular and systematic scavenging, and the District Council should seriously consider the desirability of their undertaking the scavenging of the district.—In the course of some discussion, the Chairman thought that no district was perfect, and that the Medical Officer would always be inclined to pick faults.—On the motion of Mr Robinson, seconded by Mr Parnaby, the matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee.

CUTLER'S HALL BANK.

On the motion of Mr Annandale, seconded by Mr Telford, it was agreed that stones be put down on Cutler's Hall Bank, and that they be immediately rolled in by the steam roller.—The Surveyor, in answer to a question, stated that he did not know whether the estimate for their work was included in the expenditure.

THE PROPOSED TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

Messrs G. T. Hyden, A. Stoddart, G. D. Powell, and J. Kempson attended as a deputation to urge upon the Coucil the claims of the proposed new Technical Institute at Consett. The scheme was explained by the deputation and the matter was referred to a committee, consisting of the Chairman, Messrs James Annandale, and C. Parnaby, to consider and report.

LETTERS to the EDITOR.

MR SCOTT'S REMINISCENCES.

SIR,—The absence of any further news from Mr Scott, of Rowley, who some time ago started out on the great expedition in the north-west regions of Durham, is creating an immense amount of uneasiness as to his safety and welfare. According to the last account received from him of his progress in the enterprise, he had entered, along with his fellow traveller, the hostelry of the Smelters, in the territory of the great King Wylam; and whether both of the travellers succumbed to the smelting, or somniferous influence of that domain, or whether they ever emerged from it, and fell into the hands of that ever-watchful and powerful tribe, the Peelites, are questions that are seriously agitating the public mind at the present very momentous moment. Some individuals, who declare that Mr Scott's real object in setting out on his journey was to discover the actual source of the Tinmill Ponds, and also to ascertain the possibility of effecting the transformation of the Middleset Swamps, which are in the territory of the dread Pottish monarch, fear that he has been swamped, or taken prisoner as a dangerous invader of alien dominions. It is, however, to be most sincerely hoped that these alarming conjectures will prove unfounded; and that his fate has not been so lamentable as that of so many other memorable travellers of past generations. But in order, Sir, to settle all doubts and surmises, I here propose, with your valuable assistance, that a rescue party, with a Stanley at its head, be at once formed, and sent without any delay, to clear away the mystery concerning the whereabouts and condition of our missing friends.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

Consett, December 20th, 1897.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT TRADESMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

A well-attended meeting of the members of this Association was held in the small hall of the New Town Hall, on Thursday evening. Mr W. Aynsley presided. The items in the balance-sheet were given consideration. On a bill, for trap expenses to secretary, for 8s 6d, coming up, Mr G. J. Robinson expressed the opinion that it should be paid.—Mr James Palliser thought it would be better to refer the matter to the committee.—The Secretary was understood to say that the committee had no power to deal with the matter.—Mr J. E. Scott thought it would be much more satisfactory if it were thrashed out at a public meeting.—A vote was then taken, when an equal number of hands were held up for and against the proposition that the item should be settled by the meeting.—The Chairman: I suppose the Chairman has a casting vote, and I will give it in favour of Mr Weaver.—The Secretary: I am very much obliged to you, and the gentlemen who have voted for it, but I will give it back to the Association.—A Member: If Mr Weaver had paid £5 for the trap it would have been nothing to us, I suppose?—The Secretary: I paid a reasonable price.—Mr Whitehead: He might have had a trap and four horses. We seem to have one ruling power in one pair of breeches. It is a question whether there was any authority for doing it.—The Secretary: I had authority for doing it; I was authorised to do it.—Mr Whitehead: Will you read the minute?—The Secretary then referred to some trap expenses which were mentioned in the minutes.—Mr English: There is no such item. It is trip expenses.—Mr Lamb said it was not doubt rather irritating to Mr Weaver that he should have to bear the brunt of the whole thing, but if he would do his work in an extravagant fashion, he must be criticised. It was their duty to investigate these accounts, for they had never been presented to the Committee. He maintained that they had a right to criticise these accounts, and say whether they were to allow these things, however irritating they might be to Mr Weaver's feelings.—The Chairman: That is exactly what I am waiting of.—Mr Pallister: I should like to know where the Treasurer has been. These accounts have been paid out. I have not yet heard that the Treasurer was authorised to pay this money.—Mr Davison: He never paid a penny piece to me of the Association's money.—Mr Whitehead: I would suggest that we allow nothing without the sanction of the Association.—Mr English: I do not object to these items on account of the items in themselves. I object to the principle of the thing. I object to Mr Weaver shoving these things through in this sort of fashion. He has never asked the Committee for these items, and I also take exception to the item for commission on the trip. Mr Weaver did ask the Committee for permission to charge 5 per cent. commission on the trip, but they would not grant it, and he had taken the liberty of having it on the account.—The Secretary denied that this was so.—Mr Crick said he made a remark that the Committee had not power to grant 5 per cent. upon the returns from the Railway Company.—Mr Palliser: Are we to understand that the percentage is to be given to the Secretary? I stand here as one of those who said that it should be refunded to the Association, and if they wished to give anything to the Secretary, it must come from the Association first.—Mr English: The amount in question is 5s. What he charged was 5 per cent. on the profits of the Association. The profit is 5s.—The Chairman: We had better deal with the items as they come up. Everything is in order, with the exception of the incidentals, and I thought it my duty to take them *seriatim*.—Mr Patrick, although objecting to a good many of the items, did not object to the trap hire.—The item was accordingly passed. Upon another item being brought up, Mr Palliser said it was the duty of the Treasurer to pay these accounts, whether they had money or not. (Laughter.) If they as an organisation were short, it was their duty to have means to pay the deficiency.—The Chairman said that the whole of the accounts had been paid, with the exception of £2 7s.—Mr Lamb inquired whether the sum of £2 10s. had been paid to the secretary.—The Chairman replied in the affirmative.—Mr Lamb: Then how does he pay £2 10s to himself, when he cannot pay anything to the Treasurer?—The Secretary: It is only human nature to look after No. 1.—Mr Lamb thought the secretary had treated the Association in a very high-handed fashion, and asked for the terms of his engagement.—The minutes were accordingly consulted, and it was stated that he had to receive £5 per annum.—Mr Lamb wanted to know how he had to receive his salary—yearly or half-yearly. They had been debited with £2 10s, which had not been sanctioned to be paid.—Mr English: Mr Weaver was engaged at £5 per annum, but there was nothing said as to the interval at which he should be paid.—Mr Palliser maintained that it was not for the Secretary to say when he should draw his money. He then moved, seconded by Mr Lamb, that the Treasurer be instructed to pay the Secretary half-yearly, and this was agreed to.—The Chairman mentioned that there were thirty-one subscribers, at 2s 6d each, who had not yet paid.—The Secretary said the Hon. Secretaries knew what the bill for £2 7s was made up of.—Mr English remarked that Mr Weaver had said that he himself was practically responsible for the debts of the Association.—Mr Palliser: We have these accounts before us in one of the loosest conditions I have ever known come before a set of intelligent men. I think it is the Treasurer we have to deal with in matters of cash. He moved that a committee be appointed to draw up a proper balance sheet. If that organisation were to be conducted in such a loose way, he did not know where they would end. It was a dishonour to them.—The Chairman: I have a balance sheet in this book before me, showing the income and expenditure of the last year. The way that I look at it is that the whole is cleared, with the exception of £2 7s. There was a sum of 5s for the hall that night, and Mr Weaver has on hand 4s 8d, so that the present liabilities according to the statement amount to £2 7s 4d.—Mr Palliser: That book is a mere entry of the Secretary's.—The Chairman: But we have the vouchers for them.—Mr Palliser: We should have the Treasurer's balance sheet. We must have the accounts audited.—Mr Whitehead said it would be well for them to see that the Secretary did not incur any responsibility unless he had the sanction of the Committee for doing so.—The Secretary remarked that many wise suggestions had been made as to the mode of paying money. Mr Palliser had made a good many suggestions which were wise and proper. But before it became wise and proper to accept these, the Association needed to be registered. Until it was registered, nobody was responsible at all. They could go to the best solicitor they knew and they would be informed that the law did not recognise mutual associations at all. The law had provided for their safety and welfare by their paying a small sum for registration. He had been ordered to go and make arrangements with the North-Eastern Railway Company for the trip. He asked whether the signature of the Tradesmen's Association would be required, and he was then informed that they did not recognise the Tradesmen's Association because it was not registered. They wanted his name alone, and he was held to be personally responsible for the trip.—Mr Hand warmly protested that "all this rigmaole" had nothing to do with the matter. They had been humbugged so much with Mr Weaver, and now they were near Christmas, and they had never got him to explain one thing or another. If he was going to make an elaborate speech, let him resign his position at once.—Mr Palliser: I hope we shall do all things in good temper.—Mr Hand: It is no use running us into a hole, and then coming and telling us what he could do, and what he could not do.—The Chairman: Let us hear Mr Weaver's statement.—Mr Palliser: I hope that everything will be done harmoniously.—The Chairman: I don't see there is much damage done, so far as I can see.—Mr Palliser said if they were not bound by the law of the land, they were bound by the moral law, and he hoped they were all men of honour. (Hear, hear).—The Secretary said when he went to take the Town Hall, he was told that it would not be let to the Tradesmen's Association, but to the person who took it in their name. Mr English had gone and taken the hall, and Mr English would have to pay for it. He (Mr Weaver) had got together about £3 in subscriptions up to the 10th November. He had taken the responsibility of calling meetings, the cost amounting to £1 10s. The Secretary wanted some expenses, and after all these were met, he had the sum of 7s to transfer to the Treasurer. Was there any great necessity for him to go bothering after the Treasurer to take the enormous sum of 7s? When he took that position, he told them that he could not afford so much time. He was away from home sometimes for a week. He received a peremptory notice that some gentlemen were dissatisfied about something, and demanding him to call a meeting. There was no particular business to transact; he was not engaged to do that, and he did not intend to do it. He should have been a fool if he had. As to the funds, he had taken upon himself the responsibility of certain accounts by ordering them. He did not rest content with the knowledge he had already got as to whether he was responsible or not without seeking legal knowledge. He got that, and was that he was personally responsible for every order he gave. He would have to pay these accounts, and if they were not paid, his remedy was with the Chairman, and nobody else. If they had been registered, all this would have gone on all right. He would have handed over the money to the Treasurer.—Mr Hand: What is the use of talking like that to a respectable audience?—Mr Davison said the question of registration had never been put forward at a single meeting.—Another member was about to make a remark, when the Secretary, interrupting, said: Be careful what you say, you have had an object lesson at Leadgate.—The Chairman: Now, keep your tempers.—Mr Hand said they had kept their tempers for six months, and they did not come there to be humbugged.—Mr Luke Nicholson said he could vouch for the fact that Mr Weaver had made a statement about the registration of the Association.—Mr Crick said they knew as well as Mr Weaver that the Association was not registered, but they expected that they had amongst them a lot of hard-headed, 20s in the £ men. Mr Weaver, with all his intelligence, ought to have kept them right. The complaint was that his business was of such a nature that it drew him from the place and he could not call these meetings. If he could not attend to their business, he could have told them to get another secretary.—The Chairman was about to call on Mr Weaver again, when Mr Whitehead asked: Is that statement not finished?—The Chairman: I think it is only fair to let our Secretary go on.—Mr Crick: We have had epistles and circulars, and we have had lengthened discussions, but it does not seem as if we were getting much further forward.—The Chairman: But Mr Weaver is here now.—Mr Palliser pointed out that organisations like that under which they had met were social organisations, and that was the first time he had heard the ought to be registered.—The Secretary said he had obtained as much information as he could as to the way in which similar organisations were conducted, and he was going to advise them to be registered. Nobody had any right to summon meetings, except the Secretary. The accounts had been passed for payment at a general meeting of the Association, and at which the auditor's report was submitted. Some gentlemen had also managed to make out a scheme of objection against the accounts that had been passed at a general meeting. It was agreed that the accounts should be paid, and when he was going to pay them, he received a notice from these gentlemen that the accounts were wrong. How, then, could he pay accounts which were objected to? He had received notice to call a Committee meeting to review and criticise what had been done at a general meeting. He had submitted his books, showing the course he had taken, to an expert, and the fact was his accounts were perfectly in order. Every step he had taken in the matter was in harmony with the instructions to Secretaries of such Associations. The five gentlemen who signed the memorial calling the meeting he had mentioned were liable to be prosecuted for libel. He complained of suggestions which had been made at a general meeting of the Association as to the way in which he had conducted the business. His case was already prepared, and was in the hands of a solicitor. It would be shown to these five gentlemen that they were not to play with a man's reputation. He was not afraid of them injuring his character. No man in Consett could stand up and say that he had done any of them an injury. His character was right. These men had injured his reputation, and they would have to prove it or pay for it.—Mr Hand: I think the less you say the better. To my mind you have treated us with contempt.—Mr Palliser: I don't think we have a right to listen to personal matters.—Mr Davison said he had seen Mr Weaver some time after the trip, and was informed by him that the yearly meeting would be held in a fortnight.—Mr English said the accounts had not been properly audited. He had simply checked the additions and calculations, but as the accounts were not then paid, and as Mr Weaver had not shown him the vouchers or cash, he could not certify that the accounts were correct. The balance sheet had been passed, on condition that the accounts be paid, and the balance be handed over to the Treasurer.—The Secretary: Immediately I received notice that the accounts had been passed, I paid them. But they would not have been paid until they were sanctioned as being right.—Mr Pattrick mentioned that when the balance sheet was presented to them, it was shewn that 31 members had not paid their subscriptions, but these were put to the credit of the Association. He objected at the time, and pointed out that the balance sheet was not correct. He for one did not regret anything that had been done, and he was quite prepared to stick up for everything that had been done.—The Secretary said he had informed Mr Pattrick that he was writing to get information to lay before the Association, and that that was the reason why he had not called a meeting of the Association. There was not a man in the Association who had been more anxious for its welfare than himself.—Mr Pattrick: Do you think it is right that the trip which was held on the 5th of August should not be settled up until November?—The Secretary: I was a little careless.—Mr Pattrick: If you had called the committee, this would not have happened.—The Secretary: I have never refused to call a committee or a general meeting that was in order.—Mr English: The meeting was in order.—The Secretary: It was not.—Mr Crick complained that the Secretary was a little paradoxical. At one time he held himself responsible for everything; at other times he held himself responsible for nothing. He had emphatically declared that he was personally responsible for all debts, and then said that not a single account would have been paid by him unless it had been passed by the meeting.—The Chairman: I think everything has been fairly and freely ventilated, and I would suggest that, if there is no other business, the meeting should terminate.—After a lengthened discussion, the meeting terminated.

CHURCH BAZAAR AT WEST STANLEY.

Since the formation of St. Andrew's parish, the population of Stanley and District has been increasing, but within the last three or four years, that increase has been very rapid, not only in the centre of the parish, but also in the two wings—Oxhill and East Stanley, especially in the latter, and some time before, the lately deceased first Vicar of the parish, the Rev. John Crennell, left to take up the incumbency at Byers Green, mission churches were erected both at Oxhill and East Stanley. Both sites and buildings are the absolute property of the Church, with only the incumbrance of £270, and for the purpose of removing that debt, and also with the hope of securing sufficient funds to proceed with the renovation of the parish Church, which has fallen into a lamentable state of dilapidation, a bazaar was held in the central Board School on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Mrs F. H. Burn, of Newcastle, kindly declared the bazaar open on Thursday afternoon. At the hour appointed for the formal opening of the bazaar, the Schoolroom was crowded with a large and fashionable company, included amongst whom were Mr and Mrs Burn, the Rev. D. W. James and Mrs James, Rev. C. H. Fleetwood, Mrs Fleetwood, and Miss Fleetwood, Rev. T. H. Archdall, Mrs Archdall, and Miss Archdall (Tanfield), Mrs Herron (Beamish), Mrs Clark (Beamish), Rev. R. Tuson and Mrs Tuson (Dipton), Miss Neilson (Beamish), Major and Mrs Ridley, Mrs Benson and the Misses Benson, Mr William Benson, Mr Charles Benson Mr Sydney Benson, Mr R. D. Grundy, Captain Crossling and Mrs Crossling, Mr W. H. Dyer, Mr A. Ledger and Mrs Ledger, Mr Thomas Darney, Miss Darney, Mr John Darney, Mr T. C. Frater and Mrs Frater, Mr C. Scott and Mrs Scott (Oakeys), Mrs W. Ridley (Houghton-le-Spring), Miss Dawson, Miss Whittaker, Mrs T. Robson, Mrs Cain, Miss Porter (Boundary House), Mr and Mrs Connah, Miss Welsh, Miss L. Welsh, Mrs G. Bell, Mrs J. Bell, Mrs Aynsley, Mrs Middlemast, Mrs Wrackham, Mrs Mumford, Miss Dixon, Mrs Vasey, Mrs Dunn, Mrs Collins, Mrs Bates, Mrs Ramshaw, Mrs Riley, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Dawson (Oxhill), Mr M. H. Lindon, Mrs Lindon, and Miss Lindon, Mr T. J. Jackson, Miss Robinson, Mrs Ritson, Miss Ritson, Master Ritson, Mrs J. Green, Mrs Temple, Mrs W. Gibson and Miss Gibson (Oakeys), Mrs Forster, Mrs W. Severs (Beamish), Mr Corder (Newcastle), Misses Watson, Mr F. Dixon and Mrs Dixon, Mrs T. Parker, Mrs Masterman, Miss Turnbull, Mr R. D. Lewis, Mrs Charles, Mrs A Chamberledge, Masters James, and others.

The Rev. D. W. JAMES, in introducing Mrs Burn to the assembly, remarked that he would like to say a few words upon the course which had led them up to the present occasion. Several months ago, the churchwardens and himself talked together about a certain debt which was remaining upon the parish, and they thought that the constitutional way of moving in the matter was to call a vestry meeting. This they did. They met in the vestry, and considered the matter very carefully. They were all agreed that something ought to be done, but they did not see very clearly what that something should be; and he supposed that to some extent they must confess that that vestry gathering was a failure, because they did not arrive at any practical conclusion save one, which they would all agree was a very practical one, namely, that they could not do anything without the ladies. (Hear, hear.) After that, they called a meeting to which they invited the ladies, who, after hearing what was required, said, "We will pay off the debt, and the plan we will adopt to pay it off is by preparing a bazaar." When he heard the ladies say that they would pay off the debt, he knew that they would pay it off. (Hear, hear.) The ladies set about their task by holding teas and sewing meetings. They had fortnightly gatherings, and the work was going on in all the three centres of the parish—Stanley, Oxhill, and East Stanley. Those who visited the different places knew how the ladies worked. He could not possibly speak words which would adequately convey his gratitude to the ladies who had worked, and the gentlemen too, but the ladies especially. They worked day and night almost. At the first, the meetings were held fortnightly: then they became weekly; and later he really thought they were held daily, except on Sundays. (Laughter.) If they entered the homes of some of the lady helpers they entered a veritable workshop. There was nothing but the bazaar spoken about all round. The result of all that work was shown before them that day, and Mrs Burn had kindly come amongst them to open the bazaar. He could not do better than call upon her to perform the very kind office which she had kindly consented to fill. He hardly need introduce Mrs Burn to a Stanley audience, because she had been known to them before he was himself. (Applause.)

Mrs BURN, who was warmly applauded on rising to open the bazaar, said:—Ladies and gentlemen, it affords me much pleasure to come here to assist in a small way so good an object. I see around me many beautiful things, the purchasing of which will encourage those who have laboured to accomplish the objects of the bazaar. It is now my pleasing duty to declare the bazaar open. (Applause.)

Major RIDLEY invited the attention of all present for a very few minutes in order to perform a very pleasing duty, and one in which he was sure all present would heartily join him. He thought they would have been remiss in their duty had they allowed Mrs Burn to go away without according to her their sincere thanks for so well performing the interesting duty of opening the bazaar. Since Mrs Burn had performed that duty, Mr Burn had come amongst them, and he wanted all present to join in a vote of thanks to Mrs Burn for her presence and kindness in opening the bazaar, and to Mr Burn for his presence. They flattered themselves that theirs was a wealthy parish, but that did not say that they were all wealthy. Some of them were very hard up. (Laughter.) He rejoiced that some of their wealthy neighbours had so kindly come amongst them. Some of their wealthy neighbours they hardly ever saw, and could not tell their faces, but that could not be said of Mr and Mrs Burn. He hoped that they would come again amongst them on frequent future occasions, and now asked them all to join in the vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Burn. (Applause.)

The Rev. D. W. JAMES said that he would be brief in seconding the vote of thanks, as they had already had one speech from him. He fully endorsed all that Mr Ridley had said, and had great pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks.—This having been heartily adopted,

Mr BURN acknowledged the vote on behalf of Mrs Burn. He thanked all present for the kind way in which they had received her name. Both he and Mrs Burn were very wishful for the success of the bazaar, and it was a pleasure to both of them to be present. (Applause.)

There were ten stalls in all, nine of which were placed in the large room, with one in the class-room. The whole of the stalls were well laden with splendid selections of useful and ornamental articles. These were most tastefully and temptingly displayed, and the manner in which the rooms had been decorated reflected every credit on those responsible for the beautifying of the interior of the building. Appended is a list of the stalls and stallholders:—No. 1—East Stanley Working Party—Mrs Bates, Miss Bates, and Miss Draper; No. 2—Oxhill Working Party—Mrs Fleetwood, Mrs Ledger, and Mrs Wrackem. Central Working Party; No. 3—Plain Work and Household Goods—Mrs Ridley, Mrs Frater, Miss Turnbull, and Miss Elliott; No. 4—Fancy Work and Children's Clothing—Miss Greenhow and Mrs Lindon; No. 5—Plain Work and Household Goods—Mrs Benson, Miss Benson, and Miss Holmes. No. 6—Stationery, Christmas Cards, and Fancy Work—Members of the C.F.S., namely, Miss West, Miss Bateman, Miss Aynsley, Miss Carr, Miss Mumford, Miss Roxby, Miss Simpson, and Miss Frater; No. 7—Fancy Articles, Pictures, &c.—Miss Darney, Miss Robinson, and Miss Weatherall; No. 8—China, Glass, and Crockery—The Misses Walker and Mrs Cain; No. 9—Wicker Work—Miss Whittaker and Miss Dawson; No. 10—Refreshments served on the French Cafe System by Mrs James and a committee, consisting of Mrs Charaley, Mrs Scott, Miss Dunn, Mrs Cummings, Mrs Mumford, Mrs Pickersgill, Mrs Hope, Mrs Riley, Miss Roxby, Miss Simpson, and Miss Carr.—Amongst the other attractions was a mock art gallery, prepared under the supervision of Capt. Crossling and Mr R. D. Grundy. There were several notable paintings, including "Swedes in native costume" (two Swede turnips), "A bitter separation" (a divided lemon), "We meet to part again" (a pair of scissors), "The two churchwardens" (two pipes), "View of the Red Sea" (the letter C written in red ink), "Family Jars" (two broken jam jars), &c., &c. A bride cake in charge of the Misses Daisy and Violet Benson, and Miss Evelyn Fleetwood, proved a great attraction, as was a fairy well, which was in charge of Miss Ritson, Miss Rowe, Miss Hunter, Miss Forster, Miss Kingston, Miss Wylam, and Miss Pickersgill, all of whom are candidates for the Girls' Friendly Society. The secrets of the future were foretold with startling accuracy by Zingara, the gipsy fortune-teller, Miss Cordner, of Oxhill, attending to the palmistry department. The receipts for the first day amounted to the extremely satisfactory total of £217 12s 10d, that amount being made up as follows:—

Stall No. 1, cash, £4 0s 11d; clubs, £12 9s 9d—£16 10s 8d.
No. 2, cash, £4 6s 9d; clubs, £21—£25 6s 9d.
No. 3, cash, £15 15s 1½d; clubs, £47 8s 1d—£63 3s 2½d.
No. 4, cash, £5 19s 3½d; clubs, £18 6s 4d—£24 5s 7½d.
No. 5, cash, £8 12s 2d; clubs, £26—£34 12s 2d.
No. 6, cash, £5 14s 6d; clubs, £5 13s 1d—£11 7s 7d.
No. 7, cash, £3 14s 6½d; clubs, £7 0s 9d—£10 15s 3½d.
No. 8, cash, £3 14s 11d; clubs, £8 4s 7d—£11 19s 6d.
No. 9, cash, £6 8s 8½d; clubs, £6 15s 8d—£13 4s 4½d. Refreshments, £6 7s 8d. Grand total, £217 12s 10d.

The entertainments, given every evening, in St. Andrew's Institute, included the exhibition of the far-famed original waxworks, which came in for a large share of admiration. The characters exhibited were:—Group 1—"Little Jack Horner," Miss Whitfield; "The Babes in the Wood," Captain Crossling and Mr Thos. Shield; "Little Bo Peep," Miss Minnie Turnbull. Group 2—"The Sleeping Beauty," Miss Sarah Temple; "The Beast," Mr Arthur Hutchinson; "The Nubian Boy," Master George Sampson. Group 3—"Three Old Ladies at Tea," Miss Aynsley, Miss West, and Mrs Crossling. Group 4—"Joan of Arc," Miss Morpeth; "King Cole," Mr Alf. Simpson; "The Dirty Boy Getting Washed," Mr R. D. Grundy as the mother, and Master Sampson as the dirty boy." Group 5—"Little Red Riding Hood," Miss M. Welsh; "Her Grandmother," Miss West; "The Wolf," Mr A. Hutchinson. Group 6—"Mr and Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup," Captain Crossling as Mr Winslow, Miss Aynsley as Mrs Winslow, and a mechanical screaming doll as the baby.

The wax figures were introduced to the audience on Thursday evening by Mr W. H. Dwyer, and general satisfaction was expressed at the excellence of the representations. It is true that Captain Crossling made a somewhat lengthy baby, and his brother in misfortune (Mr A. Shield) also seemed somewhat robust, but despite that, the manner in which the two embraced each other and wept was inexpressibly touching, and reminded one almost painfully of the pathetic story of "The Babes in the Wood." Master Charles Ridley, as "Peter," did the screwing-up business in a capable manner, and never once did the figures refuse obedience. Miss Dora M. Welsh and Mr Connah presided at the piano; and a song by Miss Lilian Welsh was warmly received, as was the patriotic song, "The English Flag," which was finely rendered by Masters Robert Hodgson, Ernest Bell, Charles Ridley, Joseph Graham, and J. Turnbull. The figures were equally well received on Friday evening. Mr Robert D. Grundy sang "The Englishman" very pleasingly. Miss Dora May Welsh again presided at the piano in her usually artistic manner. On Friday evening, a farce, entitled "Borrowed Plumes," was performed in St. Andrew's Institute, before a large audience, the characters being ably sustained as follows:—"Mr Botherby Bibbins," Mr A. Simpson; "Horatio Gustavus Tattleton," Mr R. D. Grundy; "Dick Mizzle," Mr A. Hutchinson; "Violet" (daughter of Bibbins), Mrs Crossling; "Emma," Miss M. Morpeth. Captain T. E. Crossling officiated as stage manager, and the performance went off excellently.

Special credit is due to Mr A. Hutchinson, for the capable manner in which he filled the role of Dick Mizzle, at a moment's notice owing to the absence, through indisposition, of Mr W. H. Dwyer. It should be stated that the executive committee consisted of the Revs. D. W. James and C. H. Fleetwood, Mr Geo. Ridley, and T. C. Frater. Mr Geo. Ridley acted as treasurer, and the joint secretaries were the Rev. C. H. Fleetwood and Miss Greenhow. The entertainment committee consisted of Captain and Mrs Crossling, Mr T. Darney, and Mr R. D. Grundy.

The receipts for the second day amounted in the aggregate to £50 11s 10½d, that sum including 10s 10d from the Fairy Well, and 6s from Zingara. The receipts from the stalls were as follows:—

No. 1, cash, £1 9s; clubs, £2 8s 8d—£3 17s 8d.
No. 2, cash, £1 16s 10½d; clubs, £2 16s—£4 12s 10½d.
No. 3, cash, £3 18s 2½d; clubs, £9 3s 11d—£13 2s 1½d.
No. 4, cash, £2 9s 5½d; clubs, £4 17s 6d—£7 6s 11½d.
No. 5, cash, £1 11s 7d; clubs, £3 4s—£4 15s 7d.
No. 6, cash, £2 5s 11d; clubs, £3 4s—£5 9s 11d.
No. 7, cash, £2 5s 11d; clubs, £1 5s—£3 10s 11d.
No. 8, cash, £1 18s 7d; clubs, £2 3 10d—£4 2s 5d.
No. 9, cash, £1 1s 4d; clubs, £1 8s 2d—£2 9s 6d.
No. 10, cash, £2 6s 0½d; clubs, £2 4s 8d—£4 10s 8½d.
No. 11, cash, £1 16s 3½.

Amongst those present at the bazaar on Friday were Mr W. Welsh (Holly Terrace), Mr J. A. Hodgson (Causey), Mr J. W. Wood (Stanley), Mr Sampson, Mr R. W. Little, Mr Murray, and Mr A. Storey.

THOMAS PALLISTER,

BUTCHER,

FRONT STREET, LANCHESTER.

THANKS his Customers for the Patronage bestowed upon him during the many years that he has been in business, and begs to solicit an inspection of his

GRAND DISPLAY
OF
PRIME ENGLISH BEEF AND MUTTON.

A. C. HANNING,

PLUMBER & GAS-FITTER,
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to tender his hearty Thanks to the people of Consett and neighbourhood for their support, and trusts, by strict attention to business, to receive a continuance of the same.

Christmas Advertisements.

"Christmas comes but once a year,
And when it comes it brings good cheer."

GREAT XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S
TOY BAZAAR, FANCY FAIR!
AND
GIVING-AWAY OF PRESENTS!

JOHN T. POTTS

HAS pleasure in once more informing his Friends and the Public that he has just returned from his Annual Special Visit to the Principal Markets, and has made arrangements for his GREAT SHOW and SALE OF TOYS and FANCY GOODS.

The preparations for this year have been more than usually Extensive, and the Show promises to exceed all others for variety of Goods that has ever before taken place in the District. The class of Goods procured and the prices will be such as to please everybody.

TOYS! TOYS!
TOYS TO MAKE YOU LAUGH.
TOYS TO MAKE YOU THINK.
TOYS TO EDUCATE AND STIMULATE THE MINDS OF ALL.
SUCH AN ARRAY OF TOYS,
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DESCRIBE.
DOLLS! DOLLS!
CHRISTMAS
AND
NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

ROBERT ENGLISH

BEGS to Thank his numerous Customers for their kind Patronage and liberal Support during the past year, and trusts by strict and careful attention to Business, and the wants of his Customers, to merit the continuance of their favour.

ROBERT ENGLISH,
DRAPER, HATTER, &c.,
15 AND 16, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
Is now Showing the
NEWEST NOVELTIES
FOR
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

SEE THE
CHRISTMAS SHOW OF WINTER GOODS,
AND THE
LATEST NOVELTIES
FOR
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS,
AT
R. PEARSON'S,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

CUNNINGHAMS'
ARE THE
CHIEF CONFECTIONERS
IN
WEST STANLEY AND DIPTON.
SEE THE
GRAND DISPLAY
OF
CHRISTMAS CAKES,
OF ALL SIZES AND AT ALL PRICES.
CHOCOLATE IN BOXES
FROM ONE PENNY TO FIFTEEN SHILLINGS EACH.
TEA, COFFEE, AND COCOA
ALWAYS READY.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.
SEE
JOHN HUMBLE'S
GRAND DISPLAY OF
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S
CARDS AND BOOKS.
J. H. HAS A
GRAND SUPPLY OF TOYS,
And other Articles
SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS.
DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE.

TANTOBIE.

WILLIAM HOLMES,
POST OFFICE,

TAKES the opportunity which Christmas presents, of thanking the Inhabitants of Tantobie and vicinity for their very kind and liberal patronage, which it will be his endeavour to merit and retain. He respectfully invites an Inspection of his CARDS and FANCY GOODS, SUITABLE FOR THE SEASON.

THOMAS CALVERT,
FAMILY GROCER AND WINE MERCHANT,
POST OFFICE BUILDINGS,
MEDOMSLEY,

DESIRES to Thank his Customers and the Public generally for their liberal support in the past, and in wishing them the Compliments of the Season, he trusts, by strict attention to Business, to merit a still larger share of their esteemed orders.

TEAS, COFFEES, GROCERIES, &c.,
At Prices consistent with Excellence of Quality.
BRITISH AND FOREIGN WINES.
FINE CHESHIRE AND OTHER CHEESES.
HAMS and BACON of Prime Quality.
Finest Danish Butter and Margarine, Biscuits and Cakes, and Finest Selected Fruits.
Patient Medicines kept in Stock.
CHRISTMAS CAKES, Rich Chelsea, 6d per lb.; Chelsea Seed and Rice 8d lb.
PORT, from 1s to 5s per bottle.
SHERRY, from 1s 6d to 4s per bottle.
CLARET, from 1s 3d to 2s 6d per bottle.
BURGUNDY, from 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bottle.
INVALID WINE, 3s 9d per bottle; 2s per half-bot.
GLENDENNING'S COCA WINE,
3s 9d per botttle; 2s per half-bottle.

GRAND CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION OF
TOYS AND FANCY GOODS
AT
A. & E. HEPPELL'S,
NEWSAGENTS AND STATIONERS,
FRONT STREET, LANGLEY PARK.

Musical Boxes, Ships, Steam Engines, Soldiers, Guns, Animals, Mechanical Toys, Xmas Presents, Xmas and New-Year Cards. All are of Superior Quality, and Moderate in Price.

LANGLEY PARK.

T. H. SIMPSON,
THE WELL-KNOWN CARRIER TO
NEWCASTLE, &c.,

DESIRES it known that he has a LARGE TWO-HORSE BRAKE suitable for Wedding and other Parties. Orders receive prompt attention. Grand supply of Greengroceries, Fruit, &c. at
FRONT STREET, LANGLEY PARK.

THREE TUNS HOTEL, WITTON GILBERT.

WM. HUNTER, PROPRIETOR,
THE NOTED HOUSE OF CALL.

MR HUNTER desires at this Festive Season to tender his hearty Thanks for the extensive patronage he has received from the Inhabitants of the District during the 16 years he has occupied the above Hostelry, and in wishing them the COMPLIMENTS of the SEASON, hopes, by keeping the best of everything, to merit a Continuance of the same.

ROYAL OAK HOTEL,
MEDOMSLEY.

JAMES KELLY

DESIRES to Thank the Public of Medomsley, and his Customers generally, for their patronage during the year, and in wishing them a Jolly Xmas and a Happy New Year, he trusts that they will bear him it mind in giving their usual Xmas Orders.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES
OF FIRST-CLASS BLENDS.
THE FAMOUS "SPOT BARRED" WHISKEY.
MILD AND BITTER ALES
OF EXCELLENT QUALITY.
BASS'S BITTER ALE DRAWN FROM THE WOOD.
A FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD TABLE,
By Burroughs and Watts.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

J. DOWSON,
DRAPER AND CLOTHIER, BLACKHILL,

DESIRES to Thank the Inhabitants of Blackhill and District for their esteemed Patronage, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season. He has pleasure in offering a very choice assortment of Goods in the Latest Styles and Novelties, suitable for Christmas and New Year Presents.

FUR-CUFFED, LINED KID GLOVES.
Lace Collars, Black and Coloured Stockinette Jackets, Aprons and Handkerchiefs, Photo Frames, Handkerchief Satchets.
Feathers & Wings. Ornaments & Fancy Bows.

MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING,
MESDAMES BELL AND BINNING,
LONDON HOUSE, CONSETT,

DESIRE to return their sincere Thanks to their very many Patrons in Consett and District, and have pleasure in offering a Great Variety of Goods, in the Latest Styles and Novelties, which will be found most suitable for Christmas and New Year Presents.

Ladies' Shawls, Evening Gloves, Fans, Fancy Handkerchiefs, Ladies' Dressing Cases and handbags, Writing desks, Plaques, Flower Stands, Tea Cosies, Dolls.

Millinery, Dressmaking, Hosiery, Corsets, Gloves, &c.

CHILDREN'S MILLINERY in the Latest Style Evening Blouses in Chiffon and Silk. Choice designs.

BLACKHILL.

JANE JOHNSON,
TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
24, ELTRINGHAM STREET, BLACKHILL,

HAS pleasure in returning her sincere thanks to the inhabitants of Blackhill and Highgate, and the District generally, for their esteemed Patronage during the period—upwards of twenty years—that she has been in Business, and she heartily wishes them the Compliments of the Season. She begs to intimate that she has a Large Stock of First-Class Christmas and General Groceries, and trusts to merit the continued support of the Public.

Try the Unequalled TEAS at 1s 10d, 2s 4d, and 2s 10d. Also Coffee at 1s 4d. Choice dairies of Danish butter; fresh every week.

Noted for Good Flour, Fresh Sweet Butter, Cheese. Wensleydale and Cheshire. Fresh Sausage every Week.

CONSETT LIVERY STABLES.

MRS. CHRISTOPHER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to Return her sincere Thanks to the Gentry and Inhabitants of Consett and District for so liberally Patronising her

OLD-ESTABLISHED POSTING BUSINESS.

And hopes by prompt attention to all Orders to merit a continuance of the same.

Hearses and Mourning Coaches.
BRAKES and WAGGONETTES for Pleasure Parties, and Carriages for Weddings.

JONATHAN CHARLTON.
PROSPECT TERRACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

THANKS his Customers for their past Patronage, and invites attention to his Chrismas Display of
HARDWARE, DRAPERY,
AND CONFECTIONERY GOODS,
GRAND SHOW OF SWEETS AND TOYS.

SOUTH MOOR.

The *Consett Chronicle*, he's quick to sell,
And New Year's presents, cards and toys as well.

JOHN J. RUTHERFORD

WISHES all the residents of the Distret the Compliments of the Season.

He has in stock a large and varied assortment of New Year's Novelties. Books and all kinds of literature are delivered to order.

See his Windows.

WILLIAM DAVISON,
GROCER AND FANCY DRAPER, NEWSAGENT
STATIONER, AND CONFECTIONER,
FRONT STREET, SOUTH MOOR,

THANKS the Public for the liberal support which has been accorded to him in the past, and hopes for a continuance of public favour.

Large Assortment of XMAS CARDS and TOYS in Stock.

Home Made Bread and Tea Cakes.

Newspapers and Periodicals of every description delivered to order.

USEFUL CHRITMAS PRESENTS.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

FOR Good Value in HOME-MADE FURNITURE best SHEFFIELD CUTLERY, AND SILVER-PLATED GOODS,
TRY
JOHN LOWES,
JOHN STREET SQUARE, CONSETT
(Back of British Schools Medomsley Road)

THE House for Musical instruments by Best Makers.
PIANOS BY PFEIFFER, STRAUS, LANGE, &c.
AMERICAN ORGANS BY STERLING.
MELODEONS from 4s 6d. upwards.
A SELECTION of WALL PAPERS.
Five minutes' walk from Consett Station.

MRS HAND,
DRAPER AND MILLINER,
14, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

PRESENTS her Compliments to her numerous Friends and Customers, and Thanks them for their kind Patronage during the year. At the same time she begs to inform them that at her Establishment will be found a large assortment of PLAIN and FANCY DRAPERY, suitable for Xmas Presents, a large assortment of MILLINERY, CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, &c.

BLACK HORSE HOTEL,
CONSETT.

TOM FORSTER

RESPECTFULLY wishes his numerous Patrons the
COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON,
And assures them that he has still the
BEST OF BEER ON TAP.
SPECIALITIES:—
ARROL'S 90s BITTER AND No. 4.
BASS'S BURTON ALE.
TRY FORSTER'S PRIME STOUT,
THE BEST IN THE TOWN.

If you're doubtful what to drink, do not pause to think,
But go to THOMPSON at this Festive time;
If for woiskey you don't care, and beer you don't drink.
Taste his Ærated Waters—sparkling fine.

W. THOMPSON,
ÆRATED AND MINERAL WATER WORKS
MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT,

DESIRES to thank his Customers in Consett and surrounding District for the Patronage which he has received from them in his large and ever-increasing Business, and hopes to merit a continuance of it by supplying everything of the Best Quality.

Lemonade, Ginger Ale, & Split Sodas in Dozens. GUINNESS'S STOUT, DUBLIN STOUT, and BASS'S BURTON ALES, in Pints and ½-Pints.
Note the Trade Mark—"Game Cock."

COACH AND HORSES INN, LEADGATE.

RALPH CALVERT,

RETURNS his warmest thanks to his numerous Patrons in Leadgate and District, and wishes them a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR, and hopes by careful attention to the requirements of travellers and the Public to continue to meet with approval for his Liquors. He has a carefully-selected Stock for the Holiday Season.

FINEST SCOTCH and IRISH WHISKIES,
BEST WINES and COGNAC BRANDY.
SUPERIOR ALES and STOUT.

MINERS' ARMS, HIGHGATE.

THOMAS GAILES

HAS pleasure in thanking his numerous Friends and Patrons for their esteemed support, and wishes them A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

He has laid in a this Full-Licensed House a Special STOCK of LIQUORS for the Festive Season, and hopes to be favoured with the visits and Orders of his Customers and the Public.

WINES, WHISKIES, AND BRANDIES OF BEST QUALITY.
ALES AND STOUT ON DRAUGHT AND IN BOTTLE.
GOOD STABLING.
Tobacco and Cigars—Choice Sorts.

Read this, my boys, and then walk in,
For here is Brandy, Whisky, Rum, and Gin;
Come, taste our beer, and be in no hurry
To leave behind your old friend, MURRAY.

ROYAL HOTEL, BLACKHILL,

RICHARD MURRAY

TENDERS his Thanks to the Inhabitants of Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, Leadgate, and North-West Durham generally, for the Liberal Support that has been accorded to him during the many years that he has been prvileged to live among them, and he trusts, by Selling only Articles of the Best Quality, and being always ready to cater for their Pleasure and Refreshment, and to merit a continuance of public favour and support.

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES OF THE MOST MATURED QUALITY.
SPARKLING BITTER AND MILD ALE.
ON DRAUGHT AND IN BOTTLE.
CHAMPAGNE, WINES, CIGARS, TOBACCO,
COMMERCIAL AND BILLIARD ROOMS.
J. ROBT. BRODIE, MANAGER.

FRUIT, PLANTS, AND FLOWERS.

A. TROTTER,
FRUITERER, SEEDSMAN, AND FLORIST,
57, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to thank the Inhabitants of Blackhill and Shotley Bridge for past Patronage, and trusts, by strict attention to business, to merit a still further share of their support.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TRADE.

A Large Assortment of Choice Apples, Pears, Oranges, Pomegranates, Grapes, Dates, Figs, Bananas, Preserved Fruits, Tomatoes, &c., New Almond, Brazil, Barcelona, and Pea Nuts, Chestnuts, Walnuts, Cocoanuts, &c.

Choice Honey, Pure Sweets, Good Biscuits, and Home-Made Jam. Home Grown Vegetables. Splendid Potatoes.

Table and Window Plants in variety, for Sale or Hire. Fresh Cut Flowers, Wreaths, Crosses, Bouquets, Buttonholes, Ladies' Sprays, &c., made to Order. Good Stock of Artificial Wreaths, latest designs. Memorial Tablets, Wreath Cases, &c., Plant Pots and Garden Sundries. All at lowest possible prices and Best Quality.

Don't buy anywhere until you have inspected our windows and compared our prices.

Note the address:—
57, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

On your way, the Rose and Crown don't pass,
But come in and rest, and have a glass.

ROSE AND CROWN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

GEORGE YOUNG

TAKES the present opportunity of Thanking his Friends and Customers for their patronage and support during the long period of years which he has occupied the above well-known Hostelry. It affords him great pleasure to wish them a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year, and he begs to intimate that he has amply provided for their Refreshment and Comfort during the Festive Season.

Scotch and Irish Whiskies of the Finest Quality. Celebrated Mild and Bitter Beers. Stout in Perfection.

CHOICE WINES. CIGARS AND TOBACCO.

THOMAS JONES,
MUSIC EMPORIUM,
5, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT,

RETURNS Thanks to his numerous Customers for the patronage they have so freely bestowed on him during the past year, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season.

MUSIC.
SPECIAL PARCELS OF
MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS.

To clear out Surplus Stock, 4s Songs will be Sold for
ONE SHILLING!

COMMERCIAL HOTEL, CONSETT.

JANE REDSHAW,

RETURNS her best Thanks to her numerous Customers for the Patronage she has received during the past twelve months, and to wish them all the Compliments of the Season. It will be her endeavour in the future, as in the past, to do all in her power to give satisfaction to her Patrons.

WINES, ALES, AND SPIRITS,
All of the Best Quality, are on Sale.
There is also a commodious and well-appointed
BILLIARD ROOM.
AN ORDINARY IS SERVED DAILY.

EDWARD GRAYLEY,
BLACKSMITH, CATCHGATE,

THANKS his Patrons for past favours, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season. He is prepared to SHOE any HORSE or DONKEY in the North of England.

THOMAS ROBSON,
THE CATCHGATE NEWSAGENT,
STATIONER AND CONFECTIONER,

BEGS to direct special attention to his Splendid
CHRISTMAS STOCK OF TOYS,
CHRISTMAS CARDS AND BOOKS,
SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
BEST CHRISTMAS SHOW IN CATCHGATE.

T. WESTON AND SONS,
WHOLESALE FRUITERERS, &c.,

HAVE pleasure in directing attention to their
SPLENDID STOCK OF
CHRISTMAS HAMS,
TO BE SEEN AND PURCHASED AT THEIR PREMISES,
ANNFIELD PLACE,
AT THE BRANCH SHOP,
Near the Post Office, Annfield Plain.

MISS MAUD LITTLE,
GROCER, DRAPER, AND FANCY DEALER,
43, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,

THANKS her Customers for past favours, and hopes for a continuance of the same.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GOODS
SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

THE STAG INN,
MEDOMSLEY.

JOSEPH ROBINSON,

TAKES this opportunity which the Festive Season affords of returning Thanks to his numerous Customers, and desires to say that his endeavour will always be, by selling a good article, to merit a share of those favours which have been so liberally bestowed upon this old Hostelry for so many years.

FINEST IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.
BEST MILD AND BITTER ALES.
CHOICE CIGARS.

THE PLACE TO DINE
IS AT
THE SALISBURY COFFEE TAVERN,
MASONIC BUILDINGS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
A GOOD MEAL AT A MODERATE PRICE.
PURE CONFECTIONERY.
CELEBRATED PORK PIES, HOME MADE.
WEDDING CAKES MADE TO ORDER.
BALLS AND PARTIES CATERED FOR.

ANDREW HOULISTON,
BUILDER, JOINER, AND CABINETMAKER,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

BEGS most respectfully to return his sincere thanks to the Gentry and Inhabitants generally of Shotley Bridge and the vacinity for the very Liberal and Generous Support that he has received since he commenced business in 1854, and which he has continued to enjoy up to the present time. It has always been his aim to give satisfaction to those who have favoured him with their esteemed Orders, and he hopes for a continuance of their kind Patronage.

BEST WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.
ESTIMATES GIVEN.

NEVER GO BY
WITHOUT STOPPING
To look at GILHESPY & SON'S NEW STOCK OF BOOTS AND SHOES for Winter Wear.
GOOD AND NEAT? Should say so!
CHEAP? There is no doubt about it.
That's where

GILHESPY & SON

Get the pull. Their GENT.'S 8s 11d, 10s 6d, 12s 6d, and 15s 6d cannot be equalled. Depend upon it, at Gilhespy's you get

RELIABLE BOOTS AND SHOES,
Warranted for Elegance, Ease, and Durability, at Lowest Possible Prices.
EVENING SHOES.
Grand assortment this Week at
GILHESPY & SON'S
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

DO YOU WANT TO
LOOK SMART FOR CHRISTMAS?
THEN GO TO
M. KIRKLAND,
HAIRDRESSER,
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
Who will put you right. Every attention and courtesy given to customers.

BARRASS BROS.,
DURHAM ROAD & HIGHGATE, BLACKHILL,
BUTCHERS, GROCERS, PROVISION MERCHANTS, CONFECTIONERS, &c.,

HAVE pleasure in wishing their numerous Customers the Compliments of the Season, and thank them for their liberal patronage in the past. They have purchased a Choice Supply for the Festive Season, which includes:

BEEF:
Prime Heifer, fed by Messrs Graham, Whittonstall Hall Farm.
MUTTON:
2nd Prize Leicesters, fed by Mr Richard Murray, Elm Park; also Prime Black-Faced Wedders.
PORK:
Small Dairy-Fed.
Special Supply of Teas, Bacon, Hams, Cakes, &c., which are bound to give satisfaction.

GLORIOUS NEWS FOR XMAS.

WHAT YOU'LL WANT AND WHERE TO GET IT.

WHAT YOU'LL WANT!

Christmas comes but once a year,
'Tis then we look for right good cheer,
You all may get it, never fear.
If you Buy at KIRKUP'S.

You'll want some Currants, Raisins, Spice
To make your Christmas Pudding nice,
If you are wise, take my advice,
And Buy them all at KIRKUP'S.

Again, I know you're bound to make
Some Pastry and a Christmas Cake,
The Lady who is wide awake.
Will Buy her Flour at KIRKUP'S.

And should you have some company,
You'll want a first-class Cup of tea,
The best for Price and Quality,
Is that you'll get at KIRKUP'S.

Remember if you'd saving be,
In buying Christmas Grocery,
Just be advised at once by me.
And spend your Cash at KIRKUP'S.

XMAS HAMS.

NICE AND LEAN, NOT TOO LARGE, AND NOT TOO MUCH MONEY,
MIND THAT!

XMAS HAMS.

FRESH, WHOLESOME, WONDERFULLY CHEAP, AND JUST THE SORT CHILDREN LIKE.

OBSERVE!

If you want HIGHEST VALUE in CHRISTMAS GROCERIES and PROVISIONS, buy at

KIRKUP'S,

and the money you thus save will enable you to spend

A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE NOTED CHEAP BOOT AND SHOE SHOP.

P. H. KIRKUP,
Tea Dealer, Grocer, and Provision Merchant,
WEST STANLEY.

DELIGHT BANK, DIPTON.

ROBERT RIDDLE,
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,

DESIRES to Thank his Customers for past favours, and trusts by prompt attention to merit a continuance of the same.

REPAIRS NEATLY EXECUTED.
READY MADES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

RALPH JOHNSON,
PEACOCK INN, TANFIELD,

WISHES all his Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He offers special value in Liquors during the Holiday Season.

WINES, WHISKIES, BRANDIES, & ALES
OF A1 QUALITY.
TOBACCO AND CHOICE CIGARS.
Pay a Visit to the PEACOCK!

FORSTER'S,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY,

ARE the Oldest-Established WINE and SPIRIT DEALERS in the District.

FINE OLD IRISH WHISKY,
2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle.
SCOTCH WHISKY, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle.
FINE OLD RUM, 2s 6d per bottle.
BEST GIN, 2s 9d per bottle.

THE PLACE TO BUY
CHRISMAS TOYS,
TOBACCO AND CIGARS,
FANCY GOODS, FOOTBALLS, &c.,
IS
CORNFORTH'S,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

LOOK at the Windows, and you will find a beautiful assortment of all kinds of Things suitable for Christmas Presents.

JAMES TEASDALE,
GREENGROCER AND FRUITERER,
50, DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

HAS Pleasure in informing the Public of Blackhill and neighbourhood that he has commenced the above Business, where a Fresh Supply of

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
Will be to Hand Daily.

I like a drop of good beer,
I'm fond of a drop of good beer;
Let gentlemen fine drink their wine,
But I will stick to my beer.

BURTON HOUSE, CHURCH STREET,
CONSETT.

JOHN MCKIE

DESIRES to return thanks to his Friends and Customers for their liberal Patronage, and, in wishing them the Compliments of the Festive Season, he begs to express the hope that, by providing Articles of the very best description for their comfort and enjoyment, he may deserve and receive a continuance of that support which has been accorded him in the past.

BASS'S BURTON & OTHER MILD & BITTER ALES.
STOUT IN PERFECTION.
SPARKLING WINES. CHOICE TOBACCOS & CIGARS.

The QUEEN some day may pass this way
To have a chat with Rafferty;
Here she'll stop and stand a drop,
To make her subjects happy.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

D. RAFFERTY.

TENDERS his thanks to his Friends and Customers for the liberal support he has received from them since commencing, and desires to state that he has prepared for them Blends of the

FINEST IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES,
And WINES of the Choicest Vintages.
MILD AND BITTER ALES,
That cannot be equalled.
TOBACCOS & CIGARS of the Finest Brands.

MILLINERY ESTABLISHMENT.

MISS CLARA BRODIE,
PARK ROAD, CONSETT,

THANKS her extensive Clientele for past favours, and has pleasure in directing attention to the Latest Designs she is now showing in Ladies Millinery, and to her Stock of New Goods in other Departments.

MILLINERY HATS.
LADIES' AND GENT.'S SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GENT.'S TIES.
GENT.'S WOOLLEN SHIRTS AND HOSIERY,
Fans, Silks, Fancy Collars.
LADIES' AND GENT.'S GLOVES, UMBRELLAS, &c.
Ladies' Underclothing. Children's Costumes.

BLACK BULL INN, DIPTON.

R. BRANKSTONE

THANKS his Friends and the Public of Dipton and District for their Patronage, and wishes them a
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR.

He has pleasure in announcing that he is ready with carefully selected Blends of Wines, Brandies, and Whiskies for the Holiday Season, and also with good Ales and Stout for those who pay him a visit or send their Orders.

LIQUORS ALL OF FIRST-RATE QUALITY.
MILD TOBACCO AND CHOICE CIGARS.
GOOD STABLING.

STATION HOTEL, BLACKHILL.

GEORGE CANCICK

BEGS to thank his many Friends and the Public for their esteemed patronage, and wishes them
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR.

He has pleasure in inviting a trial of his Wines, Spirits, Ales, &c., which will be found of First-Rate Quality.

BEST BLENDS OF IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.

Mild and Bitter Ales on Draught and in Bottles. The newly formed Homing Society for Blackhill and District, meets at the Station Hotel every Saturday.

FINEST WINES, CIGARS, TOBACCOS, &c.

HATS, CAPS, TIES, AND GENTLEMEN'S HOSIERY
FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON!
FOR A
GOOD-FITTING SUIT
TRY
NICHOLSON AND SONS,
LEADGATE.

ALL GOODS MADE ON THE PREMISES
By Experienced Workmen.
FLANNELS and BLANKETS a Speciality.
A Good Stock to Choose from at all Prices.
READY-MADE CLOTHING
Of all Descriptions, and at
PRICES TO SUIT ALL PURCHASERS.

To the Fox we go for a drink of good beer,
And there we meet with grand Christmas cheer.

R. M. RUTHERFORD,
FOX INN, DIPTON,

HAS a Hearty Welcome to offer his Friends and Customers this Christmas. He hopes that the Wheels of Industry will go round better during the incoming year, and trusts that there are Better Times in store for the hardy Sons of Toil. In wishing all the Compliments of the Season, he calls attention to his

FAMOUS MILD AND BITTER ALES,
And WHISKY, which is Fit for a PRINCE.
R. M. R's SPOT-BARRED WHISKY is a treat.

THE TURF HOTEL,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

MICHAEL CASSIDY

WISHES his Friends and Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and Thanks them for their kind support during his occupancy of the above Hotel; and hopes, by being ever ready to attend to their wants and selling only Articles of the Best Quality, to merit a continuance of their Patronage.

FINEST BITTER & MILD ALES, on Draught and in Bottles. Stout in Perfection.
"DEW" and other PRIME WHISKIES.
TOBACCOS AND CIGARS.
B. MULLEN, MANAGER.

W. E. TURNER.
HIGH CLASS TAILOR AND HATTER,
LONDON HOUSE,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

IN wishing his many Friends and Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, begs to remind them that he has a choice Selection of Overcoats, Suits, Hats, Caps, Ties, Silk Kerchiefs, &c., at a price to suit all.

Note.—All Goods made on the Premises by First-Class Workmen.

Special Attraction.—Meerschaum Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Holders, Cases, Gent.'s Walking Sticks in great variety, suitable for Christmas Presents.

WILLIAM STRACHAN,
PLUMBER AND BELLHANGER,
GAS-FITTER AND TIN PLATE WORKER,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to Thank the Inhabitants of Blackhill and District for their Patronage during the long period of 37 years, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season. He hopes to merit a continuance of their esteemed Orders, which will in every case receive prompt attention.

Baths and Water Closets carefully installed.
PIPES FOR STEAM, GAS, AND WATER PURPOSES.
CHANDELIERS, BRACKETS, BRASS WORK, &c.
Bell-hanging on the most modern system.
Authorised to sell Incandescent Lamps.

GEO. PATTRICK,
CHEMIST,
5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

HAS Cured some THOUSANDS of CASES of
INDIGESTION,
LIVER COMPLAINTS,
NEURALGIA,
And all Other Kinds of Disease,
During the last Three Years, and the usual cry now is, if you ail anything—
"GO AT ONCE TO PATTRICK,
WHO WILL SOON PUT YOU RIGHT."

STAG INN, SOUTH MOOR,

RICHARD LUMLEY,

ASKS his Friends and Customers to give him a call this Christmas, and try his unrivalled
BITTER AND PALE ALES.
He wishes all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THOMAS ARMSTRONG,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
ÆRATED WATER MANUFACTURER,
BLACKHALL MILL,

TENDERS his very best thanks to his Customers for their most generous Support during the past year, and has full confidence, by selecting the CHOICEST BRANDS in the Trade, to merit a larger share of Public Patronage than ever to his steadily increasing Business.

The very Superior Quality of his Stock of IRISH and SCOTCH WHISKIES, RUMS, &c., is noted throughout the entire District.

FASHIONABLE HAIRDRESSING AND EASY SHAVING.

J. E. SCOTT,
HAIRDRESSER.
TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.

BEGS to Thank his Patrons for their past favours, and assures them of his unremitting attention in the future as in the past. He wishes all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

CORNSAY.

Smith is my Butcher, he sells prime meat,
And those who taste it says it's a treat.

J. SMITH,
BUTCHER,

HAS Bought Largely at the Christmas Sales, and can safely promise his Customers a Prime Joint of the

BEEF OF OLD ENGLAND.

He thanks the Public for their past Support, and hopes, by selling only
BEEF AND MUTTON OF THE PRIMEST QUALITY,
To merit a continuance of their Patronage.
JUICY DAIRY-FED PORK.

WHEAT SHEAF INN,
MIDLLE STREET, CONSETT.

F. A. COLTMAN,

IN returning Thanks for the Liberal Patronage he has received during the time he has conducted the above Old Established and Well-known Inn, begs to inform his Friends and Customers that nothing shall be wanting on his part to provide for the comfort of his Guests, and that he has fitted up a comfortable Smoke Room, well lighted and ventilated; and trusts by assiduous attention and always supplying Articles of the Best Quality, to merit a continuance of the Public Favour hitherto so liberally accorded to his Establishment.

FINEST MILD AND BITTER ALES from the most noted Firms, in grand condition.

FINE OLD SCOTCH WHISKIES, 2s 6d. and 3s. per bottle. Extra Special 3s 6d. to 4s. per bottle.

Speciality, very fine OLD GRAND HIGHLAND LIQUOR, guaranteed 20 years old, 5s. per bottle.

TRY COLTMAN'S SPECIAL BLEND OF FINE OLD SCOTCH WHISKIES.—Sure to give satisfaction, 3s. 6d. per bottle; 19s per gallon.

FINE OLD IRISH WHISKIES, 2s. 6d., 3s., and 3s 6d. Extra Special, 4s. and 4s 6d.; Splendid Quality.

Sole Agent in the District for the Noted CLUNY WHISKEY. Special Quotations for Cases.

HENNESSEY'S AND DUBOI'S FINE OLD SPECIAL BRANDY, 1887 Vintage.

WINES.—FINE OLD SPARKLING CHAMPAGNES AND MOSELLES, in pints & quarts.

FINE PORTS AND SHERRIES, 2s. 6d. and 3s per bottle.

FINE OLD PORT, Nine years old, 4s. 6d. per bottle.

FINE OLD SHERRY, Five years old, 3s. 6d. per bottle.

FINE OLD MADEIRA, 3s. 6d. per bottle.

FINE OLD RED & WHITE BURGUNDIES, 3s. 6d. per bottle.

FINE OLD CLARETS AND HOCKS, &c.

BILLIARDS.

New Stables open on the 24th inst.

WAITE BROTHERS,
QUEBEC,
NEWSAGENTS AND GENERAL DEALERS,

RETURN thanks to their Patrons for the Custom which has been so liberally bestowed upon them, and beg to intimate that they are offering

CHRISTMAS FRUITS, CHEESES, CAKES, &c.,
At Exceedingly Low Prices.

QUEEN VICTORIA HOTEL, LEADGATE.

F. COLLINGWOOD,

HAS pleasure in thanking his many Friends and the inhabitants of Leadgate and District for their generous Patronage, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He has obtained a High-Class Selection of Liquors for the Holiday Season, and hopes to be favoured with the Orders of his Patrons, and merit their approval.

FINEST WHISKIES AND BRANDIES,
Fully-matured and of the Best Blends.
William Younger & Co.'s EDINBURGH and INDIAN PALE and MILD ALES in Splendid Condition.
EXCELLENT WINES, TOBACCO AND CIGARS.
Good Stabling.

RAVEN HILL, BROOMHILL.

WILLIAM TEMPERLEY,

TAKES the present opportunity of returning Thanks to his Friends and Customers for their kind support in the past, and begs to assure them that it will be his honest endeavour always to merit it. He wishes them a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR,

and trusts that prosperity will attend all classes during the coming year.

Those who want Really Good Beer are invited to try his CELEBRATED MILD & BITTER ALES.
Creamy Old Scotch and Irish Whiskies.

COMMERCIAL INN, LEADGATE.

MARY H. TEMPERLEY

DESIRES to Thank the Inhabitants of Leadgate and District for their valued Patronage, and wishes them a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

BEST SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES.
SPARKLING ALES AND PRIME STOUT.
Choice Wines, Brandies, and Cigars.

CHRISTMAS
AT THE SHOPS.

CONSETT.

Christmas is with us once more, and the shopkeepers in Consett and district have made the usual preparations for supplying all demands which are incidental to the season of good cheer. The windows of the various shops are ablaze with the different articles—and they are many—which are to be purchased at Yuletide; and the tradesmen have for the most part taken infinite pains to make their business premises as attractive as possible. We give below a detailed description of the shops, with a few random comments upon the tradespeople.

The name of Mr William Aynsley has been so long before the public, and the public has been so long before Mr Aynsley, that it is almost a needless task to speak of either him or his goods. Like old wine, he needs no bush. His beer, his stout, his spirits and wines, his teas, and his groceries, are all of the best quality, and to sample them must be a pleasure to his many patrons. It may be mentioned that Mr Aynsley is Chairman of the Urban District Council, and may therefore be regarded as a man of light and leading. To serve the public both in a municipal and commercial capacity seems to be his aim, and we are sure he is successful in both departments of his endeavours. We trust he will be long spared to enjoy not merely the popularity which he has achieved as a District Councillor, but as one of the principal of our local providers.

It is well-known that a chemist does not profess to be able to "minister to a mind diseased," but Mr Thomas Milner, Chemist, Consett, can lay claim to being able to cure most of the ills that flesh is heir to. Personally a popular man, he may be relied upon to sell the best of remedies. It may be mentioned that beside this establishment in Shakespeare Street, he has also a branch shop in Front Street. His selection of washes for the farm, and the stock which is on the farm, are features to which Mr Milner has given considerable attention. In addition to his business as a chemist, he can also supply an outfit to the smoker which cannot fail to please the most fastidious devotee of "my Lady Nicotine."

One of the most enterprising tradesmen in Consett is Mr Thomas Swainston. For the long period of twenty-eight years, he has carried on the grocery business in Middle Street, keeping pace with the times, and ever striving to meet the growing needs of his many customers in all parts of North-West Durham. His name, indeed, is a household word, and his business continues to flourish by reason of the fact that customers always receive value for their money. As usual, Mr Swainston has made extensive purchases of Christmas goods, and just now, he is selling special lines at remarkably low prices. He has issued a Christmas list, a copy of which ought to be in the hands of every housewife.

The establishment of Mr Christopher Lumley, in Sherburn Terrace, is one of those places which people in quest of a good sartorial outfit should not forget to visit. It has been said that Mr Lumley adopts the motto of S.P.Q.R., which being translated means small profits and quick returns, and an excellent policy it is for any business man upon which to conduct any concern. Mr Lumley has been in Consett for over twenty years, and he is constantly adding to his extensive catalogue of patrons—a fact which speaks volumes for the manner in which this gentleman conducts his business.

Messrs James Daly and Co., of Shakespeare Street, offer something very special in the grocery line, while those who are lovers of "the crater" cannot fail to have their wants supplied. Their "Dreamland," whisky is something for which those who taste it have reason to thank the gods. The firm are also agents for Thomson's far-famed Glencaden Whisky, besides other well-known and palatable blends. They are well-known for their enterprise, and we are pleased to say that they not only deserve success, but command it.

There are few of our local tradesmen who have shown so much enterprise as Mr Joseph Murray, of Consett. Mr Murray's business is not confined exclusively to Consett. He has also shops at High Spen and Craghead, and his windows are set out with all the attractiveness which is sure to please those who are in search of a really good "window fuddle" at this time of the year. Mr Murray's stock of groceries is so varied, and at the same time of such uniform excellence, that his patrons are inclined to exclaim—"Let me provisions have, for they are of the best." Mr Murray not only makes a speciality of that which goes to make a cup of what the poet Cowper said, "cheered, but did not inebriate," but he has some very good blends of "usquebaugh," with a draught of which, another poet has said, "we can face the deevil." Mr Murray conducts his business on the best principles, and his goods have only to be known to be well patronised.

The Misses Bell & Binning, drapers, ladies' outfitters, &c., have an establishment in Middle Street which seems to be well patronised, as it really deserves to be. Both ladies are well up to their business, and those who favour them with their patronage will most certainly not be disappointed. The goods they show are of the best quality, and their taste in arrangement is sure to please the most fastidious. It is certainly a difficult task to attempt to satisfy everybody, but it may be claimed for the Misses Bell & Binning that they have never alienated any of their customers, and therefore they deserve all the success in the business which they have achieved.

We believe that we are right in saying that the grocery establishment of Mrs Almond, Front Street, is the oldest in the town, and this is indeed something to boast of. The stock is large and varied, and the fact that the customers keep to the place where they are served well is certainly indicative of the satisfaction which Mrs Almond gives to her patrons.

Mr M. Fawell, who conducts the dual business of grocer and draper, is a very busy man indeed. His goods are not only varied and attractive, but of the very best quality. It requires a man of no weak turn to be able to manage a double business, and this Mr Fawell does with advantage to himself and his customers. He has an excellent display at this Christmastide, and is sure to satisfy his patrons.

"Ask why God made the gem so small,
And why so large the granite;
'Twas because He meant mankind should place
The higher value on it."

So said the Scottish Bard, Robbie Burns. Most people have a passion for gems and jewellery. The establishment of Messrs Marshall & Sons, of the Town Hall Buildings, Consett, is well known as a repository at which the wants of all in this way can be supplied. There are rings to fit all fingers, and watches by which can be ascertained the correct time at any hour of the day. But the stock of the firm does not end with watches and rings. There is a large assortment of valuable goods which go to adorn the person of either sex.

Mr William Nichol, of Consett, is a saddler, who is well known and patronised; but he is still capable of meeting the demands of additional customers. His stock includes everything that is good and serviceable in his line, and his patrons, who have waited upon him long and frequently, never have any cause for complaint.

It has been asserted by some wag that woman came after man, and she has been after him from all time. We do not affirm that this is altogether true, for did not one of our best known poets say that "The wisest man the world e'er saw, he dearly loved the lasses!" To make what Milton has described as the "fairest of all creation, last and best of God's works," look neat and additionally attractive, she must needs make the acquaintance of a capable and artistic milliner. Such an one is to be found in Miss Clara Brodie, whose show of hats, bonnets, ribbons, and everything in this line, is sure to strike envy into the hearts of all of the feminine gender.

There is a long step from millinery to the grocery business again. But the latter is certainly as essential to the well-being of a community as the first-named. Mr Walter Willson, if not known in person to everybody, at any rate is known by repute as one of the most able and enterprising providers. Every good housewife will be desirous of making purchases at this season, and she cannot do better than visit Mr Willson's establishments, where all wants can be supplied.

Mr English, Middle Street, is a draper of credit and renown, and he has a stock from which no lady need have any difficulty in making a choice and, of course, a purchase. The establishment is replete with everything in the drapery and millinery way, and a lengthened experience in his business justifies Mr English in assuming that he will be able to suit his customers, and that his customers in turn will be suited by him.

One of the most necessary of all our private enterprises is that of the modern newsagent. People can nowadays go without their breakfast, but very few people can do without their morning newspaper. Mr J. Cockburn, of Front Street, is always to the fore in the way of supplying the demands of his many customers. His collection of Christmas cards is of the most attractive kind, and well deserve the patronage of the public gaze. In fact, to see is to purchase. A look will serve to give the impulse to buy.

Victor Hugo says that there is one time when we are invariably reminded of the fact that we are animals, and that is when we are hungry. Those who are troubled with an aching appetite should not stand upon the order of their going, but go at once to Mr J. H. Courtney's Cocoa Rooms in Havelock Street, where they will enjoy a good meal at a reasonable price.

Mr H. Cornforth, of the Town Hall Buildings, is another of our local tradesmen who has established a reputation for himself by reason of his personal urbanity, and the class of goods which he supplies to his customers. He can provide the most voracious reader with everything which is entertaining. The noble army of smokers can also find at this establishment every requisite. There are tobaccos of all brands and flavours, pipes in galore, and those who are in need of a pinch of snuff have only to step inside.

The barber was at one time not only the "scraper" of one's nascent beard, but also a phlebotomist. He was a bit of a doctor in fact, besides being what is now euphemistically called a "tonsorial artist." It is too often the case, even in modern days, though the fact is not proclaimed from the sign board, that some of them still deal pretty largely in blood. But this is not the case with Mr J. E. Scott, whose place of business is in Taylor Street. Mr Scott is what Artemus Ward might have called "a much travelled man," and while he is engaged in cutting your hair, or performing the very necessary operation of shaving you, he can recount all manner of strange incidents in a very agreeable manner. He is really just what a barber should be.

Established in the year 1856, the firm of J. W. Davison and Sons, general house furnishers and ironmongers, have during the 40 years that have elapsed, gained a high reputation as practical manufacturers and straightforward business men. They are recognised far and near as the best and cheapest house furnishers in the Northern part of the county. Every imaginable piece of furniture is obtainable from Messrs Davison's extensive premises at Consett and Stanley; and their prices will compare favourably with those of any local firms.

It is a work of supererogation to sing the praises of the pipe. Those who at times place themselves under its influence, and enjoy a certain surcease from care, are the best judges of its merits. At the shop of Mr John R. Wood, Newmarket Street, Consett, will be found a splendid assortment of every requisite for the smoker. Mr Wood has made a special display for the Christmas season, and pipes and tobaccos for all classes can be purchased, while a selection can be easily made for a suitable article for a presentation.

A good meal at a moderate price is what every human deserves at least once a day, if he is away from home. The Salisbury Coffee Tavern, which is just under the New Theatre, is a clean and well-appointed little establishment. All customers are waited upon with the utmost courtesy, and the meals are served in fine style. The firm also undertake the making of dainty wedding cakes, and the catering for balls and parties.

Miss Maud Little, grocer, draper, and fancy dealer, Sherburn Terrace, has made every preparation for her Christmas trade. Her stock is replete with every thing which is wanted for the season, and she is sure to give satisfaction to all the demands of her many customers. There are Christmas presents of all kinds, and suitable for all ages of both sexes.

A temperance bar is almost an indispensable establishment in every town. There are people who do not care to go into a public-houses to be served even with temperance beverages; but the demands of such can be well supplied at the "Jubilee Temperance Bar," in Thomas Street, over which Mrs Cannon presides so well. Refreshments of all kinds can be had at all hours, so there is no reason why a teetotaller who visits Consett should go hungry away.

"Music," says Carlyle, "is a sort of inarticulate, unfathomable speech, that leads us on to the edge of the infinite, and lets us for moments gaze therein." A wonderful definition of the power of sweet sounds, certainly. The establishment of Mr John Lowes, John Square, Consett, has been open to the public since 1873, and the shop has been a favourite resort of those who love music. There are pianos and organs by the best makers, and a splendid selection of smaller instruments at prices which should tempt everyone to introduce a little harmony into the home.

"The sweetest draught that ever was quaffed was a draught of Adam's ale." So runs the temperance ditty. There are others, however, who prefer something stronger; but whether it be beer or lemonade, ginger beer or Dublin stout, Bass's Burton or dazzling soda that is wanted, all can be supplied by Mr W. Thompson, aerated and mineral water manufacturer, Consett. Mr Thompson has a wide connection, and his drinks, which are of the purest, are known far and wide.

It is a question which has more than once been debated as to whether it is right for man to shave. The opinion of the individual, however, prevails, and he can either allow his hirsute appendages to grow to any length, or visit a good barber and have his daily or bi-weekly shave. Thus the barber is one of the indispensable men in any community. Mr G. J. Brown, hairdresser and perfumer, Park Road, has earned a reputation as a careful wielder of the razor and a fashionable haircutter, and he has a wide circle of patrons.

Is it the costume that oft proclaims the man? We think that the man is often judged by the coat he wears. This is wrong, of course, but Sansculottism finds no favour in this country. Every man has a desire to be neatly, and not gaudily dressed; and by visiting Mr John O'Connor, tailor and hosier, Front Street, all men will have their sartorial wants supplied. Mr O'Connor is a good cutter-out, and gives a perfect fit, while the materials he has on hand are beyond question as to their quality.

Of all places of business which have a perennial and fascinating interest to the fair sex, drapery establishments are admittedly *facile princeps*. Here they spend money with a prodigal freedom which very often has the effect of hastening a certain change in the pristine hue of the "thatch" which decks the heads of their husbands. Mr John G. Wade's shop in Front Street is very attractive at this season, and his stock includes a wide range of everything in the drapery line. Gentlemen who desire to be comfortably and neatly clad should give Mr Wade a trial.

Mr J. R. Brodie, Church Street, is a tailor of renown, as he deserves to be, for the large patronage which he enjoys is strikingly indicative of the success with which his business is conducted, and the satisfaction which he gives his customers. If a man looks well in a decent suit, well cut and well made, the remark applies inversely when he wears an ill-fitting garment. But as we have said, those who favour Mr Brodie with their custom have no reason to fear that their clothes will not be of the best material, and will fit with the exactness of the proverbial new kid glove.

During the comparatively short time Mr A. C. Hanning, plumber, Victoria Street, has been in business on his own account, he has executed some very difficult commissions and earned quite a name for himself. He has made a speciality of the incandescent light appliances, and he has a large stock of these on hand.

"The light of the future," whatever that may be, has not altogether superseded the primitive oil lamp; and those who are desirous of purchasing the best "Daylight" and "White Rose" oils should go to Mr T. Farnsworth, Victoria Street. Mr Farnsworth has a fine display of articles in glass, china, earthenware, and hardware. He thoroughly deserves the large amount of patronage which he has already received.

The Cash Clothing Company's display, at 30, Middle Street, is varied and attractive, and cannot fail to be inspected. There are ready-mades of all textures, and all sizes, for all sorts and conditions of men and boys. And bargains are to be had, which is something in these days.

It was Congreve who sang "Music hath charms to sooth the savage beast," and his words have been on everybody's lips since they were first uttered. Music is also one of the pleasing elements to an enjoyable Christmas, and we should advise all those who want to be supplied in this way to visit Mr Thomas Jones's music emporium in Church Street. The very latest, up-to-datest piece of music can be had there; and as family parties are sure to be given at this season, those in want of music cannot do better than pay a visit to Mr Jones's establishment.

Mr H. P. Tyler, bootmaker, Consett and Blackhill, has at both his establishments a splendid selection of boots, shoes, slippers, &c., for all classes. Quality and cheapness are the dual considerations which ever influence buyers, and those who are in need of a good pair of boots, whether they be for the hard weather or for the fine, cannot do better than visit Mr Tyler.

Mr W. E. Turner, the zealous and energetic proprietor of the London House, is at all times willing to suit his patrons, and we can assert that he spares no pains to this end. There is here on show and sale an interesting collection of every conceivable material, which are warranted to make up and wear well. There is also a tobacconist department to the business, where all can have their every want supplied. Ladies who are desirous of making a suitable present to their brothers and others can here find the best of everything from which to make a selection.

Mr W. Suddes, joiner, coach-builder, and undertaker, is another of our local tradesmen who may be expected to carry out all commissions with which he may be entrusted. He is a skilful craftsman, and turns out nothing but the best, and therefore the most satisfactory work. Mr Suddes is a gentleman in whom the public have every confidence.

"Buy your caller herrin," and indeed all your fish, from Mr Thomas Crick, for you can depend upon the goods being a little more fresh than his own jokes. He knows how and where to buy the best of the articles in which he deals, and he knows also how to gain and keep the favour of his customers.

Mr R. C. Foster's Irish Linen Warehouse is always a place full of interest to ladies, for here they may purchase the best linen that can be produced. Mr Foster is a good business man, and deserves well of his patrons. He makes a speciality of his entire business, and the various departments are full of the choicest goods, including silk squares, mufflers, aprons, pinafores, &c., which have been specially bought for the Christmas sale.

It is almost a needless task to speak of the goods which are sold by Mr Nathan Elsdon. His ales and spirits have to be sampled first before being used; and the first taste is by no means the last. His large and ever-increasing circle of customers, and the uniformly favourable manner in which they speak of Mr Elsdon and his goods are sufficient evidences of the satisfaction with which his condiments are received by the public. If you wish to entertain your friends this Christmas, read his advertisement and send him an order.

Miss F. Cooke's establishment in Victoria Street is one of those places which must be a delight to mothers and others to visit. Miss Cooke is a young lady of a good business turn, and has the happy knack of being able to please all those who favour her with their custom. There is everything here in the way of female outfit, and all the goods are arranged in a style which reflects Miss Cooke's good taste.

Mr J. Siddle, the old established decorator, of Newmarket Street, maintains his position as a progressive tradesman, and his stock of paper-hangings and artists' materials is one of the largest and best assorted in the district.

Mr G. D. Powell is one of our most respected tradesmen, and a gentleman who takes an enthusiastic interest in everything which concerns the public weal. At his premises in Park Road, where a good business is carried on, Mr Powell at this season is offering a special lot of hams for the Christmas trade.

Mr G. T. Robson, of the Victoria Dairy, receives fresh milk twice daily. His cream and butter are famous for richness, and are welcomed in every household.

Mr Joseph Whitehead, corn miller and flour dealer, should be patronised by all farmers, for his stock of feeding stuffs is large and varied.

Mr A. Shield, fruiterer and greengrocer, Consett and Blackhill, is again offering at both places of business an excellent supply of the finest fruits for the Christmas season, and no one can look at his windows without having a desire to buy. Mr Shield has fresh supplies of fruit and vegetables daily.

Mr Archibald Ramsden, of the Town Hall Buildings, has one of the most commodious little shops in Consett, and here is to be seen a fine collection of musical instruments of all shapes and makes. Mr G. A. Williams, the genial manager, is ever willing to show these to his customers, and the capabilities of all the instruments which he has for sale.

Mrs Christopher, of the Consett Livery Stables, is always willing to please her customers in the way of providing them with a comfortable conveyance, a good steed, and a careful driver. Joe sleeps on the spot with one eye always open, and there is always a trip ready, no matter the hour or the weather.

We are back again to Æsculapius, and have much pleasure in introducing our readers to another knight of the pestle in the person of Mr Patrick, of Front Street. Of this gentleman's geniality we need not speak here. He is well known to the town, and the town to him. He sells the best of medicines, and can be entrusted to compound the most difficult of prescriptions.

Fruit is one of the constituents of Christmas cheer; indeed, without it, Christmas would be almost nothing. Mr Hewitt's establishment under the Town Hall is a place which may be visited with advantage. In fact, a look at the choice and luscious fruit in the window is quite enough to excite a moistening of the palate. Mr Hewitt's shop is certain to be bombarded with customers at this season.

It is approaching half-a-century since the late Mr John Collinson established the present boot-making establishment in Middle Street, and this fact is sufficient attestation of the success with which it has been managed. "Time but the impression deeper makes," even when we regard the age of a firm itself. His family are to be congratulated upon the success which has attended them in their business, and we hope they will continue to have the support which they so fully deserve.

Another boot emporium which is very prominent in the same street is that of Messrs Gillespy and Son. Here there are countless pairs of good serviceable boots only awaiting for feet to be put into them. The exterior of the shop alone will suffice to show that Messrs Gillespy can satisfy customers of every station with feet of any dimensions.

Mr Geo. Wade, Junr., ironmonger, has established for himself a good business, and this by dint of considerable perseverance and by steady application to his work. His premises in Front Street are replete with everything that is useful in the ironmongery way. Attention is specially drawn to his excellent and extensive stock of cutlery, consisting of pocket and table knives, forks, scissors, &c. He is also a dealer in paints and enamels which the amateur decorator can use to advantage.

"The Working Mans' Butcher" is the title which Mr William Lee of Newmarket Street, proudly claims as his own, and for the benefit of the horny handed sons of labour, their wives, and families he has obtained as Christmas cheer a grand stock of beef and mutton, dairy-fed pork, prime geese, turkeys, and ducks at prices which defy competition.

Mr Edward Lockey, butcher, is one of the best known men in his trade in the town, and his place of business is well patronised all the year round. At this season of the year the crowd of customers who favour Mr Lockey with their patronage should be especially large. This tradesman has exerted himself as usual to be "upsides" with his rivals in the matter of display, which includes the prize heifer at Benfieldside Auction Mart, fed by Mr Drummond, bullock from Mr J. Hunter, Medomsley; two heifers from Mr J. E. Nicholson, Lanchester, and Mr Bushby, Hole Row; first prize hoggs, from Mr Cowen and Mr Drummond, Kiln Pit Hill, besides a fine lot of dairy-fed pork.

Genial Robert Hand has purchased, and slain, for the benefit of his customers, the champion heifer at the Benfieldside Mart, together with a fine bullock, fed by Mr Foster Hall, of Toft Gate; dairy fed pork from Mr Rawes, Middle Heads; and other heifers and wethers. Mr Hand does an enormous trade weekly, but he hopes to break the record this week. His display is without doubt one of the finest in the district.

Mr J. Wilson, of Newmarket Street, is not connected with the turf, though the name of the street in which he resides is suggestive otherwise. As a tradesman, Mr Wilson always endeavours to give good value for money, and to do so courteously. Hence the success which he has attained. Fresh country eggs and butter are a speciality at Mr Wilson's establishment.

Mr G. Wade, butcher, does not confine his operations to Consett, for he has shops at South Shields and East Boldon. Having been in business for nearly forty years, it may be taken for granted that he is well known to the public. He has made a good selection for the Christmas season, including shorthorn steers from the Earl of Durham and the Marquis of Londonderry, heifers from the Marquis of Londonderry, and polled Angus bullocks from Col. Briggs, Hylton Castle, and other noted feeders; sheep from the Marquis of Londonderry and wedders from Mr Joseph Angus, Healeyfield, and others; real dairy-fed pork from Mrs Glendenning, Rowley. The display made by Mr Wade is quite up to the best he has ever had.

Mr William Milburn, of Havelock Street, believes that Christmas would be a dismal failure in this year of Jubilee, were it not a sufficiency of Englishmen's Yuletide delicacy; and has taken care, by obtaining a large supply of geese, to prevent the possibility of an unhappy Christmas to any of his Customers.

Owing to the great increase in business, Mr John Morgan, the well-known hardware dealer, has found himself compelled to remove during the Jubilee Year, from Victoria Street to more commodious premises in Harvey Street, where he is now carrying on a large and ever-increasing trade in Rugs, Hardware, China, Earthenware, and Glasses. Always courteous and upright, Mr Morgan is a man well deserving of success, and we trust that the New Year will prove an even more prosperous one in his career than the one now so near its close has been.

It is well-known that "Merry nights make sad mornings," and at this season of festivity it will be well to bear in mind that Mr Jabez Swindale, chemist and druggist, with shops at Blackhill, Consett, and Leadgate, is able to cure all the ills consequent upon excessive enjoyment. Mr Swindale's speedy specific for asthma and bronchitis is sold in bottles for one shilling each. Those who have tested the specific say that it is worth a guinea a bottle.

Messrs Joseph Marshall and Son, of Shakespeare Street and Park Road have a splendid selection of goods suitable for Christmas or New Year presents. Messrs Marshall have long held the reputation of being up-to-date; but, if one may venture an opinion, they are even more advanced now than ever before, and instead of being merely up-to-date, are a long way ahead of the times. The young men of Consett who are contemplating entering the bonds of holy matrimony will be aware that a handsome present is given by this popular firm to each purchaser of one of their noted wedding rings.

Vegetarianism does not seem to thrive in Consett. The tenets of this sect, we fear, do not go down with the same relish as good old English beef and mutton, if we may judge from the number of butchers in the town. Amongst this class—not the vegetarians, but the butchers—is to be mentioned the name of Mr H. Nicholson, of Middle Street, whose excellent stock for the Christmas season comprises one prize polled ox from the Dublin Show and one select polled ox, bred by Mr T. Stephenson, Blanchland, together with sheep and dairy fed pork of the best quality.

Mr J. Towns is one of the foremost tradesmen in North-West Durham, having business premises in Middle Street and Trafalgar Street of the famous town which is recognised as the capital of the parliamentary division. Mr Towns has purchased for the Christmas season prime beef from Mr John Reed, of Carlisle; prime mutton from Mr W. J. Stephenson, Espershields; and pork, equal to any ever sold in Consett, from Mr A. Cameron.

BLACKHILL.

Messrs Barras Brothers, Blackhill, have an extensive business as butchers, grocers, provision merchants, confectioners, &c.—a remarkable combination, certainly, and one which requires no mean business capacity to conduct with success. But in all departments they have an admirable show, and at this season especially have for sale special goods, which are well selected, and of the best quality.

One of the most important branches in the building trade is that of plumber and gasfitter, for upon the style in which he performs his work depends the health of the community. This is a fact to which prominence is now largely given by experts in hygiene. Mr William Strachan, plumber, gasfitter, bell-hanger, &c., Durham Road, is a tradesman who is well known for the thorough manner in which he executes all the commissions with which he is entrusted. He has a large stock of sanitary appliances.

"My beautiful flowers, my lovely flowers," were the last words uttered by the German poet, Richter; and while poets have exaggerated most things of which they have sung, in no instance have the delights of fair Flora's treasures been unduly heightened. Mr A. Trotter, fruiterer, seedsman, florist, &c., has a fine collection of plants, which should grace the Christmas dinner table. His stock also includes an almost limitless supply of fruits of the most tempting kinds, nuts, honey, and home-made jam, and all manner of toothsome dainties which are suggestive of the Christmas season.

The fish and poulterers' establishments are sure to be invaded during the next two or three days by armies of good wives, and good husbands, too, who are desirous of obtaining something to keep the goose company on the Christmas dinner table. Mr Swainston, fish, ice, and rabbit dealer, Derwent Street, is prepared to supply all orders which may be put before him. Mr Swainston has earned a good reputation in his business, and that reputation is sure to be maintained this Christmas.

Mr W. Richardson, who presides over the well-known establishment, yclept Bessemer House, is regarded as a gentleman who knows his business well. He has a large and varied stock of drapery and hosiery, and at this season in particular, he is able to place before the public a wide assortment of articles suitable for presentation.

Mr A. E. Turner is the energetic head of the Albion House, which is a well-known drapery emporium in Blackhill. Mr Turner has an excellent connection, and his goods are highly spoken of. The millinery department is ably conducted by Mrs Muir, who is known to be a lady who has the gift of being able to give every satisfaction to her lady patrons.

For prime English beef and mutton, Mr W. B. Foggon is the man to serve you. Mr Foggon has watched the animals which have passed through the ring at the recent fat stock sales, and as he is an excellent judge, he may be expected to buy nothing but the very best. Customers, therefore, know that when they make their purchases at this establishment, they are not being put off with inferior stuff.

There is nothing succeeds like success. It is a fact as old and as indubitable as the hills themselves. The secret of the success which has been recently gained by Mr J. L. Brodie, tailor, is the success which he has gained in the past. This gentleman has built up an excellent connection, and the quality of the material supplied in making up the neat garments, goes far to make the reputation which Mr Brodie has earned. This is the shop to be "suited"—in a double sense of course, for how can one be said to be suited with a suit which does not really suit a suitor—or any other man.

Mr E. J. Sloane is known far and wide as a singer and musician of exceptionable ability. His labours as a musical teacher have met with hearty recognition by the public of the district, and the numbers of pupils on his books is in itself a high tribute to Mr Sloane's abilities. Mr Edward Sloane, senr., the well-known member of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, in addition to his arduous duties as postmaster, carries on business as music dealer on premises adjoining the North-Eastern Bank.

Mr Lowes again appeals with confidence to his numerous patrons to see the fine display of Christmas beef, mutton, and pork, which he has on show. Having already had the opportunity of viewing his well-filled window, we assure Mr Lowes and the public that his present display is superior to that of any previous yuletide.

Mr James Palliser, of Park Road, has an establishment of which many business men would be proud. Personally, Mr Palliser, besides selling the best of everything, is a well-informed man, and gives expression to his opinions in a manner at once fearless and intelligible. He has an excellent stock of grocery goods, and one cannot purchase from him with anything of a fear that he will not get value for his money.

Mrs Johnson is a lady who conducts her business on good sound business principles. She has been before the public for a great number of years, and has earned a good reputation for fair dealing and supplying her customers with the best quality of goods. She has a large stock, and a good patronage.

Mr Dowson, draper, Derwent Street, has a splendid array of drapery goods, and he meets with a measure of public patronage which is thoroughly well deserved. Mr Dowson is also one of those who takes an active interest in public affairs, and frequently his voice is raised and his opinions listened to with marked respect. He can be thoroughly relied upon to sell nothing but what is genuine and good.

Mr G. J. Robinson is active and energetic alike in the performance of the duties which affect himself and also those which the public have deputed him to perform. His establishment in Derwent Street is patronised to a large extent, and as the customers are good to Mr Robinson, so is Mr Robinson good to the customers.

The name of Brodie is almost a household word in this district, and the family in their respective branches have gained for themselves a name for the excellence of their goods second to none in the district. The premises recently erected near the new Primitive Methodist Chapel are now occupied by Mrs Emma Brodie, who has opened the place for the sale of baby linen, ladies' underclothing, men's hosiery, &c. The windows present a most attractive appearance, being stocked with an immense assortment of plain and fancy articles suitable for presentation. The shop is one of the best in the district, everything being arranged with artistic taste, and Mrs Brodie is certain to obtain her share of public support this Christmastide.

Messrs Philipson, grocers, Blackhill, have established for themselves an enviable reputation. The stock of groceries is large and varied, and housewives will find all their wants supplied here. The firm has a good name, not only for their personal courtesy, but for the quality of the articles which they deal in. If the ingredients for the Christmas pudding have not yet been purchased, good wives cannot be better served than by waiting upon Messrs Philipson.

LEADGATE.

There is an old axiom, not the less true because it is old, to the effect that "A respectable appearance is a good recommendation. Messrs Nicholson and Sons, Leadgate, can provide for all in the way of making them look respectable. They have a splendid stock of ready-made clothing, while a staff of "knights of the needle" employed here are competent to make a suit of clothes in which the Prince of Wales himself would look handsome.

Mr Nicholas Parker, stationer, newsagent, and general dealer, invites all parents to bring their children too look at his stock of toys, dolls, &c. If they accept of this invitation, they will please the youngsters immensley, and even the old hands themselves will not be able to look upon Mr Parker's splendid stock with indifference. There is also to be seen here a fine assortment of the latest designs in Christmas and New Year cards, besides a host of other articles suitable for seasonable gifts.

The establishment of A. Atkinson, fruiterer, Front Street, is one of those places which a person cannot pass without experiencing a well-known moisture in the mouth. This lady has again on hand a fine stock of fresh fruits and vegetables. Those who intend to have a merry Christmas and would like to give the New Year a hearty welcome should go and make a purchase at the above establishment.

Mr Edward Todd conducts the double business of butcher and grocer, with an amount of success which goes far to indicate his aptness for business. His establishment is sure to be well patronised at this season, for he has prepared himself to meet the demands of his customers by purchasing largely at the auction marts. He has on sale some prime beef and mutton, which is certain to be bought up for the Christmas dinner.

Mr R. Robson, painter and glazier, is known to be a tradesmen who gives satisfaction to his customers, and who can be expected to carry out all the work with which he is entrusted. Mr Robson has also in stock a number of beautiful wreaths and crosses.

Perhaps there is no part of a lady's outfit about which the fair sex are so punctilious as that article, be it hat or be it bonnet, which decks her head. A milliner to be successful must needs be a person of good taste. And such an one will be found in Miss P. Keenleyside, of Front Street. Miss Keenleyside is able to shew all the latest designs.

Mr M. D. Greener, grocer and butcher, has been in business for more than twenty years, and may therefore be relied upon to sell nothing but the best of meat. For the Christmas season he has a display which is highly creditable to his good judgment in securing at the fat stock sales the likeliest of animals which can be divided among his customers, and which also cannot fail to give satisfaction to those who visit his shop at this time. There is a fine selection of prime beef and mutton and dairy-fed pork.

Mr J. F. Kinleside, of Leadgate Post Office, is a courteous and obliging official, as local pressmen can attest. Mr Kinleside is a keen sportsman, and quite enjoyed the recent battleroyal between the wearers of the green and Frank Foreman's red-shirted youths. Mr Kinleside's assortment of pipes, pouches, tobaccos, and cigars is large and well displayed. His cigars are as famous as the Park football team of Northern League renown.

Fruits and vegetables galore are on hand at Mr A. Garbutt's handsome premises in Front Street, and, as a Christmas speciality, the worthy proprietor has arranged for a dainty supply of rabbits during the holidays.

Mr W. Whitfield, flour dealer and provision merchant, presents one of the best filled windows in the town for public view and criticism. Mr Whitfield is widely known as a hardworking, up-to-date, tradesman, and his goods are famed for the excellence of their quality.

Messrs Urwin and Co., wholesale potato merchants, sell large quantities of the most favourite of all the products of the vegetable kingdom. The Christmas dinner table would be a poor one without a good show of smoking potatoes, and those who wish for the best quality should patronise Messrs Urwin, who are also general dealers in feeding stuffs.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Mr Andrew Houliston, builder, joiner, and cabinet maker, Shotley Bridge, has been in business since the year '54, and in the interval has sought, and with complete success, to please his customers. He has enjoyed the patronage of all classes, but the social status of his customer has not been considered by him. To all alike he has given uniform satisfaction, and as such he is deserving of the confidence which is so generally reposed in him.

We are pleased to hear that the partnership which was so happily cemented between Mr Nicholas Brown and his Son twelve months' ago, has had most gratifying results. Mr Brown's business has been established nearly half a century, and no one is more worthily esteemed in the neighbourhood. As saddle and harness makers the firm has gained a high reputation for good workmanship, and year after year the business has been growing. All orders are executed with dispatch, and in a manner which reflects great credit upon the honoured head of the firm, and his son, who bids fair to follow in the footsteps of his father.

One of the most attractive looking shops in this place is unquestionably that of Mr W. Wright's, grocer and confectioner. The shop always looks bright and fresh, and exceptionally so just now, when it is stocked with good things for the festive season. You can't do wrong by going to Wright's. Customers are treated with every courtesy, and we are pleased to know that Mr and Mrs Wright are being rewarded for their perseverance by a constantly increasing trade.

The old firm of Wheatley's (butcher) still continues, and is creditably carried on by Mr Wm. Wheatley, who keeps up the reputation gained many years ago. This festive season Mr Wheatley will have his customary show of good old English beef of A 1 quality, having made purchases of some of the best cattle money can buy at the recent fat stock sales.

Mr Stephen Leslie is well known to be one of the most affable and obliging of men, who knows the value of civility and a kindly act. He is all this, besides being a capable business man, who can be entrusted to execute commissions with fidelity. He has a large stock of wall papers which will add a charm to any domicile, be it peer's or peasant's, and his varied assortment of picture frames enables him to undertake all kinds of work in this way.

It has been remarked that the calling of plumber has now reached a height which is almost on a level with the learned professions. Mr Leybourne Urwin, who has also branches at Annfield Plain and Stanley, not only takes a very lively interest in his work, but is a tradesman in whom the most implicit confidence can be placed. He is a dealer in the incandescent light appliances, of which he has a large stock. He can also supply the fittings for Ascetylene gas. The show rooms are well worth a visit.

WATERHOUSES.

Mr Thomas James, milliner and draper, is a business man who is widely respected in the district. At this season his well-known premises are ablaze with Christmas goods, and here Santa Claus himself might stop to replenish his great wallet. Mr James is also a gentlemen's outfitter, and deals in every thing in this line.

Of diversity in Christmas cards, like the making of books, there is no end; and Mr J. McCallum, of New House Road, has such a large collection of these that it will be difficult to make a choice from them. There are also toys for the children, and suitable presents for those who are older, including pipes and pouches in great variety. Mr McCallum's shop is sure to be a centre of attraction during the Xmas season.

Mr Geo. T. Storey, joiner, cartwright, general smith, &c., who has also a place of business at Cornsay Colliery must be a man of many parts, to be able to conduct so successfully the business of which he is the head. From the way in which he has carried on his work in the past, he has every justification for expecting a continuance of those favours so freely bestowed upon him during the past year.

QUEBEC.

Man does not live by bread alone; he must needs have a taste of those quadrupeds who inhabit the meadow and pasture land for some time. We have heard a great deal about the beef of old England, but choice mutton is also very generally pleasing to English palates. Mr James Davis, head of the butchering department of the Esh Co-operative Stores, is in a position to supply both beef and mutton, and has a splendid display at this season, which is sure to be longingly gazed upon by all good housewives in the district.

We are often reminded that to be healthy, we must look after the comfort of our feet. Mrs A. Ward, boot and shoe manufacturer, has a large and varied assortment of boots of all sizes and at all prices. Mrs Ward has made a special Christmas display, which is sure to prove attractive to residents in the district.

Every little village can now boast of an establishment at which can be purchased the newspapers which every body now must have. Waite Brothers are the local newsagents, and are never to be found wanting. Their ordinary stock embraces fruits, cheeses, cakes, &c., which are all suitable for the Christmas season.

ESH WINNING.

Juveniles all over the kingdom are already dreaming of Santa Claus, and awaiting his usual visit with great expectancy. Mr J. Hammell, fancy goods dealer, has a brilliant array of goods, which are sure to be in demand at this season. There is also a fine collection of glass, china, and earthenware goods.

We have before remarked that fruit is one of the very essential constituents to a Merry Christmas. There are some of the dishes on the dinner table which some people may not care for, but there are none who will leave the fruit untouched. Mr John Patterson, fruiterer and tea dealer, has placed himself in the position of being able to supply all the wants of his neighbourhood in his particular line.

CASTLESIDE.

Castleside, it is well known, is not the most insignificant place in ahe universe. Besides its physical attractions, it contains a few hard-headed business people. One of these is Mr T. J. Muse, draper and provision merchant, &c. Mr Muse has been in business since 1868, and during all these years has given every satisfaction to his customers. In all departments of his establishment he has a wide range of goods of the best quality, many of which are certain to change hands at this season.

DIPTON.

Mr J. A. Castle, draper, Front Street, has kept pace with his brethren in other places, and made a special Christmas display. The articles, which are of wide range, and embrace almost everything in the drapery and fancy goods line, are very tastefully arranged. The wants of all mothers and daughters and others in the neighbourhood can be supplied here.

Mr Geo. Murray, grocer, has laid in a special stock of the best groceries for the Christmas season. Mr Murray is enterprising all the year round, and has a pretty good connection, being known for the quality of his goods; but at this season he has really excelled himself. His goods embrace a wide range, but whether as grocer or baker, bootmaker or purveyor, he is able at all times to meet the most exacting demands of his customers. Mr Murray has also a few blends of good old Scotch and Irish whiskies, wines, &c.

Mr Fred Hodgson keeps the post office at Dipton, while he is also a hair-dresser and tobacconist. Whether Mr Hodgson, as a servant of Her Majesty, be looking after the despatch and delivery of the letters which pass through his shop, or performing the functions of the tonsorial artist, or dispensing to his customers their orders for the "fragrant weed," he gives satisfaction. He has made an interesting display of his goods for Christmastide.

A good understanding is always desirable; so are a pair of good understandings. Those who patronise Mr Robert Riddle, of Delight Bank, either for a new pair of boots or for repairs, will have no reason for dissatisfaction either at the manner in which the work is done, or the price charged.

Mr Matty Cunningham, the celebrated local footballer, continues to do a thriving trade as confectioner. During the year, Matthew has taken unto himself a wife, and both he and Mrs Cunningham have been kept busy manufacturing suitable eatables for this season of festivity.

Mr George Storey believes in keeping the festive season in the oldfashioned way, with plenty of roast beef, plum pudding, and beer on the tables, and the public of Dipton, on viewing his windows this week-end will find that the stock of beef he offers for sale is larger than on any previous occasion. He has sufficient good English beef to supply the whole of the inhabitants of Dipton, and requests that that fact will be remembered.

Mr John Coulthard appeals once more to the masses of the people, and as in former years, his appeal will doubtless meet with a splendid response. As a ready-made clothier, Mr Coulthard does an excellent business; and this Xmastide he expects to dispose of several hundred suits. Coulthard's prices are always reasonable.

LANCHESTER.

Lanchester, as far as population is concerned, has to give way to many neighbouring places, but it possesses a significance as being an important centre of which contiguous towns cannot boast. There are a few enterprising shopkeepers in the village, who study, and not without success, to give their customers as good value for their money as they would be able to secure in the proud city of Durham. Amongst the list of these tradespeople is Mr J. S. Brydson, provision dealer, whose place is known as the "Bargain Hive," and who has a well-selected stock of groceries.

Mr R. Jackson, china merchant and oil dealer, is another of the class of tradesmen to whom reference has just been made. It is well known that there is nothing in the household so uncertain as the family china which is in daily use, and therefore it is well to be able to replenish the loss without any undue delay. Lanchester people have Mr Jackson's establishment at their own doors, where they can make their purchases from a capital stock. Mr Jackson also undertakes horse-shoeing and general jobbing blacksmith work. His place of business is not shaded by a spreading chestnut tree, but he is just as able to do his work without such an obvious hindrance.

Mrs Fairbank's establishment is one which might be envied by more pretentious business people in a more pretentious place than Lanchester. As a milliner and draper, this lady carries on a splendid business, and the taste which she displays, the satisfaction which she invariably gives to her customers, together with her characteristic courtesy, all tend to account for the good name which has been earned by this establishment. The windows of Mrs Fairbank's shop, which are tastefully set with Christmas cards and toys, are sure to be regarded with no small modicum of public interest at this season.

Mr Reed invites the public of Lanchester to pay a visit to his place of business, and they will get value for their money. We have no doubt those who patronise Mr Reed will return with the consciousness that they have made a good bargain. There is to be had daily or weekly or monthly, or indeed at all times and in all seasons, a good supply of newspapers, while the grocery department is replete with everything which is to be found in the shop of a first-class provisioner.

John Walburn, butcher, has risen to the occasion, and his patrons will again find his shop decorated with choice cuts of best beef and mutton. Mr Walburn has kept his weather eye open, and been swift to take advantage of some good animals as they passed before the auctioneer. Nor has he been slow to give the usual nods to the gentlemen who wielded the hammer at the various marts which he visited, for Mr Walburn knows a good thing when he sees it, and is willing to pay a good price for the sake of securing that good thing for his customers. The Christmas show is decidedly a creditable one, embracing prime beef and mutton, and dairy-fed pork.

Mr Thomas Palliser appeared at the recent Local Government Board inquiry held at Lanchester, and gave some startling evidence. Not content with the sensation he then created, he is now breaking the record so far as the ancient village is concerned, by his grand display of prime English beef and mutton. Mr Palliser is a native of Lanchester, and has dwelt all his lifetime there. He is justly respected by the inhabitants, and gets a good share of their patronage.

Amongst the list of flourishing tradesmen of Lanchester is Mr J. Walton, family grocer, whose establishment should be visited at this season. There is a splendid Christmas display, embracing hams, cheeses, raisins, currants, spices, &c. In addition to an excellent stock of general groceries, Mr Walton has a fine stock of that which makes the "cup that cheers but does not inebriate." The people of Lanchester need have no fear in placing their orders with Mr Walton. He is ever ready to consult the convenience and tastes of his customers.

MEDOMSLEY.

As a joiner and cartwright, Mr Robert Moffitt is well known in Medomsley and district, and those who give him an order for a new cart, or take the old one for repairs, are never under the necessity of "haggling" over the cost. Mr Moffitt is a thorough worker, and when he undertakes a job, he does it in no half-hearted manner. He can be relied upon at all times.

Mr Calvert, grocer and provision merchant, and his family are known over an extensive area, and as highly respected as they are widely known. Mr Calvert has been in business for a great many years, and has, by straightforward dealing, built for himself a name, of which any person might well be proud.

LANGLEY PARK.

Mr George Ritchie, grocer and draper, also fills the somewhat exacting office of Postmaster, and is a highly popular gentleman. He has a large stock in his establishment, embracing a wide range not only in the grocery, but also the drapery line. He is making a special show for Christmas time, as will be seen from his windows.

The nobility, gentry, and the searchers for black diamonds resident in this locality, all patronise Mr James R Hunter for their Christmas beef, and in so doing, they act very wisely, for, as his advertisement announces, Mr Hunter's meat is second to none in the county. He has mercilessly slaughtered several splendid Cumberland porkers for consumption this Yuletide, and has purchased a number of fine Shorthorn bullocks, fed by the Consett Iron Company.

Messrs A. and E. Heppell are enterprising newsagents, stationers, &c., and are really the disseminators of the news of the world in the place—that, is, of course, by the promptitude and punctuality with which they attend to the news parcels. They have been successful in providing a Christmas display which is certain to prove a source of attraction to the whole neighbourhood. The arrangement of the goods on show and sale reflects the great taste which Messrs Heppell have shewn in the work, and we have no doubt they will have a good trade this Christmas.

Mr T. H. Simpson is a carrier of credit and renown, and about whom everybody in the neighbourhood has a good word to say. He can be trusted with any message or any parcel, he never fails to carry out his instructions; and for these and other good reasons he has earned much popularity.

TANTOBIE.

Mr W. Holmes, the esteemed Postmaster, is a member of the Tanfield Urban Council, and as the reports which appear from time to time in our columns will show, he is by no means a silent member. As in former years, Mr Holmes again displays an attractive assortment of Christmas cards and seasonable literature, with sweets and toys likely to please the youngsters.

IVESTON.

Mr Joseph Cheeseman, who conducts an ever-increasing business, as grocer and provision merchant, has an excellent stock of everything which is required for the making of Christmas pudding, and even other favourite compounds which are served all the year round. He has also a fine selection of seasonable fruits which are sure to be purchased within the next few days.

BLACKHALL MILL.

Mr Thomas Armstrong is perhaps one of the best known men in Blackhall Mill, and he keeps a good "shot in the locker." He makes and sells aerated waters, while he can also supply his customers with good samples, in any quantities, of Scottish and Irish whiskies, rums, &c. He does a good trade, and is a thriving business man. At this season he is specially able to give good value to his customers. Those who once try him do not fail to patronise him a second time.

BURNHOPE.

Mr Wm. Gray, grocer and newsagent, is a gentleman who is widely known and respected. He is a Guardian for Burnhope, and attends to the duties which the ratepayers have thus deputed him to perform with remarkable fidelity. As a tradesman, he is highly successful, and as he has made special preparations for the Xmas season, his patrons will no doubt be inspecting his stock and purchasing freely at this season.

SOUTH MOOR.

Mr Davison, newsagent, grocer, &c., has beaten all previous efforts this Yuletide in his magnificent collection of Christmas cards, toys, and literature. The necessaries for the manufacture of the Yule cake and Christmas pudding may also be obtained from Mr Davison.

Mr Rutherford, newsagent, has built up a large and prosperous business by fair dealing and courtesy. He sells the *Consett Chronicle*, and other literature. Santa Claus, on visiting Mr Rutherford's establishment, will have no difficulty in obtaining the necessaries with which to fill the stockings of the children on Christmas Eve.

Mr George Oxley carries on a prosperous butchering business in the Front Street. His window is attractively decorated just now, and the show of prime beef, &c., is very fine.

Near to the South Moor Post Office is the butchering business presided over by Mr Trotter, who has, as usual, got a splendid stock of geese for disposal this Yuletide. Mr Trotter is an ardent Wesleyan, but he will probably be too busy on Christmas Eve to join with the Chapel choir in the singing of Christmas carols.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.

Mr Cuthbert Green, grocer, Witton Gilbert, and Hamsterley Colliery, has risen to the occasion with characteristic enterprise, and we have pleasure in calling attention to his advertisement announcing the opening of a third establishment at Hamsterley Colliery. Mr Green has a large and varied stock, and everything that he sells is of the best quality. He gives every satisfaction to his customers, and this is the best indication of the success which attends his business.

WHITE-LE-HEAD.

The footballers of Tantobie and White-le-Head claim that half their victories are due entirely to the fact that they wear Fawcett's famous boots, and a large portion of the inhabitants of these rising villages are regularly shod in boots and shoes purchased from the same firm.

Mr Fred Cable, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, has for sale a very large quantity of dairy and baked goods. The thrifty housewife will be well repaid by a visit to his establishment.

Those who visit Gateshead, and are in need of anything in the hardware and kindred line, should call upon Messrs T. A. Moffitt and Company, who are well-known contractors for street lighting. The stock includes every description of chandaliers, hall lamps, brackets, &c.

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