CONSETT SCIENCE AND ART CLASSES.
TO STUDENTS.

SEE OUR SPLENDID STOCK OF
MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENTS.
JUST ARRIVED! LATEST NOVELTIES!
PRICES FROM 1s TO 25s PER BOX.

LARGEST STOCK IN THE DISTRICT AT
ROBERT JACKSON'S,
STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
GUARDIAN OFFICE, AND 21, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. 407g

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

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

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

No. 1,634 — REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. — FRIDAY EVENING, December 25th, 1891. — PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MONEY!
IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.
THE
SUNDERLAND COMMERCIAL ADVANCE BANK,
29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND.
Are prepared to ADVANCE daily from £5 TO £1,000, To Clergymen, Gentlemen, Farmers, Cowkeepers, and Householders generally (male or female) simply ON THEIR OWN PROMISSORY NOTE, at the most reasonable rates of interest.
NO PUBLICATION. NO BILLS OF SALE. NO SURETIES REQUIRED.
STRICTEST SECRECY GUARANTEED.
No connection with Loan Offices or anonymous advertisers. Prospectus free. Apply at once before going elsewhere, as you will find special advantages in dealing with this Bank.
ALEXANDER WOLFE, Manager.
304a

Contracts.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are invited for the several works required in the BUILDING of a DWELLING HOUSE of Ten Rooms, in St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill, for Mr JOHN ALEXANDER JACK.
Plans, Specifications, &c., may be seen at my Office, Durham Road, Blackhill, on and after Saturday, December 26th.
Tenders for the same will be received up to Jan. 4th, 1892.
The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.
WILLIAM RAW, Architect.
Blackhill. 323h

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for providing and laying MAIN SEWERS in Brickflat Lane, and the adjoining streets.
Plans, sections, and specifications may be seen at the office of the Board, on and after Saturday, the 19th December.
Tenders, marked "Main Sewers," addressed to the Consett Local Board, will be received up to 12 o'clock, on Wednesday, the 6th January, 1892.
The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.
N.B.—A bond will be required for the due performance of the contract.
By Order of the Board,
262h THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Clerk.

THE Consett Local Board invite TENDERS for Finding and Setting 9in. by 9in. Kerbstones (either Freestone or Cement) and Channelling.
Plans and specifications may be seen at the Office of the Local Board on and after Saturday, 19th December.
Tenders, marked "Kerbing and Channelling," addressed to Consett Local Board, will be received up to 12 o'clock, on Wednesday, the 6th January, 1892.
The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.
N.B.—A bond will be required for the due performance of the contract.
By Order of the Board,
261h THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Clerk.

Lost.

LOST, on the Evening of Monday, 14th Dec., at a Concert in the Burnopfield School-room, a GOLD BROOCH, set with Pearls.—Finder will be rewarded on returning the same to Miss ANNANDALE, Lintzford. 322h

LOST, from a Field near Stanniferdam, FOUR Three-part Bred EWES, marked Red on the Buttock.—Anyone having the same might kindly apply to T. C. RAWES, Consett. 347h

Found.

FOUND, a FOX TERRIER DOG.—Apply, JOHN TWEDDLE, 10, Bradley Cottages. If not claimed in three days will be sold. 326h

Wanted.

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

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply to Mrs TURNBULL, Leazes, Burnopfield. 318h

WANTED, a strong GIRL to assist with Housework; 2s weekly.—Address, A, *Guardian* Office Consett. 252h

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—WANTED, for the Shoemaking Department, a good GENERAL HAND; good wages earned.—Apply to the MANAGER, on the Premises. 314h

WANTED, a thoroughly respectable Person, about 30 years of age, as HOUSEKEEPER, must be a good needlewoman, and able to bake, cook, and manage a small dairy.—Apply, giving references, stating age, wage wanted, to WILLIAM LIDDELL, Park Head Station, near Waskerley, via Darlington. 334h

WANTED, a respectable, sober, single, middle-aged Man as COACHMAN, and make himself generally useful; live at the Farm.—Apply, by letter, to Mr VAN HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett, stating age, wages expected, full particulars of references. 328h

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

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

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

To Let.

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

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

TO BE LET, and entered upon on the 13th day of May, 1892, HOLLIN HALL FARM, situate near Frosterley, in the Parish of Stanhope, containing 24 Acres, more or less, of Grass Land, with right on Bollihope Common.—For further particulars apply to THOMAS MOWBRAY, Frosterley. 317h

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

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

To Let.

WEST NEWBIGGEN FARM, NEAR LANCHESTER.

TO BE LET, by TENDER, on a yearly tenancy, from the 13th day of May, the above FARM, containing 205 Acres, or thereabouts, of which over 56 acres are Grass, and the rest Tillage, together with the Excellent FARM-HOUSE and OUTBUILDINGS.
Tenders to be sent to Mr WILLIAM REED, Knitsley, Consett, or to Mr T. MADDISON, Solicitor, Saddler Street, Durham, on or before the 9th day of January, 1892.
No Pledge is given that the highest or any Tender will be accepted.
The tenant will show the Farm.
Durham, December 17th, 1891. 288h

For Sale.

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

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

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

FOR SALE, 4 Striped Linen BLINDS, 51in. x 37½in., with rollers, cord racks, cord, &c., complete, new.—Apply, 21, Newmarket Street, Consett.

FOR SALE, a Young COW, third calf, due 27th December.—Apply, JOHN SISSON, New Houses, near Lanchester. 319h

FOR SALE a Large Assortment of CART, GIG, and SPRING CART HARNESS, WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, CART COVERS &c.—The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North. THOS. OWEN, 57, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. T. OWEN has a consignment of Second-hand HARNESS, &c., for Sale.

IMPROVE THE HERBAGE OF YOUR GRASS—Hay of good quality will pay for growing. Nutritious Herbage enables Live Stock to thrive and produce more Beef, Mutton and Wool, and larger yields of richer Milk. THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER and ALBERTS' BASIC PHOSPHATE POWDER will pay Farmers well to use freely on Grass and Clovers. Cost is Small. Results are lasting. SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS for Messrs. Albert for four Northern Counties of England and Scottish Borders, LANGDALE BROTHERS,
202h 45, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Business Announcements.

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

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

LOOK HERE.—FOR
STATIONERY of every description, FANCY and other USEFUL ARTICLES.
Spectacles for all Sights.
BOOKS BOUND, PICTURES FRAMED
TRY
J. COCKBURN,
STATIONER, CONFECTIONER, &c.,
13 and 14, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

RUDGE
CYCLE COMPANY, LIMITED
THE OLDEST AND LARGEST CYCLE MANUFACTURERS IN THE WORLD.
WORKS: Coventry. DEPOT: St. John Street (off) Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
SPECIAL CLEARANCE SALE
OF SECOND-HAND MACHINES
Easy Payments. Liberal Discounts for Cash.
SEND FOR PRICE LISTS. 158h

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS
INMAN & INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP Co., Ltd.
LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every WEDNESDAY
Calling at Queenstown every Thursday
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY, 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; ARTHUR F. FENTON, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95f

BEFORE BUYING, CALL AND EXAMINE
J. BRODIE'S
WINTER GOODS,
IN SUITINGS, TROUSERINGS, OVERCOATINGS, HOSIERY, HABERDASHERY, &c.
ALSO,
NEW ELECTROID FELT HATS,
JOHN BRODIE, TAILOR,
FRONT STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
ESTABLISHED 1827. 749g

MUSIC EMPORIUM.
T. JONES is now prepared to supply direct from the Manufacturers, PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS at the Lowest Possible Prices.
A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.
VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.
BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.
MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.
Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.
PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.
Note the Address:—
T. JONES,
5, CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office), CONSETT. 902a

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE
AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA the Finest Tea in the World. Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.
WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
83, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

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

SHOTLEY BRIDGE. WINTER SEASON 1891.
GEORGE RICHARDSON & SONS,
Have pleasure in announcing that they are now showing New Stocks, in all Departments, for present Season, including—
FANCY WOOL WRAPS, LATEST STYLES IN FANCY APRONS, SILK NECKERCHIEFS, GLOVES, WOOL SKIRTS, &c., suitable for XMAS PRESENTS.
Also, Large Stocks of DRESS MATERIALS, WOOL & CASHMERE SHIRTINGS, FLANNELS, BLANKETS, CRETONNES, &c., at special prices.
DRESSMAKERS, TAILORS, AND MILLINERS KEPT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT.
INSPECTION AND COMPARISON RESPECTFULLY INVITED.
December, 1891. 136h

ARTIFICIAL TEETH
FROM 2s. 6d. TO 7s. 6d. EACH. SETS FROM £1 0s. 0d.
ADAPTED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
A WRITTEN GUARANTEE WITH EVERY SET.
HUNDREDS OF SETS IN WEAR.
FORTNIGHTLY PAYMENTS TAKEN.
CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 2 TO 6 P.M.,
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13 AND 14, FRONT STREET.
(PATIENTS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES IF DESIRED.)
MANAGER—MR. H. J. JONES.

CHRISTMAS, 1891.
T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
Wish to inform the Public that they have one of the LARGEST and FINEST SELECTIONS OF GOODS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.
FRUITS, FIGS, ALMONDS, RAISINS, &c.
GLO'STER CHEESE, DERBY CHEESE, GORGONZOLA, CHESHIRE, CHEDDER, STILTON, EDAM, &c.
FRUIT LOAVES, SEED LOAVES, DESSERT, &c.
Also, their SPLENDID SELECTION OF WINES & SPIRITS, which are admitted to be the Best Value in the Trade.
PRICE LISTS NOW READY. 169h

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.,
(THE BEST AND CHEAPEST FIRM IN THE NORTH FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH OF THE BEST QUALITY.)
BLACKHILL BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 TO 2 P.M.
AT MR. SUMMERVILLE'S, IRONMONGER, DERWENT STREET.
MANAGER, MR. H. J. JONES.

ALL OUR CELEBRATED TEAS REDUCED 2d. PER LB.
TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.
ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.
JOHN HUME & SON,
BAKERS AND MILLERS, TEA AND TOBACCO MERCHANTS,
8, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
Having recently added the Tea Trade to their Business at Consett for the benefit of their numerous Customers, offer the above Brand—the best and Cheapest Tea in the Market—try it.
"PURE" CEYLON TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.
PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.
GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d
TOBACCO.
ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST AND ROUGH CUT, 3d. PER OZ.
Flour & Feeding Stuffs of every description delivered to any part of the District at the lowest possible prices.
Sole Makers of the Celebrated "Optimus" Horse Mixture and "Germ Meal."
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

ESTABLISHED 1817.
GEORGE HOBSON,
MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NOTED
FOR THE BEST AND CLEANEST HORSE FEED.
WHOLE OATS, CRUSHED OATS, SPLIT BEANS, PEAS, AND MAIZE, MIXED WITH OATS AS REQUIRED, OR SOLD SEPARATE. ALL THOROUGHLY CLEANED BY NEW & IMPROVED MACHINERY.
G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR. ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF FINES, SUPERFINES, EXTRA SUPERFINES AND HUNGARIAN.
TRY G. H'S PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL, MANUFACTURED BY HIMSELF, AND CANNOT BE SURPASSED.
LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE AND BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c.
Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all Kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices.
G. H.'S CALF MEAL IS NOW WELL KNOWN—REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.
Dealer in Agricultural Implements of all Kinds, including the Special Mower and Reaper, Sole Agent of the North for the McCormick Self-Binding Reapers and Steel Mowers, the Bullard Tedder, Tiger Horse Rake, &c. The best and lightest Draught Machines in the Market. Broadcast Hand Seed Sowers, &c.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,
AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.
ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the cause of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or the ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificial Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

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

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
S. H. HORSEY,
105, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASLE-ON-TYNE,
BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of CONSETT, STANLEY and DISTRICT, that, having left the service of Mr W. T. Smith, he now attends at the house of Mr BROWN, 8, Newmarket Street, Consett, every Saturday, from 11 till 5, also at Mr THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, Front Street, Stanley, every Monday from 11 till 5, and is prepared to supply the finest English and American Mineral Teeth at the most Reasonable Charges, consistent with perfect workmanship.
A Single Tooth from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Complete Upper or Lower Set from One to Five Guineas.
These Teeth can be adjusted without pain or the removal of stumps or loose teeth. Patients attended at their own residences if desired. Old sets re-modelled or new teeth added. Successful treatment guaranteed and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or a new set made.
NOTE THE ADDRESSES:—
ATTENDANCE AT MR. BROWN'S, 8, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
(Opposite Co-operative Stores), every Saturday, from 11 till 5. Also,
ATTENDANCE AT MR. THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, FRONT STREET, STANLEY,
Every Monday from 11 till 5. 418g

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NOTICE.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
BLACKHILL, LEADGATE, AND WEST STANLEY,
THE WELL-KNOWN GROCER, PROVISION DEALER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT
Will commence the FESTIVE SEASON with a Large and very Superior
STOCK OF GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS
Which he will Sell at the lowest possible prices. In buying your Groceries and Provisions you may always rely upon being well served, and receiving the best value for your money.
WISHING YOU ALL THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.
All Orders by Post or Telephone carefully attended to. Please send Orders early.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

Excellent Sugar.	Nutmegs	Tinned Corned Beef
Finest Loaf Sugar	Pure Cassia	Roast Beef
Banquet Sugar	Mace	Rabbit
Demerara Sugar	Cinnamon	Chicken, Ham and Tongue
Splendid Currants	Almonds	Paysanda Tongues
Splendid Raisins	Figs, Prunes	Tomatoes
Splendid Sultanas	Metz Fruits	Philip & Caunad Sardines
Splendid Muscatels	Chocolate in boxes	Salmon and Lobster
Lemon Peel	Tins Fruit	Sweets of all kinds
Citron Peel	Crosse and Blackwell's Soups	Peaches, Apricots
Orange Peel	Pickles, all kinds	Figs in Boxes

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

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

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

WM. AYNSLEY'S OLD-FASHIONED BLEND OF TEA
The unparallelled success which this Tea has attained is now well-known, and the thorough appreciation in which it is held by all who have given it a trial, cannot fail to convince the greatest connoisseur of its worth and genuineness. Sold at 2s, 2s 6d, 3s per lb.
A BLENDED TEA OF EXCELLENT QUALITY, 1s 8d and 1s 4d per lb.
SOLE AGENT FOR THE MAZAWATTEE TEA.
The demand for these Blends is wholly without parallel in the history of the Tea Trade.
CEYLON TEA 1s 3d PER POUND.

PROVISIONS.

Extra Choice Butter, finest	Finest Hams
Choice Danish Butter	Cumberland Hams and Bacon
Finest Butterines	Irish Rolls
Bladder Lard	Splendid American Rolls
Pail Lard	American Shoulders
Cambridge Sausage	American Sides
German Sausage	Smoked Bacon

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

FLOUR.	FLOUR.
Finest Hungarian Flour	Crushed Oats and Beans
Extra Whites	Indian Meal
Superfine Fines	Rough Barley

Wheat Meal, Whole Meal, Boxings, Bran

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

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIAL WINES FOR INVALIDS.

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

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

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
CONSETT, LEADGATE, WEST STANLEY, AND BLACKHILL.

Correspondence.

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

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

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

"CASTLESIDER" AND HIS CRITICS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—After perusing the two letters that have appeared in your paper re the Castleside Cricket Club, I feel constrained, after conversing with the gentleman who contributes the "Castleside Notes" to your columns, to take up the pen. I would advise "Castleside Cricketer" No. 1, before he again rushes into print, to study the laws of courtesy and letter-writing; for what the point of his letter was I am unable to see, except it was to insult "Castlesider;" and as to "Castleside Cricketer" No. 2, that I, as a Christian, not only wasted my time at the concert, but also gave my services along with other three gentlemen, I cannot profess to know whether the concert was popular or not, but I do know that the Board Schools were fairly well filled, and if "Castleside Cricketer" No. 2 was out in the elements that night he ought to know why some of the performers did not turn up. I at least was wet through when I arrived at Castleside. If "No. 2" will favour me with his name and address I should feel obliged.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN TOPHAM.

37, Puddlers' Row, Consett, Dec. 21st, 1891.

"REFORMER" AND FATHER WOOD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I am very glad that Father Wood has stepped forward to state the case of the Denominational School, which, I am sure, he does in a very able manner. I am sorry he at the outset charges me with being unfair, and my letter misleading. I had no desire to be either, my intention being to elicit healthy expressions of opinion, similar to what we have from Father Wood. I, of course, purposely avioded the two 'bogies of expense" and no "religious instructions," knowing that the arguments I *had* advanced were unassailable. Mr Wood avoids these and attacks at once those I left for him or others, and that I knew would be soon "trotted out." A very casual glance at many of the Rev J. R. Wood's points is sufficient to convince an average intelligence that his letter very unfortunately would bear the same construction of being unfair and misleading. In his anxiety to save space and be concise, he has in several instances left matters in a state of delightful ambiguity. Which is worst, leaving a thing or two unsaid, or making statements that are only half true? It is, your readers will easily see, very difficult, almost an impossibility, for a man in Father Wood's position, having had the peculiar training he has had, to rid himself of all prejudice and bias, and look at the question in any different light to what he does in his letter. All his church traditions and his own experiences must of necessity lead him to dread the system of education that he can only name as "secular and compulsory." Does the statement he makes "that *half* of the people are under a system that is neither voluntary nor Christian" prove that there is no distinctly religious teaching given in Board Schools? We know that is not so, because in many Board Schools both temperance and religious teaching are given. Would the establishment of a popularly-elected Board imply that no religious instruction would be given, say in a place like Tow Law, with its advanced religious and temperance sentiment. The state recognises the necessity of every child being trained in secular education, and in 1870 made this compulsory, which was a very wise step in the face of so much ignorance existing, children, many of them, never getting a day's schooling, others very little. The state having once interfered, free education, in the nature of things, couldn't be long delayed; though, as everyone knows, there can't be any such thing as absolutely free education, the cost must be borne somehow. Also in reference to religious instruction or Christian education as Father Wood puts it; in the voluntary schools in too many cases it is of a decidedly sectarian character; a certain high dignitary of one of the churches recognising the value of early training said years ago, "Give me the training of the children until they are ten years of age," knowing that lessons could be taught that would never be eradicated, and a strong bias given towards certain forms of doctrine and worship. With the many religious agencies, churches, Sunday-schools, and others, supported by the religious home training that is due to every child, though they may not get it, there is an opportunity for each child to be rightly trained in a moral sense.

When we approach Father Wood's letter and examine his figures, we are aghast at the wonderful contrast he makes, but is it all true? Has the voluntary schools had no grants even for building purposes. Yet he says they have never cost the nation a brass farthing. Why speak of the nation in the way he does? Is it not simply individuals in the aggregate, and has not all the money been provided by the people? Having so far trespassed upon your space, I must close, though if no one else deals more fully with the figures given by Father Wood, I will do so next week.—Yours, &c.,

"REFORMER."

CASTLESIDE CRICKETERS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—My attention has been called to the Castleside Notes in the last issue of your paper, I find to my surprise that a person signing himself "Castlesidete" charges me with the authorship of a letter which appeared in the columns of the *Guardian* of the 11th inst., and which was signed by "A Castleside Cricketer." Allow me to quote the passage wherein he charges me with being the author of the letter which has raised his ire, and called forth his personal spleen against me. Referring to something contained in his notes of the 4th inst., he says "Neither would it affect the morals of those who might read it, even if it had brought to a close the club of which your correspondent [illegible]." Now, sir, I have the honour to be captain of the [illegible] cricket club, and am consequently looked upon as its chief. But, as a matter of fact, and as you, Mr Editor, will be aware I am not the author of the letter signed by "A Castleside Cricketer," and I now call upon him, and have a right to expect him as a man and an honourable gentleman to withdraw and make a full and ample apology through the columns of your paper, for the unfounded charge which he brings against me, for his ungentlemanly language, and the untruthful statements contained in his notes of the 18th inst. Not being anxious to push matters to extremities, or to prolong this controvery, he has now an opportunity of apologising for his unmanly attack upon me. Wishing him the compliments of the season, I am yours truly, J. PROUD.

Consett Road, Castleside.

Cycling Notes.

TANTOBIE CYCLING CLUB.—The members of the above club with a few friends held their first annual supper at the Commercial Hotel, Tantobie, on Saturday night. A very substantial repast was provided by Mrs Snowdon, and heartily enjoyed, after which the usual toasts were given. Songs, readings, &c., were rendered by some of the members and much appreciation shown. Altogether, the evening was highly enjoyable. Before dispersing the host, Mr Snowdon, in a very appropriate speech setting forth the advantages of cycling, proposed the future success of the club.

RYTON AMATEUR BICYCLE CLUB.—The members of this club held their annual meeting at their head-quarters, the Lamb Arms, Crawcrook, on Saturday night. The members and a few friends, to the number of 32, sat down to supper provided by the host and hostess, Mr and Mrs Robinson. Mr E. Holmes, in the unavoidable absence of the captain (Mr A. Ferguson), occupied the chair, Mr John Pearson being vice-chairman.—The chairman, having given a *resume* of the club's doings during the season, called upon the secretary (Mr R. Young), who stated the number of financial members was 24, and after paying all expenses a small balance was left in the hands of the treasurer.—After supper, dancing and songs were indulged in.

PRUDHOE DISTRICT CLUB.—The annual general meeting of this club was held on se'nnight, at head-quarters, Half-way House, when there was a good attendance. The chair was occupied by the captain, Mr W. Crowe. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr W. Bedlington; vice-presidents, Mr W. Newton, Rev A. C. Maughan, Mr H. Tulip, Mr J. Humble, Mr R. Wardle, Mr R. Mason, Mr T. Falconer, Mr T. Bates, Dr McCoull, Mr J. K. Guthrie, Mr T. Armstrong, and Mr J. Douthwaite; captain, W. Crowe (re-elected); vice-captain, M. Storey and G. Cowns; treasurer, H. Tulip (re-elected); secretary, W. Taylor, (re-elected), 10, Gordon Terrace, Prudhoe; buglers, G. W. Clemison and James Judson; committee, Messrs Hope, Harrison, Crowe, Greener, and Elliott; representative to N.C.U. Local Centre, Mr W. Crowe. Four prizes will be given for best attendance next year, for Saturday and Wednesday runs.

Trade Notes.

DURHAM MINERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Durham Miners' Association was held at Durham on Saturday. Mr John Forman, the president, occupied the chair, and there was a large and representative attendance of delegates.—The officers of the association were re-elected as follows:—President, Mr John Forman; financial secretary, Mr J. Wilson, M.P.; corresponding secretary, Mr W. H. Patterson; treasurer, Mr J. Johnson.—After discussion it was decided that the claim which had been made to the Coalowners' Association with a view to reducing the hours of firemen and the screeners should be withdrawn.—It was also agreed, after discussion, that £100 should be forwarded in support of the French miners' strike.

PELTON FELL AND DISTRICT POULTRY & RABBIT SOCIETY.

The third annual open show of poulty, rabbits and cavies, in connection with this society, was held in the Colliery School Room, Pelton Fell, on Saturday. The committee had issued a liberal prize list, which met with hearty support from all the best-known fancies in the North of England, the number of entries amounting, in all classes, to 576; a number, by the way, much to great for the at the command of the committee. Many of the exhibits were so much crowded that they could only be seen with difficulty, and certainly not to advantage. The chief features of the show were the excellent exhibition of both Old English and and the modern game, both of which were shown largely, and in good quality. Bantams were also a fine show and superior in quality. As showing the popularity of the Minorca breed it may be observed the two classes of this variety were the largest in the show. Altogether the show was a great success, from a fancier's point of view, and reflected the greatest credit upon the committee, and their active secretary, Mr J. Hardy, and the treasurer, Mr R. Lonsdale. The judges were Mr George Hall (poultry) and Mr R. Coxon (rabbits and cavies).

LIST OF AWARDS.

Cochin or brahma cock—1 and special, R. Shield and Son, Swalwell; 2, S. Dixon, Durham; 3, R. Corfield, Pelton Fell; 4, T. Rumney, Cleator.

Cochin or brahma hen—1 and special, Dr Jolly, Brotton; 2, D. Cheque, Bedside; 3 and 4, Thos. Rumney.

Plymouth rock, cock—1, T. Thornton, South Shields; 2 and 3, E. Pearson and Sons, Edmondsley; 4, J. Winter, Biddick.

Plymouth rock, hen—1, W. Gowling, Middleton-in-Teasdale; 2, R Corfield; 3, R. Horseman, Linthorpe; 4, Wood and Palmer, Durham.

Wyandotte or Orpington cock—1 and 2, J Brown, Chester-le-Street; 3, R. Longstaff, Mickleton.

Wyandotte or Orpington hen—1, J. Brown; 2, H. Maidment, Brampton; 2, Wm. Routledge, Brampton; 4, R. Coxon, Lumley.

Black or brown red cock—1 and special, Henry Wallace, Pegswood; 2, T. H. Hunwick; 3, John Ruddick, Brampton; 4, Nelson Brothers, Hexham.

Black or brown red hen—1 and special, Nelson Brothers; 2, John Metcalf, East Rainton; 3, John Ruddick; 4, Thomas Lee.

Game, pile or duckwing, cock—1 and 2, Thomas Short, Ouston; 3, T. Simpson, Witton-le-Wear; 4, J. Smith, Rainton.

Game, pile or duckwing, hen—1 and 2, Joseph Smith; 3, Thomas Short.

Old English game cock—1, C. Hall, Wigton; 2 and 3, Shield and Son; extra 3, John Gleates, Silloth; 4, D. Franks.

Old English game hen—1, J. W. Simpson, Silloth; 2, Shield and Son; 3 and 4, J. Gleates.

Minorca cock—1 and special, Thomas Hodgson; 2, F. R. Fenwick, Shincliffe; 3, T. Tilly, Pelton Fell; 4, R. Gould, Wylam.

Minorca hen—1 and special, A. P. Stoker, Birtley; 2, Pearson and Son; 3, Wm. Levitt, Pelton Fell; extra 3, R. Armstrong, West Pelton; 4, J. Lancaster, Alston.

Leghorn cock—1, J. R. Harris, Washington; 2 and 3, W. Levitt; 4, J. Patterson.

Leghorn hen—1 and special, Miss E. Spence, Pickering, Yorks; 2 and 3, John Patterson; 4 W. Levitt.

Andalusian cock—1, Jas. Greenwood, Keighley; 2, W. Morpeth, Pelton Fell; 3, W. Dover, Percy Main; 4, Thomas Patterson, Carlisle.

Andalusian hen—1 and special, John Eccles; 2, James Greenwood; 3, W. Morpeth.

Hamburg, gold or silver-spangled cock—2, T. Dowson, Frosterley; 3, John Ridley.

Hamburg, gold or silver-spangled hen—1 and 2, Thomas Dowson; 3 and 4, James Thompson, Haltwhistle.

Hamburg, gold or silver-pencilled cock—1, T. and G. Kidson, Ormesby; 2, R. Harker, Pelton Fell; 3, John Stephenson, Frosterley; 4, John Ridley.

Hamburg, gold or silver-pencilled hen—1 and special, Joseph Parker; 2, R. Harker; 3, M. Heslop, Willington; 4, T. Dowson.

Hamburg black cock—1 and special, G. and T. Kidson; 2, John Ridley; 3, James Hay; 4, Thos Dowson.

Hamburg black hen—1, James Hay; 2, John Ridley; 3, Thomas Dowson; 4, T. and G. Kidson.

Any other variety, cock or hen—1 and 4, Ralph Coxon; 2, Watson Chapman; 3, Shield and Son.

Selling class, cock or hen, not to exceed £1—1, Thomas Short; 2, Watson Chapman; 3, Thomas Cardy; 4, John Ridley.

Game bantam, black or brown cock—1 and special, W. Wardle, Gosforth; 2, Nelson Brothers; 3, N. H. Scott, Sunderland; 4, John Kidson.

Game bamtan, black or brown hen—1 and special, 2, and 4, Wm. Wardle; 3, Marshall and Son, West Pelton.

Game bantam, pile or duckwing cock—1, Alfred Weatherby, Blyth; 2, Marshall and Son; 3, Davison and Sons; 4, J. Pennell, Lorrisholme.

Game bantam, hen—1, R. Irving, Carlisle; 2 and 4, W. Wardle; 3, J. Hepple.

Bantam, any other variety, except game, cock—1, Miss M. Pearson, Willington; 2, William Levitt; 3, R. Clasper, Waldridge Fell; 4, J. W. Schofield, Rothbury.

Bantam, any other variety, except game, hen—1, G. R. Munroe; 2, R. Pearson; 3, John W. Schofield; 4, R. H. Ashton, Manchester.

RABBITS.

Belgian hare, buck or doe—1 and special, John Henderson, Whickham; 2, Edwin Wingrove, Low Willington; 3, Scott and Butterfield, Wooler; extra 3, George Cooper; 4, William Wilson, Craghead.

Dutch, any colour, buck or doe—1, special, and 2, Mrs M. Smith, Wolsingham; 3 and extra 3, D. and T. Headen, Hetton Downs.

Himalayan, buck or doe—1, J. Beaver, Pickering; 2, V. H. Edmondson, Manchester; 3, R. Joyce, Fence Houses; 4, J. Henderson.

Silver grey, any shade, buck or doe—1, D. and T. Headen; 2, V. H. Edmondson; 3, R. W. S. Bateman, Crook; 4, Frank Widowfield, Pelton Fell.

Silver, any other variety, buck or doe—1 and special, Edward Palmer, Bishop Auckland; 2, W. C. Robson, Brandon; 3 and 4, D. and T. Headen.

Any variety, except lops, not to exceed four months, buck or doe—1, J. R. Pickering; 2, V. H. Edmondson; 3, Scott and Butterfield.

Selling class, buck or doe, any variety, not to exceed 10s—1, R. W. S. Bateman; 2, R. Corfield; 3, Harry Smith, Gilesgate, Durham; 3, E. Corfield; 4, Davidson.

CAVIES.

Rough boar or sow—1, F. Weston, Huddersfield; 2, W. E. Alcock, Sunderland; 3, J. R. Pickering.

Smooth boar or sow—1, special, and 2, Thomas Blackburn, Bishop Auckland; 3, W. E. Alcock.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions 7½d. and 1s. bottles.

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

IMPORTANT PROPERTY SALE AT BLACKHILL.

On Friday afternoon, at the house of Mr William Eltringham, Station Hotel, Blackhill, Mr J. G. Smith, of Gateshead, offered for sale by public auction several properties—freehold and copyhold—situate in Cemetery Road, Durham Road, and Tinmill Place, Blackhill. There was a large attendance of speculators, and bidding was rapid and brisk. The following were the properties:—

Lot 1—The dwelling-house, known as Whitehall Lodge, containing two sitting-rooms, three bedrooms, two attic bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, lavatory, &c., with yard and outbuildings, occupied by Mr L. Matthews, the rent being £24 per annum.

Lot 2—The dwelling-house, known as Primrose House, containing two sitting-rooms, two bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, and scullery, with yard and outbuildings, the rent being also £24 a year.

Lot 3—A building site, adjoining lot 2, comprising about 400 square yards, with coach-house (in the occupation of Mr W. Turner, the owner), the rent being £2 10s per annum.

Lot 4—A building site, adjoining lot 3, containing 500 square yards or thereabouts, with several erections thereon, bringing in a yearly rental of £19 8d.

Lot 5—A seven-stalled stable, with yard, &c., in the occupation of Dr Renton, approached from Dixon Street, rent £7 a year.

Lot 6—Four grass fields, with hay shed, byre, &c., extending from Durham Road to the North-Eastern Railway, containing 18a. 2r. 24p., in the occupation of Mr Turner, Dr Renton, and the Consett Cricket Club, the several rentals amounting to £26 10s a year. (The above properties are all copyhold, of the Manor of Lanchester).

Lot 7—The freehold property, 6 and 7, Tinmill Place, Blackhill, comprising a shop and eight rooms, with yard, &c., in the occupation of Mr Turner and Mrs Clements, the rent of each place being about £20 a year.

The property belongs to Mr W. Turner, and was sold by order of the mortgagees, the approximate rental of the whole of the lots being £165 18s 6d per annum. The property was first submitted in one lot, the auctioneer expressing regret at the circumstances which necessitated the premises being disposed of. Councillor R. Murray, Benfieldside House, started at £2,000, and also bid £2,200, £2,270, £2,320, £2,400, £2,430, £2,450; Mr W. Eltringham offered £2,100, £2,200; Mr N. Bladon, Consett, £2,250, £2,300, £2,350; Mr T. G. Hawes, Consett, £2,300, £2,420, £2,440; Mr John Young, Blackhill, £2,450. The property was withdrawn after Mr Murray bid £2,450, and subsequently Mr Murray became the purchaser privately at a figure not publicly disclosed. Mr Smith, at Mr Murray's request, then submitted Whitehall Lodge, bidding ranging from £350 to £850, when Mr J. R. Murray, Blackhill, became the purchaser. The bidding for Primrose House commenced at £300, and Mr John Young became the buyer at £480. The house and shop in Tinmill Place were also put under the hammer, but were withdrawn, as the bidding did not advance beyond £360. Messrs Ingledew, Daggett, and Fenwick, of Newcastle, acted as solicitors for the vendors.

DEATH OF THE VICAR OF ROOKHOPE.

The death of Rev James Philip Sheppard, vicar of Rookhope, Weardale, took place at his residence on Monday morning. The deceased gentleman was highly respected among the parishioners in the sequestered little country village, where he took an active part in all pertaining to their temporal and spiritual welfare. Mr Sheppard had been ailing for some weeks, and was attended by Dr Robinson, of Stanhope, but few thought his end was so near. His death has caused profound regret among his parishioners and among others outside his own parish by whom he was known. The deceased was vicar for a considerable time, chairman of the Stanhope School Board, and retired on account of physical infirmities, consequent upon old age, much to the regret of the other members of the Board. Deceased, who came to the living from Preston, was 63 years of age, and during his six years' residence in Rookhope he had gained the good wishes of his parishioners. The cause of death was inflammation. A kind and genial pastor, and always agreeable and willing to help forward local movements, he was respected by everyone, and the people of Rookhope, amongst whom a large number of Nonconformists are included, deeply regret his loss. Deceased had considerable knowledge of school work, and for some years represented the parish on the Stanhope School Board. The chapelry of Rookhope was separated from Stanhope in 1868. The gross value of the living is £400. The first vicar was Rev A. Davis, M.A. Mr Sheppard always took a great interest in his parish, especially in endeavouring to get up amusements for his people. He it was who set on foot a flower show. Along with Mr G. R. Wooler he always worked assiduously together in the interests of the ratepayers. His loss will be felt by many outside of his parish. In politics he was a staunch Conservative, and was unremitting in rendering assistance to the cause in Weardale.

DEATH OF MRS WM. TODD AND MR JOHN TODD, OF LEADGATE.

We regret to announce the deaths (after a very short illness in each case) of two well-known inhabitants of Leadgate. Mrs Wm. Todd was the widow of the late Mr Wm. Todd, who carried on business for nearly 30 years, and eventually retired about 20 years ago and took up his residence at Clifton House, where he died in March, 1877. The deceased lady was, we believe, a daughter of the late Mr Robinson, of Allendale. She was a well-known member of the congregation worshipping in St. Ives, and was highly respected for her generosity and kindly disposition. She leaves a son (Mr Edward Todd, a member of the Leadgate Local Board) and two daughters (one married to Mr Wm. Nicholson, of Long Benton, and the other to Mr E. J. Harding, of Gateshead).—Mr John Todd was, we believe, born at The Flatt, Harper Hill, Cumberland, where his father had for many years been engaged in farming. More than sixty years ago the deceased gentleman served his time as a coachbuilder in the well-known works of Messrs Atkinson and Phillipson, of Newcastle. For some years he was engaged following his trade in London, but subsequently succeeded his brother in the management of the Raw Green Farm, Hexhamshire, and about 25 years ago retired from business, and resided with his brother, Mr William Todd, at Leadgate. The deceased gentleman took no active part in public affairs, although he was extremely well-read in various branches of literature, he was perfectly familiar with old Newcastle long before the advent of railways, steam wherries, and the introduction of gas. Mr Todd was not married. The funeral took place at Lanchester Parish Church, the service being conducted in an impressive manner by the Rev J. W. Mitchell, late vicar of St. Ive's, Leadgate, a very old friend of the family, who, after the service, in a few kind remarks to the friends regretted the loss of two of his old and faithful friends.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Ebchester Church of England Temperance Society was held in the Temperance Hotel, on Wednesday se'nnight, the rector presiding. The meeting having been opened with praise and prayer, an address was delivered by the Chairman, which was followed with songs by Mrs Cameron, Mrs Appleby, Miss Charlton and Miss Mason; a melodeon solo by Mr Redshaw; a dialogue by Misses Hunter and Milburn; recitations by Mr Read; and a reading by the Chairman.

TANFIELD BRANCH.

The monthly meeting of the above branch was held in the National School Room, on Tuesday se'nnight, and despite the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was remarkably good. The programme comprised the usual pleasing variety of vocal and instrumental music, readings and recitations, which were ably given by Miss Davison, Rev E. E. Harrison, Mr Gilchrist, Mr Parry, Master S. Watson, and Master Parry, *encores* being frequently demanded, especially so from the Rev E. E. Harrison, who contributed largely to the evening's enjoyment by his amusing sketch of an evening party. A pianoforte solo by Miss Davison, was highly appreciated, and the violin was very ably handled by Master Watson. The chairman (Rev T. H. Archdall) in a few well-chosen remarks endeavoured to impress upon the members the importance of combined effort to further on the work of the society, remarks which were very ably supported by a short address from Mr Gilchrist. A vote of thanks having been given to the various performers, a very successful meeting was brought to a close in the usual form.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

KITE FLYING IN LAPLAND.

A scientific gentleman named Tromholt, while engaged in studying atmospheric phenomena in Lapland, had occasion to send up balloons and to fly kites, of which he had a number. These were objects of great interest and wonder to the natives, so much so that Mr. Tromholt sometimes flew them simply for the amusement and excitement which they created.

When I discovered, he says, that even the most primitive of flying-machines, the kite, was unknown to them, I decided to make one larger than myself, on which I painted two enormous staring eyes terrible to behold. What a delight to these children, great and small, to see it soar high among the clouds, and to be allowed to hold the string and feel how it tugged!

But I did not rest content with this. I determined to construct the greatest kite which the world had ever seen. I had to discard the orthodox shape, with the semi-curved head, as an iron buckle large enough was not to be obtained. I made, therefore, two slender poles, 12 feet long, which I laid crosswise, and tied the four corners together by means of a rope a quarter of an inch thick.

Next I bought at the merchant's eight yards of linen for clothing this monster. The result of my labour was the production of a wall of canvas, nearly 80 square feet, which, when it was up, I was hardly able to move, on account of the great weight and the force of the wind upon it.

Four lines, meeting at a point below it, were arranged so that the kite, in spite of its weight, would rise with a fairly strong wind. It came, and of course the kite was at once to be tried. The end of the thick rope which held it was securely fastened to a pole in the ground.

But now arose the question: How was I to get a tail for such a giant? An ordinary paper tail would have had as much effect as a match would in steering a man-of-war. After some deliberation I made up my mind. I constructed a tail of firewood-ends strung on a rope.

At last the solemn moment arrived when the machine was to ascend, and what nobody expected occurred—the monster kite shot up like a rocket.

But it was also the signal for a general stampede of the crowd, as well as its constructor, as the colossus with its terrible tail, on account of a certain want of equilibrium, described the wildest and most alarming antics in the air, with a rapidity of motion quite startling, and threatened every moment to come down headlong, to the woe of him whom it struck. He would admire no more kites in this world.

SONG OF THE MOTHER

WHOSE CHILDREN ARE FOND OF DRAWING.

There are some little folks who hardly give their mother one moment's peace. They make such constant and frantic demands on her attention as almost to drive her crazy. Here are the thoughts of a poor mamma whose children are amusing themselves by playing at drawing:

Oh! could I find the forest
Where the pencil-trees grow!
Oh! might I see their stately stems
All standing in a row!
I'd hie me to their grateful shade,
In deep, in deepest bliss,
For then I need not hourly hear
A chorus such as this.

CHORUS—
Oh! lend me a pencil, *please*, Mamma!
Oh! draw me some houses and trees, Mamma!
Oh! make me a floppy
Great poppy to copy,
And a horsey that prances and goes, Mamma!

The branches of the pencil-tree
Are pointed everyone.
Ay! each one has a glancing point
That glitters in the sun;
The leaves are leaves of paper white,
All fluttering in the breeze.
Ah! could I pluck one rustling bough,
I'd silence cries like these.

CHORUS—
Oh! lend me a pencil, too, Mamma!
I've got mine all stuck in the glue, Mamma!
Oh! make me a pretty
Big barn and a city
And a cow and a steam-engine too, Mamma!

The fruit upon the pencil-tree
Hangs ripening in the sun,
In clusters bright of pocket-knives—
Three blades to every one.
Ah! might I pluck one shining fruit,
And plant it by my door,
The pleading cries, the longing sighs,
Would trouble me no more.

CHORUS—
Oh! sharpen a pencil for *me*, Mamma!
'Cause Johnny and Baby have three, Mamma!
And this isn't fine!
And Hal sat down on mine!
So do is bee-yu-ti-ful-*lee*, Mamma!

MORE HUMANE THAN HIS MASTER.

The favourite elephant of the Grand Vizier under Rajah Dowlah was the hero of a noble deed. This great nabob had arranged for a mighty hunt in the neighbourhood of Lucknow, where the game was rather plentiful. The preparations being completed, and a train of Indian nobility assembled, the procession of hunters began to move off the field. After passing through a ravine, the gorgeous sportsmen entered a meadow, which was covered with sick people, who were lying exposed to get the benefit of the pure and fresh air, and they were so distributed as to obstruct the course of the beasts of burden. Rajah Dowlah was intent upon feeding his cruel eyes with the sight that the mangling of the bodies of the miserable creatures would produce, by compelling the huge elephants to trample them under foot. The Grand Vizier rode upon his own beast, and the nabob ordered the driver to goad him on, and he went at a quick pace, but when he arrived at the spot of the indisposed people, though in a trot, the sagacious animal stopped short before the first invalid. The Vizier cursed him; the driver goaded him; and the nabob cried, "Stick him in the ear!" All, however, was in vain. More humane than his superior, the elephant stood firm, and refused to violate his better feeling. At length, seeing the poor creatures helpless, and unable to move themselves out of the way, he took up the first with his trunk, and laid him gently down again out of his path. He did the same with the second and third, and so on, until he had made a clear passage, along which the retinue could pass without doing injury to anyone of them.

INDIGNANT INNOCENCE.

Some friends of a country minister came upon him one day unexpectedly for dinner, and his wife, whose larder at the time happened unfortunately to be empty, was sadly puzzled to know what she was to give them to eat. At length, in her dilemma, she bethought her of a fine large hen turkey, which was strutting about the yard attended by a numerous family; and as the young turkeys were almost completely reared, the prudent housewife thought they might safely dispense with the services of their mother, whose body would then furnish the needed dish for her to place before her guests. Accordingly the good lady ordered the parent bird to be forthwith killed and cooked. The food thus provided was, it may well be believed, not very tender, but most of the party made the best of it.

There was one person at the table, however, who could not be induced to taste the old turkey. This was the minister's son, a boy of eight or ten years of age. He, like his father, knew very well what it was that he was asked to eat, but, unlike his father, he preferred going without his dinner to dining off his old friend of the farmyard.

After dinner the minister and his guests went out for a walk, followed by his little son above-mentioned, who brought up the rear of the party. No sooner did they make their appearance in the farmyard, than the entire flock of young turkeys which had lately been deprived of their mother gathered tumultuously about them, and by their incessant screaming and "skraighing" and flapping of wings, seemed to reproach the minister and his friends. The adult members of the party may have guessed the cause of the uproar, but they passed on, and left the little boy in the rear to bear the brunt of the orphans' upbraidings. This he did not see fit to put up with, but turning upon the young brood with all the indignation of injured innocence, he shouted at them, so as to be heard by his father and father's friends, "*Ye needna be yammering at me, I didna eat your mither!*"

Said an Irish orator: "When a man once gets a footing in the ear of the community at large, people are always anxious to learn all about him."

"Mamma," asked Flossie, "did that gentleman say I got my eyes from you?" "Yes, dear." "And did you really use to have four eyes, mamma?"

Auntie Loo (to Elsie, aged five): "What are you thinking about, Elsie, dear?" Elsie (looking serious): "I was thinking, Auntie, how the angels put on their nightdresses over their wings."

THE WEARDALE RAILWAY.

A deputation from the Weardale Railway Committee waited upon the North-Eastern Railway Board of Directors at York, on Thursday, with a view to seek their co-operation in extending the railway from Stanhope to Weardale. The deputation consisted of Mr John Thompson, solicitor, Stanhope; Mr G. Race, Westgate; Messrs J. Harrison, W. M. Egglestone, J. S. Freeman, J. Watson and W. H. Featherstone, and were accompanied by Mr Mack, solicitor, Darlington; Mr Lyall, engineer; and Mr J. W. Roddam and Mr J. R. Rogerson, directors, and were introduced by Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., who laid the whole scheme before the Board. Several members of the deputation pointed out the mineral and agricultural wealth of Weardale. It may be stated that the following gentlemen have consented to be directors of the company when formed:—Sir J. W. Pease, Mr D. Dale, Mr J. A. Hildyard, Mr T. H. Bainbridge, Mr J. R. Rogerson, Mr J. W. Roddam, and Mr C. Bainbridge.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr Murray had forward at this mart on Monday 10 fat cattle, which sold up to £14 12s 6d; 8 cows, to £16; 120 fat sheep and hoggs, which realised up to 46s each; 4 calves, to 57s. 39 pigs; small pigs, 12s to 26s; pork pigs, 30s to £5 3s. A large number of geese, turkeys, ducks, and chickens were also disposed of. Geese, 9s to 10s each; ducks, 3s 3d each; turkeys, 5s 6d to 8s 6d; chickens, 2s to 2s 6d each. There was a large company present, and considering that the Christmas sale was held last week, a capital trade was done in all classes except cows, which were slow. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb; pork, 5s to 7s per stone.

POULTRY SHOW AT WINLATON.

The second annual show, under the auspices of the Winlaton, Blaydon and District Poultry, Pigeon, Cage Bird and Rabbit Society, was held on Saturday, in the Drill Hall, Winlaton. There were large entries in all departments, the total being 373. A substantial amount was offered in prizes, and the exhibits were of a high-class character. A large number of persons visited the show, which was a successful one, and far surpassed that of last year. The judges of the show were Rev W. F. Lumley (poultry and pigeons), Mr Robinson (cage birds), and Mr Tomlinson (rabbits). Mr W. A. Brown was secretary. Awards:—

OPEN CLASS.

POULTRY.

Game, old English cock—1, J W Simpson; 2, J Irwin; 3, R Shield.

Game, old English hen—1, J W Simpson; 2, J Todd; 3, J Irwin.

Leghorn, Minorca, Andalusian cock—1, Wm Oswald; 2, W Murray; 3, J Marshall.

Leghorn, Minorca, Andalusion hen—1, Wm Oswald; 2, W Murray; 3, J G Jackson.

Plymouth rock Langshan cock—1, W E Alcock; 2, W Murray; 3, T Dowson.

Plymouth rock Langshan hen—1, W E Alcock; 2, R Appleby; 3, T H and J Miller.

Hamburg cock, any variety—1, T and G Kidson; 2, C and W Raine; 3, J Stephenson.

Hamburg hen, any variety—1, T and G Kidson; 2, C and W Raine; 3, J Boyd.

Selling class—Cock, any variety (price not to exceed 15s)—1, J Boyd; 2, R Shield; 3, J Hetherington.

Hen, any variety (not to exceed 15s)—1, J Potts; 2, W G Colman; 3, R Gould.

Drake and duck (any variety)—2, G W Wilson; 3, Mrs A Lersley.

Game bantam cock—1, S Allan; 2, J Atkinson, jun; 3, Mrs Dixon.

Game bantam hen—1, H W Robson; 2, Mrs Dixon; 3, G English.

Bantams any other variety, cock or hen—1, J Ellison; 2, Mrs Dixon; 3, J W Schofield.

PIGEONS.

Owl, cock or hen—1, M J Cooper; 2, J Boyd; 3, T Burton.

Dragon, cock or hen—1, B Shield; 2, C L Harvey; 3, W A Brown.

Turbit, cock or hen—1 and 2, T Burton; 3, M J Cooper.

Jacobine, cock or hen—1 and 2, J and D Lowery; 3, Strathfair and Thompson.

Magpie, cock or hen—1, M J Cooper; 2, W H Laundon; 3, J W Dale.

Homer, cock or hen—2, W Rayne; 3, Mrs W Townsend.

Any other variety, cock or hen—1, M J Hooper; 2, A Wilson; 3, A Robertson.

Selling class, any variety (price not to exceed 10s)—1, T Crossley; 2, M J Cooper; 3, W Lishman.

Antwerp, cock or hen—1, W Carter; 2, R Shield; 3, T Crossley.

RABBITS.

Silver grey, buck or doe, any shade—1, Stewart and Dobinson; 2, Price Brothers; 3, E Forster.

Himalayan, buck or doe—1, C Walker; 2, J P Minniken; 3, Price Brothers.

Dutch, buck or doe—1, J King; 2, A Smithson; 3, J P Minniken.

Belgian hare, buck or doe—1 and 2, T Sewell; 3, R Studholme.

Any other variety, buck or doe—1, Tindle and Urwin; 2, H Riding; 3, W H Pannett.

Selling class, any variety, buck or doe—1, Geo Stephenson; 2, Price Brothers.

Any variety, under six months (except lops)—1, G Stephenson; 2, C Walker; 3, W Morton.

CAGE BIRDS.

Plain-headed Norwich—1, Knetts.

Canary, any other variety—1 and 2, T Prudhoe; 3, M Hall.

MEMBERS' CLASS.

POULTRY.

Bramah, cock or hen—1, J Dorman.

Plymouth rock, cock or hen—1, J Young.

Leghorn, white cock or hen—1, J Potts; 2, Hogg.

Game cock or hen, old English—1, W Lishman; 2, W Parker; 3, J Shotton.

Hamburgs, silver-splangled cock and hen—1, Boyd.

Birds bred in 1891—Bramahs cockerel and pullet—1 and 2, J Dorman.

Plymouth rock, cockerel and pullet—1, J Young; 2, J Dorman.

Minorca, cockereland pullet—1 and 2, W Lishman.

Hamburgs, silver-spangled cockerel and pullet—1 and 2, J Boyd.

Andalusian, cockerel and pullet—1 and 2, J Boyd.

Game, old English, cockerel and pullet—1, W Parker; 2, J Potts; 3, D Hogg.

Leghorn, white cockerel and pullet—1 and 2, D Hogg; 3, J Dorman.

Leghorn, any other colour, cockerel or pullet—1 and 2, D Hogg.

Silver pole, cockerel and pullet—1, R D Smith.

Black Hamburgh, cockerel and pullet—1 and 2, J Dobinson; 3, J Dorman.

PIGEONS.

Antwerp, cock or hen—1 and 3, R D Smith.

Owl, cock or hen—1, J Boyd.

Turbit, cock or hen—1 and 2, R D Smith.

Tumbler, cock or hen—1, J Shotton; 2, W Rayne.

Homer, cock or hen—1, J Boyd; 2, W Lishman.

Dragon, cock or hen—1 and 2, J Potts.

Antwerp, cock or hen—1 and 2, R D Smith.

Turbit, cock or hen—1 and 2, R D Smith; 3, W Rayne.

RABBITS.

Silver grey, buck or doe—1, J Dobinson; 2 and 3, T Renwick.

Dutch, buck or doe—1, 2, and 3, J Dobinson.

Himalayan, buck or doe—1, J Dobinson; 2 and 3, T Renwick.

Lop, buck or doe—1, J Boyd; 2, J Dorman.

Any other variety, buck or doe—1, J Dobinson.

CANARIES.

Norwich crested cock or hen—1, J Young; 2, W Rayne.

Norwich plain-headed cock or hen—1, J Boyd; 2, W Rayne; 3, J Young.

Any other variety, cock or hen—1, W Rayne.

Norwich crested cock or hen, bred in 1891—1 and 2, W Rayne.

Norwich plain-headed cock or hen, bred in 1891—2, W Rayne; 3, W Parker.

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

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN WEARDALE.

On Friday evening, the conclusion of the series of butter-making lessons by the Durham County Council, tutors, Misses Maidment and Wyer, at St. John's Chapel, was made the occasion for a visit from Prof. Somerville, of Durham College. Mr James Rushton presided over a large audience in the Town Hall, which was the scene of the gathering.—Dr Somerville, whose address was illustrated with lantern sketches manipulated by Mr J. S. Freeman, said the Durham shorthorn was well adapted for dairy purposes, as it not only gave a large amount of milk but was also very easily fattened. The Jersey fawn cows gave the richest cream, but were only suitable for warm districts. Another typical good giving milch cow was the Ayrshire; but preference was given in these parts to the Durham shorthorn, probably crossed a little. Success lay in selecting animals possessing good udders, as judged by their size and texture, and soft and glossy coats, as the hairs like the milk were secreted in small cells. Hence, if the coat was glossy, the milk yielded was almost sure to be of a rich quality. (Applause.) The lecturer urged the use of bean meal in preference to cake, and said the danger of milk fever could be avoided by giving laxative drinks after calving. The great factor in good butter-making (concluded Dr Somerville) was a constant use of the thermometer in the dairy.—Prizes—First, M. J. Stephenson; and J. A. Stephenson (Rose Hill), E. A. Walton (Newhouse), and P. Hodgson (Westgate)—all equal. The following get certificates:—M. J. Dalkin, Park House; M. J. Dalkin, Britian Hall; Mrs A. Collin, East Black Dean; E. A. Turner, St. John's Chapel; F. Dawson, St. John's Chapel; S. Moffatt, Park House; P. H. Robinson, Greenwells; A. M. Coulthard, Pinfold House; E. Teasdale, St. John's Chapel; F. J. Nattrass, Ireshopeburn; H. Philipson, East Black Dean; F. Kidd, Westgate; and M. Z. Craig, St. John's Chapel.

HANDYSIDE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINES.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MESSRS GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS. — The *British Medical Journal*, in an instructive article last week with reference to the reforms in the wine and spirit trade, concludes as follows:—"In some cases, as in champagnes and brandy, it is easy to secure well-known brands and guaranteed age, and so also the better kinds of claret, but hitherto this has not been easy with still wines for which the guarantee, which a well-known brand on the cork is alone calculated to give, has not been readily forthcoming. We are glad to see that a step in the right direction is now being taken, and that not only will the products of our colonies, such as Australian wines, be brought within the range of ordinary consumers, and their genuineness guaranteed by the seal, label, and cork of the shipper, but the same proceeding will be adopted with ports and sherries, so that famous ports, such as those of Croft and Dow, the sherries of Gonzalez, the madeiras of Cossart, names familiar as indicating the most reliable products of their respective countries, and which afford a valuable guarantee, will now, by the action of large firms, such as the great Co-operative Associations and of Messrs W. and A. Gilbey, be obtainable with branded corks, just as the Glen-Spey Glenlivet Scotch whiskey or John Jameson's Irish whiskey, can be obtained from almost any tradesman for home consumption in the United Kingdom at a fixed price and of guaranteed age, a change likely to be greatly to the advantage of the pocket as well as the health of the consumer."

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

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

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

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

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

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, Dec. 21st.—Before Coun. Jas. Annandale (chairman), W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., F. Priestman, Esq., and J. T. Potts, Esq.

CHIMNEY ON FIRE.

William Brown was summoned by P.C. Tomlinson for allowing the chimney of his dwelling-house in Wood Street, Shotley Bridge, to be on fire, on the 8th inst., contrary to the bye-laws of Benfieldside Local Board.—The officer proved the case.—Mrs Brown declared that the officer was surprised when he came into the house and saw such a small fire in the grate.—Defendant was ordered to pay a fine of 1s and costs.

A BAD SON.

Matthew Glancey, labourer, of Blackhill, was proceeded against by his mother for commiting an assault upon her at Blackhill, on the 11th inst.—Complainant said that on the night in question she was attending the children, when defendant interfered, and took up a chair and threatened to strike her with it. Defendant presently drew his fist and dealt her a blow on the face, and twice on the head. Defendant was really a bad son, and she was afraid of him, because he did not care what he said or did. —Defendant said that he did nothing to his mother, but merely found fault for what she had done.—The Bench imposed a fine of 10s and costs.

ASSAULT AT BLACKHILL.

Henry Hagan, a youth belonging to Blackhill, was summoned for assaulting Margaret Malloy, married woman, at Blackhill, on the 5th inst.—Complainant, at the outset, desired to withdraw the charge, but she could not provide the necessary money to defray the costs. She stated that defendant struck her with his fist, knocked her down, and kicked her in the side. This was the fourth time that defendant had done the same thing.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 5s and costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

The following persons were proceeded against by Mr David Mole, attendance officer for the Collierley School Board:—*James Potts*, Dipton, dismissed; *John Jardine*, Dipton, 5s; and *William McCluskey*, South Medomsley, 5s.

HAWKERS AND THEIR WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

James Milburn, hawker, Newcastle, was summoned for having in his possession at West Stanley market an unstamped scale on Nov. 20th.—Inspector Laidlaw, of Chester-le-Street, stated that he found defendant's scale unstamped, contrary to section one of the Weights and Measures Act, 1889.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and said that it was the first time he had been at Stanley, and he was not aware that his scale was not stamped.—Defendant was ordered to pay 5s expenses.

James William Scott, hawker, Newcastle, was summoned for having in his possession a ½lb. weight at West Stanley market, on Nov. 20th, which was unjust under the provisions of the Weights and Measures Act.—Inspector Laidlaw said that the weight was not up to the standard, and defendant's scale was also faulty.—Mrs Scott declared that she borrowed the weights in order that her husband might go to Stanley.—Defendant was also ordered to pay 5s expenses.

Mendal Rozenberg was proceeded against by Inspector Laidlaw for having an unstamped scale at Stanley on Nov. 20th.—Defendant was similarly dealt with.

BREAKING INTO A MINERAL OFFICE AT WESTWOOD.

Joseph Mulholland, miner, of Westwood, was placed in the dock charged with breaking into a mineral office at Westwood, belonging to the North-Eastern Railway Company, on December 11th, and taking therefrom a quantity of lead pencils, pocket-books, &c. Supt. George Darrill, Newcastle, represented the Company.—John Cuthbertson, mineral agent, Westwood, deposed that on Friday afternoon he locked up the office, and took the keys away with him, and left a quantity of lead pencils, note books, &c., in the desk. He saw that all was safe and secure before he left. The next morning, when he returned to the cabin, he found the door partly open, and a railway sleeper lying a few yards away. On entering, he found a quantity of papers lying about, and the desk broken open. On examination he missed seven lead pencils, eight note books, pens, &c. He thought the sleeper he saw lying had been used to break open the door. Witness found the tongs and poker (produced), but they had been used to force the desk open.—Detective Henry Davies, Newcastle, stated that he received instructions to investigate the case. On the following day he went to Westwood and saw P.C. Hadwin. In conversation with prisoner, the latter stated that he and another man were standing near the door smoking when the door opened. They went inside, and he took six keys, six books, and six pencils. Prisoner had the keys and pencils concealed a considerable distance away from the cabin.—P.C. Hadwin testified that from information received on the 12th inst., he visited the mineral office, and found that it had been broken into. He accordingly took the prisoner into custody, and took him to the North-Eastern Railway office, where he stated that the charge was all right. He afterwards brought the prisoner to the Consett Police Station, and charged him with the offence. He might state that two weigh cabins belonging to the Consett Iron Company were broken into the same night.—Prisoner, on being charged, pleaded guilty, and stated that he was drunk, and did not know what he was doing when he went into the cabin.—The Bench committed prisoner to gaol for one month with hard labour without the option of a fine.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

John Armstrong, miner, pleaded guilty to a charge of fighting at Milkwell Burn, on the 20th ult.—P.C. Lawson gave the facts, and defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay the costs.

UNLAWFULLY WOUNDING AT DIPTON.

John Mellon, miner, on bail, again appeared to answer the charge of unlawfully wounding Hugh Daley, miner, Dipton, on December 12th. Mr J. R. Wilson, Newcastle, stated that he was instructed by complainant to ask their worships' permission to withdraw the case, as no charge had been made against defendant. It was entirely an accident. Mellon was mixed up with a family disturbance: ran into the house took up the poker, and came out again, and the first man he met was complainant who received the blow. Daley would tell them that defendant had made a mistake, and they were the best of friends. Defendant was taken into custody by the sergeant on his own responsibility.—Complainant said that on the night in question he was struck over the head with a poker by defendant, which he considered was an accident. Defendant ran out of the house and hit him with the poker. He never instructed anyone to make the charge. He wished the case to be withdrawn.—Sergt. Thornton stated that complainant asked him if he had got the man who struck him with the poker, and told him to keep him.—The Chairman (to complainant): Are you going to receive any money for withdrawing the case?—Complainant: No I am not.—The Bench accordingly allowed the case to be withdrawn on the payment of 23s 6d costs.

THE RAILWAY COMPANY CAUGHT "NAPPING."

Isabella Miller, married woman, of Blackhill, who did not appear, was summoned by the North-Eastern Railway Company, "that she, on the 25th day Oct., unlawfully did travel in a certain carriage then being in, and upon a certain railway there situate, called the Consett Branch, belonging to the North-Eastern Railway Company, she, the said Isabella Miller, not having previously paid her fare, and with intent to avoid the payment thereof, contrary to section 103 of the statute 8 and 9 vict., c. 20."—Supt. Darrell, of Newcastle, appeared for the North-Eastern Railway Company, and stated that the Company wished to withdraw the summons. He said that the Bench would remember the facts of the case, which were that Mrs Miller travelled from Sunderland to Consett and Blackhill without a proper ticket. Since the service of the summons, they had received a statement which was satisfactory, that there was no intention to defraud the Company.—In reply to the Bench, Supt. Darrell explained that the return ticket was issued to Sunderland, while Mr Miller lived at Blackhill, and has gone to Sunderland. Her sister had used the first half of a return ticket, and gave it to defendant who came back to Consett with it.—Mr Van Haansbergen: When the summons was applied for, I remember the case rested on the fact that the date of the ticket had been obliterated.—Mr Darrell replied that they could not exactly tell, as the date was so faint. Her sister, however, had given a satisfactory explanation to the Company, and they did not feel justified in prosecuting the woman.—Mr Van Haansbergen: Is it printed on the tickets that they are not transferable?—Mr Darrell: Yes.—The summons was accordingly withdrawn, the Company being mulcted in 8s 6d costs.

SECOND COURT.

Before F. Priestman, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Several persons hailing from Blackhill, Medomsley, Shotley Bridge, Tanfield, and Consett, were fined in sums varying from 2s 6d to 10s.

DRUNK ON LICENSED PREMISES.

Charles McCartan was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises at Blackhill, on the 6th inst.—P.C. Wright proved the case.—Defendant was fined 5s and costs.

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, Dec. 18th.—Before Dr C. Arnison (chairman) and V. A. Rippon, Esq.

POACHING AND THREATS IN WEARDALE.

John Gardner, miner, Sidefoot, was charged by George Middleton, gamekeeper, with trespassing in search of game on land in the occupation of George Gregson, Swinhope, on the 19th of October last.—He was fined 10s and costs.

The same defendant was also charged with threatening to blow out the brains of one, James Dodds, the game watcher. Accused was caught by Dodds committing the offence, when he turned and pointed the gun at Dodds, saying: "If you follow me I will blow your brains out."—He was bound over to keep the peace in £5, and one surety in £5 for three months, and to pay costs.

THEFT BY A WEARDALE WOMAN.

Mary Hannah Maddison, of Stone Heap, St. John's Chapel, was charged with stealing a quantity of underclothing from William Coulthard, of Sidefoot, on Dec. 10th.—The clothes had been laid in a field to dry, whence prisoner took them. Information was given to Sergt. Sidgwick, who found the articles in a haystack, and apprehended the prisoner, who confessed to having taken them.—She was now fined 20s and costs, or one month.

FRAUD BY A NEWCASTLE MAN.

John Tiplady, of Newcastle, and *William Dent*, of Middlesbrough, were charged with fraudulently obtaining alms on the 16th December.—The prisoners went to several people in Wolsingham, and represented that they knew several of their friends in Newcastle, and they asked them to call upon them. After getting small sums from the people, prisoners went and spent it in drink. Information being given to the police, Sergt. Bryans apprehended them the same night sleeping in the gasworks at Wolsingham.—They were each committed for 28 days.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Dec. 17th.—Before Lieut.-Colonel E. Leadbitter Smith (presiding), W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., and the Hon. J. G. P. Vereker.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Thomas Davison, a youth, was summoned by John Robinson for damage to a fence, by climbing over and catching birds, near West Stanley, on the 2nd inst.—Defendant was fined 2s 6d, 6d damage, and costs.

A CURIOUS CASE AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

William Daley, a young man, was summoned for causing a breach of the peace by threatening to kill Joseph Henderson, a miner, at Annfield Plain, and further with damaging his windows to the extent of £1 1s 2d.—Complainant testified that defendant came to his house, and threatened to blow his brains out if he (Henderson) did not admit him. Complainant refused to do so, and Daley broke in the windows with some missiles in his fists.—Cross-questioned by defendant, complainant acknowledged that Daley came to seek his wife, who was in complainant's house. He did pick up a coal-rake, and declare that he would knock Daley's head off if he smashed the windows.—In reply to the Magistrates, complainant said that defendant's wife was his housekeeper. Daley went away and left her about three weeks ago.—Defendant: I had to go away. I was a soldier before I married her, and was called up to headquarters.—The Magistrates' clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): Does defendant want his wife to go back to him?—Complainant: Yes.—Defendant: I was willing to take her back when I went to his house; but I would not take her now.—The Clerk: Perhaps she won't go back. (Laughter).—Defendant said that complainant took his wife, and turned his own daughter out.—Complainant: It's a lie. She is in the house now.—Defendant: I never would have smashed the windows if you had not attacked me with a coal-rake. I was forced to defend myself. Did you engage my wife as housekeeper?—Complainant: No; but I promised to take every care of her.—Defendant: Are you not living together as man and wife?—Complainant: No, sir.—Defendant: If she is not your housekeeper, what is she?—The Clerk said defendant had already deserted his wife on three occasions, and left her chargeable to the parish.—Complainant: Six times.—Defendant explained that his wife disposed of his furniture to complainant. The commanding officer wrote after he changed to an artillery regiment, offering a situation to his wife, but she refused to go, and went to the complainant.—William Rutherford, joiner, gave evidence, proving the amount of damage.—The Justices fined defendant 1s, the damage, and costs for smashing the windows, and also bound him over to keep the peace. The total sum was £2 1s 9d.

CRUELTY TO A PONY AT LANCHESTER.

James Smith, a hawker, of no fixed place of abode, was summoned for over-working a pony. Defendant failed to appear.—John Mackey, a hawker, of Newcastle, attested that he lent the pony and trap to defendant. From what he heard, witness came to Lanchester, and found the animal in a public-house yard. It had two sore shoulders, a sore back, and was "paid" on one side. He advised defendant not to work the pony, but he still yoked it into the cart. Defendant was away with the animal for eight days, and had tried to sell it. Witness purchased the pony three months previously for £3 10s.—Inspector Aplin, R.S.P.C.A., stationed at Newcastle, proved examining the horse, and discovering wounds on each shoulder the size of a five-shilling piece, wounds on either side of the back the size of the palm of his hand, while on the left side there was a bruise that could not be covered by both hands. The animal had been very badly treated, and had to be destroyed.—The magistrates fined defendant £2 and costs, or a month in default.

NON-MAINTENANCE OF A FATHER.

ANOTHER NEWCASTLE CASE.

Joseph Percy, cab-driver, *Richard Percy*, a blacksmith's striker, and *Thomas Percy*, a cartman, all living in Newcastle, were summoned at the instance of the Lanchester Poor Law Guardians for the non-maintenance of their father, who had become chargeable to the Union.

Mr R. Walton, relieving officer, stated that another brother was keeping the father at his house, while a fifth was contributing towards his father's maintenance.

The magistrates ordered Joseph to pay 1s and Richard 1s 6d a week. These defendants wanted their father removed to Shields Workhouse, where he was settled.

Thomas declared that it was a cruel hard case to bring him there. He was in poor circumstances, and had a family to support. His wife was exceedingly ill, and he expected that she would be dead when he returned to Newcastle. He would feel obliged if any of the magistrates could give him a dispensary ticket.

The Justices' Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): But you must have had support from your father?

Defendant: I did not. He brought me into a world of sin and misery. I have five children at home, and only one at work. He had assisted his other two brothers.

Mr Walton agreed to withdraw the case against Thomas.

The Bench assented to this course.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

A large batch of offenders were mulcted in various penalties for this offence.

CHARGE OF INDECENT ASSAULT.

Elizabeth Ann McCoy, of Tantobie, charged *Stephen Parker*, miner, White-le-Head, with having committed an indecent assault upon her at White-le-Head, on the 28th ult. Mr Welford defended.—Plaintiff told a long story of having been to Newcastle on that particular Saturday, and returning home by the last train, arriving at Rowland's Gill at eight p.m. She had very little liquor, and carried some parcels. It took her three hours, however, to travel from the station to White-le-Head, where she met a number of men. Defendant, who was in the gang, followed her, and when they reached a secluded spot, complainant alleged that he perpetrated an indecent offence upon her.—There was no corroboration, and without calling upon the defence, the justices dismissed the summons.

CLAIM FOR WAGES.

Thomas Young, a farm labourer, living at Saltersgate, sued *John Cummings*, of Low West House, Langley Park, gentleman, under the Employers' and Workmen's Act, for the sum of £5, being three months' wages from the 13th May to the 17th of August, 1891, due to him as a workman under the contract of service entered into by him with defendant. Mr Welford appeared for plaintiff, while defendant repudiated the debt.—Plaintiff said he was employed by Mr Cumming for a half-year at the Durham hirings, at £12 10s for the year, his term expiring in May last, when he was re-engaged by defendant for the ensuing half-year at a wage of £13 10s. On Sunday, 16th August last, he (Young) went to Burnhope Colliery chapel, returning home about 9·25 p.m., when he found that he was locked out. He knocked at the door, but failed to gain admission, consequently he had to sleep in the hay-house all night. On Monday morning, plaintiff asked Mr Cumming for his money, because he had been fastened out the night before. Defendant, however, declined to pay his wages, telling him it was not due. Young came back on Monday evening, and slept in the house. On Tuesday morning, defendant informed him that he had engaged another lad, and he could go. Plaintiff again asked Mr Cumming for his money, but the latter replied that he would not give him a half-penny.—Cross-questioned by defendant, plaintiff denied that he saw him on Tuesday night, and told him to go to work on Wednesday morning. He drew £2 5s previously on account.—Defendant: No, it was £2 4s 6d.—Mr Welford: Very well. We were giving you the benefit of 6d.—Further examined by Mr Cumming, plaintiff admitted that he (defendant) had previously remonstrated with him, and might be saucy and impudent on one occasion. It was very rarely that he was not in the house by ten o'clock during the summer half-year. He had taken defendant's pony many a time—not very often without leave. He had come home drunk during the preceding half-year, but he had not gone in intoxicated during the summer term.—Defendant: Yes you have, and kicked up a row.—Plaintiff denied that when he saw Mr Cumming on Tuesday morning, the latter told him (plaintiff) that he had forfeited his wages. He simply asked Mr Cumming for his money.—Mr Welford explained that had he been instructed when the summons was taken out, he would have claimed for the full six months wages.—Defendant averred that plaintiff had dismissed himself. He used to come in at all hours of the night, sometimes the worse for liquor, and create an uproar. He told him to be in at ten o'clock, but he declined to obey orders. When he (defendant) expostulated with plaintiff about riding his pony out for pleasure without leave, Young retorted that he would do as he liked.—In reply to the Bench, Mr Cumming stated that he did not lock plaintiff out.—Mrs Partridge, defendant's housekeeper, also gave evidence.—Their worships decided in favour of plaintiff for £4 10s, defendant having to bear the costs.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16th.—Before H. W. Kerrich-Walker, Esq. (in the chair), and George Duberley, Esq.

A CANNIBAL.

John and *William Jackson*, were charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the Dun Cow Inn, Chester-le-Street, on the 5th inst. William was also further charged with assaulting Hannah Dunn, waitress at the inn, at the same time. Mr Thomas Lambert, Gateshead, conducted the prosecution.—Mr Lambert said that the two Jacksons went into the Dun Cow Inn in a drunken and quarrelsome state. When the landlord saw their condition he gave orders that they were not to have any drink supplied them, and ordered them out at the same time. They refused to go out, and sat down. A man named Wardle came in, and said he would match his dog to run anything in the county, whereupon John Jackson said he would match himself to fight the dog's master, and before Wardle could do or say anything John jumped out from behind the table and struck Wardle, knocked him down, kicked him in a most brutal manner, then seized him by the cheek with his teeth and bit a piece out of it. Meanwhile the police had been sent for, but had not arrived. The waitress was knocked down by Wm. Jackson.—Mr Pearson, the landlord, Miss Dunn, P.C. Elwood, and the man Wardle gave evidence bearing out Mr Lambert's statement, and the defendants were each fined 7s 6d and costs for being drunk and disorderly; 10s and costs for refusing to quit; and for the assault on the waitress William was further fined 20s and costs.

ANOTHER CASE.

Robert Pears was charged with refusing to quit the Dun Cow Inn, Chester-le-Street, on the 4th inst. Mr Lambert appeared for the prosecution.—The evidence of the landlord shewed that defendant went to the house drunk, and on being refused drink and ordered out, he refused to go, and wanted the landlord to fight him.—Fined 10s and costs.

ANOTHER REFUSES TO GO.

John Hogan, who did not appear, was charged with refusing to quit the Crown Inn, at Birtley, on the 5th inst., and also with assaulting George Robson, an assistant at the inn.—The landlord and Robson gave evidence shewing that defendant was a very violent and disorderly man, causing trouble and disturbance every time he came to the house.—Fined 7s 6d for refusing to quit, and 20s and costs for the assault.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Isaac Ainsley pleaded guilty to a charge of assaulting Sergeant Fraser, at Pelton Fell, on the 23rd ult.—Sergeant Fraser and P.C. Ridley having given evidence, defendant was fined 10s and costs.

A BIRTLEY ROW.

John and *Matthew Adams* were charged with assaulting Robert Clifford, at Birtley, on the 29th ult. Mr F. Harle appeared to prosecute.—Complainant said that he was on his way to the brake at Birtley when he met defendants. After they passed, John came back saying that he could beat any man in Birtley, and at once struck witness, knocking him down. Matthew also struck him.—The Bench bound defendants over to keep the peace for six months, and pay costs.

HE NEVER CAME.

John Hutchinson did not appear in answer to a charge preferred against him by George Muncaster, farmer.—Complainant said he hired defendant to come to him at the November term. On the day after he should have come defendant wrote a note to him, but still did not come. His two horses stood idle for six days in consequence, and he asked for 30s damages.—An order was made.

THEFT.

Martin Richardson was charged with stealing eight sleepers, the property of the North-Eastern Railway Company, at Pelton Fell, on the 25th ult.—Sergeant Fraser said that about half-past six on the day named he was on the railway at Pelton Fell. He saw a four-wheeled waggon standing on the road near the railway with sleepers on it, and also saw defendant putting sleepers on the waggon. He asked defendant if he had leave to take the sleepers, and he replied he had leave from Mr Swinburne.—John Swinburne, permanent-way inspector for the district, denied giving defendant permission to take the sleepers.—Fined 40s and costs.

AN UNWILLING PROSECUTOR.

Thomas Greener and *Peter McGurk* were charged with doing damage to a watch, the property of Arthur John Clark, at Birtley, on the 12th inst. Mr John Turnbull, Chester-le-Street, defended.—When complainant was put in the box he doggedly refused to say that any damage had been done to his watch.—The case was dismissed, complainant having to pay the costs.

A HORRIBLE CASE.

James Dalton, *William Miller Dalton*, and *Robert Winter* were charged with ill-treating a pony at Ouston, on the 24th ult.—Inspector Aplin conducted the prosecution, and said that there were really five defendants in the case, but the police had not been able to serve the summons on the other two. The five defendants drove the pony all the day on the 24th, and late in the afternoon, when near Ouston, when they were all in the cart, they were driving at a most furious rate, the poor animal not having had any food all day, and being hard driven dropped down on the road. So exhausted was the pony that it could not get up. Defendants beat it, kicked it, lifted it up, and it fell down again; then they dragged it along the road, but it was no use, as the poor animal was quite powerless. Then they sent for a mallet, and battered its head, making wounds, into which one of the defendants pushed a whip shank, and another put in his fingers. After all this shocking treatment they left the pony lying on the road still alive, and it was only after some time that a pig killer mercifully put the poor pony out of pain.—Mr W. Temple, Chester-le-Street, said he made a *post-mortem* examination on the body, and found that the ribs, chest, and head of the pony were fearfully bruised as if by kicking on the ribs and chest, while the head appeared to have been battered. There was not a handful of food in the stomach, and in his opinion the pony had not eaten for two days. Death was due to exhaustion and ill-treatment.—Fined 20s each and costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Thirty men were fined in sums varying between 2s 6d and 5s for this offence at Edmondsley and Craghead.

DRUNKENNESS.

Twenty persons were proceeded against for this offence, and were fined from 5s to 15s each.

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

PROPOSED CHORAL SOCIETY FOR CONSETT.

On Monday evening, a select but representative gathering of lady and gentlemen musicians took place in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, to consider the expediency of forming a high-class choral society for the town and district. Mr T. D. Dryden occupied the chair. After hearing a statement from Mr T. Lewis Campion, of Durham Cathedral, it was unanimously resolved to resuscitate the old choral society, to be conducted, however, on new and improved lines, under the professional tuition of Mr Campion. Mr J. T. Symington was appointed secretary *pro tem*, and Mr George Dryden chosen as accompanist to the society. It was further suggested that a performance of Messrs Gilbert and Sullivan's opera *Pinafore* should be given in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday, April 6th, 1892. It was arranged that rehearsals should be held every week, and another meeting was fixed to be held in the same place next Monday evening, when the office-bearers will be elected, and other details settled. The new society seems destined to have a successful and prosperous career, and if only a good number of musicians would attend the next meeting, its future is assured.

EBCHESTER ROWING CLUB.

ANNUAL DINNER.

On Saturday night, the members of this club held their annual dinner at the Chelmsford Hotel, Ebchester. About 100 members and friends partook of an excellent repast, served up by Mrs Temperley, the hostess. Afterwards, Mr R. Dixon, Ebchester Mill, (vice president) (in the absence of Councillor R. Murray, Benfieldside House, president of the club) occupied the chair, while Mr T. J. Charlton, secretary, was voted to the vice chair.

The Chairman read a letter from Coun. Murray, regretting his inability to attend the gathering owing to having to attend to other important business.

The usual loyal toasts were honoured in the usual way.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the toast of the evening, and that was "Success to the Ebchester Rowing Club." He said that he felt proud as a resident, to think that such a club existed. They were present to celebrate another anniversary, and he was pleased to see that the interest in the doings of the club had not diminished in the least during the year. (Applause.) He hoped that its success would continue, and that the young men of the district would avail themselves of the healthy pastime that the club held out to them. During the time that the club had been in existence, the members had achieved a great deal. (Cheers). The facilities for rowing on the river were not large; but, after they had made themselves proficient in the art of rowing, he was glad to say that they had plenty of room on the Tyne, where they could go, and in all probability bring back to Ebchester some honours. (Cheers.) If the club did not bring out a Clasper or a Chambers, they had not to be discouraged, but to go on, and persevere until they did bring out some capital oarsmen, who would stand second to none. (Cheers.)

The toast was duly honoured, after which the VICE-CHAIRMAN thanked all present for the manner in which they had received the toasts. During the year the club had gone on smoothly. They had purchased another new boat which had given the members every satisfaction. He was extremely sorry to think that their friend, Mr Geo. Barkins, of Newcastle, had been prevented from attending the gathering. The members had experienced a very enjoyable season, and they had been the means of giving to the inhabitants of the village a great amount of pleasure. (Cheers.) After paying all expenses they had something like a balance of 8s in the treasurer's hands. The club had experienced a great deal of expense, but he trusted that the members would continue to combine together and make the club a prosperous one. (Cheers.)

The toast of "Success to neighbouring clubs" was proffered by the vice-chairman, and responded to.

During the evening, songs were rendered by Mr C. Brodie, Hamsterley Colliery, and others, and selections of music were given by Messrs Milligan and Storey. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and was concluded with the usual thanks, shortly before 11 o'clock.

MR VALENTINE SMITH'S CONCERT.

On Thursday night week, a most enjoyable concert was given in the New Town Hall Consett, by Mr Valentine Smith, a few of the principal artistes of his English opera company, and others. The programme was made up of well-known ballads and other favourite selections. There was a fair audience. The concert opened with a quartette, "From the valleys," by Misses St Bride and Gilbert, and Messrs K. Campbell and W. Valentine, which was rendered in capital style. Mr T. H. Wood gave a careful rendition of "The village blacksmith," for which he was loudly applauded. The song, "Alas, those chimes," was admirably given by Miss T. Gilbert, for which she received an *encore*. Miss Joy McLean, a new and undoubtedly acceptable addition to Mr Smith's company, made her *debut* before a Consett audience. She is a native of Aberdeen, and has studied at the Royal Academy of Music. Her voice is of remarkably rich and pure quality, and, owing to her apparently extensive compass, she must be able to sing with facility the lines set either for the high soprano or for the mezzo-soprano. With close application to careful training Miss Maclean ought to make her mark in the profession she has adopted. The audience was not slow to recognise her gifts. She received quite an ovation for her contribution of "Ye banks and braes," and was followed by Mr K. Campbell, who sang "In happy moments" most creditably. Madame Julia Lennox next made her appearance, and executed the song, "Love's old sweet song," in such a manner that she received a hearty *encore*, to which she responded. The eminent tenor himself next made his appearance on the platform, and received quite an ovation. He contributed Balfe's charming cavitana, "Come into the garden, Maud," which he interpreted admirably. Seldom, if ever, have we heard Mr Smith in such good voice. His voice was as "clear as a bell," and he met with most enthusiastic approval at the hands of the audience. The song was heartily *encored*, and, in response, he gave "Ye remember me." Miss C. St Bride was re-demanded for her remarkable rendering of "Scenes that are brightest," and she favoured the audience with a true execution of that ever-popular song, "Coming thro' the rye." A trio, "Turn on old times," taken from *Maritana*, by Miss Gilbert, Messrs T. H. Wood and Smith, concluded the first part of the programme. Messrs Wood and Campbell opened the second part with the quartette, "Suoni la Tromba," which was brilliantly executed. Madame Lennox earned the hearty applause of all for the song, "Ye ho," and was *encored*. Mr Wood sang "The heart bowed down." In response to an *encore*, he gave "The wolf" most splendidly. Miss Joy Maclean created the utmost enthusiasm by her singing of the Scotch song, "Afton waters," and also gave "O sing to me" in answer to an *encore*. The duet, "Sainted mother," by Misses Gilbert and St Bride, was followed by Mr Campbell with the "White squall," and was loudly applauded. Miss St Bride received an *encore* for "Robin Adair." "The anchor's weighed" was admirably given by Mr Smith, and in response to a recall, he sang "My pretty Jane," in which he made free use of his remarkable *mezzo-voce*. The song, "The Kerry dance," by Miss T. Gibert, was followed by Mr Smith giving "Let me like a soldier fall," which he did not fail to make the most of, and at the conclusion of the piece was loudly cheered. In the absence of Mr Fred Beard, a most promising young instrumentalist, and nephew of Mr Smith, who missed the train at Durham for Consett, the company had to fall back upon a local musician to act as accompanist for the first part. We must congratulate Mr George Stephenson, who is a son of Mr Charles Stephenson, Blackhill, upon undertaking the arduous task of filling the position at the piano, and playing the music at first sight, which he accomplished in a remarkable manner. It is not every musician who would have taken such responsibility upon himself as to play for such a talented company, and well may Mr Smith have complimented Mr Stephenson upon his success, for he fully deserved it, and he is really coming to the front as one of the leading musicians of the district. The concert was one of the best that has ever been given in the town, and we are sorry to think that the musical community did not patronise it as they should have done.

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

DEATH OF MR THOMAS ARCHER OF WHICKHAM.

In the person of Mr Thomas Archer there passed away at Whickham on Sunday, in his 89th year, a local man whose life-long and individual characteristics merit notice. The surname has an indisputably English ring with it, and carries our thoughts back to days when the strength and skill of English bowmen helped to build up a powerful nation. The subject of this notice came of yeoman ancestors located for centuries in Hexhamshire, where the name is recorded in many old deeds and muster-rolls. One of the Hexhamshire family settled in Whickham Parish about the time Sir Ambrose Crowley established the ironworks at Swalwell, and for two hundred years the name appears with regularity in the Whickham registers. Born at Swalwell in 1803, Mr Archer's boyhood was contemporary with that of the late Sir Joseph Cowen, Mr Joseph Laycock, and Rev Blythe Hurst, with all of whom he was personally acquainted. He was, like them, possessed of much natural intelligence and force of character, combined with a sturdy independence of thought. Although in favour of Earl Grey and Reform, he would not have anything to do with the Chartists. A sincere Liberal, he preferred, as he expressed it, "Progress with security," to "Progress without security," and he was only following up this intelligible principle when he spoke in favour of the Conservative cause in the electoral contests of 1880. The deceased gentleman commenced business life as an employee in the works of Messrs Crowley, Millington, and Co., at Swalwell, and for many years worked the long hours with mechanics at that time, afterwards becoming an employer of labour in the village of Dunston, where he lived the greater part of his life. Mrs Archer died in 1874, but three sons and two daughters are living.

SINGULAR MINING FATALITY AT MEDOMSLEY.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr John Graham, district coroner, held an inquiry at the Mason's Arms, Front Street, Leadgate, into the circumstances resulting in the death of John Dawson, aged 39, a gas-fitter in the employment of the Consett Iron Company, Limited, and resided at No. 112, Front Street, Leadgate. He was drowned in the "sump" at the bottom of the shaft of the Derwent Pit, at Medomsley, on Friday night. Coun. Geo. Nicholson was appointed foreman of the jury. Mr J. H. Morris, manager, and Mr Turnbull, under-manager, represented the Consett Iron Company, the former explaining to the jury, by the aid of plans, that Dawson was about to enter the cage, at the bottom of the shaft, when he must have slipped and fell into the "sump" below.

John Cawthorn, a chargeman working at the Derwent Pit, and living at Allendale Cottages, deposed that about 6·30 on Friday night, witness, W. Hogan, and the deceased were at the bottom of the shaft They were preparing to enter the cage, which was standing. Dawson led the way, and while in the act of entering the cage, he stumbed and overbalanced himself, and falling to the left he went into the "sump" through the opening in the scaffold left for the north-side cage, which was then at bank. The gas lamps at the shaft bottom were then turned out, but the place was lighted by a couple of paraffin oil lamps which gave sufficient light to show the road into the cage. Deceased was never in the cage, which was perfectly steady. Between the platform level and the bottom of the cage, there was a step down of about 18 inches; but the rim of the cage was almost flush with the flat sheet, there being a space of not more than four inches. The scaffold was constituted of iron plates, which were not greasy or slippery, but perfectly dry.

The Coroner remarked that it was a mystery how Dawson had stumbled into the "sump." Could he by any possibilty have slipped out of the cage after he had got inside?

Mr Morris replied not. The cage was a "water" cage, used for the purpose of repairing the shaft, and was even safer than the cages utilised for drawing coal to bank.

Witness averred that Dawson was never inside the cage. He had been repairing the gas pipes at the bottom of the shaft, and intended ascending to bank to make a connection with some gas pipes there.

The Coroner asked if there was any "stithe" or escape of gas to cause Dawson to turn giddy as he was entering the cage?

Witness: There was no smell whatever. The gas was not escaping, as it was turned off at the meter.

The Coroner: Perhaps Dawson was not regularly employed in the pits, and was therefore not accustomed to get into cages?

Mr Morris: Oh yes. He did all the gas repairing jobs at the whole of the Consett Iron Company's collieries, besides laying down pipes, and was considered a thoroughly trustworthy person, accustomed to getting in and out of cages.

In reply to the Coroner and jury, Mr Morris said that the chain protecting the shaft was 3 feet 10 inches above the level of the scaffolding. The chain was perfectly sound and firmly fixed by crooks at each corner 2½ inches in length.

Witness (Cawthorn) said that when in the act of stepping from the scaffold into the cage, deceased lifted the chain up with his left hand, and disconnected it at one end. Then he slipped and overbalanced himself, and fell into the "sump." The body was rescued about an hour afterwards, and brought to bank, where he was examined by Dr Charles.

The Coroner explained that the witness's explanation cleared up the mystery as to how the deceased fell into the "sump."

A juryman suggested that Dawson had slipped just as he was entering the cage, and seized hold of the chain.

The Coroner: In that case the chain would not have been raised off the crook, but would have been tightened.

Mr Morris observed that if Dawson had slipped just as he was stepping off the scaffold, he would have stumbled into the cage, and have been perfectly safe.

William Hogan, fitter, of Redwell Hills, who had been assisting Dawson down the pit, confirmed the evidence of Cawthorn.

Mr Robert Robson, a juryman, said it was a remarkable fact that after Dawson fell into the water he was never seen again.

The Coroner replied that there were a few cases where people fell into the water and never rose to the surface again.

Mr Morris stated that there was a considerable space before the water was reached. He must have been stunned by the fall, as Dawson was a capital swimmer.

The Corner: His head may have caught the sides in falling.

Henry James Saxty, a plumber, of Front Street, Consett, brother-in-law of the deceased (who identified the body) said he had been engaged at the same work down the pit, and he understood perfectly well how the accident happened. He was satisfied that it was a pure accident, and that no one was to blame.

The jury returned a verdict that Dawson had been accidently drowned in the "sump" by overbalancing himself as he was about to enter the cage.

A juryman suggested that if there was a screw at the end of the crook, it might prevent the chain being lifed up by anyone entering the cage.

Mr Morris said he would be happy to carry out any suggestion of the jury. At some collieries, there were fixed iron bars around the bottom of the shaft. These, he considered, little better than guillotines, inasmuch as if a man happened to put his head out of the cage just before it reached the bottom or after the cage had started upwards, he was liable to have his head taken off. The chains, he thought, gave persons a better chance of freeing themselves.

Mr Robson urged the jury to recommend that the scaffolding should always be placed over the top of the "sump" hole even if the men were going down to repair the shaft.

Mr Morris pointed out that this would be impracticable when the men were repairing at the bottom.

The Foreman stated that the scaffolding was kept over the "sump" five days in the week, and was only taken off on Friday nights when repairs were been done.

The Coroner suggested that the difficulty might be overcome by an iron grating being fixed across the top of the "sump" with hinges on one side, so that the grating could be lifted up when the men went down into the "sump" to execute repairs.

Mr Morris thought this might be done. He promised to carry out the recommendation of the jury as far as practicable.

The Foreman thought that it would be best to leave the matter in the hands of the colliery officials.

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

UNIONIST MEETINGS IN NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

During the past week meetings have been held at the following places in this division, viz.:—Leadgate, Burnhope, Langley Park, Cornsay Colliery, and Annfield Plain, in furtherance of the candidature of Mr John Dunville, the Unionist candidate and private secretary to Lord Hartington. Addresses were given by Messrs W. Ashworth and F. Healey. The speakers dealt with the benefits which had accrued to the working classes owing to the legislation and administration of the present Unionist Government. The fallacies of the Gladstonian Newcastle programme and the benefits which the country would derive if the programme of the Unionist party was supported were forcibly brought before the audience. Mr J. Royston Booth also spoke at several of the meetings. The meetings were well attended.

DEATH FROM BURNS AT TEMPLETOWN.

An inquest was held at the Police Court, Consett, on Saturday afternoon by Mr John Graham, district coroner, as to the death of John Leybourne, an old man of 83, living at Templetown, near Consett. He died on the privious Wednesday night from the effects of burns received a short while before.

Hannah Beattie, living at Consett Junction, said that she had been staying at No. 8, Templetown for about a year. Deceased's son was married to her sister. Mr Leybourne was formerly employed on the road. Latterly, he had not been working but was subsisting on his means. On Friday night, 11th inst., while getting his tea in the room above the kitchen, he fell backwards against the fire-grate and was burned on his back. The injuries extended over a good part of his flesh; but Dr Shannon did not think the burn penetrated very deep.

Margaret Robinson, wife of Thomas D. Robinson, a clerk, residing at 45, Sherburn Terrace, Consett (sister of the previous witness) spoke to going down to see deceased on the previous Wednesday, and as he seemed so ill she remained with him till he died. He was suffering from influenza before he was burnt.

The Coroner said that, considering the man's time of life, the burns, although not directly, might be indirectly the cause of his end.

The jury returned a verdict that death had resulted from burns accidently received.

CHRISTMAS STOCK SALES AND SHOWS.

TOW LAW.

On Monday, at the Tow Law Cattle Auction Mart, Councillor Joseph Vickers held his 7th annual Christmas prize show and sale of cattle, sheep, pigs, &c. It had been arranged to hold this annual fixture on Wednesday, 9th inst., but owing to a sudden bereavement and other causes, it had to be postponed, and as the festive season is fast approaching, and butchers and others have purchased extensively of prize stock, the numbers forward were not numerically so large as the previous years. This deficiency, however, was amply compensated for by the quality and condition of the stock generally on view, some fine specimens of prize stock—not too fat or over fed—being exhibited. Indeed, the champion bullock, bred and fed by Mr J. W. Watson, of Redgate, Wolsingham, was undoubtedly the best beast ever seen in Tow Law, and took off premier honours. The same animal also won the first prize at Northallerton Auction Mart on Thursday last. Other splendid cattle were likewise sent by such well-known breeders as Messrs Pease and Partners, Crook; Mr W. J. Oswell, Derwent Flour Mill, Shotley Bridge; Mr J. E. Nicholson, Lanchester; Mr J. Emmerson, Willow Green; Mr I. Allanson, Beechburn; and Mr J. W. Watson, Redgate. Amongst the fat sheep were several prime lots reared and fed especially for this show. The number forward would be 35 fat cattle, about 40 milch cows and heifers, over 300 fat sheep and hoggs, and a few pigs and poultry. It is notable that this sale beat the record in the North for the price for black-faced wethers, Rothbury hitherto taking highest place; and the champion beast class surpassed all previous experience at this meeting. The weather was of an extremely genial character, and farmers, butchers, and dealers flocked from all parts, there being a "bumper" attendance. Bidding was of a spirited character throughout, and keen competition was the order of the day, especially for prize animals. Prior to the sale proper, a luncheon was held at Mr Robert Wheatley's, the Cattle Mart Hotel, Mr J. H. Atkinson, Greenwell, presiding, with Mr Joseph Vickers in the vice-chair.—On the motion of the Chairman, a vote of condolence was passed to the widow of the late Mr Francis Vickers.—The Vice-Chairman, in responding to the toast of "Success to the Tow Law Mart," coupled with the health of Mr Jos. Vickers, said he trusted the good feeling which had so far existed between his patrons and himself would long continue. (Applause.) He believed the Tow Law Mart had met a necessity that had been felt for some years in that district, because previously there had been no provision for the output of cattle nearer than at Darlington, Hexham and Newcastle. Last year he had thought of turning the concern into a limited liability company, but it had not come about. If it were thought desirable to do so, however, he would still carry out his original idea.—The toasts of "The judges—Messrs Geo. Harrison and J. Graham—and "The chairman" was heartily honoured.—After luncheon the company adjourned to the showyard, where Mr Jos. Vickers, as usual, occupied the rostrum, and brought under the hammer the prize animals, with others which were not entered for competition. The duty of judging the show stock was given to Mr George Harrison, Consett, and Mr John Graham, Tow Law, and their awards were as under:—

CATTLE.

Fat heifer—1, J E Nicholson, Lanchester; 2, Pease and Partners, Limited, Crook.

Fat steer—1, J E Nicholson; 2, Isaac Allanson, Beechburn.

Fat cow—1, J Emmerson, Willow Green.

Fat beast, any class—1, J W Watson, Redgate; 2, J E Nicholson.

SHEEP.

Pen of fat sheep—1, R Crowe, Hedleyhope.

Pen of fat hoggs—1 and 2, M Stevenson, Esh; 3, J H Atkinson, Greenwell.

Pen of fat black-faced wethers—1, T Wilson, East Biggen; 2, J Reed, Intake, Frosterley; 3, T Robinson, Shield Ash, Stanhope.

Pen of fat black-faced ewes—1, T Wilson; 2 and 3, R Crowe.

SALES—CATTLE.

Heifer—1, £23 10s, B Hodgson, Crook; 2, £25 15s, G Moralee, Crook.

Steer—1, £34 5s, J Hope, Hedleyhope; 2, £36 5s, Balmer, Howden-le-Wear.

Fat cow—1, £30, H B Sharp, South Bank.

Champion bullock—1, £39 5s, T Hall, Tow Law.

Other buyers of cattle were J Hall, Tow Law, £30; Collingwood, Howdon-le-Wear, £33 10s; G Moralee, Crook, £19 10s; Consett Co-operative Store, £16 and £20 7s 6d; C Sharp, Stockton, £19 5s; Dodds, Quebec, £18 12s 6d; Greenbank, Crook, £19 5s; Wallburn, Lanchester, £19; J Hall, Hedleyhope, £18; J Gibson, Stanhope, £16 5s; J J Stephenson, Frosterley, £16; Stobbs, Wolsingham, £16 2s 6d; J Elliott, Westgate, £15; T Hodgson, Sunniside, £14 12s 6d and £12 10s; Balmer, Howdon-le-Wear, £17 12s 6d; A Murray, £12 17s 6d; Forbes, Spennymoor, £19 17s 6d; and C Hall, Tow Law, £17 15s.

SHEEP.

Pen 1, Leicester—1, sold to Mr Luke, Durham, 43s 6d.

Pen 2, fat hoggs—1, 3, Mr Bulman, Willington, 35s 6d.

Pen 3, fat hoggs—G Moralee, Crook, 29s 6d.

Pen 4, fat hoggs—T Hodgson, South Side, 34s.

Pen 5, fat hoggs—2, C Hall, Tow Law, 34s.

Pen 6, fat hoggs—1, F Pattinson, Tow Law, 36s 6d.

Pen 7, fat hoggs—J Lumley, Crook, 32s 6d.

Pen 8, B.F. wethers—2, Mr Balmer, Howdon-le-Wear, 50s.

Pen 9, B.F. wethers—V h c, Mr Lumley, Crook, 31s 6d.

Pen 10, B.F. wethers—1, T Hall, Tow Law, 61s.

Pen 11 realised best price of any wethers in the North of England this year.

Pen 12, B.F. ewes—Mr Scott, 22s.

Pen 13, B.F. ewes—R E Wilkinson, Tow Law, 24s.

Pen 14, B.F. ewes—T Greenbank, Mount Pleasant, 23s 6d.

Pen 15, B.F. ewes—1, T Hodgson, Sunniside, 41s 6d.

Pen 16, B.F. ewes—3, Mr Cooke, Willington, 33s.

Pen 17, B.F. ewes—2, T Greenbank, Mount Pleasant, 34s 6d.

Sheep not for competition were forwarded by Messrs Atkinson, Greenwell; Suddes, Click-em-in; Green, Satley; Harrison, Stobilee; Wearmouth, Broadwood; Morton, Tow Law; and others, and realised prices varying from 20s 6d to 44s.

The prices realised by the milk cows and heifers ranged from £7 15 to £20 10s. The total takings were considerably over £1,000. Best class beef realised from 9s to 10s per stone; mutton generally from 8d to 9d per lb. The biggest beast weighed about 96 stones, and measured 8 feet 3 inches round the waist.

Business Announcements.

NINETEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 5 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 23, MOUNT PLEASANT. ARTIFICIAL TEETH, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Most English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1830.

E. J. SLOANE L. MUS., L.C.M.,

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. NATIONAL GOLD MEDALLIST, TRINITY COLLEGE.

Gives LESSONS in the following: ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, COMPOSITION, FUGUE, HISTORY, &c.

ADDRESS:—THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

E. SLOANE, Sen., has always in Stock a good Selection of PIANOS, ORGANS, VIOLINS, &c., unrivalled in Tone, Quality, and Model, from the best Manufacturers, at the Lowest Possible Prices. ORGANS, PIANOS, &c., Tuned and Repaired. 817b

HARRY CORNFORTH,

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, AND 18, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS IN GREAT VARIETY.

Toys, Dolls, Albums, and Fancy Goods. A large assortment of GAMES—Pliffkins, Tiddledy Winks, Bob o' Link, Spring-heeled Jack, Bumble Puppy, Snap, Harmless Pistol. Playing Cards, &c. Silver-mounted Briar and Meerschaum Pipes, Cigar Holders, Cases, and Pouches, Cigars, in Boxes of 25, suitable for Christmas Presents. FOOTBALLS—Our Champion only 9s. 992b

1891.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,

HOUSE FURNISHERS AND IRONMONGERS,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

WE beg to tender to our Friends and Customers our best Thanks for their liberal support during the Year, and to assure that though our Business continues to increase year by year, they can still rely upon receiving our personal and prompt attention at all times.

We would also take this opportunity to ask our Friends and Customers, and the Public generally, to really round us during 1892, and to assure them that our best endeavours will be given to place before them the very best value obtainable in our Trade.

We shall as all times be pleased to see anyone walk through our LARGE SHOW ROOMS, and inspect our varied Stocks.

We are now showing a large Assortment of Goods suitable for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS. 265b

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

THE Teeth supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes.

Every Set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s. to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS, from 5s. to 10s. per Tooth

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL

SURGEON DENTIST,

No. 8, GRAINGER STREET,

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.

☞ ALL CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Attendance from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. 772b

W. E. TURNER,

PRACTICAL TAILOR, READY-MADE CLOTHIER, HATTER, AND MERCER,

HAS a good Choice in WOOLLENS for the BESPOKE TRADE. BEAVER and FANCY OVERCOATINGS, FANCY SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS.

Also a Large and Well-assorted STOCK of MEN'S, YOUTHS' and BOYS' CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, and MERCERY.

☞ *SPECIALITY* IN WATERPROOF COATS. ☜

"My Motto is to keep Faith with the Public, and Buy no second rate Goods in order to give Half-price Quotations."

SOLE AGENT AS GROCERS' AND BUTCHERS' OUTFITTER.

W. E. TURNER'S, LONDON HOUSE, FRONT STREET. CONSETT.

FOR THE CHEAPEST AND BEST SELECTION

OF

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CARDS

AND

GOODS SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS,

SEE ALL THE LATEST NOVELTIES AT THE

"GUARDIAN" STATIONERY EMPORIUMS,

59, FRONT STREET, & 21, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

PIANOS!!! ORGANS!!!

WADDINGTON & SONS,

5, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

Have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDALS and other AWARDS at EXHIBITIONS for the EXCELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS.

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

We Hold the Highest TESTIMONIAL in the WORLD, given by the distinguished Pianist SIR CHARLES HALLE, and can give 20,000 references to purchasers of their Instruments.

PIANOS . . From 10s. per Month.
AMERICAN ORGANS From 7s. per Month.
Second-hand Pianos from £10.

Write or send for Price Lists and Designs.

WADDINGTON & SONS,

MANUFACTORY, YORK, & AT 5, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

MANAGER . . JAS. EMERSON. 956g

MR. ALLAN M. CARSWELL,

SURGEON DENTIST,

BEGS to intimate to the Inhabitants of the Counties of Northumberland and Durham that he has commenced the practice of his Profession at

1, BELLEGROVE PLACE, SPITAL TONGUES, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Mr. CARSWELL takes this opportunity of stating that he has had 15 years' experience in Dentistry, and for the last 7 years has been partner with DR. SQUIRE ALLEN (the celebrated American Dentist, of Edinburgh). He has thus thoroughly acquired the experience necessary for the skilful performance of all Classes of Dental Work.

All persons employing Mr. CARSWELL may confidently rely on receiving First-Class Workmanship and careful personal attention.

TEETH PAINLESSLY EXTRACTED. ARTIFICIAL TEETH AND STOPPING. CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.

AT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY FROM 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Mrs. McPHERSON'S, 20, Newmarket Street.

AT STANLEY EVERY TUESDAY FROM 11 a.m. TO 5 p.m. (At Mrs. ARCHER'S, 7, High Stanley).

EASY PAYMENTS TAKEN.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS. CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, AND BLACKHILL.

MARSHALL AND SONS

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

SPECIAL.—M. & SONS beg to announce that they intend Presenting to all Purchasers of one of their Ladies' or Gent's Silver Watches during the Months of December and January with a handsome GOLD PLATED ALBERT. Also, to all Purchasers of Goods to the value of 20s a suitable Present will be made.

A FINE ASSORTMENT OF JEWELLERY TO CHOOSE FROM.

OUR BEST WATCHES ARE WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS. 114b

IMMENSE SUCCESS!!!

GRAND OPENING.

SALTER & SALTER'S

NEW BRANCH NOW OPEN.

6, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

ALREADY the Public recognises the sterling quality of our Goods, and the exceptionally Low Prices charged for Boots at 6, Middle Street.

COMPARE our Prices and Quality with other Stores in the Town, and you will be astonished, and we are confident you will come direct to the Manufacturers—SALTER & SALTER.

BRING YOUR REPAIRS AND GET SATISFACTION.

ALL GOODS MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES.

SAME PRICES AS AT ALL OUR BRANCHES.

NO CREDIT. NO ABATEMENT.

NOTE:—

SALTER & SALTER,

6, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR, WEDDING, AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS

FOR THE ABOVE, VISIT

F. WELCH AND CO.,

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY.

Who are now showing a splendid assortment of NEW STOCK, in

CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-SILVER-PLATE, CUTLERY, FENDERS, FIRE IRONS, FIRE BRASSES, LAMPS, CHINA, GLASS, &c.

SPECIAL.—DOLLS, TOYS, AND FANCY GOODS IN GREAT VARIETY. 257b

JOSEPH POSTLE,

FAMILY GROCER, TEA DEALER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

IN thanking his numerous friends and the public generally for their favours during the past year, respectfully intimates that he has now on hand a Splendid STOCK of GENERAL GROCERIES and PROVISIONS. A Trial Order Solicited:

A Large Assortment of HUNTLEY and PALMER'S, and PEAK, FREAN, & CO.'S BISCUITS AND CAKES of every description.

BEVERIDGE'S FRUIT WINES and CORDIALS—Ginger, Port, Raspberry, Strawberry, Black Currant, Pine Apple, Orange, Lemon, Lime Juice. In 3 Gill Bottles, 10d each, MASON'S WINE ESSENCE, 8d Bottles.

CHEESE—Splendid DERBY, GLOSTER, CHESHIRE, and the Finest AMERICAN obtainable, EDAMS and GOUDAS.

MILD CURED HAMS AND BACONS, Splendid Flavour.

EXTRA CHOICE BUTTER. FINEST MARGARINE, from 6d per lb.

CURRANTS, 3d and 4d per lb; the Finest Grown, 5d. RAISINS, all kinds, from 4d per lb.

LEMON AND CITRON PEEL, FIGS, ALMONDS.

SPECIAL BLENDS OF CEYLON AND INDIAN TEAS, 1s 4d, 1s 8d, 2s, 2s 4d, and 2s 10d per lb.

PURE CEYLON TEAS (KHANGANI BRAND), 2s, 2s 8d, and 3s.

SOLE AGENT.

FLOUR—FINEST HUNGARIAN, EXTRA WHITES, EXTRA SUPERFINES.
WHEAT MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, BOXINGS, ROUGH BARLEY, INDIAN CORN, BRAN.

JOSEPH POSTLE,

25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. 927b

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!! CHRISTMAS!!!

JOSEPH MURRAY,

GROCER, FLOUR, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

16, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND HIGH SPEN,

BEGS to call the attention of the Public to his Large and varied assortment of Goods of every description for the Christmas Season, which for Quality and Price will compare favourably with any Establishment in the District.

A Splendid Assortment of Huntley & Palmer's Noted Cakes, from 5d. up to 5s. each, and their High-class Fancy Tins of Biscuits, from 1s. upwards, suitable for Christmas Presents.

Cheese from the finest English Dairies in Cotherstone, Derby, Glo'ster, Cheshire, and splendid Americans, Gorgonzolas, Goudas, and Edams.

Bacons, Hams, Shoulders, and Rolls of the finest Brands. Smoked Wiltshire Hams and Bacon.

Cumberland Bacon and Hams, Irish Roll. A nice lot of Hams for Boiling, about 12lbs. weight, 5½d per lb.

Good Butter, only 1s. per lb. | Margarine, 6d. per lb., good and sweet.
The Finest Danish in Profession. | Margarine, 8d. per lb., equal to Butter.

COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS FRESH EVERY WEEK.

Peek Frean's Globe Cakes, Madeira, Cocoa Nut, Sultana, and Currant, 5½d. each.
Peek Frean's Quadrant Cake, Chip Fruit Cake, and Biscuits of every description.
Bottled Fruits, Tinned Fruits, Almonds, Muscatels, Sultana, and Valencia Raisins, Figs, Mote Fruits, and Prunes.
Currants, 3d. and 4d. per lb., Jams, Jellies, Marmalade, &c., of every sort, in various descriptions of packages.

I have a well-chosen STOCK OF GROCERIES—finest quality guaranteed.

Demerara Sugar, 2½d. per lb.	Good Clean Tea, 1s. 4d. per lb.
Crystal Sugar, 2½. per lb.	Very Strong Tea, 1s. 8d. per lb.
Castor and Icing Sugar, 3d. per lb.	Our Special Blend of Tea, 1s. 10d. per lb.
Finest Cut Loaf, 2½d. per lb.	The Finest in the Market, 2s. 10d. per lb.

THE NOTED TIGER BRAND OF CEYLON TEA, ONLY 2s. 6d.—PLEASES EVERYBODY.
A really Good Mixture of Chicory and Coffee, in ½lb., ¼lb., and 1lb. Tins, 1s. per lb.
Finest Plantation Coffee.

FRY'S, EPPS'S, CADBURY'S, AND VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA AT USUAL PRICES.
Every description of Fry's Fancy Boxes of Chocolate, from 1d. to 5s.

TINNED MEATS.—Large and Small Lunch Tongues, Chicken and Tongue, Turkey and Tongue, Curried Fowl, Game, Jugged Hare, Rabbit, Salmon, Sardines, Corned and Roast Beef, in all sized Tins.

Robert Sinclair's Golden Twist, Black Twist, Nailrod, and Rough Cut Shag.
Nut Flake Tobacco, 4d. per oz., Cope's Smoking Mixture, 4d. per oz., Wills' Bird's Eye, 4½d. per oz., Rifle Cake, 4½d. per oz., Lambert and Butler's, 9d. per packet, Cigars and Cigarettes.

IN THE FLOUR AND MEAL DEPARTMENT

I have the finest qualities in Fines, Supers, Extras, Hungarian, and Roller Process Flour. Also, Bran, Boxings, Maize, Indian Meal, Barley, Scotch and English Oatmeals, Horse Mixture, and Whole Oats, at Lowest Market Prices.

IF YOU WANT TO BUY NICE PRESENTS IN JAPANESE GOODS, GLASS, CHINA, OR WARE, CALL AT

JOSEPH MURRAY'S, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

AT THE SPEN BRANCH

A Large and Well-assorted Stock of Men's Work and Dress BOOTS and SHOES, Ladies' and Children's Leather and Kid Boots, Shoes, and Slippers, of every description.

Orders by Post or otherwise carefully attended to, and Goods delivered punctually to any part of the District.

T. BARTLETT,

CITY BILL-POSTER AND ADVERTISING CONTRACTOR,

Newcastle, Gateshead, Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Durham, and Brandon.

OFFICES: 75, OLAYPATH, DURHAM. J. HOW, Manager for Durham and Langley Moor Districts. THOMAS STOREY, "Advertiser" Office, CHESTER-LE-STREET, Agent for Birtley, Chester-le-Street and District.

CHIEF OFFICE: 1, FORTH LANE, NEWCASTLE

DIRECT FROM THE LOOM.

TREMENDOUS ARRIVAL OF NEW PATTERNS.

IMPORTANT VERDICT.

THE PEOPLE declare they never saw such a FINE SELECTION of WOOLLEN CLOTH PATTERNS on Earth in OVERCOATINGS, SUITINGS, AND TROUSERINGS.

TERRIFIC SLAUGHTER OF BIG PROFITS.

Melton and Beaver Overcoats, 40s. Sold elsewhere, 52s.

Scotch and Irish Tweed Suits, 42s. Sold elsewhere, 56s.

Fancy Worsted and Tweed Trousers, 12s. Sold elsewhere, 17s 6d.

MY MOTTO: SMALL PROFITS, QUICK RETURNS.

J. HUTCHINSON,

THE GREAT CASH TAILOR,

4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT. 720g

GOOD NEWS FOR CROOK.

J. BANNISTER,

OF JARROW,

THE CASH BOOT DEALER,

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of Crook and surrounding district that he has Bought the

STOCK-IN-TRADE

of the BRITANNIA BOOT COMPANY,

75, Hope Street, and will Sell the same, along with a great variety of

BOOTS, SHOES, AND SLIPPER

of the Best Make, warranted all Leather, at

RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES,

too numerous to detail on paper.

HAS OPENED.

GIVE HIM A CALL.

BRING YOUR REPAIRS.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MR. NORMAN,

TEACHER OF DANCING,

23, ELDON PLACE,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Classes during the Season at the Grand Assembly Rooms and the Lovaine Hall, Barras Bridge.

October, 1891. 604g

THE SEWING MACHINE AND KNITTING MACHINE

REPAIRING SHOP.

CHARLES POTTER,

HIGH BRIDGE, OPPOSITE "LEADER" OFFICE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SINGER'S, HOWES, WHEELER & WILSON'S, JONES', BRADBURY'S, and all description of Machines carefully Repaired & Adjusted.

Upwards of 20 Years in the Trade as Sewing Machine Mechanic.

Adjustments from 2s 6d without Removal of Machines from Owner's Premises.

☞ Send Message only, not Machine. ☜

XMAS CAROL

BY

CHARLES DICKENS.

ORIGINAL EDITION AND ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION,

BY JOHN LEECH.

SEE WINDOWS

OF

J. HEPWORTH & SON

(LIMITED),

THE LEEDS CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS

12, SHAKESPEARE STREET,

CONSETT,

Business Announcements.

JOHNSON HEDLEY,

MANUFACTURING and WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER, DRYSALTER, &c.,

NORTHUMBERLAND CONFECTIONERY WORKS, ERICK STREET,

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Superior Jams and Marmalades.

Biscuits of all kinds. 894

J. R. BRODIE,

TAILOR, MENS MERCER AND HATTER.

NEW PATTERNS IN TROUSERINGS AND SUITTINGS.

TROUSERS MADE TO MEASURE FROM 12s to 70 21s. SUITS FROM 52 5s.

Latest Styles in Hats and Caps! Hats from 1s 11d to 4s 11d; Caps from 6d to 2s 6d.

THE SHOP FOR SILK SCARFS, LINEN COLLARS AND CUFFS.

BOYS READY-MADE SUITS, IN THE NEWEST STYLES, ALWAYS IN HAND

J. R. BRODIE,

5, CHURCH STREET,

CONSETT. 897b

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS.

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS.

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AS SUPPLIED

TO ROYALTY AND THE ELITE OF EUROPE

THE ROYAL FAMILY.
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE.
THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.
THE QUEEN OF ITALY.
THE KING OF HOLLAND.
THE MIKADO OF JAPAN.
THE RT. HON. ROBERT BOURKE, Governor of Madras, India.
THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, Governor General of Canada.
HIS EXCELLENCY LORD DUFFERIN, Viceroy of India.
THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.
HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT VON FELBINGER, of Austria.

AND THE NOBILITY GENERALLY, ARE THE

LEADING HIGH-CLASS INSTRUMENTS,

And are for Sale by all First Class Music-sellers.

Our STYLE 90 and PIPE TOP, as supplied H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE, and our CONCERT ORGAN, as supplied THE KING OF HOLLAND, are Strongly Recommended as Particularly Saleable.

PRICES FROM 16 TO 400 GUINEAS

Every ORGAN FITTED with MOUSE PROOF Pedal attachment, and guaranteed for 6 years.

Every home should have a BELL AMERICAN ORGAN.

No home is complete without having a BELL AMERICAN ORGAN.

The Special style 3 at 23 Guineas, is a marvel, no better value ever placed before the market.

Styles 4 (b) or 49 (b) are very suitable for Mission rooms, and Churches.

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS, are the best value for the money, that can be had anywhere.

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RENOWNED FOR TONE AND DURABILITY.

THE BEST PIANO THAT CAN BE MADE FOR THE MONEY.

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MAY BE HAD ON THE NEW PURCHASE SYSTEM.

NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

50 PIANOS AND ORGANS ALWAYS IN STOCK.

CATALOGUES AND FULL INFORMATION GIVEN UPON APPLICATION.

INSPECTION INVITED.

ONLY AUTHORISED AGENT FOR THIS DISTRICT—

MR. THOMAS JONES,

CHURCH STREET,

CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S, "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 8, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

JAMES FROSDICK is the only Bill-poster that has rented Stations within the three Local Board districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfield side. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 897

R. WILSON & CO.,

BIRTLEY GRANGE BRICK WORKS, BIRTLEY.

Prices given for Common Bricks, Flooring Bricks, House Tiles, Draining Pipes, &c. Our Siding is connected with Railway direct to Consett and West Durham. Goods packed into Trucks at Kilns. 891b

TO ALL WHO CAN SEE THEIR WAY TO GET MARRIED GO TO

F. WELCH AND CO.,

WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS, AND HARDWAREMEN,

ANNFIELD PLAIN & STANLEY.

For one of their NOTED WEDDING RINGS, each PURCHASER of which is given FREE

Dozen Nickel Silver TEASPOONS
& One Pair SUGAR TONGS.

DON'T FORGET!

GEORGE McNEAL,

BILL-POSTER,

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000
BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Consett, Benfield Side, Pea Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton, Leadgate, &c.

£1 TO £10

MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET begs call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH: 2s 6d, or 7s per Tooth; £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Parts in time to return same day. MAIL FARE ALLOWED.

£10

THE

MISSES HARKER

BLACKHILL,

TEACHERS OF PIANOFORTE & VIOLIN

PUPILS carefully Trained for Theoretical and Practical Examinations. Violins, Bows, and Strings from the best Makers at Moderate Prices. Sheet Music, obtained on the Shortest Notice.

TERMS IN APPLICATION. 976d

AMERICAN LINE.

UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for Passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Shortest and Best Route to the West.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM HEDLEY, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, and JOHN Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 98, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne 21yr

PHOTOS.

VENICE DUNN,

PHOTO ARTIST,

15, MEDOMSLEY ROAD,

Is prepared to supply the Public of Consett and Districs with Beautiful

ENLARGED PHOTOS finished in OIL, WATER-COLOURS, or CRAYONS,

Framed complete, at Prices varying from 16s to 35s, according to finish.

PERSONS wishing to join our CLUB will be supplied with Club Cards and all particulars on application. Subscriptions received according to wish of Customers.

Photos artistically finished in latest and most improved styles, as following: Prices—Cabinets from 10s. to 12s. per dozen; Carte-de-Visites from 5s. to 6s. per dozen. 590d

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,

CONSETT.

WINTER REMEDIES.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE 1s. per Bottle.
Corn and Wart Cure, 7½d. and 1s. Bottles.
POROUS & OTHER PLASTERS.
Chest and Lung Protectors. Knee Caps, &c.
MAGNETIC AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES.
Trusses, Bandages, and Elastic Stockings.
Agent for Glendinning's Invalid Port and Beef and Malt Wines British Wines.

PURE MALT EXTRACT & COD LIVER OIL.
Infants' Feeding Bottles, &c. Invalid Foods.
Toilet Soaps, Perfumes, &c., in great variety.
Blood Purifier, 1s and 2s 6d Bottles Indigestion Mixture for Disorder of the Stomach, &c.
Glycerine and Cucumber, 6d. and 1s. a bottle; Ginger Wine Essence, 6d. and 1s. a bottle.

MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle. Stain Varnishes, 6d. and 1s. a bottle.
HORSE, DOG, AND CATTLE MEDICINES.
COUGH & PURGING BALLS for HORSES.

Postal Orders promptly attended to at
7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, and 54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 980g

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT

IMPORTERS

OF

CHOICEST DANISH BUTTERS.

PERFECT QUALITY DIRECT FROM THE FARMERS.

ONLY 1s. 3d PER LB.

MARGARINES, QUALITY AND PRICES

ONLY TO BE HAD AT THE ABOVE.

TIP-TOP MARGARINE, 6d. PER LB.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

THE FINEST TEA IN THE WORLD AT THE PRICE,

1s. 7D. PER LB.

COMPARE IT WITH TEAS AT 2s. PER LB.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB
County Cup Holders, 1891.

Business Announcements.

MUSIC LESSONS.

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

ADDRESS:—
1, CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL. 126h

JAMES PALLISER,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TEA MERCHANT,
47 and 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.
For GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS, J.P.'s Prices and Quality are not to be surpassed.
J.P.'s TEAS at 1s 4d and 2s per lb., are specialities for Christmas.
PLEASE GIVE ONE TRIAL. 116h

JOHN G. ARMSTRONG,
AUCTIONEER, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,
MEDOMSLEY, R.S.O.
SCALES AND WEIGHING MACHINES REPAIRED. 892g

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

A STOCK kept on hand, including Ploughs, Diggers, Turnip Cutters of all sorts, Oil Cake Mills, and the Corn Grinding Mills. All from the leading Makers at Moderate Prices.
GEO. HUNTER, Medomsley.
28h

STOBART'S SALVES may be had at North Eastern Hotel, Hexham; White Horse Inn, Great Market, Newcastle; Wheat Sheaf Inn, Bigg Market, Newcastle; William Robinson's, Grocer and Draper, Medomsley; Railway Hotel, Consett; George Murray, Grocer and Druggist, Dipton; or by application to the Maker, GEO. R. STOBART, Broomhill, Medomsley, R.S.O. 606e

ACCIDENTS AT ALL TIMES—IN ALL PLACES,
INSURED AGAINST BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
ESTABLISHED, 1849.
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CAPITAL, £1,000,000.
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MUSICAL TUITION.

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

GEORGE DRYDEN (late pupil of Mr. Hemy) Organist of Medomsley Church, having obtained First-class Honours in Pianoforte Playing, also Certificates in Theory and Harmony, at the Examinations (before Dr. E. M. Lott) in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and in THEORY.
Special Preparation for Examinations.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.
ADDRESS:—No. 1, EAST PARADE, CONSETT

E. S. BELL AND CO.,
TAILOR AND DRAPERS.
ARE now Showing OVERCOATS, BOYS' REEFERS, and MEN'S SUITS suitable for the CHRISTMAS SEASON.
OVERCOATS from 15s 6d to 30s.
BOYS' REEFERS from 2s 6d to 6s 6d.
MEN'S SUITS from 15s 6d to 35s.
BOYS' SUITS from 2s 11d to 12s 6d.
HATS, CAPS, AND MERCERY IN ALL THE LATEST STYLES.

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

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

FOR FIT AND STYLE WE CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

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

Sales by Auction.

39 IS the WINNING NUMBER for Harmonium belonging to GEO. COOKE, Westwood. 337h

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, CONSETT.

A CONCERT and SUPPER will be held in the National Schools (West Victoria Street), on Tuesday, Dec. 29th. Concert to commence at 7·30 p m. Tickets for Concert and Supper, Gentlemen, 1s; Ladies, 9d. For particulars see Programmes. 335h

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

C.E.T.S., CONSETT NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

PUBLIC TEA and CONVERSAZIONE at 4·30 p.m.; Service of Song by Members of the Children's Scripture Union, at Seven p.m. Tickets 6d each. 331h

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

THE ANNUAL SOCIAL GATHERING and SUPPER will be held at the Infant School, Derwent Street, Blackhill, on TUESDAY, Dec. 29th, at 7 p.m. Fancy Stall, Music, Addresses, &c. Admission, 1s. 338h

UNITARIANISM.

ON MONDAY First, Dec. 28th, 1891, MR SYDNEY H. STREET, B.A., will Deliver a LECTURE in the Small Hall, of the New Town Hall, Consett. Subject: "A Unitarian View of Christ." Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock. Admission Free. A Collection to defray expenses. All are welcome. 340h

A GREAT TREAT!

DIPTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

MR. McCULLOCH, of Darlington, will PREACH and LECTURE on Christmas Day. Excellent TEA will be provided by Messrs T. ROWEN and R. FORSTER. Everybody is invited, and will be given a hearty Christmas welcome. 329h

REMEMBER! REMEMBER!!

THE Sons of Temperance, Medomsley, will hold their 15th ANNUAL FESTIVAL on New Year's Day, January 1st, 1892, in their Temperance Hall. Sumptuous KNIFE and FORK TEA, to commence at 3 p.m. A Grand CONCERT in the Evening. Chair to be taken at 6·30, by Mr. WM. SCOTT, G.W.P., Winlaton. For particulars see Bills.

NATHAN FAWELL, JUN.,
42, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, BOOKSELLER, FANCY GOODS DEALER, &c.
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS AND BOOKLETS.
A GOOD SELECTION OF DOLLS AND TOYS.
TOBACCO, CIGARS, AND PIPES. 246h

COLLIERLEY PARISH CHURCH.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.
SALE OF WORK AND CHRISTMAS TREE, in Greencroft Board Schools, at 3 p.m.
Saturday, 2nd January, BACHELORS' SUPPER and ENTERTAINMENT, at 7 p.m.
Proceeds in aid of the Church House Fund.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR.

FOR TEAS, COFFEES, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, &c., for the festive season, try
M. FAWELL,
40, FRONT STREET (Corner of Delves Lane), CONSETT.
GOODS Delivered to any Part.
Agent for the best PURE CEYLON TEA in the Market.
A Stock of FEEDING STUFFS always on hand

ANNUAL EVENING ENTERTAINMENT, NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

Public Notices.

BLACKHILL & CONSETT "SECOND" MODEL BUILDING SOCIETY.

OWING to the ordinary Subscription Meetings falling on Christmas and New Year's Eves, the Directors have decided to hold them on the following Mondays, the 28th December, 1891, and 4th January, 1892, respectively, at the usual hours.
WM. RAMSAY, Secretary.
258h

A BAZAAR and RUMMAGE SALE, in aid of the Fund for restoring the ancient Church of St. Andrew's, Shotley, will be held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday Afternoon, Dec. 30th, to commence at Two o'clock. Admission 6d from 2 till 4 o'clock. After 4 o'clock, admission Twopence. 960h

A BAZAAR on New Year's Day in the Schoolroom, Primitive Methodist Church, Consett. A Large Variety of PLAIN and FANCY ARTICLES. Refreshments, Music, Amusements, &c. To be opened at Two O'clock. Further particulars on placards. 279h

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

IN connection with the above, a MUSICAL SERVICE will be held in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, on Sunday Night First, December 27th. To commence at 8 o'clock. Collection. Pledges. All seats free. 305h

CO-OPERATIVE HALL, CONSETT.

PROFESSOR MORGAN, the GREAT MESMERIST and ENGLAND'S PHRENOLOGIST, will continue his Entertainments nightly. On CHRISTMAS NIGHT, the ENTERTAINMENT will be very interesting and SUITABLE to the occasion. Doors open at 7-30. Admission—1s., 6d., 3d.
Consultations on Character and Health each Evening from 6 to 7-30 p.m. 346h

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

MISS WILSON, of Carlisle, will re-visit Leadgate, on New Year's Day and following Week. REV C. W. BARBER will Preach at Two o'clock in the Wesleyan Chapel, on New Year's Day, and Councillor GEORGE NICHOLSON will open a SALE OF WORK at Three o'clock. MISS WILSON will take part in the Services. TEA will be provided at 4·30, and there will be a HAM SUPPER at 8 o'clock. See Bills. 327h

RE LINTZ GREEN STATION ROAD.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held on Monday, Dec. 28th inst., at 7 p.m., at the Fox Inn, Dipton, to take steps to obtain a Free Road to the above Station. All interested in the matter are requested to attend.
(Signed)
WM. BRAIDFORD, JUN.,
RICHARD ABBOTT, Hon. Secs.
Lintz Green, R.S.O., Dec. 19th, 1891. 333h

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TO LONDON FOR FOUR DAYS

ON FRIDAY, the 1st of January an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Newcastle at 12·5 a.m. (with bookings from Consett Durham &c.), for LONDON, for FOUR DAYS.
See Bills.
Superintendent's Office, Newcastle. 332h

XMAS AND NEW YEAR.

IF YOU WANT GOOD VALUE IN BOOTS AND SHOES GO TO
NINIAN BELL'S
THE SHAKESPEARE BOOT SHOP, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
A Capital WINTER'S STOCK to Select from.
SPECIALTIES—
The Lancashire Standard Screw. The above is not the common Split Hide, which is commonly sold, but a real Leather and Wide Welt.
Repairs done on the shortest notice at moderate prices.
A TRIAL SOLICITED. 240h

ROWE AND CO'S
COCOA ROOMS, CONSETT.
MESSRS ROWE AND CO. beg to thank the public of Consett and neighbourhood for the support hitherto accorded to them, and hope to merit a continuance of the same.
For Xmas and New Year a large stock of Xmas Cakes and Fruit Loaves, from 6d, 1s, and 2s each. Also, Fruit Loaves, 4d and 6d per lb.
Balls, Tea Parties, &c., supplied.
Balls, Tea Parties, &c., catered for on reasonable terms.
L. W. ROWE, Manager. 272h

SKATES! SKATES!! SKATES!!!
JOSHUA LAX,
IRONMONGER, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
HAS just received a large Consignment of SKATES, Wood and Acme, with Straps and all necessaries, which he is OFFERING FOR SALE at very reasonable Prices.
J.L. also wishes it known that he has on SALE a large Assortment of LAMPS, including Table Hanging and Back Lamps, Stable and Hand Lanterns, &c., at very low prices.
Buyers would do well to give him a call. 320h

CONCERT.

METHODIST Free Church Annual CONCERT, on New Year's Day, in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain. The services of high-class Artistes have been engaged. Singers. — Ladies, Madam Miller, Soprano, South Shields; Miss Kate Robinson Soprano, Newcastle; Miss M. A. Hedley, Contralto, Newcastle. Gentlemen, Mr J. Reed, Tenor, of Trinity College, Cambridge; Mr J. W. Cutter, Bass, Newcastle; Mr Frank Weightman, Humourist, Newcastle; Instrumentalists, Mr J. J. Walker, Gateshead; Mr Fred Stokoe, Silver Medallist, Consett; Mr J. Stratford Consett; Mr J. Davison, Darlington; Reciter, Mr J. Coombes, Annfield Plain. Doors open at 6·30; Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock by Councillor J. A. CURRY, Esq., Bradley Lodge. Chairs, 2s; Body of the Hall and Gallery, Adults, 1s; Children, 6d; Programmes gratis. 313h

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

ON SATURDAY First, December 26th, the above place will be Re-opened by MESSRS MURRAY & COCHRANE'S First-class Company in the great Drama,
"THE STRIKE."
SPECIAL SCENERY AND EFFECTS.
MONDAY, January 4th, See
"THE ARABIAN NIGHTS,"
AS PLAYED BY
MR CHARLES A. NORMAN'S
specially Selected Company.
These are two of the greatest attractions that have ever visited Consett.
Tickets at Tyler's Boot Shop, Middle Street, Consett.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

A GRAND
SALE OF WORK
Will be held
ON CHRISTMAS DAY, 1891,
In aid of the Building Fund of the Wesleyan New Church and Schools, Consett.
THE STALLHOLDERS WILL APPEAR IN EGYPTIAN COSTUME.
The Sale will be Opened at Two o'clock and continued throughout the Day.
TEA AND OTHER REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED,
ENTERTAINMENTS
Will be given at Intervals during the Afternoon and Evening in the Small Hall.
A STRING BAND AND THE WESLEYAN CHOIR will render Selections of Music, Vocal and Instrumental Solos, &c.
Admission and Tea, 1s to Hall only, 6d. 345h

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

Public Notices.

1891. SEASON. 1892.
Before buying your
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S CARDS,
Presents, &c, too numerous to mention, call at
JASPER COCKBURN'S,
Cheap Stationery, Confectionery, and Fancy Bazaar,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 302h

Sales by Auction.

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

Tuesday, Dec. 29th, 1891.—Consett Reading and Recreation Rooms.
MR ADAM BRODIE is instructed by the Committee to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION in the Consett Reading and Recreation Rooms, on Tuesday, Dec. 29th, 1891, the REVIEWS, MAGAZINES, and NEWSPAPERS to be taken in during the Half-year, ending June 29th, 1892.
Sale to commence at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

Monday, January 4th, 1892.—Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture, American Organ, Harmonium, and other Effects.
MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett, on Monday, January, 4th, 1892, a large Assemblage of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and other Effects.
Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock.

NOTICE.—The Two FREEHOLD COTTAGES, Numbered 33, John Street, and 24, Pitt Street, Consett, occupied by Messrs Malone and Lamb, at a gross Rental of £18 4s, not having been SOLD at the Auction, at the Railway Hotel, last (Thursday) Night, may be Treated for Privately, on application to Mr ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 344h

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—A. & R. J. BRODIE Auctioneers and Valuers, Town Hall Consett, undertake the SALE OF PROPERTY of every description either by PUBLIC AUCTION or otherwise, on reasonable terms. FORTNIGHTLY SALES held every Pay Monday, at the Victoria Sale-Rooms, in which Furniture or other Goods can be included, or if preferred, will be Purchased for Cash. Bailiffs under the Agricultural Holdings Act, and under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.
ACCIDENT ASSURANCE. — Assurance against Accidents of every kind in the following Offices, noted for prompt settlement of claims—Scottish Accident Assurance Company, Imperial Union Accident Assurance Company.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 1891.
6 Fat Cattle.
80 Fat Sheep.
Pork and Store Pigs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
Dairy Cows, Geld Cows, Poultry &c.
Coup Cart, for Cob, 14 or 15 h.h. (new).
Splendid Whitechapel Dog Cart, by Angus, been a very short time in use.
2 Tons well-won Old Land Hay.
Special Lots from a party declining the Green-grocery Business:—
Good Grey Cob, 15 h.h., quiet, and good in all yokes.
Strong 2-Wheel Flat, good as new, built to carry 1½ Ton.
Whitechapel.
Set Spring Cart Harness, in good order.
Set Silver-mounted Gig Harness by N. Brown, good as new.
Other Lots.
Sale at One o'clock.
J. S. MURRAY.
Order of Sale: Hay first; then Sheep, Cattle, Pigs, Traps, Horse, and Poultry. 349h

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

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

To Capitalists, Speculators, Property Owners, and Others.—Sale of Desirable Leasehold Property in West Stanley.
MR G. R. HOBSON, instructed by the Executors of the Late Mr R. COOPER, Deceased, will OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mr JOHN ERRINGTON, Ox Inn, Oxhill, on Wednesday, Dec. 30th, at 6 p.m., all that Leasehold SHOP and HOUSE, situated in Front Street, West Stanley, together with spacious Yard behind, with all necessary Conveniences. Also, 2-Stalled STABLE. The Property is at present in the occupation of Mr JOSEPH BROWN, as Tenant thereof, at the gross annual Rental of £28 per annum. The Property occupies a space of 240 square yards, or thereabouts, and has an unexpired tenancy of 86 years.
For further Particulars apply to Mr JOHN COOPER, Dipton; Mr GEORGE SMITH, Oxhill, or to the AUCTIONEER. 230h

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

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

Business Announcements

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property
Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. In erest, repayable at Three Months' notice.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Publ (Incorporated) Ac'ountant, Secretary

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF & MALT WINE
Composed of Liebig's Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract, and old Port Wine. It is therefore a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength.
PRICE: 3s. 9d. PER BOTTLE; 2s. PER HALF-BOTTLE.
Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, Newcastle.
LOCAL AGENTS:—
CONSETT. — RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. T. D. DRYDEN & Co., FRONT STREET. THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST.
WITTON GILBERT.—T. SUDDES, STATION HOTEL.
MEDOMSLEY.—R. M. RUTHERFORD, ROYAL OAK HOTEL.
DIPTON. — ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT.
STANLEY.—WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL.
ANNFIELD PLAIN.—WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL.
BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES BURTON HOUSE.
TANFIELD.—JOHN IRWIN PACK HORSE INN.

THE Refined Musical and Literary Entertainer has been Engaged.

Business Announcements

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

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Gems &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 789

INFLUENZA!

"In the North, the march of the
EPIDEMIC is becoming
more noticeable."—*Daily Graphic*.

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INFLUENZA!	ROBERTS.

Grave reports are to hand respecting the ravages of this painful and much dreaded Epidemic. No longer confined to the Courts and Continent of Europe, its insidious progress is making itself felt in London and many of the chief towns of Great Britain. It proves no respecter of persons—Prince, Premier, and Peasant being equally favourable mediums for its onslaught.

"IN THE NORTH the march of the Epidemic is becoming more noticeable." That this is so, is shown by the numerous cases that have already come under our own observation, in Newcastle and District, unhappily, in some instances, attended with serious consequences.

In order that this state of affairs may cease, and as a contribution to the cure, as well as the certain prevention of this much dreaded disorder, we have satisfaction in recommending ROBERTS' INFLUENZA MIXTURE as the most Reliable and Preventive yet discovered. The weak of both sexes may take this Specific during cold or changeable weather; whilst everyone should resort to it on the first sign or symptom of attack.

Adult—One small Tablespoonful every Two or Three Hours; Children—One Teaspoonful. In each case, the dose may be increased at bedtime.

ROBERTS' COLONIAL BUILDINGS,
17, BIGG MARKET,
NEWCASTLE.

WEATHER CHART FOR DECEMBER.

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

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

TO ADVERTISERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

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

IN our next issue will appear a special article on "Ghosts."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

NEW YEAR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADVETISEMENTS and Communications intended for INSERTION FOR THE NEW YEAR should REACH US *NOT LATER* than NEXT WEDNESDAY MORNING, as the *Guardian* will be issued on Thursday December 31st.

"WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?"—Messrs. Elliman, of Slough, give this title to a unique little publication brought out for the purpose of advertising Elliman's Embrocation, but made generally attractive by its really exceptionally good illustrations. Mr. John Sturgess has drawn a number of striking pictures of hunting, coaching, polo, &c., and Mr. Sturgess, jun., has supplied episodes of athletics, &c., the whole covering a wide range of sport. The illustrations (19 of these) in a larger sizes are to be obtained separately from the former. They have the advantage that in this form their present commercial associations disappear, and they stand out as really capital pictures upon their own merits. "WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?" would be sent free for Twopence in stamps, and the 19 Sporting Prints for P.O. 2s. 6d. or stamps 2s. 6d. Sent abroad for P.O. 3s. Address—Elliman, Sons and Co., Slough. 809g

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

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGO."]

THE PESTILENCE THAT WALKETH IN DARKNESS.

The snowflakes when they fall this season will find a cold bed on many a newly-made grave. On Wednesday, as I was crossing the Swing Bridge, Newcastle, I paused for a moment to look over the parapet at a passing craft. The people were crowding past, each pedestrian bearing, hidden deep down in his and her bosom, their individual burden of trials and sorrows. I may state that this fact was brought very vividly to my mind by the following conversation, which took place just as I was on the eve of turning on my heel and going on my way. Two old friends had evidently met immediately behind me, such at least was the impression which their mode of greeting suggested: "Oh, Hannah hoo is th', and hoo is a' th' bai'ns?" There was a suppressed sigh, followed by the dread announcement, "Oh, woman, they are a' de'd and buried." I walked quickly from the spot; for when the flood gates of the heart are opened the gaze of the passer-by is but a poor solace for the broken spirit. My readers know well that the incident narrated is only one among the many. There is unfortunately a very large amount of sickness at present in city, town, and hamlet. Strong men who a few weeks ago enjoyed the best of health have fallen victims to the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and been gathered to their Father—more indeed than the majority of people seem to have any idea of. Personally, I have lately seen a good deal of the ravages of the destroyer, whose name is death. I was present recently in one of the best known cemeteries in the North of England when the officiating clergyman was under the necessity of reading the burial service over two at a time, and the stars had risen before the cold earth fell on the lid of the last coffin. And at another God's acre, last Sabbath, it was so dark before the last corpse was interred that the last rites to the dead could not be performed, as the moon was obscured by the passing clouds, and the wintry winds prevented the candles from burning. In some districts, schools have been closed, all the teachers being ill, and I know at least one railway station at which there was not one official able to be on duty. The same state of things exists in connection with commercial houses. I had occasion to traverse the banks of the Tees during the current week, and I can assure my readers that matters are not one whit better in that locality. At one large ironworks the whole of the official staff was called out last Sunday—that is to say, all who were able to be on duty—as so many had been ill of late that the work in the office was at a deadlock.

Late Correspondence.

WOLSINGHAM COUNTY COURT.

ENGLISH *v* THOMAS WATSON'S EXECUTORS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Will you allow me, as the eldest son of the family concerned, in justice to Mr Thompson, of Stanhope, solicitor, who for many years acted in a most kind and friendly way to the family, to say that the only real question in the case was whether my youngest brother (the plaintiff) had agreed to allow £25 out of his share towards repaying the money which was advanced by Mr Thompson, mainly through me and at the request of all the family to my father and mother.

The whole of the fund was paid to the family except £75, which could not be paid until my youngest brother was 21 years of age, and Mr Thompson consequently retained that amount until he was of age. After my brother attained 21 he and I met Mr Thompson by appointment, and we told him my brother had agreed to allow the £25. Mr Thompson then paid my brother the balance of his share, and the remainder of the fund was then and there paid over to me. The executors having paid every penny, and considering Mr Thompson's great kindness and confidence in the past, I could not be satisfied without stating the above facts. The account was sent in some weeks ago, and it was owing to a misunderstanding that the plaintiff was not met in court on Saturday last.—Yours truly,

JOHN ENGLISH.

Wellhope, December, 1891.

JUVENILE TEMPLARY IN NORTH DURHAM.

The quarterly session of the North Durham District Council of Juvenile Templars was held on Saturday in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Trimdon, Sister Miss M. B. Hall, D.S.J.T., presiding. Representatives were present from Sunderland, Gateshead, Tyne Dock, Low Fell, Langley Park, Lintz Green, Wingate, Trimdon, and other parts of the district. The D.S.J.T. reported 27 temples working, with a membership of 1,707, an increase of 168 on the quarter. Thirteen juveniles had also been drafted into the adult order. The treasurer's (Sister Mrs Horsman) report showed an increase of £3 4s 6d, expenditure £1 1s 0d; leaving a balance of £2 3s 6d. Sister M. B. Hall and Bro. John H. Harrison were nominated for D.S.J.T. for the ensuing year. Bro. Harrison declined the nomination and Sister Hall was unanimously recommended. For the next place of meeting Witton Gilbert and Sunderland were proposed, and on a vote Witton Gilbert was selected. It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Halliday to request district lodge to petition the Grand and R.W.G. Lodges to provide a special ceremony for the transfer of juvenile templars into the adult order. Pleasing and encouraging reports were then given by the superintendents and visiting superintendents. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the local members for the excellent arrangements, after which Council closed with the usual ceremonies. Afterwards, a well attended public meeting was held in the Good Templars' Hall, when an address on juvenile work was given by Bro. J. A. Harrison, P.D.S.J.T., of Sunderland, and an interesting programme of recitations, melodies, &c., given by the members of the Rising Progress Temple.

Our lady readers will find in January's issue of WELDON'S LADIES' JOURNAL a choice selection of designs with complete and practical instructions for cutting out and making up at home, the paper pattern of a particularly stylish bodice for evening wear is given away, also a coloured plate of novelties in fancy dress, evening and ball toilettes, instructions are given for making the improved umbrella skirt for evening wear, special designs in fancy dresses, and a mass of useful information on household matters.

The January number of WELDON'S NEEDLEWORK enters on the seventh year of publication, the subject of this issue being crinkled tissue paper work, instructions are given for making lamp and candle shades, flower-pot covers, flowers, screens, &c., in crinkled and crepe tissue paper.

PLAN of HALL may be seen, and Seats booked on Application to W. RAMSAY, Blackhill. 125h

During the interval, Silver Medals, which have been generously provided by J. DUNVILLE, Esq., will be Presented to the Members of the Winning Team in connection with the recent Cup Competition. In the unavoidable absence of the donor, the Presentation will be made by Alderman U. A. Ritson, J.P., of Newcastle. 131h

WESLEYAN METHODISM.

WEARDALE CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of the Weardale circuit was held at St. John's Chapel, Rev Jos. Gibson presiding. According to the numerical returns the number of members is 643, an increase of 43 on the quarter. There are also 53 on trial and 77 joined members. The financial statement showed a small balance in the hands of the stewards. The retiring stewards, Messrs Joshua Dawson and W. Robinson, were thanked for their services, and as they declined re-election, Messrs T. G. Watson, of High House, and Jos. Coulthard, of Wearhead, were appointed as their successors. Mr R. Watson, of High House, was re-elected circuit chapel secretary.

COUNTY COURT FIXTURES.

His Honour E. J. Meynell (judge) has appointed County Courts to be held at the following places and times:—

Consett—Wednesday, January 6th, February 3rd, March 2nd, April 13th, May 4th, and June 8th—at 10 a.m.

Wolsingham—Saturday, February 6th, April 9th, and June 11th—at 11 a.m.

Durham—Monday and Tuesday, January 18th and 19th, February 15th and 16th, March 14th and 15th, April 25th and 26th, May 9th and 10th, June 20th and 21st—at 10 a.m.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

Christmas will, this year, find a vacant chair in many a home. Death has been unusually busy amongst us. Many on whose cheeks last year was the bloom of health are now laid low. They have joined the great majority, and have "crossed that bourne from whence no traveller returns." There will be many a family gathering with some loved ones missing. The dear old folks are leaving us fast, and were it not for the fact of a hope beyond the grave life would hardly be worth living. But the immortality of the soul is a blessed reality. It fringes the grave itself with light, and eternity with rapturous joy. Death is but a cypress avenue to glory. A long dark tunnel, through which we must pass to the light and joy of our Father's home where sickness and sorrow are unknown, and where there is no suffering and no death. No tolling bell has ever struck its sad notes on its sunny air. No funeral processions are ever seen there. Its soil has never been upturned for a grave. No mourners ever pass along its streets. Its shores are radiant. A land of light and love and perennial joy. The past autumn and present winter have wrought sad havoc among our friends and acquaintances, and Christmas will, this year, be less enjoyable because they are missing.

"And we sigh for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still."

There is somewhere in the universe a bright spot where God has fixed His throne, where He reveals to His servants the brighter splendour of His glory, and where departed saints meet in close, loving, and eternal fellowship, and it is to that better land those we have loved and lost have gone. Heaven is nearer and dearer to us because of our loved ones being there. And if at this joyous and festive season we shall miss them, yet we expect to spend an unending Christmas with them in that sunny land to which they have gone.

Poor old Betty Elliott, a Bollihope character, well-known and dearly beloved, has joined the great majority. Betty was as kind hearted a woman as ever lived—straightforward, honest, "rough side out," to use a homely phrase, yet she was of the genuine stamp, beloved by all who knew her. Her sudden death evoked the kindliest sympathy in Bollihope for those left. Some rare dust lies in Frosterley Churchyard to-day.

An event unique in its sadness occurred at Frosterley last week-end. Two old folks, who had fought life's battle together for many years, in death were undivided. The one died on the Saturday, and the other on the Monday. Robert Maddinson and his wife; the former had scored 86 years, and the latter 74. Through weal and woe they bravely pulled together, and had brought up a large family, but our fickle climate and the weather of the present autumn, or winter, as we may now call it, proved too much for them, and they finished life's journey almost together, and were interred at the same time in one grave in the quiet little village of Frosterley. *Sic transit gloria.*

The death of the Rookhope clergyman, the Rev J. P. Shepherd, came upon the public as a surprise. His illness was of short duration; but his end was peace. He had endeared himself to his parishioners as few clergymen do. He was ever seeking to promote their temporal and spiritual welfare, and his efforts were highly appreciated. For ten long years he had cast in his lot with the good people of Rookhope. He was a fine old gentleman, and one that speedily won your esteem and respect. As a member of the Stanhope School Board, he was held in high esteem, and when he was compelled to retire through physical infirmities, his retirement was deeply regretted by his fellow Board members. Kind and affectionate in all his dealings, he was held in high esteem, and his sudden and unexpected death is much regretted.

Mrs Walton's sewing meeting tea was, on Saturday, a bumper, far outstripping any of its predecessors this winter. The moneys not having all come in, the financial results cannot be given as yet, but will be published next week.

The gymnasium at the Hartwell School, Stanhope, is now in full swing, and is well attended by the youths of the place. A dramatic club is being got up in connection with it, and a singing class is on the *tapis*. There is also, in connection with it, a bible class, comprising over 50 scholars. There is also a reading-room, a smoking room, and rooms for gymnastics, bagatelle, and other games—all got up to counteract the influence of the public-house.

The Wesleyan Methodists at Stanhope have now a chapel of which they may be justly proud. It is a gem of a chapel, and second to none in Weardale, but the road into it is a discredit to the trustees. On a dark, frosty night, it is very dangerous, and there is a nasty step which has tripped many a one up. There are some old folks I know who dread it, and on that account hardly dare venture to the chapel in slippery weather. Some have been injured by it, and even young folks through it get many a nasty shake. It is high time it was altered, and a different road, easy of access and not dangerous, made to the chapel. I hear on good authority that the trustees have an offer, or what amounts to an offer, of land for a level road in from the east through the cemetery gates. A grand chapel with a dangerous, bad road to it seems to me a little out of place. It would not require a very large effort to make the entrance and egress good, and if the trustees wish old folks to attend chapel on winter nights, they ought to complete and finish their work before they take their wind, as I hear they intend doing.

At the Stanhope Petty Sessions, on Friday, a witness, on entering the Town Hall, was heard to offer up a short prayer. Whether she mistook the place for a place of worship or not is not known, but those standing near the door were much amused at the singular circumstance.

Football.

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

ASSOCIATION.

A correspondent, signing himself "Spectator," requests us to state that the game between East Stanley Daisies and Byer Moor Rovers (reported in our last issue) did not result in a draw, but that Byer Moor Rovers won by three goals to one goal and one disputed goal.

Annfield Plain Jolly Tars B team beat Greencroft Black Watch 2nd by one goal to nil, on the former's ground.

CONSETT SWIFTS v CROOKHALL WANDERERS.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a draw, neither team scoring.

LEADGATE EXILES v BOLDON STAR.—Played on the ground of the former. The visitors were outclassed, and suffered a defeat of six goals to nil.

TOW LAW v WEST END RESERVE.—Played at Newcastle, a good game ending in a win for the Reserve by two goals to nil.

MEDOMSLEY RESERVE v SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Played on the ground of the former. The homesters played a capital game, and gained a victory by two goals to nothing.

CORNSAY TRUE BLUES v WATERHOUSES RISING STARS 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a well-contested game resulted in favour of the home team by three goals to nil.

OAKEY'S LILYWHITES 2ND v EAST STANLEY DAISIES.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a rough game the home team were victorious by five goals to two.

OAKEY'S LILYWHITES v BEAMISH TRUE BLUES.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a good game resulted in a win for the visitors by four goals to two.

WALDRIDGE CHURCH JUNIORS v. WALDRIDGE SCRATCH.—The former club having no game, played a scratch team captained by J. Lowes. After a good game the result was:—Juniors, four goals; scratch team, two goals.

CONSETT YOUNG SHAMROCKS v BLACKHILL EAST END.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a fairly good game resulted in a win for the home team by five goals to nil.

GREENCROFT v ANNFIELD PLAIN JOLLY TARS.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a good game the home team were victorious by one goal to none.

HIGHGATE WANDERERS v ALLENDALE RISING STARS—Played at Allendale. Score—Highgate, four goals (one disputed); Allendale, two goals. P. Smith and T. Joel played well for the winners.

HELM PARK WANDERERS v ESH TRUE BLUES 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former, when a fairly good game ended in a win for the Wanderers by eight goals to one.

CONSETT ROYAL OAKS 2ND v GREENCROFT BLACK WATCH.—Played on the latter's ground, a very pleasant game ending in a win for the visitors by six goals to one.

ALLENDALE PARK v SHOTLEY ROVERS.—Played on the ground of the latter. Good play was shown by the visitors, but the Rovers gained the victory. Score—Shotley Bridge, three goals; Allendale Park, one goal.

WOLSINGHAM ATTWOOD ROVERS v STANHOPE WEST END.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a very exciting game resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—Wolsingham, one goal; West End, nothing.

DIPTON WANDERERS JUNIORS v DICKINSON'S BLACK CLOCKS (what next?)—Played on the latter's ground, and resulted in a win for the Black Clocks by twenty goals to nil. A. Rouse played well for the losers, and S. Murray for the winners.

CONSETT YOUNG SAXONS v SPENCER STREET ROVERS—Played on the ground of the former, and after a very pleasant game the home team won by three goals to two. J. Morris, E. McArdle, and F. Malone played well for the winners.

DIPTON ATHLETIC v FLINT HILL ALBION.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by six goals to one. Teasdale, Bell, and Hughes were prominent all through for the Athletic.

BYER MOOR ROVERS v EAST PONTOP RED STARS.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a well-contested game the Rovers ran out winners by two goals to one. Young, Keefe, and Clasper played a splendid game for the winners.

QUEBEC ST. MICHAEL'S v LANGLEY PARK EXCELSIORS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the home team by two goals to one. Although the visitors were defeated, they played a good game throughout, as their opponents were much the bigger team.

TOW LAW ST. JOSEPH'S v CONSETT ROYAL OAKS.—Played on the latter's ground in favourable weather, and after a hard contested game resulted in a victory for the Royal Oaks by two goals to one. The last time these teams met the Consett club played with seven second team men, and had to suffer defeat by six goals to nil.

MARLEY HILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v BYER MOOR.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a pleasant game the home team won by one goal to nothing. P. Sharp played a splendid game in goal for Marley Hill, as did N. Keith for Byer Moor. The winners displayed good all round form, Gibbons being the pick of the half-backs, while T. Brabbon was prominent at back.

MEDOMSLEY CHURCH CHOIR v TANFIELD CÆSARS.—The Choir journeyed to Tanfield to play this match. Medomsley pressed hard during the first half, and scored twice to their opponents' once. The visitors showed up well in the second half, but did not score, and close upon time Tanfield luckily equalised, the game thus ending in a draw of two goals each. Medomsley had the best of the play throughout, but were unlucky in front of goal.

WOLSINGHAM C.I. v STANHOPE.—Played on the ground of the latter. In the first half play was very even, each goal being visited in turn, and when half-time arrived the score was—Stanhope, one goal; Institute, nil. On re-starting, Coulson equalised for the visitors, who were now only playing with ten men. Stanhope then put on two goals, one of which was disallowed, and the result was:—Stanhope, two goals; Wolsingham, one goal. Nixon played a good game for the losers.

TOW LAW ATHLETIC v DERWENT COTTAGES RAMBLERS.—Played at Tow Law, on the town club's field. The visitors won the toss, and elected to play uphill. The home team kicked off, and made a run to the visitors' goal, but were repulsed by the backs. Steady play followed, each side having in turn many good sprints. At the call of half-time the record stood as under—

Tow Law ....Nil
Ramblers ....Nil

After the re-start, the visitors, with the hill in their favour, began to press, but by degrees were repulsed, and the ball taken to the other end of the field, where J. McIntosh, after eluding the Ramblers' backs, sent in a beauty and placed a goal to the Athletic's credit. This roused the visitors to greater efforts, and the home backs miskicking, let in the opposing forwards, who scored after a struggle in front of goal. Shortly after the whistle sounded for time, and the final result was—

Tow Law ....One goal
Ramblers ....One goal

HOBSON WANDERERS v DIPTON WANDERERS RESERVE.—This return fixture was played at the Hobson, the home team being fully represented, while on the previous Saturday they were, through various causes, compelled to play four reserve men at Consett. Dipton kicked off, and give-and-take play followed, half-time arriving with the score—

Dipton ....One goal
Hobson ....One goal

After the interval, the home team soon added another goal. Dipton again equalised, but the Hobson once more assumed the aggressive, and had hard lines in not augmenting their score. No further scoring, however, took place, and a very pleasant game ended as under—

Dipton ....Two goals
Hobson ....Two goals

DIPTON WANDERERS v PELTON FELL HARRIERS.—Played on the ground of the former. Hewitt won the toss, and elected to play with the wind and sun at his men's backs. Evans started for the Wanderers, who soon got into their opponents' territory. T. Walker gained possession and sent in a grand shot, Evans putting on the finishing touch. The Harriers played up determinedly, and were not long in equalising. A lot of midfield play followed, but the homesters then pressed, and T. Walker put on the second point. At half-time the score was—

Wanderers ....Two goals
Harriers ....One goal

On re-starting, the Harriers put on an extra spurt, and made things warm for Dipton, Turpin affecting some grand saves in goal. The home forwards then obtained possession, Leadbitter and Gilliard putting in some pretty passing, and Evans scored No. 3. From the kick-off, the Wanderers took the ball into the visitors' quarters, and J. Walker scored a fourth goal. Shortly after Gilliard put on another point, and Leadbitter had hard lines on two occasions, his shots just clearing the cross-bar. The Wanderers had much the best of the play in this half, and the final score was—

Wenderers ....Five goals
Harriers ....One goal

The Dipton team was—Goal, T. Turpin; backs, Jas. Walker and E. Buck; half-backs, A. Dodds, L. Robson, and W. Bowes; forwards, J. Leadbitter (capt.), I. Gilliard, W. Evans, D. Crozier, and T. Walker. Referee, Mr A. Tuson.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

TANFIELD LEA v LANGLEY PARK ROVERS.—Played at Tanfield Lea. Langley Park had three 2nd team men playing—Jackson, Foster, and Dixon being absent. The home team won the toss, and elected to play up the hill. Langley started the ball, but the Tanfield forwards getting possession, soon pressed their opponents, the home custodian never handling the leather in the first half, at the end of which the homesters were leading by three goals to none. The second half was of the same nature, Tanfield putting on two more goals, and the result of a one-sided game was as follows—

Tanfield Lea ....Five goals
Langley Park ....Nil

STANLEY HEDLEY HARRIERS v MEDOMSLEY.—This fixture was brought off on the Stanley ground before a fair number of spectators. The home team won the toss, and decided to defend the entrance goal. The visitors started the ball, and the game was only about ten minutes old when they sent in a stinger which scored No. 1. This stirred the Harriers up, and the forwards made a nice run, Charlton equalising with a beauty. The home team still pressed, and Coxon sent behind. The Harriers were soon after awarded a corner, which was beautifully placed, Brown banging it through. Medomsley now had a look in, but could not get through the backs. The home forwards then got to the other end, and Bolam sent in a good shot, which was well saved. Half-time was soon afterwards called, the score standing—

Harriers ....Two goals
Medomsley ....One goal

On re-starting, there followed some give-and-take play. The home forwards made a run, and Charlton put in a beauty which was capitally cleared. The visitors now warmed up, and drew level with a splendid shot. Soon after the Harriers obtained a corner, which was placed well, but Harrison shot a little too high. Even play ensued, and then Medomsley were awarded a penalty kick, from which they scored. The home team pressed after this, and Coxon equalised. Final result—

Harriers ....Three goals
Medomsley ....Three goals

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[BY "OFF-SIDE."]

TANFIELD LEA HAVE AN EASY TASK.

The Langley Park Rovers seem to be performing very indifferently in the Alliance competition, and on Saturday were easily defeated by that rapidly improving club—Tanfield Lea. The best part of the winning team was the half-back division, who played a splendid game, McDonald being especially prominent. The forwards did well in the open, but their shooting left much room for improvement. Tanfield Lea were without their captain (J. Milburn), who, I very much regret to hear, has received such injuries in the mine that it is feared he will not be able to assist his team again this season. The goalkeeper and backs showed up best for the Rovers, and put in some good work. Wake up, Langley Park, or you will have the honour of holding the wooden spoon.

—o—

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.

Tow Law had a somewhat curious journey to Newcastle on Saturday, to play their return fixture with West End Reserve, for on arriving at Consett they found the 12-40 train gone. This necessitated them travelling round by Durham, only to land in at the Central Station at 3-20 p.m.—an hour after the match was advertised to start. To make matters worse, three of the team missed the way to the ground, and Capt. Coulson going to look for his men, the match started. How well the noble seven held the homesters in check may be gathered from the fact that they were unable to score, and the missing links appearing on the field one after another, simply disorganised the visitors, who were never able to get into their swing. As a climax, the ball burst ten minutes before time, and it was then decided to discontinue the game, it being nearly dark. West End scored once in each half.

—o—

DIPTON WIN EASILY.

The Wanderers seem to be playing a very in and out game this season, winning one week, then losing the next. On Saturday, with three of the first eleven off, they managed to give the Pelton Fell Harriers a good drubbing. Among the visitors was Potts, the Hedley Harriers' goalkeeper, who shaped very nicely, but was well looked after by Evans, who seemed to pay more attention to the goalkeeper than the ball. Another of the Hedley Harriers in Rowell likewise assisted Pelton Fell, and played a very useful and cool game, and does not go in for using his height and weight unnecessarily, as some backs do. The hardest worker, however, on the visitors' side was Emery. He was here, there, and everywhere; if not particularly effective, he is a very hard worker.

—o—

Coming to the home team, I have seen them play better football. There was a lack of combination, and they seem now-a-days to go in for more individual play, which will not pay. In goal, Turpin displayed capital form, but appeared a trifle nervous. The renowed "Teddy" was the best of the backs, Walker getting too far up the field, and being in the way of the half-backs and forwards. The halves are a very evenly balanced set, but none of the forwards shone. The left wing kept the ball too long, and left their centre and right wing doing nothing. The right wing want a little shooting practice. Evans in the centre was not a success, as he seems to lack judgment. Now, Dipton, pull together, and get into training for the cup ties.

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HEDLEY HARRIERS SHOW BETTER FORM.

The Hedley Harriers displayed much better form at Stanley, on Saturday, when opposed by Medomsley, than they did in the first fixture on the latter's ground, as on that occasion they suffered a defeat by five goals to one, whereas now they made a draw. The home team were unfortunate to be without Benson and Forster, who would have made a great difference, while Medomsley had also some good men away, and played four reserves.

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Elliott did fairly in goal for the Harriers, and both backs played a good game. Of the halves, Harrison was the pick, but his partners were very little behind him. Brown and Coxon made a nice wing, while Bolam in the centre showed up well. Charlton and Brydon played a nice combined game. The best of the visitors were Bramley, Mansell, Veitch, Taylor, and the Cants. Mr T. Morton, Tanfield Lea, satisfactorily acted as referee.

—o—

A FAST GAME AT TOW LAW.

Tow Law Athletic had a visit from Derwent Cottages Ramblers. The match was played on neutral ground—viz., the Tow Law enclosure. Notwithstanding the slippery nature of the ground, a fast and exciting game ensued, the play being fast throughout. For the home team, J. McIntosh played a sterling game, his tricky play delighting the spectators hugely. The halves—Lawson, Harrison, and Gill—were also prominent, but Horne, left full back, I observed, kicked rather weakly, no doubt on account of his recent illness. For the visitors, the full backs played a magnificent game. Their forwards were also very good, but their weak point is shooting. The left wing put in some good centres, which ought to have been converted. A draw, I think, about represents the respective merits of the teams.

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A NEW CLUB FOR GREENCROFT.

An Association club has been formed at Greencroft under the name of the Black Watch. They played their first match on Saturday, when they received a visit from the Annfield Plain Jolly Tars. The game was a fast one from beginning to end, the visitors' backs and goalkeeper playing a grand defensive game, and repulsing many warm attacks on their citadel. The home team had hard luck on several occasions, the forwards at times being weak in front of goal. J. Vickers, Robson, Purvis, and Carr were prominent for the Tars, while J. Argyle, Wm. Atkinson, Coleman, D. Smith, and Bates played well for the home team, who gained the verdict by one goal to nothing. Both teams played a most gentlemanly game, and the match proved a very enjoyable one.

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THE ALLIANCE MATCH AT DIPTON.

I trust that there will be a good attendance on the Wanderers' ground to-morrow (Friday) to witness the match between the teams picked from the clubs forming the North-West Durham Alliance. With about two exceptions, the elevens are the strongest that could have been selected, and an exciting encounter is anticipated. The Wanderers have most generously granted the use of their ground free of charge, and the proceeds will go to the funds of the Alliance. As the latter body has furnished patrons of the dribbling code with so many excellent contests this season, I feel sure that spectators will turn up in sufficient numbers to place the new organisation in a good financial position.

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CORNSAY ROVERS BENEFIT SOCIETY.

The members and friends of the above club held their annual smoking concert at the house of Mr John Coates, Royal Oak Hotel, Cornsay Colliery. Colonel E. Leadbitter-Smith, of Flass Hall, presided, and Mr Philip Kirkup (manager of Cornsay Colliery) officiated as vice-chairman. Colonel Smith proposed the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family," which was loyally honoured. Mr Kirkup gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," the chairman responding in an excellent speech. Colonel Smith submitted "Success to the coal and coke trade," to which Mr Kirkup replied in a very able and interesting speech. The secretary's report was then given by Mr J. McDermott, which showed the benefit the society had been to the Football Club and its members, and after the payment of 8s per week to those off work through illness and accidents on the football field, there remained a balance of £18 0s 9d to be divided among the members, which was equal to 9s 3d each. "The guest of the evening" was responded to by Mr T. Suddes, who wished the football club and yearly fund every success. Mr R. Barrett, a great supporter of the club, and who is always willing to assist the same, likewise offered a few suitable remarks. Then followed the presentation of a handsome timepiece to Mr Suddes by the members of the football club, they having had a field of that gentleman's to play in for upwards of three years, and for which he has refused to take any rent. The timepiece bore the following inscription—"Presented to Mr Thomas Suddes by the Cornsay Royal Oak Rovers A.F.C. for his benefits towards the above club. Dec. 5th, 1891." "The host and hostess" was responded to Mr J. Coates. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman and vice-chairman for the able manner in which they had presided over the gathering. During the evening some excellent music was rendered by Messrs H. F. Hardy, J. Hardy, R. Norwood, and E. Hardy, while capital songs were contributed by Messrs John Golightly, P. McDermott, H. F. Hardy, T. Sheedy, and J. McDermott, and all these gentlemen were warmly thanked for their services.

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IN MEMORIAM.

The Leadgate Park club cancelled their fixture with Bishop Auckland on Saturday, owing to the death of Mr John Dawson, who met with a fatal accident on Friday night under circumstances reported in another column. Mr Dawson—or, as he was more familiarly known, Jack Dawson—was an enthusiastic supporter of the game, and a staunch adherent of the Park club, of which he was a committeeman. A more genial and good-natured soul than Jack Dawson never breathed, and it is with feelings of sadness that I pen this paragraph. It may be truly said of him that he had very many friends, but no enemies, and on all hands I hear expressions of regret at his sudden death. I am sure that the large number of footballers in this district who enjoyed the acquaintance of Mr Dawson will join with me in expressing their deepest sympathy with his widow and family in their severe bereavement.

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IMPORTANT TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Friday first being New Year's Day, we shall go to press next week on Thursday instead of Friday. Correspondents are therefore requested to let us have their reports not later than *Monday*, and to kindly make their communications as brief as possible, as, owing to the large number of games down for decision during the Christmas holidays, there will doubtless be great demands on our football columns.

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NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

	Plyd.	Won	Lost	Drn	Goals For	Goals Ag.	Pts
Leadgate Exiles	5	4	1	0	21	5	8
Dipton Wanderers	7	4	3	0	24	13	8
Tanfield Lea	5	3	1	1	15	10	7
Medomsley	7	2	2	3	19	18	7
Cornsay Rovers	5	3	1	1	18	18	7
Langley Park R.	9	1	7	1	17	41	3
Hedley Harriers	4	0	2	2	7	16	2

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MATCHES WANTED.

Medomsley White Stars 2nd would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 10 to 14. Apply to R. Bramley, 8, New Fines Houses, Medomsley, R.S.O.

Leadgate Exiles 3rd would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 16 to 18. Please note change of address—John McEnaney, East Castle, via Lintz Green.

High Row Strangers would like to arrange matches with junior teams after Jan. 9th. Ages, 15 to 18. Address—Thomas Leighton, High Row, Marley Hill, Whickham, R.S.O.

Crookhall Wanderers have nearly all dates vacant after the new year, and would like them filled up with junior teams. Ages, 14 to 17. Address—C. Pescod, 6, Forster Street, Delves Lane, Consett.

Byer Moor Rovers have several vacant dates, and would like them filled with moderate second or good junior teams. Apply to S. G. Lamb, 48, Byer Moor, Burnopfield.

Highgate Wanderers have still some dates vacant. Ages, 14 to 16. Address—S. Judge, 83, Benfieldside Edge Road, Blackhill.

Lintz Rovers 2nd have still some dates vacant. Address—Daniel McGinn, Brickflats, Lintz Colliery, Lintz Green.

High Row Strangers Juniors have all dates vacant after the new year, and would like them filled up with junior teams. Ages, 11 to 14. Apply to Luke Gardner, High Row, Marley Hill, Whickham, R.S.O.

Hamsterley G.E.T.S. would be pleased to arrange matches with junior teams; all dates vacant. Ages, 10 to 13. Address—W. Dickson, 126, Cement Houses, via Lintz Green.

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** Several letters were received too late for insertion

Cricket.

MEDOMSLEY CRICKET CLUB BALL.—The annual ball of the Medomsley Cricket Club was celebrated in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley, on Wednesday se'nnight. There was a large and fashionable company present from the surrounding district. The stewards comprised:—Messrs J. H. Morris, C. F. Scott, W. P. Morris, Dr Charles, and Dr Mann, who carried out their duties in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. Excellent music was supplied by Messrs S. Mace, jun., Medomsley (piano), and T. Nixon, Blackhill (violin), which met with unbounded approval. The company broke up about four o'clock on Thursday evening, after having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

BOYS' BRIGADE AND CRICKET CLUB.—A concert was held in the School-room, Whickham, in aid of above, when a crowded and enthusiastic audience assembled. The following ladies and gentlemen took part in the programme:—Mrs Grace, Mrs Ramsay, Miss M. Wilkinson, Rev J. C. Mullen, Rev J. Short, Messrs F. Ridley, Smart, W. H. Willis, and the Shipcote Ladies, Banjo Troupe. Mrs Ramsay received an enthusiastic *encore* for her song in the second part "Rosabelle," and in response sang Arditi's "Il Bacio" with exquisite taste. Mr Ridley, as usual, captivated the audience. The Ladies' Shipcote Banjo Troupe also received an *encore*; in fact, each piece in the programme was duly appreciated by the audience. In the absence of the rector, Rev M. B. Parker took the chair, and gave a short account of the Brigade.

Sporting Items.

RABBIT COURSING AT DIPTON.—Near the house of S. Ledger, Hill Top, Dipton, a large company drew together to witness a sweep at pigeons. Darkness setting in, there were five men left in, and they agreed to divide. They were as under:—Hill Top, Panfire, J. Turnbull, Woodcock, and Sep. Burrell. W. Armstrong kept the book, and W. Smith trapped the bird.

PIGEON FLYING AT HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY, QUEBEC.—On Saturday afternoon, the pigeon handicap from Esh Hill Top to the respective dove-cots, Quebec, a distance of one-and-a-half miles, was successfully brought off for £5, with 6s entrance of each bird added to the sweep, and witnessed by a goodly number of spectators. There was 16 entries. Result:—Thos. Jones's Sharp Shooter, 2min. 11sec., 1; Wm. Ingham's Skylark, 7sec. start, 2min. 11secs., 2; J. Williamson's Fairy, 2min. 17sec., 3. Thos. Slater, of Quebec, was appointed stakeholder, timekeeper, and referee.

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

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

DARKWOOD

A TALE OF LONEMOOR

CHAPTER LXIII.

REVENGE.

By the time Mr. Barsby returned, and was shown up to Miss Norreys's boudoir, the lady of Beechmont had completely won over the lawyer to her opinion, and they had fully settled upon a plan of action, even to its smallest details.

The bailiff was required to repeat his story. Mr. Sutton cross-examined him upon every point, and a conviction that Lord Darkwood was entombed, either living or dead, in the dungeons beneath the castle ruins took full and firm possession of the lawyer.

Yet, for the reasons already given Mr. Sutton adhered to his desire that the investigation should be conducted secretly. Miss Norreys disliked the publicity of legal proceedings, and it was thought that the search could be conducted without exciting sensation or even notice.

"I will undertake to secure the co-operation of Lord Chilton," said Miss Norreys. "And you, Mr. Sutton, must secure the aid of the butler. I, with my friends will be at the park entrance of the ruins as the clock strikes the hour of midnight. That is all, I believe."

It was all. Mr. Sutton took his leave, and slowly returned to Dunholm Castle, his face stern yet calm, his mind fixed in the resolve to probe this matter to some conclusion. His heart thrilled with a longing to behold again the master he had believed dead. He was full of agitation and unrest under that outward calmness, full of eagerness and excitement. It seemed to him that he could never wait until midnight to know the truth, and yet a heavy gloom hung over his spirit.

"If Captain Tollish met him and did him any wrong, he surely killed him!" he thought. "Captain Tollish—I cannot call him Lord Darkwood in my own mind now—is not a man to do anything in a half-way manner. If he desired to rid himself of his cousin, he would have done so decisively and effectually—by murder! If we find any trace of our dear lord down there, it will be his grave!"

He was very silent and very gloomy throughout the dinner. Lord Darkwood was still elated, however, and did not notice his moodiness. His lordship drank more wine than usual, told more stories, and, when the butler had departed, talked confidentially over the walnuts and the wine of Miss Norreys, her family, her fortune, and the vine of Miss Norreys, her family, her fortune, and her wonderful beauty, declaring his love for her, and asserted that the day that made him her husband would see him the happiest man in England.

After dinner Mr. Sutton withdrew to the library, and meditated some plan by which he could approach the pompous old butler upon the subject in hand.

Fortune favoured his design. Lord Darkwood chanced to have an engagement at Shrewsbury with one of the agents whom he had secretly employed to search for Gwen, and whom he did not wish seen at the castle, and he ordered a carriage and went upon his errand.

During his absence Mr. Sutton went to the butler's pantry, found that functionary, and obtained a private interview with him. We need not record its details, nor describe the horror and amazement of the old servant. It is enough to say that he entered into the scheme with heart and soul, and undertook to obtain the keys of the ruins from their repository in the library.

Meanwhile, Miss Norreys was the life of her own pleasant circle. She had never been gayer than to-night. She uttered brilliant witticisms and *bon mots*, she was thoughtful of others, so that her lightest words could not wound. She had never seemed more radiant, and all the while she was racked with anxieties, and tortured with a profound and horrible despair.

After dinner the party adjourned to the drawing room.

Miss Kenright took up her woollen embroidery, and Colonel Warburton proffered his services in holding her skeins. Sir William Ensor and Miss Milly Kenright retreated to the grand piano. Mrs. Kenright lolled in a great chair, and began the rehearsal to Miss Ensor of some episode of her youth, in which the baronet's sister seemed greatly interested. Lord Chilton seemed left by common consent to the care of his hostess, and she took his arm and walked slowly the length of the great room several times.

Then, without being missed, they passed into the great conservatory.

"I have something to say to you, Lord Chilton," said Miss Norreys, as they passed down the flower-bordered, fragrant aisles to the group of luxuriant palm trees that reared their plumed crests to the very top of the central dome. "I have a project on hand, and I desire your assistance and co-operation."

"You have but to command me, madam," said the young viscount. "Does your project concern Miss Winter?"

The lady sighed heavily.

"No," she acknowledged, wearily. "I wish to speak to you about Lord Darkwood."

Lord Chilton smiled significantly.

"You wish to announce your engagement to marry him?"

"No, I shall not marry him. I shall never marry," cried Miss Norreys, with passionate emphasis. "But Lord Darkwood has done a wrong which I desire to right. Listen."

She told him rapidly of Mr. Barsby's mission and its result, of her belief that Lord Darkwood lived a prisoner in his own dungeons, and she added—

"I have planned to search those dungeons to-night secretly. Mr. Sutton will take charge of the expedition. I shall go, of course. Will you accompany us?"

The viscount was amazed at her revelation, and horrorstricken at her suspicions of the present holder of the marquisate. But he could not refuse to join the expedition she had planned, little as a burglarious entrance to any man's premises was to his taste.

"I will go," he said, gravely. "If this thing be true, if Edward Lord Darkwood lives, he will owe his freedom to you, Miss Norreys. But for you he might have perished, his fate unsuspected. As for me I believe him dead. Captain Tollish would not have allowed him to live, if the captian is the villian you think him. May I ask the reason of your strange interest in the marquis who has been believed dead? Why have you searched out his fate with all this care and painstaking? Is it that you doubted this man who desires to marry you?"

The heiress turned sharply towards him, and he saw that her mouth was strangely drawn, and a tortured expression gleamed in her eyes.

"Lord Chilton," she exclaimed, in a low, passionate voice, "these two men, cousins, both in their turn Marquises of Darkwood since then, once cruelly and foully wronged an innocent girl. They killed her. Between them they killed her. And I, knowing her fate, swore to avenge her. Captain Tollish was the more guilty of the two. Upon his head must fall my bitterest revenge. That revenge must be the deprivation of rank, wealth, honours, luxuries. He shall be transferred into plain Captain Tollish again, with debts and all, and my revenge upon him shall be complete."

A strange light irradiated that pale olive face, and glowed in the velvety-brown eyes like fire.

"My revenge upon the other will be his release from imprisonment—his restoration to life, liberty, and all that he holds dear. Did he but know to whom he would owe all these, you would see that my revenge would be coals of fire upon his head."

"You hate them both?" asked the viscount, wonderingly.

"Hate them!"

How her face shone. How hard and cold it grew, like marble. And then how suddenly her features quivered with a quick agony, and the hardness melted like snow in the sun, and a strange tenderness and anguish mingled in her expression, only to yield to the returning coldness.

"Yes, I hate them both. They killed her—killed her; but I will avenge her."

"My dear Miss Norreys."

"Pardon me, Lord Chilton, I cannot bear remonstrance. I am what I am, and nothing can change me. I do not know why I have said so much to you. I shall complete my revenge to-night," she said, wearily. "And to-morrow I shall go away. My guests will leave to-morrow, and I shall go to London with them. I shall not return to Beechmont. I shall offer the place for sale. When my revenge shall be accomplished my life will virtually be ended. I will assist you to find Miss Winter. I should like to witness your marriage to her, and then I shall leave England, or join a sisterhood, I do not yet know which. All this in confidence, my lord. Now let us return to our friends. Remember that we must leave Beechmont upon our expedition at eleven o'clock."

They returned to the drawing-room, Miss Norreys with recovered composure They had scarcely joined the nearest group, when a servant entered and announced that a person named Craft desired to speak with Lord Chilton. The person named Craft had been shown into the morning room.

This was the detective officer whom Lord Chilton had commissioned to search out the history and mystery of Gwen's parentage. He had finished his task and come with his report to his employer. The viscount hastened to the morning room.

CHAPTER LXIV.

OF THE WOMAN.

Mr. Inspector Craft was standing in the morning-room in a waiting attitude when Lord Chilton entered. The detective officer was a small, sandy-haired man, with eyes keen as a ferret's, yet of a peculiarly quiet and unobtrusive mien. The young viscount had never seen him, and he was conscious of a sense of disappointment. Was this the famed detective who had unearthed a dozen celebrated mysteries, who had disentangled certain enigmas which had puzzled all England, and discovered and hunted down, despite all his precautions and disguises, the principal in the noted Prior murder case?

The inspector smiled faintly. He read the viscount's thoughts.

"I am Lord Chilton," said our hero, quietly. "Are you come to tell me, Mr. Inspector, that the task I have set you is too hard? I am well aware of all the difficulties in the way. So many years having elapsed, it must be well nigh impossible to discover the identity of that ill-fated woman."

"I have harder tasks, my lord," said the inspector, "though I do not deny that the lapse of years made this difficult. I have completed my work. I have discovered the name of the woman who is buried in Penistone churchyard, and I am provided with proofs of her identity."

Lord Chilton's heart seemed almost to stand still. An indefinable dread came upon him. Who was she—this mother of Gwen—the poor young creature who had perished so miserably on the Yorkshire wastes so many years ago? He was conscious of a wish that he had made no effort to discover her name.

"At the coroner's inquest at the time her body was discovered," said Mr. Craft, "a complete description of her person and apparent age were recorded in the coroner's register. Also a description of her clothing, such as it was. I copied these descriptions at the outset. One or two personal peculiarities of the deceased woman greatly simplified my task. It was recorded that one joint of the first finger of her left hand was absent. Also that two incisor teeth in her upper jaw were missing. Also that her collar-bone had once been broken, and that, probably through lack of care at the period of its fracture, there remained and was seen upon her person a protuberance as of the end of a broken bone. With these data, I set to work."

"Every person has some personal peculiarity. Nearly every person has lost teeth. The marks appear to have been too trifling to assist in identification."

"Nothing is too trifling for the consideration of men in my line of business, my lord. A straw is sufficient to show which way the wind blows. It is not necessary that I should describe to you my mode of operation. I have, of course, many resources and aids known only to myself. You desire to know the result of my work, not the manner in which the work was accomplished," said the detective officer. "I will say, however, that I advertised freely throughout the kingdom. I searched the files of old newspapers, old police records, everything that could possibly assist me. And it was through an old newspaper that I obtained a clue to the mystery."

"How so?"

"In an old Manchester newspaper, bearing date February 3rd, 1857, I found an advertisement; but here is the newspaper. Read the notice for yourself, my lord."

The detective handed to Lord Chilton an ancient newspaper, yellowed by time, and slightly defaced with use. A notice in an advertising column, outlined by pencil marks, had been folded in plain view.

Lord Chilton took the paper, and read as follows:—

"£10 REWARD.—For information leading to the discovery of Mary Graham, wife of Adelbert Graham, of Manchester, who left her home January 27th. Is supposed to have set out on foot for Doncaster, where she had relatives. Was suffering from aberration of mind. Said Mary Graham was eighteen years of age, tall, slim, with black hair and eyes, flighty in her manner, violent in her temper. Wore an old silk gown, Paisley shawl, and straw hat trimmed with black velvet. Had lost two front teeth in upper jaw, and lisped in her speech. Had lost one joint to first finger of left hand. Any information leading to her recovery will be gratefully received and paid for by her afflicted husband, No. 9, Dovewell-street, Manchester."

The young viscount was startled at the coincidence of this description with that of the woman who had been found upon the Lone Moor.

"After finding that advertisement, I made a search for Adelbert Graham," said the inspector. "I found him still in Manchester, a baker by trade, married to a buxom woman, and father to several children. He had believed his first wife to be dead, and had married again ten years ago; but still he was haunted by the fear that the first wife might still be living, and that she might turn up some day and ruin his happiness for ever. He is devoted to his present family, and that fear of the first wife was like a constant nightmare to him. When I told him my errand, he welcomed me as a brother. I left him in a perfect transport of delight, the happiest man in England!"

"He believed that woman, then, to be his wife?"

"I proved her to be such," replied the detective. "This Adelbert Graham was born and brought up in Manchester. In visiting Doncaster on business he saw and fell in love with a pretty young girl, whom he soon after married. The girl had long been subject to fits. After her marriage she became moody, suspicious, and violent. Her mind became utterly deranged. In a fit of anger against her husband, she left her home, and he never saw her again. He searched almshouses and hospitals, he went to Doncaster, but he found no trace of her. After a few years, he made up his mind that she was dead, and contracted his second marriage; but afterwards, when the children began to come, he grew terrified lest the first wife should be still living, and should come to claim her rights. I took his sworn statement in regard to Mary Graham. I went to Doncaster, found her relatives, and took their sworn statement; and to be brief, my lord, I have fully proved the occupant of that grave marked 'Magdalen' in Penistone churchyard to be the wife of Adelbert Graham."

Lord Chilton sat silent, his face very grave. Had he discovered Gwen's origin at last? Her mother had been subject to fits, and her father was a baker in Manchester with a large family! But suddenly his face brightened.

"You are mistaken, inspector!" he exclaimed. "This Mary Graham left her home in January, 1857. The woman who perished on the moor came to Lonemoor in November, 1856, and then left Lonemoor just one month later. You see that you are mistaken!"

"Not so, my lord!"

"But the woman gave birth to a child in Lonemoor in November!"

"Not this woman, my lord; there were two women said the inspector. "One woman came to Lonemoor, gave birth to a child, as you say, and disappeared a month later; but she was not the woman whose body was found on the moor."

"Not the same woman!"

"By no means, my lord!"

"Then, where is she?"

"That you did not employ me to search out," said Mr. Craft. "I don't know what became of her; but one thing I do know—she got away safely, in spite of the storm, the cold, and her weakness. That woman may be living yet, my lord!"

The viscount started. The idea had never occurred to him before.

"The devil takes care of his own, my lord," said the inspector. "He took care of that girl that night; he's probably taking care of her still. She was either a bad lot, or crazy, or both. She is probably in some almshouse or asylum. Would you wish me to find her?"

"No—no!" said Lord Chilton with a shudder. "Not at present, at least."

"The body of this woman has been taken up," said Mr. Craft reflectively. "Her husband and relatives identified the bones by the marks I have mentioned, and Mr. Graham had them removed to Manchester only yesterday. He will put up a suitable tablet with her real name upon it. He intends to make the fact of her death apparent to every one beyond all doubt."

The Viscount was still silent. He had much to think of. Doubt, perplexity, assailed him.

"Mr. Graham and I drove over to the house at Lonemoor yesterday morning," continued Mr. Craft. "Squire Markham had just left home the night previous for London, on his way to the Continent, his servants said. We saw the old housekeeper who had identified Mrs. Graham's body as that of the vagrant whom she had nursed, and we proved to her beyond all shadow of doubt that she had been mistaken. Such a scene as followed! The old woman went into a fit, and a doctor was sent for in hot haste. The butler showed symptoms of going into a fit also. He laughed and cried like a woman, and we left him in a state of mind bordering on imbecility. There was some mystery in the case of that vagrant," concluded Mr. Craft, meditatively. "If I could spare the time, I'd hunt out the matter for my own satisfaction."

"I may set you the task a little later," said Lord Chilton. "At present, I have other work for you. The child who was born at Lonemoor seventeen years ago has grown to lovely girlhood, is known as Miss Myner, and has been for some months employed as governess to the Lady Georgina Charteris, Lord Darkwood's daughter. Miss Myner has recently disappeared. I believe that she has gone to some remote place under another name. I want to find her."

He told the whole story briefly, showed Gwen's unsigned letter, and answered the interrogatories of the inspector, who looked grave and thoughtful.

"Before engaging upon this new affair," said the viscount, "let us settle existing accounts. You have done your work well, Mr. Inspector. Let us hope you will succeed equally well with the new problem."

Lord Chilton proceeded to a writing-table, took a blank cheque from his notebook, and filled it in for an amount so generous that Mr. Inspector Craft, whose boast it was that nothing ever astonished him, stared in actual surprise, and muttered his thanks in a bewildered sort of way.

The viscount presently dismissed him, and the detective sauntered away to his quarters at the Darkwood Arms in Dunholm village.

The evening wore away slowly. Coffee was brought in at ten o'clock. At eleven, the bedroom candles were ordered, and the guests departed to their rooms—all but Lord Chilton.

Miss Norreys went to her dressing-room, and returned a few minutes later with a long black silk circular cloak round her, her dress looped up to walking length, a hat on her head, and, oddly enough, a thick veil thrown over her hat, and so arranged that at a touch it would fall over her face.

No one had seen her return to the drawing-room, the hall porter having been temporarily absent from his post.

"We will go out at one of these windows, my lord," said the heiress. "Naya will admit us into the house by a private entrance upon our return."

She approached one of the long French windows, opened it, and passed out upon the terrace. Lord Chilton followed her.

The night was dark, but not unpleasant. In the gloom objects could be distinctly traced at a distance of several feet.

"No one knows, except Naya and Aga, that we are out," said Miss Norreys, pausing by a tall garden vase. "The servants will close the house directly. Ah! Here is Aga!" she exclaimed, as a dark little figure approached them from the direction of the park. "I will take him with us."

"Where is Mr. Barsby?"

"Near the small park entrance, to which I have the key. I could not take a carriage at this hour without exciting gossip in my household, and the distance to the castle—three miles—is too long to walk. Mr. Barsby has a two-seated waggonette which he will have in waiting for us. He is probably waiting now."

Miss Norreys and Lord Chilton walked rapidly down the wide avenue followed by Aga. They crossed a corner of the park and passed out at the entrance the lady had designated. Mr. Barsby was in waiting, as expected. They entered his waggonette and drove through Dunholm village, halting in the highway at a point nearest Dunholm Castle. Here they alighted, obtained entrance into the castle grounds through a small gate which the castle butler had left open for their use, and then slowly threaded the park in the direction of the ruins.

"Does your courage fail, Miss Norreys?" asked the viscount.

She turned her pale olive face towards him, and he saw her eyes glow through the darkness.

"No!" she answered. "A thousand times no! I could not turn back if I would! My lord, if I knew that death waited for me there among those grim old ruins I would still go on! It seems as if I were driven on by some power beyond and greater than myself. I am going to my revenge!"

(To be continued.)

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SOME FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

THE PRINCES' JOURNEY.

In the old days kings, instead of bringing up their sons in their own palace, often placed them abroad to be educated, and sent for them when they needed them back.

So it was with two young princes I would tell you of. Their names were Ormé and Ernestus. Ormé was open, impulsive, and easily influenced. Ernestus, on the other hand, was thoughtful and reserved, and at the same time more persevering than his brother. Now their father, the King, had sent a message for them to come to him. The country in which they lived was on the borders of their father's kingdom, and with the message he had also furnished them with three friends or companions to bring them on their way. The first—"Opheilé"—was their guide, and kept them in the road, but his face was stern and his voice severe, so that, though the princes obeyed his directions, they did not love him very much. The second—"Amor" he was called—was, on the contrary, the most delightful company. He seemed to have lived so much in the sunshine, and absorbed so much of its light and warmth, that it shone out of him. In his hand he carried a wand and whatever he touched with it took some added charm. The commonest wayside flower was at once fairer and sweeter than any in the garden; the dull, dark walls of some humble cottage became brighter than those of a palace, and, even more wonderful, it could make the plainest face beautiful. Amor was very active, too, and capital at carrying the luggage of the party. He and Opheilé shared it between them, but sometimes Amor would seize on the lot, and it was noticed that when this was the case the travellers got on faster than before, for Opheilé lagged dreadfully when he had much to carry. There was one thing, however, which Amor could not bear, and that was the cold!

Now the road by which the princes had to travel was by no means a safe one. Robbers lurked in many a cave, and hid in many an ambush. Knowing this, the King had posted some of his soldiers at various perilous places along the way, ready to spring out at a signal that their help was needed, and the duty of giving this signal he had assigned to Fides, the third of the party. Very strong and helpful was Fides. Whenever Ormé or Ernestus grew weary or discouraged with their journey he would point forward to the distant mountains for which they were bound, shew them once more their father's message, or take their hands and help them over the rough places in the road.

During the journey Fides generally walked somewhat in front, Amor between the princes, and Opheilé by their side. But there was a fourth in the party. He hasn't been mentioned before because he was in the background, and this was quite right, for it was the proper place for him. The princes could hardly have got rid of Autos (for that was his name) altogether. Indeed he was useful in his place, and saved his masters sometimes from awkward stumbles, but he wasn't content with being behind. He wanted to press to the front, push the King's messengers aside and take the lead himself, and if he were once allowed to do this there was no knowing what mischief he might cause.

It was early morning when the party started, and Ormé was all eagerness to get ahead; but they had not gone far, and were only just beginning to feel warm with the exercise, when they were accosted by a pleasant-looking person who, calling the attention of the princes to a table covered with fruit standing in a little garden by the roadside, invited them to stop and partake. The guide Opheilé counselled them to keep on while the day was yet young. Refreshment, he urged, would be sweeter after toil. Ernestus took his advice and continued on his journey. But Ormé hesitated, and Autos, coming up at that moment from behind, whispered in his ear, "There can be no harm in just tasting the fruit. You can leave off, and catch the others up when you like." So the prince entered the garden, sat down by the table and took a grape. It was so nice that he took another and then another. Soon he would have quite forgotten the journey on which he was bound had he not heard the voice of the guide calling him. Looking up he saw his companions some considerable distance along the road. He tried to rise, but found he could not. Though now he no longer enjoyed the fruit, he went on gulping it down till he could take no more, and then feeling very sick and queer he staggered out of the garden. But he had to hurry so much, and Opheilé scolded him so severely all the while for not taking his advice, that by the time he overtook his brother he was thoroughly exhausted and miserable, and it took all Fides' encouragement and help to keep him going.

Poor Ormé! It was enough that Opheilé should scold him, without his brother also twitting him with his fault. For his part he thought Ernestus might have waited for him a bit. So he answered sharply enough, and soon the two got talking so loudly that they could not hear their guide's voice telling them that they were straying off the road. Suddenly in the midst of their dispute, a fierce-looking gigantic figure sprang out from behind a thicket and exclaiming, "Aha! now you are my slaves!" seized the hapless princes and began to drag them towards a dark cavern, from which proceeded the most dreadful cries and yells. Fortunately, Amor was not far away and sprang to their help, while a call from Fides brought also some of the King's soldiers to the spot. So between them they managed to get the giant down, and did not leave him till Amor had bound him securely with golden chains. When the princes had recovered themselves a bit, Amor told them that they were fortunate to escape the monster's clutches—"for," said he, "the work he gives his slaves to do is so horrible that he has to make them mad first before he can get them to perform it."

And now the road began to grow steep and hard and just on ahead they saw right across their path a thick wood, the branches of which were so closely interwoven as to make it seem almost impenetrable. But Opheilé, the guide, was quite prepared for this emergency. He unslung from his belt some axes which he had brought with him, and, helped by Fides and Amor, the princes set to work with a will chopping their way through. They found that the wood was not so thick as they had thought, and, strangely enough, owing to the branches being so wide-spreading, it seemed when one tree fell as if they had cut down or partly cut down two or three. Of course it was hard work, but they felt all the stronger and better for the exertion. Ormé did his best, but he was still suffering from the morning's dissipation, and perhaps it looked to Ernestus, who always worked thoroughly, as if his brother tried to shift some of his own share on to his shoulders. If so that may account for something that happened later on. But to continue. They had not long left the wood when a cloud came down on the hill-side, and the air grew thick and depressing. Ormé found it very much so. He began to think what an ill-used individual he was. Everybody, he said to himself, thought more of his brother than they did of him. Nobody cared for him. He was surely the most miserable youth on earth. Thus bemoaning his lot, he went on as in a dream, and did not notice that someone walking behind him had come up alongside. It was the servant Autos. Did Ormé look to the right, he saw nothing of his guide—nothing but a great black shadow in the mist. Autos was there. Did he look to the other side—he could not see his brother or Amor, for Autos again was walking between. Did he look before him—instead of Fides he saw again the great black shadow—the shadow of Autos. He was growing so cold and fatigued that he could barely keep on. Just then he heard a cry at his feet. "Look!" exclaimed a voice near him. It sounded like the stern voice of the guide, but it was the voice of Amor. Looking down, he found he had nearly stumbled over a ragged child who had lost herself on the mountain. Quick as thought he pulled off his cloak, and, lifting her in his arms, wrapped it closely round her, giving her at the same time a piece of a loaf which he found in his pocket. But he soon discovered there were others wandering on that bleak hillside who needed his help. Amor pointed out several, and he was soon so busy that he had barely time to notice that the servant Autos had gone behind once more. He only knew that his blood was once more coursing freely through his veins, and that he felt all aglow with the new vigour within him. The air had grown clearer too, and he could see plainly the light from a lantern which Fides was carrying in front of him. Now he turned to his brother, but Ernestus, who was walking hastily with a grave face, did not seem to see him. Ormé stretched out his hand to touch his brother, but it encountered something hard and cold. It seemed a wall of transparent ice between them. He cried to Amor to help him, but it was so cold that Amor shrank back shivering. In despair Ormé struck at the wall with all his might, partly breaking it down. Then Amor advanced once more, and putting forth his staff, a bright flame issued from its point and melted the icy barrier, and Orme and his brother rushed into each other's arms.

It would take too long to tell you all the adventures which befell the princes in the course of their journey, but they reached at last the bank of the river which separated them from their father's kingdom. Night had fallen by this time, and they were so tired with their long travel that they had barely stepped into the boat that was waiting to convey them across when they fell asleep. When they awoke they saw the King bending over them, and the faces of many friends about them. They had reached the palace at last! There we must leave them.

GOOD RULES FOR WINTER.

The following rules are worth heeding by those who believe that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure:

Never lean with the back upon anything that is cold.

Never begin a journey until the breakfast has been eaten.

Never take warm drinks and then immediately go out into the cold.

Keep the back, especially between the shoulder-blades, well covered; also the chest well protected. In sleeping in a cold room establish the habit of breathing through the nose, and never with the mouth open.

Never go to bed with cold or damp feet.

Never omit regular bathing, for unless the skin is in active condition the cold will close the pores, and favour congestion and other diseases.

After exercise of any kind, never ride in an open carriage or near the window of a car for a moment; it is dangerous to health and even to life.

When hoarse, speak as little as possible until the hoarseness is recovered from, else the voice may be permanently lost, or difficulties of the throat be produced.

Merely warm the back by a fire, and never continue keeping the back exposed to heat after it has become uncomfortably warm. To so expose the back is debilitating.

When going from a warm atmosphere into a cooler one keep the mouth closed, so that the air may be warmed by its passage through the nose ere it reaches the lungs.

Never stand still in cold weather, especially after having taken a slight degree of exercise; and always avoid standing on ice or snow, or where the person is exposed to a cold wind.

DON'T JUDGE A MAN BY HIS COAT.

This story comes from the "Peak Countree." The great cavern at Castleton attracts large numbers of tourists every year, and now and then notabilities visit the place. A visitor somewhat shabbily dressed presented himself before the guide, an official employed by the Duke of Devonshire, and asked what it would cost to see the sights.

"Seven shillings," was the man's reply.

"It seems a lot of money," said the inquirer.

But the guide, with a glance at the man's garments, deigned no answer. The visitor however resolved to go in. Emerging into the light of day again, he entered his name in the visitor's book, and said: "There's seven shillings for your master and something for yourself."

The "something" was a sovereign. The guide, staggered by the magnitude of the gratuity, hastily scanned the visitors' book, and found the signature of a well-known millionaire duke. He looked the surprise he felt.

"You didn't expect that, did you?" drolly asked the duke.

"No, your grace, I did not," said the guide honestly.

"And you thought, now, I was scarcely good for the seven shillings?" persisted the duke.

The thought, from the guide's frank admission, certainly had crossed his mind.

"Well," said his grace smilingly, "never in future judge a man by the coat he wears."

OLD AGE.

A medical man compares an old man to an old waggon; with light loading and careful usage it will last for years, but one heavy load or sudden strain will break it and ruin it for ever. Many people reach the age of fifty or sixty or seventy measurably free from most of the pains and infirmities of age, cheery in heart and sound in health, ripe in wisdom and experience, with sympathies mellowed by age, and with reasonable prospects and opportunities for continued usefulness in the world for a considerable time. Let such persons be thankful; but let them also be careful. An old constitution is like an old bone, broken with ease, mended with difficulty. A young tree bends to the gale, an old one snaps and falls before the blast. A single hard lift, an hour of heating work, an evening of exposure to rain or damp, a severe chill, an excess of food, the unusual indulgence of an appetite or passion, a sudden fit of anger, an improper dose of medicine—any of these or similar other things may cut off a valuable life in an hour, and leave the fair hopes of usefulness and enjoyment but a shapeless wreck.

WALLIS—"Did Black win the lawsuit he had over that large sum of money?" Wallace—"I suppose he did. He told me he lacked only £50 of having enough to pay the lawyer after it was over."

THEODORE HOOK declared that when the "skipper" of a noble schooner asked the owner whether he "would like to take the helm," he replied that "he never took anything between breakfast and dinner."

MISTRESS—"Why, Mary, I told you to make up my room an hour ago, and here it is in terrible disorder." Mary—"Yis, mum, an' I did make it up; but the master came in to put on a clane collar, mum, and he lost the button."

"JUST met with an accident in the street that touched me to the heart," said a man. "What was it?" I was standing near a saloon when a man passed in. I saw him look sharply at me, but he did not speak. A moment after, however, he returned and said there was something about me, to remind him of his dead brother. He asked me my name, residence, what I was doing, &c., and seemed to have much interest in me." "Didn't he ask you to drink?" "He did. After talking a few minutes he asked me if I wasn't dry. I said I was. We entered the saloon, and he said, 'Mix me a mint julep, and give this man a glass of good water—the very best in the place!' Durn my hide, but I was touched! I haven't had anything go to my heart as that did for the last twenty years.

A lecturer once prefaced his discourse upon the rhinoceros with, "I must beg you to give me your undivided attention. Indeed, it is absolutely impossible that you can form a true idea of the hideous animal of which we are about to speak unless you keep your eyes fixed on me."

Signs of coolness.—Papa: "You haven't been quarrelling with that young man who calls on you, Maud?" Maud: "Why, no, papa; why do you ask such a question?" Papa: "I notice that he has kept away somewhat lately. He has only been here six times this week, so far."

WAS SHE SHOCKED?

She held her hand so very near—
It wasn't right, I vow—
The words she came so close to hear
Turned to a kiss somehow.
She startled back—I could not stir,
I waited in dismay;
Sharply the words came from her: "Sir,
You have not shaved to-day."

Lucky for Once.—"You are really not careful enough, Mary! That is another glass you have broken this week." "Ah, ma'am, but I've been lucky this time!" "Lucky?" "Yes, because it is only broken in two pieces. You've no idea, ma'am, what trouble it is picking up the little bits!"

Jones started in the livery stable business last week, and the first thing he did was to have a sign painted representing himself holding a mule by the bridle. "Is that a good likeness of me?" he asked of an admiring friend. "Yes, it is a perfect picture of you; but who is that fellow holding you by the bridle?"

Senior partner: "Look here, Mr. Sheeply—on the first of January you came to me and said you were thinking seriously of getting married; and on the strength of that I gave you a rise in your salary. What's the matter? Aren't you going to get married?" Sheeply: "No, sir; I thought so seriously of it that I concluded I wouldn't."

A sale of paintings in New York proved a puzzle to Uncle 'Rastus. "T'ings hab changed pow'rfully sence de wah," remarked Uncle 'Rastus to aunt Recca, as he laid aside the newspaper and polished his spectacles. "Befo' de wah hit was only de slaves dat war sold, but heah dis papah states dat an ole mastah war sold at auction in New York for a 'normous 'mount er money. T'ings hab changed, I tole you."

A nice distinction.—A guest at one of our leading hotels waited for his dinner as long as patience allowed, and then wrapped smartly for a waiter. The head waiter approached. "Hasn't any gentleman taken your order, sah?" he asked blandly. Being told that "no gentleman" had yet volunteered for that service, he said in a most stately manner: "You must have been overlooked. I will see that it do not recur agin."

MUCH of the love that promises to be eternal fades and pales from the lack of mutual service. Friends, at first eager to pour out their love in every possible way, thinking no task too hard and no sacrifice too great that may add to the happiness of each other, after a while relax their efforts, perhaps almost unconsciously. Each one, however, is keenly alive to the change in the other, and hence arise suspicion and distrust and a sense of injury; and love in such an atmosphere is sure to languish.

IN the tenth century there was a prevalent, nay almost universal, idea that the end of the world was approaching. Many charters began with these words:—"As the world is now drawing to a close." An army marching under the Emperor Otho I. was so terrified by an eclipse of the sun, which it conceived to announce this consummation, as to disperse hastily on all sides. As this notion seems to have been founded on some confused theory of the Millennium, it died away when the seasons proceeded to the eleventh century with their usual regularity.

CONTENTMENT.—Is that animal better that hath two or three mountains to graze on than a little bee that feeds on dew or manna, and lives upon what falls every morning from the store-houses of heaven, clouds and Providence? Can a man quench his thirst better from the fountain which is finely paved with marble, than when it wells over the green turf?

A RIGHT-MINDED mother will always like to see her baby fond of its nurse, and anxious to go to her. Such affection is a satisfactory proof that the nurse does her duty to the child and attends to its wants and comforts. A cheerful, lively nurse is capable of doing much in developing the intelligence and maintaining the health of her charge.

ALMOST all of us live more in the future than the present. Those who live mostly in the past are on the high-road to worse sorrow than they know. To the healthy-minded the future has always the treasure to which the present holds the keys.

"CAN you love me a little, Ethel?" "No, Mr. Arden." "Not the least little bit in the world?" "Certainly not, sir." "Then I must bid you an everlasting farewell." "Before you go I think you might at least ask me the reason." "The reason why you can't love me a little?" Yes," "Well, why?" "Because I love you a very great deal."

"WHAT do you wish?" asked the servant who answered a ring at the door. "Baron de Veansinet." "What do you wish to see him for?" "It is in relation to a promissory note." "The Baron went out of town yesterday." "That is too bad; I wanted to pay him the amount I owe him." "But," added the servant, "he returned this morning."

A SPEAKER who was in the habit of using the expression "I say" too frequently, was criticised for it by an opponent, and the next time he saw the critic he thus accused him—"I say, sir, I hear say you say I say 'I say' at every word I say. Now, sir, although I know I say 'I say' at every word I say, still I say, sir, it is not for you to say I say 'I say,' at every word I say."

SOME men are disastrously superstitious. A young fellow came to the determination to propose on a certain evening. Entering the drawing-room in considerable trepidation, he picked up a book and glanced at the title page. It was a copy of "Don't." He didn't, and on the very next afternoon his girl consented to be Mrs. Somebody Else.

THE proprietor of a shooting-box in the West of Ireland, having been driven home in a regular downpour, and perceiving that his Jehu was almost in rags, sympathetically said—"Pat, my poor fellow, you must be wet through and through!" "I am wet only to the skin, but plase goodness, I'll get wet inside as soon as your honour can get out the sperrits!"

DIPLOMATIC HUSBAND.—"My dear, they tell me that this year it will be fashionable for ladies to wear their last season's bonnets." Still More Diplomatic Wife—"How delightful! You've always complained of my being too fashionable, and now for once I can please you perfectly by being out of the fashion." Diplomatic Husband—"By being out of the fashion?"—in a puzzled tone. Diplomatic Wife—"Yes, dear; I'll go to town this afternoon and order the loveliest new things in summer bonnets!"

SCENE—Commercial room in small Irish town. *Dramatis Personæ*—C. T. and New Waiter. C. T.—"What have you got for tea?" N. W.—"Is it something to *ate* yer mane, sorr?" C. T.—"Yes; can you do me a couple of poached eggs on toast?" N. W.—"*Poached* eggs, is it? We have no poached eggs, but yez can have some splendid poached *salmon*, sorr!"—This week's *Puck*.

"HAVE you anything to offer the Court before sentence is passed?" asked the Judge of a recently-convicted man. "No, your Honour, my lawyer took my last farthing," replied the prisoner.

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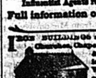
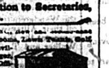
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Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Up to Wednesday, the condition of Supt. Oliver Consett, had materially improved.

We are informed that the Consett Cricketers' bachelors party will be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday, 20th January, and not the 13th as mentioned in last week's *Guardian*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr R. J. Brodie's establishment has been closed this week, pending the production of the realistic drama, *The Strike*, on Saturday night next by a London Company, under the direction of Messrs Murray and Cochrane.

The half-yearly sale of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals taken in at the Consett Reading and Recreation Rooms will take place next Tuesday evening, at eight o'clock.

The frost still continues in West Durham, and skaters are busy enjoying themselves on the various ponds and sheets of water throughout the countryside. The weather is seasonable for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CHEER.—In our notices under this heading in last week's *Guardian* we omitted to mention that Messrs T. D. Dryden and Co., Front Street, Consett, have the largest stock of wines and spirits in bond in the town, their brands of choice liquors being of the highest order and excellence, and recommended by the medical faculty for general use.

DISCUSSION ON "HEROISM."—In connection with the Consett Primitive Methodist Young People's Guild the Mutual Improvement Class met on Saturday night, when an excellent paper on "Heroism" was well read, and emphatically expressed by Mr R. Campbell, of Shotley Bridge. There was a good attendance, and discussion was brisk. The chair was occupied by the Rev T. J. Watson.

Birrell's New Diorama of Scotland, which discloses some admirable views of Highland scenery, paid a visit to Consett on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, when representations were given in the New Town Hall, before delighted audiences. An amusing and original Scottish concert is given during the course of the evening. A prominent feature on the programme being the Caledonian Minstrels.

PROFESSOR MORGAN'S HYPNOTIC AND PHRENOLOGICAL ENTERTAINMENT.—We have pleasure in drawing attention to the professor's visit. His entertainment is full of instruction, and far more amusing than any pantomine. Then his character-readings are marvellous portrayals, in fact they are true to life. Every person should spend an hour with Morgan, for his operations are truly wonderful.

CONVEYANCE ACCIDENT.—On Saturday afternoon, about three o'clock, as a party of seven or eight representatives of the Consett Industrial and Provident Society were travelling in a waggonette with a pair of horses belonging to Mrs Christopher, of Consett, to attend the quarterly co-operative conference at Annfield Plain, they met with a serious accident which prevented the journey being accomplished. The party had passed the Carr House railway crossing on the way towards Leadgate, the North-Eastern mineral line being to the left, and the Consett Iron Company's railways to the right. A locomotive belonging to the N.E. Co. began to let out steam, although beckoned to desist the driver did not do so, and the noise frightened the horses, causing them to swerve on the footpath. The animals galloped away, and the driver snapped the reins in his efforts to regain the road. Telegraph poles and lamp-posts were just missed, but the conveyance eventually collided with terrific force against a lamp column, causing the horses to fall and smashing the shafts and other parts of the vehicle. Messrs C. Routledge and T. Shotton, two leading co-operators in the North, who were seated on the front beside the driver, were thrown forward and sprang to the ground, Mr Routledge fracturing his right leg just above the ankle, besides hurting his back. Mr Shotton was also slightly lamed. Mr Routledge had to be conveyed home on an ambulance stretcher, where he was attended to by Dr Ross, assistant to Dr Macintyre. The horses were cut and bleeding. The driver (R. Tindale) escaped unhurt.

WESLEYAN IMPROVEMENT CLASS.—The popularity of this class is increasing week by week as evidenced by the number present on Monday night, who came to hear a paper read by Mr Bailey, the Wesleyan school-master, the subject being "Man is wonderfully and fearfully made." The paper was illustrated by several beautifully executed drawings in chalk on the blackboard done by the essayist, by which he showed himself not only to be well up in his subject, but a clever and expert artist. In the time at his disposal the essayist could only deal with those more important organs of the body, such as the heart, lungs, throat, &c., and by the help of the diagrams was enabled to make himself well understood in describing their action and functions, carefully explaining how they acted upon each other and the results produced. The members shewed their appreciation of the paper by the number of questions which were asked seeking for further information, which would no doubt be very gratifying to Mr Bailey from the fact that he had created the desire for further favours. In listening to the paper and observing the drawings the audience were indeed impressed with the fact that man is wonderfully made, but they would have been very pleased and no doubt benefitted if Mr Bailey's time had permitted to have entered into the other branches of the subject.

TEMPERANCE MUSICAL SERVICE.—The best and most varied programme yet submitted was listened to by a large audience assembled in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, on Sunday evening, on the occasion of the sixth musical temperance service under the auspices of the Consett United Temperance Association. The chair was occupied by Mr Geo. Lowes, and he proffered some very effective and interesting remarks which were very acceptable to an appreciative audience. The opening hymn having been sung, Rev T. Durant (Baptist Minister), engaged in prayer. A quartette was nicely rendered by the Misses Allison and Lennox, and Messrs C. H. Allison and W. Lowrie. Mr H. Curry (Leadgate) favoured with concertina solos, "Jesus is the sinner's friend," and "On distant stars," in splendid style. "The model church," by Miss L. English (Blackhill), was particularly good, and the cornet solo by Mr J. Cockburn "Love at home," was listened to with rapt attention. A trio was capitally sung by Messrs Allison, Lowrie, and Hobday. A stirring address was given by Mr J. Charlton, Templetown. The Gospel Temperance Mission Band played through the streets before the meeting, and also gave selections while the collection was being taken. The chairman appealed to non-abstainers to sign the pledge, and the most successful meeting of the series ended with the doxology and benediction. Volunteer musicians are still required. Mr G. T. Egglestone, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, is secretary to the movement.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

MANORS OF THE SEE OF DURHAM.—We are requested to announce that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England are about to take over the manorial business in connection with the estates of the see into their more direct control, by placing it in charge of their secretary and other officers of their staff. Mr J. Booth, solicitor, Shotley Bridge, the present deputy-steward, and clerk of the Holmote Court, of which copyholds within these manors are held, will consequent thereon retire at the close of the present year from these offices, to which he was appointed on the death of the late Joseph Davison in 1869. In working the copyhold business of these manors by means of officials wholly in the employ of the Commissioners, they are following a course already adopted in other parts of the country, and having regard to the large extent of copyholds in the county of Durham and the great value of the mineral interests connected therewith, they have deemed it necessary to extend this arrangement to the business arising in these manors. The Commissioners have appointed Mr Manley (solicitor) of their office, assistant steward generally of all their manors and deputy-steward and clerk of the Halmote Court, while Mr Wall (manorial surveyor) will discharge the local duties.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The first of a series of pleasant Sunday afternoon services was held on Sunday afternoon in the Primitive Methodist Chapel at Shotley Bridge. An excellent programme was rendered by the Blackhill Primitive Methodist Choir, under the able leadership of Mr James Greenwood. After the opening hymn and prayer, anthems were rendered by the choir; solo by Misses Wright, Read, and Gardiner, and Mr E. Robinson; duets by Miss Robinson and Mr E. Robinson, Miss Wright and Mr Betting; violin solos by Master R. Gardiner, all of which were highly appreciated by a large congregation. A most suitable gospel address of fifteen minutes was delivered by Mr Wilson Clayton, of Consett. Miss E. Brodie ably presided at the harmonium.

TRAP ACCIDENT.—A serious trap accident happened at Shotley Bridge on Tuesday. It appears that a pair of horses and a brougham belonging to Councillor Jas. Annandale, J.P., The Briary, were being driven by the coachman, and in turning the corner at Shotley Grove the centre pole broke, and the horses galloped off through Shotley Bridge. During their onward career the animals came in violent collision with a coal cart, one of the animals striking the vehicle with such force that he was very severely cut and bruised. The horses were ultimately stopped by the coachman to Mrs Priestman, Derwent Lodge. It was found necessary to destroy one of the animals, as it was so badly lacerated. Fortunately no one was inside the brougham at the time of the occurrence, but the equipage was much damaged. The driver miraculously escaped, and no one else was injured.

BLACKHILL.

On Sunday, the anniversary sermons were preached in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Blackhill, by Rev D. Balgarnie, of Bishop Auckland, to large congregations.

DEATH OF AN OLD RESIDENT.—On Monday, there passed away another old resident of Blackhill in the person of Mrs Surtees, widow of the late John Surtees, at her residence, Cemetery Road, Blackhill, at the advanced age of 85 years. Deceased was well-known and greatly respected. The interment takes place this (Thursday) afternoon, at Benfieldside Cemetery.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

INSPECTOR MAXWELL.—We are sorry to learn that this highly respected officer is confined to his bed.

Mr Thos. R. Farrow, the well-known county cricket umpire, has been appointed custodian and librarian of the Chester-le-Street Mechanics' Institute.

THE DRAMA.—The Prince's Theatre, Chester-le-Street, under the able and courteous direction of Mr W. Bell, continues to be the centre of attraction for the district. The house is well lighted by gas, the plays are all staged with scrupulous care, while the acting of the company leaves nothing to be desired. Mr Bell announces special attractions for the holiday season.

CHESTER-LE-STREET CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—At the ordinary quarterly meeting of this society, held a month ago, it was decided, by a majority of one, to reduce the wages of the master butcher (Mr W. Hand) from £3 10s to £2 10s per week. In consequence of a requisition, a special general meeting was held on Saturday night last, to reconsider the question. After a stormy and uproarious meeting, it was decided by a majority of 35 to uphold the reduction. Mr Hand leaves in consequence of the decision.

STANHOPE.

HIGH STREET MISSION.—Miss Roche, evangelist, who since April of the present year has had charge of the above Mission Chapel at Stanhope with marked success, tendered her resignation some little time ago, and will deliver her final address on Sunday evening. Since her arrival in Stanhope, Miss Roche has become exceedingly popular, her attention to the sick and sorrowing having been of an exceptional character. By her work in Stanhope many have found peace and blessing. Her religion, be it said, is truly Christian, as we find her at the present time sacrificing all in her attendance upon a poor woman who some weeks ago happened an accident upon the highway near Frosterley. It might almost be said that her recovery is due to the kind and nursing care of this young lady. Miss Roche intends leaving Stanhope in a little time, and we wish her God-speed.

The Royal Hand-bell Ringers (under the direction of Mr D. Miller) visited Stanhope on Tuesday night, and gave a very high-class performance in the Wesleyan Chapel. There was a good company present.

WESLEYAN METHODISM.—A sewing meeting tea given by Mrs R. Walton, of Stanhope House, on Saturday, on behalf of the funds of the Wesleyan Chapel renovation. It also being Miss Proud's birthday, advantage was taken of the event, and a bumper sewing tea gathering ensued. An entertainment was also provided, in which the Misses Stephenson and Messrs Stephenson, of Bollihope, took part, as also did Mr J. Bell, Mr Proud, Tom Moore, and others.

GAS EXPLOSION.—An explosion of gas occurred in the drains in the Front Street, Stanhope, on Monday evening, which might have resulted seriously. An escape of gas from the main pipe had made its way into the sewer drains, and was escaping at a grate or two in front of Messrs L. Atkinson's and J. Branston's shops. Someone passing, and smelling the gas, applied a lighted match, when instantly it took fire. The person who had lit it, seeing what he had done, took his hat to dash it out, when the gas, which had accumulated in the drains through the passage under the houses, exploded with a terrific noise. It shook the houses, but fortunately no one was any worse. While the workmen were employed on Tuesday morning, a hack struck fire, and ignited the escaped gas in a drain under Mrs C. Emmerson's house, which exploded, blowing up the passage and doing much damage.

WESTWOOD.

WESTWOOD STATION QUESTION.—On Monday night, a meeting of the committee in connection with the station question at Westwood was held in the Co-operative Hall, Westwood, when the deputations appointed to wait on certain gentlemen made their reports to the committee. In each case very favourable replies were received. In addition to the great assistance of the gentlemen waited on, the committee decided to forward a petition directly from the people, and bearing their signatures. The secretary also read a letter from the N.E.R. to Mr Jenkins, acknowledging the receipt of an application which that gentleman had forwarded on behalf of the people in the neighbourhood. The committee were much encouraged by the kindly and ready way that Mr Logan had taken up the question.

LANCHESTER.

SEASONABLE BENEVOLENCE.—AN EXAMPLE WORTHY OF IMITATION.—We are glad to record that Mr and Mrs E. Hedley, of Burnhopeside Hall, and of Raynham, Kent, still continue the good custom of their ancestors, Messrs George and William Hedley, of distributing hampers of good things at the festive season of Christmas. On Monday evening, were cut up for distribution by Mr James Hunter, Langley Park, under the able supervision of the lady superintendent of the domestic, the beef of a prime three-year-old heifer weighing about 50 stones, and the mutton of half-a-dozen prime south-down sheep. There were also 30 well-fed geese to be distributed. The parcelling out of the various joints took no little care and thoughtfulness, so that each recipient might be gratified and delighted on its reception, and on Tuesday, took place the distribution of the several parcels to their friends and the poor of the parishes of Lanchester and Holmside. The recipients of the welcome gifts, it is needless to say, showered down blessings upon the heads of the thoughtful and generous donors, or as the poor woman said "May their shadow never grow less." It is astonishing what a little thought and kindness on the part of those who know the luxury of doing good at this time of the year, when all are speaking of "goodwill to all mankind," does to cheer and encourage and bring a little sunshine into the hearts of those who are not blessed with too great an abundance of the good things of this life, and it gives encouraging hopes of the approach of that happy time spoken of as the universal brotherhood of man, when that sad refrain of the poet,

"Man's inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn,"

will be of the past and not "up to date."

DIPTON.

ODDFELLOWSHIP.—The members of the Alexandra Lodge held their monthly meeting in their club-room at the house of Mr James Teasdale. There was a large number of members present. The first business was to make two new members. The N. G. called upon the secretary to read the half-yearly report, which said that the lodge is in a good sound state. Since the lodge started 10 years since there has just one member died. The next business was moved by Bro. Ward and seconded by Bro. Rooney that Bro. Coun. Curry and Bro. Rev R. Tuson be our two trustees for the lodge, which was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. Bro. Curry thanked the members for electing him to that office, and gave them a short address, which was well received by the members. Bro. Rev Tuson also thanked the members for the honour they had conferred upon him, and said that anything towards the prosperity of the lodge would be done by him, which was received with applause. The N. G. called on the secretary to read the receipts for the night, which amounted to £16 18s. The N. G. closed the meeting.

ESH.

Rev Bertram Storne Spencer, B.A., of Pembroke College, Oxford, a newly-ordained deacon, was licensed to the curacy of Esh by Dr Westcott on Sunday.

BURNHOPE.

The quadrille party recently established at Burnhope numbers about 56 members. Mr W. Gray is M.C., and Mr H. L. Burgess secretary. This is a pleasant innovation and a happy means of spending an enjoyable evening amongst local friends.

PELTON FELL.

MECHANICS' SUPPER.—On Saturday night, the Pelton Fell, Waldridge Fell, and Chester Moor members of the Colliery Mechanics' Association held their annual supper at the Colliery Hotel, Pelton Fell—Mr Thomas Waggott, Waldridge, presiding. There was a capital attendance of members, only five being absent, two of whom were at work, and the other three suffering from influenza. A most excellent repast was served up by the genial hostess, Mrs Favell, and afterwards the hours were devoted to harmony and conviviality, the most pleasant and interesting *reunion* being brought to a close by singing "Auld Lang Syne."

WEARDALE.

ACCIDENT IN A MINE.—While two leadminers, named James Gowland and J. Gibson, were at work at Rookhope Mine, a portion of the roof fell on Gowland. Their lights were also put out, but Gibson, with much presence of mind, sprang forward and seized his injured companion, and dragged him out just as a second mass fell. Gowland was taken to his home at Haswicks, Westgate, where his injuries were attended to by Dr Hewitson, St. John's.

ESH COLLIERY.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST BAND OF HOPE.—On Saturday evening, a public entertainment was given in the Iron School-room, Esh Colliery, when a lengthy programme was gone through, consisting of songs, solos, readings, and recitations by the following members and friends:—Messrs T. Tucker, Willis Coates, J. Richards, T. Cornish, A. Armstrong, Misses Dunnon, S. Parker, Richards, and others. Mr Thomas Hodgson ably occupied the chair. Accompanist, Mr Jno. Egglestone. There was a fair attendance of the inhabitants, which, after a pleasant evening's enjoyment, was finally closed by singing the doxology.

FROSTERLEY.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Robert Maddinson, farmer, Buckler Dale, Frosterley, died very suddenly at the age of 84, at his home on Saturday.

LEADGATE.

At Durham Cathedral, on Sunday, Rev. Robert Snowdon Hay, of Bishop Hatfield Hall, Durham, was ordained deacon, and afterwards licensed to the curacy of Leadgate.

QUEBEC.

YEARLY FUND SUPPER.—On Saturday evening, a supper was provided for the members, under the auspices of the No. 1 Yearly Fund, at Mr R. Wall's, Hamsteels Inn, Quebec. Upwards of 60 sat down and partook of the repast, the culinary arrangements of the host and hostess being admirably carried out. Mr J. Wilson presided, and after the cloth was removed, and the usual toasts disposed of, Mr W. Fell, secretary, submitted his report, shewing the amount of dividend to each member had greatly depreciated from that of the preceding year, which was adopted as satisfactory. The expenditure had, owing to increase of sickness and number of deaths, been considerably more. "Success to the fund," coupled with "The health of the officials," being heartily responded to, the rest of the evening was spent in amusement.

STRANGE PROCEEDINGS AT DURHAM.

At the Three Horse Shoes Inn, Framwellgate, Durham, on Wednesday, Mr Coroner Graham held an inquest on the body of Ada Dodds, a servant girl, aged 15, who was found drowned in the Wear at Kepier, on Tuesday.

Martin Dodds, a miner, of Browney Colliery, identified the body as that of his sister, who was a servant with Mr Palmer, newsagent, &c., at No 5, Leazes Place. She seemed to be very comfortable at her place, and nothing that witness knew had occurred to disappoint or annoy her.

By the Foreman: She was never in the habit of going in a low way.

Catherine Ann Palmer, wife of Mr Palmer, said deceased had been with them about three months. She was not a well-conducted girl, and they had had a great deal of trouble with her. She was a girl of most violent temper, and would not bear being spoken to. Witness had had to speak to her a good many times. On the morning of the 14th inst., witness had occasion to find fault with her about a board getting burnt. The girl got into a passion, and about half-past eleven witness saw her go from the house. She saw deceased putting together her clothes in a bundle, and she said to her, "Where are you going to; are you going home to your mother?" Accused said, "No. I am not going to my mother. Do you think I would ever go to her again." She afterwards threw the bundle into a corner of the room, and witness never saw her again.

Annie Gowland, servant at 16, South Bailey, said she was in Elvet Banks about a quarter past one on the 14th inst. She saw a girl on top of the parapet in one of the recesses of the Prebend's Bridge. The girl got down from the bridge, and went into the Elvet Banks.

P.C. Brown spoke to finding the body of the girl in the river at Kepier.

The Coroner: If the landlord of this house had stood upon his rights, and refused to take the body into his house, what would you have done with it?

Witness: It has not been brought to his house.

The Foreman (Mr J. Davison): Yes, but it is on his premises. There is just one question I would like to ask you. Is a landlord compelled to take a body in like this?

The Coroner: No.

Mr Davison: And the policeman had just as much right to bring it to my house?

The Coroner: Certainly; perhaps more if you are a churchwarden.

Mr Davison: I am a parish constable. I think it is hard lines for a publican to have to put up with this. A landlord had plenty to do to mind his own business. I think the hour has arrived when a place should be built.

The Coroner said the question had often been mooted, and he for one was about tired.

Mr Davison: It takes a "bonny" lot of moving for in Durham if it is anything useful.

Mr Lumsden: The only way is for a publican to take a body in, and give the churchwardens a benefit.

The Coroner further said a place was necessary, for a stable was not a place for a dead body.

The jury concurred in his remarks, and returned a verdict of found drowned.

PELTON FELL HARRIERS v BIRTLEY SCRATCH.—To be played at Pelton Fell to-morrow (Friday). Teams:—Birtley—Goal, Kinnear; backs, Joyce and Robson; half-backs, Todd, Humphrey, and Bell; forwards, Edgar, Knox, Standley, McAvoy, and Palmer. Pelton Fell will be chosen from the following—Potts, Rule, Thompson, Birkett, Andrews, Dunn, Waggott, Hewitson, Porter, Lashly, Emery, Trotter, and Stangee.

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

Late Advertisement.

FOR SALE, a Useful COW; close to profit.—Apply to RALPH WILSON, Hanging Stone, Iveston.

DURHAM COUNTY COURT.

MONDAY and TUESDAY—Before His Honour Judge MEYNELL.

A LANCHESTER CASE.

HALL v. GARROWAY.—This was an action brought by Robert Hall, of Butsfield Abbey, near Satley, farmer, to recover the sum of £15 from Wm. Garroway, of Tow Law, Inspector of Nuisances, for money lent to the defendant. Mr Mawson appeared for the plaintiff.—Plaintiff stated that he was at Mr Nicholson's stock sale at Lanchester, on Nov. 5th, 1890, and was asked by the defendant to lend him £15 to pay the farmers for the stock. He said he would repay the money when he got it. He had applied to the defendant for the money, and the latter said he could not pay it yet. He had never denied getting the money.—Defendant admitted borrowing the money, but said he was then acting as clerk to Mr Nicholson for receiving and paying cash, and borrowed it on his behalf.—His Honour found for the plaintiff for £15 and the costs.

CLAIM FOR RENT.

THE DEARNESS BRICK AND TILE COMPANY v. COATES.—The Dearness Brick and Tile Company, of Waterhouses, sued Mark Coates, of Woodland Place, Waterhouses, for the sum of £1 6s 3d, due as rent.—For the plaintiffs it was stated that the defendant took a house from the Dearness Company, for which he agreed to pay 3s 6d per week. He afterwards received notice to leave his work, and also said that if he did not leave the house the rent would be doubled. Defendant had not let the house, and they now claimed for 7s per week since the time he went into the house. Plaintiffs had asked him to leave, but he had refused.—Defendant acknowledged that he had occupied the house, and His Honour gave judgment for the amount claimed.

CLAIM AGAINST A SOLICITOR.

RAW v BROWNLESS.—This was a claim by Thos. Raw, of the Dearness Brick and Tile Company, Waterhouses, to recover the sum of 10s 6d from Mr J. Brownless, jun., solicitor, Durham, for expenses for attending the Durham County Court as a witness on August 1st.—Plaintiff said he was summoned by Mr Brownless to appear at that court in August in a case by a Waterhouses man named Chappell. He attended the court, but had not received anything for doing so. The plaintiff, for whom he gave evidence, won his case. He subsequently applied to Mr Brownless for his costs, but did not receive them. Mr Brownless employed him, and he thought that he was entitled to his costs.—In answer to Mr Brownless, plaintiff said he did not know that execution had been served upon Chappell, although he knew he had left the district.—Defendant said he had not received his own fee yet.—His Honour did not think plaintiff could make Mr Brownless personally liable, and gave a verdict for the defendant, with costs.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

TO-MORROW'S FIXTURES (FRIDAY, DEC. 25TH).

Alliance District Match—Stripes v Plains, at Dipton.
Lintzford v Leadgate Park Reserve, at Lintzford.
Derwent Cottages Ramblers v Leadgate Park 2nd, at Derwent Cottages.
Pelton Fell Harriers v Birtley Scratch, at Pelton Fell.
Hobson Wanderers v Strawberry Cabinet Works, at the Hobson.
Malton Colliery Wanderers v Witton Gilbert, at Lanchester.
Lintz Rovers v Hedley Hill Rangers, at Hedley Hill.
Medomsley White Stars v Medomsley Church Choir, at Medomsley.
Hobson Wanderers Reserve v Elswick Star, at the Hobson.
Ladies v Gentlemen, at Lintzford.
Cornsay Rovers v Heaton Athletic, at Cornsay.
Blaydon v Rockcliff 2nd, at Whitley.
Pelton Fell Harriers Juniors v Cheviot, at Pelton Fell.

SATURDAY, DEC. 26TH.

Tanfield Lea v Felling, at the Felling.
Cornsay Rovers v Stanley, at Stanley.
Consett Y.M.C.A. v Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's, at Consett.
Blackhill Rovers 2nd v Hedgefield Juniors 1st, at Blackhill.
Esh True Blues v Bearpark Albion, at Esh.
Tow Law v Darlington Athletic, at Tow Law.
Dipton Wanderers v Medomsley, at Dipton (N.W. Durham Alliance).
Esh True Blues 2nd v Hedley Hill, at Hedley Hill.
Dipton Wanderers Reserve v Edmondsley Strangers, at Edmondsley.
Tanfield Lea 2nd v Vulcan, at Newcastle.
Byer Moor v Tanfield, at Tanfield.
Blaydon 2nd v Rockcliff 3rd, at Blaydon.
Pelton Fell Harriers Juniors v Dunston Villa, at Pelton Fell.
Consett Fell v Derwent Cottages Ramblers, at Consett.
Lintzford v Medomsley Reserve, at Lintzford.
Consett Royal Oaks v Greencroft Black Watch, at Consett.
Malton Colliery Wanderers v Annfield Plain Jolly Tars, at Lanchester.
Lintz Rovers v Consett Fell, at the Lintz.
Crookhall Wanderers v Blackhill East End, at Crookhall.
Highgate Wanderers v Medomsley White Stars, at Highgate.

ALLIANCE DISTRICT MATCH.

STRIPES V. PLAINS.

The above match will be played on the Wanderers' ground at Dipton to-morrow (Friday). There are two alterations in the teams originally selected, as Hedley and Milburn are unable to play. The revised elevens are as follows:—

PLAINS.—Goal, J. McDermott (Cornsay Rovers); backs, W. Benson (Hedley Harriers) and W. McGee (Leadgate Exiles); half-backs, J. Harrison (Hedley Harriers), J. Haggan (Leadgate Exiles), and J. Monaghan (Leadgate Exiles); forwards, O. Hughes (Leadgate Exiles) and J. McGowan (Cornsay Rovers), right wing; J. Aston (Cornsay Rovers), centre; J. McGee (Leadgate Exiles) and G. Simpson (Cornsay Rovers), left wing.

STRIPES.—Goal, R. Freek (Dipton Wanderers); backs, J. Walker (Dipton Wanderers) and W. Mansell (Medomsley); half-backs, A. Dodds (Dipton Wanderers), W. Christopher (Tanfield Lea), and G. Ibbotson (Langley Park Rovers); forwards, O. Jackson (Langley Park Rovers) and I. Gilliard (Dipton Wanderers), right wing; W. Smith (Dipton Wanderers), centre; J. Iveson (Langley Park Rovers) and Ed. Gailes (Tanfield Lea), left wing.

Kick-off at 2 o'clock. Referee, Mr J. Ross, jun., Medomsley.

DIPTON WANDERERS v MEDOMSLEY.—On Saturday the Wanderers receive a visit from Medomsley to play off their Alliance fixture. The following team will represent the Wanderers—Goal, R. Freek; backs, J. Walker and T. Turpin; half-backs, A. Dodds, E. Buck, and W. Bowes; forwards, J. Leadbitter (capt.) and I. Gilliard, right wing; W. Evans, centre; D. Crozier and T. Walker, left wing. The Medomsley team will be chosen from the following:—T. Bramley, Wm. Mansell, Wm. Baron, T. Walton, G. Moon, R. Cant, Dr Mann, M. Charlton, J. Veitch, H. Smith, R. Campbell, W. Cant, and J. E. Taylor.

CONSETT FELL v DERWENT COTTAGES RAMBLERS.—This match will be played at Consett on Saturday. The Fell will be represented by the subjoined team—Goal, J. Carruthers; backs, W. Oliver and T. Skelton; half-backs, C. Ternent, A. Eustace, and A. Stafford; forwards, W. Atkinson and W. Wake, right wing; R. Harkness, centre; T. Dunn and W. Bell (capt.), left wing. Reserve, E. Carlill. Ramblers—Goal, D. Harris; backs, J. Wilson and J. Routledge; half-backs, Patterson, T. Snowdon, and Marrs; forwards, Milburn, R. Wilson, Davison, Graham, and Glasgow. The same team will represent the Ramblers against Leadgate Park 2nd on Christmas Day.

LINTZFORD v LEADGATE PARK RESERVE.—To be played at Lintzford to-morrow (Friday). Lintzford team—Goal, T. Smith; backs, J. W. Andrews (capt.) and J. Brown; half-backs, E. Stobbs, T. Newton, and M. Swinburn; forwards, Jas. Andrews and Jos. Andrews, right wing; R. Goodman, centre; W. Smith and Burton, left wing. Kick-off at 2-15.

MEDOMSLEY WHITE STARS v MEDOMSLEY CHURCH CHOIR.—To be played on the former's ground to-morrow (Friday). The following will do duty for the Stars:—Goal, J. Walton; backs, J. Campbell and T. Graham; half-backs, T. Walton, W. Hetherington, and J. Leath; forwards, W. Leathard and R. Graham, right wing; J. T. Thompson, centre; T. Hornsby and R. Bramley, left wing.

CONSERVATIVE MEETING AT BURNHOPE.

On Wednesday, Mr Askwith, of Manchester, visited Burnhope, and gave an able address on "Good Government and good wages." Coun. J. T. Forster presided, and, in introducing the lecturer, said that it was a most important thing for those present to fully consider the doings of the Salisbury Government, for not a man could deny the fact that they had managed well, and if a new party were put into office it would be to the loss of the whole of the working people of England. Under the present Government they had had good wages and good food, together with other benefits, due to the capital put to use by business people who had confidence in the Unionist party, both at home and abroad, which to them meant security for their financial undertakings.

The CHAIRMAN now called upon Mr Askwith to deliver his address.

The LECTURER was received with hearty applause. He said: Mr Forster and Gentlemen: The attendance is not large owing to a miners' meeting, but what is wanting in numbers will be made up in intelligence. You are all working men like myself, and I as such know your feelings, thoughts, and wants. Every man thinks of himself and his wife and family first and foremost. It has often struck me that it is bad to have party politics, for it has been the cause of hundreds of good measures going to limbo, or being stopped for years. There has been a desire not to let opponents pass the measures. Also, there is the constant hankering for being in or stopping in office, which certainly acts as a check to measures being passed. Party politics, therefore, appear a curse, yet we must have more than one side, or monopolies would spring up, members would care only for themselves, hence fill their own pockets and show no anxiety whatever for outsiders. Fifty years ago there were only Whigs and Tories. Twenty years later three parties. A few years later there were five parties—Tories, Whigs, Conservatives, Rads, and Liberals; while to day we have old Tories, old Whigs, Liberals of 30 years ago, Conservatives, Radicals, two Irish Parties and Socialists. With such a number of schools of political thought the political machine can scarcely be made to work owing to one or other of these parties. Every effort do they put forth to get their own fads forced to the front, independent of good measures awaiting decision. Each of them thinks their claims ought to be first; hence, while wrangling for priority good legislation is neglected. Mr Gladstone, at Newcastle, alluded to Home Rule, Disestablishment of the Churches of Wales and Scotland, one man one vote, eight hours a day, etc., and stated that all wanted priority. There was no great certainty that Wales demands disestablishment, but if they do they have no right to demand it. Similar statements were made in reference to each of the other points. Now, if there is to be no priority the whole cannot be well passed together, therefore such statements are futile, and show the only political work worth showing to accomplish is the passing of measures which yield the greatest good to the largest number. It is not for individuals to say that Home Rule stops the way. What will it do for pocket or home? Will it improve your food or benefit your children? We do think, and will think of Ireland. Ireland cannot govern herself. She has plenty of able men, but they are always wrangling, and everyone knows what must inevitably follow where the house is divided against. She has not got the capital. Three-fourths of the capital of the country belongs to the Unionists. Now, if W. O'Brien, Harrington, T. Healy, Redmond, and others were put into power, would the loyal men of Ireland let their capital remain? Never. They would sell out and invest their money where it would be safe. With regard to her commerce in agricultural products, where is her outlet except England? Could she go on growing without capital? Also, would we favour Ireland against our colonies? It is a Catholic country, and no doubt, if left to itself, the French would not be long before they would try, and succeed too, in gaining power, and in time get full control of the country. Then the different races form a chasm which 1,200 years has failed to bridge over, and which, owing to the Protestant and Catholic feelings, never, probably, will be bridged over. It is ridiculous to say that what 700 years has failed to do could be done in three years. Protestants of the north are well-to-do and loyal, numbering 1½ millions of the 4½ millions in Ireland. Would they submit to those who play such antics in the House of Commons? Never for a moment. They would be up in arms. What did Mr Gladstone say of them—"They can take care of themselves." Are we to put men in power that we may kill our own kith and kin? Yet we are liable to do so by our misplaced votes. Let Home Rule go to the background, and agitate for measures good for all. To support this statement let us go to no other person than Mr Gladstone himself. Till the last five years he was entirely for the maintenance of the United Kingdom and British Empire. Time is too short, especially the toilers' time, to look after fads. Now, ask what will be the benefits if the vote is given to the Conservative party? Forget the man; he himself is nothing. Is is the Government he represents, not himself. The present member represents the Gladstonian party, and the candidate the Unionist party. Therefore, let us examine the parties they belong to, and not the men. We will go back, say, 20 years, from 1870 to 1891, during which time we have had about ten years of Radical Government and ten years of Tory Government. Now, examine these periods dispassionately, forget politics, look at the history of the time carefully, and decide in your minds which was the best ten years. Get the "Reform Almanack," and if you do not come to the conclusion that three-fourths of the time when the Tory party was in power was the happiest time, then give your votes to the Liberals. This, I'm sure, you will never do, as my statements will bear the light of thorough investigation. In 1880, we had a Gladstonian Government with 100 majority, when they could have done anything they desired. The Cabinet also contained Lord Hartington, Mr Chamberlain, Lord Derby, Mr Goschen, and the Duke of Argyle. Mr Gladstone was leader, and what he wanted must be done, for over 50 years. He has been three times Premier, and all yielded and followed him. What did he do then in 1880? He found us at peace with the world. With a scientific frontier to safeguard our Indian Empire, Lord Beaconsfield left all clear. But from 1880 to 1885 there was a great change. At the beginning, Ireland was at peace, trade was good in every country in Europe, and our colonies were all on good terms with us. From 1880 to 1881, there were in Ireland 11,000 outrages, 60 murders, cattle maimed, women, landlords, and caretakers shot. During 1881-82 it was not safe for a man to travel, and this state of things culminated in the murder of Mr Burke and Lord Frederick Cavendish. Then followed the Coercion Act, which in three years restored peace and life, and property was once more safe. When Lord Beaconsfield, in 1880, was leaving he tried to persuade the Government to strengthen the law, no notice was taken; hence the above outrages. Again, during 1881-2-3 and 4, we were at war, bringing most disastrous results, even the flag was buried on one occasion to save it from insult. No less than £21,000,000 was squandered away in these petty and needless wars, because the leader did not know when to strike and how to rule. The Unionists have kept an army in Egypt, and the result has not been war, but the most successful financial results the country has ever known since the Pharoahs. In fact, they have put 2½ millions to their credit. Again, Ireland, under Tory rule, has had blessings showered upon her in the shape of improved Land Acts, and the sound Government administered by Mr Balfour. All parts benefit by a Government such as now rules. In 1883, in seven large towns there were 100,000 unemployed, while to-day the number is 12,000, which is a marvellous contrast. Ask yourself if you are not better off in wages, and in the pit too. The Government in power knows best how to manage, for peace and confidence leads to their openening up new markets, and they never close an old one. They also keep in touch with the Colonies, and the war and turmoil of their predecessors is replaced by not even the rumours of wars but constant peace. Legislation has been, during the present rule, greatly beneficial to the working men. Allotment Act, Working Men's Dwellings Act, Employers Liability Act, Registration, Free Education, etc., are the outcome of the policy from 1886 to 1891. We are as much in favour of one man one vote as our opponents are only it must be of equal weight. The result then would lead to redistribution and England would then have her fair proportion of representatives, which she has not got now. The Gladstonians never say a word about the redistribution, and all they want is to take away the votes of the Conservative property owners. With regard to the eight hours question, he would finally say that it would be a dangerous thing in face of the fierce competition of Foreign Countries. Short hours must be followed by short production—meaning less to go out and more to come in. Since foreign workmen work longer they would cheapen the produce, and thereby injure the working classes more than any other part of the community. The only two classes that should have the eight hours day were the railway men—drivers and shunters.

Questions were invited, but none were forthcoming.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Askwith for his straightforward and able speech, and trusted he would soon be heard again.

The motion was carried.

WEST STANLEY.

The Wesleyan Methodists of West Stanley had a visit on Wednesday from Rev Peter Mackenzie, who preached in the new church before a good congregation. A public tea followed the service, and at night the rev. divine delivered his interesting lecture on "The gospel and its rivals." The proceeds were for the trust funds.

WEARHEAD.

Special services are being conducted in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Wearhead, by Miss Bulmer, of Tanfield Lea. She has had 45 converts in Newcastle recently in connection with the West Street Primitive Methodist Society.

MARLEY HILL.

SCHOLARS' TREAT.—On Thursday se'nnight, Mr Dewhurst, the deservedly popular head teacher of the Marley Hill Colliery School, gave his annual tea to his scholars in the school-room, which was most elaborately decorated for the occasion. Upwards of 200 partook of the good things provided by Mr and Mrs Dewhurst. After tea, an entertainment was given entirely by the children, the first part consisting of songs, solos, recitations, musical and other kind of drill by the infants. The second part consisted of a cantata, entitled "Caught napping," by the children in character, which was remarkably well done, and the third part consisted of songs, &c., by a number of the boys, dressed as niggers, and which met with a hearty reception. The entertainment was free, to which the parents of the children were all invited. The entertainment was repeated on Friday night, and a charge was made for admission, the proceeds for this night amounting to £7 7s. Mr James Gilchrist presided on both occasions. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr and Mrs Dewhurst at the close.

IVESTON.

SCHOLARS' ENTERTAINMENT.—A miscellaneous entertainment was given by the children of Iveston school, on Monday evening, Mr Ward presiding. The part songs were well rendered, as also were the violin solos, recitations, songs, and dialogues. The infants were remarkably good, and a pleasant evening was brought to a close by the older children singing the part song, "Good night."

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

HEXHAM—Hebron Memorial Chapel, 17th inst., by Rev J. Houng, William, second son of W. Weir, to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Robt. Hodgson, all of West Wylam.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—12, Forster Street, Delves Lane, 19th inst., aged 14 months, Meggie, beloved daughter of John and Ellen Minto. 324h

BLACKHILL—Durham 20th inst., aged 70, Ann, wife of the late William Young.

2, Cemetery Road, 21st inst., aged 85, Jane, relict of the late John Surtees. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery, to-day (Thursday), at Three o'clock.

LEADGATE—112, Front Street, 18th inst., aged 39, John Dawson, accidentally killed at Derwent Colliery. 341h

429, South Cross Street, 21st inst., aged 30, the wife of John Rodgerson.

Plantation Street, 21st inst., aged 64, Margaret, widow of the late Timothy Rodgerson, of Iveston. R.I.P. 339h

MEDOMSLEY—Fines Cottages, 19th inst., Harold, son of Samuel James and Jane Little.

MOUNTSETT—18th inst., aged 55, Thomas, husband of Elizabeth Kirtley.

WEST KYO—17th inst., aged 73, Robert Wade.

BEAMISH PARK—19th inst., aged 38, George, eldest son of Jane English.

CHESTER-LE-STREET—Pelaw Grange, 16th inst., aged 37, Hannah, wife of James Punton.

FROSTERLEY—15th inst., aged 70, Elizabeth, wife of John Elliott, gamekeeper, Bollihope.

19th inst., aged 84, Robert Maddinson, farmer, Buckler Dale; 21st inst., aged 74, Mrs Maddinson, his wife.

ROOKHOPE—21st inst., aged 64, Rev J. P. Shepherd, vicar of Rookhope.

SWALWELL—20th inst., aged 63, Isabella, wife of William Spoor.

Three Tuns Inn, 22nd inst., aged 40, Thomas Ivison.

BLAYDON—17th inst., aged 71, Margaret, wife of Alexander Rankin.

Townley Terrace, 20th inst., aged 3½ years, Edward, son of Alexander Wade.

SACRISTON—21st inst., aged 30, Margaret, wife of Joseph N. Greenwell.

WALDRIDGE FELL—20th inst., aged 61, Robert Hartley.

BIRTLEY—20th inst., S. Montagu, wife of Thomas W. Bayes.

WHICKHAM—20th inst., in his 89th year, Thomas Archer.

In happy memory of Marmaduke Henry Featherstonhaugh, who died at Shanghai, China, December 26th, 1887, aged 31.

"In peace." 330h

In affectionate remembrance of Robinson Brown, the husband of Elizabeth Brown, who departed this life at Blue Row, White-le-Head, December 20th, 1889, aged 63 years.

"Gone from sight, but still to memory dear."

In loving memory of our dear daughter, Frances Thompson, who died December 25th, 1890, aged 16 years and 4 months.

"Sweet is the sunlight after rain,
And sweet is the sleep which follows pain."
"Gone from sight, but still to memory dear."

In loving remembrance of my dearly beloved son, Robert Gregg, who departed this life Dec. 14th, 1893, aged 39 years.

"A light is from our household gone,
A voice we loved is still'd;
A place is vacant round our hearth
That never can be filled." 325h

In affectionate remembrance of our dear daughter, Eliza Vasey, who died at Consett Junction, December 25th, 1889.

"Not lost, but gone before."
"We miss thee when the morning shines,
We miss thee when the night returns,
We miss thee here, we miss thee there,
Dear daughter we miss thee everywhere."

GEORGE AND J. HOPE
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN MARBLE STONE, AND GRANITE,
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INSCRIPTIONS neatly executed in Town or Country
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