Printed and Published by the Proprietor Robert Jackson at the Printing Office, Front Street, Consett in the County of Durham. Robert Jackson Dec 28/67

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

A NEWSPAPER and ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Benfieldside, Blackhill, Consett, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, and District.

No. 368. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD} CONSETT, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 1867. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Wanted.

WANTED, AGENTS on Salary and Commission for the NATIONAL WEEKLY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Apply to J. LEVITAS, Bentinck, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 47

WANTED Immediately, an APPRENTICE to the Printing Business.—Apply at the Guardian Office, Consett. 65

WANTED, an APPRENTICE for the Ready-Made Clothing Business.—Apply to R. JACKSON & Co., Bottle Bank, Gateshead. 57

WANTED, a FARM SERVANT (Male).—Apply to Mr. MATTHIAS GIBSON, of Newbiggin, Lanchester. 58

To Let.

FURNISHED APARTMENTS to Let.—Apply to Mrs. SCOTT, Front Street, Shotley Bridge. 39

TO LET, A HOUSE AND SHOP at Leadgate. Apply to JOHN DIXON, Sherburne Terrace, Consett; or to WILLIAM DIXON, Leadgate. 45

TO LET.

A BEERHOUSE TO LET, situate at MEADOWLEY ROAD, CONSETT.—Apply to OWEN MATTHEWS on the Premises. 61

TO BE LET, THE NEWMARKET SALE-ROOMS, with DWELLING-HOUSE and TWO LARGE GARDENS attached, situate in Newmarket Street, Consett.—Apply to Mr. THOMAS WILSON, Grove Cottage, Starbeck, near Harrogate. 92

Lost.

FIVE SHILLINGS REWARD.

LOST, on SUNDAY EVENING, the 16th November, 1867, between Shield gallow and Stanley, a CUSHION, belonging to a Dog Cart. Any one returning the same to Mrs. PICKERING, Shield Row, will receive the above Reward. 66

LOST, on WEDNESDAY NIGHT, the 18th December, in Front Street, Leadgate, a POCKET BOOK, containing Papers, &c., of no value to any one but the Owner. Any Person returning the same, to Mr. HENRY BROWN, carrier, Bedwell Hills, Leadgate, will be Rewarded. 87

Found.

FOUND, on the 11th inst. between Medomsley and Annfield Plain, a ROUGH TERRIER. The Owner can have the same by giving a description and paying expenses.—Apply to Mr. Guthrie, Annfield Plain. If not claimed within 7 days it will be sold to defray expenses. 91

For Sale.

SAND FOR BUILDING PURPOSES ON SALE at KYO SAND QUARRY, at 1s. 6d. per Load, ready money.—Apply to ROBERT HODGSON, Blacksmith, on the ground. 40

FOR SALE, CHEAP,

A First-Class THREE-QUARTER CHEST of DRAWERS, belonging to a Person leaving the Neighbourhood.—Apply to Mr. JOHN CRAMBERS, Calfburnhaw, Medomsley Road, Consett. 64

HUNTER FOR SALE.

VALENTINE, BLACK-BROWN MARE, remarkably Handsome. Winner of Prizes at the Redcar (19 competitors), Stokesley, Northallerton, Hutton, Catterick, Darlington, Bedale, and other places; has been hunted with Her Majesty's Stag Hounds, and well known with the Hurworth Fox Hounds, and hunted by the present owner.

For Price and to view, apply to Mr. R. JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, Consett; or to Mr. B. WILLIS, *Guardian* Office, 64, Clayton Street, Newcastle.

"EXCELSIOR" PRIZE MEDAL SEWING AND EMBROIDERING MACHINE.

THE CHEAPEST, SIMPLEST, & BEST. Can be seen at work any time at MISS ELLIOTT'S DRESSMAKING ESTABLISHMENT, Consett.

JOHN ELLIOTT, AGENT FOR THE DISTRICT.

Price from £6 6s. 18

Public Notices.

LANCHESTER NEW WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

A BAZAAR, in aid of a new Wesleyan Chapel, now in course of erection at Lanchester, will be held in April, 1868.

Contributions will be thankfully received by any of the Ladies of the Committee, or by the Secretary, Mr. ROBERT HEARSON, Lanchester. 23

NOTICE.

JOHN BATY, *PAINTER&CER*,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

DESIRES to intimate to the Public generally that he purposes leaving this neighbourhood in FEBRUARY, 1868.

PERSONS HAVING GOODS IN PLEDGE are requested to Redeem the same on or before JANUARY next.

Consett, Nov. 11, 1867. 7

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1858.

DISTRICT OF CONSETT.

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

TO ROAD CONTRACTORS AND OTHERS.

TO BE LET, the several Works required in the IMPROVEMENT of the ROAD near Consett Iron Works.

Sections and Specifications may be seen on application to the undersigned, at his Office, situate at West Wood House, Dichester, Gateshead, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., by whom Tenders, in Writing, will be received up to 12 o'clock at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 31st day of December inst.

By Order,

M. COUPLAND,

Surveyor of Highways.

West Wood House,

Ebchester, 19th Dec., 1867. 85

WESLEYAN DAY SCHOOL, LEADGATE.

THE ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, in connection with the above School, will take place as follows:—

On SUNDAY, December 29th, 1867, TWO SERMONS will be preached by the Rev. J. PAULKNER (Shotley Bridge), in the Morning at Half-past Ten, and in the evening at Six o'clock. A LOVEFEAST will be held in the School, to commence at Two o'clock.

On NEW YEAR'S DAY, January 1st, 1868, a SERMON will be preached by the Rev. THOMAS VASEY (Chairman of the Newcastle District). Service to commence at Half-past Two; immediately after which a TEA MEETING will be held in the SCHOOL-ROOM. Tickets, One Shilling each. In the Evening, a PUBLIC MEETING will be convened in the Chapel, to be addressed by the Rev. TEOS. VASEY, JOS. PARKINSON, Esq., the Revs. JAS. PAULKNER, and G. G. LAYCOCK. Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock by the Rev. RICHARD PRICE.

A Collection will be taken at each Service in aid of the Funds of the Day School. 90

Public Notices.

WESLEYAN DAY SCHOOL, LEADGATE.

UNDER GOVERNMENT INSPECTION.

THE Duties of this SCHOOL will be Resumed on MONDAY, January 6th, 1868, under the management of Mr. EDWIN J. HARDING (newly-appointed Master), from Bollington, near Macclesfield.

SEWING and NEEDLEWORK, in all its branches, will be taught.

TERMS:—Threepence per week; payments in advance or otherwise, as may be arranged. 89

DERWENT VALLEY RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

WILLIAM CHARLTON has commenced to run a Conveyance from Mr. HARDY'S, Queen's Head Inn, Leadgate, every Morning, leaving at Eight o'clock to meet the Nine o'clock Train to Newcastle at Ebchester Station, and returning to Leadgate at Six o'clock at Night, when the Trade due from Newcastle.

All Parcel's, &c., entrusted to W. C.'s care will meet with every attention, and promptly delivered. 63

Business Announcements.

GEORGE MUNRO,

GENERAL CARTMAN,

No. 302, PUDDLERS' ROW, CONSETT,

RESPECTFULLY announces that he has commenced Business as above, and hopes by punctual attention to all Orders entrusted to him, together with moderate charges, to merit public support. 2

WILLIAM WARDHAUGH,

TAILOR AND DRAPER,

FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

RESPECTFULLY announces that he has now on hand a Stock of SUPERFINE BLACK CLOTHS, DOESKINS, PILOTS, BEAVERS, TWEEDS, &c., which he is prepared to make to order on the most reasonable terms. 3

M. A. GEORGE,

MILLINER & STRAW BONNET MAKER,

VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

BONNETS CLEANED AND ALTERED IN THE NEWEST FASHION. 6

A. BRODIE & SON,

WOOLLEN DRAPERS AND TAILORS,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

RESPECTFULLY announce that they have removed to the Shop lately occupied by Mr. P. MASSEY, where all Orders entrusted to them will be promptly executed and at Moderate Charges. 8

CONSETT PLUMBING AND GASFITTING ESTABLISHMENT.

JOHN R. SMITH,

PLUMBER AND GASFITTER,

SHERBURNE TERRACE, CONSETT,

BEGS to return his sincere thanks to his Friends and the Public generally for the support so liberally accorded to him since commencing Business, and respectfully solicits their future patronage.

Orders promptly attended to, and executed on the most moderate terms. 10

JOHN W. DAVISON,

CABINET-MAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

BEGS to call the attention of Parties furnishing and the Public generally to his Stock of FURNITURE, including Chairs, Tables, Mattresses, Feathers, Flocks, Rabbit Down, Looking-Glasses, &c., together with a general assortment of IRONMONGERY GOODS.

PAPER HANGINGS at MODERATE PRICES.

FURNITURE DELIVERED FREE OF EXPENSE AT ANY REASONABLE DISTANCE.

LIGHT! LIGHT!! LIGHT!!!

PARAFFIN OIL AND LAMPS.

The NEW BRONZE LAMP is adapted to all household purposes, and will be found useful and economical. A supply of Oil for the above. 11

NEW CONFECTIONERY ESTABLISHMENT.

T. ROWE & SONS,

CONFECTIONERS,

RESPECTFULLY announce to their Friends and the Public generally that they have opened the Premises,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

(Lately occupied by Mr. T. POTTS), with a large Assortment of CONFECTIONERY, ORNAMENTAL CAKES, FRUIT LOAF, &c., and hope by strict attention to all Orders entrusted to their care, to merit Public support. 66

DAVID IMRIE,

DRUGGIST, GROCER, CONFECTIONER, AND HARDWAREMAN,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

RETURNS his sincere thanks for the liberal patronage he has received since his coming amongst the good people of Consett, and begs to assure his Friends that he shall still endeavour to merit their favour by supplying only Goods of the best Quality and at Moderate Prices.

*** Always on hand a very large Assortment of PAPER-HANGINGS at all Prices.

N.B.—Depot of the British and Foreign Bible Society. 19

JOHN BRODIE, JUN.,

DRAPER, TAILOR, AND MEN'S MERCER,

FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

TAKES the present opportunity of returning his sincere thanks to his Friends and the Public for the very liberal patronage with which he has been favoured since he commenced Business, and trusts by prompt attention to all orders entrusted to his care to merit a continuance of their support. He begs to state that he has just received a Large and Superior Stock of WOOLLEN GOODS suitable for the approaching season, among which may be found WHITE EGYPTIAN BEAVER AND NARROW CLOTHS, SCOTCH TWEEDS, and FANCY DOESKINS, together with a well-assorted Stock of OVERCOATINGS in all the Newest Makes and Colours.

J. B., jun., would call particular attention to his Large and Beautiful Assortment of FANCY WOOL SHIRTS, which for Style and Durability cannot be surpassed.

Latest Novelties in HATS, CAPS, TIES, SCARFS, COLLARS, BRACES, GLOVES, and HOSIERY, with every other Article in the Trade.

The TAILORING is under J. B. jun.'s own supervision, assisted by an efficient staff of Workmen. 17

MR. E. BURTON,

DEALER IN PIANOFORTES AND HARMONIUMS.

PIANOFORTES

Direct from the best London and Parisian Makers.

PIANOFORTES AND HARMONIUMS

To Suit all Classes of Purchasers.

Lists of all Kinds of Brass Band Instruments on application.

PIANOFORTES, &c.,

Tuned, Repaired, or Taken in Exchange.

SHEET MUSIC, Newest at Half-price.

Residence:—POPLAR COTTAGE, SHOTLEY BRIDGE. 36

Business Announcements.

A FEW PLAIN WORDS ABOUT TEA.

THOMAS CARRICK, TEA DEALER, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, was the first to introduce into this neighbourhood Cheap Tea for Hard Times to meet the wants of the poor. Since then he has had many imitators, but no rivals: for his TWO SHILLINGS TEA is unrivalled in the district, and many new customers have said that it is as good as that which had cost them 3s. 6d. For those who want a wider range of choice, the following List is supplied:—2s. 2s. 6d., 3s. 3s. 6d., 4s. 4s. 6d., 5s. 5s. 6d., and 6s. per lb.

THE FOUR SHILLINGS TEA is certainly the "cream of the bowl:" it is the admiration of all who take it, hence the demand is constantly increasing, proving that the price is nothing when the article is thoroughly good.

The TASTING TEAS of this Season are continually the best imported. T. C. has received a Consignment from London, and they are now on sale.

Agent for THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE.

NOW ON HAND, THE CELEBRATED SHIELDS CURING SALT.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

To each purchaser (whether regular customers or not) of Five Shillings' worth of Tea, of any quality, or in any quantities, between this date and Christmas, THOMAS CARRICK will present a Beautiful CHROMO PICTURE—"The Prince's Return"—at present exhibited in his Shop Window.

Middle Street, Consett, Nov. 1st, 1867. 1

BUY your DRAPERIES, READY-MADE CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, &c.,

AT R. W. SHAW'S

DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENTS,

FRONT STREET,

CONSETT AND LEADGATE.

5

THE CHEAPEST DRAPERY GOODS IN THE COUNTY.

RARE heavy CALICOES, 2d. per yard; HARDENS, 2½d.; FLANNELS, 10½d., worth 1s. 2d.; a heavy Stock of WINCEYS, 7½d. to 7d. 6½d.; a Lot of STAYS, 1s. 11½d., usually sold at 3s.; FURS remarkably Cheap; all the Newest Style in MANTLES; a large variety of SHAWLS; BLANKETS the best value in the North, from 12s. 6d.

Agents for McCULLOCH'S PATENT TORALIUM QUILTS.

ROBERT HEDLEY & Co.,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS AND OUTFITTERS,

BLACKHILL.

4

GRAND PREPARATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,

TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND GENERAL PROVISION MERCHANT,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

FULLY appreciating the liberal support received during the time he has been in Business, begs to announce to the Inhabitants of Consett and District that preparations for Christmas have been made upon a large and very extensive scale.

The Stock of TEAS, COFFEES, SUGARS, FRUITS, and GENERAL PROVISIONS have been selected with great care, and will be sold at the very lowest possible Prices, as under:—

TEAS.....2s. 2s. 6d., 3s. 3s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. per lb.

CRYSTALLIZED SUGAR.....4d. and 4½d. per lb.

LOAF SUGAR.....4½d. per lb.

BEST RAISINS.....6d. per lb.

BEST CURRANTS.....8d. and 6d. per lb.

A large Assortment of Fine CHEESE, all sizes, suitable for Christmas; also, BUTTER, BACON, LARD, and every other Article connected with the Provision Trade; together with a large Stock of BRITISH WINES of all descriptions.

TWO SPLENDID AND VALUABLE SETS OF CHINA TEA SERVICE GIVEN AWAY!

Every Customer purchasing one Pound of Tea will receive a Ticket entitling them to a chance for the above.

The Drawing will take place on TUESDAY, December 31st, at Six o'clock p.m., and the Winning Number advertised in the *Consett Guardian* the following issue.

The two Sets of China are on view in the Shop Window. 12

JOHN COLLINSON,

BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER, LEATHER MERCHANT, &c.,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to tender his humble and sincere thanks to his Friends and Patrons for their very liberal support during the 17 years he has been in Business, and as he has thus had an opportunity of ascertaining what kind of Goods are best adapted to the requirements of this place, he can assure the Public his present Stock is replete for the Season.

J. C. may also further state that no person need be afraid of purchasing at his Establishment, as he has one Price for all Customers, irrespective of their knowledge or position, and that Price is the lowest possible on all classes of Goods. Men's Elastic Boots, commencing at 5s.; Men's Balmorals, 6s. 6d.; Women's Elastic Boots, at 3s. 6d.; Children's, 2s. 6d., and at almost every other price upwards. The above quotations are not for old Stock or damaged Goods, but the *best Ade* Trade Price.

LEATHER

and other Requisites for the Manufacture of Shoes supplied exceedingly Cheap for Cash.

OBSERVE—J. COLLINSON'S ESTABLISHMENT is the only one in the locality where Boots and Shoes can be obtained Ready-Made in every respect equal to bespoke. 14

NONE XL WHERLEY'S CORNER SHOP, CONSETT, FOR CHEAP DRAPERY.

THE only Firm that buys all from Makers—O I C. The largest Stock of BOOTS in the Trade. 509 pairs of Men's Hand-sewn Boots to be cleared at once at 5s. 6d.; Chap Leggings; Women's Boots from 2s. 3d.; Children's, from 1½d.

WATSON & RICHARDSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERS,

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

HAVE on hand the Largest and Best assorted Stock of LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERIES in the District. 73

A GOOD INVESTMENT.

FORWARD TWENTY SHILLINGS to STEWARD, the Tea Dealer, and you will receive in return, carriage paid, Ten Pounds of the Cheapest TEA ever sold in England. Our profits will be so small on this Tea that it will not pay us to sell less than Ten Pounds. As a guarantee of the quality, we express our willingness to return the money should the customer not be satisfied. Should the quantity be too much for a small family, we suggest they should join with a friend. We are willing to put it up in such parcels as they may order. Post-office Orders to be made payable to

WILLIAM STEWART,

TEA DEALER,

23, GRAINGER STREET, 23, MOSLEY STREET, AND AT THE NEW BRANCH,

33, SANDHILL, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. 31

STURGEON'S MONSTER CAKE,

And the only Establishment in the North of England where Confectionery is made by Steam.

J. O. STURGEON begs respectfully to announce that Tickets are now ready for his MONSTER CAKE. Parties purchasing Tickets on or before FRIDAY, 21st December, will have the chance, by allotment, of a beautiful Gold Watch and Gold Guard, and One Pound of Cake for each Ticket. The Cake will also contain 200 Fourpences, 100 Silver Thimbles, and 50 Gold-stamped Keeper Rings. Post-office Orders for 20s. will have 20lbs. of Cake, carriage paid to any station within 20 miles of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

THE STEAM CONFECTIONERY WAREHOUSE,

44, CLAYTON STREET.

AGENTS:—

Mr. WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Front Street, Consett.

Miss M. E. Archbold, Woodcot; Mr. John Taylor, Wildlington; Mrs. Toppin, Hexham; Mr. Joseph Hutchinson, Haydon Bridge; Mr. Wm. Pitt, Earlsdon; Mr. A. Dodds, Alnwick; Mr. R. Robertson, Morpeth; Mr. Wm. Truscott, Amble; Mr. Wm. Oliver, Barrasford; Miss M. A. Brown, Beadnell; Mr. Bragg, grocer, Coatham, Yorkshire; Mr. James Scott, Crookham; Mr. Bell, chemist, Haltwhistle; Messrs. Edwards and Son, Earsdon; Mr. Wm. Hall, grocer, Blyth; Mr. James Mackay, Rothbury; Mr. Thomas Cowens, Felton; Mr. John Moffat, Longframlington; Miss Macdonald, Belford. 22

ROBERT JACKSON,

PRINTER, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL STATIONER, LITHOGRAPHER, BOOKBINDER, &c.,

GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

EVERY description of LETTERPRESS PRINTING executed in the first style of typography, with accuracy and despatch, on the most reasonable terms.

SHOW CARDS, BUSINESS CARDS, CONTRIBUTION CARDS, and TICKETS of all kinds.

TOBACCO PAPERS, and *CLOTH* and PARCHMENT TALLIES.

PAMPHLETS, CLUB RULES, AUCTIONEERS' CATALOGUES, and REPORTS and RULES of Public Institutions and Societies.

LITHOGRAPHING and ENGRAVING.

PROGRAMMES, BOOKS OF WORDS, and CONCERT BILLS in the most approved styles.

BRASS and ZINC WINDOW and DOOR PLATES.

BALANCE SHEETS, INVOICES, and DELIVERY NOTES.

BOOKBINDING in all its Branches.

HAND BILLS, POSTING BILLS, PLACARDS, and WINDOW BILLS, of all sizes, in black and coloured inks, executed in a bold and effective style.

A large Supply of LEDGERS, DAY BOOKS, MINUTE BOOKS, and every variety of STATIONERY.

CIRCULARS, LETTER HEADINGS, and ORDER NOTES.

SERMONS, LECTURES, and all kinds of BOOK WORK neatly and quickly executed.

CHEQUE BOOKS of all descriptions made to order.

THE FOLLOWING ARE KEPT IN STOCK:—

VERSESEES' COLLECTING AND DEPOSIT BOOKS.

HIGHWAY RATE BOOKS and HIGHWAY RATE RECEIPT BOOKS.

POOR RATE BOOKS and POOR RATE RECEIPT BOOKS. 9

Business Announcements.

BALMORD,

LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPER, &c.,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

IS now showing the most Fashionable Novelties in MANTLES AND DRESSES.

BONNETS AND HATS.

FLOWERS AND FEATHERS.

RIBBONS, &c., &c.

Suitable for the Autumn Trade, and he begs to call the attention of the Public to THE DISPUTE!!

It has been asserted that he could not turn over his place of Business a stated amount of money in one month, from December 6th, 1867, to January 7th, 1868. The amount is considerably above the average, but, notwithstanding that, he is determined to show the Public what can be done. Profit in this instance is not the consideration, but to realise the amount, and thus settle the dispute, is his sole aim. For this purpose he has introduced

AN ELECTRO-PLATED TEA SERVICE, WORTH FOUR GUINEAS!

along with many New Amusing Toys, Direct from Germany, which will be given away to Purchasers.

For further particulars respecting the above, the Public are referred to Handbills. 88

CONSETT FIRE BRICK WORKS, CONSETT, GATESHEAD

ALWAYS ON HAND, A STOCK OF

GLAZED PIPES. TRUSSES.

CHIMNEY TOPS. FERNERY STANDS.

CHIMNEY VENT LINING. ORNAMENTAL VASES.

RIDGE TILES, PLAIN & ORNAMENTAL. GARDEN BORDERS.

GLAZED SINK STONES. GAS RETORTS.

DO. WATER-CLOSET PANS & TRAPS. FIRE BRICKS, COMMON BRICKS, QUARRIES, &c.

AND EVERY OTHER ARTICLE IN THE TRADE EXECUTED TO ORDER.

R. DICKINSON & CO., PROPRIETORS. 30

JOHN MILLING & Co.

PURCHASE their Goods of the Manufacturers direct, for prompt Cash, and Sell Cheaper than any House in the North of England.

MILLING & Co.'s All-Wool Flannel at One Shilling per yard is thoroughly stored, and warranted not to shrink, and is Sold by the Trade at 1s. 4½d. per yard.

JOHN MILLING & Co., Nos. 20, 22, 24, 26, & 28, GRAINGER STREET,

Are the Largest and Best Stocked Drapery Premises within 250 miles of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

JOHN MILLING & Co.'s extensive Drapery Premises contain several Thousand more Feet of Counter Room than any House in the North of England, and can with ease and comfort wait upon One Thousand Five Hundred more Customers per Hour than any other Firm in Newcastle.

JOHN MILLING & Co.'s Stock of Dresses and Manchester Drapery Goods is the Largest, Cheapest and Best in the World.

Note the Address—

JOHN MILLING & PARTNERS, Grainger Street (Opposite Nun Street), Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 83

ESTABLISHED NEARLY A CENTURY.

WILSON BROTHERS,

FAMILY TEA AND ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN, PROVISION MERCHANTS,

BACON CURERS, &c. &c.,

FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

PURVEYORS OF PRESERVED PROVISIONS,

Consisting of every requisite for the Breakfast, Luncheon, and Supper Tables, and Pic-nic Parties, prepared in the most Superior manner.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PICKLES AND SAUCES.

ITALIAN GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

BRITISH WINES.

THE FINEST DESSERT FRUITS AND BISCUITS IN GREAT VARIETY.

SOLE AGENTS IN THE DISTRICT FOR

PETER MOLLER'S COD LIVER OIL,

Which gained the Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition, and is prescribed by the faculty.

Highly recommended by the faculty. 86

Business Announcements.

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL FLOUR DEALER, GROCER, DRAPER, & PROVISION MERCHANT,

HARPERLEY STEAM & WATER CORN MILLS,

NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.

FINEST ENGLISH OILCAKE always on hand. 39

WILLIAM RAW,

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,

DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL, near SHOTLEY BRIDGE, via GATESHEAD.

VALUATIONS MADE FOR PROBATE AND LEGACY DUTIES.

Agent to the Liverpool, London, and Globe Fire and Life Insurance Company.

All Orders attended to with care and punctuality.

EMIGRATION AGENT. 27

BOOTS AND SHOES

FOR

LADIES,

GENTLEMEN,

AND

CHILDREN,

In great Variety,

AT

ENGLISH'S,

MIDDLE STREET,

CONSETT.

N.B.—MEN'S AND BOYS' LEATHER APRONS AND LEGGINGS. 37

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Elliott.

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE FOR SALE BY AUCTION.

MR. JOHN ELLIOTT

WILL SELL BY AUCTION

On the Premises, at Castleside, near Shotley Bridge, *ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 1867,*

At Eleven o'clock a.m., the whole of the HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

Belonging to the late Mrs. BEADSHAW,

COMPRISING—In the Drawing and Dining Rooms—One Mirror in Gilt Frame, also Mahogany Furniture Sofa in Hair Seating, Ditto with Hair Cushions, Loo Table, Large Dining Table (about 7ft. by 4ft. 6in.), Chiffonoer Bedstead, Piano (by Broadwood) and Music Stool, Easy Chair, 2 Arm Chairs, 12 Chairs all in Hair Seating, Kidderminster Carpets and Rugs, Dumpsteds, Hassocks, Table Covers, Blinds, Cornices, Fringes, Mahogany Ornaments, &c.

KITCHEN AND PANTRY.—Dishes, Plates, Tureens, Bowls, &c., &c.; Shop Scales and Coffee Mill, Plate Warmer, Corner Cupboard, Dresser and Deif Rack, Table, Chairs, Copper Kettle, Iron Pans, Fire-irons, &c., &c.

PASSAGE AND STAIRCASE.—Floor Cloths and Mats, Stair Carpets and Rods, Dragges, Kidderminster Landing Carpet and Blind.

FOUR BEDROOMS.—Mahogany Four-post Bedsteads and 2 Iron Bedsteads (with Mattresses), Feather Beds, Bolsters and Pillows, Damask and Marcen Hangings, Dressing Tables, Washstands, Chairs, Looking Glasses, Night-Commodes, Chamber Vases, Kidderminster Carpets and Rugs, Blinds, Valances and Rosettes, Fire Irons, &c.

CHINA AND GLASS.—2 Sets of China, Coffee and Tea Pots, Decanters, Glasses, Tumblers, Cruet Stand, Salts Bowls, Trays, &c., &c.

Also, One Invalid's Carriage, a quantity of Hay, sundry Stable Utensils and numerous other Articles.

About £70 Book Debts—all good.

THE DWELLING HOUSE, with Garden and Paddock attached, to be Sold by Private Contract or Let.—Apply to the AUCTIONEER.

The Goods may be seen on the Morning before the Sale, from Ten o'clock.

Consett, December 12th, 1867. 54

Public Notices.

THOMAS ANDERSON,

BONESETTER,

LOW SPEN, WINLATON,

WILL be on and after December 31st, attend Portnightly at Mr. GEO. GWAPA'S, Market Hotel, Durham, from Nine o'clock till Twelve. T. A. was taught under Mr. ISAAC MILBURN, Bonesetter, upwards of 22 years standing. 34

SHOTLEY BRIDGE GAS COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all or any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry on their account, the consent of the manager or other Officer of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company, in default thereof, upon proof of the use of the Gas without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Persons will be prosecuted as the law directs.

By Order of the Directors,

JOHN BELL, Secretary.

Shotley Bridge, April 6th, 1867.

DOWNIE'S

LIFE PRESERVING PILLS.

UNIVERSAL HEALING OINTMENT,

ITALIAN COUGH BALSAM, and

INFANTS TEETHING CORDIAL.

WILL Purify the Blood, Heal all Sores and Diseases of the Skin, and remove all Complaints of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs. They never fail.—Give them a trial, and prove for yourself.

DOWNIE'S INFANTS' TEETHING CORDIAL

Is the only Medicine fit for Infants—try it.

Prepared only by HENRY DOWNIE & Co., Wholesale Chemists, 43 and 44, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Sold by P. Brown, Druggist, Shotley Bridge; D. Imrie, Druggist, Consett; John Dixon, Leadgate; Watson Smith, Leadgate; W. Smith, J. Robinson, and J. Hilary, Grocers, Crawlaw; W. Barkas, Blackhill; and of all Chemists, in Boxes, Pots, and Bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each.

Extraordinary CURES by DOWNIE'S MEDICINES.

Thomas Smith, Fatfield, was completely cured of a frightfully bad leg of 30 years' standing.—January 14th, 1867.

John Brabon, North Biddick, Washington, was completely cured of a bad leg of 13 years' standing.—January 30th, 1867.

Joseph Armstrong, Gosforth, was cured of a sore lip of two years' duration.—October 13th, 1866.

Wm. Bell, of West Cramlington, was cured of bad legs of 11 years' standing.—April 29th, 1866.

Mr. Robert Dixon, Chester-le-Street, Durham, says Downie's Pills and Balsam completely cured his wife of asthma and difficulty of Breathing of many years' standing. 24

IMPORTANT TO ALL.

NEW WORK BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE PEOPLE'S GUIDE TO HEALTH," &c.

DR. SMITH, who has had TWENTY YEARS' Practical Experience in the Treatment and Cure of NERVOUS and PHYSICAL DEBILITY, LOSS OF APPETITE, PAINS IN THE BACK, INDIGESTION, ERRORS OF YOUTH, SPERMATORRHŒA, &c., has just published a NEW EDITION of 10,000 Copies of the WARNING VOICE, or *Private Medical Friend.* (186 Pages.)

This Work contains his highly-successful and only Medicines, and is illustrated with hundreds of cases and testimonials from patients with plain directions for perfect restoration to health. Sent post-free to any address, secure from observation, on receipt of two postage stamps.

Letters, with details of case, promptly answered.

Address, "DR. SMITH, 8 Burton Crescent, London, W.C." 34

INSTANT CURE OF TOOTH-ACHE. Hunter's Nervine gives immediate and permanent relief in ordinary tooth-ache. It also forms a stopping, and saves the tooth, thus rendering extraction unnecessary. It does not injure the other teeth.

From the Medical Testimonials received, the following are selected:—

From J. Hounsell, Esq., Surgeon, Bridport, Dorsetshire.—"I consider HUNTER'S NERVINE a specific for tooth-ache. I very severe cases under my care have found instantaneous and permanent relief. I therefore give my testimony of having used it with invariable success, and recommend its use to the profession and the public as invaluable to all who suffer from tooth-ache.

From E. Smith, Esq., Surgeon, Sheraton, near Cirencester.—"I have tried HUNTER'S NERVINE in many cases of severe tooth-ache, and in every instance permanent relief has been obtained; I therefore strongly recommend it to the public."

Ask for "HUNTER'S NERVINE; it may be had of any chemist, at 1s. 1½d. per bottle, or post-free for 15 stamps from J. H. COOPER, Chemist, Middleton-in-Teesdale.

Late Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.
Manager..... Mr. W. Bennett.

To-night (Saturday), Dec. 28th, 1867, GREEN BUSHES.
Concludes with (for the last time) the COMIC PANTOMIME.

Monday, Dec. 30th, COLLEEN BAWN.

Tuesday, Dec. 31st, THE LADY OF LYONS.
For Particulars see Bills of the Day. 93

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
On the Premises in Derwent Lane, Consett, on TUESDAY, January 7th, 1868,
THE whole of the HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and other Effects, Celebrated by T. Parker, Particulars in Handbills. 94

ANNUAL NEW YEARS SERVICES.

ON SUNDAY, December 29, 1867, the Rev. T. Oliver, of Sunderland, will preach in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Consett, in the Afternoon at Two o'clock, and Evening at Six.
The TEA PARTY will be held on New Year's Day. Tea on the Tables at Four o'clock. Tickets—One Shilling Each—may be had of the Stewards.
A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Evening, when Speeches will be given by the Rev. T. Oliver and others. Music by the Choir. 78

MR. E. BURTON, Professor of Music, Organist of St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, TEACHER of the PIANOFORTE and HARMONIUM, &c. First-class References. Terms on application.
Received from Trafalgar Street, Consett, or Poplar Cottage, Shotley Bridge. 95

V. R.
Music by
THE VICTORIA PROTECTION SOCIETY AND DEBT COLLECTING OFFICES,
6, STANTON TERRACE, DARLINGTON.
Manager—Mr. WM. PLACE.

THIS Society has now more than 450 Members, and possesses every facility for ensuring speedy settlement of the worst Debts. Agents of tested ability are appointed in almost every Town. Members are entitled to many advantages besides having their Accounts collected, viz.—Legal Advice, Loans of Money when in difficulty, their Wills drafted, &c. &c. they can have Composition Deeds, Bills of Sale, Marriage Settlements, &c., prepared at a moderate charge. A Register of doubtful Debtors is filed at the head office. Every month a "Mercantile Gazette" is published giving a list of the Bills of Sale, Judges' Orders, Cognovits Registered each Month, and a leading article upon matters interesting to commercial enterprise. The Society has every facility for obtaining the Addresses of runaway Debtors.

	£	s.	d.
Annual Subscriptions to Debt collecting Department (including facilities)	1	1	0
Monthly Gazette (delivered)	0	2	6

Testimonials, References, and every Information, upon applying to the Manager.

CONSETT AGENCY.
Mr. GEORGE DAWSON, Stationer, Blackhill. 86

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

THE SCALE OF CHARGES for ADVERTISEMENTS in the *Consett Guardian* is as under:—

1 to 6 lines	1s. 6d.
7 lines	1s. 9d.
8 lines	2s. 0d.

and 3d. per line for every additional line.

Advertisements inserted for four consecutive weeks are subject to a deduction of 25 per cent on the above charges, and arrangements for longer periods specially arranged for.

*** Persons sending Advertisements in manuscript may calculate seven words to a line.

☞ While we use our utmost endeavours to insert advertisements on the dates ordered, we cannot guarantee that this will be done. Great care is also used to secure the correct insertion of advertisements, but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies, or for any consequences arising therefrom.

Our advertising friends are requested to favour us with their orders not later than Thursday evening.

☞ Owing to the great inconvenience and expense in collecting Advertisement Accounts, Advertisers at a distance are requested to remit the amount of their Accounts according to the above scale of charges, for some order to may be paid with Postage Stamps; where that sum, by Post-Office Orders, payable to Robert Jackson, Consett.

NOTICE.

Tickets for admission to the various places of amusement lectures, dinners, and all places open to the members of the masses should be forwarded, if possible, at least two days before the meetings, if to take place. All communications to respect thereof to be addressed to the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is inserted for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications unless asked for within fourteen days after they are sent them, or upon application by letter enclosing the necessary number of postage stamps.

Our correspondents, in order to insure the insertion of their communications, are requested to forward them so as to reach this office not later than Thursday morning, and to write on one side of the paper only.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

"By Still Waters" next week.

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1867.

LOCAL RETROSPECT.

Yet a few days, and from a thousand spires in England the bells will have rung in the New Year. Suggestive as such a season is of indulging in retrospective moralizing, we have in lieu of inflicting upon our readers a dreary dissertation upon the silently flowing centuries; neither will we emulate the comprehensive brevity of Cervantes, who, in his "History of the World," tells us that "the world was created on the 6th of September,—on a Friday—at four o'clock—in the afternoon." However, similar such knowledge may be, and however edifying to the curious, we venture to think that it is a trifle too sublime and too curious for the current of thought in Consett! Identified with Consett in our immediate interests; to Consett our remarks will be limited.

Having few points of contact with historic antiquity, Consett, in its fusion with the industrial life of England, is the growth of the last quarter of a century. During that period, emerging from a puny nursling into vigorous manhood, its present position offers an instructive commentary upon the energy, bareness, and the rapid expansion necessitates the early decay of a people. Exhibiting in its features the traces of its contact with the national industry, upon that industry itself Consett has left its own iron impress.

But, in the concrete of a people's civilization, there are other essential elements than those of labour, and the glory of England lies not in her distinctive culture of any one element, but in the culture and free development of all. It is well, then, that in these, the last days of the dying year, we ask ourselves what we in Consett have done in elevating in the social life of England? Have we contributed our quota of those higher forces which, flooding from England as from a central heart, pulsate with English thought and feeling on the shores of the St. Lawrence, and beneath the palm trees of the Asiatic and African continents? In addition to the material function of labour, have we infused our forces into that intellectual and spiritual life, which, from the centre, is destined to permeate the world of humanity with the culture and faith of western Europe?

Looking back, indeed, upon the last two years, we are quite aware that in relation to social progress, the advance of Consett is visible in every direction. Through the wisely-directed activity of our Town Council has assumed the aspect of urban propriety, and we can now safely navigate our streets and thoroughfares without the aid of a pilot. Thanks to the same Board, our "nose and eyes" are no longer invaded by revolting accumulations of filth. We may also, in passing, compliment the Board on the great furtherance of the really useful and sanitary, in preference to decorative institutions. The same short period has witnessed a wide extension of facilities for public worship, in the erection of church and chapel, and in the increase of our local Christian ministry. Again, and quite recently in the opening of our Subscription and Blyden line, we have had a freer and more extended intercourse with the world around us, than which we believe there is no material agency which tends more to unify and elevate national thought. Suffering to some extent from the general commercial depression of the past year, the depression which is only too apt to induce us to look upon the shady side of things—we are yet free to submit that these several improvements and agencies are an index of moral and religious growth in Consett.

Yet, in giving admitting the fact of our partial growth in the graces of urban life, can we indeed flatter ourselves upon the extent of that growth? With our advance in the externals of popular well-being, has the spiritual side of our humanity made a coincident progress? In the region of intellectual culture, which should ever supplement our early education, have we as a Christian community, those agencies which secure that culture? During that last few years, we have witnessed in Consett and in Shotley Bridge the advent of four or five reading-rooms and libraries; and, we ask, have those several beneficent agencies met with that support from any section of our people which they merited, and which our population was in every sense so well able to bestow. We fear, that in these matters, the stern logic of facts would record a verdict against us. Of these institutions the only one remaining—and that, we fear, dying through sheer inanition—is our Consett Church Institute. Commenced and continued we know, not in the interests of local clique or of political party, but as a means of culture, and of innocent enjoyment, for the working element of our community, these institutions have gradually perished from the persistent neglect manifested by that element itself. We are sorry to record this, belonging, as we do, to that element ourselves. But there is for us as journalists a higher function than that of flattery—the function of speaking the truth, however painfully that truth may jar with our miserable little vanities and pretensions.

Again, do we not err—"on the side of virtue," may be—in measuring our Christian life by our extension of Christian churches, limited as that extension really is? Excepting those of our Catholic brethren, which humility is the prevailing feature, do we, in our conceit, in our beastly congregations, a hopeful aspect of Consett Christianity? Is it not a fact that, excepting on occasions of a sensational importation, our churches would contain double their number of worshippers without inconvenience? Excepting filled to overflow, may be said, that going to church is no measure of a true man's Christianity; that God may be worshipped on the mountain, and in the valley—by the rushing stream, and in the lonely wood—as devoutly as within the walls of a Christian temple. This may indeed be true, but we venture to think it equally true that those interesting Christian Ishmaelites, whose Sunday ministrations are by mountain and valley, by forest and stream, in company with a bull pup and a cutty pipe, are neither models of piety, nor are they distinguished for saintly devotions.

Yet, in conclusion, with all its Ishmaelitish impulses, we are inclined to look hopefully on Consett in its material and spiritual aspects. Living and mixing with its Bohemian people for the last fifteen years, we have witnessed a gradual progress toward Matthew Arnold's beautiful ideal of "sweetness and light." And if we are not so perfect as we might be, yet, in comparison with more pretentious localities, we are pretty well. Wishing our readers "A Happy New Year," we know—nothing better than to say with Tiny Tim—"God bless us every one."

Local and District News.

Accidents at Consett.—On Tuesday a man named Robert Clark, while taking coals of a waggon at Consett Ironworks, was injured by a piece which fell on his shoulder and fractured his collar bone. He was taken to the Infirmary, where he was attended by Dr. Renton and assistant, under whom he is progressing favourably.—On Christmas day, David McCharlie fell and was similarly hurt. He was also taken to the Infirmary and attended to by Dr. Renton.

Inquest at Blackhill.—On Saturday an inquest was held at the house of Mr. W. Joplin, Blackhill, before J. M. Pavell, Esq., on the body of Martin Conley, who was killed on the Derwent Valley Railway, as reported in our last issue. After examining the evidence, a verdict of Accidental death was recorded. On Sunday the interment of the unfortunate man took place at the cemetery, at Blackhill, and was very largely attended. The burial service was read in an impressive manner by the Rev. J. Hodge, Wesleyan, of whose church deceased was a member.

Extensive Sheep and Cattle Sale at Dickeburn.—On Monday afternoon, Jacques Elliot and Detective Miles, of the Sunderland police force, arrested three boys named Ferguson, Swinburn and thirty stones, which had been stored in a back yard of a Sunderland Street, Bishopwearmouth. It was found to belong to a beer-shop keeper next door, an Irishman, named Spears, who is a contractor for the blasting of some rock at the Bridge Bottle Works. The powder has been there for some weeks, during which a portion of it has been used. A most insecure place could scarcely have been chosen; numerously-frequented houses surround it on all sides, and had an accident occurred, the consequences are dreadful to contemplate. In the afternoon, the powder was taken to sea and thrown overboard in deep water.

Coming Revival.—The Consett Primitive Methodists are preparing to hold their jubilee in their annual New Year's service. An old veteran, the Rev. Thomas Cooke (Sunderland), preaches to-morrow (Sunday), and on New Year's Day the tea party will be held.—The Committee of the Lanchester Wesleyan Day School are anxious to acquaint the public through our advertising columns that their anniversary sermons will be held on Sunday, January 5th, when Faulkner will preach, and on New Year's Day, when Mr. Thompson, of the Newcastle District, will preach, after which there will be a tea meeting.

Lanchester Board of Guardians.—On Thursday, the usual fortnightly meeting of the guardians of the Lanchester Union, was held at Lanchester.—R. H. Gee, Esq., presiding. The accounts were passed for the week, £1,128 9s. 2d. was in hand, and the finance committee recommended bills amounting to £318 14s. 6d. which were ordered to be paid. The reports of the nuisance inspectors for the Union were read over to the board, and the guardians recommended that a deputation should waite upon, and be forwarded to them. The relief cases were then gone through, after which the board adjourned.

Theatre Royal, Consett.—This popular place of amusement, under the able direction of Mr. Buckley, is still open, and daily increases in public favour. On Christmas Eve, the beautiful legendary drama of the "Maiden Bride" was presented to an crowded house, and in the chorus scenes, suggestive of snow at an early date. On Thursday, (boxing night), the favourite drama of Lady Audley's Secret was produced, and was received with a loud Hurrah. To individualise would, perhaps be deemed invidious where we are compelled to differ, but, in addition to the graceful rendering of Lady Audley by Miss Moore, who alone her debut before a Consett audience, we must specially mention Mr. Stone will not permit us to speak of the merits of Mr. Buckley and his talented company. As will be seen in our advertising columns, the elegant drama of "Green Bushes" will be produced to-night (Saturday), and Monday and Tuesday evenings "Colleen Bawn" and the "Lady of Lyons," with a magnificent accessory of scenery will be given.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Reliable Remedies.—In wounds, bruises, sprains, glandular enlargements, stiffness, and all diseases of the joints and mattien, the application of this soothing Ointment to the affected parts not only gives the greatest ease, but permanently effects a cure. The Pills, equally good in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar disease, prove the most distinguished curse for local ailment. The Pills remove the constitutional disturbances and regulate every important function of the organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and thorough. Many testimonials from persons who have been the purification performed by these searching yet harmless preparations.

Carting for a Prize-Fighter.—On Sunday last Superintendent Stephenson received intelligence that a prize-fight had been arranged to come off at Newcastle, on Tuesday, and at a place north of Newcastle, on the 24th, or 25th, instant, between John Gallagher, of Newcastle, and another pugilist named John Watson, both of whom belong to Newcastle, and also that the first mentioned was training for a battle, named Adam Scott at the publichouse of Mr. Snowball Stagshawbank. In consequence of this, Mr. Stephenson obtained a warrant for their apprehension, and on Monday he was accordingly taken into custody at Stagshawbank, where he awaits his trial. Dumb-bells, and other things commonly used by boxers and fighting men, were found at the publichouse. On Tuesday he was brought before the magistrates, and bound over to keep the peace for the next six months.—*Hexham Courant.*

Illegal Storing of Nitro-Glycerine at Usworth Colliery.—At the Gateshead Police Court, on Tuesday morning, Superintendent Sudlow intimated to the bench that he had *not* certain information as to the illegal storing of a quantity of nitro-glycerine at Usworth Colliery. The premises on which the explosive was said to have been placed were at a trifling distance from a magazine in which is stored a large quantity of gunpowder. The being in the course of being blasted by gunpowder. A lamp of entirely novel and scientific principles has been made and patented by Mr. T. B. Horn, of Newcastle, who has submitted it to the inspection of several of our local viewers and mining engineers, who have all spoken approvingly of it. It has also been brought under the notice of the Coal Trade, and through them will, no doubt, be adopted. In the severe testing experiments now being carried on at Hetton and Haswell. The great improvement in this lamp is that, when in an explosive mixture of gas, it gradually dies out. The illuminating power of the lamp is not lessened, and it can remain any time the amount of light given by the Davy lamp with which it is used, and the lamp is prevented being so perfect, little, if any, soot or carbon is deposited on the lamp. Another feature is that should the lamp be broken, the light of the lamp does not; and again, the air passages are so protected that it is impossible to introduce a match into the current of air. In this lamp, the air being admitted for supporting combustion below the flame, the current of air passes through and only with the products of combustion in course of emission through a perforated cover, so that the flame is entirely protected, and which appears to be one of the greatest desiderata of the present day in connection with mining operations.

The Late Sheriff of Newcastle.—The *Alliance News* publishes the following:—Last week we gave a brief notice of our deceased friend, who died on the 29th ult. We took part in the ceremony of laying the foundation of the Northern Counties Orphan Asylum, and we shall never forget the last time we spoke upon to propose the toast of "The Iglica." In what spirit that publication was performed, will be seen by the following letter written by Mr. Mawson to the secretary of the Alliance, with whom he had long been associated in the Temperance cause:—"Consett Station, Sunday afternoon, December 1. Dear Burkes,—I have just read your Alliance paper which I received on the 29th of foundation stone of a new orphan asylum. You will be amazed to see my handwriting, but I thought I would be laboring in the Temperance cause. When asked to do this, I said that I could not propose a toast; but on second thought, considering that it is the last time I can usefully of showing my colours, as a word in season, spoken kindly, perpetually, may be useful, I consented to do so. I therefore resolved to do my best, and I can assure you my remarks were well received, and they met with great approval. The toast was drunk in Denton Present, and many other gentlemen readily drank the toast in water; yet we could not tell how much good may be done to our cause by consistent conduct in these positions of public life. This is my only excuse for accepting office. Both my wife and myself naturally shrank from it; but being elected unanimously, and the principles we do, has much meaning in it; and our great anxiety is so to act that we may do honour to the principles we hold, and thus bring glory to God and good to our fellow men. Will you pray for us, that we may be act, my dear friend? I hope you are all well. Our kind love to you all—your true friend, John Mawson."

FENIANISM.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS.

It is now estimated that upwards of 34,000 special constables have been sworn in throughout the metropolitan police. The precautions against the Fenians adopted by order in every county garrison, and in every public establishment throughout the United Kingdom are of the most stringent kind. At Plymouth all seamen are under orders to remain on the watch not to active duty lie down in their clothes.

ANOTHER DEATH FROM THE CLERKENWELL EXPLOSION.

Nothing has occurred to break the ordinary quiet of Christmas Day in Newcastle. The Royal Official visited the criminal in his cell, and then proceeded to the pinioning room, where he was joined by the publicans, who performed his office. The prisoner ascended the scaffold with a firm step, and in a few minutes, after some struggling, ceased to exist. It is some satisfaction to know that the wretched man made a confession of the crime for which he was hung. It appears that the Rev. O. H. Hodgson, the vicar, received a letter from the prisoner, in which he stated that he had, he desired that Mr. Hodgson should visit the parents of the murdered child, and ask them to forgive him. Baker stated that having their forgiveness he should die happy. Immediately after receiving the letter the reverend gentleman sent for the parents and read it to them. Baker expressed a strong wish that the contents of the letter should not be published until after his execution. He says that he murdered Fanny Adams and cut up her body with the penknife which was produced at the trial. His hands were covered with blood, and he kept them behind him when he met Mrs. Gardener and Mrs. Adams in Flood Meadow.

Swearing in Special Constables at South Shields.—The Mayor of South Shields, in compliance with a request from Government, has "called out" 60 for enrolment of special constables.

Fatal Colliery Accident near Crook.—On Tuesday, Mr. Dean, the deputy overseer, held an inquest at Old Kyel Colliery, near Crook, on the body of a man named George Smith, aged 40, who died on Saturday last, from injuries received a few days previously. Deceased was a miner engaged at the above colliery. He was struck in the head, came on to him, breaking his back and bruising him in a shocking manner. He lingered a fortnight after the accident, and then expired. Verdict accordingly.

Two Vessels Ashore on Whitburn Steel.—The brig John, of Hartlepool, went on to the rocks at Whitburn Steel on Christmas morning, but got off on Tuesday afternoon, when she was towed into Sunderland harbour. The brig Ann, of Alloway, is underneath.—About nine o'clock on Tuesday night the brig Ann, of Wells, laden with pitwood, bound for Tyne, ran ashore at Whitburn Steel, but was got off about three hours afterwards, and towed to Sunderland. On undergo repairs. She sustained considerable damage, and made a great deal of water after she reached Sunderland.

Distress in Darlington.—A meeting was called on Tuesday, by the Mayor, for taking means to alleviate the great distress which prevails in Darlington. Owing to the slackness of work at the ironworks, and the recent stoppage, combined with the effects of the strike of last month, much misery is endured by some of the labourers and operatives, and in other parts of the town would also. The meeting was influentially attended, and it was resolved that immediate steps should be taken to relieve the distress, and a committee appointed consisting of the clergy and ministers and other gentlemen of the town, with power to add to their number, to carry the resolution into effect.

Funeral of Donald Bain.—The remains of Donald Bain, who died on Christmas Eve, were interred by the exploiter of nitro-glycerine on Newcastle Town Moor, on the 17th inst., were conveyed to their final resting-place, in St Andrew's Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon. There was a large attendance of friends from a great distance to pay the last respect. The deceased was generally esteemed by his fellow-workmen, and his untimely death has left a vacuum in his rent and faithfulness in the discharge of the duties of his office, which he held for upwards of 14 years. The Town Clerk (R. P. Philipson, Esq.), Ald. Hedley, Councillors Robinson and Bell, and the Chief Constable of the Newcastle police force, a detachment of Gateshead constables, and a number of other friends were in attendance. The inscription on the coffin read:—Donald Bain, died December 17th, 1867, aged 45 years."

The Late Sheriff and Benevolent of Newcastle.—At the meeting of the Council of Newcastle-on-Tyne, held on Tuesday, the following was passed unanimously:—"That the Corporation of Newcastle-on-Tyne feel it their duty to place on record the high sense they entertain of the noble, able, and honest manner in which the late Councillor John Mawson, Sheriff of this town, attended to the duties of their municipal office. Some years ago, desirous of expressing to Mrs Mawson and her family their heartfelt sympathy in mourning for the untimely death of one who may be said to have lost his life while in the discharge of a public duty. A vote of condolence was also directed to be sent to the family of the late survivor (Mr. Brown).

Improved Miners' Safety Lamp.—Since the explosion at the Oaks and Ferndale collieries, evidence in the ordinary Day and other lamps, as a protection against explosions has been greatly called for. Various suggestions for improvements have been made, and lamps fitted with such have been, and are now, in course of being tested by practical men. A lamp of entirely novel and scientific principles has been made and patented by Mr. T. B. Horn, of Newcastle, who has submitted it to the inspection of several of our local viewers and mining engineers, who have all spoken approvingly of it. It has also been brought under the notice of the Coal Trade, and through them will, no doubt, be adopted. In the severe testing experiments now being carried on at Hetton and Haswell. The great improvement in this lamp is that, when in an explosive mixture of gas, it gradually dies out. The illuminating power of the lamp is not lessened, and it can remain any time the amount of light given by the Davy lamp with which it is used. The lamp is prevented being so perfect, little, if any, soot or carbon is deposited on the lamp. Another feature is that should the lamp be broken, the light of the lamp does not; and again, the air passages are so protected that it is impossible to introduce a match into the current of air. In this lamp, the air being admitted for supporting combustion below the flame, the current of air passes through and only with the products of combustion in course of emission through a perforated cover, so that the flame is entirely protected, which appears to be one of the greatest desiderata of the present day in connection with mining operations.

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FACETIÆ.

Solitary Employment.—Clerk in a loan-office.

When you see a small waist, think how great a value it must be represented.

If a cask of lime contains several million feet, how many wooden legs will it produce?

Time was Tax.—It is beyond a privilege to kill Time; and, in revenge, Time kills beauty.

A contemporary says the dictionary of young ladies has been finally revised. Which is a trick it did not come on him, breaking his back and bruising him to a shocking manner. He lingered a fortnight after the shackle, and then expired. Verdict accordingly.

Two Vessels Ashore on Whitburn Steel.—The brig John, of Hartlepool, went on to the rocks at Whitburn Steel on Christmas morning, but got off on Tuesday afternoon, when she was towed into Sunderland harbour. The brig Ann, of Alloway, is underneath.—About nine o'clock on Tuesday night the brig Ann, of Wells, laden with pitwood, bound for Tyne, ran ashore at Whitburn Steel, but was got off about three hours afterwards, and towed to Sunderland. On undergo repairs. She sustained considerable damage, and made a great deal of water after she reached Sunderland.

Distress in Darlington.—A meeting was called on Tuesday, by the Mayor, for taking means to alleviate the great distress which prevails in Darlington. Owing to the slackness of work at the ironworks, and the recent stoppage, combined with the effects of the strike of last month, much misery is endured by some of the labourers and operatives, and in other parts of the town would also. The meeting was influentially attended, and it was resolved that immediate steps should be taken to relieve the distress, and a committee appointed consisting of the clergy and ministers and other gentlemen of the town, with power to add to their number, to carry the resolution into effect.

Funeral of Donald Bain.—The remains of Donald Bain, who died on Christmas Eve, were interred by the exploiter of nitro-glycerine on Newcastle Town Moor, on the 17th inst., were conveyed to their final resting-place, in St Andrew's Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon. There was a large attendance of friends from a great distance to pay the last respect. The deceased was generally esteemed by his fellow-workmen, and his untimely death has left a vacuum in his rent and faithfulness in the discharge of the duties of his office, which he held for upwards of 14 years. The Town Clerk (R. P. Philipson, Esq.), Ald. Hedley, Councillors Robinson and Bell, and the Chief Constable of the Newcastle police force, a detachment of Gateshead constables, and a number of other friends were in attendance. The inscription on the coffin read:—"Donald Bain, died December 17th, 1867, aged 45 years."

The Late Sheriff and Benevolent of Newcastle.—At the meeting of the Council of Newcastle-on-Tyne, held on Tuesday, the following was passed unanimously:—"That the Corporation of Newcastle-on-Tyne feel it their duty to place on record the high sense they entertain of the noble, able, and honest manner in which the late Councillor John Mawson, Sheriff of this town, attended to the duties of their municipal office. Some years ago, desirous of expressing to Mrs Mawson and her family their heartfelt sympathy in mourning for the untimely death of one who may be said to have lost his life while in the discharge of a public duty. A vote of condolence was also directed to be sent to the family of the late survivor (Mr. Brown).

Improved Miners' Safety Lamp.—Since the explosion at the Oaks and Ferndale collieries, evidence in the ordinary Day and other lamps, as a protection against explosions has been greatly called for. Various suggestions for improvements have been made, and lamps fitted with such have been, and are now, in course of being tested by practical men. A lamp of entirely novel and scientific principles has been made and patented by Mr. T. B. Horn, of Newcastle, who has submitted it to the inspection of several of our local viewers and mining engineers, who have all spoken approvingly of it. It has also been brought under the notice of the Coal Trade, and through them will, no doubt, be adopted. In the severe testing experiments now being carried on at Hetton and Haswell. The great improvement in this lamp is that, when in an explosive mixture of gas, it gradually dies out. The illuminating power of the lamp is not lessened, and it can remain any time the amount of light given by the Davy lamp with which it is used. The lamp is prevented being so perfect, little, if any, soot or carbon is deposited on the lamp. Another feature is that should the lamp be broken, the light of the lamp does not; and again, the air passages are so protected that it is impossible to introduce a match into the current of air. In this lamp, the air being admitted for supporting combustion below the flame, the current of air passes through and only with the products of combustion in course of emission through a perforated cover, so that the flame is entirely protected, which appears to be one of the greatest desiderata of the present day in connection with mining operations.

The Late Sheriff of Newcastle.—The *Alliance News* publishes the following:—Last week we gave a brief notice of our deceased friend, who died on the 29th ult. We took part in the ceremony of laying the foundation of the Northern Counties Orphan Asylum, and we shall never forget the last time we spoke upon to propose the toast of "The Iglica." In what spirit that publication was performed, will be seen by the following letter written by Mr. Mawson to the secretary of the Alliance, with whom he had long been associated in the Temperance cause:—"Consett Station, Sunday afternoon, December 1. Dear Burkes,—I have just read your Alliance paper which I received on the 29th of foundation stone of a new orphan asylum. You will be amazed to see my handwriting, but I thought I would be laboring in the Temperance cause. When asked to do this, I said that I could not propose a toast; but on second thought, considering that it is the last time I can usefully of showing my colours, as a word in season, spoken kindly, perpetually, may be useful, I consented to do so. I therefore resolved to do my best, and I can assure you my remarks were well received, and they met with great approval. The toast was drunk in Denton Present, and many other gentlemen readily drank the toast in water; yet we could not tell how much good may be done to our cause by consistent conduct in these positions of public life. This is my only excuse for accepting office. Both my wife and myself naturally shrank from it; but being elected unanimously, and the principles we do, has much meaning in it; and our great anxiety is so to act that we may do honour to the principles we hold, and thus bring glory to God and good to our fellow men. Will you pray for us, that we may be act, my dear friend? I hope you are all well. Our kind love to you all—your true friend, John Mawson."

MULTUM IN PARVO.

Her Majesty's Theatre is to be immediately reduced on a magnificent scale.

The Dowager Countess of Calabrochgrub has accepted Lady Waterpark as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

An expedition is to be despatched to Delab, in Arcoma, against the tribes who lately attacked and set in pieces a small police detachment.

Mr. H. W. Fowler has, after much hesitation, consented to become a candidate for the representation of Edinburgh at the first election.

Last week the musical library of the late Mr. Shaw-Bacon—descendant of Joah Bates, of Handel notoriety—was sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson.

The Sikhim Rajah has taken advantage of the disagreement between Nepal and Thibet to make a royal tribute in wood which he owed to the Grand Llama.

The Warrior, armoured iron frigate, was coaled at Southend on Saturday, and on Sunday morning early dropped down, and anchored in another anchorage berth off Osborne.

Portugal is about to reduce her army by one-third, and will retain no more than ten thousand men in the line. The surplus of the present contingent will pass into the reserve.

Hayden's best picture, "The Raising of Lazarus, so long and so well known on the stairs at the Pantheon, Oxford street, has been obtained for the National Gallery, British subscription.

An effort is to be initiated for creating a town at Calcutta, at the point where the Gorsie leaves the Padma. Twenty lakhs is guaranteed by the Bengal Bengal Railway.

Meyer, the musical violinist, is in Paris.—Alfred Tasil, the celebrated pianist, is about to be decorated for the defeat of Sayd Mahomed with the "Order of Brest of Sam.—*Musical Standard.*

Sir Jung Bahadoor is reported to be making extensive military preparations for the defence of his Nepaulese territories. The Trans-Himalayan countries are, as usual, a prey to intestine disorders.

The report of the Bible Society states that to 60 Years it has distributed 34,000,000 copies of the Sacred Scriptures, and expended the sum of £2,000,000. The above does not publish the Apocrypha.

The Cockatoo's notes that "Julius Cæsar," by Shakspere, music by Hans Von Bulow, has been performed at Hanover. The main incidents of the overture, a grand march, a melodramatic piece, and a song.

A settee has occurred in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, at a place called Ghoorkeyah, where a corpse is conveyed to supposed to be the Lumbadars or Bailiffs, who have not yet been discovered.

Lieut. Col. Keatinge, V.C., C.S.I., Political Agent at Rajkote, has been appointed to the Bhopawar Agency, in succession to the late Colonel Eden. Major Gerrard, of the Bombay Cavalry, is to join his appointment as Resident at Khatmandoo.

The Government of India have drawn attention to the desirability of the extension of the formal application of railway wagons in use in India. At present the local weight and length are nearly equal, being about five or six tons in each case.

Prince Gaston of Prussia, nephew of King William, has just had the travesty of his name changed, which will greatly excite success before the Court. He is about to publish two pamphlets entitled "Le Marquis de Brandenbourg" and the other called "Phebe."

Dr. Murdoch, of Glasgow, the member of the Balfour Town Council valiant in body, sous Sir Francis Crossley, M. P. at his residence, Belle Vue, Halifax, had received him with an address, acknowledging the gift of the Park for the enjoyment of the People's Park, which he presented to Halifax in 1857.

All idea of Rome renouncing the Concordat appears to be now abandoned by the Papal Court. Whatever a martial legislation may have done to emancipate the people of the empire from the temporal influence of the Roman Church, as regards marriage and education, will be granted by the Italian Parliament.

Loss of the Fairie Queen.—Intelligence was received in Liverpool on Monday to the effect that the Queen, which left Liverpool on the 3rd inst., had had to pass a total wreck on the Small Salten. The Fairie Queen was built with a general cargo for the West Coast of Africa.

The policy of the Siam have saved a new reputation to political importance in a person who gives himself out as the Pope of Siam, and who, in the Siam's Rahlia mercantile communities committed some outrages in the diplomatic Anglo-Siam Institute. Business were taken by the British and native authorities to give a good account of them.

An attempt has been made to levy duty on corals at the custom houses of Calcutta and Madras. At the former place Collector Mr. Ellis, the matter was laid and vessel for payment; their collection, however, has been suspended pending a reference to the government; and meanwhile, coral, though not in the schedule of dutiable articles, is made to pay duty at the general rate of 7½ per cent.

The death of M. Eugene is announced. He was an honorary member of the Academy of Medicine, corresponding member of the Academy of Berlin, and Vienna, just before the Revolution of 1848, were resolved by him, and among others, the "Hippocrate de la Mauvaise Nature," "Essai de Hygiene Musicale des Cris de Paris," "Dance des Morts; &c. &c. he died 15 years of age.

A meeting of the Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh was held on Saturday, when a strong resolution was introduced for the purpose of presenting to the University, on the part of the subscribers, a bust of the late Sir William Hamilton, Bart., the distinguished author, in the college, as a portion of the memorial, which the Hamilton Committee have resolved to form in the chief seat, to that eminent professor.

The Report of Experiments on the Fire at a Greek Ship Steamer in the Mersey.—After ineffectual attempts to extinguish the fire discovered in the Greek steamer Bahdilia, which exploded a few weeks since in the Mersey, Mr. Ellis, the chief officer, at the same time at the wreck, on Monday succeeded in floating it out of the channel, and towing it out of the way of vessels anchoring in the Slopes.

Buried to Death.—A shocking affair came before the Liverpool coroner, on Saturday. John Mcfadyn, nineteen years of age, was employed at the chemical works of Messrs. Rickett and Cobbett, on Friday last, day morning, when partially intoxicated, he fell into a tank filled with boiling caustic liquor. Though the body was got out almost immediately afterwards, it presented a ghastly appearance, the skin having in the burst off and a great portion of the flesh removed from the limbs. A verdict in accordance with the circumstances was returned.

Secure of Gunpowder at Sundersand.—On Saturday last the police detective discovered thirty-one and gunpowder in a cottahouse in Cumberland-street, belonging to a John Hodgson, known named Somers. The powder was in three bags, carefully covered up by a confined kitchenmaid, and directly pounded, and where if an explosion had occurred, great loss of life and injury would have been inevitable. Somers states that the powder was purchased for blasting rocks, which he has a contract. The powder was taken to the police in the evening by the police, and thrown into deep water.

Sad Bereavement for the sole of Allen and the other two Manchester Indians continue to be celebrated in various "articles in the Lancashire Times. The most remarkable of these has been performed in the Church of Jesus, the archbishop of Canterbury, and of Dr. M'Hale, to unanimous being mostly reverse sovereignty. The Rev. Mr. Jones, the Rev. Mr. Jones, the Rev. Mr. Jones, the celebrants, two before the President and one of the Bishops of Ely, Arundel, Chichester, Bangor, Bath, Wells, assisted in mentionals, and occasional the tinous," and the President of St. Jarlath's addressed the congregation in Irish.

The Bishop of Lichfield.—On Monday a cabinet was sent to the Bishop of Lichfield, in the course of electing a bishop. The proceedings were quite unusual, a great portion of the proceedings were arrested before the Dean. Mr. Mr Jay's *coup d'état* and letters sinister were read, and the proceedings were to be summoned, was quoted. The dean and trustees of the cathedral were present, and the Bishop's seat, and to be few persons who had remained after morning prayer the dean made the proclamation announcing the election of Bishop-Select. The *Times* to the Dean's grotesque claim followed the proclamation.

Two Children Burned to Death at Leeds.—Two deaths have occurred at the Leeds Infirmary, the one on the 4 and 9 and the other on Monday, the deceased in both cases being children who had been burned in their respective homes. Ann Jane Jones and Edward Hughes, aged four, who resided at No. 8, Sandy Row, Peter's street, aged Sarah Ann Armitage, six years of age, whose residence was in Sayner-street, which is adjacent to the place mentioned. Sarah Ann Jones was admitted on Monday to the Infirmary suffering severely from burns, and is not expected to live. Edward Hughes died at East Kingsley, and was burned whilst endeavouring to extinguish some straw which her mother had brought into the house and set on fire.

Collision on the London and North-Western Railway.—A collision occurred near Bletchley about 6 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, at the Bletchley Junction, the London and North-Western Railway, between leaving London at 2.45 contained several Directors, and the Chairman of the Board of Trade, two merchant engines were attached to it. The train received a shock which was so violent that the engine which should be passed without stopping. A sudden slackening of speed informed the passengers that something was wrong, and on examining the train dashed into some obstruction on the line, which turned out to be a cattle and goods train from the Oxford branch. The express forced

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

CONSETT.

The usually festive season of Christmas was hearty observed at Consett and district, almost all business being suspended. The day was tastefully cold and warm, considering the time of year. At an early hour in the morning the sonorous tones of various chapels visited the houses of several of their members to gain a season of sacred music. During the day services were held in the various churches, and in the afternoon several congregations held their annual tea parties.

CHRIST CHURCH.

On Christmas Day religious services were conducted in Christ Church, the church being decorated in a most tasteful manner for the occasion, by the Rev. F. Steggall, incumbent.

WESLEYAN TEACHERS' TRIALL MEETING.

On Christmas Eve, the annual meeting of the teachers of the Consett Wesleyan Sunday School was held in their place of worship. Upwards of sixty persons sat down to the well-spread tables, which were efficiently presided over by Misses Allison, Hewlings, Cherry, and Johnson. After the tea a meeting was constituted for the election of officers for the ensuing year, and presided over by Mr. Rodgers, Superintendent, Mr. H. Hopkins, Jun., read a very encouraging report, and the treasurer (Mr. T. Carr) showed the balance to be in a healthy condition.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

On Christmas morning, after the above band of teachers had sat down to the well-spread tables, and spoated conducted, Mr. Horn, had awakened the echoes of the village by the free use of their vocal powers, harmonious and melodious, prior to a special breakfast, provided in the school-room by Mesdames Elliott and R. Wardgett. The breakfast—and the mature one too—attacked the dainties in good earnest, which was not a matter for wonder, about after such an exercise. They were joined by a number of their friends, and a pleasant morning was spent.

BLACKHILL.

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHURCH.—On Christmas Eve the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Choir took supper together at the Library, Blackhill. The provisions which were of superior quality were provided by Mrs. Blackett, and it may be mentioned in saying that ample justice was done to the edibles by those present. After supper and the cloth was cleared, and shortly before the "wee sma' hours" the company took their departure and retended before the house of several of the members, and gladdened the neighborhood. On arriving at the house of H. Bilson, Esq., that gentleman and family invited them in, where they found a substantial breakfast ready; after partaking of which the hospitably, they presented with ten shillings, and requested to favour them with their company next year, if spared. A request which, we doubt, not, will be attended to.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL.—On Sunday, the anniversary in connection with the Blackhill United Presbyterian Sunday School were held in the chapel, Blackhill, when appropriate sermons were preached by Mr. Thomas Scoulloch, the Rev. W. Lawder. On Christmas-day, the annual tea was held in the School-room, kindly granted by the Rev. F. B. Thompson, and was attended by 130 adults and 80 children. The children received portion of scripture and select pieces of poetry, after which the epicentre, Mr. Thomas Parnaby, was on behalf of the children, presented Mr. Young, superintendent of the Sunday School, with a splendid writing desk, for the pains he had taken in instructing the children in music. Suitable addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. Lawder and others, during the occasion. The collections amounted to £1 6s. 0d.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST FEITE BANQUET AT BLACKHILL.—The annual tea meeting in connection with the above society was held on the evening of Christmas-day, and was patronized by a very large and respectable company. The Rev. Thomas Scoulloch was called to the chair, who, after a few appropriate remarks, called upon Mr. W. M. Patterson, to deliver an address on "Man's need of salvation" Mr. J. Bailey, "The Saviour promised, God for man" Mr. T. Carrick, "The nature of the salvation provided by God for man;" Rev. J. Trowin, "The necessity of man immediately accepting the salvation provided by God, for man;" and Mr. J. Wrightson, on "The agency of the Holy Spirit in man's salvation." The whole of the above addresses were of a thoroughly practical nature, and were delivered with marked earnestness by the speakers. The musical part of the evening's proceedings containing some choice selections from the choir, and others, were executed in a highly creditable style. "Strike gently, strike lightly" and "Ye banks and braes" were efficiently rendered and brought out the full powers of Miss Hopkins's fine contralto voice. Mr. E. J. Purkiss presided at the harmonium in his usual efficient manner; and Mr. James Pallister, instructor of the choir, conducted the proceedings. Accounts were distributed at intervals during the evening. The Rev. J. Dowson proposed, Mr. T. Turgoh seconded, a vote of thanks to the choir, after which the highly interesting meeting was brought to a close by the chairman engaging in prayer.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

ST. CUTHBERT'S.—The beautiful church of St. Cuthbert, Benfieldside, was most tastefully decorated for the Christmas festivities, to the delight of all the congregation; and services were held on Christmas Day, when appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. F. B. Thompson, incumbent.

PRIMITIVE-CHOIR SUPPER AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—On the occasion of Christmas Day, the members of the Shotley Bridge Primitive Methodist Choir took supper together, in the schoolroom, Shotley Bridge. After supper Mr. A. Steel was called to the chair, and interesting addresses were delivered. Mr. Proudlock, spoke of the Scriptures, which he intended to take other numerous engagements, after which a vote of thanks for his services during the past six years was tendered to him.

HIGHGATE BAPTIST CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY.—Anniversary Sermons in connection with the above chapel were begun on Sunday, when Mr. F. A. Hoadall of Benfieldside, preached in the morning and evening. The evening service was densely crowded. The discourse were earnest and practicable and was listed to by most in serious thoughtfulness. On Monday evening, a tea meeting was held in the same place, the attendance, which was gratifying, was not equal to that of some former years. The public meeting afterwards, however, was well attended. The pastor, the pastor of the Church, Rev. O. Brooks, occupied the chair, and began with a cheerful review of the years of the church upon their improved prospects and on the success which was now attending their efforts. The Highgate congregations had continued as good as ever, while the Consett branch of their Church was doing well, above all God was saving souls, which efforts had also been made to clear off the chapel debt. Chairman's pastor had been laboring faithfully and zealously, while some more was to be received. He looked forward with a glad heart to the future. He called upon Mr. Dowson, a member of the Church, who in a few sensible remarks urged upon the audience the need that they could be the extention of religion and the suppression of vice. Mr. Headed then spoke, and after a good deal of candor about his labours, and the place of speaker at a public meeting, and about the "water" of baptism, he came on Independent, were to tell his hearers that he had two homes, the one the place where he was, and the other where he worshipped, he proceeded to show the points of resemblance between them. He enumerated seven points of resemblance, and he endeavored to make him to make their religion a matter of great earnestness, for "without doing so there could be no real and permanent peace." The Rev. D. M. Macgregor then followed, and remarked it was always a pleasant matter to sit in the chair, and to sit in the chair, and to watch the track the pen was—as it was now for the Church to mark the progress of the year. Some of the pens he went on to speak about "The importance of small things" touching in the course of his remarks upon the Church of God in faith and loving God a house, urging deep solemnity upon all; also referred to the importance of good singing and good attention on the part of the hearers to the influence of smiles, being like as many pearls of pearls of pearls around the neck of young ladies; and to the relationship of young dissenters to the Church. He then proceeded to show his earnest hope that the coming events which were now casting their shadows before them was a very fair and good to them, and he looked on to nobler days. Various votes of thanks having been given, the meeting dispersed.

LANCHESTER.

CHRISTMAS AT THE WORKHOUSE.—On Christmas day, the annual dinner of roast beef and plum pudding was given by the Board of Guardians to the inmates of the Workhouse at Lanchester. The respected chairmen of the Union, R. H. Geo. Esq., personally superintended the arrangements, and saw that the poor people were properly provided for. After dinner a plentiful supply of tobacco was distributed amongst "smokers," and the children were specially provided for by an abundant supply of confectionery being distributed amongst them. The inmates, both old and young, appeared most thoroughly to enjoy themselves on the occasion, and everything was done by Mr. and Mrs. Ross to make them as comfortable as possible.

LEADGATE.

ST. JOHN CHURCH.—The Rev. W. Mitchell incumbent of St. Jons Church, Leadgate, preached suitable sermons on Christmas Day. The church, which was most prescifully decorated for the occasion, was by young indies of the congregation, was well attended.

CONCERT AT LEADGATE.—On the evening of Christmas-day, the Leadgate Wesleyan Choir gave their annual concert in the Wesleyan chapel Leadgate. The chapel was decorated for the occasion, and the audience was both large and numerous. The choir was occupied by the Rev. G. G. Letters who after singing and a few words of introduction, called upon the choir to fulfil the part assigned to them. The first piece was performed by Mr. Smith's anthems, and were well rendered. Without doubt the two selections from Handel—"For unto us a child is born," and "Hallelujah to the Lord" "Messiah" were given decidedly superior to the other selections, arising, we suppose from the choir having had more practise in these two pieces altogether the concert was a most successful one, and reflects great credit upon Mr. Whitfield, the leader, and the conductor of the young ladies was sweet, but there was a lack of power, and we trust that for the future this defect will be increased. Mr. Hedley, presided at the harmonium most satisfactorily. The Rev. G. G. Letters delivered an interesting address on music between the parts, for which we regret we have no room.

BRADLEY COTTAGES.

On Christmas Day a public tea meeting was held in connection with the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Bradley Cottages, at which a select number sat down to tea. After tea a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr. G. Hedley, Leadgate. Several addresses were delivered by the following gentlemen:—Mr. Lee, Mr. Bell, Mr. Ceremonby, M. Smith, M. Lowdon, and W. Richardson.

MARLEY HILL.

On Sunday the anniversary sermons of the Methodist Church. On reading your correspondent's letter, and the proceedings of the meeting in the Temperance Hall, Blackhill, I then thought he was a good man, and on reflection I purposed to let "Looking Ahead" look about a little longer for the end of his reading, which was so dimly burning, and now having so effectually extinguished the light, I feel constrained to offer a few valuable paper to briefly review your correspondent's proceedings at the meeting held in Temperance Hall, Blackhill. First, I will look at Mr. Carse's letter. He (Mr. Carse) commences his communication by the assertion that as a resolution that the township be divided into wards, which, however, from an oppost. Mr. Carse's letter was moved and seconded, but the chairman refused to put it to the meeting, although the fact is, as he see, it was in a strongly recommended the putting of such a resolution to the following terms:—"In districts where this Act is adopted, the Local Government Board will be prepared to direct a petition to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State to the district into wards. Now, Mr. Editor, I think it would have been as creditable to Mr. Carse's cause if he had attempted to correct the statement, the meeting had not been so unanimous in their support, and the very section of the Act he quoted expressly provides that the scheme of the Local Government Act adopted, the owners and ratepayers may, by resolution, direct the Local Government Board to divide the district into wards." And one would almost have discredited the fact of the meeting, although it is, as, I am sure, a well-intended knowledge, as not to know the Act could not be adopted until it had been sent to the Secretary of State. Yet, such is the fact. And how surprising it appears that such a man should attempt to interpret Acts of Parliament. But it is surprising how far a man's prejudice will carry him. I will next notice Mr. "Looking Ahead's" first appearance, as he is so anxious to give advice. I suppose that his own difficulties in superior knowledge distains to himself that it is incumbent on him to impart that understanding to his neighbours. Now, Mr. Editor, I think "Looking Ahead" first reminds the owners and ratepayers that they can adopt the Act, and that the Act is a good one, but ignorance doth abound to such an alarming extent as to Act first and then to inquire what it is that they have Act and he refers to the firm that gave statry value, but he argues a say has a firm is rated at £7,000, and such one represents £25 6s. 8d., or upwards, of twice the amount that qualifies a ratepayer to be a member of the board and upwards of five times the amount of ratepayers who have a right to vote. Further remarks "that as some of the members have to retire every year, that the Legislature has very properly provided for the appointment of proper ratepayers." I would remind Mr. "Looking Ahead" that the ratepayers are supposed to have the intelligence of the township, but left that to the owners that the owners and ratepayers are not fools to spend pounds, shillings, and pence. For instance, the firm of Messrs. Bell, the philosophers of ceremony, paid £100 to our last rate of £500, whereas, if Mr. "Looking Ahead," were left to the ratepayers, he would not have had only contribute £5. Does he mean to say that a rich man must necessarily be a fool, because he has had even the good sense to vote for an unfortunately remarks "My conviction is the aristocracy of Shotley Bridge will not be a good one." Sir, I must express my surprise at the editor, between the aristocracy of Shotley Bridge in the sense of the aristocracy of Shotley Bridge in the "Looking Ahead." So long as the large majority of the ratepayers are gentlemen, I do not wish to have Act adopted, so long did the aristocracy of Shotley Bridge be "Looking Ahead," with all his superior knowledge, to notice the proceedings of the meeting in the Temperance Hall, Blackhill. I must express my surprise at the chairman of that meeting, "Urging the most strenuous exertions in the adoption of the Act." Perhaps the Secretary of State to set aside the decision of the vestry meeting, had on the 21st ult. From the determination to rule round-about over the people manifested by certain parties, and the determination of the chairman of the meeting." Urging the most strenuous exertions in the adoption of the Act." Perhaps the Secretary of State to set aside the decision of the vestry meeting, had on the 21st ult. From the determination to rule round-about over the people manifested by certain parties, and the determination of the chairman of the meeting at Blackhill if he meant the very large majority of the ratepayers, and the owners of the firm a large majority of one mind, and so far his strenuous exertions in the adoption of the Act, the meeting held on 21st of 1868, I would just remind the chairman of that meeting, that the Act is only past and gone for expecting local improvements. I will briefly quote from Arnold Taylor, Esq., Government Inspector, who addressed a meeting at Stanley, on the 12th inst. "In speaking of privy and other necessary accommodation he said: In other places we have had to deal with a great and marked change of late years, and insisted on such improvements. If people would not provide them, the Legislature would step in and insist upon it. In fact the Legislature was now doing it. The Act was called the Sanitary Acts, he (Mr. Taylor) said; "The vestry under the Act had the power for the erection of privies, and for house arrangements, and that the proper course was for the vestry to make a determination, and proceed against the useless machinery of the Nuisance Act." Now, Mr. Editor, I would ask, if he would recommend the committee to turn their attention to the Nuisance Act, and the Act, and the proceedings against the chairman remarked that he had no objections to the Act, provided it was so that it would be fairly and kindly applied; but he saw very unfavorable signs manifested on the occasion." Now, Mr. Editor, I would ask, if he is a great in the chairman of that meeting that I have no faith in the Act, adopted, and that Shotley Bridge and Blackhill will work harmonious. The Rev. Mr. Bailey, Stanley, remarking between try to set them at "deadly rage, the one against the other." Now, Mr. Editor, I would ask, if he address the meeting, was dividing and the district into wards, he would be in the strongest of the Act, I would ask him when this is the case, why cannot Blackhill and West Stanley unite in the district into Shotley Bridge. And when he was throwing out his sticker for the Act, what he meant by "the pastor-and-lead aristocracy," he said the affair had hitherto been a bungling one, and he hoped that the vestry would act in the matter did not understand what they were doing. Has presenting another aspirant to the Legislature, and the proper course for the vestry to act in their guidance, or they would be disgraced by two or three men in the township, if it possess more ambition than sound sense. *How wonderfully true* in this case has Mr. Carse described "Looking Ahead."

I will hastily notice Mr. "Looking Ahead's" second production in answer to the "Independent." In Highgate, in which he takes so much about common sense, and he seems to be placed in these words: "Mr. Editor, sometimes as much common sense as a man rated at £1; but in this, as I said above, he will have to pay as much rates, sense or no sense. And Mr. "Looking Ahead" should remind "Ratepayer" that the rates are based on high social life are more creatures of circumstances. To illustrate, we say, "Looking Ahead" "I know a gentleman of good social position, with an income of £300 a year, who has been placed in these circumstances by the hand of a society, who, if his brains had come into the market, and his head had been placed upon his own shoulders, would have been wheelbarrow's navvy brawn." Now this, Mr. Editor, certainly indicates that very common low scurvy wretchedness. Why, it is by that position man's brains being brought into the market that he has attained his learned degree, and placed himself in such a position, which he fills most satisfactorily and examples of the ratepayers to the fact "that the common sense of the nation has decided that the owners and ratepayers shall have as many votes in the election of a member of Parliament as there are hundred thousands." Sir, I ask why should one man have more votes than another in the case of the nation will not interfere whether we vote for "Looking Ahead" that the same common sense of the nation decides, "that the owner of a firm rated at £7000, and another that is the case of one man rated at £300, and another rated at £100,000 will have to pay 50,000 times as much as the man rated at £2, and have only six times as many votes if owner or occupier. In winding up, Mr. "Looking Ahead" tenders his advice given in a former letter, repudiating "the aristocracy of Shotley Bridge." "Let Cutler's Hall and Benfieldside," says he, "adopt the Act for themselves, and they will get rid of the petty tyranny which they have had to submit so long." Now, I ask, cannot see if there is to be a division and the Size of the township, it is not by Cutler's Hall or Benfieldside, but by Cutler's Hall and Highgate, and which Section chosen Cutler's Hall into Shotley Bridge Ward, why Blackhill should have to take Cutler's Hall?

Now, Mr. Editor, I hey a little more space to candidly express my own opinions on the subject of the Local Government Act of 1858. "Looking Ahead" talks so much about common sense and wealth being passed together, I would suggest to "Looking Ahead" to read the common sense, and such ratepayer had to our rates. Now, Mr. Editor, I ask, cannot see if there is to be a division and the Size of the township, it is not by Cutler's Hall or Benfieldside, I think there is no necessity for a division in the township, as there is for a division between Benfield and with Cutler boundaries where the extent and population compute that the Act is a good one, and Benfieldside is the most desirable site. The beautiful village of Shotley Bridge, with Blackhill and the Hill, is a most desirable residence, and the many side of a desirable residence, with an easy declivity and good lots for building, and the township of Cutler's Hall, side as well adapted for easy improvements; and the now attractive position of both Shotley Bridge and Blackhill renders it highly necessary that the inhabitants of the same should be allowed to have the improvements in their township. By doing so those greatly desired improvements will be carried out, and one would naturally expect if the Local Government Act of 1858 was passed, that by proper Act of Parliament, the arrangements and the harmonious working of the Act, in a few years, would be found to be so good, and will be greatly enhanced in the important township. I will now endeavor to give "Looking Ahead" a little more bit not to foster ill feeling towards our neighbours at Shotley Bridge. Don't believe that there is any ill feeling against the disturber of the township, that it is for "love sick duty that he urges a separation, but meaning so for his peculiar ends.

I am, Sir,
Your humble and obedient servant,
WILLIAM RAW.

Blackhill, December 24th, 1867.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE SHERIFF OF NEWCASTLE.

The funeral obsequies of Mr. John Mawson, the late Sheriff of Newcastle, who lost his life through the dreadful explosion of nitro-glycerine on the Town Moor, last week, took place on Monday; and evinced a masourful expression of sympathy which, for extent and diffusion amongst all classes of the community, had never before been witnessed in that town. From early hour in the morning crowds began to congregate in the streets of Newcastle and Gateshead—Mr. Mawson, both in Newcastle, and Gateshead, in Gateshead, and the body having to be brought from the latter town. Previous to the receipt of the news of the demise of the deceased in both towns, the demeanour of the crowds everywhere being subdued and serious; and the shops being closed, either wholly or in part, and the blinds of the houses of mourning being drawn down. Muffled peals were rung from several of the churches, including St. Nicholas', Jesmond, St. Mary's, Gateshead; and St. Andrew's, Newcastle.

The funeral *cortege* started from the deceased's residence, Gateshead at twelve o'clock, under the superintendence of Mr. Lockey, of the firm of Messrs. Bainbridge and Co. Of the two hearses the funeral arrangements were entrusted, a procession was formed in the following order:

THE HEARSE.

Followed by eleven mourning coaches.

The first mourning coach contained, John Swan, the father-in-law of the deceased; Mr. W. Brougham Mawson, Mr. Thomas Mawson, and Mr. Alfred Mawson.

The second coach contained Mr. J. Cameron Swan, Mr. Thomas Swan, Mr. John Pattison, Mr. Joseph W. Swan and Mr. Thomas Atkinson, brothers-in-law; Mr. Wm. Mawson, and Mr. Ord.

The third contained Captain Monks, Durham; Mr. Robert Grey; Mr. Robert Bell, Mr. John Bell, Mr. Wm. Bell, Mr. Hilkins; Mr. William Henry Holmes, Gateshead.

The fourth coach contained Mr. Jas. Clephan, Mr. Fred. Clark, Mr. John Gibson, Mr. Jos. Watson, Mr. Henry Gibson, Mr. Jas. Gibson, Gateshead.

The fifth contained Mr. Jas. Bolton, Dr. Armison, Dr. Embleton, and the deceased's medical attendant, Dr. Wilson, of Gateshead.

The sixth coach contained Mr. John Bailey, London; Mr. Wm. Kelman, Sunderland; Mr. Joseph Wright, Mr. Jas. Wright, Gateshead; Mr. Wm. Wright, plumber, with his men, assisted in hanging the hearse with the Sunderland Police Station. Mr. Caleb Jolding was very active in the dangerous task of breaking off the upper half of the hearse, by which the fire was prevented from spreading to the adjoining buildings. The seventh coach contained Mr. Robert Nichol, Mr. John Anderson, and Mr. James Mather, all made themselves conspicuous by their active assistance in the dangerous task.

The cause of the fire is unknown; it is not even guessed at.

THE STAVELEY MEMORIAL WINDOW IN TANFIELD CHURCH.

The principal west window of the fine old church of West Tanfield has just been embellished with stained glass of the highest order of excellence, as a memorial of the youthful Miles Staveley, Esq., of Old Sleningford Hall, whose early death was recorded in the last. The window, which is of the perpendicular Gothic, is divided into three compartments, surmounted by tracery. The main compartment is represented a large figure beneath a rich canopy, of a foliated character; that in the centre being the Saviour of our Lord, with the left hand of the act of stepping out of the tomb bearing in His left hand the banner of victory, and the right hand slightly raised expressive of benediction, while the Divine countenance looks kindly expressive of the text, "Ye believe in God, believe also in me;" "I am the resurrection and the life;" these being written on scrolls in the upper part of the frame. The expression is of silvery white, elaborately diapered with a rich embroidery of golden hues, and embossed and relieved on a background of deep azure beautifully ornamented, as are the backgrounds of the fully ornamented are the backgrounds of the crucifixion. The right side compartment contains a beautiful and expressive figure of St. John, standing in his left hand a scroll his face turned towards the Saviour, and his hand pointing significantly to the text, "Patient in tribulation and long-suffering." This figure is also deeply expressive of the inscription, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." In the left compartment is a devotional and expressive figure of the Virgin Mary, with her left hand slightly elevated in if directing attention to the words on a scroll in her right hand, "Thy son liveth." An inscription on the lower part contains the text, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord" the voice of the Lord heard the voice of Elijah, and the soul of the dead man came to him." The entire colouring of the window is extremely rich and harmonious; the detailed ornamentation of the draperies and vestments of the figures is deeply in a high artistic character, very greatly creditable to the artist, Mr Henry Shrapnell, of the Glass Works, Gate Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. We must not omit to mention that the inhabitants of Tanfield and neighbourhood are greatly indebted to their much-respected rector, the Rev. J. Hall, for this adornment to their fine old church. The window was opened on the 20th inst. They interest he has taken in raising such a tribute to the memory of his young friend. In the stone sill of the window is inserted a neatly engraved brass plate, with the words, "To the memory of Miles Staveley, aged 26, obiit 1867."

SUSPECTED MURDER OF A POLICE SERGEANT AT NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA.

The pleasant, well-known, and usually very quiet fishing and sea-bathing village of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea was thrown into a state of excitement, confusion on Saturday afternoon, when it became known that the body of Police-Sergeant William Hall, stationed in the village, had been found lying on the south side which water mark, about two miles from the town. The body of the Police Sergeant along with Sergeant Hall, forthwith secured a cart and had the body conveyed to the Police Station, where it was laid on a stretcher, in the place in the village at least up to between ten and eleven o'clock on Sunday night, and Mr. John Bowman, a local guardsman, says he spoke to the sergeant in front of the Station at about half-between twelve and one o'clock on Saturday morning. This is the last trace that can be obtained of him alive. The body was found by Mr. Bowman, Mr. Robert Kean, jun., and Robert Kean, senior, they did not recognise it as that of the sergeant, but thought it strange, they were unaware of his having been missing, and partly because the appearance of the face was very much changed, as will be readily inferred when it is known that the left eyeball and eyelid were entirely gone, and the right eyeball and eyelid were much bruised and red with blood above and below the right eye slight discolouration of the face was also perceptible, he was also in the habit of wearing his watch suspended round his neck by a black ribbon inserted in a hole in the left-hand side of his trousers. Of the ribbon there was no trace left, and his watch pocket was empty. The deceased police sergeant had been a mounted officer was a native of the North of Northumberland, and has been about this district for several years, and at various times he was stationed at Morpeth, Sic-Mile Bridge, Walker, and Seaton Delaval. The deceased Sergeant was in Newbiggin where he has been for about a year and a half, and his sudden and mysterious death has caused a great sensation in the village. Mr. Weakey, deputy chief constable; Mr. Coates; Superintendent Harkin, and Superintendent Dixon, have been actively engaged in making further inquiries into the matter.

INQUEST ON THE BODY.

An inquest on the body of Sergeant Hall was opened on Monday, at the Commercial Hotel (Mr. Goldsmith's), Newbiggin, by Mr. J. J. Hardy, Coroner of North Northumberland.

A jury of eighteen was then empanelled.

The Coroner in addressing the jury, stated shortly the circumstances.

The following evidence was then heard:—P.C. John Scott (No. 72) said: I am stationed at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, and live in the Police Station. The body shown to the jury is that of William Hall who was 37 years of age. I was acting sergeant. He was a single man. He had lodged with me for about 17 months. I have known him for the last 15 years. He was a man of good officer, and has been in the service since the formation in 1857. He was sober and respected by the inhabitants of Newbiggin. It was the deceased's turn to go on duty in the village at seven p.m., and to come off next morning. I saw him last at 9 on Friday night he was quite sober, and in his usual manner all that day. I was in bed when the station that night, when he dressed in his usual uniform, having his great coat on. He also wore a black hat. The hat was open and rolled round the brim. The jurors, who examined it carefully. I never saw him again alive. I gave him life in silver just as he went out. He had no bell on, nor had he a staff with him. I returned from duty about half-past three on Saturday morning, but the sergeant had not come in. I went to bed. At three p.m. that day I was told that the body of Hall had been found. I got a cart and proceeded to the scene, about 200 yards south of the Lynemouth and a mile and half north of Newbiggin. The body was lying on its back. The left eye had been taken out of its socket, while the right one was disclosed, but I saw no other marks of violence on the face. I searched the pockets of deceased on the scene, and found a pocket knife, a bunch of keys, with a whistle chained up with sand, a corkscrew, and a comb, with 6s. 9d. in silver but not a bit of the watch pocket.

The Coroner said he would adjourn the inquest till after the New Year, and the jurors fixed upon Thursday, the 9th proximo, for its re-opening. Mr. Hardy considered this arrangement would suit the public convenience best, and gave the police an opportunity of prosecuting their searches, and thus avoid the necessity of calling the jury together again. Mr. Duncan, surgeon, of Newbiggin, was authorised to make a post mortem examination, and a coroner's warrant for interment was issued.

Markets.

CORN MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE, Saturday.—At our market this morning there was a good supply of grain of all sorts. Wheat, last week's sale at 1s to 2s per qr. advance on last week; and prices for all other grain quite firm. Flour, a fair business was done at the extreme rates of Tuesday. Oats in good request and prices for Scotch and Irish advanced. Beans and peas fully maintained their value. Oats in good request at full prices.

MARK LANE, Tuesday.—At our market today there was a very small supply of wheat, which was sold at 1s per qr. advance on last week's prices. Barley was in good request and met a good demand without change in value. Very large show of oats, which were 1s lower compared with week's prices.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Decemb. 27.—At our market to-day there was a good supply of wheat from the growers, and a fair quantity from abroad, and also from the coast. The trade was not very active for wheat, and only a moderate business was done, and prices were at 1s the qr. lower than last week's rates for English and foreign. Barley was the turn dearer, but a slow sale. Oats were 1s per quarter cheaper. Beans brought fully late prices. Flour held rather more firmly.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE, December 24.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 2,000 head of Scots and Cumbrians, the counties of the north-east coast of Scotland; "at home" and "abroad" there were 1,108 prime ox from Scotland. Considering this as a holiday market, the supplies have been fully an average, but there was rather a lack of quality.

The supply of beef comprised 6,411 head, the best of which were of very fine fat increase, and the beef trade was in a sluggish state, the butchers having a good stock of beef on hand received last week, and offering a few exceptional prices actually realising 8d per pound, but the general quotations were 7d to 7½d, and with a slow dull finish, and part left unsold.

The supply of sheep was 4,000, the mutton trade rural active, and an increase of 6d. per lb. on the rates of last week, the best Cheviots realising 7½d per lb.

Pigs—4600 were shown. The pork trade was less active, show of pigs and prices were 6d per score lower, 3d per stone, with a middling finish.

Beasts, 6,411; sheep, 6,741; lambs, 4,500; pigs, 9001; store cattle.—

Prices—Prime Scotch beef, 6d. to 7d. per lb. Prime Cheviots, 7½d. Ordinary ditto, 7d. Inferior ditto, 5d. 6d. to 6d. Best-class oxen, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; middling ditto, 5s. 4d.; cows, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; Scots, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; small dairy-fed do., 7s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14lb.; sheep, Cheviots, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per 8lb.; lambs, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; calves, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; pigs, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; inferior, 4s. to 4s. per lb., sinking offal.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The insertion of anything beyond the simple announcement of Births, Marriages, or Deaths, will be charged as Advertisements.]

BIRTHS.

CONSETT, at Mount Pleasant, on the 25th inst., the wife of Mr. Thomas Ord, of a son.

On the 26th, Mrs. O'Neil, of a son.

BENFIELDSIDE, on the 20th inst., Mrs. Evans, of a daughter.

On the 22nd, Mrs. Robinson, of a son.

On the 24th, Mrs. Clark, of a son.

On the 25th, Mrs. Kewick, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CONSETT, Christ Church, on the 23rd inst., by the Rev. Rev. F. Steggall, Thompson, son of Mr. Thomas Thompson, of Consett, to Miss Sarah Bell, daughter of the late Mr. Jacob Gray, Masons Hall, Durham.

BENFIELDSIDE, at the United Presbyterian Church, on the 25th inst., by the Rev. W. Lawder, Mr. Henry Palmerley, Consett, to Miss Esther Forster, Tanfield-Lea.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on the 25th inst., by the Rev. Thomas Scott, Mr. J. Charlton, south, Cutler's Hall, to Hannah Jane, daughter of Mr. G. Dent, Cutler's Hall, Consett.

DURHAM, on the 21st inst., Mr. Thomas Featherston, ironmonger, Gold Howley, to Miss Mary Ann Pattison, Castleside.

DEATHS.

CROOKHALL, on the 23rd, Mary Sherry, aged 2 years.

BENFIELDSIDE, at 15, Front Row, on the 22nd, inst., aged 56, Mr. John Hall.

On the 20th, aged 43, Mr. Thomas Murray, tailor and draper.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, on the 2nd inst., aged 80, Mr. Wm. Harvey, paper-maker, formerly of Haughton, near Hexham.

NEWCASTLE, at Denton Hall, on the 23rd inst., aged 67, Richard Hoyle, Esq.

HOLD OUR TOM.

A TALE OF CONSETT LIFE.

(Written expressly for the Consett Guardian.)

Out into the darkness went Billy, followed by Tom. Billy stepped with the hot poker and floundered, as unconsciously, Tom laughing at the sport and not knowing what fear was.

My wife and myself waited patiently, but hours passed and they came not. The sun began to rise and the light crept in softly upon us, yet they came not. We waited, and still waited, till about noon I jumped up and said "I can bear this no longer. I must go out and seek them." But where was I to go? Had the robbers gone down by the Derwent, or away to Durham, or where? I looked around and there was no trace of them, and when I come back into the house my wife was crying bitterly.

"The robbers have got hold of him," she said "and they will kill my bonnie boy. O why did we let him out of your sight? I wish I was dead with him." Let me go and search for him"

But, hark! a light footstep was at the door, and all at once it flew open and Tom was in full of glee and kissed his mother. "Here I am, here so life, safe and sound, and the two robbers in prison. Billy is away home for a little sleep, and I am as hungry as a hawk. It was beginning to get dark, and not after them they were a little before us and heard Billy shouting at the top of his voice—as we were, we did then—and we would have soon made up on them but Billy stumbled on a stone and down he fell before us. I fell upon the top of him, and in the darkness the robbers escaped for a little; but we sprung up and ran after them again, and when we caught sight of them we saw two other men coming from the opposite direction, who rushed upon the robbers, seized them, and when we told them our story turned with us and took them into Newcastle and then, they lie in prison, and have I am home again. And we were glad to have him back.

Some days after the robbers were tried and sentenced, Billy and Tom having to appear as witnesses against them.

This was one of the chief adventures of Tom's childhood, and he used to speak about it with great glee. After the boy had left school, and grew up to other boys grew, had his school adventures, his whippings and fights, his joys and sorrows; but both of these latter were not of the deepest kind. He never thought he was glad till he became sorrowful. There was little sorrow in his joys and his sorrows. He was well liked by everyone, for he was ever obliging, whatever you wanted him to do, if he could, he did it.

"Life's troubles will not always last. This great world will move forward—"will sin for over down the ringing grooves of change"—whether we wish it or nay, you and I will grow old, and after a few years you will be like myself, tossed out of the stream on the bank, and left lying alone, while the river of life rushes madly on to the infinite ocean, feeling your loss no more than that of a little spray.

Well, Tom grew, and, as he required food and clothing, he must work. No, not that; I am wrong he must work because he could not help working; something within made him feel he was made for work, and he could not be happy without it.

About that time there was talk of a great iron-work being started in our neighbourhood, and as I could secure believe it, I went down to the "public," in Shelley Bridge, to have a talk with the landlord. For if there were to be the country-side he was sure to have it, only you must be skilful in getting it out of him, for if he saw you anxious to hear news, or if you asked him a direct question, you would never get a direct answer. Well, when I went down, as good luck would have it, there he was, a fine specimen of "guine hen," with a double chin, a ruddy face, a well-pleased smile on his countenance, and both his hands in his pockets, one hand sometimes taken out and stroking his chin.

"Good evening, James," he said, "how are you?"

"Very well indeed, Mr. Pillum, how are you yourself?" said I, as if pawing on.

"Are you not coming to rest a little?"

"Well, I'm willing; if you have anything new to tell me."

"Perhaps I have," said he, "but come in."

"Have you work with you?" said he.

"Not much of that. What a pity there is not more of it in this neighbourhood." (This was a feeler.)

"More work? Well, that may come."

"It cannot come too soon," said I.

I saw that he was bristled of a secret, and only required skilful pumping, so I said no more, but made a move to go.

"What! so soon, James? Did you not hear the news?"

"News?" said I; "no, nothing special, except that flour is getting dearer."

"Well, between you and me, my dear fellow, there is a great iron-work to be started here, and there will be so many workmen that a big town will get up not far from your house."

"Dear me, is it possible? Well, that is news. I must go, however. Good evening."

I got what I wanted, so I came and told the news to my wife and our Tom.

And it was as the landlord had said, for before the year expired men came and looked at the place, and sure enough there began the ironworks, and before many years, they grew to a goodly size. But I am going too fast.

When the ironworks had started, and strangers were coming from all quarters' and houses were beginning to be built, our Tom used to go down and watch the works after school hours, for he was so fond of them that he appeared more than usually thoughtful, and one evening he came to his father, with his head bent and both his hands to his ears, thinking about some matter and all at a sudden starting up, said "Father, I want to go into the ironworks."

My wife not at all surprised, so we made application and work was obtained. Tom left school with some regret. Forever he was struggled in his mind, sorrow because he was leaving boyhood's joys for ever; joy, for was manhood not coming on him? was he not peeping into the distance and already hearing the boom of the great life; hearing it as I have sometimes heard the sound of the ocean, when the tide between me and it? Was he not in imagination, rushing boldly forward and doing little among the throngs of men? Did not the future, at that time, seem wrapt up in a kind of glory? And was there not within him a deep-rooted consciousness that he was about to place his foot upon the first rung of the ladder—that Jacob's ladder which if before the eyes of all youths, and at the top of it which there appears the gates of the golden city.

Well, it was arranged that Tom should begin on Monday morning, and upon Saturday we all went into Newcastle to buy him some things which he needed, and when we came home you should have seen how his mother examined his clothes: how she gave him advice to keep out of all mischief, to avoid swearing, to keep by himself, and a thousand other things that no one but a genuine mother would think of saying.

Sunday passed. A quiet Sunday! Such a Sunday as one likes to think of. The very silence became eloquent in praise of the great Supreme. And on Monday Tom began to work. When he came home at night he did not say much, he seemed to be weary and a little disappointed. Stern facts had been looking him in the face all day, and the glory of life was being fast transformed into grim hard-visaged reality.

Day after day he went to his work with rare punctuality, and when night came he was tired, yet he did not sickening about it—he burnt his own smoke. He had a noble faculty of holding his tongue. In the works there were many things to try his patience; disagreeable companions—men neither better nor worse than other human beings.

He began with a few shillings a week, his work being to attend the furnace. Now, the man on whom he attended was a rather stern specimen of humanity. He had been over the length and breadth of old England, had learned to "rough it," had at one time plundered poultry, and at other times was from hand to mouth. He was a swearer of the first water; one who could not speak three sentences without cursing; he feared neither God nor man, and had a fiercely tempered withal. At the least provocation he flamed forth like a mad evil spirit, but when the storm passed he was not such a bad fellow. He was generous to a fault, given drink, he would share it with his friends, and when a navvy hand was hard pressed he never grudged him the loan of a sovereign, or two, and as a workman he was unparalleled. Now, under him Tom was placed to be trained. It was a severe ordeal, but he came out of it triumphant. Of the boys whom this man had had under him in other ironworks, it might be said "their name was legion." For a time they used to go on with him all right, but when he opened up on them, and struck them, they would fire up, and throwing the first object that came to hand at his head, would run off; others would begin boo-hooing and ban home. He had a bad name. Not long after Tom went to him one of the boats had gone wrong and he was blamed, he was cursed, he cursed the furnace, cursed the iron, cursed the men, cursed the boys, cursed the devil and all his angels, and finished off by tossing Tom out of his road.

Now had our Tom been like other boys he would have cursed in his turn, and perhaps rushed at him to knock him down. Instead of that, he, with an immense effort, crushed the impulse—choked it in its birth—and allowing a smile to cross his face, simply said, "I wonder you would do that." No more was said; but from that day he was calm as a child with Tom, while he would storm and rage with all the others. This mattered went on for some years, our Tom growing up to be a man in every sense of it, with well-controlled same its passions, and it pains me to tell it, he fell before them.

He used to come home at pay days with his wages in full and place them down to his mother; but one night he did not come at the usual hour.

"I am later to-day," I said.

"Yes," said his mother, with a deep sigh, "surely nothing has gone wrong with him."

"No fear," I said. But she shook her head.

The afternoon passed away, and the evening clock went at a funeral pace, and the fire sighed, as it burned. Nine, ten, eleven, twelve, one in the morning; dark and more dark became our minds and our hearts more faint. Tom out till midnight on a house—our hearts failed.

"Let us go to bed."

It was a weary waiting—we were afraid for a time—and at length my wife cried out and said, "If Tom has come astray, the most fit person to see after him is his mother."

You will wonder at her speaking so well, but we had seen better days. Putting on her shawl, she went out, and we waited, and although some thirsty within told her Tom would be found in the public-house, she tried to smother the thought, but even when trying to smother it, she went towards the most frequented public-house in the place (and there was a worship that not to a place now), and there, above the voices of bewildered drunkards she heard the voice of her lost boy, and heard of her darling boy. A cold mass of lead seemed to fall upon her heart, and the tears started from her eyes. The publican within was one fit for the pencil of a Wilkie or the pen of a Dickens. Around, a small table in one of the rooms, were seated half-a-dozen men, as they had left the works—with black faces, dirty hands, and in their working clothes. The time was midnight, and with a philosophic look, was watching the smoke curling in fantastic folds in silence, another was in a deep sleep, another a coart of beer, and, as he held it to his lips, he seemed to see within it a perfect paradise. There was a worship that night, but his mother took