The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,481 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, December 28th, 1888. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

COAL AND STONE BORING MACHINES.

BOSTON'S Coal Boring Machines . 20/. and 24/.
BOSTON'S All Steel . . 25/.
BOSTON'S with 3 drills and ratchet, . . 35/.
BOSTON'S Stone Boring Machines, with 3 drills, 35/.

STEEL PICKS, HICKORY SHEFTS, COPPER STEMMING GEAR, COPPER SCRAPERS, &c., &c

THOS. BOSTON,
WHOLESALE IRONMONGER AND TOOL MANUFACTURER,
NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

ROBERT JACKSON'S
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK South Medomsley Cottages.

Wanted.

PUPILS WANTED FOR VIOLIN.—Apply to Miss HICKEY, No. 396, Tinn Street Leadgate

DOMESTIC SERVANT WANTED, not over 17.—Apply to Mrs. WILES, Sherburn Terrace.

WANTED, Two respectable LODGERS. Also Two APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—19, Sherburn Terrace. 636

WANTED, at February Term, an experienced GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, Mr MERCER, Derwent Cote House, Lintz Green. 618

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL for Farm House, good milker.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 610

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE. FOR SERVANTS, (Established in 1877) 13, Front Street, Consett. A call invited, when best attention will be given. 340w

Under Distinguished Patronage.
MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 265w

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. QUIGLEY, 14, John Street, Consett. 396v

WANTED it thoroughly known at Consett and the District, that High-class PORTRAITS, artistically finished, MAY BE HAD at very Reasonable Prices at VENICE DUNN'S, PHOTOGRAPHER, 13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

NOTICE.—EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.—Lowest Fares to NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, and all parts of the United States and Canada, &c., every week from Newcastle Quay. Special arrangements for the comfort and convenience of Passengers by First-class ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, via Rotterdam.
N.B.—Passengers are met on landing, and receive full directions how to proceed to their journey's end.
For Passage, &c., apply personally, or by letter, to GEO. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer, Catchgate, Lintz Green.
NOTE.—G.R.H. undertakes Sales by Auction on the most Reasonable Terms. 361z

A. E. TURNER'S
EXTRA SPECIAL.

BLACK SUITS. - - - - - 35s. to 63s.
OVERCOATS, - - - - - 30s. to 50s.

In Meltons, Viennas, and Worsteds.
SCOTCH, IRISH, AND FANCY SUITINGS.
NEWEST TROUSERINGS, 10s. 6d. to 21s.
Best Workmanship Guaranteed.
NOTED FOR MILLINERY & DRAPERIES.
ALBION HOUSE,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

To Let.

COMFORTABLE LODGINGS for Three respectable Working Men.—Apply, I. MADDISON, 14, Ridley Street, Blackhill. 618

HOUSE AND SHOP TO LET, in Front Street, Consett.—Apply to J. CANT, Fruiterer, Consett.

TO LET, a HOUSE with Four Rooms, in Eltringham Street, Blackhill.—Apply at No. 23, or JOHN WARDLE, Ebchester Mill. 539

TO LET, a HOUSE of 5 Rooms, with Washhouse, situated in Durham Road, Blackfine.—Apply to C. W. ALMOND, Front Street, Consett. 459

TO LET, a Four-roomed COTTAGE, in Durham Road, Leadgate. Every convenience.—Apply to Mr. LUKE NICHOLSON, Leadgate. 456

BICYCLES and TRICYCLES ON HIRE or FOR SALE. Machines taken in exchange. Repairs done on the shortest notice.—Apply to E. WARDHAUGH, Blacksmith, Shotley Bridge. 872z

TO LET, a HOUSE, containing Six Rooms, Bath Room, and Scullery, situate in St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside.—For particulars, apply to Mr. PETER GIBSON, Boot-maker, 57, Durham Road, Blackhill. 261z

TURNIP EATAGE TO BE LET.—Yellow Turnips to be Eaten on with Sheep, dry ground, well sheltered. A good crop. TURNIPS also FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Wood lands, Consett. 642

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.
TO LET, the CO-OPERATIVE HALL (capable of seating 500 people) for Concerts, Lectures, &c. Also, ROOMS suitable for Clubs and Friendly Societies.—For Forms and Conditions, apply to the Secretary JESSE HALL, Consett. 55z

FARM TO LET, from 13th May, 1889.—The Churchwardens of Lanchester are prepared to receive Offers for the SATLEY POOR LAND FARM, situate at Satley, in the County of Durham, containing 82a 1r 27p. The present Tenant will shew the Farm.—Offers to be addressed to WILLIAM LOGAN, Langley Park, Durham, and endorsed "Satley Poor Land," on or before 17th Feb., 1889.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, 6 PIGS, 8 weeks old.—Apply, WILLIAM THOMPSON, South Field, Lintz Green. 632

BRIDE CAKE BOXES, at all prices, at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 302

LADIES' BAGS, from 1s. to 16s. each, at the *Guardian* Office. See the Windows.

WORKBOXES WRITING DESKS, and ALBUMS (all prices), suitable for Presents, at the *Guardian* Office.

FOR SALE, Two STOVES, BARS two COILS, and a quantity of IRON PIPES, for Heating Purposes.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office.

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester 196v

FOR SALE, Mare "JEWESS," also SPRING WHITECHAPEL and HARNESS, in good condition; will sell cheap.—Apply, W. HUTCHINSON & Co., Middle Street, Consett. 637

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

FOR SALE, 2 FREEHOLD HOUSES; 5 Rooms each; Large Yard; Wash-house; Palisading in Front; situate in Lumley View, Chester-le-Street.—Apply to Mr JOHN ROBSON, Builder, Chester-le-Street. 581

SAVE MONEY AND LABOUR.
EGDELL'S PHŒNIX MANGLE.
Lightest, Strongest, and most durable ever invented. Cash Discounts. The Trade Supplied.
SOLE WHOLESALE DEPOTS:—EGDELL & CO., 10, NEWGATE STREET, AND 116 AND 118, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE. 21

Business Announcements.

MISS CAIRNS,
5, WEST VICTORIA STREET CONSETT,

HAVING finished her educational studies, is prepared to GIVE LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE, MUSIC, and in the ART OF SINGING at the above address.

Pupils attended at their own residence if required

265z TERMS MODERATE.

Business Announcements.

THE GREENOCK KNITTING WORSTED AND KNITTED HOSIERY *ARE THE BEST AND CHEAPEST* IN THE MARKET,
And can only be had in CONSETT from
BAIN & CO.,
GENERAL WAREHOUSEMEN, MIDDLE STREET AND QUEEN STREET.

MUSIC.
E. J. SLOANE,
PRACTICAL PIANOFORTE TUNER.
DEALER IN
PIANOFORTES, AMERICAN ORGANS, HARMONIUMS, VIOLINS,
And other MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, from the Best Makers, also in Classical and Sheet Music.

HAVING obtained Certificates and passed with First-class Honours (Senior Division) at the Theoretical and Practical Examinations, under the supervision of Dr. LOTT (Principal of the Musical International College, London), is now prepared to give
LESSONS ON THE PIANOFORTE AND HARMONIUM;
ALSO IN HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, &c.

PUPILS TRAINED FOR THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

E.J.S. is prepared to supply Musical Instruments on the EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM.

Note the Address:—
76, DERWENT STREET,
ADJOINING THE POST OFFICE,
BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM. 154

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

CHINA! CHINA!! CHINA!!!
T. W. PESCOD,
9, SHAKESPEARE STREET, next door to Post Office,
CONSETT.
THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE NORTH FOR
CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS.
THE NOTED ICE CREAM SHOP.

THE WEDDING DAY MADE EASY.
GOLD WEDDING RINGS, all Government Hall Marked, at 5s. and upwards, with the usual Half-dozen Nickel-Silver Teaspoons.
SPECTACLES made to suit all sights, with Brazillian Rock Crystal and Algerian Petrified Lenses, best adapted for weak and impaired vision, and recommended by the faculty. Frames in Gold, Silver, Shell, and Finest Elastic Steel, at all prices. Also all kinds of Optics Made and Repaired by myself.
ADDRESS:—
T. McCOURTY,
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND SPECTACLE MAKER,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.
ANY Person Removing, Altering or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,
M. RICHLEY Secretary

MANCHESTER CORPORATION.
CONCENTRATED MANURE.
MADE from HUMAN EXCREMENT, BLOOD BONES, FISH &c., analysing about
38·66 per cent of ORGANIC MATTER, containing
3·60 ,, of AMMONIA.
5·08 ,, of ALKALINE SALTS, containing
0·90 ,, of POTASH.
8·57 ,, of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.
2·50 ,, of SULPHATE OF LIME.
Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 50 miles of Manchester in not less than Two Ton Lots, and within 150 miles in not less than Four Ton Lots.—Special quotation beyond 150 miles.
£3 PER TON.
Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made.
HY. WHILEY, Superintendent.
Health Department,
Town Hall, Manchester
Or to
W. WOOD, Field Head, Shotley Bridge.
J. FATHERLEY, Washington.

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.
LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.
Accommodation for Passengers equal to any European Line.
Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.
The Shortest and Best Route to the West.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, via Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 217z

R. H. BURTON,
FROM
W. LISTER AND SONS,
Begs to announce that he has Opened his Premises,
2, CLOTH MARKET,
(Opposite the Cathedral),
Where he has now on Sale an entirely New Stock of Goods of the Latest and most Fashionable Designs, comprising—
DIAMOND ORNAMENTS, LONDON-MADE JEWELLERY, MODERN SILVER PLATE, ENGLISH and GENEVA WATCHES, CLOCKS, &c., and ELECTRO-PLATED GOODS.
ALSO, A
FINE COLLECTION OF ANTIQUE SILVER PLATE.
Gold Bracelets from 20s.
Silver Cream Ewers, 16s. 6d. each.
Antique Silver Teapots from £8 8s.
323 English Silver Lever Watches from £3 7s. 6d.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE
AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 16lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA the Finest Tea in the World. Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

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

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
GEORGE RICHARDSON,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPER AND GENERAL OUTFITTER,
Respectfully announces to his Customers the Arrival of New Goods for the Present Season.

DRESS GOODS direct from the Makers, in Materials, and Shades suitable for present wear.
AMAZON CLOTHS, INDIAN CASHMERES, BORDERED ROBES, WOOL BEIGES, WOOL SERGES, FRENCH CASHMERES and MERINOES in Colours and Black.
DRESSMAKING under the management of an experienced lady. Style and Fit guaranteed.
FUR BOAS, SILK POCKET HANDKERCHIEFS, SILK and KID GLOVES, and a Large Stock of LADIES' FANCY APRONS, suitable for XMAS PRESENTS.
TAILORS AND MILLINERS KEPT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT. 534

ROBERT WILLEY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
CONSETT TEA HOUSE, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.
Begs to call the attention of the Public to his Large and Carefully Selected Stock of Goods for the Festive Season.

WILLEY'S PATENT AND OTHER FLOURS AT MILL PRICES
BRAN. INDIAN CORN. LINSEED. BOXINGS. INDIAN MEAL. OATMEAL. ROUGH BARLEY. BARLEY MEAL. CATTLE SPICE.
All at Remarkably Low Prices.

R. W. having had many years experience in TEA BLENDING, wishes to call special attention to the following Teas:—
The "POPULAR BEVERAGE" TEA: at 2/- usually sold at 3/-.
The "TONIC" TEA, at 2/- 2/6, usually sold at 2/6 and 3/-.
"TONIC" TEA, the Best Nerve Stimulant.
"TONIC" TEA, the Best for the Sick Room.
"TONIC" TEA, the Best after Fatigue.
"TONIC" TEA, the Best Cure for Headache.
These Teas are all Packed in Sealed Lead Caddies, thus retaining their full Strength and Flavour.
Goods of Endless Variety Kept in Stock.
The Noted Shop for Fresh Country Butter and Eggs, fresh three times a week.
Hams, Bacon, Cheese, Fruit Loaves, &c., &c., Best Brands only. Bottler of Bass and Co.'s India Pale Ale, and Guinness's Dublin Stout. Mild and Bitter Ales on Draught. The Trade Supplied.
Goods Delivered to any part of the District. A Splendid Almanack given to Purchasers of 5/- worth of Goods. See the Windows. 549

W. HUTCHINSON & CO.,
MIDDLE STREET,
CONSETT,
WILL OFFER AT A GREAT SACRIFICE THE BALANCE OF
XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S TOYS.

TO INTENDING PURCHASERS FOR BAZAARS, OR CHURCH PARTIES, THIS IS A RARE CHANCE TO MAKE PROFITABLE PURCHASES.

TRY
JOHN HUME & SON'S
CELEBRATED
"GERM MEAL."

SOUTH ACOMB, STOCKSFIELD-ON-TYNE,
June 7th, 1887.
Messrs. JOHN HUME & SON,
GENTLEMEN,
You may recollect that some time ago I purchased several tons of your Germ Meal, and as I keep an accurate account of the food used by our cows, its cost, quantity used, and the amount of milk produced per week, it may interest you to know the result.
During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7¾ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7½ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 15½ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.
I am, yours faithfully,
W. TROTTER.

JOHN THURLOW POTTS'
GRAND CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND FANCY FAIR IS NOW GOING ON.

Thousands of Articles to select from, suitable for Christmas Presents and New Year's Gifts, all marked at marvellously low prices.
SEE THE BIG WINDOW in which will be displayed some of the GREATEST WONDERS OF THE DAY.
A LONDON MASHER SMOKING HIS CIGAR.
A NIGGER PLAYING ON A HARP, and other Wonderful Sights.
Special Purchase of WATCHES, which will be guaranteed, at 6s. 11d. and 10s. 11d. each. A number of ALUMINIUM GOLD WATCHES at 12s. 6d. each.
SIX MAGNIFICENT MARBLE TIMEPIECES, worth £7, will be sold at £2 19s. 6d.
A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.
J. T. P. will present to his Friends and Customers a large and beautiful Picture, entitled—"THE LITTLE BRIDESMAID," which cost 12s. 6d.
TO PURCHASERS FOR BAZAARS CONSIDERABLE REDUCTIONS WILL BE MADE.
JOHN T. POTTS,
THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 595

W. T. ELTRINGHAM,
BUILDERS' MERCHANT,
RAILWAY TERRACE, BLACKHILL (NEAR RAILWAY STATION).
A LARGE STOCK of BUILDERS' STORES and SANITARY GOODS always on hand, viz.: Flags, Bricks, Quarls, Fire Backs, Fire Clay, Slag Bricks, Gravel, Cement, Paris Plaster, Hair, Chimney Pots, Sanitary Pipes (all sizes), Junctions, Bends, Tapers, Syphon Traps, Sinks, Gulley Traps, Garden Edging, and all sizes of Field Drain Pipes.
W. T. E. will be glad to quote price for PATENT SINK and GULLEY, with CLEANSING BUCKET complete, as approved of by the Surveyors to the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority and Benfieldside Local Board.
SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR QUANTITIES AT YARD, OR DELIVERED AT ANY RAILWAY STATION.

Business Announcements.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NOTICE.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
MIDDLE ST., CONSETT, FRONT ST., LEADGATE, AND WEST STANLEY,
THE LARGEST GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER IN THE DISTRICT,
Invites the attention of his Customers to his New and Choice Assortment of Provisions of every description, for the Festive Season, which he believes to be unequalled, and defy competition in the North of England

SPECIAL FEATURES.

Excellent Sugar ... 1½d. per lb.
Granulated Sugar ... 2d. ,,
Crystalised Sugar ... 2½d. ,,
Castor Sugar ... 3d. ,,
Finest Loaf Sugar ... 2½d. ,,
Splendid Currants ... 3d. 3½d. and 4d. ,,
Very Fine Valencia Raisins 4d. and 4½d. ,,
Very good Do. ... 3½d. ,,
Very Choice New Sultanas ... 4d. and 5d. ,,
Lemon Peel ... 4½d. and 6d. ,,
Finest Orange and Citron
Tapioca ... 3d. ,,
Finest Patna Rice ... 1½d. and 2d. ,,
Matches (Bryant and May's) 1½d. and 2d. per doz.
Square Blue ... 4½d. per lb.
6d. Tins of Mustard ... 3½d. each.
Black Bullets ... 3d. per lb.
Pure York Mixtures ... 4d. ,,
Best Coloured Sweets ... 3½d. and 4d. ,,
Ground Rice ... 2d. per lb. or 6d. per qr. stone.
Pure Cassia, 1d. per oz. Nutmegs, 3d. per oz.
Crosse and Blackwell's Pickles. Walnuts.

DESSERT FRUITS, &c.
Splendid New Muscatels ... 10d. and 1s. per lb.
Fine New Jordan Almonds... 1s and 1s 2d per lb.
Delicious Figs ... 6½d. per box.
Very Fine Figs ... 3d. per lb.
Prunes ... 5d.
Metz Fruits, in Boxes 6d., 1s., and 1s. 8d. per box.
Barcelona and Brazil Walnuts, Chesnuts, and Cocoa Nuts.
French Apples, Oranges, and Grapes.
Peaches, Apricots, and Bartlet's Pears, in Tins.

SOAPS—PALE, BLUE, &c.
Best Pale Soap ... 2d. and 3d. ,,
Best Grey Mottled Soap ... 2d. and 3d. ,,
Margerison's White Wax and Golden Pale.
Dry Soap ... 1½d. and 2d.
Wax Candles ... 4d. per lb., or 2lb. packets, 7½d.
Relish ... 2d. and 3d. per bottle.
Pickles and Onions, 4½d. per Bottle.
Vinegar, 3d. per quart, or 10d. per gallon.
2lb. Bottles of Plum Jam, and Pure Gooseberry.

TINNED MEATS.
2lb. Tins Roast Beef ... 8d and 9½d. per tin.
,, Corned Beef ... 10d. ,,
,, Tins Rabbit ...
Corned Beef (cut).
Chicken, Ham and Tongue, and Sausage.
Genuine Irish Sausage, 11d. per Tin.
Tins of Sardines ... 4½d. and 9d. per tin.
Tins of Milk ... 2d., 4d., and 5d. ,,
Tomatoes.
1lb. Tins of Lunch Tongue.
Paysandre Ox Tongue.
Salmon—Hume's Crown Brand ... 8½d ,,

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S BISCUITS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
Their Christmas Orient, Ice Cream, Christmas Nuts, and Dessert Biscuits, in Ornamented Tins of New Designs, I can with confidence recommend.

SPLENDID FRUIT LOAVES, ALMOND CAKES, ORNAMENTED BRISTOL CAKES, SNOW CAKES, RICE CAKES, AND GENOA CAKES. ALSO, A MAGNIFICENT SULTANA CAKE, 6d. EACH

A GOOD AND CHEAP BISCUIT.
Tea Biscuits ... 3d. per lb. or 6d. per qr. stone.
Mixed ... 3d. ,,
Ginger Snaps ... 4d. ,,
Lemon Drops ... 4d. per lb.
Currant Drops ... 4d. ,,
Arrowroot Drops ... 6d. ,,

TEA.
Cheapest and Best Tea in the Market.
Challenge Cup ... 2s. 6d. ,,
Nabob ... 3s. 0d. ,,
Empress ... 3s. 4d. ,,
Strong Useful Tea ... 1s. 4d. ,,

COFFEE.
Finest Plantation Coffee (Whole) ... 1s. 8d. per lb.
Franks' Coffee, in ¼lb. & ½lb. Tins ... 4d. and 8d.
Mixture of Chicory and Coffee
Fresh Ground ... 1s. 1s. 2d., and 1s. 4d. per lb.
French Coffees (Sharp's) in Tins
Cocoas—Fry's, Epps', Cadbury's, Van Heughton's.

PROVISIONS.
Extra Choice Butter ... 1s. 4d. per lb.
(This is the finest produced.)
Choice Danish Butter ... 1s. 2d. ,,
Choice Irish Butter ... 1s. ,,
Finest Butterines ... 6d., 8d., and 10d. ,,
Bladder Lard ... 6d ,,
Kit Lard ... 5d. ,,
Cambridge Sausage ... 8d ,,
Finest Hams (Whole) ... 6½d. and 7½d. per lb.
Shoulders (Whole)
Finest American Bacon
Splendid Roll Bacon ... 7d. per lb.
Finest American Cheese ... 6d. and 7d. ,,
Best Dutch Cheese ... 6d. ,,
German Sausage ... 6d. ,,

A SPLENDID STOCK OF CHEESE, INCLUDING ROCHEFORT, GORGONZOLA, STILTON, CHESHIRE, GLO'STER, DERBY, AMERICAN, AND EDAM.
HOME-FED HAMS AND BACON. WILTSHIRE SMOKED HAM.

FLOUR.
Splendid Fines Flour at 1s. 6d. per stone.
Best Superfines at 1s. 8d. per stone.
Finest Hungarian Flour at 1s. 11d. per stone.
Wheat Meal, Whole Meal, Granulated Meal, best Scotch Oatmeal.

FLOUR, &c.
Crushed Oats and Beans, 12st. for 12s. 0d.
Indian Meal, 1s. per stone.
Hen Corn, Rough Barley, Maize, equally low in Price.
Boxings, 9s. 6d. per Bag of 12st.
Bran, 4s. 9d. per sack.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
FRONT TREET, LEADGATE, AND WEST STANLEY.

ECONOMY IN ALES. OCTOBER BREWINGS.
NINE GALLON CASKS.—CASH PRICE.

NINE GALLONS.
Mild Ales ... 10s. 6d., 12s., 13s. 6d.
Bitter Ales ... 10s. 6d., 13s. 6d.
EIGHTEEN GALLONS.
Bass' Indian Pale Ale ... 18 Gallons for 25s., 27s.
Mild Burton ... 18 Gallons for 21s., 24s.

BOTTLED ALES AND STOUT.—PER DOZEN.
	HALF PINTS.	PINTS.		HALF PINTS.	PINTS.
Bass & Co.'s Indian Pale Ale	2s. 0d.	3s. 0d.	Guinness' Invalids' Stout	2s. 0d.	3s. 0d.
Bass & Co.'s Sparkling Mild Ale	1s. 9d.	2s. 8d.	Nourishing Stout	1s. 9d.	2s. 9d.

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

BRITISH WINES.—PER BOTTLE.
Port Wine ... 1s. 0d. | Orange ... 1s. 0d.
Sherry ... 1s. 0d. | Raisin ... 1s. 0d
Tent ... 1s. 0d. | Raspberry ... 1s. 0d
Ginger ... 1s. 0d.

AGENT FOR W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.
PER BOTTLE.
Whiskey, from ... 1s. 9d. to 3s. 6d. | Brandy, from ... 2s. 6d. to 5s 6d
Rum ,, ... 1s. 9d. to 3s. 0d. | Port Wine ,, ... 1s. 0d. to 4s 6d
Gin ,, ... 1s. 6d. to 2s. 10d. | Sherry ,, ... 1s. 0d to 1s. 6d

GOODS DELIVERED DAILY TO ANY PART OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.
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SEASONABLE AND REASONABLE XMAS PRESENTS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.
W. R. HAS just received a large consignment, and is now showing a beautiful Stock of Ties, Collars, Silk Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Kid Gloves, Lined Astrachan Gloves of the latest, Ladies' Bags, Muffs, Fur Capes, Fur Boas, &c., Wool Shawls, Squares, Clouds, and Scarves of every description. New arrival of Fashionable Felt Hats and Caps direct from the factory. Also, Ready-made Overcoats, Cape Overcoats of the Latest Fashion, and to be Sold at Factory Prices. 110 Pairs of Blankets, from 3s 6d per Pair. A large choice of Wools, Yarns, and Fingerings. Special Black at 2½d; sold elsewhere at 3d per Ounce. A large Assortment of Toys.
TWO MINUTES' WALK FROM THE STATION.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
THE OLD FLOOR CLOTH WAREHOUSE,
FOOT OF ARCADE STAIRS,
IS NOW CLOSED.
For nearly thirty years this business has been conducted by Mr. Anderson, sen., in conjunction with Mr Lee and his previous partner; but owing to railway alterations they have been compelled to
REMOVE
TO THE SPACIOUS NEW WAREHOUSE OPPOSITE THE
BLYTH AND TYNE RAILWAY STATION NEW BRIDGE STREET,
NEWCASTLE,
NOW OPEN.
They now thank their numerous Town and Country Patrons for their past favours, and solicit continuance of their support, and beg to assure them that both the quality of their Goods and the price of every article will be worthy of attention and repay an early visit.
N.B.—DURING THE MONTH'S OPENING SALE, in addition to the regular Stock, they will show SEVERAL THOUSAND YARDS of Floor Cloth and Linoleum Remnants, in sizes varying from 1 yard to 12 yards, at greatly reduced prices. ALSO 2-YARDS WIDE OILCLOTHS, FROM 7d. PER YD.
10 PER CENT. DISCOUNT ALLOWED OFF ALL CASH PURCHASES OVER £1, EXCEPT ON REMNANTS.
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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 1888.

LORD ROSEBERY'S reply to Lord Derby's Liverpool speech has excited a commotion in the Unionist camp. There is great anxiety now to shew that on the question whether the Irish representatives should be retained at Westminster in the event of a Home Rule Parliament being established in Dublin, the Unionists have always been unanimous. Lord Rosebery suggested that when Mr. Gladstone's first scheme was under discussion, the Unionists were most eager to prove that, by banishing the Irish members from Westminster, we should practically secure separation. The answer is that at that time it was chiefly necessary to shew the dangers of Mr. Gladstone's proposals, and that the inclusion of the Irish representatives is just as objectionable as their exclusion. This would be plausible enough if the Unionists could convince the public that they have always been agreed. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chamberlain first offered to vote for the second reading of the Home Rule Bill if Mr. Gladstone would promise to keep the Irishmen. He undertook to support a resolution which should simply declare the principle of an Irish Parliament for the control of exclusively Irish affairs. There is no doubt that on these points the Radical Unionists were at issue with Lord Hartington, and it is equally certain that Mr. Chamberlain has receded from the position he took up at the Round Table Conference, when he said that he was in favour of an Irish Parliament and an Irish Executive, and when he was willing to give such a Parliament the large powers enjoyed by the various Legislatures in Canada. Had Mr. Chamberlain adhered to this programme, it is probable that, so far as he and his immediate friends were concerned, a basis of agreement with the Liberal party would have been found. But Lord Hartington and Mr. Bright gave no sign of accord with Mr. Chamberlain's ideas, and since then he has found it expedient to adopt their *non possumus* on every point. It is fair to remember all this when the Unionists tell us that they have never entertained any proposal of an Irish Parliament, and when they quote Mr. Gladstone's authority that the Irish members could not exercise their functions at Westminster for purely Imperial purposes. That, undoubtedly, was Mr. Gladstone's opinion when he framed his bill. It was not the opinion of the great mass of his followers, whose pressure has induced him to reconsider his position, and to pledge himself to give effect when the time comes to the dominant idea. This pledge has done much to strengthen the Home Rule cause, and has unquestionably brought over to Mr. Gladstone numbers of Liberals who either voted against him at the general election, or abstained from the poll. So, waiving their old and very serious differences, the Unionist leaders are now concentrating their hostility on this point. We assume that Mr. Chamberlain will not renew his demand for the retention of the Irish members, though the fact that he once regarded this as the essence of the whole matter must greatly weaken the Unionist assault on Mr. Gladstone's amended plan.

It is taken for granted by our opponents that with a Parliament sitting in Dublin, the Irish members at Westminster would still maintain an unfriendly attitude to the Imperial Government. The idea is that they would always be wanting something more, and would therefore act together just as solidly as they do now. But, as Lord Rosebery says, this is not a very reasonable hypothesis. The Irish Nationalist members will then represent not one party, but two. In the Dublin Parliament there will be Government and Opposition, whose conflicting ideas will inevitably be reproduced by the representatives at Westminster. The whole basis of solidarity will be gone. The motive and the cue for the present irreconcileable attitude towards the English party in power must disappear. If the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament is exercised with discretion, there will be little occasion for a union of the Irish members for the purposes of irritation and obstruction. This, however, is not the point on which the Unionists chiefly rely. They shelter themselves behind Mr. Gladstone's early opinion that the Irish members cannot discharge purely Imperial functions without serious and intolerable disturbance to the Executive. The argument is that it would never do for a Ministry, which had the confidence of the House of Commons on domestic, that is to say, on English, Scotch, and Welsh questions, to be overturned on an Imperial question by the action of the Irish representatives. We have already pointed out that constantly united action on the part of the Irish section is not very probable. But why should not the fate of a Government be decided in such circumstances by Irish votes? What is there so appalling in the idea of the Ministry being thus overturned on a question on which Ireland has as much right to a voice as England or Scotland? Lord Selborne once stood aghast at the prospect of the Irish members "overruling as to questions of peace and war, military and naval establishments, and foreign relations the voices of the majority of the representatives of Great Britain." But that is very nearly the state of things we had two or three years ago. Mr. Gladstone turned out Lord Salisbury with the aid of Mr. Parnell, without which he could not have formed a Government. Had not the Irish question been uppermost, this is just what might have happened with regard to any of the questions which Lord Selborne enumerated as if they were sacred things which an Irish touch would contaminate. We may be reminded that at that time Mr. Gladstone commanded a majority of the representatives of Great Britain; but practically he was powerless without the Irish vote, which might have been exercised to decide peace or war, or any of our foreign relations. This was the result of the ordinary operation of the Constitution and party government, and it is not clear how we should be worse off under a system which might enable the Irish members still to hold the balance of parties on an Imperial issue after the establishment of Home Rule. On what other principle could we act if the Parliament at Westminster represented the federation of the Empire? Suppose colonial representatives sat in an Imperial House of Commons, would it always be impossible to prevent them from deciding the very questions which they were elected to discuss and settle? That the Irish members should not control English and Scotch business, with which they have no concern, is an intelligible and sensible proposition; but to say that they can never be placed in such a position that on their votes shall depend the fate of the Imperial Government on Imperial affairs, is untrue as a matter of history, and unsound as a matter of policy.

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

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers 7½d. and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING AT CASTLESIDE.

On Friday evening, a meeting in furtherance of the candidature of Mr George G. Taylor Smith, J.P., for the Lanchester Division, was held in the Healeyfield and Rowley Board School, Castleside. There was a fair attendance, presided over by Mr T. J. Muse, Castleside House.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he was glad to see a good representative gathering. He felt a little bit in a fix, because both candidates were his personal friends. He had known Mr U. A. Ritson since his boyhood, and had likewise been acquainted with Mr Smith for some years. He (the chairman) found therefore himself upon the horns of a dilemma, (laughter), and he thought of having himself nominated as a candidate and beat them both. (Laughter). He respected both gentlemen, and was only sorry to find them in opposition to one another. He had served a seven years apprenticeship under Mr Taylor Smith on the Lanchester Board of Guardians. He made a splendid chairman—no one could deny that. He not only looked after the interests of the poor, but also saved the pockets of the ratepayers. Many a time had Mr Smith called Guardians to order, and told them that the farmers in the district found the rates a heavy budren. Mr Smith was a thorough gentleman. He (Mr Muse) had always been treated with the greatest kindness by him. He would not say anything against Mr Ritson, and if that gentleman should ever address the electors at Castleside, he would be willing to take the chair. He had received a letter from Mr W. J. Scott, The Sycamores, regretting his inability to attend, owing to a previous engagement, but he had not the slightest doubt that Mr Smith would set forth his views candidly, as a neighbour and friend, and he occupied high positions as a magistrate, and the Chairman of the Lanchester Guardians. Mr Taylor Smith always evinced great interest in the poor, and took care of the ratepayers' money. (Applause). There was also a letter from Mr J. H. Hudson, Castle Dean, who considered Mr Taylor Smith duly entitled to represent the Lanchester Division on the County Council, and he would do his utmost to secure his return. (Applause).

Mr TAYLOR SMITH, who was enthusiastically applauded, then introduced himself as a candidate for the Council. They would probably be aware, he said, of the duties devolving upon that body, and it was really a question of the County Council hereafter performing the functions of the magistrates in Quarter Sessions. If he did not answer their purposes as a Councillor, they could give him his mittimus at the expiration of three years, and they could elect a more suitable representative, if they could possibly get one. It was their duty to choose between himself and his opponent. The Quarter Sessions had not the whole of the power in their hands. The Guardians had a great deal to do, in the levying of rates and assessing the value of farms and houses. During the seven years he had officiated as Chairman of the Guardians, he had striven to do justice to all classes, irrespective of persons or positions. He therefore asked the electors to return him as their candidate, because he had honourably, straightforwardly, and punctitiously carried out everything connected with his public duties; and it was still his intention to fulfil his functions to the extreme point it was possible for mortal man to do. (Applause). If elected, he would still have additional work placed upon his shoulders, and he was quite able and willing to do so. He had a large share of the work to perform in connection with the Board of Guardians, but he did so because he knew it was for the benefit of the general public of the district, and he had some interest, some knowledge of their affairs. He knew that poor farmers had great difficulty in paying their rates, and he was exceedingly sorry that the agricultdral industry had been so depressed this past few years. Now that trade was beginning to revive, however, he trusted that farming would again become as prosperous as it was seven or eight years ago. (Applause). Perhaps some present did not know him, but they must have read in the public press what his duties had been in the past, and how he had discharged them. They would observe that he was constantly at his post, and ready for any emergency which might arise for the benefit of the people. They must certainly know his name, and so long as that name existed, he hoped they would never have a worse representative of it than himself. It would always be his aim to keep down the rates, but he was afraid their burdens would be increased by the operation of the Council Councils, inasmuch as the High Sheriff of the county had asked and obtained a grant from the Quarter Sessions for £1,200 for the purpose of conducting Council elections. Members would only remain in office for three years, and would have to stand the test of the ballot again. He urged that politics or religion should never be mentioned in connection with this election; he would beg of his supporters to eschew such matters *in toto*. He had known his opponent (Mr Ritson) very well for years, and he would not abuse him in any shape or form. Still some of his actions were public property, and ought therefore to be criticised. This gentleman claimed to be a large ratepayer; it was the miners of the district who were the ratepayers, and not Mr Ritson. He had a coalfield taken at Burnhope, and it the coal was exhausted to-morrow, he would leave without even saying "Good-bye" to the people he was at present taking so much interest in. Many of his houses at Burnhope, called a "square," which it was really not, were in such a wretched and dilapidated condition, that he had heard that one or two had blown down. His dwellings were not fit for human beings to live in. All Mr Ritson's actions tended to show that he meant to get as much money out of this district as he possibly could, and then he would remove to other quarters. Mr Ritson was a colliery owner; while he (Mr Smith) was a coal-owner. Mr Ritson lived at Jesmond, and came out about once a week to transact business at Burnhope. The only times he saw Mr Ritson in Lanchester were about once a fortnight. He himself lived amongst them, and had worked hard for the ratepayers in the past. If returned, it would be his constant endeavour to watch the interests and well-being of the ratepayers of that division.

The CHAIRMAN broached the subject of the opening of the old station at Consett Junction, and explained that the inhabitants of Castleside had made several futile attempts to have this privilege conceded to them. As the matter would come under the jurisdiction of the County Council, he trusted that their representative would use his utmost endeavours to get the station re-opened.

Mr W. PATTINSON asked whether, in the event of the liquor question coming under the control of the Council, Mr Smith would vote for the Sunday Closing of public-houses?

Mr SMITH answered that that was a very wide question, but in the past he had always carried out the wishes of the majority of the ratepayers. If the people were in favour of Sunday Closing he would certainly vote for it when the opportunity arose. (Applause.)

Mr PATTINSON: Are you in favour of electing aldermen from amongst the councillors, or would you select gentlemen outside?

Mr SMITH stated that he would certainly choose an alderman from the elected representatives of the people. (Applause.)

Mr T. DUCKWORTH referred to the inadequate railway provision for that district, there being only four trains running each way per diem. Would Mr Smith, if returned, support a proposal for re-opening the station at Consett Junction?

Mr SMITH: If it is for the good of the ratepayers, I shall certainly do so. (Applause.)

Mr PATTINSON explained that he asked the questions in the interests of the public, and not from personal motives.

Mr SMITH hoped that he had answered the interrogations plainly and straightforwardly. There was a great diversity of opinion as to whether public-houses should be opened or shut up on Sundays. From enquiries, however, he had learnt that the majority of innkeepers were in favour of compulsory closing; but it was a question which ought to be decided by the ratepayers, and he would certainly be guided by their opinions.

Mr JOHN COPELAND briefly moved a resolution affirming that Mr Taylor Smith was a fit candidate for the representation of the division.

Mr E. LEYBOURNE, in seconding, remarked that he had known Mr Smith since a young fellow, and had always found him straightforward, independent, and an upright gentleman in all his official capacities. In addition to being a magistrate and a Guardian, Mr Smith was a member of the Highway Board, and was therefore conversant with the maintenance of roads, footpaths, and bridges. If the ratepayers were in favour of the Local Option, he believed that Mr Smith would be quite ready to vote for that scheme. (Mr SMITH: Hear, hear.)

Mr JOHN ORR, Annfield Plain (President of the Durham Colliery Mechanics' Association), spoke in support of the proposition. He made a most effective and telling speech in furtherance of the candidature of Mr Taylor Smith, and in a striking manner contrasted the claims of that gentleman with those of Mr Ritson, who was virtually unknown to the bulk of the electors. He spoke in the most eulogistic terms of the past conduct of Mr Taylor Smith in the promotion of the social, moral, and religious status of the people, while he denounced Mr Ritson, as an employer of labour, for having neglected the humane duty of looking after the wellfare of his workpeople, and allowing them to live in squalid houses, which had to be propped up to keep them from falling down. If Mr Ritson was so jealous of the interests of the working classes, as he now professed to be, why had he missed so many opportunities in the past? They had only Mr Ritson's promises of what he proposed to do, but they knew full well, by the past conduct of Mr Taylor Smith, what he intended to carry out. He was aware the people of Castleside possessed sufficient common sense and intelligence to discern who would make the best representative to guard their interests, and counselled them plump for Mr Taylor Smith. (Applause).

Before the resolution was put, Mr PATTINSON stated that the audience would like to hear the views of Mr Ritson before pledging themselves to any course of action.

Mr ORR explained that the simple fact of voting for the proposition did not bind any gentleman to vote for either candidate.

The resolution was then put and carried.

The successful proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

MEETING AT CORNSAY COLLIERY.

On Friday evening, a meeting was held in the British Schools, Cornsay Colliery, in support of Col. Leadbitter Smith's candidature for the Esh Division, on whose behalf canvassing has been energetically proceeded with. The Cornsay Brass Band played through the village. Mr P. Kirkup occupied the chair, and notwithstanding it was "cavilling" night, a goodly number of ratepayers were present. He was supported by Messrs J. C. Raine, Hodgson, Todd, and others.

The COLONEL said he could scarcely find words to sufficiently express his gratitude for the way he had been received. He felt a deep appreciation of those martial strains, as they were very inspiriting and encouraging to him under the present circumstances. It would be impossible for him to make a lengthy speech, and he therefore claimed their indulgence, as he was not enjoying very good health. Having referred to the duties imposed upon the County Council, he went on to speak of the enormous number of cases of insanity which, he regretted, were of rather a serious nature, as the Asylum was found insufficiently commodious for their reception, as cases had to be transferred to the adjoining counties. He hoped that such a state of affairs would not continue. He observed certain pieces of roads in the immediate neighbourhood that were not in a very good condition. Were he elected, he should advocate the necessity of each district being self-supporting, which would confine each individual member to look after his own roads and bridges. He most certainly would, were he elected, bring these pieces of roads before the County Council, and see they were entirely changed for the future. (Applause). The Colonel commented at great length on the duties of the county analyist, which, he said, was a very important matter, as it related to articles of food which were by them more or less consumed. Politics were in no way connected with this matter, the duties of a Member of Parliament being entirely different. Therefore, his antagonist could not gain them any particular advantage. Mr Forster was a man for whom he entertained the highest respect, and therefore he was in no way prejudiced against his opponent, though undoubtedly he (the Colonel) had received a better education than him. In making reference to Mr Forster's address, he found his opponent had said it was a very satisfactory Act, but he regretted it did not go half far enough. However, it embraced many important matters. Mr Forster had also stated that it rested with the electors whether the measure be extended or not. He (the speaker) thought his opponent wished to convey the idea that were he elected the Act or privileges would not be extended. Mr Forster had said that he knew that he (Col. Smith) did not care to represent the Division. He thought sufficient evidence was given when he had come forward and asked them for their suffrages. As he had commenced the campaign, he should certainly continue to the end. Notwithstanding it had been reported he was "caving in," as he knew some of Mr Forster's friends were present, he wished them to understand he was not at all vanquished. Mr Forster had in one of his speeches, said he wished it to be understood he did not wish to ask any person for anything, whereupon a gentleman sitting in the audience rose up and interrupted him, asking him if he had not said at the outset that he wanted £5 to commence with. (Applause.) He (the Colonel) would give them a guarantee that not a single coin should come out of their pockets were he elected to the position. He urged upon all men, whoever they might vote for, to come to the poll and record their vote. He noticed that ladies in some instances possessed the qualification. He hoped that those in the assembly would wield their influence to attract them to record their vote in his behalf. (Applause.) He had not attended to his duties regularly as a magistrate, for he thought it was unnecessary. But were he elected he most assuredly should attend every meeting if health permitted him, as he had quite sufficient time at his disposal. He should endeavour to serve their interests as a servant, wherein he hoped to give them satisfaction. But should they deem Mr Forster a better man, and he beat him at the poll, he (the Colonel) should always respect him so long as he spoke of him in a non-acrimonious spirit. (Applause.)

Mr CHEEK: Will you vote for Sunday Closing?

The COLONEL would be glad to answer the question if it comes within the confines of the County Council at some future time.

Mr HODGSON said unfortunately he was like the Colonel, as he had not the "gift of the gab." He thought the Colonel, though not so fluent at the commencement, became very eloquent as he went on. But the thing they were to do was to put the right man in the right place. (Applause.) He thought they could not get a better man to look after the roads and bridges, as he (the Colonel) had to travel over them. He (Mr Hodgson) hoped one thing he would not have to do for them—that was to grant them a ticket for the lunatic asylum. (Laughter.) He made the remark because he thought the Colonel saw a strong proclivity of some of them going insane. (Laughter.) With respect to the ladies to whom he urged upon them to use their endeavours to induce them to give him their vote, he (the speaker) thought he had only to show his face and there would be no difficulty with respect to them. He moved that the Colonel was a fit and person to represent them on the County Council.

Mr J. G. THOMPSON seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr J. C. RAINE.

Mr CHEEK said he had known Mr E. Forster for 15 years, and thought him a very intelligent and fit man to represent them. The Colonel attended to Mr Forster's speech with respect to the Act. Mr Forster had truly remarked that the Act was defective. He (Mr Cheek) had read of members of the House of Commons who asserted that it might be greatly improved. With respect to the question resting with the electors. Mr Forster simply meant they could exercise their influence with labour representatives until they succeeded in getting the measure amended. Mr Forster was always ready to come forward in the working-men's behalf, and at present was a member of the Miner's Federation Board. Likewise with regard to the Assessment of Poor Rates, he thought there was reason for complaint when the poor man who possessed a four-roomed house was rated £7, and rich men in some instances £3 10s for the same. (Applause). Langley Park Co-operative Store as well as Esh during the past year the rates have been considerably increased, while the colliery he was working at was reduced.

Mr J. T. TODD, manager, in reply said, perhaps the speaker was not aware the colliery was upon the output of coals, and in consequence, rose and fell. With reference to Langley Park Co-operative Store the plant had been greatly extended.

Mr CHEEK moved an amendment "That Mr Forster was a fit and proper person to represent them."

This being secconded.

The CHAIRMAN put the resolution.

For Mr Cheek's amendment, five votes. Mr Hodgson's motion, nearly unanimous.

THE AMBULANCE MOVEMENT.

WESTWOOD BRANCH.—A largely attended meeting of the above branch of this association was held in the Co-operative Hall, Westwood. Mr H. W. Watson, J.P., occupied the chair. Dr Marshall, of Blackhall Mill, dealt with the "Structure and function of the human body." After the lecture a number of bandages were applied to boys by some of the pupils, which caused great amusement, and questions were put by Dr Marshall to the pupils as to how they ought to act, and were answered in good style.

WOLSINGHAM. — The Wolsingham detached classes underwent a successful examination, under the directorship of Dr Radcliffe-Gaylard. The pupils, numbering 38 males and 18 females, all passed. The Examiner expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with the degree of excellence attained, which reflects most creditably on the diligent labours of the lecturer, Dr T. V. Devey.

STANHOPE. — At a meeting of the General Committee of the Stanhope Ambulance Classes—the Bishop of Penrith presiding—a resolution was passed to form the classes into a permanent ambulance corps, and that the members meet every fortnight, on the Wednesday after the pay, at the new bank, which will be open from six to nine. The number of members passed is 61. The classes for women number about 56, and the Wednesday lecture finishes the course.

Christmas Festivities

HEDLEY HILL.—A highly instructive and amusing entertainment was held in the Wesleyan Chapel on Saturday evening, Mr George Walton presiding. Recitations were given by Misses E. Phillipson, E. J. Davison, and E. Hutchinson, and Messrs Thos. Walker and A. H. Walton; piano solos and duets by M. C. Barron and T. G. Barron. Master John Barron sung "Just before the battle, mother," in an effective style and Mr J. Barron gave a reading, entitled "The two waifs," in a pleasing and pathetic manner.

WEARDALE.—Christmas morn broke clear and fine in Weardale, with a slight frost, crisp roads, and a bracing air. At Stanhope it was ushered in by a merry peal of bells from the old church tower, followed by the sweet strains of Stanhope Saxhorn Band in the Market Place. The day wore the aspect of a proper Sabbath day, all work being suspended. Throughout the dale Christmas was made the occasion of various chapel and school efforts. Services were held in the various churches. Stanhope and Frosterley bands played at the farmsteads around the neighbourhood. A coffee supper, tea, and bazaar were held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Stanhope, opened out by Mr G. Race, Westgate. A concert and coffee-supper were held in Eastgate Wesleyan Chapel. The inmates of Stanhope Workhouse were regaled with roast beef and plum pudding, nuts, oranges, &c., being distributed among them at the expense of a gentleman at Bishop Auckland, who had forwarded £20 in notes for their Christmas cheer anonymously. Football was largely indulged in by the different Stanhope teams in their respective fields. In the afternoon, showers of hail and sleet came down copiously, which towards evening changed to rain, with a stiff so'wester. In Weardale Christmas is observed as a time of family reunions and gatherings. The families who are scattered, gather from various parts of the country at the old homestead to spend Christmas, so that it is looked forward to with more than usual interest. Most of the sacred edifices were nicely decorated, Heathery Cleugh Church being conspicuous in this respect. A spelling bee was held at St. John's Chapel Reading Room on Christmas Eve. The Lanehead Wesleyan Society gave their annual concert, consisting of dialogues, &c., on Christmas night.

TREAT TO THE CHILDREN OF KYO SCHOOLS.—Anyone wending their way along the road in front of the Kyo Schools at Kyo, Annfield Plain, and Oxhill the other day would be struck with the sight of all the children of these schools engaged in eating oranges. Mr G. Hobson, Harperley Mill, bestowed his usual magnificent gift upon the children. This is the second year that Mr Hobson has behaved so generously, and we think if he could have seen the happy faces from Annfield Plain school and heard the pleasant remark respecting his bounty he would have been amply repaid. We trust that this is only the beginning of such gifts to the school children, and that it will stimulate others to follow the principles of Mr Hobson.

PRIMROSE CONCERT AT PELTON.—On Wednesday evening, an invitation concert was held in the Parochial School-room, when the large building was crowded, nearly 250 ladies and gentlemen being present. To Mrs Andrews, Dame President, must be given the praise of originating and carrying out so successfully the evening's entertainment. The platform was beautifully decorated. Mr John Tate, Ruling Councillor, presided, and expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large attendance. An excellent programme was submitted by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mrs Ames, Miss L. Fenwick, the Misses Maclean; Messrs R. Burn, F. Maclean, Richardson, and T. Fenwick. Every item was most artistically rendered.

WOLSINGHAM.—In connection with the Baptist Sunday-school anniversary services a public tea was held on Christmas Day, at which there was a large attendance. In the evening, a public meeting was held, when addresses were delivered by Revs G. Samuel, M.A., Tow Law, and S. Miles, Wolsingham. Glees and anthems were sung by the choir. under the leadership of Mr M. Wharton, and recitations were given by the scholars. Rev R. Scott (pastor) presided.—Service was held in St. Matthew's Church on Christmas morning, when Chancellor Espin preached. The edifice was tastefully decorated with holly and evergreens.

TOW LAW.—The annual tea meeting of the Wesleyan Vigilance Band was held on Christmas Day in the schools, and at night a public meeting took place.—The Primitive Methodists held a Christmas tree and sale of work in their chapel, the proceeds being in aid of the chapel funds.—During the day bands of singers and also the brass bands of the Salvation Army and Mission Society discoursed music through the streets.

BLANCHLAND ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROSECUTION OF FELONS.—The members of the Blanchland Association for the Prosecution of Felons held their annual supper on Christmas Eve at Mrs Imison's, Lord Crewe's Arms, when the whole of the members, numbering 11, attended, consisting chiefly of the farmers and tradesmen in the locality.—The Secretary (Mr J. Morpeth) made the usual announcement that after settling for the excellent supper they had enjoyed, there remained a balance of 2s 3d in the society's favour, which would be carried to next year's account. The society continues to be patronised by Lord Crewe's trustees and Mr Ed. Joicey, and is of considerable standing, having been established before the extension of the police to the country, though its use is now apparently absolete. After spending an agreeable evening without toast, song, or speech, save that of "Her Majesty the Queen," the company dispersed.

LANGLEY PARK. — On Friday last, on the occasion of the "breaking up" of the British Schools at Langley Park, Mr and Mrs Logan, of Stobilee House, presented each of the 400 children with a Christmas card.

GREENCROFT BOARD SCHOOLS.—The members of the above Board with Mr W. J. Mackay, head-master, and his teaching staff, invited the children and their parents to the School-room. Messrs H. Greener and W. Rutherford distributed handsome book prizes to 150 boys and girls for good attendance. During the present year some of the children have been present the full number of days the school has been open, and many of them put in more than 400 attendances.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—The Christmas holidays and festivities really began on Saturday, when there was an immense influx of people from the surrounding districts. All the shopkeepers and tradesmen made a brave show. The butchers, as usual, coming in for a special share of inspection and commendation. Mr Thomas Punshon had a particularly fine display of pork, geese, turkeys, ducks, and poultry, which excited the admiration of all comers. Mr Charles Robson, Mrs Usher, and Mrs Henderson had all grand displays of beef and mutton; the first-named shewing some prime heifer beef from the lairs of Lambton, the Birtley Iron Company, and the Duke of Sutherland.—On Christmas eve, the various innkeepers entertained their friends and customers at suppers of more or less magnitude; the chief displays being made by Mrs McLean, Crown Inn; Mr T. Burn, Lambton Arms; Mr Harry Lamb, King's Head; and Mr George R. Turnbull, Queen's Head, whose "spirits" were of the most lavish and hospitable character.—Christmas morning broke bright and beautiful, with just a slight frost, sufficient to make the air enjoyable and healthy. A fine day ensued, until late in the afternoon when rain fell heavily, putting a stop to further out-door pleasures. In the early hours of the morning, the choirs of the various places of worship paraded the town, singing Christmas carols and sacred music. The usual Christmas services were held in the Parish Church during the morning. A Band of Hope anniversary was held at the Methodist Meeting House, followed by a fruit banquet and a public meeting, addressed by Mr Thomas Beckwith, of Newcastle.—The Primitive Methodists held their annual bazaar, fancy fair, and sale of work, at their School-room and in the Mechanics' Hall. — The inmates of the Workhouse were sumptuously regaled with roast beef and plum pudding; ale also being served out to the adults. Several Guardians, and ladies and gentlemen assisted at the dinner.—At White Hill Hall, on Wednesday, the tenantry and servants on Col. Fife-Cookson's estate, together with a number of friends and tradespeople from Chester-le-Street, were entertained at dinner, by Mr Mason Watson, agent for the estate, in the unavoidable absence of the Colonel, who is abroad.—On the same day, on behalf of Col. Fife-Cookson, Mr William Taylor, of Red Rose Hall, distributed half-a-crown each to seventy poor people in Chester-le-Street.

BENEFIT CONCERT AND PRESENTATION AT BIRTLEY.—On Christmas Eve, a concert was given in the Co-operative Hall, the object being to raise a few pounds for the purpose of assisting Thomas Poole, who has been disabled from work for several months, and also to present to Algernon Stanley a silver watch and guard for his accomplishments as an athlete in connection with his identity with the Birtley Football Club. A considerable sum had been subscribed, and a handsome present was secured and high tribute paid to his footballing abilities.—Mr J. Todd made the presentation, and his remarks were supplemented by Dr D. Wilson, both gentlemen testifying to his successful athletic performances. The concert was financially a success, and a sum amounting to some £6 nett was realised. The vocalists were all local performers, including Mr J. Coult, comic; Mr O. Biggins, Mr A. Marshall, Miss Edgar and others, Mrs Frazer acting as accompanist. The Birtley Choral Society (consisting of male voices only, and making their first public *debut*) made a favourable impression, and enhanced the enjoyment of the evening.

BIRTLEY.—There is one feature in connection with the Christmas festivities which has for many years been the most prominent one here, and that is, the holding of the annual temperance demonstration in connection with the temperance society identified with the Primitive Methodist denomination. As on previous years, the gathering was a very successful one. No one can doubt the amount of labour expended in carrying out this particular *fete*, and Birtley folk would soon begin to wonder if in the afternoon the drum and fife band was not parading the principal thoroughfares, headed by two of its oldest members in Mr G. Melville and Mr G. Heppell, and the indispensible Samuel McAdams, who marshals and leads the band. A capital tea was served up to over 200 people in the Primitive Methodist School-room, the ladies presiding at the tables being Misses Marshall, Cummings, Henderson, Patilla, and Liddle, with elderly ladies assisting in the persons of Mesdames Melville, Banks, and Atkinson. A capital miscellaneous entertainment was given by the members of the above society, the building being crowded. The programme consisted of part-songs, solos, trios, and recitations, the principal contributors being Miss Edgar, Ryle, Miss Knox, Gateshead, whose singing and reciting were exceptional; Mr J. E. Watson, on the English concertina, and an address by the circuit minister, Rev J. Taylor. A capital dialogue was given by seven characters, entitled "Lawyer Charjum and his clients," and contributed largely to the humorous side of the programme. One of the most interesting features was the presentation of a writing-desk to Mr Wm. Bruce for his long services to the temperance cause, his kindly disposition and ungrudging services being appreciated by all. Mr F. Knox (president) made the presentation, and detailed the amount of respect and worth of the recipient.—Mr Bruce, in accepting the present, reviewed his long connection with them, and said he would treasure it and would continue to serve the interests of such a great and good cause.—Mr Cooper followed with a capital song, and shortly afterwards the programme was exhausted.

STANHOPE.—The Primitive Methodists of Stanhope held a bazaar on Christmas Day, for the sale of useful and ornamental goods, in the school-room, Mr G. Race, Westgate, performed the opening ceremony. The bazaar was a great success, nearly all the goods being sold. Mr Race gave a donation of £1. The sewing meetings held preparatory to it, realised the sum of £54.

CONCERT AT STANHOPE.—A grand concert was held in the Town Hall, Stanhope, on Friday night, on behalf of Stanhope band. The artistes were principally local. An excellent programme was efficiently rendered. There was only a moderate attendance. Mr W. M. Egglestone presided.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.—On Saturday night, the members of the "Cornsay tradesmen's yearly society," held their annual supper and concert, at Mrs Lakey's, Royal Oak Inn. Dr Mackey, of Esh Hall, was elected to the chair, and Dr Kirkland Quebec, to the vice-chair. There was a good attendance of members who were entertained to a most excellent repast Mr J. Mace, hon. sec., presented the annual report, which showed the strength of the society to be highly satisfactory. There was a balance in hand, which would allow a dividend of 8s 6d being paid. The Vice-Chairman felt it incumbent upon him to ask them to drink "Success to the club." Considering it was the celebration of the first annual feast, and the very handsome dividend for a yearly club, he hoped it would go on and prosper. Other toasts were also given. Mr Minto presided at the piano, and songs were contributed by Messrs Alknow, A. Coates, R. Ainsley, J. Ainsley, M. Golightly, H. Robinson, J. Hardy, A. Love, T. Mobray and others.

CONSETT MILLWRIGHTS' SUPPER.

On Saturday night, the millwrights in the employment of the Consett Iron Company held their second annual supper at the Bee Hive Inn, Consett, about 30 persons sitting down to a splendid repast, provided by the genial host and hostess (Mr and Mrs Alex. Parker). Afterwards, Mr Marshall was called upon to preside, while Mr Charman took the vice-chair.—The Chairman proposed the customary loyal toast, and expressed his regret that the foremen (Messrs Scott and Knifton) were not present.—These compliments were received with enthusiasm. — Mr Dodds submitted "The town and trade of the district," and dwelt upon the increased prosperity which had prevailed during the past 12 months.—Mr Lamb responded, and said that although he was not connected with the millwrights, he was happy to be amongs them at their annual *reunion*.—The Chairman afterwards submitted "The health of the Manager of the Consett Iron Company." He remarked that Mr Jenkins was exceedingly kind to them last year, and doubtless he would have accorded them every support, had they required it, on the present occasion.—The toast was pledged with musical honours.—Mr Carlisle gave "The health of Messrs Scott and Knifton," and Mr M. Simpson supported the proposition.—The Chairman next proposed "The Consett Iron Company," and spoke upon the improvement which was apparent in trade prospects during the past few months, when business was brisk and flourishing, the people of Consett reaped the benefits thereof.—Mr A. Parker supported the proposal, and averred that so long as the staple trades were in a prosperous condition, there need not be any fear but what Consett would be in a flourishing state, as the Company was so admirably managed, that they could not help but secure their share of orders. (Applause).—The Chairman favoured with "The healths of the host and hostess, coupled with the name of Mr M. Martin (waiter)," and congratulated those persons upon the able manner in which they had accommodated the company. The toast was acknowledged by Messrs Parker and Martin.—Some capital songs were sung during the evening by Messrs Lamb, Thorpe, Fenwick, Henderson, M. Simpson, Carlisle, Davison, N. Close, &c. Mr Parker performed on the violin, while Messrs Close and Thorpe displayed their skill with the bones.

LANCHESTER WORKHOUSE.

The annual festivities took place in this Institution at Lanchester, on Christmas Day. Through the generosity of the Board of Guardians, every man, woman and child (to the number of about 180) within the precincts of the House, were regaled with their customary old English fare of roast beef and plum pudding. The meat was supplied from the establishment of Mr Alex. Barrass, butcher, Highgate (the contractor for the present half-year), and its quality could not be surpassed. All present remarked that the beef was really excellent. A quantity of ale (the gift of Mr Richard Murray, Benfieldside), was also allowed the adults. The tasty and substantial repast was followed by a plentiful distribution of tobacco, pipes, oranges, sweetmeats, nuts, &c., the Guardians and private donors subscribing £4 10s towards the subscription of toys and seasonable delicacies. Mr W. M. Annandale, of Lintzford, also forwarded his usual subscription of £1 1s to be applied to that purpose. Miss De Pledge personally presented a Christmas card to each child, while Mr Robert Jackson, proprietor of the *Consett Guardian*, sent a similar card for every inmate of the Workhouse. Hearty cheers were accorded to the Guardians, the donors, and the affable Master and Matron (Mr and Mrs Brotherhood), and the assistant Matron (Miss Brooks). Amongst the company present were:—Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P., and Miss De Pledge, Satley; Rev F. W. Glyn (chaplain) and Mrs Glyn; Messrs W. Logan (vice-chairman), George Hobson, J. Cumming (treasurer), Jonathan Wall, T. Sadler, (station master), R. Allan, Inland Revenue Officer, Lanchester, R. Darling, Annfield Plain, T. Wilson, Ornsby Hill, Mrs, Miss, and Master Hartley, The Ford, Mrs Morgan, Sunderland, Mr J. Whitfield, Annfield Plain W. Eales Consett, A. Barrass, Highgate, Mrs Reed and Miss Waugh, Lanchester, Mrs Maltby, Sawley, Lancashire, &c.

During the course of the proceedings, Rev J. P. De Pledge, M.A., proposed "The health of the Master and Matron." He made a pathetic allusion to the severe loss sustained within the past fortnight, of two *ex-officio* Guardians, Mr Wm Hedley and Mr Jonathan Priestman. It was very gratifying to him, to be present on that festive occasion, and he was always pleased with the admirable internal arrangements of the Workhouse. He remembered the time when it was not always a pleasure to come to the Workhouse—rather the reverse—or even to attend the Guardians meeting, owing to the incompetency of their officers. He was glad, however, that the times had altered for the better. There had been great changes wrought in the offices of Clerk to the Union and Master of the House. With regard to the master, they possessed in Mr Brotherhood a most able and experienced officer—a person who had been subjected to strict discipline himself for many years, and whose training in the police force had admirably fitted him for the capacity he now occupied. (Hear.) He (Mr De Pledge) knew that their Workhouse was better governed than any other Institution in the district. (Applause.) The discipline maintained by the Master and Matron was simply marvellous. They not only gave directions to those under their charge, but they both possessed the fact of seeing that their orders were obeyed with promptitude and alacrity. Without discipline, it would be impossible to manage an Institution of that description. There was not the slightest doubt but that Mr Brotherhood's early training had enabled him to preserve such excellent discipline and order. He (the rev. speaker), along with other Guardians, particularly interested themselves in the selection of the Workhouse Master at that period. He proceeded to Newcastle, and received a most excellent character of Mr Brotherhood from Captain Nichols. Canon Kearney also made similar enquiries, and this gentleman visited the house, and seemed to be highly pleased with the appearance and demeanour of Mr Brotherhood. A man could not manage a Workhouse like that unless he possessed a good wife. (Applause.) The Guardians then formed an opinion that the appointment of Mr and Mrs Brotherhood would be a lasting change. Canon Kearney, himself, and others took some little credit for their fortunate selection, which was only done after mature consideration. They had seen no reason to regret the appointment which was not lightly made, inasmuch as they felt it would be better to have a first-class officer, in whom they could place implicit confidence, than to fix upon a person whom they could not trust. The rev. gentlemen then dwelt upon the present internal arrangements of the Workhouse, which were really perfect and satisfactory, and contrasted its condition with the general appearance of the place prior to the advent of Mr and Mrs Brotherhood. Everything was clean, comfortable, and tidy, and complete order reigned on every hand. There was no eye service about the Master or Matron; let them visit the House whenever they liked, every arrangement would be utterly perfect. (Applause.)

Mr G. HOBSON cordially endorsed the utterances of the preceding speaker, and the toast was pledged with enthusiasm.

Mr BROTHERHOOD responded on behalf of his wife and himself, and tendered his warmest thanks to the speakers for the compliments they had paid him, and also to the company for toasting their healths. He said that matters were very different now to the state of things existing when he came to the Institution 11 years ago. At that period there was neither discipline or decorum. He had, however, succeeded in bringing order out of chaos. He confirmed the remarks of Mr De Pledge as to the discipline he was under in early life having adapted him to the management of that Workhouse, and averred that he would always strive to fulfil his duty to the best of his ability, both to the inmates under his charge and the ratepayers at large. Neither Mrs Brotherhood or himself deserved the credit for having developed the Institution into its present standard of perfection; they were greatly indebted to the liberality of the Guardians in their efforts to improve the condition of the Workhouse. (Applause.)

Mr HOBSON thought that a meed of praise was due to Mrs Brotherhood for the efficient manner in which she had assisted the Master, and the company heartily supported this observation.

The dining-room and other places in the House were splendidly decorated with holly and evergreens, intermingled with appropriate mottos and texts.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

On the evening of Christmas Day in the Wesleyan Chapel, Leadgate, a grand sacred concert was given by the choir, under the efficient conductorship of Mr J. Davison. There was a large attendance, and the gathering was presided over by Mr E. B. Foster. — The Chairman said it was quite unnecessary for him to say anything of a flattering character with regard to the singers, as he was assured they would on this, as on all former occasions, maintain their reputation as a first-class choir.—In opening the programme, the choir gave an anthem, "Hosannah," in which they acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of the audience. Mr G. Hedley came next with a solo, "Waft her angels," for which he was vociferously applauded. The trio, "Rest for the weary," was rendered by Misses Whitfield and Boustead and Mr J. Robson, and was followed by an anthem by the choir, "The earth is the Lord's." Mr J. Steward sang very creditably the solo, "But Thou did'st not leave," and the choir followed with the anthem, "In Jewry is God known." The piece of the evening was a duet by the Misses Bell, "O lovely peace," and was enthusiastically *encored*, the audience being favoured with a repetition of the piece. The first part of the programme was concluded by the chorus, "O Father, whose almighty power," for which the choir received much applause.—During the interval, the Chairman made a few appropriate remarks anent Christmastide. He dilated upon the lowly birth of Christ, His humble parentage, and the untold blessing resulting from the coming of the promised Messiah, and expressed a fervent hope that ere long the whole world would be converted to Christianity.—On the re-appearance of the choir, they rendered the anthem, "Praise ye the Lord," in a praiseworthy manner, being followed by a solo, "Lord have mercy," by Mr G. Hedley, who did full justice to his task. Miss Bousfield won a loud and enthusiastic *encore* for the solo, "Lord, Thou hast been." Mr J. W. Hedley gave an organ solo in a manner which reflected upon him the utmost credit. Miss Bell next sang the beautiful piece (Handel's) "I know that my Redeemer liveth," which was received with a hearty outburst of approbation. The solo, "Lord remember David," was sung in first-class style by Mr Bartle, and the programme was concluded by the chorus, "Great and wonderful, and hallelujah!" after which, the meeting having been duly closed, the company dispersed. Mr George Hedley ably presided at the organ.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pill, will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s1½d, and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

DEATH OF
MR JON. PRIESTMAN, J.P.
THE FOUNDER OF CONSETT.

The grim destroyer—Death—has been unusually busy this last few days in removing some of the most notable and distinguished personages from our midst. Scarcely has the grave closed over all that was mortal of the genial and amiable Mr Wm. Hedley, J.P., of Burnhopeside Hall, when the painful duty is cast upon us of chronicling an event which has caused widespread sorrow and regret throughout the North of England. The trying climate experienced during the past few days has carried off Mr Jonathan Priestman, J.P., of Derwent Lodge, Shotley Bridge, who was certainly the most conspicuous of our public men in North West Durham. His demise was as sudden as it was unexpected. Mr Priestman literally worked in harness up to the time of his decease. He attended the Consett Police Court a fortnight ago, and the Friday preceding his death he was occupied for three-and-a-half hours at a meeting of the Benfieldside School Board. The previous Thursday he drove to his collieries, and, it being a very wintry day, he caught a cold, which was aggravated in the performance of his public and private duties on the following day. On the Saturday he was apparently quite well at his usual business among the Quayside merchants. On the Sunday afternoon he was out walking near his country residence; at night he complained of a chill. He was also unwell when he was present at divine service at Benfieldside Parish Church. In the evening pleurisy set in, and since Tuesday week he had been confined to his bed. He was attended by Drs George Renton, Consett, and R. C. Richards, Shotley Bridge. After that he was attacked by inflammation of the lungs, and his condition became so serious that on Thursday Dr Drummond, physician, Newcastle, was summoned, as well as his old medical adviser, Dr Wm. M. Renton, Chester-le-Street. These professional gentlemen found him in a very critical condition, and gave up all hope of his recovery unless there was a change within 48 hours. He gradually became worse, suffering intense agony, and expired at 10-30 on Friday night. The deceased, who was 63 years of age, has left a widow, three daughters, and two sons behind. Mr Priestman's age and constitution were unequal to the struggle with this insidious disease. His now bereaved widow and family were with him to the last. Till shortly before death ensued he was sensible, spoke to his family, and made dispositions in the full knowledge of his approaching end.

EARLY LIFE.

The deceased gentleman, who was born at Summerhill House, Newcastle (now the site of St. Matthew's Church), on December 15th, 1825, was the younger of two sons of Mr Jonathan Priestman, Benwell House, near Newcastle, and his father was a very influential citizen of Newcastle, being engaged in the tannery business, and specially in the production of Morocco and other fancy leathers, a calling which he followed with considerable success. Deceased's elder brother, Hadwin joined the "great majority" some years ago. His father was a man whose name is still revered in the North one of the early temperance advocates that gave character to the movement, while active and earnest in all good works. He was really one of the pioneers of total abstinence, and was the first president of the Newcastle Temperance Society. The son followed in his father's footsteps. The deceased, although sprung from an old Quaker family, afterwards became a member of the Church of England, and was, as one who knew him well remarked—"one of Nature's noblemen." He received his education at a "Society of Friends" school at York. Both sons subsequently entered into partnership with their father in the tannery business, and carried it on with much success for some years—first at Low Friar Street, Newcastle, and subsequently at South Benwell.

THE BANK FAILURE.

On the failure of the Northumberland and Durham District Bank, in October, 1857, Mr Priesman, senior, was one of the unfortunate shareholders. In the course of negotiations, a large number of the shareholders entered into arrangements, by which they consented to take over the Consett Iron Works, with all their liabilities, provided they were freed from the calls of the bank. This was agreed to. At that time, the speculation of the shareholders who acted thus was considered very risky, but, in consequence of the successful development of the collieries in the Consett district, and the making of coke, it turned out to be one of the most successful concerns in the North of England. Mr Priestman, senior, being one of the shareholders in the bank, thus became connected with the Consett Works, and his son, Mr Jonathan Priestman, became manager of the works. This was a step that brought the Priestman family into direct contact with with the coal trade, and their curriers' business, which had been transferred to Paradise, near Scotswood, was eventually given up, and the premises were afterwards used for Swan's electric lamp establishment.

THE ORIGIN OF THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY.

The "Derwent Iron Company" was established in 1840. At this period, and even a few years later, Consett was only a very small place. There were then only 39 houses in the whole of Conside and Knitsley, and the population was 195. Mr George Forster came from the Bishopwearmouth Iron Works in 1846 to manage the Derwent Iron Company. In 1851, the population of the place exceeded 2,000. When the Northumberland and Durham District Bank collapsed, the Iron Company had been identified with it since the commencement. When the Bank unfortunately failed they owed them nearly one million pounds, the exact amount being £960,000. The business of Consett was then thrown all topsy-turvey. Mr Priestman and another gentleman afterwards formed a new company, taking over the liabilities of the old one. The Limited Liability Companies' Act then came into force, and they registered their company as such, calling it the "Consett and Derwent Iron Company." It soon closed, however, as the great debt which they had undertaken to pay off proved a gigantic incubus upon their progress, and they could not succeed. The most successful part of Consett was organised by Mr Priestman, who has undoubtedly been the salvation of Consett. In 1864, a new company was again formed under Messrs J. Priestman, David Dale, Henry Fenwick, J. Henderson, and others. Through the influence of the Court of Chancery, the firm had been released from a lot of their liabilities, and since that time it had proved very successful indeed. It was in 1858 that the deceased gentleman became the manager of the Iron Works, and held that position for nearly 12 years, leaving in December, 1869. The deceased gentleman, with splendid business aptitude, first became managing director of the Company, which was formed out of the shareholders and creditors of the bank. They took over the liabilities and assets of the concern, and found it to be the best course in 1864 to make it over to the present Consett Iron Company, Mr Priestman continuing to be the managing director. There was an uphill struggle. He re-organised and resuscitated the Iron Company on a sound financial basis, and admirably fulfilled the arduous task of piloting the firm through a chequered career. It was he who was instrumental in making the Company such a remunerative concern, that in after years the directors and shareholders were enabled to reap the fruits of his valuable labours. When Mr Priestman retired, and was succeeded by Mr W. Jenkins, the present esteemed manager, the firm was in a highly prosperous condition; and by careful and efficient management the prestige of the enterprise has been maintained by his successor. During his term of office, as was naturally to be expected, the deceased gentleman was on the most friendly and amicable terms with the *employes*, and he was exceedingly popular among all classes of the workmen. He endeavoured to do what was right and just both for masters and men. If the operatives were making a fair and reasonable demand, Mr Priestman would concede what was right and equitable between capital and labour; but if their claims were unjust and unreasonable, then the workmen would not elicit a particle of sympathy from Mr Priestman. Although utterly unacquainted with the iron manufacture at the outset, he displayed such a remarkable aptitude for learning, that he soon became a thoroughly competent and experienced manager, and controlled the business with marvellous skill and energy. Ultimately, some slight difference arose between Mr Priestman and his Board of Directors, which was the means of his retirement. The directors and shareholders of the Company presented Mr Prietsman with a piece of plate, worth about 1,000 guineas, in recognition of his past invaluable services. He was also presented with an illuminated address, a full report of the same appearing in the *Guardian* of that date. Mr David Dale, who is High Sheriff of the County, is still the managing director of the Consett Iron Company, the firm having developed their resources during the past few years by the construction of extensive steel-making plant upon the most approved principles. The Consett Spanish Ore Company has since been established, and has proved a highly successful venture.

THE MINING UNDERTAKINGS.

After relinquishing his position as manager at Consett, Mr Priestman devoted more attention to the coal trade, and he has been for a number of years prominently connected with the commercial life of Newcastle, and it is quite safe to say that there never was a man more deeply respected in business circles in Newcastle than he was. Mr Priestman shortly after was to be found actively engaged as managing partner in the Ashington Coal Company, in association with Mr Carl Lange—Mr Lange died in 1876, and Mr Wm. Milburn shortly afterwards became largely interested in the colliery—and Mr Lees. This company twenty years ago was a small concern, but it is now, perhaps, the largest colliery in Northumberland. The high enterprise which characterised his management has resulted in vast extensions at the pit, extensions which have more than doubled the possible output, and which have established on what was before almost a waste land, the largest community in Northumberland. Mr Priestman was an occasional visitor to the extensive colliery he had done so much to promote, and he took a warm and lively interest in his workmen. It was mainly through his influence that schools were erected at Ashington, and that a temperance hotel was provided for the place; and with the other owners he contributed to the new church there, and to the expense of the ambulance classes formed in the village. He was very popular with the miners and their families, and whenever he appeared, as he sometimes did, at their gatherings, he was received with enthusiasm. It may be remembered that more than three years ago, Mr Priestman played an important part in the formation of a Co-operative Society at Ashington, and assisted at the inaugural ceremony. It is a somewhat strange circumstance that, concurrently with Mr Priestman's death, the announcement was made that Ashington, which he had done so much to create, has been formed into a new parish. The deceased gentleman was also head of the firm that owns the Victoria Garesfield Collieries, near Winlaton. These collieries, belonging the firm of Messrs Priestman and Sons, are on a high eminence in a picturesque part of the country, the village being almost surrounded by the Chopwell Woods. The place itself is a comparatively new colliery, the workmen's dwellings being models of cleanliness, neatness, and comfort. Mr Priestman and his sons regularly visited this place, and took part in all social, religious, and political gatherings. It was through Mr Priestman's efforts that handsome schools were erected in the village; and a chapel and church mission have been opened there—both having received much pecuniary aid from the deceased gentleman and his family. The firm were also shipowners, with offices on the Quayside. Mr Priestman's business capacity and foresight were such that the greatest measure of success attended his undertakings. He was very highly esteemed on Newcastle Quay, and wherever his relations extended to he was honoured as a gentleman of the utmost integrity. He was a member of the Finance Committee of the Northumberland and Durham Coal Trade Association. In the Newcastle Jubilee Exhibition Mr Priestman took a lively interest, and was also a member of the Finance Committee of the undertaking. His sympathy with the working classes was shown in his efforts for their benefit in the colliery villages with which he was connected.

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL.

Mr Priestman was conspicuous at all social, religious, and political gatherings, and was greatly esteemed and beloved by his *employes*. He was highly popular throughout North-West Durham. Before the transformation of that district into a Parliamentary area in 1885, he acted as president of the Derwent Liberal Association, which was afterwards merged in the Benfieldside polling district of the North-West Durham Liberal Association. He was an earnest and energetic worker in the cause of Radicalism, being one of the gentlemen mainly instrumental in the election of Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones for this division, and he was on the most intimate terms with the hon. gentleman. When North-West Durham was created an electoral district, the deceased gentleman was first invited to contest the constituency, but begged to be excused on account of advancing years and the pressure of professional and public duties. He had become such a general favourite with all sections of the constituency—Liberals and Tories alike—that, had he offered himself at the general election of 1885, he would probably have been elected unopposed. A conscientious politician, he stood up willingly on all occasions to avow his faith in Liberal principles. For 20 years he has been a Home Ruler, becoming so from his own study of political economy; he was also remembered as having taken a zealous part in the Corn Law agitation, and many there are who will bear out the kindly expression of a very old friend, that the deceased showed throughout his life remarkable fidelity to justice and honour, in politics, in business, and in private life. Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., often found in him an influential chairman, and the Liberals of Morpeth will remember him and the part he took at their recent demonstration, while regretting the absence of his friend Ald. Gray, now "gone before." Indeed, the deceased was a pillar of Northern Liberalism, and one to be depended upon. He attended as a delegate the Birmingham meeting with Mr Gladstone, and before returning visited his brother-in-law, Mr John Bright, at Rochdale, during his serious illness, the veteran politician's first wife having been a sister of deceased. On reaching Newcastle, Mr Priestman expressed the belief that he would never see his distinguished relative in life again. That surmise unhappily has proved corret, though not in the manner he anticipated. He manifested great interest in the numerous contests fought by the Right Hon. John Morley in Newcastle. So recently as the visit of Sir W. Harcourt to Newcastle, Mr Priestman showed his sympathy with Liberalism by attending the dinner of the Newcastle Liberal Club and the meeting which followed in the Town Hall. On the removal of Mr T. Y. Strachan to London, Mr Priestman took the honorary office of treasurer to the Newcastle Liberal Club, and he was a subscriber of £50 per annum to the funds thereof. He was likewise the chief supporter to the Central Divisional Council for North-West Durham, and would undoubtedly have been chosen as president, only his unassuming character led him to give preference to Mr Jenkins. If the Conservatives of this division have lost a valuable ally in Mr Hedley, so has the Liberal party being deprived of their principal bulwark by the removal of Mr Priestman. He evinced a deep interest in the pending County Council elections, it being the general opinion that he was to be selected as one of the aldermen for the Lanchester Union, although he declined to come forward as a candidate both for the Benfieldside and Ashington divisions. One of the latest actions was to map out North-Western Durham into seven electoral districts, and, with the sanction of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, he was instrumental in getting the scheme adopted by the county justices of Durham, and subsequently confirmed by the Local Government Board. Mr Priestman was a member of the Peace Association, and favoured the principles of arbitration in regard to international disputes. He was a subscriber to the funds of the United Kingdom Alliance. He was mainly instrumental in bringing the Hon. Auberon Herbert to Consett to deliver addresses in furtherance of his party, and occupied the chair, on the last occasion of that gentleman's visit in December last. In October Mr Priestman took an active part in the inauguration of Ambulance classes now being conducted by Dr George Renton and his assistants for the *employes* at the Consett Iron and Steel Works.

PUBLIC OFFICES.

At the time of his decease, Mr Priestman acted as chairman of the Benfieldside School Board, (having succeeded the late Mr Chas. Wilson), and was likewise chairman of the magistrates for the Consett and Lanchester Petty Sessional Division. He acted on Commission of the Peace for over 15 years, and on the death of Mr Annandale Town, of Allansford, in December, 1883, was chosen as presiding magistrate on the Consett bench. About twelve months ago, Mr Matthew Kearney, of The Ford, Lanchester, left the district, and Mr Priestman was unanimously appointed chairman of the justices for the west division of Chester Ward. The deceased did not wish to accept the appointment, preferring that the honour should be accorded to Rev J. P. De Pledge, the Chairman of the Lanchester Bench. As a magistrate he discharged his duties with the utmost caution and strictest impartiality; and, if anything, erred on the side of leniency. For some time Mr Priestman acted as a member of the Benfieldside Local Board, but relinquished his seat, and his eldest son, Mr Frank Priestman, was elected in his stead.

PERSONAL.

On July 28th 1852, Mr Priestman married Lucy Ann, the eldest daughter of Mr Jonathan and Mrs Ann Richardson, Shotley Hall, and Woodlands Hall. Mr Richardson was also a prominent Quarker; and at one period he possessed the bulk of the property in the locality of Shotley Bridge. Both the sons, Frank and Lewis, appear to be treading in their father's footsteps, and will undoubtedly do justice to an honoured and revered name. Of the three daughters, one is married to Mr Joseph Pumphrey, of Elm Park, Shotley Bridge.

A REMINISCENCE OF MR BRIGHT.

At the general meeting at Ackworth, in November, 1839, the Right Hon. John Bright, whose whole thoughts, it would seem, were not concentrated on Cotton and Corn Laws, noticed a young lady walking in the grounds, and persuaded his sister to bring about an introduction to them. She was the eldest sister of Mr Priestman, the subject of this memoir. Tradition depicts her as of great beauty, and even greater sweetness of disposition. Acquaintance ripened into affection between the youthful pair, and in November, 1839, the young lady so romantically selected was installed at One Ash as a bride. In 1840 a child, Helen Priestman Bright, was born. In the middle of September, 1840, the mother died. Mr Bright was a man of strong affections, and felt his loss very acutely. But, as he told long after, Cobden called on him, and after some conversation said, "Don't allow this grief, great as it is, to weigh you down too much; there are at this moment in thousands of homes in this country wives and children dying of hunger, of hunger made by the law. If you will come along with me we will never rest till we have got rid of the Corn Law." So the griefs of others proved the antidote to personal sorrow, and Mr Bright went forth to his work again. It was not a pleasant task. For twenty years and more John Bright's name has never been mentioned save with respect and affection. On the occasion of his sister's marriage with Mr John Bright in 1839, there were great rejoicings in Shotley, and the right hon. gentleman delivered an appropriate speech in a field adjacent to the residence of the bride. Mr Bright again visited Shotley when Mr Priestman married the eldest daughter of Mr Jon. Richardson. The distinguished statesman and relative paid his last visit to Shotley Bridge in the year 1873. Mr Bright's first wife left a daughter, now a Mrs Clark, at Street, Somerset. Mrs Clark, before her marriage Miss Helen Priestman Bright, is an occasional visitor to Derwent Lodge.

GENEROSITY AND PHILANTHROPHY OF MR PRIESTMAN.

A man of great generosity, it is probable that the extent of his good deeds will never be made fully known, so unostentatious was his manner of dispensing charity. No one need appeal for help in vain. His donations to both public and private chorities were something enormous. His private benevolence was unstinted and ungrudgingly given. The very tone of his voice was kindness itself, and the miners of Ashington looked upon him with something like paternal regard. At the late strike they always gave him the credit of being with them, and in heart and sympathy, whatever the hard facts of the times may have done, he could not be otherwise. At Shotley Bridge the deceased attended the Parish Church, and was noted there as an example of devotion at all possible services. His views on all subjects were broad and sympathetic, and he did not attempt, as some public characters habitually do, to foist his opinions down other people's throats. He gave his opponents every credit for their views. He displayed special interest in the training and education of the young, and while manager of the Consett Works, he taught a class of young men every Sabbath afternoon. Wherever the name of Priestman was known, his loss will be sincerely regretted. This countryside has been plunged into the deepest grief by the melancholy occurrence, the demise of Mr Priestman being regarded as a general calamity in North-West Durham. "In life he was beloved, and in death deeply lamented."

PULPIT REFERENCES.

In almost the whole of the churches and chapels in the district on Sunday, touching allusion was made to the death of Mr Priestman. The reference was most marked at St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, where the deceased was a constant worshipper. At Christ Church, Consett, at night, the vicar (Rev F. Steggall) adverted to the great works accomplished by Mr Priestman during his lifetime, particularly at Consett, and paid a high tribute to his memory.

MEETING AT CONSETT.

On Sunday afternoon, a meeting composed of representatives of the various religious denominations was held in the Town Hall, Consett, under the presidency of Mr Thomas Williams, iron and steelworkers' delegate, when it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr P. E Surtees, and seconded by Mr William Eales, that an expression of condolence and sympathy, signed by the chairman and Mr Adam Brodie (secretary) be forwarded to Mrs Priestman and family in their sorrowful affliction.—It was mentioned that the *employes* of the Consett Iron Company were desirous of attending the funeral of Mr Priestman, which took place at Ebchester Churchyard on Wednesday afternoon. The works have been partially laid idle on account of the Christmas holidays, and it was thought that as the deceased gentleman was the founder of the Consett Iron Company upon its present basis, and held the position of managing director for many years, that probably Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P., general manager, might be induced to allow the works to stand idle on that date, and afford everyone anxious to do so an opportunity of attending the funeral. It was ultimately arranged that all persons wishful to pay a final tribute of respect should assemble at the Fountain at Consett at one o'clock and march in procession to Derwent Lodge, where they would join the funeral *cortege* at two p.m., *en route* for Ebchester.

A MAGISTERIAL TRIBUTE.

At the Consett Police Court on Monday, before the commencement of the regular business, the presiding magistrate (Mr James Annandale) made a touching reference to the death of his coadjutor. Mr Annandale, who seemed to be almost overpowered by the deepest emotion, said (amidst profound silence): Though the task is a hard and mournful one, we feel that we must say a few words on the subject uppermost in every mind this morning. Since we last met in this court the shadow of a great loss has fallen upon us in the removal of our dear friend and colleague, Mr Priestman, who has for so many years been our chairman. This day fortnight he was among us, taking part in the business of the court; to-day his place is vacant. To us, who sit on this Bench, his loss is greater than we can express. We have lost a wise counsellor, a faithful colleague, a genuine friend; and this important centre of life and activity has lost one of its most faitful citizens. It does not become me to speak of his execution of his magesterial duties in this court. It may safely be left to others to pass an opinion on our friend's bearing and work in this court, with this single remark: that we know Mr Priestman's unfailing motive was to bring a calm and unbiassed judgment to bear on every case, however trivial, and ever to combine mercy with justice. To the residents of this great centre of life and activity, Mr Priestman's death is a heavy blow. For many long years he directed your most important industry, and there was no truer friend and well-wisher of Consett than Mr Priestman. His name is indissolubly linked with the growth and prosperity of this town, and it is here, as much as in the quiet valley where he lived and died, that his memory will be held in such lasting remembrance. The character of our friend was a most fine and noble one. His is as the wise head, kind heart, and open hand. His distinctive traits were:—An unswerving adherence to principle, a calm judgment, a fearless honesty, a hatred of subterfuge, an utter self-abnegation, an intense thoroughness, a consuming activity, an all-embracing philanthropy. But perhaps one of the most beautiful aspects of the character of our friend was his unostentatious, quiet benevolence and his ever-present ready sympathy. Many a heart and home recall unnumbered instances of his silent charity and help. His beautiful life is done. We take leave of him praying that the bright example of a well-spent life, which our dear friend has left us, may stimulate us all to press forward in the same paths of truth, righteousness and honour. Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., suggested that the clerk (Mr A. W. Granger) should convey the deep sympathy of the court to Mrs Priestman and family. It was not necessary for him to say anything more. As far as the sentiments of the Bench was concerned they had been ably expressed by his colleagues.—Mr Granger promised to comply with the wishes of their worships. He added:—We have lost in Mr Priestman a wise, upright and conscientious magistrate. For 15 years I have known Mr Priestman in that capacity, and for the last eight years as the clerk to the Bench. If there one quality more distinguishable than another in our deceased chairman, it was his anxious desire to do right, and deal out even-handed justice. Rich and poor were alike to him. He held the scales of justice evenly, and he always tempered its adminstration with mercy. In 1883 he succeeded the late Mr Annandale Town as the chairman of the Consett Bench, and last year, on the retirement of Mr M. Kearney he was unanimously elected chairman of the magistrates, of this large and important division. How he has fulfilled this duty we all know. I think there never was a more painstaking chairman, nor one more desirious of deciding accurately.—Mr T. W. Welford, Solicitor, Consett, as a member of the bar practising in that court, endorsed every word that had been spoken concerning their late chairman. The bar would feel his loss very keenly indeed. As a kinder, more impartial and more considerate justice never sat upon the Bench. He was greatly beloved and admired for his unselfish devotion and generous conduct, and they also desired to express to the widow and family their sympathy for the serious loss they had just sustained.

PRESS REFERENCES.

The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* states:—We record with sincere regret the death of Mr Jonathan Priestman. The sad event was unexpected, and will be as great a surprise as it will be a sorrow to his many friends. Mr Priestman was not in the accepted sense a "public man." He was seldom seen at meetings, and when there was neither noisy nor conspicuous, usually selecting the most obscure seat, and always preferring the least pretentious work. He never sought public offices, but when they were pressed upon him he was more eager to fulfil the duties that they imposed than to assert the rights they conferred. There was nothing eventful in his life. The son of a prosperous manufacturer, he commenced his career under propitious conditions. But misfortune, for which they were in no way responsible, overtook the family, and Mr Priestman was carried by it from a trade he knew to one to which he was a stranger. He was diligent, resourceful, and persevering in his new avocation, and succeeded in converting what had been a ruinous enterprise into a remunerative one. Opportunity favouring him, he in time transferred his services to other undertakings in which he was more directly interested. Here again his labours deserved and ultimately commanded success. All this, however, is but a reproduction of what has often been done. As much could be said for many of our "Captains of Industry," who having started fair, failed, tried again and triumphed. But there was a manifest conscientiousness in his conduct and a gentle serenity in his temper that lifted Mr Priestman out of the work-a-day furrow of ordinary traders, and gave to his character a peculiar symmetry and attractiveness.

We are a nation of traders, and the spirit which governs our trading gives colour to our national life. If we are noble in it we will be noble in all else. Commerce allied with honour and honesty is one of the first forces on earth. Upright men of business who, amidst the perilous exigencies of speculation, remain true, truthful, and disinterested; who, amidst financial reverses, remain firm, clear, and self-reliant, becoming neither misanthropes nor cynics, constitute the strength of the State and swell its trophies and its triumphs. Such an one was Mr Priestman. He was not a mercenary man, neither did he utter ignorant tirades against wealth. The problem of life with him did not, as with some, consist in putting as much as possible into his breeches pocket and then buttoning it up. But it was how to marry conscience to commerce and goodness to money-getting. A mere hoarder stripped of his accumulations is the meanest of mortals, and will find himself at the end of life's journey feared but not revered, unloved and unlovely. But the man who having made money showers it forth as from a cornucopia benefits others while he further enriches himself. It gives him admission to all that is great and worthy and beautiful; to the homes of the humblest to help them and the lives of the struggling to elevate them.

Besides being an excellent man of business, Mr Priestman was an exemplary politician. He entertained well defined views on public affairs; stuck to them with tenacity, and supported with liberality and intelligence. But he respected the opinions of those who differed from him, never needlessly wounding their feelings or indulging in imputations as to their motives. One of the most painful characteristics of these "latter days" is the decay of gentlemanliness in political controversy—as witness recent proceedings in Parliament and elsewhere. A gentleman is not always found in the Herald's office, and very frequently found in the habitations of the poor. He is not a coarse compound of mind and money, kneaded together by circumstances, baked by public opinion, gilded by respectability, and varnished by conventionalism. But he is a man moved by a soul. He respects himself, and takes no liberties with others. These qualities lift him above meanness and avarice and falsehood; and endows him with the delicacy, the quick perception, and sense of honour which are always the attributes of gentlemen, whether dressed in broadcloth or clad in corduroy. Mr Priestman displayed this temper in his political advocacy; and while no man stood more staunchly by his creed and party, no one was more considerate of the convictions, or made more allowance for the predilections, the prejudices, and sympathies of opponents. He showed his spirit by gentle words and resolute action, being neither hot nor timid. He possessed the two requisites that assure a man an enduring reputation—confidence in his honesty and belief in his good sense.

The *Newcastle Daily Leader* comments as follows:—The hand of death has been very heavy of late among our leading citizens. Mr Jonathan Priestman, who died on Friday evening, was one of the most notable of those who have made the history of these Northern counties during recent years. His illness and death have come so suddenly that we can hardly realise even now that one whose faculties were still so fresh and whose activities were so keen is no longer among us. He sustained a chill on Saturday of last week, and the cold fastening on his lungs, he suffered a few days' violent illness, and succumbed in the possession of all his faculties and in full and calm realisation that his end had come. Mr Priestman belonged to the old English type, conditioned by modern education and liberal sympathies. He sprang from an old Quaker stock, and though years ago he threw in his lot with the Church of England, those who knew not this detail of his life and who met him from time to time in the intercourse of society or business instinctively felt the Quaker in him still. He was in many ways not unlike his friend, John Richardson Procter, of North Shields, who died a very short time ago. He had the same quiet manner, without, however, the gentleness of Mr Procter; the same resolute will beneath the calm exterior; and the same determination to be just in all relationships of life. But there is no need to hang an estimate of Mr Priestman's character upon any comparisons with his friends. He was strong enough to stand alone. Perhaps his effort to be just was the master current of his life. Up to a certain point he would show readiness to give and take—a certain view of sympathy with the other side—but beyond that point he was as resolute as iron. He seldom spoke either at public meetings or in committees, but when he did speak his counsel was of the wisest. While in committee other men would fumble and feel their way he would in his quiet manner go straight through to the point in the fewest possible words, disregarding side issues and all subordinate considerations in favour of the main issue. He seldom addressed public meetings. When it was necessary to move a resolution amid a crowd of speakers, he would do as he did at Morpeth recently, move it without a word. And yet he was one whose support to a cause gave testimony that it was sound as far as a shrewd man could see. He was never carried away by mere sentimentality, but he had a strong belief in the benefits of education, in the refinement wrought by books, and in the power of the intellectual life to help the progress of communities. He was careful in connection with the collieries at which he had influence to provide books and other means of mental resource for the men. On this point he gave himself much personal trouble. His influence in the North of England has been for public rectitude without pretence, for political progress without respect of classes, and for educational enlightenment without regard to the sects. His shrewd and strong business qualities were tempered by a sturdy religious faith. He had many of those qualities in perfection which have made Quakerism so sound an influence upon the moral life of England. Unbending but yet sympathetic with the solid sides of progressive movements, stern but yet broadly tolerant, looking to the heart of things rather than to mere appearances, the influence of such men is a strong counterbalance to the fussy and maudlin gush of the day. He will be greatly missed in the Liberal councels of the North. He was a tower of strength to the creed of progress. He sought for nothing except to help. He laboured for no reward, either social or material, but because he believed that therein lay the hope of the future. He had confidence in his fellow-countrymen. He believed in their capacity to direct their own destinies. He was a Liberal, as he was everything else, by conviction. He has died at an age when it might well have been anticipated that he had years of usefulness before him, and at a time when he was greatly needed. The sorrow at his loss can be tempered only by the memory of his example, of his unostentatious and yet successful life, of the confidence we all had in him that was never misplaced, and of the strong and upright character with which he faced the world.

The *Northern Echo* states:—A familiar and notable figure is removed from North Durham by the death of Mr Jonathan Priestman, the brother of the lady whose extraordinary beauty long ago captivated Mr John Bright. She became his first wife, and her untimely death is one of the pathetic incidents that have chequered the career of the Tribune. Mr Priestman was present to hear Sir William Harcourt, when that statesman lately visited Newcastle, and it then seemed as though his life were good for long years to come. Though sprung from Quaker sources, and educated in that communion, Mr Priestman was a Churchman. The departed gentleman visited his distinguished relative at One Ash during the early part of the illness which still fills the land with anxiety, and on returning remarked that he would see John Bright no more this side the grave. The foreboding has been fulfilled, though not in the way that seemed so probable.

The *Evening Chronicle* remarks:—We lament to have to record the death of Mr Jonathan Priestman, whose life has been spent in industrial management in our midst. Mr Priestman, whose sister was the first wife of Mr John Bright, was the son of a gentleman who resided at Benwell and carried on business as a tanner, &c. In early life, Mr Priestman became connected with the Consett Iron Works, in establishing which upon their present basis he took a large share. For many years he took a leading part in the management of that concern, and latterly he had been associated with other industries. The deceased gentleman was a member of the Society of Friends, and a Liberal. He was a Justice of the Peace, and held various other local appointments. Mr Priestman was of a retiring disposition, but latterly he had taken more interest in politics than was his wont. He was held in high esteem by his neighbours and those who were associated with him as *employes*, and his demise will be deeply regretted by all.

FUNERAL AT EBCHESTER.

The funeral of Mr J. Priestman, took place on Wednesday afternoon, and was attended by a large number of relatives and friends of the deceased gentleman. A large party left Newcastle by the mid-day train for Shotley Bridge. It included Mr J. C. Stevenson, M.P., Mr James Craig, M.P., Dr R. S. Watson, Mr J. S. Stephenson, South Shields; Mr James Richardson, Mr Benson, Allerwash; Mr G. D. Johnson, Newcastle; Mr George Luckley, J.P., Mr S. J. Leybourne, Mr S. Meynell, Mr J. Havelock, Mr Joseph Lee, Ashington; Mr J. D. Milburn, representing his father, Mr Wm. Milburn; Mr Edmund Proctor, Mr J. E. McCarthy, Mr Lionel Clapham, and Mrs Forster, Mr G. Tomlinson and Mr W. M. Scott attended as a deputation from the North of England Temperance League. At Shotley Bridge station, carriages were in waiting to convey visitors to Derwent Lodge, where by two o'clock, in addition to the ladies and gentlemen who had travelled from Newcastle, there had assembled an exceedingly large number of gentlemen representing the various collieries in which Mr Priestman was interested, as well as the local public bodies with which he was associated, and all the principal tradesmen of Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Consett, and surrounding district, and others. Amongst those present were Mr James Annandale, J.P., Mr Henry Richardson, Backworth; Mr R. Latimer, fitter, Ashington Colliery; Mr R. L. Booth, manager, Ashington Colliery; Mr D. H. Haggie, Sunderland; Mr Lee, Shotley Park; Mr Christoper Parnaby, Consett Ironworks; Mr John Dixon, surveyor, Benfieldside Local Board; Mr W. M. Annandale, Mr Watson, J.P., Mr Thomas Siddell, Viewfield; Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, M.A., vicar of Benfieldside; Mr J. Albert Bright, son of the Right Hon. John Bright, M.P.; Mr A. Brodie, Liberal agent; Mrs. Brodie, Mr C. S. Wilson, Sunderland; Mr J. W. Walton Wilson, J.P., Mr William Brown, Consett Iron Comprny; Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P., Consett Iron Comprny; Rev J. P. De Pledge, Satley; Rev Mr Hermitage, Rev A. Baillie, Presbyterian minister; Mr Wm. Campbell, Mr Edward Wardhaugh, Mr Wilkinson Foster, Mr Edward Warrington, Mr Joseph Eltringham, Mr M. Richley, Shotley Bridge Gas Company; Mr J. Moon, Blackhill; Mr Henry Foggon, Mr Thomas Jones, Conset; Mr John Routledge, Consett; Mr C. P. Douglass, Mr Chas. Stephenson, Mr Joseph Whitehead, Consett; Mr Wm. Patterson, Blackhill; Rev F. Steggall, vicar of Consett; Canon F. Kearney, Leadgate; Rev J. Foran, Blackhill; Mr John McCartan, solicitor, Consett; Mr T. W. Welford, solicitor, Consett; Mr J. W. Rounthwaite, Benfieldside; Mr M. Redshaw, Mr John Booth, Shotley Bridge; Mr J. Hall, Co-operative Store, Consett; Mr Joshua Lax, bank manager, Shotley Bridge; Mr R. G. Barclay, Mr H. Cares, Mr Joseph Coulson, Shotley Bridge; Mr Joseph Bell, Mr N. Elsdon, Mr J. Oley, Shotley Bridge; Mr John Brodie, Shotley Bridge; Mr Wm Wilson, Shotley Bridge; Mr Robert Forster, Shotley Brigde; Mr John Lishman, Shotley Bridge; and others. The tradesmen of Consett and Shotley met together in their towns and marched in procession to Derwent Lodge.

THE FUNERAL CORTEGE.

was formed about two o'clock in the following order:—

A detachment of the police of the division of Consett of which Mr Priestman was principal magistrate, under Superintendent Oliver, Inspector Benzies, Consett, and Inspecter Davidson, Lanchester, and these were followed by the representatives of the Benfieldside School Board.

The hearse containing the coffin, was of polished elm shell and polished oak with brass mountings. It was covered with wreaths, and bore the following inscription:—"Jonathan Priestman. Died December 21st, 1888. Aged 63."

Fifteen mourning coaches followed:—1st carriage—Mrs Priestman (widow), Mr and Mrs Frank Priestman (son), Mr and Mrs Pumphrey (daughter). 2nd carriage—Mr Lewis Priestman (son), Miss Lucy Priestman (daughter), Miss Kate Priestman (daughter), Ernest Pumphrey, Mrs Tanner (sister). 3rd carriage—Miss Priestman, Miss Mary Priestman, Mr Jonathan Richardson, Mrs Thomas Richardson. 4th carriage—Mr and Mrs Peile, Mr and Mrs Willis. 5th carriage—Mr and Mrs W. S. Clark, Mr John Albert Bright, Mr and Mrs Charles Richardson. 6th carriage—Miss Fanny Peile, Mr William Willis, Miss Bragg, Miss Susan Anna Bragg. 7th carriage—Mr Samuel Richardson. Mr Meynell, Rev Joseph Ellis, Mr Joseph Fryer. 8th carriage—Mr Edward Mounsey (Darlington), Mr Richard Rutter, Dr R. S. Watson, Mrs Clapham. 9th carriage—Mr and Mrs Foster, Dr Richards (Shotley), Mrs Morris. 10th carriage—Mr Edwin Pumphrey, Mr Edmund Procter, Mr Stanefield Wilson, Mr L. Clapham. 11th carriage—Mr Geo. Johnston, Mr Leybourne, Mr Robert L. Booth, Mr Latimer. 12th carriage—Mr John D. Milburn, Mr Joseph Lee, Mr R. G. Barclay, Mr J. C. Stevenson, M.P. 13th carriage—Mr James Craig, M.P., Mr John Havelock, Mr G Luckley, J.P., Mr E. A. Tregilles. 14th carriage—Mr G. E. Macarthy, Mr B. Dale, Mr S. Stevenson. 15th carriage—Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Mr H. W. Watson, J.P., Mr J. W. Walton-Wilson, J.P., Mr Van Haansbergen, J.P.

Mr Priestman's carriage came next, followed by a coach containing house servants, and by Mr Frank Priestman's carriage, in which were Mr Hedley and Mr Cockin. These were followed by numerous private carriages and open conveyances, the number in all being not less than 50, whilst some hundreds of mourners walked from the house to the cemetery at Ebchester.

AT THE CEMETERY.

On arrival at the place of burial there were the Church of England burial service in the Church and the customary service at the grave-side, Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, M.A., vicar of Shotley Bridge, officiating. The total number at the funeral must have been fully 500 or upwards, and indicating, as it did, the universal respect and esteem in which Mr Priestman was held, these included all classes, from the deceased gentleman's partners down to the humblest tradesman of the neighbourhood, as well as those who, unknown to the world, had oftimes been befriended by him. Despite the season of the year, the inhabitants of the district turned out in their hundreds to do honour to one for whom they all had a good word. Everyone seemed to be able to recall some kindly act whose value was enhanced by the generous spirit and quiet manner in which it was done, and all agreed that in his death a real friend, a genuine benefactor, an upright employer, and Christian gentleman had been lost to the North of England.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs Bragg and Co., Newcastle, who were represented by Mr Clements.

In connection with the interment, a special service was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Ashington Colliery. An address suitable to the occasion was delivered by Rev John Lightfoot, senior curate of Bothal.

In consequence of the funeral of Mr Priestman, muffled peals were rung on the bells of St. Mary's Church, Blackhill, St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside, and Christ Church, Consett.

THE LATE MR. WM. HEDLEY, OF BURNHOPESIDE HALL.

At the Lanchester Petty Sessions, on Thursday se'nnight, the chairman (Rev J. P. De Pledge) said:—"Before proceeding to business, this Bench desires to record its deep sense of the loss it has sustained by the death of Mr William Hedley, of Burnhopeside Hall. Though for only two brief years he has resided in the immediate neighbourhood, he was to all intents and purposes a thorough Durham man, and identified himself with every work calculated to promote the best interests of the district. As a magistrate he took a great interest in the proceedings of this court, and was regular in his attendance until broken down by age and infirmity. By his death we lose a kind neighbour, and the last remaining link of a now past generation of a remarkable family, which has, in a quiet and unostentatious manner, showered down untold benefits upon mankind. Sprung from an ingenious and enterprising father—the tardily recognised inventor of the locomotive steam-engine—his four sons have each, in their several capacities, left their mark behind them. Through Oswald the line of this benificent family is transmitted in the persons of his two sons, who, we may hope, will follow the traditions of their forefathers. In Thomas, we see the munificent Churchman—the founder of the Bishopric of Newcastle. In the kindly and amiable George, and his brother William, both our colleagues on this Bench, we recognise the founders of a church, in pious memory of their father, and liberal benefactors to everything appertaining to the comfort, happiness, and the well being of the neighbourhood in which they took so deep an interest."

It is reported that the late Mr Wm. Hedley has, by his will, made the following charitable bequests:—£500 to the vicar and churchwardens of each of the following churches, viz.:—Holmside, Lanchester, Newburn, and St. Oswin's, Wylam, as a fund for providing clothing, blankets, or coals for poor-communicants half-yearly, at Midsummer and Christmas. £1,000 to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, to provide and maintain a lifeboat in Northumberland or Durham, to be called the "William Hedley"; £1,000 to the Newcastle Infirmary, £500 to the Whitley Convalescent Home, £500 to the North Shields Seamen's Mission, £500 to the Newcastle Blind Asylum, £500 to the Newcastle Eye Infirmary, £500 to the Northern Counties' Orphan Institution, and £1,500 to the vicar and churchwardens of Holmside for the benefit of Holmside Colliery Mission Room.

DEATH FROM FRIGHT AT CORNSAY.

On Thursday se'nnight, while Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Anderson, hinds' wives, whose husbands are in the employment of Messrs Ferens and Love, residing at West Low Row, situated near to Old Cornsay, were occupied in dressing poultry, a little boy, one year and six months old, was playing in the room at the time. The mother of deceased having taken a pail of hot water from the furnace, unthinkingly set it down upon the floor, and the child accidentally fell backwards into it. Dr Robb was immediately sent for, and soon arrived on the spot, and pronounced the lad to be principally suffering from the shock. The deceased expired on Friday from the injuries sustained, being considerably convulsed.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The ills of life are increased tenfold by the mode of life so many have to lead; most especially is this the case amongst the toilers in our factories and huge workshops of the manufacturing districts whose digestions become impaired and nervous systems debilitated by the protracted confinement and forced deprivation of healthy out-of-door exercise. The factory workers may almost be said to have diseases of their own, readily amenable, however, to treatment if not allowed to proceed unchecked. Holloway's Pills are the most effectual remedy ever discovered for the cure of liver and stomach complaints, as they act surely but gently, regulating the secretions without weakening the nerves or interfering with the daily work.

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

DRUNKENNESS CURED.

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

Business Announcements.

SIXTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 3 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 22, MOUNT PLEASANT. Artificial Teeth, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Best English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB, MOUNT PLEASANT. Established 1830.

THE COVENTRY CYCLE CO., LIMITED,

WHITEFRIARS LANE, COVENTRY

SOLE MAKERS OF THE COVENTRY IMPERIAL BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, SAFETIES, and TANDEMS

ALL GUARANTEED MACHINES BEAR THE REGISTERED TRADE MARK OF THE COMPANY.

PRICE LISTS, 3 STAMPS. 876v

WATCHES. WATCHES. WATCHES.

Established 1845.

MARSHALL & SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

CONSETT AND BLACKHILL,

BEG to announce that they have always in Stock a fine Selection of CLOCKS, WATCHES, and JEWELLERY. English Silver Lever Watches, 50s. and upwards. Ladies and Gentlemen's Silver Geneva Watches, 20s. and upwards. Timepieces from 2s. 6d. Spectacles to suit all sights. Repairs of all kinds executed at Moderate cost, combined with Good Workmanship.

KINDLY NOTE ADDRESS:—

MARSHALL AND SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, & HIGHGATE, BLACKHILL. 809z

HOUSE-FURNISHING WAREHOUSE.

We take this opportunity of thanking our numerous Friends and Customers for past favours and support, and hope that by trying to oblige, we will merit a still larger increase of orders, which shall have our prompt and personal attention.

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,

HOUSE FURNISHERS AND IRONMONGERS,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

We offer advantages to Purchasers that can rarely be obtained, and Parties House-Furnishing or Replenishing should see the Goods we are offering before they buy elsewhere. Prices and Patterns in endless variety.

NO ONE WILL BE UNDULY PRESSED OR IMPORTUNED TO BUY. 463

CONSETT, No. 7, MOUNT PLEASANT. — **JOSEPH MARSHALL,** — BURNOPFIELD, THE LEAZES,

WATCH & CLOCKMAKER, SILVERSMITH, JEWELLER, &c.,

CONSETT & BURNOPFIELD.

SILVER ENGLISH LEVERS at £3, £3 3s. up to £5 10s. NICKEL SILVER WATCHES at 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each.

New and Fashionable Designs in Clocks, Jewellery, and Watches, at very low prices.

Spectacles for all sights. Engagement, Dress, and Keeper Rings. Gold, Silver, Plated, and Jet Jewellery.

Clocks, Watches, and Jewellery of every description Repaired. All Repairs Guaranteed.

Clocks Cleaned in Town or Country. Goods for Presentations, Prizes, &c., supplied to order.

☞ Half-Dozen Tea Spoons given to Purchasers of one of the Noted 18-Carat GOLD WEDDING RINGS, from 10s. each. 810z

---

T. SWAINSTON,

12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

HAS MUCH PLEASURE IN SUBMITTING HIS CHRISTMAS PRICE LIST.

T. S. WILL present with every 20s Parcel of Groceries & Provisions, 1lb of Pioneers' Tea (2s 8d per lb), and with every 10s parcel, ½lb do. during the Month of December, 1888.

Our Stock of Groceries and Provisions are carefully selected and bought from the Manufacturers and Importers, on the best terms.

T. S. would call particular attention to his POPULAR 1s 10d TEA, a blend of Ceylon and Indian. It will compare favourably with Tea usually sold at 2s 6d; Pioneers' Tea, 2s 8d per lb; Happy Valley, 2s 8d (standard price, 3s).

FRANK'S COFFEE, 1s 2d (standard price, 1s 4d). SUGAR, 1½d, 2d; Demarara do, 2½d; Lump do 2½d. CURRANTS, fine, 3d and 4d per lb; Finest Voetizza, 5d per lb, LEMON PEEL, 4½d per lb

WAX CANDLES, 3lbs for 11d and 1s 1½d.

RICE, 1½d, 2d, 2½d per lb. BARLEY, 1½d and 2d per lb.

ALL SINCLAIR'S TWIST TOBACCO, 11d per ¼lb.

SOAP, Grey Mottled, 6d per 3lb bar; Double X Pale, 6½d per 3lb bar, well-known and highly appreciated.

DRY SOAP, 1½d per lb. MATCHES, 1d per doz.

FLOUR, 1s 5d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, our usual quality. BRAN, 4s 6d per sk. BOXINGS, 10s per Sack of 12 st. BARLEY MEAL, 8 sts., 7s., from the Mills of R. H. Appleton, Stockton.

PROVISIONS—Finest Danish Butter, 1s 3d per lb; Margarine, 6d to 8d per lb; Lard, warranted pure, 6d per lb; Finest Rich Cheshire Cheese, for a few lbs, 9d per lb; Double Glouster, 8d to 9d; American, 6d; finest do, 7½d; Bacon and Hams, the Finest brands, at the lowest possible price.

JAMS, MARMALADES, PICKLES, SAUCES, RELISH, SALMON, CORNED AND ROAST BEEF, BISCUITS, ALL EQUALLY CHEAP.

☞ The Packers of the Pioneers' Tea will Present

42 lbs. TO THE SIX LARGEST BUYERS AT THE END OF MARCH.

This is a rare opportunity to large consumers. See Bills and Windows.

THOMAS SWAINSTON,

12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

☞ SOLE AGENT FOR PIONEERS' TEA.

CHRISTMAS BARGAINS.

M. ALMOND,

FRONT STREET, | CONSETT,

(The Oldest-established Grocery Business in Consett).

M. A. has just received a large STOCK OF GOODS suitable for the FESTIVE SEASON, which for Quality and Cheapness cannot be surpassed.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

For the CHRISTMAS SEASON, M. A. will present every one who buys a PARCEL OF GOODS value 10s. with a BOTTLE OF GOOD WINE—Port or Sherry.

FLOUR DEPARTMENT.

Flour, 1s 5d, 1s 6d, and 1s 8d per stone. Hungarian Flour, 1s 11d per stone. Crushed Oats and Beans, 12s per 12 stone sack. Boxings, 9s 6d per sack. Granulated Wheat Meal. Pea Meal. Indian Corn. Rough Barley, Barley Meal, Oil Cake, &c., at equally low prices.

TEAS.—Good useful Tea, 1s 4d per lb. Splendid Tea, 2s per lb. Our Noted Blend, 3s per lb. Pure Ceylon Tea, in packets, 2s 6d per lb.

COFFEE.—Good Coffee, 1s, 1s 2d, 1s 4d per lb. Best Whole Coffee, 1s 6d per lb.

Sugar, 1½d, 2d, and 2½d per lb. Lump Sugar, 2½d per lb. Castor and Sifted Sugar, 3d per lb. Currants, from 3d per lb. Pale and Mottled Soap, 2d and 3d per lb. Rice, from 1½d per lb. Tapioca, 3d per lb. Ground Rice, 2d per lb. Raisins, from 4d per lb. Lemon Peel, 4½d to 6d per lb. New Figs, 1lb boxes, 6d each. ¼lb. Tins of Mustard, 3½d each. Maccaroni, 6d per lb. Semolena, 4d per lb. 6d Tins of Baking Powder, 4½d each. Nutmegs, 3d per oz.

Preserved Pears, Apricots, Peas, &c., in Tins. Tea and Butter Biscuits, 3d per lb. Every variety of Tinned Goods, Sardines, Lunch Tongue, Ox Tongue, Corned Beef, Roast Beef, Rabbit, Lobster, Salmon, &c. Pickles, 4½d per Bottle. Also, a choice selection of Carr's Fancy Biscuits. Fruit Loaves, 3½lb. weight, 1s each.

PROVISIONS.

Finest Danish Butter, 1s 3d per lb. Good Butter, 1s per lb. Margarine, 6d, 8d, and 10d per lb. American Cheese, 6d per lb. Dutch Cheese, 6d per lb.

Rolled Bacon, Home Fed. Bacon, Shoulders, Whole Hams, 6½d per lb.

Also Agent for GILLON'S PORT, SHERRY, GINGER WINES, &c.

Goods sent to any part of the District.

M. ALMOND,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 573

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

A LARGER SELECTION THAN ANY PREVIOUS YEAR.

IMMENSE VARIETY OF NOVEL DESIGNS.

EXCEPTIONAL ELEGANCE AND VARIETY OF PRODUCTION.

From the Best English and Continental Publishers.

For the Best and Most Varied Assortment of

NEW YEAR'S CARDS

AND

GOODS SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS

VISIT THE

GUARDIAN STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENT, FRONT STREET, & 9 & 10 NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

N.B.—Hand Painted Cards in Great Variety, also a Selection of Comic Cards.

The PENNY PACKET contains 6 Cards of Beautiful Design.

The TWOPENNY PACKET contains 9 Superior Cards.

The THREEPENNY PACKET contains 12 Assorted Cards of Excellent Quality.

THE MONSTRE SHILLING PACKET!

Containing 50 Beautiful Cards, for d.

THE MONSTRE SIXPENNY PACKET!

Containing 25 Beautiful Cards, 4½d.

A Large Assortment of CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S CARDS TO CHOOSE FROM. From ½d. upwards.

Note the Address:—

GUARDIAN OFFICE, and 9 and 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

House Tiles, Drain Pipes, All Sizes; RED BUILDING BRICKS; BEST PRESSED BRICKS, FOR FRONTS

GOOD QUALITY, LOW PRICES.

Dearness Brick Co.

7, WADDINGTON STREET, DURHAM.

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

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

F. A. and E. Welch

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS, ANNFIELD PLAIN. 920

WOOL! WOOL!

TO FARMERS, SHEEP OWNERS, AND OTHERS.

Have your Wool manufactured into Blankets, Flannels, Tweeds, Rugs, Yarns, or any other description of Woollen Goods by

HORSLEY BROS.,

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURERS,

WOLSINGHAM.

The well-known durability of these Goods is a sufficient inducement to those who have already tried them; to those who have not, we respectfully solicit a trial, and have no fear of their verdict. Carriage Paid one way. Samples and Prices on application. 886z

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Coal Boring Machines, from 20s. each.

Stone Boring Machines, from 35s. each.

R. BURNS & CO.,

IRONMONGERS, &c.

50, GRAINGER STREET,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Engineers and Colliery Supply Stores. 310

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

☞ Pupils attended at their own Homes.

Evening School, from 6d. to 1s. per week. Commence on Monday, 18th October. 854w

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R. Wilson & Co.,

BIRTLEY GRANGE BRICK WORKS, BIRTLEY.

Prices given for Common Bricks, Flooring Squares, House Tiles, Draining Pipes, &c. Our Siding is connected with Railway direct to Consett and West District. Goods packed into Trucks at Kilns. 801z

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ESTABLISHED 1854.

G. AND W. PAIRMAN, 113 and 115, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Scale and Weighing Machine Makers, Grocers' and Butchers' Fitters, Tin Plate Workers, and Japanners. Grocers' Canisters, Baths, Toilet Cans, &c., re-japanned equal to new. Coffee Mills Re-cut. Bicycles, &c., Enamelled and Lined. Agents for Silent Sausage Machines, American Choppers and Fillers. 995z

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"A MINISTERING ANGEL"

When the liver ceases to discharge its proper functions the whole system goes wrong. The appetite is bad; there is a bitter taste in the mouth, and the tongue is often covered with a thick fur. Flatulence or wind, acidity, headache, giddiness, pains in the knuckles, lassitude coming on after an hour after meals, with a tendency to drowsiness, are all symptoms of a disordered Liver, which may result in total prostration.

IS THERE NO CURE?

Happily there is. No one need suffer from any of these distressing ailments if they will but have recourse to the Sovereign Remedy "TODD'S PILLS," which act like Magic in restoring a disordered Liver. An old physician described one of his remedies as

"SAFE & SURE, PLEASANT, PALATABLE, & COMFORTABLE,"

and the description is true of TODD'S PILLS, which are purely vegetable. These Pills act not only upon the bowels, but also considerably increase the digestive powers, and are altogether unrivalled as a speedy means of curing a bad stomach. The first dose gives immediate relief. Manufactured only by JOE TODD, Chemist, Carlisle. Sold everywhere by Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers in boxes 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. Agent:—

THE

CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,

DISPENSING CHEMIST, CONSETT,

Thanks the residents of Consett and District for their esteemed patronage, and respectfully informs them that he is now selling the Leading Patent Medicines at Reduced Prices.

BEECHAM'S, COCKLE'S, AND ROOKE'S PILLS, &c. ... ... 11d per Box

KEPLER'S MALT EXTRACT, 2s 6d bot. for 2d 3d

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE, 2s 9d " 2s 6d

SEIGEL'S SYRUP ... ... 2s 6d " 2s 3d

ST. JACOB'S OIL ... ...2s 6d " 2s 3d

Articles procured to order at the ordinary rates.

ORANGE QUININE WINE, 1s & 2s 3d per bottle

MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL, 1s Bottle for 11d. 2s per pint Bottle.

PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD, and FINEST TASTELESS CASTOR OIL, 6d and 1s per bottle

SARSAPARILLA BLOOD MIXTURE, 1s 6d and 2s 6d per Bottle.

QUININE AND IRON TONIC, 1s and 1s 6d per Bottle, &c., &c.

TIC AND TOOTHACHE REMEDIES.

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES

For the speedy production of a Delicious Temperance Cordial. Ginger, Pine Apple, &c., 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLIN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

The excellent qualities of these Pills are too well known to be enumerated here, while the increasing demand under the Popular Name of Milner's Own Pills, is the best Proof of their efficacy. In Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

An excellent Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c. and all Diseases of the Chest and Stomach. 1s. per Bottle.

HAIR RESTORERS, PERFUMES, POMADES. TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANSING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr Lamont's Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c. &c.

MILNER Chemist

Opposite the Post Office, Consett

Business Announcements

MUSICAL TUITION.

JOHN SURTEES, Organist of Christ Church, Consett, gives thorough instruction in Piano, Harmonium, Organ Playing, Harmony, &c. Special preparation for examinations. Lessons given at pupil's or his own residence. Orders for Tuning promptly attended to. Terms moderate.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 644y

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BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S, "Guardian" Office, and 9, Newmarket Street, Consett

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MUSIC!

MUSIC LESSONS given—Pianos, Harmoniums, and American Organs Tuned and Repaired. Dealer in Harmoniums, &c.—T. Jones, 4, Gibson Street near Co-operative Store, Consett 927w

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

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

SWEEP! SWEEP SWEEP!

WITH PATENT APPARATUS no dust can escape; no risks to damage the jambs.

Address—WILLIAM BUTCHER,

Messenger Street, Shotley Bridge.

Reasonable Charges.

JOHNSON HEDLEY,

MANUFACTURING and WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER, &c.,

37, FRONT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Superior Jams and Marmalades.

Biscuits of all kinds. 23z

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, Inman & International Steamship Co., Ltd. LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every Wednesday. Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.

Apply to Richardson, Spence, and Co., 22, Water Street, Liverpool; Adam Brodie, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; Edward Sloane, Post Office, Blackhill; Alfred Phillipson, Emigration Agent, Dipton; John Tulip, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; William Gray, 5, North Road Durham; William Wilson, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; George Leadbitter, Accountant, Catchgate; W. J. Johnson, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95z

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H. CORNFORTH'S

FOR

TOYS! TOYS!! TOYS!!!

Of every description.

DOLLS! DOLLS!! DOLLS!!!

From 1d. to 10s. 6d.

Our 6d. and 1s. Dolls are wonderful value.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF FANCY GOODS.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

ALL THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS

A Splendid Selection to choose from at all prices, at

H. Cornforth's

21, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 506

Wholesale and Retail — **D. GRADON,** — Watchmaker to the Trade.

WATCH & CLOCKMAKER,

Jeweller, Silversmith, & Optician,

DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

ENGLISH PATENT FUSEE LEVER WATCHES, Compensation Balance, Jewelled in 8 holes, 65s; Going Barrel, 60s. Cheapest and Best Value in the Trade.

SPLENDID ENGLISH PATENT FUSEE LEVERS, 50s.

CHRONOGRAPH WATCHES, from 10s 6d.

NICKEL WATCHES, from 6s 6d.

LADIES' GOLD GENEVAS, from 18s 6d; SILVER, from 12s.

CLOCKS, from 2s 3d.

A First-class STOCK of JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATE, WHITBY JET, &c.

SPECTACLES and EYE-GLASSES in great variety.

Every defect of vision Optically and accurately tested and corrected.

18-CARAT GOLD WEDDING RING and Half-dozen NICKEL-SILVER TEASPOONS, 8s 6d.

D. GRADON, Manufacturer. 499

SENSIBLE

YULE-TIDE GIFTS

AND

Xmas Presents.

LADIES' BAGS,

FANCY BASKETS,

FANS, GRASSES,

PURSES, POUCHES,

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS,

TIES, COLLARS,

GLOVES, APRONS,

PINAFORES, &c.

THOS. HODGSON

IS

NOW SHOWING A CHOICE VARIETY

OF

Christmas Novelties.

WONDERFUL VALUE.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

Thomas Hodgson,

DERWENT STREET AND DURHAM ROAD,

BLACKHILL. 538

Public Notices.

SALVATION MEETINGS.

UNITED EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS will be held in the CO-OPERATIVE HALL, CONSETT, commencing on Sunday, January 20th, 1889, to be conducted by the REV THOMAS WHITEHOUSE, the founder of the original "Hallelujah Band," when the Ministers and Members of the various Churches in the district will take part in the Services. 547

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

GRAND EVENING PERFORMANCE OF WALLACE'S

"MARITANA,"

IN THE

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,

JANUARY 23rd, 1889.

SPECIAL ARTISTES. FULL ORCHESTRA. CHORUS OF 100 VOICES.

Reserved Seats, 2s 6d; Unreserved, 1s. Plans at Mr C. Stephenson, Cemetery Lane, Blackhill; Mr T. D. Dryden, Front Street, Consett; Mr J. G. Mann, Front Street, Consett; and Mr P. Surtees, Mount Pleasant, Consett, Hon. Sec.

It is important that Seats be booked early. 588

Public Notices.

THIS is to Certify that I, JOSEPH CHAPMAN, will not be responsible for any Debt or Debts contracted by my Wife, Margaret Chapman, after this date (December 28th, 1888).

(Signed), JOSEPH CHAPMAN.

EBCHESTER WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

THE Choir, assisted by a few Friends, intend celebrating their Annual CONCERT on New Year's Eve, December 31st, 1888. After the Concert, there will be a HAM and TONGUE SUPPER. For further particulars see Bills. 634

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!!

LOOK OUT for the Grand DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT given by the Children of St. Mary's Schools, Blackhill, on Friday, December 28th, and Monday, December 31st. Fairies, Gipsies, and Robbers in splendid style. 545

JAMES FROSDICK is the only Billposter that has rented Stations within the three Local Board districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 598

A GRAND FANCY BAZAAR will be opened in the Primitive Methodist School, Consett, on New Year's Day, by J. W. DAVISON, Esq., at 2 p.m. Admission—2 to 5, 1s; from 5 to 10, 6d. Refreshments will be provided at moderate prices. Choice Music at intervals. 592

MRS HETHERINGTON begs to draw the attention of the public to her REFRESHMENT ROOMS, lately opened at Mount Pleasant, Consett. Confectionery and Tobacco. Also an assortment of Toys and Fancy Goods. 583

THE Oldest Tailoring Establishment in North West Durham.—JOHN BRODIE, Woollen Draper and Merchant Tailor, Shotley Bridge, respectfully intimates that his Stock is now replete with the Newest Styles in West of England and other Cloths of the best qualities. A perfect fit guaranteed.

Shakespeare Street, Consett.—Christmas Cheer.

ROBERT HART, Refreshment Contractor, supplies Refreshments of the Best Quality on the Most Reasonable Terms. Look in the window and see the Monster Pie, containing Veal, Ham, Goose, and Chicken.

Note the Address:—Shakespeare Street, Consett.

SHOTLEY OLD HALL.

HIGH CLASS SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

Principals - - - The Misses Shaw.

THE NEXT TERM begins January 29th, 1889. For Prospectuses and particulars apply to

MRS. SHAW,

South Benwell,

558 Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NOTICE.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741st STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS will not be held on the 24th and 31st insts., but money may be paid at the Office any day during the fortnight.

WILL. ELLIOTT, Secretary.

5, Mount Pleasant Consett, Dec. 20th, 1888.

WILLIAM HEDLEY, Esquire, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all persons having any Claims against the Estate of WILLIAM HEDLEY, late of Burnopside Hall, near Lanchester, in the County of Durham, and of 66, Jesmond Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, esquire, deceased, are requested to send particulars of such Claims to us, the undersigned, Solicitors to the Executors of the Will of the deceased forthwith.

Dated this 17th day of December, 1888.

PHILIPSON, COOPER, and GOODGER,

627 27, Grey Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CHEER.

F. T. Williams,

FRUITERER AND CONFECTIONER,

11, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to thank his numerous Customers for the liberal patronage already accorded him, and informs them that he has on hand a large STOCK of ENGLISH and FOREIGN FRUITS, suitable for the Festive Season. To all purchasers to the amount of 2s will be presented a Beautiful Almanack. 572

ST. IVES INFANT SCHOOL, LEADGATE.

EPIPHANY EVE.

THE Office of Compline will be Sung at 8·30 p.m., after this the Children of the Church of England Temperance Society will Act

"THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST."

Scene 1—The Legend of the Cherry Tree.

Scene 2—Shepherds in the fields Abiding.

Scene 3—The Stable.

Scene 4—Herod's Hall.

Scene 5—The Visit of the Magi.

Scene 6—The Seven Champions of Christendom.

Tickets—Price 3d, from the Secretary C.E.T.S. No money taken at the door. The audience will be requested to remain very quiet, and make no demonstration of any kind. 548

S. S. LINGFORD'S

ANNUAL XMAS GROCERY SALE

IS NOW IN FULL SWING AT

HIGH STREET, TOW LAW.

Cheap Lines as follows:—

CURRANTS	at 3d	per lb.
CORN FLOUR	at 3d	"
DRY SOAP	at 1½d	"
SNOWCAKE FLOUR	4d	"
SPLENDID FIGS	2½d	"
PURE JAM	3d	"
PURE LARD	6d	"
PRIME HAMS	6½d	"
1lb TINS MILK	4½d	each
NUTS (real Barcelonas)	2½d	per lb
MATCHES	1½d	per doz
CARR'S SCOTCH OATEN	7½d	per packet
LEMON PEEL (finest thin)	4½d	per lb
BOSNIAN PLUMS	4½d	per lb
SPLENDID RAISINS	3d	"
TOMATOES (Quintons)	5d	per tin
WINE (Best Kinds)	8½d	per bottle.

N.B.—A Splendid Lot of Wensleydale Cheese

Agent for the D. S. LINSEED CAKES.

Manufacturer of the FAMOUS BAKING POWDER

BLENDER OF THE "KOH-I-NOOR" TEA at 2/ per lb, the Best Value in Tea in the District.

Send Post Card for my Price List. 516

Durham County Council.

NOTICE.—A MEETING of the COMMITTEE and SUPPORTERS of Mr. WILLIAM JENKINS, J.P., who is a Candidate for the Consett Division of the Durham County Council, will be held in the Smaller Hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday, Jan. 2nd, and every Wednesday Evening until further Notice.

Full particulars may be had from Mr. Adam Brodie, Town Hall, Consett. 531

Durham County Council.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE COLLIERLEY DIVISION, embracing the Townships of Collierley, Greencroft and Kyo.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

At the request of a large number of friends I have been induced to offer myself as a candidate for the representation of the Division in the County Council shortly to be elected.

I am now an old inhabitant and ratepayer in this Division,—for many years taking an active interest in its affairs, and as a member of the School Board and Poor Law Guardians I have enjoyed your suffrage for many years past, and am, therefore, not only well known to you, but one whose interests are identical with yours as ratepayers.

On these grounds, therefore, I venture to ask your generous support and honour to be your first representative.

In the carrying out of the various functions connected with the Board relating to Main Roads, Sanitary Improvements, Allotments Act, Industrial Schools, &c., my constant aim shall be the greatest good to the greatest number at the smallest cost combined with efficiency.

Hoping that my views and aims will meet with your approval, and merit a favourable verdict, and thus show by consistent and faithful discharge of the duties as your representative, you have put "the right man in the right place."

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Faithfully yours,

J. A. CURRY

Bradley Lodge, Dipton, Nov. 1st, 1888.

Public Notices.

SALVATION ARMY.—Monday, December 31st, Great PIE SUPPER at 9·30, followed by an HALF-NIGHT OF PRAYER at 10·45.

Tuesday, January 1st, A GIGANTIC TRADES DEMONSTRATION and TORCH-LIGHT PROCESSION, to start from the Hall at 7 p.m. Inside, 7-30, Great Display. Gilbert Hayter, C.O.

CONSETT URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at the next Meeting of the Consett Local Board, which will be held on Wednesday, the 2nd day of January, 1889, the said Board will proceed to appoint William Rippon Inspector of Nuisances, Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, at a salary of £100 per annum.

THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Jun., Clerk.

27th December, 1888. 643

PUBLIC NOTICE.

WESTWOOD AND HAMSTERLEY CO-OPERATIVE HALL.

AN AMBULANCE CLASS will be formed at the above place on January 10th, 1889, when Dr. MARSHALL will give a COURSE OF LECTURES, under the auspices of the Blaydon Educational Committe. All who wish to join may do so by giving their names to the Secretary, Mr. R. Fenwick. 629

Durham County Council.

LANCHESTER DIVISION.

A PUBLIC MEETING, in support of the Candidature of MR GEORGE TAYLOR SMITH for the division, will be held in the Schoolroom at Burnhope, on Thursday, January 3rd, 1889, when the Candidate will explain his views with respect to the Local Government Act and Mr JOHN ORR and other gentlemen will Address the Meeting. Chair to be taken at seven o'clock in the evening. 638

A GREAT

UNITED TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION

Will be held in the

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,

ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9th, 1889.

W. D. STEPHENS, Esq., Ex-Mayor of Newcastle, W. WHITEHEAD, Esq., Heaton, Alliance Agent, and other important Speakers will Address the Meeting. Chair to be taken by Rev. F. STEGGALL.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING will be held on Saturday Evening, January 5th, 1889, in the Co-operative Hall. Chair to be taken at 6·30 p.m., when the following Business will be brought forward for consideration:—

1. Minutes of last Quarterly Meeting.
2. Minutes of Committee for past Quarter.
3. Report and Balance Sheet
4. Consideration of Banking Business.
5. Election of Chairman.
6. Election of Treasurer.
7. Election of Two Committee Men.
8. Election of One Auditor.
9. To give £1 to the Holyoake Annuity Fund.
10. Notice of Motion from Mr. W. Davies, "re Loans."
11. Miscellaneous Business. 622

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

Lessee - - - - - - Robt. J. Brodie.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, last Two Nights of the

ORIGINAL MULDOON'S PIC-NIC.

Dec. 31st, and during the Week, the Sensational Drama—

A SAILOR'S FORTUNE.

See the Realistic Scene in the Signal Box of the London and G. N. Railway.

January 9th and 10th.—The Consett Amateur Dramatic Club. 639

FOR

MEN'S, YOUTH'S, AND BOYS'

SUITS AND OVERCOATS

TRY

J. SWALWELL,

CLOTHIER,

CHESTER-LE-STREET. 624

Sales by Auction.

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

Date not yet Fixed.—Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture belonging to a Gentleman leaving the neighbourhood.

MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on an early date, the whole of the Superior Household FURNITURE, belonging to a Gentleman leaving the neighbourhood.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ADAM BRODIE and ROBERT J. BRODIE, Members of the Institute of Auctioneers and Surveyors, and of the Institute of Estate Agents, are prepared to execute all Orders for the SALE of FARMING STOCKS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCKS-IN-TRADE, and other Property, in the Best Style, and on Reasonable Terms. Being professionally associated with the above-named Institutions, they are unable to *tout* for commissions as many others do, but they will be glad to execute those with which they may be favoured on Reasonable Terms. Distress for Rent, under the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1883, and also under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888, duly carried out.

Note the Address:—A. and R. J. BRODIE, Certificated Auctioneers, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

A WEEKLY SALE every Monday for Fat and Store Cattle and Sheep, Dairy Cows, Horses, Conveyances, Farm Produce, &c., commencing at 12 o'clock with Cows, Fat and Store Stock to follow. Entries should be sent on Wednesday each week.

JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer.

Grove Villa, Tow Law. 189

By Mr. John Crawford.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at an early date, the late Mrs. Reed's Valuable Household Furniture.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mrs John Daly and Son to SELL a Freehold Five-roomed HOUSE, with all Out-door Conveniences, situated in Ark Street, Consett, at an early date. For particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

Important Notice.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to John Crawford, Auctioneer, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

John Crawford,

AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER

25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT

Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

By Mr. William Nicholson

Lanchester Auction Mart, King's Head Inn.

THE NEXT SALE of MILCH COWS, GRAZING CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and other FARM PRODUCE, will be held on Wednesday, January 2nd, 1889. Entries taken up to time of Sale. Sale at 1·30 p.m.

WM. NICHOLSON, Auctioneer.

Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester. 593

John Lowes,

AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.

Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.

Valuations effected for Probate, etc. 653

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1888.

Present Entries.

110 Fat Cattle.
100 Fat Sheep.
20 to 30 Dairy Cows, Calved and to Calve.
A number of Prime Dairy-fed Pork Pigs.
Store Pigs, Veal and Finger Calves.
Poultry, Harness, and Sundries.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
633 JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Important Sale of Valuable Household Furniture.—Rowley, near Castleside.—Wednesday, January 2nd, 1889.

MR A. PHILLIPSON, favoured with instructions from Mr THOMAS FEATHERSTONE, who is leaving the neighbourhood, will SELL BY AUCTION, at the above place and date, all his very Valuable Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE, BOOKS, AND EFFECTS, Comprising—Excellent 8-stop Harmonium in Walnut; Set of Insulators; superior ½ Chest Mahogany Drawers; Capital ½ Chest Mahogany Drawers; Mahogany Sofa in Hair Seating, quite new; Capital Mahogany Centre Table; 6 Choice Mahogany Chairs in Hair Seating; Strong Rocking Chair in Hair Seating; 6 Bed Room Chairs; Arm Chair; Beautiful Mantel Mirror in Black and Gold Frame; Choice Mantel Mirror in Walnut Frame; Mahogany Tudor Bedstead with Mattress and Damask Hangings, very Choice; Nice Mahogany Desk Bedstead with Cheffioneer; Painted Wash Stand and Dressing Table; Towel Rail; Mahogany Toilet Glass; Polished Press in Birch; Floor Oilcloth in Good Condition; Splendid Kidderminster Carpet; Hearth Rugs; 2 Cornice Poles; Eight-days Clock in Mahogany Case; Alarm Clock; Several Grand Pictures and Ornaments; Case of Fruit with Globe; Round Tea Table; Strong Kitchen Table; Kitchen Table Frame; Mattresses; Cocoa Matting; Window Blinds; Brass Rods; useful Cradle; Perambulator; 2 Bed-room Fenders; Sitting-room Fender; Steel Fire-irons; Kitchen Fender and Irons; Ash Pan; Tidy; Kettle; Pails; Mugs; Tins; Brushes; Girdle; Frying-pan; Winter; Flat-irons; Pans and Steamers; Posstub and Stick; Clothes Lines; magnificent Duplex Lamp; Scraper; Clothes Basket; Filter; Wire Netting; Quantity of Garden Edging and Garden Tools; a Lot of Crockery and Glass Ware; Scythe; Rakes; Forks and Shovels; capital Barrow; good Watch; Singer Sewing Machine, with Cover, no worse than new; Patent Wringer and Mangle, in good order; 11 vols. Hitchcock and Dick's Works; Popular Educator; Good Words; Quiver; and a host of other Valuable Books; 2 Maps, with other articles too numerous to mention.
Sale to begin at 12 o'clock prompt. 626

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

ASSISTED PASSAGES TO CANADA, Cheap Rates to America by the WHITE STAR, AMERICAN, and other popular Lines. Also Lowest Possible Fares to the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES, SOUTH AFRICA, and other parts of the World. Auction Sales carried on efficiently and upon the very Best Terms.

All Emigrants and Luggage taken to the Railway Station Free of Charge; and for the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply at once to A. PHILLIPSON Auctioneer, and Emigration Agent, Dipton 486r

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

What a beautiful carriage?
Where did you get it?
From ALFRED BOAG,
St. Mary's Place, Newcastle.
I was perfectly astonished to see his Stock of New and Second-hand Carriages and Harness, and more so when I heard his prices. Thanks for his address. I want my carriage repaired and painted. Good morning. 716z

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Cutlery, Gems, &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739y

LIEBIG'S
EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE
(GLENDENNING'S).

MADE FROM GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT, LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF, AND KEPLER MALT EXTRACT.

THIS valuable preparation is composed of a stimulative, a nutritive, and a digestive.
Thus the invalid has here "tissue formers" and "force producers" in a form ready for and easy of assimilation into the system.
Those in the enjoyment of good health need at times a concentrated nutritive digestive food, and in no other preparation will they obtain these requisite qualities in so large a degree.
Recommended by the Medical Profession, who have found it to be a valuable aid in their dietic treatment.

Prepared only by William Glendenning, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PRICE 3/9 PER BOTTLE, or 45/- PER DOZEN.
„ 2/- PER HALF BOTTLE, 23/6 PER DOZEN HALF BOTTLES.

AGENTS ... Mr. RICHARD MURRAY, Wine Merchant Benfieldside.
„ ... Mr. T. SUDDES, Station Hotel, Langley Park.
„ ... Mr. WILLIAM STONES, Burton House, Burnopfield.
„ ... GEORGE SIMPSON, Grocer, &c., Birtley.
„ ... Messrs. ROBINSON & Co., Chemists and Druggists, Chester-le-Street.

MIND M
CORNS!
Is an expression that startles the hearer from time to time, in every part of the civilised globe. Happily, at last,
ROBERTS'
ANNIHILATOR
a perfectly simple compound, has been discovered, which removes rapidly, painlessly, and permanently, both Hard and Soft Corns.
GET A ONE SHILLING BOTTLE TO-DAY.

TO ADVERTISERS.

ALL Orders for Advertisements for insertion in the *Consett Guardian* must be WRITTEN, and sent in not later then NINE o'clock on Friday mornings to ensure publication.

WE use great care to secure the correct printing of advertisements; but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies nor from any consequences arising therefrom.

PARTIES making inquiries by letter respecting advertisements must enclose an addressed stamped envelope.

IT is contrary to Post-office Regulations for letters to be addressed to initials or fictitious names at any Post-office. Advertisers are desired to bear this in mind.

APPLICANTS for situations and others who reply to advertisements are recommended to forward copies of their testimonials, and not original documents.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 1888.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGO."]

THE NEW YEAR.

A few more days and the present year of grace will have passed to the region of the things that were. The history of every year is sacred to many, and those of us who have passed through the sunshine and shadow of the closing year without having experienced the blighting effects of tribulation have good cause to rejoice. Let not our hearts be burdened by the thought that some day we also will be encompassed by the floods. Enough for the day is the evil thereof, says the scriptures, and to the same purport spoke the poet when he penned the lines: "Be not over exquisite to catch the spirit of impending evil. To the dwellers in the Consett and surrounding district the closing year has been a very eventful one. In not a few family circles there is an unoccupied chair, and many a kindly heart is this day lacerated by the memory of what has been. I know the Consett district well, and I may truly say without fear of contradiction that in no previous year has the reaper, whose name is death, been so busy as during the year which is fast merging into the history of the past. Every heart has its own sorrow, and while it is true that man is born to trouble, it is also true that the ingredients of pleasure in the cup of life far outweigh the mingling drops of sorrow. Enough, that we weep in spirit with those who weep, and congratulate those who have reason to rejoice. Good health and success in our mundane concerns are very desirable, but these gifts are evanescent at best; and although it may be very true, as Pope expresses it, that man never is but always to be blessed, it is true all the same that blessings sometimes come in guises in which we fail to recognise them." Be it ours to cherish that spirit of thankfulness which is the natural tribute of grateful hearts. I wish my numerous readers a Happy New Year and many returns of the season.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATES.

I again revert to this subject simply because all other local matters pale before this, the critical question of the hour. Besides, other items of more or less importance will lose nothing by remaining in pickle for a week or two, but the next fortnight will witness the casting of the die for the County Council for the next three years at least. I have no doubt whatever but Mr Jenkins will head the poll at Consett by an overwhelming majority. It is the least that the inhabitants of the town can do by way of repaying him for the interest he has taken in the welfare of the community at large for the last twenty years. No man living has done so much for the inhabitants of Consett and district as Mr Jenkins, of Consett Hall. I find by Mr Neasham's "History of Durham" that the year before Mr Jenkins took the reins of power the net profits of the Company amounted to £37,000; but under his *regime* the profits for the following year reached the exceedingly large sum of £101,790. The figures speak for themselves. Facts are stubborn arguments, and Mr Jenkins can well afford to take his stand behind them. It seems to me that the man who has the tact and ability to manage a huge concern with the skill that the Consett Iron Company is governed, is a public benefactor in the truest sense of the term. That wages are not so high as in former times is a matter that is entirely outside the jurisdiction of the Consett Iron Company. Mr Jenkins and his staff have no control over the forces by virtue of which these things are regulated. Good management is the be-all and the end-all of a successful commercial concern, and on this score the Consett Iron Company occupies the foremost rank. It is important that this should be borne in mind, because if an industry does not yield profitable returns, capitalists will shortly cast about for other investments for their means. It sounds fine to prate about there being two at the making of a bargain, and that the plant at Consett would be very unremunerative without the workmen. That is true but the observation is so utterly foolish as to be almost unworthy of notice. Nobody but Mr R. Murray would have clutched at so useless a straw. "Money makes the mare to go," says the old adage, and while Mr Murray can afford to ridicule enterprising capitalists who speculate expecting a reasonable return for their outlay, those of us dependent on our hands and heads for our daily bread have good cause to be thankful that there is a spirit of enterprise abroad.

AS IT WAS AND IS.

It ought not to be forgotten that when Mr Jenkins came to the Consett district the working men of the neighbourhood had not a respectable dwelling in which to lay their weary heads. It was purely due to his influence that a superior class of workmen's houses were introduced into the district, for the time was when the majority of the houses about Consett were composed of but two rooms, or to put it more acurately, one room and an attic. A man on the day or night shift had either to turn in within a yard or so off the oven, or ascend a trap ladder to the regions above. I know that there are scores of houses of the same style in Consett district still; but there are also, thanks to Mr Jenkins, whole streets of workmen's dwellings second to none in the North of England. For these and many other priveleges the esteemed manager of the Consett Iron Company deserves credit. In fact, it is questionable that but for Mr Jenkins there would have yet been a Town Hall at Consett. I was present at the meeting when the thing was floated and heard Mr Jenkins express his willingness to take the matter of 300 shares by way of setting the scheme afloat. Indeed, I remember that the gentleman referred to complained that our lives were wearing away and nothing was being done for the intellectual advancement of the people. The manager of the Consett Iron Works is a man of exceptional parts who for a long course of years has had the interest of the *employes* of the Company very sincerely at heart, and to run him a full mile in advance of his opponent is the very least that his numerous friends can in the ensuing contest do for him.

A WORKING MAN'S FRIEND.

I have never known Mr Jenkins to *pose* as the working man's friend, yet that he has all along proved himself such is as plain that those who run may read. The humblest workman employed under the Company will be admitted into the green chamber with the big chief when an opportunity will be afforded him of stating in his own way any grievance under which he may be labouring. This I have always regarded as a noble trait in Mr Jenkins' character. Few gentlemen occupying a similar position go out of their way to do any such thing, the current practice being to refer complaints to the foremen in the particular departments with which they may happen to be connected. I think it well to mention this at a time when men who neither toil nor spin profess a friendship they never felt. Let the candidates be judged by their actions in the past—not by frothy promises of good-will to men made in the passing excitement of an election. The manager of the Consett Iron Company has done much to earn the esteem of the people of Consett, whereas his rival's recommendations to such distinction remind one of the old lady's new bonnet, which, as she said, could hardly be seen with the naked eye.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The Masonic Lodge at Consett has decided to hold another ball this year.

The Vicar of Consett (Rev F. Steggall) was last week the recipient of a silver inkstand and candlesticks, presented by the scholars of the National School prior to their holidays.

Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P., of Consett Hall, who was last week reported to be unwell, has, we are glad to say, recovered so far that he is enabled to attend to his important duties.

As an indication of the sobriety of the people during the Christmas carnival, it may be interesting to learn that not a solitary toper was lodged in the police cells at Consett on Christmas Eve, and only two were locked up on the Christmas night.

Yesterday (Thursday) a somewhat heavy shower of snow fell in North-Western Durham, covering the ground to a depth of an inch. At night, a severe frost set in, making the thoroughfares exceeding slippery.

YEARLY FUND CLUB.—The Iron and Steelworkers' Friendly Benefit Society, held at the house of Mr Henry Roberts, Front Street, Consett, had their annual meeting on Saturday night. The money which fell to the share of each member was 18s 6d.

ORDINATION.—At the Advent ordination, held by the Bishop of Adelaide, acting for the Bishop of Durham, in St. Andrew's Church, Bishop Auckland, on Sunday, Revs L. G. F. Macpherson and M. J. Stent were ordained, and were respectively licensed to the curacies of Medomsley and Esh. Rev E. H. Bousfield, of Leadgate, was ordained a priest.

BLACKHILL

MISS TURNBULL'S FAREWELL.—Miss Turnbull, of Barrasford, who has held revival services in the United Methodist Free Church, Blackhill, for the last month, preached her farewell sermon on Sunday evening.

LEADGATE.

FOUND DEAD IN BED.—On Sunday morning, an aged woman, named Dorothy Hardy, 72 years, of Durham Road, Leadgate, was found dead in bed about two o'clock. She was living alone in the house, and had been ailing for some time, but appeared to be in her usual health when she retired the previous night. Margaret Postle found her in bed dead. She was seen after death by Dr Allan, who certified that she had died of heart disease.

FROSTERLEY.

Mr Wm. Cail has again been successful in a find of lead ore at the Stanhope Gill lead mine, Frosterley.

A quainted of dressed ore has arrived at Bollihope Smelting Mill from the above lead mine, and is pronounced to be of excellent quality.

LANCHESTER.

In the Parish Sunday, on Sunday, Rev F. W. Glyn, the vicar, preached the funeral sermon of the late Mr Wm. Hedley, J.P., of Burnhopeside Hall, the members of the deceased gentleman's household being present at the service.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

FIXTURES.—SATURDAY, DEC. 29TH.

Consett v Ryton, at Ryton.
Consett 2nd v Ryton 2nd, at Blackhill.
Medomsley v Rendel, at Newcastle.
Dipton Wanderers v Pelton Fell Harriers, at Pelton Fell.
Lintzford v Newfield, at West Pelton.
Tanfield Lea v Chester-le-Street, at Chester-le-Street.
Birtley v Bishop Auckland Town, at Birtley.
Birtley 2nd v Bishop Auckland Town 2nd, at Bishop Auckland.
Pelton Fell Harriers v New Herrington, at Pelton Fell.
Mickley v East End Swifts, at Mickley.
Mickley 2nd v Northern 2nd, at Newcastle.
Hamsterley Rangers v 3rd Durham, at Hamsterley.
Newcastle Rangers 3rd v Blaydon Star, at Newcastle.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Leadgate Exiles v Britannia Rovers (Middlesbrough), at Leadgate.
Medomsley v East End Swifts, at Medomsley.

LEADGATE EXILES V LANGLEY PARK ROVERS.—Played at Leadgate before a large company of spectators, and resulted in a victory for the Exiles by two goals to nil. After the match the visitors were entertained to tea, and spent a very jovial evening.

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

For the Christmastide holidays, the lessee (Mr R. J. Brodie) has secured an irresistible attraction in the appearance of Mr Horace Wheatley's Original *Muldoon's Pic-nic* Company, under the management of Messrs Wood and West. This comical absurdity makes an excellent substitute for a Christmas pantomine. *Muldoon's Pic-nic* created quite a *furore* amongst local playgoers, when it was presented by Mr West's Company two years last November. In this instance we are honoured with the original and only recognised *Muldoon's Pic-nic* Company extant: and since the contingent started on tour, many new and improved features have been introduced. The piece is capitally staged, and the scenery is new and fresh. The theatre was packed to excess on Christmas Eve, and on Boxing Day also the place was thronged at both afternoon and evening performances. The audiences assembled on every occasion have been fairly convulsed with laughter from the beginning to the end of the performance, and those people who wish to enjoy two hour's genuine fun and Irish wit and humour, they cannot act better than see this renowned company. In the *dramatis personæ*, Mr P. J. Harvey stands in the front rank in his faithful impersonation of "Mulcahy," his acting producing a constant flow of merriment. Mr Tom Coyne as "Mrs Muldoon" is also a conspicuous feature of the play. Mr E. L. West figures in his original character of "The Bowery Boy, and does the fullest justice to his *role*. The representation of "Dennis Muldoon" by Mr J. O'Keefe, is as near perfection as it is possible for mortals to bring it; while Mr G. W. Wood, as "The Dude," fairly captivates the delighted spectators. Miss A. Travellie gives a remarkably clever pourtrayal of "Kitty Muldoon." The other characters are likewise great favourites with the patrons of the theatre. The songs, ballads, &c., intersecting the piece are rendered in a most accomplished style, and the dancing is particularly good; the famous "three-handed reel" being noteworthy. The comical situations and ludicrous absurdities abounding in the humourous composition are really sufficient to make one "split one's sides with laughter." The theatre is sure to be crammed this week-end, and an early attendance will therefore be necessary to secure seats.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY WEARSIDER.]

The canvassing for the County Council election goes on apace; the official people on behalf of Mr Robson, the well known and respected chairman of the Guardians and Sanitary Authority, expressing themselves as highly satisfied with their results. Popular as Mr Robson was before in Chester-le-Street, he is doubly more so now, and if his friends act as they promised to do, his return is assured.

Some people have, to say the least of it, queer ideas about the duties, functions, and construction of the Councils. At a meeting held last week by one of the candidates for the Chester-le-Street division, an elector asked the candidate whether it was legal for a member of the House of Lords to become a County Councillor? "I am very sorry," said the candidate, "that Peers of the realm can be members of the County Council." "Then," said the malcontent, "When a lord goes to the County Council and objects to any measure before the Council, he will just vote against it and put his slippers on and walk up stairs to the Upper House and vote against it there also!" "Yes, sir," said the candidate, "That is it."

At the same meeting, this worthy candidate was proposed as a fit and proper person to represent the division. An amendment was moved that another gentleman was more fit and more proper to represent the constituency. Then the fun began. The chairman of the meeting, in order that he should not make any mistake, took a candle and walked around the room, carefully counting the votes for the amendment, announcing that there were thirteen votes in favour of it. Then the genius put the motion, and there were exactly the same number of hands held up. But our worthy chairman was quite equal to the occasion, and solemnly announced that the motion was carried unanimously!

The usual preparations are being made for the forthcoming festive season. As usual, the butchers are again to the front with splendid specimens of their wares. Mrs Henderson, at the Bridge End, has a splendid collection of beef, from the Lambton lairs, and mutton from the same place.

What was otherwise a pleasant and enjoyable holiday time was completely marred by the deplorable condition of the roads in our town. It is sheer unmitigated bosh to say that the weather is to blame for the bad roads. Persons who survived the "plodge" as far as Four Lane Ends, or the new bridge, know different. The roads there are good; roads at Chester-le-Street could not be worse than they are. During the whole of this holiday time the condition of the Front Street has been a disgrace to any civilised community, and has been the cause of fifty times as much profanity and bad temper as the County Council election is of excitement. From the off-shoots from the Front Street, what of those? Why the fact is that nobody, who was not obliged, ever attempted them, having had quite sufficient of the main thoroughfare. Let the change take place when it will, or as it may, the County Councils cannot make any more noise of the roads in this district than they have been doing the last two months. In the meantime surely somebody can do something to ameliorate the trouble and annoyance entailed, and the further loss through wear and tear on those veritable deserts of clarts which out of courtesy or sarcasm are called "roads." See to it, ye upon whom the duty devolves.

On Saturday, in Front Street, a man was bewailing the absence of snow, when his friend remarked: "Wey, man, it's snawin' as hard as ever it can i' Jacob Swalwell's shop window. Ge' the ways an' look; the window's half-full noo, and it's still cumin' doon!"

A word of thanks to those kind and thoughtful friends who have sent me so many Christmas card of various sorts. None have given me more pleasure than a splendidly lithographed picture from my old friend, Mr Joseph Murray, of Newcastle (our Shrovetide football hero), and excellently mounted and executed photographs of Lumley and Lambton Castles from Mr A. F. Fenton, of Chester-le-Street.

The town had a piebald look on Wednesday. Rightly or wrongly, there was a general impression that the shops would not open on that day. On Wednesday morning, however, one self-sacrificing draper opened his place of business, and was quickly followed by others, so that during the forenoon half of the shops were open and half shut. When mid-day came—the usual time for closing on Wednesday—there was peeping and prying as to who was going to close and who was not; then first and another closed, until at last the first offender was fairly shamed into shutting up. Truly, the tradesmen are a happy family.

My friend, Mr John Pyle—"Tory John"—conceives it to be his "mission and duty to enlighten the people and guide the Government!" And in order to accomplish that very desirable object has hired a hall in Chester-le-Street, and will at an early date deliver himself. Truly enough, John, the people want enlightening, and equally truly does the Government require guidance. Let us sincerely hope that Mr Pyle will be as successful in both points, particularly the second one, as he is enthusiastic and earnest.

A word of advice to the old man, by the way. Gird on your armour again, John, and instead of wasting your time and strength upon such unworthy objects as converting a crowd or "guiding a Government" prepare to meet your enemy, who may at any moment pounce upon you. I refer, of course, to your especial and particular foe—the London Coal Tax. Although you got the best of the last bout, after a hard fight, your enemy was by no means snuffed out, and is again ready, if not eager, for the fray.

Wishing my readers a Happy New Year, I take leave of them for the present, hoping they may enjoy all the good things calculated to bring enjoyment at this season of the year.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "ROWLEYITE."]

In your report of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board meeting in last week's issue, a certain member appeared very conspicuous by his absence. Let me say in his behalf that I learn it was inadvertently omitted.

On Friday night, there appeared in our midst one of the candidates for the Lanchester Division in the person of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith. The meeting was sparsely attended. Perhaps the appearance of Supt. Oliver, of Consett, might prevent the "beardless youths" from putting in their appearance. Mr Oliver has formed a very high opinion of the electors in this part of the division on account of their good behaviour. We withhold our forecasts as to the prospects of Mr Smith until we hear his rival, but "a straw indicates what way the strain runs."

The Castleside Jubilee Temperance Society held their first public meeting this season in the Board Schools, on Saturday night. An excellent programme was gone through, Rev J. W. Keyworth, Shotley Bridge, and Mr M. Brodie, Consett, being the speakers. Mr J. Ripley presided. This society was established last year in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and can boast of a membership of 60 adults; 104 juveniles—total, 164.

On Christmas Eve, Mr and Mrs J. Angus, of Healeyfield, provided a sumptuous repast in the Board Schools, Castleside, for the choir and teachers connected with the Baptist Church, Rowley. After the cloths were removed, games were indulged in to the amusement of all present. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

A similar treat was given to the Primitive Methodist choir and a few friends by Mr and Mrs Storey, Derwent Grange, which was turned to practical account, bringing into the treasury £2 1s. The last-named choir paid a visit to Allansford House, and were kindly received and entertained by Mr and Mrs Hiddleston.

Our Wesleyan friends held their annual sale of goods and tea meeting in their school-room on Christmas Day, and in the evening the choir gave an interesting entertainment or service of sacred song, entitled "The deacon's week," in the chapel. The connective readings were rendered by Mr T. Duckworth in a very masterly style. Mr G. Jackson was conductor, and Mr J. Hodgson presided at the harmonium.

The death of Mr R. Ward, Clerk to the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board, on Christmas Day, cast a gloom over the village, and made many hearts sad that otherwise would have been merry making. Mr Ward was one of the oldest inhabitants, and was highly respected by all who knew him, and those who knew him best loved him most. His loss will be keenly felt by the members of the Board, as he has been clerk since its formation.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

As a sequel to a sermon at Frosterley Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Sunday morning, by Rev James Taylor, Westgate, on the parable of the tares and wheat, and an enemy sowing the tares; towards the conclusion of the sermon a farmer arose in the audience and addressed the minister thus: "There's a chap sitting at your left far worse than the enemy who sowed the tares. He robbed the maggie sitting on its nest."

An evangelist labouring at Frosterley, while on a visiting tour the other day, called at a house where there were three youngsters who had not been baptised. He prevailed upon the parents to have them christened, and they consented. He managed the two younger ones all right, but the eldest was an obstreperous lad in clogs. He resented the strange treatment of the evangelist, and kicked and flung. However, by sheer force, he held the struggling lad until he sprinkled his face with water. After he had accomplished his purpose, the boy ran to his father, and said: "Daddy, that man's washed me without soap."

Dissenting ministers sometimes have a plethora of christenings at their chapels. It fell to the lot of the Primitive minister, Rev E. Phillipson, the other day, at Frosterley, to have four one day. The parents being present, he asked the last one's mother what her husband was. The young mother, looking significantly at the rev. gentleman, said: "Wey, he's a man." "Yes," said the minister, "but what is his occupation?" The mother did not comprehend his meaning, when he said, in plain English, "What does he do?" "Wey," said she, "he minds horses." Seeing the other parents suppressing their mirth, he asked no more questions, but christened the baby.

One of the most popular Church of England ministers in Weardale has just put his foot in the can at the little village of Eastgate. The minister there was highly esteemed by all whenever he called upon Dissenters in aid of Church missions, Dorcas society, or for any other Church effort, they always assisted him. It is said, however, that last week, when the Wesleyans called upon him for their Christmas effort, he positively refused them a small subscription, and the consequence is that he has sunk considerably in their estimation, and unless a direct contradiction is given to this statement, his visits to Dissenters in future will be fruitless.

Mr George Robinson, at the Stanhope Band concert on Friday evening, gave a cornet solo in excellent style. It being his maiden effort in public at solo playing he was well received, and sat down amid rapturous applause, again and again repeated. Both Mr De Lacy and Mr Godfrey, of London, two eminent musicians, have on separate occasions spoken in warm terms of his high-class performances. He is a young man of excellent promise.

Jock's speech at St. John's Chapel was rather hard on the clergy. They have not always been the enemies of the working classes. The Rev R. Maughan, of Copt Hall, was a brave exception. He did a lot for the welfare of the youth of the dale. He took many by the hand and helped to educate them, and put them in a fair way to win fame and fortune. Bishop Barrington did a lot for Weardale in establishing schools all over the dale and educating numbers of poor people's children free. There are excellent men in the old church as well as in any other denomination.

SACRED CANTATA AT CONSETT.

Last (Thursday) night, the sacred cantata, "Nativity," was performed in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, by the choir of the Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel, assisted by several members of Castleside Primitive Methodist Choir. The accompaniments were efficiently performed by a full orchestra. The conductor was Mr H. P. Thompson, and Mr Thos. Jones presided at the organ. Notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather, the spacious hall was well filled, and the performance throughout was of the most successful character. The programme opened with an instrumental march, by the band, followed by the chorus, "O'er the verdant plains of Bethlehem," for which the performers were heartily applauded. Mr C. C. McColvin came next with a tenor solo, "O be not afraid," which he sang in capital style, gaining the hearty applause of the audience. The choir sang the chorus, "To God in highest glory," in a highly-creditable manner, and were followed by the band, who rendered a symphony with good effect. The chorus, "As a fair dream is fading," was succeeded by a recitative by Mr McColvin, "Then the shepherds they said," which was also well received. The band now gave an instrumental march, after which came a choral march, "We go by angel bidden," which the choir rendered in excellent style. The first part was concluded by a quartette, "By the herald-angel guided," by Mrs and Miss Brodie, and Messrs McColvin and Duckworth, who were accorded a hearty outburst of applause. Part two commenced with a contralto solo, "Oh, 'twas not a vision we saw," by Miss Symm, which she sang in a manner that fully maintained the reputation she has already gained in this district. Master Ripley ably assisted Miss Symm in the duet, "We will publish to all men around," and were followed by the chorus, "O list the grand chorus we heard," both pieces being well received. Next came the solo and chorus, "I ponder o'er the words divine," by Miss Elliott and the choir, which were rendered very effictively, the soloist being well applauded. The quartette, "With weary weeks of travel," by Misses Watson and Maund, and Messrs Bell and Poole, fully deserved the outburst of cheering which it elicited, and the solo and chorus, "O come all ye faithful," by Miss Ramsden and the choir, was very highly appreciated; indeed Miss Ramsden had come a good distance in order to render her services on this occasion, and was amply repaid by the enthusiastic manner in which her efforts were greeted. The choir sang the chorus "Now Lord we part in Thy great Name," which was followed by an instrumental march from the band, which was rendered with good effect. The concluding chorus, "Hallelujah, amen," having been sung by the choir, the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem. The orchestra comprised the following:—First violins—Messrs T. Cuthbertson, W. A. Hoe, T. Charlton, and J. Milburn; second violins—Messrs J. Wildsmith, C. E. Harrison, and T. Longworth; violincellos—Mr N. Fawell and J. Harbottle; contra-bass—Mr R. Dawson; flute—Mr C. Stelling; clarionet—Mr Wilkinson; bassoon—Mr G. Forster; cornets—Messrs J. Lamb and J. J. Thompson.—The committee are desirous of thanking the performers (both vocal and instrumental—some of whom reside at long distances from Consett, viz.:—Castleside, West Stanley, Allendale Cottages, &c.) for so ably assisting in bringing the undertaking to a successful issue. Great credit is also due to the committee, the conductor (Mr Thompson), and the secretary (Mr G. Bell) for the excellent manner in which the arrangements were carried out. The proceeds are to be devoted to the fund for purchasing an organ for the chapel.

THE WEEK.

GOOD NEWS OF STANLEY.

UNIVERSAL satisfaction will be felt at the news that Mr. Stanley and Emin Pasha were alive and well on the 17th of August last. It is the one bright ray which lights up the black and gloomy reports which of late have been pouring in from Africa. For more than a year nothing has been heard of Mr. Stanley. The last intelligence dates as far back as November, 1887, when he left his base on the Congo to go in search of Emin. Since that date nothing but rumours and reports have reached England. At last we have authentic information. On the 29th of August, so the telegram from Zanzibar states, Tippoo Tib received a letter from Mr. Stanley, which has been forwarded to Zanzibar. Mr. Stanley writes that he had left Emin eighty-two days before—that would be early in June—"in perfect health, and had himself returned for his rearguards and loads." Sir John Pender, the chairman of the Eastern Telegraph Company, has informed the Foreign Office that he also has received a telegram from San Thorme, which is on the mouth of the Congo, stating that Mr. Stanley and Emin have arrived at Aruwhimi. So that information has arrived simultaneously from both sides of the great Continent as to the safety of these intrepid travellers. But there is a certain discrepancy in the two reports, and some authorities are inclined to discredit both rumours on account of this discrepancy, but it seems to us that the conflicting statements can be very easily reconciled. In this case we may expect before long to hear that their troubles are over, and that they have reached in safety a comparatively civilised portion of the Dark Continent. But how about the "White Pasha of the Bahr-el-Gazel." If this latest intelligence be true, who can this mysterious person be? Is it possible that he is only a myth, engendered in the miasmas of the African forest?

DR. TANNER'S CONDUCT.

THE technicalities of the Appropriation Bill will not interest everybody, and the public are not likely to excite themselves over the question whether Sir John Gorst was right in his ruling, which spared the House of Commons a good deal of discussion. But there can be only one opinion about the conduct of Dr. Tanner. This person is at best a buffoon, and at his worst, he is an intolerable discredit to his party. We do not care to quote the expressions which he applied to Mr. Balfour. It is a pity they cannot suffice to ensure his expulsion from Parliament. If the Government should propose a rule next session that any member who misconducts himself in this fashion shall be summarily expelled, we hope it will be adopted. The Irish members will make a great mistake if they endeavour to shield Dr. Tanner. They have as a party materially changed their methods of warfare. Anyone who compares the keenest of the Irish debates in this Parliament with the storms of 1881 must admit that the temper of Mr. Parnell's followers has considerably improved. There are reasons for this, but unfortunately no kind of reason has any influence over the member for Mid-Cork. It is possible that if he were threatened by Mr. Parnell with expulsion from the Irish party he might be quiescent for a short time. There was once some sign that a reproof from his leader had partially sobered Dr. Tanner, but this improvement was brief.

LAWRENCE OLIPHANT.

A remarkable career has been closed by the death of Mr. Lawrence Oliphant. In him was combined a peculiarly keen intellect with a strange mystic nature, and an insatiable love of adventure. The outcome of this, as may well be imagined, was a curiously eventful life. Many were the avocations which he took up for a time. In turns he was a newspaper correspondent, a diplomatist, a novelist, and a writer of travels. It was as impossible for him to remain any length of time in one spot as it is for the swallow to stay on our shores when the autumn approaches. Instead of going to college he implored his father to allow him to travel. To quote a writer who was well acquainted with Mr. Oliphant: "He now passed from a Warwickshire vicarage to the Champs Elysées; spent a winter in Paris, roamed over Germany, Switzerland, and the Tyrol, and looked in at Rome, Greece, and Egypt came next, and by the time he reached the Nile all idea of Cambridge had been given up, and he was ready to return to Ceylon as his father's secretary. He was called to the Ceylon bar, and had been engaged in twenty-three murder cases before he was as many years old." This was not a bad commencement for a life of adventure, and before it had closed there were few out-of-the-way spots which Mr. Oliphant had not visited. He was just as much at home in society in London, where his extraordinary personal charm made him a universal favourite. It was only in the latter years of his life that he developed the semi-religious, semi-mystical tendency which was to assume such a prominent position before his death. It cannot be said that Mr. Oliphant was a great man, but he was certainly one of the most interesting characters of the day.

HOW GERMANS CIVILIZE.

OUR interference on the East Coast of Africa so far has not produced very happy results. The unfortunate subjects of the Sultan of Zanzibar must, indeed, regard our meddling policy with peculiar distaste. The Sultan is clearly a man of irascible temper and illogical mind. He does not like being dictated to by Europeans, and he vents his wraths upon the natives. "I like not the manner of the Christians," he is reported to have said, "therefore will I always rule by the precepts of Mahomet." The form of precept which he first selected to follow deals with the sanctity of human life. If the rendering of the Sultan be correct, the Koran must contain some very bloodthirsty doctrines; for the immediate effect of the Sultan's return to Mahomedan customs was shewn by his ordering a number of prisoners to be beheaded without trial. In the most simple and expeditious manner they were brought out into the public streets and there and then decapitated. Every day the spectacle is to be repeated until, we suppose, there are no more prisoners to be relieved of their heads. Everyone must admit that the German and English Alliance has not had a very civilising effect in this respect. Neither does it seem to have had a particularly humanising influence in other directions. Riots and fighting are now reported to be matters of every day occurrence in the thoroughfares of Zanzibar. These disturbances are due to the behaviour of the cultured Germans, who when drunk kick the natives through the streets. The English method of civilising native races is somewhat rough and ready, but the German procedure is evidently much more violent. If the natives were left to themselves they would not be more barbarous, and they would assuredly be happier. The partnership with Germany up to now can hardly be called successful.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, Dec. 24th.—Before JAS. ANNANDALE, Esq. (in the chair), and H W. WATSON, Esq.

HIGHWAY ACT.

Daniel Donnolly, cartman, Consett, was again summoned by P C. Lewis for allowing his horse to stray out of his field on the road to Castleside (belonging the Consett Iron Company) on the 30th Nov.—Since the summons was served, the officer said he had on two occasions seen the defendant's animal grazing upon the highway.—Defendant stated that the fences were so bad that he could not keep his horse in the field.—The court inflicted a penalty of 2s 6d and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

George Iley and *John Walton*, young men, pleaded guilty to fighting on the highway at Castleside, 5th inst., and were bound over for a period of six months, and ordered to defray the costs.

CATTLE STRAYING.

William Brown, farmer, was charged by P.C. Vickers with permitting a cow to graze upon the highroad between Shotley Bridge and Ebchester, 12th inst.—The case was dismissed.

KEEPING DOGS WITHOUT LICENSES.

John O'Neil, of Consett, and *Henry McArdle*, of Castleside, were summoned by P.C. Lewis for keeping dogs without licenses, and were directed to pay fines of 5s and costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

William McCluskey, of Flint Hill, *John Harrison*, and *John Smith*, of Lintz Colliery, were summoned by Mr W. Ward, for the School Attendance Committee of the Lanchester Union, for neglecting to make their children attend school with regularity.—McCluskey was fined 5s. and Harrison 2s 6d, inclusive of costs. Smith was discharged.

Thomas Telford and *George Reilly*, of Blackhill, were charged by Mr A. McKean, schoolwarden in the service of the Benfieldside School Board, with not causing their children to go to school.—In each instance fines of 5s were imposed.

With regard to the summons preferred against *Catherine Quinn* and *John Connor*, both of Shotley Bridge, for the non-attendance of their children at school (adjourned from the last court), the cases were dismissed, the attendance officer having neglected to apply for attendance orders against the defendants.

MISTAKING HIS MAN.

John Houldsworth, a person of powerful build, and a wrestler, pleaded guilty to having assaulted P.C. Sanderson, at Dipton, on Tuesday night, 18th Dec.—The officer deposed that he was standing on the road near to the Red Lion Inn, when defendant came up, and without any warning, struck at him, and seizing the policeman by the waist, threw him down upon the ground. Houldsworth had had some drink, but knew what he was doing. He was taken into custody.—Defendant stated that he had been using gelatine that day, and it had affected his head. He mistook the constable for another person.—Supt. Oliver explained that on frequent occasions defendant had assisted the police.—Under the circumstances, therefore, the Bench only fined the defendant 10s and costs.

ATTACHING A POLICE-OFFICER WITH A POKER.

Edward McGlade, a young man, was placed in the dock charged with being drunk and disorderly in William Street, Consett, about 11·45 on the preceding Saturday night.—P.C. Million proved the charge, defendant being causing an uproar by fighting with a female.—Fined 5s and costs.

Andrew McGlade, father of the last defendant, was brought up on a charge of assaulting P.C. Million at the same time and place.—Prosecutor testified that he found young McGlade fighting and quarrelling with a woman. He got hold of McGlade, when prisoner rushed out of the house with a poker, 18 inches long, and felled the officer upon the head. The weapon was wielded with much force, that it knocked a hole in his helmet, and caused a wound on his head. He was in the act of delivered a second blow, when P.C. Tomlinson came to the rescue. Prisoner was not the worse for liquor. He was taken in charge, but he resisted the efforts of the police with considerable violence.—P.C. Tomlinson and Sergt. Bain adduced substantial testimony.—Prisoner was also accused of damaging the officer's helmet. Supt. Oliver affirming that it would cost 10s 6d to replace the head-gear.—The Justices observed that this was a gross assault, and inflicted a penalty of 40s and costs. For destroying the helmet, he was further fined 1s besides paying 10s 6d damage and expenses—£3 4s 8d in all.

POCKET-PICKING AT QUEBEC: AN IMPUDENT TRICK.

John James Meikle, a young fellow, who is somewhat deaf, was charged with having stolen 19s 6d from the person of John Haigh, miner, of Quebec, on the Friday night previous.—Prosecutor adduced that at 10·30 p.m., prisoner, himself and others were drinking in Mr R. Wall's, Hamsteels Colliery Inn. He paid for a quart of beer, and tendered a sovereign, receiving 19s 6d "change," and he deposited the money in his pocket. Prisoner was sitting on the left side, and he put his right hand into Haigh's left pocket and drew out the 19s 6d. Prosecutor felt someone fumbling in his pocket, and he wrenched a half-crown from Meikle's hand. The landlord "collared" prisoner at the bar, and he told the police what had transpired.—Thomas Maddison, miner, Quebec, who lives with prisoner and is his brother-in-law, spoke to hearing the prosecutor assert that he had been robbed. He took the half-crown from Meikle.—Sergt. Nicholson gave evidence of arresting the prisoner, and on charging him he replied that he had not a single farthing in his possession. Witness searched the man, and found 17s in his pocket, while Maddison handed him the other 2s 6d which had been taken from the prisoner. He next charged Meikle with stealing the 19s 6d, and he offered no rejoinder. He was not intoxicated, and was aware of what he was about.—Prisoner confessed his guilt, and elected for the case to be summarily dealt with.—Prisoner's wife and brother asked their Worships not to send him to prison, but merely to inflict a fine.—The Magistrates decided to impose a fine of £3.

SECOND COURT.

Before W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq.

THE DRUNKEN LIST.

Thomas Anderson, *Joseph Woodmass*, *George Middleton*, and *David Higgins* were charged by Sergt. Thornton with being drunk and disorderly at Dipton, on the 7th and 14th Dec.—Anderson did not appear, and was fined 10s and costs, or 14 day's hard labour. The rest of the defendants were fined 5s and expenses.

Jonathan Turnbull and *Joseph Campbell* were proceeded against by P.C. Sanderson for having been guilty of a like offence, at Dipton, and were fined—Turnbull 5s, and Campbell 10s and costs, with the option of 14 days in goal.

John Arthurs was accused by Sergt. Bain of drunkenness at Consett, on 15th Dec., and was ordered to pay 5s fine and costs.

Jeremiah McCarthy neglected to appear to answer a charge, instituted against him by Sergt. Tranmer, of being intoxicated at Consett, on the 28th inst., and was mulcted in a penalty of 10s and costs.

P.C. Lawson charged *James O'Neil*, *John Doolan*, *Thomas Grant*, *William Hanlon*, *James Hagan*, and *Thomas McKenna* with having been drunk and causing an uproar at Consett, on the 15th of this month.—Each offender was fined 5s and expenses.

Patrick Ward, who was summoned by P.C. Stankley for drunkenness at Consett, on the same date, was similarly punished.

Emma McDermott, *Edward Hanlon*, *Joseph Barron*, *Edward McGlade*, and *William Eccles*, for having been intoxicated at Consett, were also fined 5s and costs.—P.C. Million preferred the charges.

Robert Heslop was convicted, upon the testimony of Sergt. Green, of being drunk at Leadgate, on the 8th inst., and was fined in a like amount.

Thomas Moore, charged by Sergt. Tate with being in a drunken state at Blackhill, on the 22nd inst., was fined 10s and costs, in default 14 days, for non-appearance.

Thomas Bilcliffe was charged by P.C. Hudson with being found intoxicated at Broomhill, on the 8th inst., and was fined 5s and costs.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Dec. 20th. — Before Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE (in the chair), GEO. G. TAYLOR SMITH. Esq., JAS. HARTLEY, Esq., and W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Patterson Blacklock, *George Stoves*, *Thomas Clark*, *William Cuthbert*, and *William Morton*, were each summoned by P C Robinson for having been drunk and creating a disturbance at West Stanley, on the 24th ult.—Each offender was fined 5s and costs.

John Dobbinson, *Bernard Minniken*, and *George Welsh*, miners, Biggen Colliery, were also proceeded against by P C Bradley for committing the same offence at Lanchester, on the 1st, 7th, and 8th Dec.—Minniken was "carrying-on" with a tipsy woman at The Nook.—Defendants were mulcted in a penalty of 5s each and expenses.

BROTHERS AT VARIANCE.

Isiah and *Samuel Ferguson*, and *William* and *Adam Batey*, brothers, were charged by P C Minto with disturbing the peace at Annfield Plain, on December 1st. The brothers were fighting with each other.—They were all bound over in the sum of £5 for the space of six months, and ordered to pay the costs.

EJECTMENT OF A NEWSAGENT.

Mr W Steele Stobo, Newcastle, applied on behalf of the Commercial Permanent Building Society for an ejectment order against *Benjamin Riddell*, newsagent, printer, &c, West Stanley, who did not appear, for recovery of the premises now occupied by him in James Street.—Mr Stobo said that the tenancy, which was a monthly one, had been duly determined, and he had had notice if he wished to attend that day to oppose the application.—Mr Osborne said that he attended at West Stanley, and demanded possession, in pursuance of the notice given, and the occupant refused to quit. He sent the notice over to Riddell.—The order was granted.—At the close of the court, Riddell appeared to oppose the order, but Mr Stobo was gone, and after the defendant had explained his position to the magistrates, Mr Granger advised him to see Mr Stobo and come to terms, as, if the tenancy was a yearly one, and action had been taken upon that of monthly, if they proceeded they would be liable to an action.

PITCH AND TOSS.

William Heslop, *Matthew Stephenson*, *James Laidler*, *John Smith*, *Joseph Whitfield*, *William Rule*, *Henry Cudlip*, *John Neilson*, and *Matthew Connelly*, were charged by Sergt Davidson with playing pitch and toss on a footpath at Shield Row, on Sunday afternoon, 25th ult, and were each mulcted in a penalty of 5s and costs.

Joseph Prudhoe, *John W Wallace*, *William Harrison*, *John Holt*, *Forest Winter*, *John Rumney*, and *Charles Daley* were charged by P C Crabb with committing the same offence at Craghead, on the same date, and were fined 5s each and costs.

A LAZY HUSBAND GETS HIS DESERTS.

George Wilkes, an elderly man, a labourer (who was arrested on a warrant at Wakefield), was summoned by his wife, Mary Wilkes, of Cornsay Colliery, for £2 14s, besides some other costs, due for her maintenance.—Defendant: I am only making 3s a week, and I have 2s to pay out of it for lodgings.—The Chairman: You must be working at a poor trade, only to earn that sum.—Supt. Oliver: It will take him a long while to pay £4 3s 6d at that rate.—Complainant: They pay a good deal more than that down in Yorkshire. He was earning £1 a week, because I have had a letter from his master to say so. He let his sons keep him walking about for two years, for he would not work, and then he said he was going down to Yorkshire to live with his sister. He left complainant and her two daughters out of health.—The Chairman: It is quite clear that you are a lazy man and won't support your wife; you will have to go to goal for a month with hard labour.—Defendant said he would work if he could get it.—Mr Granger: And unless you keep your wife when you come out you will have to go to gaol again; you must keep your wife, you know.—Prisoner went to goal, adding as he left the dock, that his wife would not give him anything to eat. (Laughter).

SIGNALLING IN COAL-MINES: IMPORTANT MAGISTERIAL RECOMMENDATION.

A respectable looking person, named *Robt. Robson*, banksman, employed at Mr J. H. Burn's West Stanley colliery, was charged by Mr J. M. Wilson, manager, with a breach of the special rules of the colliery, on the 28th Nov., by allowing a lad to ride against the tubs.—Mr Wilson stated that in some way the defendant had misunderstood the signal, perhaps not carelessly, but through a mistake, and hence the breach of the special rules. He missed the signal somehow, and the boy came up against the loaded tubs.—Defendant: The onsetter rapped to "hang on," and it must have been a mistake between him and me.—Mr Wilson: I do not think it was intentional on defendant's part. It is a very simple case, but if I do not prosecute the Government Inspector would be down upon me.—Mr Hartley: It seems a barbarous system of signalling, these old-fashioned raps. Could you not adopt some other plan—say the telephone, the telegraph, or electric bell? It seems easy for a man to make a mistake.—Mr Wilson: The system is approved of by the Mines Inspector, and it has been in vogue for a great number of years. Ask the man himself if he does not think it sufficient.—Mr Van Haansbergen: It cannot be sufficient when he has made a mistake.—The Bench considered that a breach of the rules had been committed, and inflicted a fine of 10s. At the same time they threw out a suggestion to the owners to adopt a more perfect method, as they had so many cases of this kind from various collieries. They might adopt the telephone, the electric bell, or some more primitive method than rapping.—Mr Wilson: I will bring the matter under the notice of my owners.

ALLEGED THEFT AT CONSETT: A WARNING TO TRADESPEOPLE.

Ellen Trodden, an old woman, was charged with larceny from the shop of Messrs Hepworth and Sons, clothiers, Shakespeare Street, Consett, on the 18th inst.—Robert Dowson, manager, deposed that on Tuesday, 18th inst., about four o'clock, he missed a pair of trousers and a vest from the shop door, worth 10s, and on going to the door defendant was pointed out, but he would not swear that it was her. He gave information to the police, and left the matter in their hands.—Bernard McAleer, landlord of the Duke of Wellington Inn, Harvey Street, Consett, said that on the date named prisoner came to his house. She had a pair of new trouser and vest, which she wanted to sell, saying that she had bought the pawn ticket for 2s 6d. She asked three of them if they would buy them, but all refused. The material was something like the coat produced. She came back, and said she had given them back to the party she got them from, but if he would buy them she could soon get them.—John William Johnson, innkeeper, Consett, corroborated.—P.C. Lawson said he went to prisoner's house about six p.m. on Tuesday. She said, "I know nothing about any trousers and vest; I have just come in from work." He left, and went to McAleer's house, and she followed him in. She was then arrested, and taken to the Police Station. Next morning she asked what she was in for, and he told her. She then said, "As I was coming from work last night I met a woman, who gave me the trousers and vest to sell for her. I tried to sell them, but could not."—The Bench considered that there was not sufficient evidence to convict, and dismissed the case, the Chairman reminding the prisoner that there was a long list of drunken charges against her, and advised her to give it up, and not be led away with such temptations. At the same time he cautioned tradespeople against the practice of hanging things outside.—Mr Dowson stated that they were hanging close to the door.—The Chairman thought that it was a great temptation to people to steal.

THE PRIZE-FIGHT NEAR CONSETT.

John Thomas Lazenby and *Robert Fleming*, miners, West Kyo, were summoned for committing a breach of the peace at Little Greencroft, near Consett, on the 24th November. Defendants were the principals in a prize fight which took place for £5 stakes.—P.C. Bradley deposed that about nine o'clock on the morning in question he caught the two defendants engaged in

A PRIZE-FIGHT.

in a grass field close to the roadside at Little Greencroft. There were about 30 men around the combatants. As soon as they espied witness they took to their heels. He followed them about 60 yards, passing Fleming, and he caught Lazenby.—The Bench: Which of these men was most hurt?—The officer: They were both punished alike.—The Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): They both got "hammered." —Officer: Yes.—Mr Taylor Smith: It was

A DRAWN BATTLE,

I suppose?—The constable: Yes. — Defendants pleaded guilty, and were both bound over, in their own recognisances in the sum of £20, to keep the peace for six months, and to provide sureties for the same amount; also to defray the expenses.

Two young men, named *William Nichols* and *Jos. Halliday*, also pitmen belonging to West Kyo, were summoned for a breach of the peace in aiding and abetting in the prize fight.—Bradley spoke to seeing these defendants carrying the clothes and boots of the principals, together with

A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY.

(Laughter).—These offenders also pleaded guilty, and were bound over for six months in the sum of £10; to find sureties of that amount, and to pay 9s each costs.

George Turnbull, of Dipton, and *Hugh McGee*, of Leadgate, were likewise accused of taking part in the prize fight by aiding and abetting.—Defendants repudiated the charge.—The policeman stated that these men followed the combatants across the fields. Turnbull's hands were

SMEARED WITH BLOOD.

—The Bench: How do you account for that?—Officer: I cannot say.—The Clerk: Were the men taking any active part in the encounter?—Officer: No, but they were there.—The Clerk: If that is all you cannot charge them with aiding and abetting unless they are doing something. It is not sufficient to show that they were

MERE SPECTATORS.

—McGee: I had nothing to do with it, your worships. — The Chairman said the men were evidently in bad company, but under the circumstances they dismissed the case.

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CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 19th.—Before COL. SHEPPEE (chairman), and H. W. KERRICH-WALKER, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Marwood, *William Davison*, *Andrew Lightly* and *John Bainbridge* were each fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk.

Charles Taylor, *Robert Laverick*, *Robert Punshon* and *John Whaley* for being drunk and disorderly, were each mulct in a penalty of 7s 6d and costs.

Samuel and *Reuben Bennet* and *Joseph Elliot* did not appear in answer to similar charges, and warrants for their arrest were ordered.

THE BURNSIDE FAMILY.

Susannah Burnside was charged with assaulting —William Burnside, at Chester-le-Street, 10th inst. Complainant was going down Front Street, when his aunt attacked him. She said if somebody would thrash him she would stand a gallon of beer. She followed him down the street, and struck him on the face. She used very abusive language to him, and dared him to strike at her. She also went to seek another man to fight him.—Cross-examined by Mr J. Turnbull (for the defence): He did not call his aunt a filthy name when he met her. Without any provocation she began the disturbance, and struck at him. There was an old grudge arising from a County Court action.—Edward Stewart and Alice Crossby both deposed to seeing defendant strike William Burnside on the face.—P.C. McKay saw defendant very drunk.—Alice Burnside said her mother did not strike at William.—Defendant was bound over to keep the peace, and ordered to pay costs.

A WILD ANIMAL.

John Walker Gardine was charged with refusing to quit the premises of Annie McLean, at Chester-le-Street, on the 10th inst., and further with assaulting P.C. McKay at the same time. Mr Turnbull, (Chester-le-Street and Durham), defended, and admitted the refusal to quit, and also pleaded guilty to a technical assault. Their worships however, would hear something about a knife, the use of that instrument he denied.—Mrs McLean gave formal evidence that prisoner went to her house, and was refused drink. He was ordered out and refused to go. Then he interfered with a workman who was employed on the premises. When remonstrated with he struck at witness, and she sent for the police.—P.C. McKay deposed that he was sent for to Mrs McLeans house; when he went he found prisoner very violent. He refused twice to leave the house, and witness put him out. Prisoner immediately went back into the house, and witness put him out again, whereupon prisoner struck witness twice on the mouth. Witness closed with him and prisoner took a knife out of his pocket and struck witness three times, cutting him twice in two places, and inflicting a wound upon his throat. Witness told a man named Burnside to pick the knife up, which prisoner threw away after stricking with it. He then took prisoner to the lock-up.—Cross-examined: He knew nothing of Gardiner before that night. He was quite sure the prisoner used the knife; saw him take it from his pocket. The wound on his throat had healed up.—Mr Kerrich-Walker: There can be no doubt about the wound on the officer's throat, Mr Turnbull, I saw that myself.—William Burnside saw the struggle between prisoner and the officer. He also heard the officer say that Gardiner was using a knife, and after the officer told him to pick the knife up he did so.—Edward Stewart was in Front Street at the time, and saw the struggle. He also heard the officer say that prisoner was using a knife, and saw Burnside pick the knife up.—Inspector Maxwell said that when McKay brought Gardiner to the police station prisoner was more like a wild animal than anything else. Prisoner was not hand-cuffed.—John Young and Christopher Newton, a private in the Northumberland Fusiliers on furlough, both saw the struggle; they both heard the officer say that prisoner was using a knife. They did not see the knife; prisoner could not have used a knife without their seeing it.—The Chairman said it was a most serious thing. If prisoner's aim had been more accurate, or the blow with the knife given with more force, the officer would have been killed or seriously injured, and prisoner would have been then before them in a much more serious position. As it was they felt that they must inflict the full penalty they had the power to do. Prisoner would have to go to gaol for six months, with hard labour, for the assault on the police, and would have to pay a fine of 16s and costs for refusing to quit, or other 14 days.

A KIBBLESWORTH ROW.

Thomas Mitcheson was charged with assaulting Thomas Lowery, at Kibblesworth, 1st inst., and further with assaulting Jane Lowery, at the same time and place. Mr Fred Harle appeared for the complainants.—Thomas Lowery stated that he had occasion to go outside his own door at about ten o'clock at night. When he got outside defendant was there, and said "Tommy Look-up" then struck at witness, who at once went into his house again; but defendant followed him in and struck at him and also at his wife. Defendant also threw a pan lid at witness, which struck the door post.—Examined by Mr Turnbull (for the defence): Had not given the defendant any provocation; did not offer on that day or any other to fight defendant. The quarrel did not begin with a fair set fight between witness and the defendant.—Mrs Lowery corroborated the statement made by her husband. Defendant struck at her husband, and also at her. Neither her husband nor herself had given defendant any provocation.—A number of witnesses were called on each side, and in answer to the Bench, P.C. McClymont stated that he knew all the parties concerned in the cases; they were all a bad lot.—The Chairman said it was a serious case, but not so serious as the assault upon the police, which they had just disposed of. All the parties had been drinking, and had taken more than was good for them, and had got into that mess. Defendant had no doubt done a thing he had no right to do. He would have to pay a fine of 5s and costs in each case.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

John Cummings and *Albert Davis* were charged with fighting at Chester-le-Street, on the 8th inst.—P C Eland said there was a regular fight going on; both the men had their clothes off.—Cummings was bound over to keep the pease for three months, in his own recognisance, in the sum of £5; and Davis for six months, in his own recognisance of £5, and a surety for £5.

Richard and *John Carr* were charged with a similar offence at Ouston, on the 18th inst.—John was bound over to keep the peace for three months, and Richard for six months, in their own recognisances of £5 each.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Patrick Duffy, *Charles Sweeney*, *Edward Grant*, *James Murphy*, and *James Finnion* were charged with playing at pitch and toss, at Ouston, on the 25th ult.—P C Cowen proved the charge, and defendants were each fined 1s and costs.

George Laverick, *Charles* and *Baley Richardson*, *William Bruce*, *William* and *John Morpeth*, *Robert Siddell*, *Aaron Smith*, *George Laverick*, *Christopher Kirkup*, *James*, *John*, and *Henry Wardle*, pleaded guilty to playing at pitch and toss, at Pelton, on the 9th inst.—Sergt Fraser, Pelton Fell, proved the charge, and each defendant was ordered to pay 1s each and costs, with the exception of the Wardles, who were fined 1s 6d each and costs.

A LENIENT VIEW.

Barbara Forster, aged 13 years, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing a pair of stockings, value 2s 6d, the property of Elizabeth Ruddy, at Low Flatts, on the 11th inst.—Mrs Ruddy said she hung the stockings on the clothes line; she saw them there at one o'clock, and again at four. When she went to bring them in, between four and five o'clock, they were gone. She gave information to the police. Defendant lived close to witness.—P C Kay arrested defendant, and charged her with the theft; she denied it at first, but ultimately admitted it.—Defendant said she was very sorry for what she had done; she never did anything like that before, and would not do it again.—The Chairman said it appeared that the girl had not been properly brought up; she had not been instructed what was right and wrong. They did not want to place a stigma that would stick to her all her life upon a young girl like that. Mrs Ruddy had got her stockings back, and did not ask for her to be severely punished. The case would therefore be dismissed, but they hoped it would be a caution, not only to the defendant, but to others.

EDUCATION ACT.

At the instance of Mr William Parkin, attendance-officer, *Thomas Blackett* was summoned for neglecting to send his child to school.—Fined 5s.

John Tinkler was similarly charged and fined.

Joseph Lister, *Mary A Mulgrave*, and *Thomas Willis* had attendance orders made upon them.

Frederick Holliday and *Matthew Kennedy* were also summoned by Mr Parkin.—The cases were each adjourned for 14 days.

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OPENING OF A NEW CHAPEL AT MILKWELL BURN.

On Saturday afternoon, the new chapel at Milkwell Burn was opened, the service being conducted by Rev C. Ogden, Newcastle, who preached an excellent sermon from the first verses of the 19th chapter of St. Luke's Gospel. He illustrated, from the scriptural incident there recorded about Zacheus, the manner in which Christ called sinners to Him, and also the necessity of making the soul's salvation sure. There was a good company present, although the weather was not very favourable. The need of this chapel has been greatly felt for a number of years. For a long time the members of the society have held their meetings in an old building, which was found to be too small even for ordinary purposes, and the ventilation was so bad that delicate persons were afraid to frequent it when a large number was expected. For the past twelve months the members have striven to erect a chapel, and their labours have been rewarded with success. About five months ago the foundation-stone was laid by Mr Proud, of South Shields, and since that time the members have rendered very efficient assistance in the building of the chapel. In the first place the members cut the ground for the foundation, and afterwards led all the bricks which were needed for building purposes from the Westwood siding. A neighbouring farmer lent the members a cart and horse with which to lead the bricks, but in return for his kindness they did certain odd jobs about the farm. Mr R. Gibson drew the plans for the chapel, to the satisfaction of the members, and with credit to himself. He also, with the assistance of other members, fixed the heating-apparatus in the chapel. The chapel is built to seat 250 persons comfortably, and every exertion has been put forth to complete the erection as soon as possible. A public tea was held in the reading-room after the afternoon service, when about 80 sat down to the good things provided, the wants of the visitors being attended to by Misses Esther Johnson, S. A. Bell, Miller, and Donkin, assisted by several of the bible-class boys, viz., William Hunter, Robert Bell, John T Hume, and Stephen Donkin. In the evening, a public meeting was held in the chapel, when a large company was present. A handsome chandelier with four paraffin lamps is suspended from the centre of the roof, which illuminates the building almost as well as gas. The meeting was opened by singing "Oh, love divine," after which Mr Barnard engaged in prayer. The choir then sang with good effect an excellent anthem, entitled "The darkest hour is past." Mr John Egglestone ably accompanied on the harmonium

REV JAS. MARTIN (circuit minister) said he had some very sorrowful news to impart to his hearers. It was announced that Mr Jonathan Priestman would preside over the meeting. But he received a letter through the week from Mrs Priestman stating that he was seriously ill, and he was wishful that we should know he would not be able to preside over the meeting to-night. He enclosed a donation of a sovereign towards the building fund. Since he (the speaker) had come down there that day he had heard a rumour that Mr Priestman was dead, and on enquiry he had found that it was only too true. He had passed away to a fairer world. And he thought he was only expressing the thoughts of all those assembled before him when he affirmed that there was not a man in the district who would be more missed than Mr Priestman. (Hear, hear.) He had given them, at the outset, a donation of £10 towards the building fund, which was the largest donation received fram any quarter. The memory of Mr Priestman would always remain green among them. He had served his generation faithfully whilst on earth, and had gone to his reward. Under the circumstances, therefore, he would occupy the chair, and it would be his duty to give them a history of the building of the chapel. He would try and give honour where honour was due. The site on which the chapel stood had been leased to them for a term of 99 years at a nominal rental of 6d per annum, by Mr Vereker and Miss Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall. He thought it was very kind of them to give them a site under such very favourable conditions. (Hear, hear.) After the ground had been granted, however, it was found that the Consett Iron Company had a lease for the same land, which was not run out, but would last for other 50 years. He wrote to the Company to have the matter rectified, and they very readily consented to allow them to use the ground. He also saw Mr Wm. Jenkins, the general manager for the Consett Ironworks Company, who not only made no objections to the arrangement, but he also enclosed a cheque for two guineas towards the fund. (Applause.) Well, after the site had been secured, it was necessary and important to have the plans drawn for the chapel. They would be very glad to hear that the building had been solely designed by one of their own members. (Loud applause) That member was Mr Ralph Gibson, and he thought it unnecessary to say one single word of commendation as to the style of architecture, because they could all see the beautiful edifice for themselves. When the work of building was in progress the members of the Church and also many friends outside of their own community had rendered valuable assistance, and if the manual labour which had been expended by the members over the building had been to pay for he considered it would have cost them £30 or £40 more. He then read over the list of subscriptions. They had received altogether in subscriptions and other ways a sum of £162 14s 4½d, and it was supposed the approximate cost of the chapel would be £300 without legal expenses. Whenever they looked upon the chapel and its accommodation he was sure they would agree with him in thinking it was a very cheap one. (Hear, hear). He wished to express his sincere gratitude to all those who had helped them, either with their labour or subscriptions. He would like to refer particularly to Mr Hall, who had done all the leading—which was a very expensive item—as the materials had to be brought from Westwood siding, and he had not charged a single penny for his pains. (Loud applause). The members themselves had acted very energetically in the matter, having raised £60 7s 9½d by two bazaars. Other efforts amounted to £29 0s 2d; the sum of £16 10s having been raised at the stone-laying. Mrs Veriker had not only granted them the site, but had also sent £5 towards the building fund. They had still a boundary wall to build around the chapel, but the expense was already reckoned in the £300. There was now therefore about £140 to raise, and the members were all determined to reduce it to £100. They would then rest for a few months, and afterwards make another effort to sweep off the debt. There used to be various prophecies to the effect that the chapel would prove a failure, but he was glad that they had all turned out false—(hear, hear)—and the chapel was a standing testimony to their energy. Formerly their efforts had been crippled in spreading the gospel, but now they had a place of their own into which they could go whenever they wished. In conclusion, he hoped that their labours there would be greatly blessed, and that scores and hundreds would be "born again" within its walls. (Applause).

The choir then sang a beautiful piece, entitled "Praise ye his name," and were accorded well-merited applause.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced Mr Barnard. It was scarcely necessary, however, for him to be introduced on this occasion, as he had introduced himself at the foundation-stone laying in a very attractive manner indeed. The members had ever since looked forward to the time when he would be able to come and speak to them again.

REV MR BARNARD, who was greeted with applause, said he was very glad they had got their chapel. He had been looking forward for a few months to his second visit amongst them. He had a very pleasant recollection of his intercourse with them when he was there before. He felt bound to praise the chapel. It was a very nice one indeed. It was a very favourable thing, in his mind, that they had realised more than half the money, and he trusted the remainder would be speedily forthcoming. He had heard it said that a chapel could not get on unless they were in debt—(laughter)—but he would like to see the experiment tried in this case, and would not fear for the results. In building this chapel they had been realising to some extent Christ's thought for the world. When Christ came to earth he aimed at accomplishing something, and the purpose he had in view was the welfare of mankind. He carried that purpose out in deeds as well as words, so that there was really no great obstacle on the Divine side against the entire realization of Christ's idea. He considered it to be a very pleasant idea to them that their meeting there that night was quite in accordance with Christ's great idea. They could only realize Christ's thought for themselves when they were saved from the guilt, bondage, and condemnation of sin. This "saved from sin" was called the real foundation thought of the whole matter. Until that had been accomplished in the lives of each one of us we were not in the position that God desired us to be. We ought to live lives full of purity and peace. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect." Had we ever tried to fully comprehend its meaning? Not simply to have ceremonial purity, but to be "pure in heart." If we realised that thought we should not fail to be free from sin, and would give willing service to God. He understood that many of the friends had been doing the labour in the way of excavation and leading materials for the chapel. He felt sure they would have found a great deal of pleasure in doing it, although perhaps they would have gone home at night feeling a little wearier than usual. They had really been rendering some service to the cause of Christ in so doing. Our lives had to be lives of service, lives of consecration. "Whatever ye do, whether ye eat or drink, do it all to the glory of God." Suppose a man could properly realise that, what an abiding joy and peace he would have! If we wished to do His will and be raised from the mere rank of disciple into that of friendship, then we would have to possess the consciousness of freedom from sin. John Wesley laid down a rule that whoever wished to "flee from the wrath to come" was entitled to enter into the Church. But they would be required to continue manifesting this Spirit in order that they might be allowed to remain in such a position, and he believed that whoever came up this standard laid down by John Wesley would be a pretty fair Christian. There were those in the Church of England who considered that their method of receiving persons into their community was a far superior one to that of their own denomination. He said emphatically that the Church had no right to shut the door in the face of anyone who wanted to be a Christian. They had no right, on the other hand, to open the door to these men and women who manifested by their lives that they were not Christians. The Free Methodist Church was both narrower and wider in its basis than the Church of England, insomuch as one was required to be born again to be admitted into membership, and it was wider because it was not confined to the English people alone. It was a universal church, and existed everywhere. There were certain conditions to be complied with in connection with a church in order to keep within the bounds of Scripture. A church ought to be expressive of cleanliness, and characteristic of a consecrated and holy place. It was a beautiful thought, in his opinion. He was glad they had got out of Egypt into the Promised Land. (Applause.) He had seen a bill in Newcastle on which it stated that the British had won a glorious victory near Suakim, and that a thousand of the enemy were killed! Whose enemies? He could testify before God that they were not his. He was not the enemy of any living man. (Hear, hear.) And the time was coming when that sort of thing would cease. (Applause.) When that period arrived one would feel that it was about time the scene of this life was wound up. He assured them, however, that such a time would come, and it was for us to aid the coming of the blessed day. (Applause.)

The choir favoured the audience at this stage with another piece, entitled "Hark, hark, the song!" which was very creditably rendered, and elicited much applause.

REV C. OGDEN then addressed the meeting, and said we sometimes speak of Christ as a great teacher. Well, He was that. Very frequently we hear tell of Him in the fisherman's cottage or on the mountain top, speaking to the people concerning the kingdom of heaven. But there was in the Lord Jesus Christ something more than a Great Teacher. He had a great purpose in view with regard to the human race, which purpose was to be accomplished by mankind meeting together just as they were meeting there that night. The question here came before their minds, "What am I doing to help on the Christian Church?" He read a short time ago about a pastor of a certain church in America, who met a man in the street one day, and entering into conversation with him about the church, he asked the man what he was doing to help it on? "Oh," replied the man, "I don't belong to any Christian Church. The dying thief got to heaven, and he did not belong to any church." "Well," said the pastor, "perhaps you are engaged in some good work. Or maybe you are in the habit of going to some ragged school to preach the Gospel; or again, you may distribute tracts." "No," answered the gentleman, "I am not engaged in any Christian work. The dying thief was never engaged in any Christian work, and he got to heaven all right." "Well," the pastor asked again, "You may be too busy, and have not time to teach or distribute tracts, and you perhaps give liberally to help on some Christian institution?" "I do nothing of the kind," was the answer. "The dying thief never gave any money to the collections, and still he got home to Heaven." "Well, my friend," was the pastor's reply, "The only difference I can see between you and the dying thief is that he is a dead thief, and you are a living one!" (Laughter). He (the speaker) thought that was a repartee given like a blow straight from the shoulder. God has given us talents and we ought to use them, and not have such paltry excuses for allowing them to remain dormant. If God has given us gifts we ought to distribute them for the amelioration of our fellow-men, for it was a wonderful fact that they increased as they were distributed. Some men you could see were Christians just by looking at their faces. Some men's faces were just like clocks, and you could tell what they were just by looking at them, the same as you could tell time by looking at the face of a clock. But again, some men's characters were very hard to discern in such a manner. For instance, he heard a story once about a man going into a friend's house and looking at his clock. "My friend," said the man, "your clock is a long way wrong." "Oh," replied the man, "no one can tell the time by my clock but myself. Because I understand it. When the pointers indicate 23 minutes past two, I know it is then a quarter to eleven." (Laughter.) It needed an arithmetical calculation to tell the time of day by that man's clock, and some Christians' faces were precisely the same way. Sometimes a Christian's face was awfully misleading. There are great and numerous diversities in the Christian Church. What was adapted to one person's temperament would not do for another. A man once said that Radicalism was Liberalism very much alive, and he thought that Methodism ought to be Christianity very much alive. (Hear). If we had Christianity very much alive it would be sure to make itself visible. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the collection would be taken and hoped that the friends would help them as much as possible. He forgot to report that the choir had raised £6 by means of an entertainment. Rev J. Alderson had promised to come and address them that evening if he was able; but another engagement had detained him. The choir then rendered an anthem in a very creditable manner, entitled, "Festive day," and they were loudly applauded.

Votes of thanks brought the interesting meeting to a close.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions 4d. and 1s. bottle

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

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday in last week—Mr Thos. Robson presiding. Present: Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J.P., J. Kirkup, G. Ridley, J. Crawford, J. Snowball, R. W. Jackson, J. Hodgson, P. Hay, J. Lisle, E. Nicholson, J. Chrystal, J. Witherspoon, P. W. Bell, G. Swinburne, Rev W. W. Phillipson, and the clerk (Mr Robert Dickinson).

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT THE WORKHOUSE.

A letter from the Local Government Board was read, stating that the plans of the proposed alterations of the casual wards, had been examined and returned, and the Board's architect had recommended several alterations. Mr F. W. Pickering, architect, Chester-le-Street, attended, and explained to the Guardians that he made the alterations to the plans, as recommended by the Local Government Board.

The plans, as amended by Mr Pickering, were adopted, and will be forwarded to the department.

RELIEF STATISTICS.

Messrs Armstrong and Turnbull, relieving officers for the Chester-le-Street and Harraton sub districts, reported that they had paid away for out-door relief respectively £62 1s 8d and £62 6s 8d.

The Master reported that the number of inmates in the House was 120, as against 137 at the same date last year; decrease, 17. During the fortnight, 66 vagrants had been relieved; corresponding fortnight last year, 160; decrease, 114. On the 18th, the Countess of Scarbrough had visited the Workhouse, and had distributed a quantity of tobacco to the adults, and sweets to the children. Her ladyship had also sent a large quantity of holly for Christmas decorations.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Countess for her kindness.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

THE BURN.

A letter from the Houghton-le-Spring Rural Sanitary Authority stating the only available land which the Authority could procure for their proposed sewage disposal works was situated at Penshaw Staithes within the area of the Chester-le-Street Authority.

The CHAIRMAN: There can be no objection to that. Agreed to.

WATER SUPPLY.

Daisy Hill report was not to hand, but would be presented at the next meeting

Mr LISLE asked if any progress had been made with respect to the Usworth supply.

The CHAIRMAN said the report of the Committee had not been sent in. It would probably be sent in to the next meeting, when the matter must be gone into.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr Duncan reported that during the fortnight there had been 33 deaths and 70 births, giving a death-rate of 17·5 and a birth-rate of 37·1 per 1,000. The epidemic of scarlet fever at Chester Moor was suppressed Three new cases had been reported at Chester-le-Street and three at Brecon Hill.

CHURCH CONSECRATION IN WEARDALE.

All Saints' Church, Eastgate, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Adelaide, on Thursday, last week. The fine new building is situate close to the old one, which was built in 1839. It is built in the Gothic style, will comfortably seat about 150, and has built at the cost of about £3,000. The contractor was Mr R. Saunderson Durham; the architect, Mr R. J. Johnson, Newcastle; and clerk of the works, Mr T. Adamson, Sunderland. The entrance is through folding doors at the north end, and a few paces forward stands a magnificent font of Frosterley marble with a beautiful carved cover in oak suspended from the roof. It is a wood block flooring, and the seats on each side the aisle are of pitch pine. The pulpit, chancel seats, and chancel framing are of oak, and the chancel seats are greatly enhanced by beautifully carved poppy heads. There are five windows on the east and west side and one at the north and south. The building is lighted by 10 lamps suspended from the roof on each side of the aisle there is a chancel arch with tracery panels supporting a stone belfry and spire, the chancel roof being also panel-moulded. The new roof is open and is supported with brackets of whattled cornices. It is heated by the hot-water system, and is the gift of the late Mr Hildyard, Horsley.

Despite the unfavourable weather, there was a large attendance at the opening ceremony, many being unable to secure seats. Amongst those present were the Lord Bishop of Adelaide, Archdeacon Long, Chancellor Espin, rector of Wolsingham; Bishop Penrith, rector of Stanhope; Rev Schofield, vicar of Westgate; Rev F. C. Jagg, vicar of Frosterley; Rev T. C. Jones, vicar of Hunstanworth; the Hildyard family, Hutton Bonville; Rev J. Eddowes, vicar of Eastgate; Rev J. P. Shepherd; Rev R. Shepherd, St John's Chapel; Rev A. J. Finch, Stanhope; Dr Robinson and Mrs Robinson, Stanhope; Rev La Bere, Stanhope; Rev F. H. Eales, Wolsinghan; Dr Arnison and Mrs Arnison, Stanhope; Supt. Liddle, Stanhope; Dr Livingstone, Stanhope; the Schofield family, Westgate; Messrs G. Phillipson, Westgate; M. Reed, Eastgate; John Morrison, Stanhope; G. Dixon, Shepherd's House, &c.

The Bishop attended by his chaplain was received at the south-west door by the clergy habited in their surplices, the churchwardens, and a portion of the principal inhabitants. At the entrance the Bishop received the usual petition, praying that he would consecrate the building. His lordship responded, and the ceremony of consecration and dedication followed. The clergy and others attending upon his lordship proceeded up the aisle of the church, singing the 68th psalm. After the singing of the hymn, "He saith surely I come quickly, even so come, Lord Jesus;" the reading of the 84th and 132nd psalms followed. The first lesson was then read by Chancellor Espin and the second by Archdeacon Long.

Bishop Penrith preached the sermon, taking for his text, the 12th verse of the 1st chapter of Colossians, and I John, ii, 5.—There was, he said, no similitude by which they could ascribe the being of God more truthfully and better than that of the light, so pure, penetrating, full of brightness, and yet so mysterious. What the light was in the physical world, God was in the spiritaul world. It was in reference to the mystery of light he wished to speak. People generally associated mystery with darkness. They thought that anything mysterious was dark, beyond their knowledge, although hidden from them. They knew there were many clouds of mystery and darkness; there was the cloud of sickness, the cloud of trouble, and the cloud of sorrow. There was, the speaker said, however, a way in which they could approach God but the nearer they approached Him, the more awfully solemn and mysterious was His presence. They needed all their reverence in approaching God. From experience they learnt to speak of God as light; and at last the darkness of their earthly light became absorbed in the light of God. There was one thought pervading the minds of those in that church, and it was with regard to two, who were not with them, and who would had they been permitted, rejoice with them. One lay upon his bed of sickness, he referred to the Lord Bishop of Durham, who, though unable to be present, was with them in spirit. He would ask their prayers that God may, if it pleased Him, at least give his lordship strength to bear his weakness and time of trouble which he is undergoing. One there was also who had passed into Paradise, one to whom the building in which they were assembled owed it existence. One who had done all to make that beautiful place of worship the house of God; viz, the late Mr R. H. W. Hildyard. In conclusion he hoped the worshippers would be many, and trusted that All Saints Church would never be forgotten.

The proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the recessional hymn, "Every day will I give thanks unto Thee, and praise they name for ever and ever."

A second service was held when the sermon was preached by the vicar of the parish.

"HOW TO DEBATE."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate; hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of fourpence, may be had at Robert Jackson's bookseller, 9, Newmarket Consett.

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

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

DIPTON WANDERERS v LINTZFORD.—Played at Lintzford, with the following result:—Dipton, two goals; Lintzford, one goal.

ESH v ESH WINNING.—Played on the Esh ground, and resulted in a victory for Esh Winning by two goals to nil.

HILL TOP v ST. EDMUND'S, BEARPARK.—Played on the ground of the latter. Result:—St. Edmund's, two goals; Hill Top, none.

SPITAL TONGUES 3RD v OUSTON.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a hard game resulted in a win for Spital by four goals to one.

RAINTON JOLLY BOYS v CORNSAY ROVERS.—Played on the Cornsay ground. The game was well contested throughout, and resulted in favour of the home team by three goals to one.

On Christmas Day, Pelton Fell Harriers 2nd team, who are in for the County Medals, played the first team a trial game, which was most stubbornly contested, and ended in a draw—three goals each.

WEST PELTON LILYWHITE JUNIORS v PELTON FELL HARRIERS 2ND.—Played at West Pelton on Christmas Day, and after a very exciting game resulted in a win for the Lilywhites by one goal and one disputed goal to nil.

DIPTON WANDERERS v TANFIELD LEA.—Played on the ground of the latter on Christmas Day, a rough game resulting in a draw—one goal each.

WEST STANLEY v WEST PELTON.—Played on the ground of the former on Christmas Day, before a fair number of onlookers. A strong wind was blowing, which greatly interfered with the play. West Stanley won the toss, and played with the wind in the first half, scoring two goals to none. In the second half West Pelton managed to equalise after a hard struggle, the game ending in a draw—two goals each. J Forster, R Hope, T Dixon, and J Hughes played well for Stanley.

MEDOMSLEY v DIPTON.—Played at Medomsley on Christmas Day. The home club was but moderately represented. A strong wind which prevailed spoiled good passing and shooting. Medomsley won the toss and elected to play down the hill. In the first half the home team had considerably the best of the play, but their shooting was very bad. The Dipton back division defended admirably, and kept the home team at bay for some time. At length the ball was passed down to near the visitors' goal. Hunter sent to Hornsby, who promptly headed a splendid goal for Medomsley. Soon after the Dipton forwards ran up the field and scored a lucky goal from a long shot, the goalkeeper slipping when about to clear. The home team scored a second goal from a rush just before half-time. In the second half play was very even, and as nothing further was scored, Medomsley were left winners by two goals to one. For the winners Simpson played a splendid game, being well assisted by Moon and Wallace, but the forwards did not play up to their usual form.

CONSETT (RUGBY) v LEADGATE EXILES (ASSOCIATION).—An interesting Association match between these clubs was played at Benfieldside before between 2,000 and 3,000 spectators. As predicted, the greatest interest was manifested in the contest. The home team won the toss, and Costello kicked off for Leadgate. The Exiles several times had shots at goal, but were splendidly repulsed by Williamson, the home goalkeeper. In the first half nothing was scored on either side. Dent kicked off for the home team in the second period, and after a little even play, the Exiles pressed, and the home goalkeeper took the leather about a yard from his goal, but on stepping back to kick, it went through his goal, thus registering No. 1 for the visitors. The Exiles pressed for the remainder of the time, although the home team played up well, and took the leather three-parts the length of the field; but owing to a strong wind the backs returned the ball quickly. The Exiles eventually won a rattling good game by four goals to nil. The second half was played in a storm of sleet and rain, and it was very bad for the Consett men to defend their goal. The Exiles worked the leather in splendid form, while the home team, considering their strangeness to the Association game, played in good style.

NEWCASTLE NORTH-EASTERN v MEDOMSLEY.—This match was played on the ground of the former at Heaton. The home team won the toss, and elected to play with the wind in their favour. Ross set the ball in motion, and the visitors' forwards carried it into their opponents' territory and obtained a corner, which was nicely placed by Walton, but Ross shot over, grazing the bar. The ball was then rushed to the Medomsley goal, but Whitwell cleared with a big kick. From a fine run up the left wing Greenwood shot and scored the first goal for the North-Eastern. From now till half-time play was chiefly in the home quarters, but the backs and goalkeeper kept up a stubborn defence, and the teams crossed over with the score—North-Eastern, one goal; Medomsley, nil. During the second period play was very fast. The visitors gained a corner, and Walton placed the ball right in front of goal, Ross this time scoring with a beautiful shot quite out of reach of the goalkeeper. From a nice passing run by the Medomsley forwards, the ball was beautifully centred, and Ross again scored with a fast low shot. From the centre kick Hunter (capt.) secured and made a good run up the left wing. When near the home goal he passed across to Walton, and the latter registered the third goal for the visitors. The North-Eastern now played up strongly, and Drummond made a capital run on the right and passed to Redpath, who shot through. Time was called directly after, the final score being—Medomsley, three goals; North-Eastern, two goals. Mr W G Thompson acted as referee. The visitors were entertained to tea after the match.

RUGBY.

CONSETT 2ND v TANKERVILLE.—Played at Newcastle, and resulted in a victory for Tankerville by two tries to nothing.

JOTTINGS.

On Monday evening, the annual meeting of the Pelton Fell Harriers A.F.C. was held at the headquarters, Pelton Colliery Hotel, Mr Jos. Robson (captain) occupying the chair. The secretary (Mr W Lowther) read the report, which showed the club to have 94 members on the books. The first team had played nine matches this season, winning two, losing three, and drawing four. The second team have played 12 matches, of which they have won 10 and drawn two, not having been beaten up to the present. They have scored 40 goals to 11. The report was accepted as satisfactory. Mr Lowther then read the financial account, which showed the income to be £14 3s 2d, while the expenditure was £13 0s 2d, leaving a balance in treasurer's hands of £1 3s. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr G Favill; vice-president, Mr R G Wilson; captain 1st team, Jos. Robson; 2nd team, R Robson; 3rd team, Fred Wilson; financial secretary, R Robson; treasurer, J B Dixon; corresponding secretary, Wm. Lowther, 34, Grange Terrace; committee, Messrs J Wilson, G Petrie, J Bland, T Musgrove, and W Lashley. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, songs being rendered by Messrs Thompson, Stanger, Slack, and others.

Sporting Items.

SHOOTING AT BLACKHALL MILL.—The sparrow shooting promoted by Mr W Cussons, Mill Inn, was resumed and concluded on Saturday. The event secured 40 fresh entries, and the scarcity of birds caused a long division.

EBCHESTER ROWING CLUB.—The final heats of the open boat handicap inaugurated by the members of the Ebchester Rowing Club were decided at that place. Results:—John Potts, Ebchester, 1; George Jewitt, Westwood, 2; William Forster, Low Westwood, 3.

QUOIT MATCH AT BROOMHILL.—A quoit match was brought off near the house of Mr R Calvert, Raven Inn, Broomhill, near Ebchester, between S Laverick, of Mickley, and Robert Temple, of Leadgate, for £10, distance 10 yards, clay ends, 51 points up. There was a fair muster of spectators. Laverick won by six points. Thos. Simpson was referee.

SHOOTING AT LANGLEY PARK.—A sweep at sparrows promoted by Mr E White, Langley Park Hotel, was shot off on Saturday. Scores:—White, 11; Hudson Dry Soap, 111; Hunter, 11; Our Mary, 110; Give Over, 111; Kill-All, 110; Hunter (2nd lot), 10; Our Mary (2nd lot), 110; Jack the Ripper, 111. The three shooters with three birds each down divided the stake.

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

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 6½d. and 1s. boxes.

Bridget Gallagher, about 60 years of age, who landed at Queenstown on Saturday morning from the Umbria, from New York was searched, and inside her dress was found 50 rounds of revolver ammunition. She said an unknown man on board the Umbria gave it to her to bring ashore. She was taken before the magistrates and remanded.

Lord Hobhouse presided on Saturday at a meeting of the Kyrle Society, held at Lambeth Palace, the object being to secure the Lawn, Lambeth, as a public park. The Dean of Windsor moved a resolution in favour of the project for the benefit of the densely-crowded district, and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., proposed another resolution pledging the meeting to aid in raising the necessary funds. Both motions were unanimously carried.

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IN AN EVIL MOMENT

BY

HARRY BLYTH,

AUTHOR OF

"A Wily Woman," "The Bloom o' the Heather," "When the Clock Stopped," "Magic Morsels."

CHAPTER XVI.

DISAPPEARED!

THE blow and the fall did a great deal to sober Gregory. He realised that he had gone too far. But his brain was not yet clear enough, and he was too confused to know the best course for him to adopt. He had his own reasons for not desiring an open rupture with any of them: at the same time, it was necessary for him to resent the treatment he had received. As he could not decide whether to act the bully, or to assume a penitential air, he determined to cautiously feel his way, and to avoid any positive action until his brain was cooler and calmer.

He rose sulkily.

"I suppose," he said, regarding Tom with an evil look, "that you didn't know who it was? You thought that it was some stranger playing with Lily?"

Had Tom wavered, and for the sake of Walter Barr, seized upon the excuse so cunningly offered him, Gregory would without doubt have adopted a blustering tone. But the surgeon's indignation was too great to allow him to flinch, or to weigh his words.

"I never stopped to think," he cried. "I saw that she was in the hands of a coward, and that was enough."

"It's all a mistake," Walter declared, nervously. "I'm quite sure that it's a mistake. Tell us how it happened, Lily—tell us. I'm sure my old friend Gregory would not insult my child."

And the poor, weak, trembling old man, with his hands clasped, looked appealingly from the one to the other.

Lily could give him no help. Her face was now buried in her lover's waistcoat, and she was sobbing as though her little heart would break.

Gregory's eyes dropped before Tom's bold unyielding gaze.

"The whole thing" — he spoke confusedly — "is very stupid. Of course I didn't mean to do Lily any harm—I'm too fond of her for that."

How inexpressibly revolting it was to Tom to hear this man speak so familiarly of the flushed, and panting little darling he held in his arms!

"Perhaps I did frighten her; I'm afraid I did. I had no intention of doing so, and—and I'm very sorry. I fancy," he added, with an attempt at a laugh, "that the punishment exceeds the offence"—he pointed to his swollen face. "But it's not worth talking about, or thinking about. I'll forget all about it if you will." This was certainly magnanimous on Gregory's part; and in proof that he was in earnest he stretched out his hand to Tom, who affected not to see it.

"Well, well," said Gregory, withdrawing it, and biting his nether lip, "you are in a passion now—young lovers are subject to broiling fits. In the morning I hope you will be cooler and more inclined to regard the matter sensibly. It's excessively foolish," he went on, making for the door, "why, I'm old enough to be the girl's father."

The look which he threw at Walter as he left the room might have meant anything. Walter, in his agitation, read in it a threat and a hint of coming danger.

"You see, sir," Tom cried to Mr. Barr, "that it is not safe to allow Lily to remain in the house with that scoundrel. Either he or she must leave here."

"Do not get excited, Tom. You must keep cool, you know, and not exaggerate this." Walter endeavoured to speak firmly, but at the same time soothingly. "This is a very unfortunate occurrence, but I am sure that Mr. Axon will explain it all in the morning. A gentleman, Tom—quite a gentleman. A little wine, you know, Tom—a little wine, and the best of us make fools of ourselves." Tom's face looked stern and unconvinced. Walter's voice as he finished grew very wistful.

Its tone did not strike the surgeon's heart as it struck Lily's. It seemed to her to be full of unutterable misery, mingled with a long, plaintive wail for mercy.

Her tears ceased, and she became wonderfully calm. The indignity she had suffered was forgotten; she was now filled with vague terrors for her father's safety. What if Gregory Axon were to avenge her contempt for him and the blow he had received from Tom, by hurling misfortune upon Walter's head? That he had the power to do this, she was but too well assured. The thought was a terrible one. She must bury her wrongs, and sink her dislike, and do all in her power to prevent a breach between Gregory and his host.

"I am foolish and hysterical to-night," she said, "I am sure Mr. Axon meant no harm. I am very sorry that I behaved so stupidly. I hope he will forgive me."

"Lily!"

Tom's voice smote her heart. How full of pain and reproach it was! She looked up at him steadfastly and bravely; she realised how essential it was to calm her lover, and to prevent another encounter between him and Mr. Axon.

"He had you in his arms," Tom added.

"He did not mean any harm, I am sure," she went on. "As he said, you know, he is old enough to be my father."

Tom turned from her, but only for a moment. The next he was by her side, and was leading her from the room.

"It is noble and brave of you to speak as you do," he whispered, as they stood in the passage alone; "but you cannot deceive me. You are acting a part for your father's sake?"

Poor little Lily was not very strong, for she broke down again, and the tears streamed from her eyes.

"I am very miserable, Tom—so very, very miserable. Do not leave me again, darling. I am so helpless and so wretched without you."

He strained her to him.

"I will not," he cried. "When I go back to Devonshire you shall go with me as my wife. I will not—I cannot leave you here."

"Promise me one thing darling," she begged, "and then I shall be very happy."

"Anything in the world, unless it be not to love you."

"Promise me not to quarrel with Mr. Axon——"

"The villain! We shall not be here many days, darling, and I give you my word that I will say nothing more to him. Are you satisfied?"

"Yes, yes, quite. And now, darling, go and try and cheer poor papa. He is very much upset to-night."

When Tom returned to Walter Barr, he took a seat by that gentleman's side and startled him by asking an abrupt and curious question.

"Is your fear of Gregory Axon greater than your love for your child?"

Walter appeared alarmed.

"I don't understand ——" he commenced.

"The question is a simple one," Tom interrupted, firmly. "Surely you can answer it."

The surgeon had begun to think that he had hitherto not been determined enough with Walter Barr. He was resolved now to make some effort to rouse his friend from his fears—to wring his crushing secret from him.

"Heaven knows I love my child," said Walter.

"And yet you did not say one word to the villain who had so grossly insulted her?"

"I—I—could not. I did not dare, Tom."

Walter clasped his hands in his agitation and looked a piteous object of grief and fear.

"Then your fear is greater than your love?"

"No, no, do not say that, Tom. I love my darling beyond the world, beyond life, beyond everything."

"And yet you keep silent."

"For her sake, Tom—for her sake; not for my own. I swear it! By heaven, I swear not for my own sake!"

Tom's resolve was melting away. Walter's aspect would have excited the pity of the most unfeeling. The young surgeon drew his chair nearer to Mr. Barr's, and, taking his hand, said:

"Cannot you trust me? Tell me what your trouble is, and who knows but that I may be able to break the chain that galls you?"

Walter slowly shook his head.

"It cannot be," he said, "it cannot be."

"It can be," Tom persisted; "it must be. You have often called me your best friend; you have often said that I was as a son to you. Were those mere idle words, or did they come from the heart?"

"From the heart, Tom."

Walter's voice was thick and uncertain, and the tears were in his eyes.

"And yet you shut me out from your confidence, and you refuse to let me help you when you are in danger. Is that treating me as a son—even as a friend?"

"On my soul I must not tell you—on my soul I must not!"

"If you will not let love or friendship be my pleaders, perhaps you will listen to the call of duty. You have said that you feared to speak to that fellow Axon for Lily's sake. If any danger threatens her, I, as her future husband, have a right to know its nature."

"You do not mean that as a threat?" Mr. Barr cried, with quick alarm; "you do not mean that you would refuse to marry her if I did not tell you all?"

"I did not say that," Tom replied, evasively. "I only wanted to point out to you that what concerns Lily concerns me."

"It is true—it is very true. Heaven help me!"

After a pause, during which he persistently wrung his hands, he said, suddenly:

"I must tell you something—I see that I must; but I cannot tell you all. I am the most miserable man upon earth, Tom; there is a curse upon me that has blackened my whole life, and there is no release for me till death. Gregory Axon, Tom, is my friend—remember that—my friend, and he means well by me; but sometimes he drinks too much, and he forgets—he forgets. He has it in his power, Tom, to bring everlasting ruin and disgrace upon me, and, through me, upon my child; but you are not frightened, Tom, to marry her now I have told you this?"

"You could not frighten me," Tom answered, gravely studying Mr. Barr's face. "She is as good and pure as the angels. Did you ever do anything wrong, Walter?" he went on.

"Never—never."

"I could not conceive such a thing possible, and yet how comes it that this man has such power over you?"

"I beseech you not to question me further. If you have any regard for my peace of mind let this horrible subject drop now and for ever. If you knew the agony you are causing me, Tom, you would not persist."

Walter's sufferings were so obvious that Tom could not pursue the subject.

"There's one thing you must agree to, Walter," he said. "You must let the marriage take place this week."

"Yes, yes; the sooner the better. I shall be very, very glad when Lily is away from here."

"One thing is certain," was Tom's reflection as he entered his bedroom that night, "Axon is a scoundrel, and poor old Walter is the victim of some delusion upon which the scoundrel fattens. I won't rest now till I've got to the bottom of the mystery. By Jove!" he added after deep thought, "I'll fish out that fellow we met in Axon's office; he might be able to give me some valuable information about Axon's past life. Let me see, what was his name? Dodder, of course. I can see his long, lean figure now as he stood shaking his slim umbrella at us. 'I am one of the original Dodders' the queer bird informed us. I'll have a search through the medical directory in the morning, and find out where the 'original Dodder' lives."

In the morning Mr. Axon was apologetic but cheerful; more like the Gregory Axon of the old New Zealand days than any one in that breakfast room had yet seen him.

He excused himself so pleasantly, and talked so softly and so well, that had his listeners been less seriously interested in his escapade of the previous night, he would undoubtedly have re-established himself in their favour.

As it was, he succeeded in making Walter feel more at his ease; and Lily, for the first time, realised that he had once been a gentleman.

Tom rather resented his debonair manner. It would have been more to Gregory's credit, the surgeon thought, had he been more abashed. In Tom's eyes the crime he had committed was a monstrous one; and, under the circumstances, the culprit was far too much at his ease.

It must be confessed that Mr. Westall had now formed such an intense dislike to Gregory Axon, that whatever this gentleman's conduct might have been, Tom would have taken exception to it; it is not easy to like a man after you have struck him on the face; he is far more likely to forgive you than you are to tolerate him.

"Lily," said Mr. Barr that evening, sitting alone with Gregory, "is to be married this week."

"They have hastened the marriage, then?"

Gregory took his cigar from between his lips, and looked into Walter's face searchingly.

"A little—a little," was Walter's reply; and he strove to speak in the most indifferent tone possible. "You see," he went on, observing that Gregory's large eyes were still upon his face, "it's just as well it comes off now."

"Much better," declared Gregory, replacing his cigar. "The sooner the better. Girls that age are little better than babies; they want a husband to bring them to their senses."

"I dare say you're right," Walter said, quietly. "But when she's married I shall have to economise a little."

"Economise? What do you mean?"

The cigar had lost its charm now, and was thrown into the fire.

"I thought you knew that my late wife left all her money to Lily," Barr replied, with rare calmness and steadiness.

"Of course hitherto we have had one purse in common, but when my darling marries I will not touch one farthing of her money; why should I? I have nearly four hundred pounds a year of my own."

Perhaps no man's face ever changed so completely in so few seconds as did Gregory's now. It assumed a light green hue, and his jaw dropped. Ultimately a loud and bitter oath escaped him, and he walked from the room.

Constant drinking had deprived him of the control he at one time so well exercised over himself.

For two days no one in the house saw anything of him. On the third evening he returned to the house unmistakably drunk and roundly abusive.

The next day Tom and Lily were to be married. She was making the necessary preparations for the event. Walter was in his own little private room trying to read.

Gregory burst in upon him, and threw himself into a chair.

"Well?" said Gregory.

"Well?" repeated Walter, looking up from his book fearfully.

"I suppose," Gregory went on, stretching his legs, and speaking in a sneering insolent way peculiar to him when he was not sober, "you think yourself pretty safe?"

"No, Gregory; indeed I do not. I do not think myself safe at all. You know I am in your hands."

Walter answered meekly, but his very gentleness appeared to incense the other.

"And so you can't trust me, eh?" he sneered.

Then he bent over Walter and said, in a sinister, threatening voice:

"There is one way in which you could close my mouth for ever—make yourself absolutely safe, and be free from all anxiety for the rest of your life."

"How?" cried Walter, greedily, but with a vague fear at his heart.

Gregory's lips almost touched his victim's ears.

"Make me your son-in-law!" he hissed, "and then, for my own sake, I would never dare to speak."

"But," gasped Walter, trembling at the scoundrel's audacity, "what about Tom?"

"Tom Westall?" Gregory gave vent to a coarse, contemptuous laugh. "He would not be the first man that has been jilted, and that's all about Tom."

The two men remained conversing in low tones for some two hours: Gregory demanding and threatening; Walter suffering an agony of grief and terror.

When at length Mr. Axon allowed his unhappy victim to leave him, Walter did not seek his own chamber; he bent his faltering steps towards his daughter's bedroom.

In his trepidation he did not notice that her door was half open, notwithstanding that he stood by it for some few minutes waiting for her to answer his knock.

No reply came, and at length he stole softly in.

She had not drawn her blind down, and this he did observe and think strange. A broad band of mellow moonlight streamed through the window and fell thwart the floor in golden radiance. There, on the window sill, were her tender plants; and on the toilette-table quite a crowd of dainty nick-nacks.

He approached the bed on tiptoe, calling gently:

"Lily—Lily."

There was no response, and a sudden fear seizing him, he ran forward, and placed his hands upon the counterpane.

The bed was empty: it had never been slept in. Hastily he summoned the servant, only to hear that his daughter was nowhere in the house; Lily had disappeared.

Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH.

WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.		A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE	Dep.	6·10	9·42	11·0	12·13	2·30	5·25	7·20
Scotswood	,,	6·17	9·49	11·7	12·22	2·37	5·32	7·27
Swalwell	,,	6·24	9·54	11·14	12·29	2·43	5·37	7·44
Rowlands Gill	,,	6·34	10·3	11·24	12·30	2·53	5·46	7·54
Lintz Green	,,	6·40	10·9	11·30	12·45	2·59	5·52	8·0
Ebchester	,,	6·53	10·18	11·40	12·55	3·12	6·1	8·13
Shotley Bridge	,,	6·59	10·22	11·44	12·59	3·18	6·5	8·19
CONSETT	Arr.	7·5	10·27	11·50	1·5	3·23	6·10	8·22

CONSETT	Dep.	7·10	10·34	...	1·12	3·25	6·33	...
Knitsley	,,	7·21	10·45	...	1·23	3·36	6·44	...
Lanchester	,,	7·30	10·55	...	1·32	3·45	6·53	...
Witton Gilbert	,,	7·38	11·3	...	1·40	3·53	7·1	...
Aldin Grange	,,	7·45	11·11	...	1·47	4·0	7·9	...
DURHAM	Arr.	7·50	11·17	...	1·52	4·5	7·15	...

		A.M.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
DURHAM	Dep.	7·25	...	11·50	2·35	...	5·20	8·10
Aldin Grange	,,	7·32	...	11·57	2·41	...	5·27	8·17
Witton Gilbert	,,	7·40	...	12·5	2·48	...	5·35	8·25
Lanchester	,,	7·50	...	12·15	2·54	...	5·45	8·35
Knitsley	,,	8·2	...	12·25	3·8	...	5·55	8·45
CONSETT	Arr.	8·12	...	12·35	3·18	...	6·5	8·55

CONSETT	Dep.	8·15	9·5	12·40	3·25	...	6·10	9·2
Shotley Bridge	,,	8·20	9·10	12·45	3·30	...	6·15	9·7
Ebchester	,,	8·24	9·14	12·49	3·34	...	6·19	9·12
Lintz Green	,,	8·34	9·24	12·58	3·44	...	6·29	9·22
Rowlands Gill	,,	8·39	9·29	1·2	3·50	...	6·34	9·28
Swalwell	,,	8·47	9·37	1·10	3·57	...	6·42	9·36
Scotswood	,,	8·54	9·44	1·16	4·4	...	6·49	9·43
NEWCASTLE	Ar	9·5	9·55	1·25	4·15	...	7·0	9·53

SUNDAYS.

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE	7·30	7·20	CONSETT dep.	8·35	8·20
Scotswood	7·37	7·27	Shotley Bridge	8·40	8·25
Swalwell	7·44	7·34	Ebchester	8·44	8·29
Rowlands Gill	7·54	7·44	Lintz Green	8·54	8·39
Lintz Green	8·0	7·50	Rowlands Gill	8·59	8·44
Ebchester	8·13	8·0	Swalwell	9·8	8·53
Shotley Bridge	8·19	8·4	Scotswood	9·14	8·59
CONSETT arr.	8·25	8·10	NEWCASTLE ar.	9·25	9·10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

First second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains:—

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	
NEWCASTLE	7·10	4·5	DURHAM dep.	7·55	...
Scotswood	7·17	4·22	Aldin Grange	8·1	...
Swalwell	7·24	4·30	Witton Gilbert	8·9	...
Rowlands Gill	7·34	4·40	Lanchester	8·20	...
Lintz Green	7·40	4·46	Knitsley	8·32	...
Ebchester	7·53	4·59	CONSETT and BLACKHILL a	8·45	...
Shotley Bridge	7·59	5·5	CONSETT and BLACKHILL d	8·50	...
CONSETT and BLACKHILL a	8·5	5·12	Shotley Bridge	8·55	...
CONSETT and BLACKHILL d	9·20	...	Ebchester	8·59	...
Knitsley	9·32	...	Lintz Green	9·9	...
Lanchester	9·41	...	Rowlands Gill	9·15	...
Witton Gilbert	9·50	...	Swalwell	9·22	...
Aldin Grange	9·58	...	Scotswood	9·29	...
DURHAM arr	10·5	...	NEWCASTLE dp	9·40	...

SALTBURN, STOCKTON, & DARLINGTON BRANCH

WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE dep.	...	6·10	...	11·0	12·15	...	5·25
CONSETT	...	8·17	...	12·15	3·0	...	6·15
Rowley	...	8·25	...	12·22	3·8	...	6·23
Burnhill	...	8·35	...	12·33	3·18	...	6·33
Tow Law	...	8·47	...	12·45	3·30	...	6·45
CROOK arr.	...	8·59	...	12·57	3·42	...	6·57
,, dep.	7·30	9·1	11·15	1·0	3·56	5·30	7·0
Bishop Auckland	7·57	9·25	11·35	1·24	4·16	5·53	7·25
Darlington	8·30	10·0	12·10	1·55	5·5	6·45	8·15
Stockton	8·56	10·30	12·40	2·25	5·34	7·16	8·41
Middlesbro'	9·5	10·40	12·50	2·35	5·45	7·30	8·51
SALTBURN	10·10	11·14	1·26	3·9	6·19	8·6	9·26

WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
SALTBURN dp.	5·48	8·5	9·52	11·10	1·40	3·45	5·40
Middlesbro'	6·17	8·40	10·25	11·48	2·18	4·18	6·15
Stockton	6·27	8·48	10·32	11·58	2·21	4·26	6·22
Darlington	7·10	9·20	10·52	1·45	2·55	4·55	7·20
Bishop Aukland	7·48	9·46	11·33	2·15	3·25	5·31	7·48
CROOK arr.	8·4	10·8	11·52	2·32	3·44	5·50	8·10
,, dep.	8·8	...	11·56	2·37	...	5·51	...
Tow Law	8·20	...	12·5	2·49	...	6·3	...
Burnhill	8·35	...	12·18	3·2	...	6·16	...
Rowley	8·45	...	12·28	3·9	...	6·23	...
CONSETT arr.	8·55	...	12·38	3·17	...	6·31	...
N'WCASTLE	9·55	...	1·25	4·15	...	9·53	...

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No 8 Ward, Analby Road Workhouse Hospital, Hull, June 15, 1888.

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Christmas Festivities.

SALVATION ARMY, CONSETT. — On Christmas Day, the Salvation Barracks were a scene of much interest. At night, the people began to crowd the hall an hour before the time for commencing, to witness "The return of the Prodigal." The proceeding were marked with great enthusiasm. The meeting concluded about nine p.m. in a very happy manner, and it is hoped much good will be the result.—We learn from our advertising that there is to be a half-night of prayer on New Year's Eve, to commence at 10·45; and on New Year's Day, a gigantic trades' demonstration and torch-light procession.

CONSETT WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL. — The teachers of the above school celebrated their Christmastide by holding their annual tea in the Gibson Street Schools, when a large number of people partook of the excellent things provided by several young ladies of the Sunday-school. Ham and confectionery was there in abundance, and great credit is due to the committee who had the management of the catering for the same.—In the evening, a variety entertainment was held in the New Co-operative Hall, when two performances on the "toy symphonies" (Haydn's and Romberg's) were given by the choir, assisted by a few friends from Blackhill, in a praiseworthy style, along with several other pieces by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mr C. Stelling, Mr Chas. Davison, Mr J. Siddell, Misses Harwood, Smith, ann F. Watson, and recitations by Mr Lane, Leadgate. Mr M. Hobday gave a euphonium solo in excellent style. Mr Joseph Whitehead (senior superintendent) occupied the chair. An enjoyable evening was spent, and great praise is due to the excellent manner in which Mr Chris. Stelling conducted; while Mrs T. Foster acted as pianist.—A coffee supper was afterwards held in the schools.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—The annual sale of work was held here on Christmas Day.

CASTLESIDE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—This society commemorated the festive season with a sale of work, tea party, &c., on Christmas Day.

BAPTIST FESTIVITIES.—The Baptists of Consett celebrated Christmastide by their usual annual gatherings. The chapel was beautifully decorated by the young people connected with the place, and presented a real pretty appearance. A Christmas tree and stall of useful and fancy goods was opened in the afternoon, and the tree was very soon stripped of its toys. An excellent ham and coffee supper was served up in the evening, and the ladies who presided at the tables were Miss Meek, Mrs Cook, Mrs Moss, and Mrs Farnsworth, assisted by Mrs Bird, and Miss Oswald. A large number of people did justice to the repast. Mrs Lowes and Mrs Teasdale, assisted by Mr Wm Moss, Mr Teasdale and Mr Dodds, attended to the stall. Altogether the meetings were a decided success, and a very happy Christmas Day was spent by the Baptists.

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Christmas Day, the Wesleyan choir at Blackhill gave a sacred cantata, entitled "The coming of Immanuel," in the school-room, which was tastefully decorated with evergreens. The cantata was composed of solos, duets, quartettes, and choruses, each member performing their part very creditably. In the interval between the parts, Mr M. Frankland delivered a very able address on the subject of the prophecy and advent of Christ. Mr J. T. Gradon presided at the piano, while the choir was under the able leadership of Mr S. Gradon. Mr M. Frankland read the connective readings. A collection was made at the close in aid of the choir fund.

ST. AIDAN'S SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT.—The above annual entertainment was given the Agricultural Hall, Blackhill, on Saturday night. Rev T. J. Storey, M.A., occupied the chair. In his opening remarks, the Chairman made touching reference to the death of Mr Jon. Priestman, J.P. He spoke strongly on the seeming want of interest taken in the children of St. Aidan's Sunday-school, as teachers could not be found to teach all the children attending it. Afterwards, a varied programme of songs, duets, choruses, recitations, dialogues, and character sketches was gone through by the scholars and teachers. The singers were accompanied on the piano by Master J. W. Davison. The proceeds of the entertainment are to be devoted towards the erection of a Sunday-school.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.—On Monday evening, the members of the Medomsley and Allendale Reading-rooms held their annual coffee and ham supper in the Reading-room, Allendale Cottages. There was a very large number present. After partaking of the substantial repast, the company were entertained with songs, recitations, &c., and the evening's amusement was wound with a dance. The Messrs and Misses Davison, Allendale Cottages, supplied the music. The affair was very successful, and we think the promoters might safely hold one or two more similar entertainments during the winter.

QUEBEC.—On the evening of Christmas Day an entertainment was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel by the following artistes:—Mr and Mrs Jos. Smeaton and their little daughter, Mrs Naisbert, Mrs Jno. Harrison, and Mrs Jos. Harrison, of Hamsteels. Mr J. Harrison took the chair, and the edifice was crowded. Mr W. Turner presided at the piano.

LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Christmas night, the White-le-Head Primitive Methodist choir gave a concert of miscellaneous music, in the above chapel, before a very good audience.—A sale of work, a pie supper, and several other gatherings were held in connection with this place of worship.

WEARHEAD.—On Christmas Eve, the members of the Literary Institute held a most successful gathering in the Town Hall, with spelling competitions for adults and juveniles. Messrs J. S. Freeman, T. G. Watson, and T. Featherstone acted as interrogators. J. J. Wilkinson and Miss Sally Watson, St. John's, were first and second, with Mr Vickers third; the youths' prize being won by J. R. Watson, Frog Hall. The supper was largely attended, after which an enjoyable dance took place.

DIPTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL. — The annual Christmas services were celebrated on Sunday, when sermons were delivered in the morning and evening by Rev Albert Wainwright. Headingly College. On Christmas Day, Rev Joshua Fielden, Crook, preached in the afternoon. The service was followed by a public tea, served up in the school-room, which was well attended. In the evening, a public meeting was held, when excellent addresses were delivered by Rev J. Fielden, Mr G. Biggs, (Burnopfield), and Mr John Robinson, (Dipton). Mr Phillipson occupied the hair.

ANNFIELD PLAIN WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—At the above place there was a public service on Christmas Day, in the afternoon, which was conducted by Mr Cawood, who preached an excellent sermon. After the service a tea was provided in the school-room, to which a good number of persons sat down. Mr Cawood delivered a lecture upon "Sunday-school work," in the evening which was very interesting and appropriate.

HIGHGATE BAPTIST CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY.—The above anniversary was held on Sunday, and Christmas Day. On Sunday Rev Norman McLeod preached two excellent sermons to good and attentive congregations. On Christmas Day the public tea meeting was held in the school-room. The tea was given by the members of the church and the congregation. Very great paise is due to the good ladies who got up the tea, as well as those who served it out. A fairly large number attended notwithstanding the unpleasant state of the weather. After the tea a public meeting was held in the chapel. There was a good audience present, and a very pleasant and profitable evening was spent.—Rev E. W. Jenkins briefly reviewed the work of the past year and sketched out some important things which await to be done in the future. Mr James Edwards then followed with a humorous and instructive address. Afterwards Rev Wm. Williams, Knifton, Radnorshire—who was one of Rev E. W. Jenkins' fellow students—gave an excellent address on "Supreme love to Christ," and its effect upon ourselves. The last speaker was Mr J. W. Golightly who gave a very practical address on Church work. We have heard Mr Golighty speak several times, but never heard him speak so well before. The choir under the leadership of Mr J. H. Mackey, rendered music suitable to the occasion in a very creditable manner, while Mr J. E. Thompson presided at the harmonium.

MEDOMSLEY WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—Under the auspicies of this society, Miss Wilson, evangelist, Carlisle, conducted a special service in the Templar's Hall, Medomsley, on the afternoon of Christmas Day. This was followed by a public tea, and a meeting at night, under the presidency of Mr Hogg, Westwood.

LANCHESTER.—The decorations in the Parish Church, are on an elaborate scale, and as some new Cromer lamps have recently been placed in the edifice, the aspect of the interior was of a very pleasing and attractive nature. The decorations will remain over Sunday next, having been executed by Mr and Mrs Glyn, Miss Hodgson, Mrs Atkinson, Mr Waugh and Mr R. Walton. The vicar (Rev F. Glyn) preached on Christmas morning.—At the Lanchester Wesleyan Chapel, sermons were preached on Sunday by Mr James Elliot, Hetton-le-Hole. — On the afternoon of Christmas Day, Mr John Robinson, Kirbymoorside, occupied the pulpit. At night, a public meeting was held, under the presidency of Mr Robinson. The speakers were Messrs Mann, West Stanley, John and Geo. Buckham, Lanchester, and others. There was a fair company present.

SATLEY.—At this pretty little church, the decorations were on an elaborate scale, the Misses De Pledge having certainly displayed admirable taste in the adornment of the interior. The church is now illuminated by some new and improved lamps. The preacher on Christmas Day was the vicar (Rev J. P. De Pledge, M.A.).

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SOCIETY, WEST STANLEY.—In connection with the above society special services were held, two sermons being preached by Mr T. R. Oates, Andrews House. In the evening the place was filled, he took his text from Proverbs xxiii, 12. The choir under the able leadership of Mr Robert Pearson, rendered two beautiful anthems from *The Messiah*. Great credit is due to Mr Pearson for the efficient management of his choir and band, and the members should give them every encouragement they can.—A tea was provided by the members and upwards of 200 partook of the good things provided. The weather was very inclement and hindered some from attending. In the evening an entertainment was given by the Band of Hope and string band. The building was crowded, and many were obliged to go away. The chair was occupied by Mr Wm. Atkinson, Stanley. The programme was opened by a piece from the band, which was well received, and was followed by a solo from Mrs Pallister, which was rendered in beautiful style. The recitation, "Drunkards wife" by Miss Summerbell, received general approbation, next was a banjo solo by Mr M. Brown, and this being his first appearance in public he did remarkably well. A reading from Mr Batey succeeded by a solo, "Umbrella courtship" by Mr R. Harvey both were much appreciated; then came the fun of the night, a dialogue in two parts, entitled, "Sam Smith or the evils of intemperance" by 27 characters, each performing their part in a highly creditable manner; the next was a piece from the band who always receive a share of the plaudits, a solo from Miss Coxon, in her usual manner was well received; recitation, "John Rose and his freehold," by Miss Summerbell, was cleverly done; solo by Miss Coxon, received loud applause; "Sally was his darling," was performed by Mr Brown, on the banjo; recitation, "The fools fence" by Miss Summerbell, preceded the duet, "The little brown jug," by Messrs Batey and Collins, who were accompanied by the banjo, and the piece was well rendered; after a solo by Mrs Pallister the programme was brought to a close with a piece from the band. The proceeds were in aid of the Chapel fund.

BAZAAR AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

In connection with the Annfield Plain Primitive Methodist Society, two sermons were preached on Sunday by Mr Philip Reay to large congregations. —On Christmas Day, a bazaar was held in the Board Schools, kindly lent for the occasion, a large company assembling. The proceedings were opened by Rev John Magee with a hymn and prayer. Mr J. A. Curry, of Bradley Lodge, kindly consented to open the bazaar, and on rising was received with applause. He said he was very glad to be present, it being the first time he had had the honour of fulfilling such a duty. He spoke of the Methodist body as a whole, and the great work they were accomplishing, and said not the least amongst them was the Primitive Methodist connexion. His address was of a practicable nature, and showed the great ability he possessed for the public duties he had to peform in connection with the district. He hoped the ladies would realise great success in the sale of articles exhibited, and that soon they would be able to have a new chapel and Sunday School. (Applause). He declared the bazaar open.—Mr P. Reay moved a vote of thanks to Mr Curry, and Mr J. Johnson seconded the motion.—Rev J. Magee, in supporting the proposal, said they would not forget Mrs Curry, who, too, was present, and he hoped this would not be the last time they would be with them, for he had found Mr Curry to be a very kind and genial fellow, and of Primitive Methodist origin, his mother still being a member of their church at Low Fell, Gateshead.—The motion was heartily carried.—The ladies then proceeded with their sales, and a good business was done.—The bazaar was opened again on Wednesday afternoon and evening, when a fair business was transacted. The results were as follows:—No. 1 stall, presided over by Mrs Collpits, Mrs Herdman, and Mrs Dearing, realised £5 6s 8d; No. 2, presided over by Miss Mason, Miss Reay, Miss Carr, and Miss H. Pallister, realised £10 5s 10d; No. 3, presided over by Miss Herdman, Miss Green, and Miss Greener, realised £10 14s 3d; No. 4, presided over by Mrs Newton, Mrs Clish, and Mrs J. Bullerwell (confectionery), realised £3 1s 2d. The tea and refreshments given by the Band of Hope were provided and the tables served by Mrs Gare, Mrs Purvis, Mrs Martin, Mrs Reay, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Mordue, and Miss Martin. This department was well patronized. Great praise is due to the young men connected with the Orchestral Band for the able entertainments given by them, and we cannot speak too highly of the willing services rendered by them. The total results have exceeded the most sanguine expectations, and amounted to £67. Great praise is due to the ladies for the way in which they have exerted themselves to gain this result, and also to the male members of the church.

CABMEN'S SUPPER AT CONSETT.

Last (Thursday) night, the cabmen and 'bus-drivers of Consett, with a number of friends (including police and railway officials, the press, &c.), to the total number of 40, had their second annual supper; Mrs Brown, of the Railway Hotel, Consett, entertaining the guests to a really substantial repast, which was served up in admirable style. Mr Adam Brodie was elected to preside, while Mr T. C. Rawes discharged the functions of vice-chairman. Amongst the company present were:—Messrs J. Towns, Wm. Suddes, J. Moore, M. Ward, E. Duffy, Wm. Thompson, H. Foggon, W. Knaggs, T. O. Moir, J. Lindo, J. Hall, W. Simpson, H. Stoner, T. Harker, J. Frodick, M. Forkin, J. Patterson, H. Rawes, Supt. J. Oliver, Nathan Eldon, J. Turner, J. Richley, W. Eales, P. Whelan, &c.

The CHAIRMAN, having proposed the loyal toasts, which were warmly pledged, gave "The Bishop and Clergy and Ministers of all Denominations." He remarked that it was unusual to refer to Roman Catholic priests in connection with the sentiment, but he could not help making some allusion to the fact that the bulwarks hitherto existing between Protestantism and Roman Catholicism had been partially removed, and the presentation to Rev D. Power by all sections of the community bore strong evidence of his contention. (Applause.)

Mr W. THOMPSON shortly responded.

The CHAIRMAN, proposing "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," complimented our soldiers, sailors, and volunteers upon their splendid achievements in the past. He approved of the policy of Lord R. Churchill, and hoped the time would come when England would be simply defensive, and not an aggressive, nation. (Applause.)

Supt. OLIVER, in responding, avowed that despite the declarations of eminent personages, both the Army and Navy had shown that they were able to defend England against her enemies' invasion in the times gone by, and he firmly believed that they possessed just as much nerve and pluck at the present moment as they ever did. (Applause.) He trusted the time would come when there would be no necessity to resort to the sword and bloodshed, and their enemies would listen to reasoning and sound argument. (Applause.)

The VICE-CHAIRMAN now offered "The town and trade of Consett." He had known the town, he said, for a great many years, and he had seen trade a great deal worse than it was at present.

Mr N. ELSDON acknowledged the compliment, and stated that Consett was both thriving and growing larger, as he knew that several more houses were about to be built. There was not the slightest doubt but that trade was prospering. The Consett Iron and Steel Works were so ably managed that there was not the slightest fear but that their staple industries would continue to prosper, and when the new angle mill came to be constructed, Consett would stand second to any county town in the North. (Applause). They would shortly have a Town Council of their own, and perhaps some day they might be enabled to return a member to Parliament. (Loud cheers).

The CHAIRMAN next submitted the toast of the evening—"The hackmasters and cab-drivers." Although the station officials had experienced some trouble with this class of individuals in Newcastle, there was nothing of the sort transpiring at Consett—everything seeming to work smoothly. He spoke in eulogistic terms of the excellent style in which the cab-drivers and 'bus-men fulfilled their duties, and said they were extremely courteous and obliging.

Mr HARKER, being called upon to respond stated that although he was not a 'bus driver, he was closely connected with the calling, as the Railway Company brought the passengers to Consett and the cab-drivers conveyed them to the town. The people of Consett, however, were perfectly satisfied with the drivers, and they certainly satisfied himself. (Applause). The public were much indebted to the cabmen.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN likewise replied, remarking that there was no place similar in size to Consett where they would find a more efficient and obliging set of horses and men. (Cheers).

Mr MOIR, who was the principal promoter of the festive gathering, in acknowledging the sentiment, explained that this was their second year's gathering, and the present company was more select than on the previous occasion. He adverted to the cordial relationships existing between the various firms of cabmen in the district, all being ready and willing to lend each other a helping hand. (Applause).

Mr J. LINDO, replying on behalf of Mr F. Christopher, endorsed the observations of the preceding speakers, and regretted that Messrs J. Calvert and J. Hart were unable to be present, owing to unavoidable circumstances.

The other toasts comprised "The hostess," to which the CHAIRMAN and Mr M. WARD replied; and "The donors and subscribers," the names of the CHAIRMAN and Messrs H. STONER, J. HART, J. SHEARER, J. TOWNS, and others being linked therewith.

All the toasts were enthusiastically honoured.

Some capital songs were rendered by Messrs Stoner, Knaggs, Moore, and others, and after a pleasant evening the proceedings closed with cheers for "Our next merry meeting.'

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, Dec. 21st.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE, Esq. (chairman), and Dr ARNISON.

DRUNKENNESS.

Alfred Elliott was charged by Sergt. George with being drunk at Stanhope, Nov. 21st.—Fined 10s, including costs.

Isaac Dawson, of St. John's Chapel, was charged by P.C. Gill with being drunk at that place on Nov. 24th.—Fined 12s 6d.

Edward Nixon was also charged by P.C. Johnson with being drunk at Frosterley, 24th ult.—Mr Teale defended.—Dismissed.

DRUNK ON LICENSED PREMISES.

William Porter and *Robert Greenwell* were charged by P.C. Johnson with being drunk on licensed premises at Frosterley, 1st inst.—Mr Teale defended.—Case dismissed.

PERMITTING DRUNKENNESS.

John Wilkinson landlord of the Black Bull Inn, Frosterley, was charged with permitting drunkenness at that place, 1st inst., by P.C. Johnson.—A large number of witnesses were called to prove that no liquor was sold at all to Porter, and Greenwell called a number to prove that he was not there at all that evening.—Mr Teale defended, and the case was dismissed.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

William Porter was also charged by P.C. Johnson with committing a breach of the peace at Frosterley, 24th ult.—Mr Teale defended.—Bound over in his own recognisances in the sum of £5 to keep the peace from three months

NON-ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL.

Joseph Egglestone, East Lane, Stanhope, was charged by Mr John Peart, school attendance officer, with neglecting to send his children to school, after being repeatedly warned.—The Bench inflicted a fine of 5s, including costs, in each of his two children's cases.

NON-PAYMENT OF RATES.

John Collingwood, sen., *Andrew Collingwood*, *Frank Collingwood*, and *John Collingwood, jun.*, joint farmers at Stanhope Hall, were summoned by Robert Thompson for the non-payment of last half-year's rates of the former tenant of Stewart Shield Meadows Farm, Thomas Patrick, who left the farm at the May-day term.—Defendants said all their own rates were paid up, but they objected to pay the last tenant's rates.—The Bench, however, made an order for its payment by them, at the same time saying it was rather a hard case, but they could not do otherwise than make an order.

John Wilson, painter, Stanhope, was also summoned by Robert Thompson for arrears of rates from 1882 to 1888, amounting to the sum of £4 17s 11½d.—He was represented by Mr John Wilson, jun., who said his father was ill, nearly blind, and in receipt of parochial relief. He also intimated that the late collector was partially to blame.—The Bench concurred.—Mr Thompson said it was hard to throw the onus on an absent man.—The Bench adjourned the case for a month to see if anything could be done towards satisfying the claims of the rate collector, remarking at the same time that it was hard for a man in receipt of parochial relief to pay any arrears up.

PRESENTATION TO FATHER POWER AT CONSETT.

On Wednesday night, the New Town Hall at Consett was filled to overflowing with the friends and admirers of Father Power on the occasion of that gentleman being presented with an illuminated address and a purse of gold to the value of £100. The meeting was of a most enthusiastic character, and Father Power may well be proud of the cordial manner in which he was welcomed back again. At St. Mary's Church, Blackhill, six six scores of grandsire doubles, each called differently, were rung as a welcome peal by Messrs R. Moore, 1; J. McPhillips, 2; J. Moore, 3; B. King, 4; A. Nicholls (conductor), 5; and F. King, tenor. A great number of flags of various colours, and representing different nations, were hung from the windows and the gas-pipes, whilst on the wall immediately above the platform were two large posters—one of them having printed on it in large letters: "We bid you welcome, Father Power," whilst the second was inscribed with the following words of significant meaning: "Will you no' come back again?" In order to make the decorations more complete, a lot of artificial plants were placed in a row from one end of the platform to the other, kindly lent by Mr John T. Potts. A large number of Father Power's friends were seated on the platform, and the chair was taken by Father Foran. The reception which greeted Father Power on his appearance on the platform was most enthusiastic, cheers being loudly given by the audience.

The CHAIRMAN said it gave him great pleasure to be there that night for such a worthy object. He would not need to inform them why they were there that evening; all those present would know quite well. He was glad to see such a large number present to witness the presentation to one who was very well-known and also very dear to them [illegible]—Father Power. (Loud applause.) He did not [illegible] intend to intrude any longer upon their time, but [illegible] would read to them letters of apology from gentlemen who had been unable to be present:—M[illegible]essrs Wm. Raw, Blackhill; M. Cassidy, Corpora[illegible]en Hotel, Walker: Wm. Jenkins, and T. Taylor [illegible]mith, Gosforth. He saw that the programme [illegible] was composed of two objects. In the first place there was a concert programme to go through [illegible], and also the presentation and address to make. [illegible] then called upon Madame Hall-Atkin and Messrs Duncanson (Durham Cathedral) and Moody to favour the audience with a trio, entitled "The gipsies' laughing chorus." The piece was of a very amusing and laughable character, and elicited much applause. The singers were ably accompanied upon the piano by Mr Ed. Sloane, Blackhill. The next was a solo, given in a most effective manner, by Mr Duncanson, and was entitled "Father Power." The piece was the song "Father O'Flynn" adapted for the occasion. After each verse tremendous applause was given, which seemed to make the spacious hall ring. The company would fain have had an *encore*, but when the Chairman gave out that Madame Hall-Atkin would sing the next solo, the noise immediately subsided, thus manifesting the most orderly character of the meeting. Mr Moody followed with "Let me like a soldier fall," which was ably rendered, and the performer was rewarded with loud applause. The first part of the programme was concluded by Madame Hall-Atkin and Mr Duncanson singing "The singing lesson," which created much mirth, and was accorded great applause.

The CHAIRMAN did not think there was any need for him to say much before making the presentation. All those present knew Father Power so well that anything he could say with respect to him would be quite old to them. A long, long time before ever he came to Blackhill or thought there was the slightest likelihood in the world that he would see the people of that place before he died, he knew a man named David Power, and when he afterwards learnt that there was a David Power at Blackhill, he felt sure it was his old friend. However, he looked through the directory and found his Father Power somewhere else, and thought that the David Power at Blackhill would not be the same person as he had formerly been acquainted with. However, he was left in the dark until he came here and discovered that his first surmise had been wrong, and that Father Power, of Blackhill, was quite a stranger to him. They all knew what an active curate he had been. (Applause.) Father Power had left very little of the work for the "old priest" to do. (Hear, hear.) He must say that whenever work was to be done he was always ready to do it if it was in his line. He did everything in his *power*—(applause)—to rid him of as much of the labour as possible. Of course that was just what he liked. As a companion to live with in the house there could not be, in his opinion, a more amiable, congenial, or intelligent man than he had proved himself to be. There was one thing in connection with their life together, and that was they never quarrelled. (Applause.) They could always agree upon every subject. And the large company both on the platform and in the body of the hall were a standing proof that he was well liked by his congregation, and by everyone, in fact, who came in contact with him. They had given him a hearty welcome on his arrival amongst them from the large city of Manchester, where his labours were at present needed. He could only wish that his endeavours for the public good would be as successful in Manchester as they had been here in Blackhill and Consett. (Loud applause.) There were so many speakers who intended to address them that he did not feel justified in trespassing any longer upon their time; besides, he had a severe cold, and he did not feel in trim for speaking at all that night. He hoped the audience would agree with him that he had said quite enough, and he would leave the rest over to those speakers who would follow. He would now call upon the secretary to read the address. (Loud applause.)

The SECRETARY of the testimonial fund committee then read the illuminated address, a copy of which has already appeared in our columns.

The CHAIRMAN called upon Mr Geo G Taylor Smith to make the presentation.

Mr GEO G TAYLOR SMITH said he had very great pleasure indeed in presenting the address and purse of gold to Father Power. He thought the gifts would remind him in years to come, how dear he was to every one of them. (Applause.) He trusted that the purse of gold would prove very useful to him in his official capacity in the church. There was also an album containing all the subscribers' names, which he could look over at his leisure.

Mr ELTRINGHAM rose to support the presentation, and said he was very glad indeed to do so. He was exceedingly pleased to see such a large company before him to bear testimony to the good work and conduct of Father Power during his sojourn among them, and to show how much they appreciated his labours. (Applause.) It was certainly a thing to be taken into consideration the position they were in as a committee. It was a presentation subscribed by a mixed body of people to a Catholic priest. (Loud applause.) He thought it was something that Father Power should look at that the subscriptions for such a worthy object were not all given by his own parishioners. He thought it would be the unanimous opinion of all those present that Father Power highly deserved a testimonial for his labours amongst them during the time he was in the neighbourhood. It was enough for anyone to merely glance around the large hall to see for themselves that he was respected not only among his own parishioners, but throughout the whole district. (Applause.) He well remembered the time when it would have been almost impossible for the people of Consett to get up a testimonial for a Catholic priest or an Irishman. The feeling which at that time pervaded the public mind would have rendered it quite out of the question to form a joint committee of Catholics and Protestants for such an object. He was very glad to perceive that such a feeling was leaving the district, and it ought to be remembered that Father Power had done more to dispel the prejudice and put down that feeling of enmity than any other man when he was in this neighbourhood. (Loud applause.) He believed that from the very first day Father Power come amongst them it had been his desire to allay the feeling which existed between the two Nationalities. And he thought that he had succeeded to a great extent in doing so. He assured the assembly that it had been a very pleasing duty indeed to him for to act as chairman of the committee. There had not been the slightest hitch amongst the committee since they began to work for the test monial fund. They had all worked with one object in view. He wished to tell his English and Protestant friends that there had been the greatest amount of unanimity between them whilst working with the other portion of the committee. Anything that had been suggested by them the others had readily assented to, and with a great deal more of good feeling than was anticipated. (Applause). He believed they had allowed his part of the committee more of their own way than they really desired. As there were a lot of other speakers he would simply conclude by asking Father Power to accept the testimonial, and not to look upon it merely for the sake of its intrinsic value, but to take into consideration at the same time the great feeling of respect for him which had prompted them to obtain it, and that they were exceedingly sorry they had lost not only a minister, but a gentleman. (Loud applause.)

Mr EDWARD SLOANE said that it had been one of the most pleasing duties in the whole of his life to take part in the testimonial to one whom they all knew and respected — the Rev Father Power (Applause.) He felt far short of being able to express to Father Power the great amount of respect which was felt not only amongst his parishioners, but by all those in the neighbourhood that knew him. He did not think it was correct what some people said—viz., that the testimonial was suggested and propogated by members of the Catholic body. He left the people to form their own opinion in this case as to whether they were giving honour where honour was due. (Hear.) It did not fall to the lot of any single individual to suggest or at least to promulgate the testimonial. When it was known that he was about to leave the neighbourhood, everybody was up in arms, and asked if there was nothing going to be done to get up a testimonial for Father Power Everybody considered that something should be done, so they took time to consider; but in the meanwhile enquiries came in from Protestants on every hand as to what they intended doing. These enquiries from persons outside of their own body had urged them to greater activity in the matter. A lady gave him a guinea at the very outset, and said she knew if they did not give him anything that she would get it back. (Applause.) That kind lady was Mrs Siddell, of Viewfield, Blackhill. He assured Father Power the great regret which the Catholics felt at his departure from amongst them. In the name of the Catholics in the district he supported the testimonial to Father Power, with a wish that he would long live and prosper in any place where God might send him. (Applause.)

Mr WM. ROBINSON rose to support the presentation. He said it gave him great pleasure to do so, especially when he considered that that night they put to one side all their differences of opinion, both political and religious, and were met together to do honour to a gentleman to whom honour was due. He became acquainted with Father Power shortly after he came into this district. That acquaintance, he was proud to say, ultimately resolved itself into a firm friendship. No one could remain long in Father Power's company, he believed, before they found out that he was a man of intelligence and ability—a man possessing a great mind, a big heart, and a broad platform, and he was ever cheerful, face radiant, and always homely. (Applause.) He had always found in conversation with Father Power that his mind was ever open and free, and selfishness and ostentation seemed foreign to his nature. (Cheers.) As they had heard that night prejudice one against another was what he abominated. He had heard him on this subject counsel his congregation from the sacred desk, and with fire and earnestness of soul denounce this feeling. Then with the courage of his own convictions he exclaimed, 'If my Protestant friends do not see eye to eye with me, or believe as I believe, still they are my brethren." (Applause.) Did those present on those occasions believe their preacher?—(a voice: "Yes")—for he did, and his admiration at the rev. gentleman's outburst of feeling he could not express. (Applause). His charity and hospitality few could excel, and there was not a child in the district but knew Father Power. (Cheers). Many times might he have been seen stopping the little ones on the street, laying one hand upon a little one's head and distributing his coppers with a friendly "God bless you, my child. Be good!" (Loud applause). And how many were there that night who were advanced in years who had not experienced the bestowal of that charity, for he was always ready to help the necessities of the poor, both with money and kind words of sympathy and encouragement. He knew how they all loved Father Power, and they all had breathed forth their silent petitions that God would bless him wherever he might go. (Hear). Then his attention and care was not only confined to his own flock, for he (the speaker) knew of one case where a Protestant lay ill, and being desirous of visiting the house to express words of comfort and sympathy to the parents, asked a friend how he thought his visit would be received; and when told he would be welcome, said, "Then in the name of God, I will go." He went, and not only to the door, but the hearts of the inmates also were opened with gladness and thankfulness to receive him. (Applause). What need had he to say more, but that man with such a great soul as this, swelling out and distributing blessings on the right hand and on the left with no meagre hand was worthy of their highest admiration and friendship. Yea, more, was worthy of grasping by the hand and calling brother. (Loud and continued applause).

Mr KELLY rose to support the presentation. He had been chosen to represent the Catholics on the committee, and he could assure them that they had all worked together in the greatest harmony. He heartily endorsed what the previous speakers had said and hoped that their words would be verified in the future. (Applause).

Rev FATHER POWER, who was greeted with terrific outbursts of applause, said that during his career as a public speaker, he had had his moments of elation like most other men, but he had never rose to address a meeting with more diffidence than he did that night. They would sympathise with him. His emotions were a curious mixture of sorrow and gratitude. He had witnessed the funeral of the late Mr Jonathan Priestman as he was coming here, and his eyes filled with tears, when he heard the sad news, for he was a man of exceptional good character and he firmly believed that Mr Priestman would have died for any of his principles. (Applause). On his arrival at Blackhill he went to a house which was endeared to him by many pleasant memories, and hallowed with tender associations of the living and the dead. He had now left this district which be had learned to love, but its people were always present in his memory. Although the parting had been a sorrowful one, and he had a place that had been a home. He thought he might truly say with the poet—

"Tis better to have loved and lost,
Than never to have loved at all."

He thanked the people of Consett and Blackhill for the kindness which they had shown to him. The intrinsic value of their presents, he assured them, had for him the least charm. He was aware that the meeting was of a unique character. Priests have had occasionally testimonials made to them, and Protestants' names have now and then appeared on the list of subscriptions, but his was not a Catholic testimonial. (Applause). It was a testimonial from the locality. If he had not said that it was a unique meeting it might be thought he was giving way to false modesty. He would much rather submit to the stigma of sounding his own trumpet. He meant to say that the presentation was the outcome of Catholics and Protestants alike. (Hear, hear, and applause). When he first came to this neighbourhood, he indeed felt like a stranger in a strange land. Since that time his feelings had greatly changed in that respect, and very soon he began to regard them as his friends. He came to the conclusion shortly that his interests were quite as safe with Geordy as they were with Paddy. (Laughter and applause). He wished to thank all the subscribers and collectors, as well as the committee, for the part they had taken in the testimonial, and all his friends, Protestants and Catholics, for their kindness towards him. He wished also to convey his thanks to the artistes who had kindly consented to sing to the audience that evening, and he was glad to see Madame Hall-Atkin amongst them. In conclusion, he wished to state that he felt quite inadequate to express the love and gratitude which he felt towards all his friends, and which time would never be able to efface from his heart. (Loud applause).

Mr Moody then sung "The pilgrim of love" in a style which was much appreciated. This was followed by a song from Madame Hall-Atkin, "Terence's farewell," for which she received an *encore*, giving "Caller herrin'" in a manner which seemed to charm the audience. Mr Duncanson followed with "I fear no foe."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, and committee to the fund was proposed by Mr R. MURRAY, who said it gave him great pleasure to assist at that gathering. They were met to do honour to a gentleman to whom the greatest honour was due. He had known Father Power since his first coming to the district, and he had never met a man of greater intellect and with a more charitable heart. And although Father Power had gone away from the district, every inhabitant of the neighbourhood sent after him their best wishes for his welfare. (Applause). He thought the gentlemen who had promoted the fund deserved great thanks for the admirable manner in which they had carried out their object.

Mr JAMES ANNANDALE, J.P., in seconding the proposition, said he thought they could not have fixed upon a more appropriate time, when all the Church bells were ringing out "Peace on earth and good-will to men." (Applause). They were there to show their opinion and appreciation of a man who had lived long among them. It was said "An honest man's the noblest work of God"; and in parting from Father Power they parted from one who always acted an honest part. (Applause). They had had an illustration of the saying "Parting is sweet sorrow." They parted from their friend and wished him "God speed." They hoped he would be useful in his new sphere, and asked the Almighty that he might close his days in peace, happiness, and honour. (Loud applause).

The vote was put and carried with applause.

Mr J. S. MURRAY and Mr GEO. ELTRINGHAM replied, the latter gentleman saying that his reason for making a speech was not because he did not want to make one, but because he could not. (Laughter.) But no one held Father Power in greater respect and admiration than he did. (Applause.)

Mr JOS. ELTRINGHAM proposed, and Mr SLOANE seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr Geo G. Taylor Smith for making the presentation, which was heartily accorded.

Father POWER, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said that while he and the chairman had been together their relations had been most amicable. He knew that Father Foran was highly respected in the district, but if the people only knew him as well as he (the speaker) did, they would love him dearly. (Applause.)

Mr T. SIDDELL said he was proud to have the honour of seconding the vote of thanks to Father Foran. He had known their guest ever since he had come to the district, and a more worthy man had not lived. (Applause.) He had taken his previous superior as his example, and thus followed in the footsteps of one of the best of men. (Applause.) He had known Father Foran now for some time, and he seemed to be doing a great deal of good in the district. (Applause.)

This vote was carried with loud cheers, and after Father FORAN had replied,

Madame Hall Atkin, Mr Moody, and Mr Duncanson sung the trio, "Good evening."

The whole of the songs were accompanied on the piano by Mr Joseph E. Sloane, Blackhill.

A most enthusiastic meeting was brought to a close by all the audience singing "Auld Lang Syne."

Last (Thursday) night, a complimentary supper was given to Rev D. Power, at Mr W. Eltringham's, Station Hotel, Benfieldside. A report will appear next week.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL.

TOW LAW AND WOLSINGHAM.—Mr T. E. Fenwick, Wolsingham, addressed a meeting of the electors in the Town Hall, on Friday evening.—A resolution of confidence, proposed by Rev R. Scott, and seconded by Mr J. Parker (one of the foremost temperance reformers), was carried amid cheers, there being one dissentient.—Mr A. Emerson spoke in favour of the candidate.—Mr J. Oliver acted as chairman.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH

A large and influential meeting was held in the West Stanley National Schools on Monday se'nnight, and despite other attractions, the house was filled to overflowing, great interest being evinced in the proceedings. The meeting was opened by prayer and hymn 71, "Lord, I hear of showers of blessings." The chair was taken by the curate (Rev L. M. Chester). Master Tom Grundy gave a recitation, "Farewell to drink," which was well applauded. He was followed by a solo on the violin by Mr R. T. Witty, who pleased the audience and gained a well-merited *encore*. A reading, "Jack's reckoning," by Master Joseph Surtees, was thoroughly appreciated. The choir next favoured with a melody, "The holy war," which was well received. Miss Simpson gave a pleasing recitation, which was followed by a humorous dialogue, "The country schoolmaster," by the following persons:—A country schoolmaster, Mr J. Robson; his "better-half," Miss S. J. Hall; a country squire, Mr R. D. Grundy; waiting boy, Mr Tom Grundy; a head pupil, Mr Joe Surtees; village publican, Mr T. Robson; village barber, Mr J. Grundy. This piece provoked considerable applause. The recitation, "Hard times," by Mr Joe Surtees, was well delivered. Mr Witty favoured with another violin solo, and was awarded an *encore*. Our friend, Mr Ross, then gave the piece of the evening, a recitation, "In the future, by-and-bye," which filled the house with laughter. The "Local hits" were extremely good, viz:—"The new railway," "Shop half-holiday," and "Church Institute." As may be expected, an *encore* was demanded, but the audience had to content themselves when Mr Ross intimated, through the chairman, that he would give another "in the future, by-and-bye." This concluded the interesting programme. The chairman then took up a few minutes to drive home to the audience a few very seasonable remarks, strongly urging the pledge to all. Hymn and prayer brought a most enthusiastic meeting to a close. Five persons took the total abstinence pledge. Six new members were added to the choir, and an initiation service was held, at which 12 persons were initiated members of the Beamish Branch of the C.E.T.S.

TANFIELD BRANCH.

The monthly meeting was held in the National School, Tanfield, presided over by Rev S Denton, B.A., curate. The proceedings opened with the singing of hymn 100 and prayer. The choir sang a glee, "The hunters' chorus," in fine style. Mr Arkless gave a reading, and was followed by a song from Mr Saunders. Miss D Mossom sang "At prayers," and acquitted herself in a splendid manner. Mr J. Hunter, an energetic worker in the cause of temperance, favoured with a recitation entitled "The affrighted toper," which was followed by a song by Rev S. Denton, "I wonder why." Misses Smailes and Mossom afterwards sang a duet, "Friendship." Another young musician, Master Stanley Watson, sang "Oh, dare to be a Daniel" splendidly, and gained well-merited applause. Mr Arkless gave a reading entitled "The yarn of the Nancy Bell," which was followed by a song from Mr Saunders, "We must go a'hunting," for which he was deservedly *encored*, and sang a comic song, "Into the hands of his solicitor." Miss Smailes received great praise for the splendid manner in which she executed her part. Mr Denton again favoured the audience, and was *encored*.

BURNOPFIELD BRANCH.

A correspondent writes:—"Great credit is due to the twelve young men of the Burnopfield branch of the above society who were successful in making the past Christmastide a happy one for the other members by giving a conversazione in the Temperance Hall, on Christmas Eve. It was my good fortune to be invited, and I heartily agreed with the young man that expressed a wish that such Christmas treats would come once-a-month. The manner in which they carried out the arrangements was something to admire. As a visitor, I can scarcely say whether the games, songs, or fruit delighted me most—perhaps the latter—but no one could be otherwise than satisfied with all. The songs were admirably rendered by the following:—Miss Teasdale, Messrs Saunders, Hindhaugh, and W. and M. Brabban. At 11-30, the National Anthem was sung and the company departed, having spent (as all agreed) a most enjoyable evening. The majority of the young men afterwards went out carol singing."

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CONSETT.—23rd inst., the wife of Joseph Winker, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CHESTER-LE-STREET. — Register Office, 15th inst., Thomas John Rutter to Isabella Hutchinson, both of Washington.

At the same place, 22nd inst., Thomas Adamson, Waldridge, to Ann Winn, Edmondsley.—Same day. Ralph Howe, Ouston, to Margaret A. Willis, Pelton Fell.—24th inst., W. Hall to Elizabeth Simpson, both of Pelton Fell.

At the Wesleyan Chapel, 22nd inst., by the Rev J. V. Sutton. Wm. Mackinlay, Twizell, to Annie S. Brown, Chester-le-Street.

DEATHS.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Derwent Lodge, 21st., aged 63, Jonathan Priestman.

ADGATE.—Railway Street, 25th inst., Sarah, wife of J. Chaytor, and daughter of Ellen and late Wm. Summerbell, formerly of Iveston.

CASTLESIDE.—Watergate, 25th inst., aged 77, Ralph Ward.

WESTWOOD.—25th inst., aged 15 years, George, eldest son of Geo. Armstrong.

WHICKHAM PARK.—21st inst., aged 2 years and 9 months, Roland Burne, youngest son of Alfred Coning.

WINLATON.—19th inst., aged 73, William Clark, formerly of Chillingham.

HAMSTEELS COLLIERY.—(At the residence of her son, Fenwick), aged 80, Jane Slater.

WHICKHAM. — 22nd inst., aged 51, Jane Lord, daughter of the late John and Ann Colling.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—23rd inst., aged. 88, Thomas Laidler.

WATERHOUSES.—22nd inst. Richard, infant son of Wm. Jackson.

STANHOPE. — Sydney Villa, 18th inst., aged 34, Elizabeth, widow of Major Sydney Rippon, late Madras Artillery, and daughter of the late Mr Thos. Urwin, Stanhope.

ROOKHOPE.—Chapel Row, aged 64 years, November William Curry, a faithful servant of the Lead Company; deeply lamented.

HAMILTON ROW.—14th inst., aged 26, Frances, wife of Robert Fryer.

LANCHESTER. — Workhouse, 17th inst., aged 86, Isabella Riddle.

HANGING STONES.—19th inst., aged 39, Elizabeth Forster

PELTON.—25th inst., aged 33, Rosa, wife of Richard Bulmer, schoolmaster.

PELTON FELL.—(At the house of John Hallison), 25th inst., aged 87, Thomas Carr, blacksmith, late of Pelton.

23rd inst., aged 45, James Thirtle.

URPETH.—21st inst., aged 67, John Eddy.

GATESHEAD.—40, Affleck Street, aged 74, Surtees Newton, formerly of Swalwell.

SEDGEFIELD.—17th inst., aged 45, Edward Dixon Bell.

NEWFIELD.—23rd inst., aged 17 Emily, daughter of the late Robert Beverley.

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