ROBERT JACKSON'S
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
9, FRONT STREET, and 21, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
Agent for Dipton:—Mr. THOMAS CLARK South Medomsley Cottages.
Agent for Stanley:—Mr. M. G. ARMSTRONG Newsagent, Havanna Post Office.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

BLANKETS, 8s 11d to 25s.
FANCY BERLIN SHAWLS, 1s 11d to 8s 11d.
DRESS GOODS, 1½d to 2s 6d.
SKIRTS, 1s 6d to 6s 11d.
MUSLINS in great variety.
MEN'S SUITS, 19s 6d to 35s.
OVERCOATS, 17s 6d to 30s.
SHIRTS, 1s to 4s 11d.
WOOL VESTS, 1s 6d to 3s 6d.
PANTS, 1s 11½d to 4s 11d.
DOWSON'S, BLACKHILL. 333m

No. 1,739. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, December 29th, 1893. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MONEY!
IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.
THE
SUNDERLAND COMMERCIAL ADVANCE BANK,
29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND.
Are prepared to ADVANCE daily from £10 to £1000, To Clergymen, Gentlemen, Farmers, Cowkeepers, and Householders generally (male or female) simply ON THEIR OWN PROMISSORY NOTE, at the most reasonable rates of interest.
NO PUBLICATION. NO BILLS OF SALE. NO SURETIES REQUIRED.
STRICTEST SECRECY GUARANTEED.
No connection with Loan Offices or anonymous advertisers. Prospectus free. Apply at once before going elsewhere, as you will find special advantages in dealing with this Bank.
ALEXANDER WOLFE, Manager. 94l

THE NORTHERN FURNISHING CO. LTD
BANKING DEPARTMENT.
Sums of £1 and upwards are received on Deposit on the following terms:—
£4 per cent. per annum (Withdrawable on demand.)
£5 per cent. per annum (Subject to One Month's notice of withdrawal.)
£6 per cent. per annum (Subject to Three Months' notice of withdrawal.)
Sums of not less than 1s. are also received at 5 per cent. per annum interest, and can be withdrawn at 14 days' notice.
Prospectus, etc., sent free on application to the General Manager, Mr ROBERT IONS, 277 and 279, Westgate Road, Newcastle; or Mr GEO. LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate, Lintz Green.

Lost.

£1 REWARD.
LOST or STRAYED, from a Field at Crossgate Moor, BAY PONY, 11 hands, 3 inches, 4 years old, "J H" stamped on fore foot, belonging to Mr LINDSLEY, North Road, Durham. 937m

Wanted.

WANTED, a respectable BOY as Apprentice to the Drapery.—Apply, J. T. POTTS, Consett.

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL.—Apply, G. MURRAY, Dipton. 951m

WANTED, at once, a strong KITCHEN GIRL. Apply, Rose and Crown Hotel, Blackhill.

WANTED, at once, a good GENERAL.—Apply to Mrs ROBINSON, 11, Durham Road, Blackhill. 949m

EXPERIENCED COOK-GENERAL WANTED first week in January; age over 20.—Apply, BEDA LODGE, Lintz Green, R.S.O. 936m

WANTED, a HOUSEKEEPER.—Apply to T. PEARSON, 6, Queen Street, Consett, between 6 and 8 p.m. 942m

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, about 18 or 20 years of age.—Apply at *Guardian* Office. 961m

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, WANTED, a YOUNG MAN, as Correspondent Clerk; must be able to write Shorthand; wage 18s per week; must not be under 18 years of age; confined to Members' sons.—Application to be made to the Committee, Annfield Plain, on Tuesday Night first, at Seven o'clock. 935m

AGENCY.—For good GENERAL SERVANTS apply at the SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE, 13, Front Street, Consett. 29k

COLLIERY OFFICIALS and MINERS of all ranks and ages. Lessons by Post. The surest road to promotion. Send Penny Stamp for Syllabus. —T. A. SOUTHERN, M.E., late H.M. Inspector of Mines, the Universal Mining School, Derby. 184m

To Let.

FURNISHED APARTMENTS in Consett, TO LET, for Two Gentlemen.—Apply, by letter, stating terms, to Box P, *Guardian* Office, Consett.

TO LET, a FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE, with Outbuildings and Seven Acres of Pasture Land, at Iveston.—Apply, Box C, *Guardian* Office. 905m

FOR SALE.—Bargains, Walnut PIANO, 3 American ORGANS, 4 HARMONIUMS, 6 Sets HARNESS, RIDING SADDLE and BRIDLE. —Apply A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 853m

TO LET, at New South Moor, a HOUSE of FIVE ROOMS, and a BUTCHER'S SHOP, and HOUSE of SEVEN ROOMS, together with all other necessary conveniences.—For particulars apply to Mr JOHN SMITH, Post Office, South Moor. 983m

TO BE LET, by Tender, the GRAZING FARM, of Harthope, in the Parish of Wolsingham, containing 250 acres more or less. J. Anderson, gamekeeper, Fowlnees, near Wolsingham, will show the Farm, and offers in writing will be received by R. S. BAINBRIDGE, Keverstone, Staindrop, up to the 6th January, 1894, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

FARMS TO LET.—BUTSFIELD FARM and NORTH BUTSFIELD FARM, now occupied by Mr J. J. WILLIS and Mr JAS. ROSS, who is not an offerer. The above Houses to be Let either without Land, or with any such quantity of Land as may be agreed upon (250 Acres). A BLACKSMITH'S SHOP also TO LET.—Offers received by Mr VAN HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands. Entry, May-day.

TO LET, PROSPECT HOUSE, Wheatley Hill, containing Dining Room, Drawing Room, Kitchen, Pantry, and China Closet on the Ground Floor, and Five Bed-rooms on the First Floor; also, Washhouse in yard, and the usual conveniences. A few Acres of Grass Land and Stable accommodation would be Let with the House if required. The Building has south, east, and west aspects, commanding a wide range of beautiful scenery, including Stanhope Fells on the West, Lumley Castle, Lord Durham's Monument, Wear Valley, and the Sea near Sunderland, on the East. Wheatley Hill is situate about Half-a-mile from Burnhope Colliery, about a Mile from South Moor and Craghead Collieries, about 2½ Miles from Lanchester Station, and about 2 Miles from New Station, Stanley. It is a very suitable situation for a Doctor or Veterinary Surgeon, being so central in a populous neighbourhood — Apply to GEORGE HOBSON, Harperley Mills, Lintz Green, R.S.O. 496m

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a Strong, Light, Hawkers WAGGON Wood top, Waterproof sides.—Apply JOS. BROWN, Boot Dealer, Stanley. 856m

BRICKS and DRAINAGE PIPES at DEARNESS BRICK and TILE WORKS, WATER HOUSES. 269k

FOR SALE, PIANO, in Walnut, Iron Frame, Check Action, &c.; moderate price.—Apply to JOHN SURTEES, Teacher of Music, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 790m

FOR SALE, a Bargain, SECOND-HAND AMERICAN ORGAN, in first-class condition, 14 stops, knee swells, &c.—Can be seen on application to W. T. DAGLISH, South Medomsley, Dipton.

PIANO FOR SALE, quite new, Walnut case, iron frame, full trichord, and all the latest improvements; splendidly finished interior, 10 years' guarantee; deferred payments; liberal discount for cash; Inspection invited—Apply, F WELCH, Annfield Plain 893m

BASIC SLAG. — THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER, also ALBERTS' BASIC PHOSPHATE POWDER, most reliable Manures. SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS for Messrs Albert, for Four Northern Counties of England, Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, and Scottish Borders:— LANGDALE BROTHERS, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 461m

For Sale.

CLOCKS, CLOCKS, Clocks FOR SALE, at Wholesale Prices, for Cash, at F WELCH & Co, Annfield Plain 891m

TO BUILDERS.—FOR SALE, best SNECKED BLOCKING COURSES, ready for Fixing. Also, BUILDING STONE of all Descriptions.—Apply, Mr DENT, Bearl Quarry, Stocksfield Station.

T. OWEN,
WHOLESALE SADDLER, AND SADDLERS' IRONMONGER,
73, & 77, SIDE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
HAVING moved into his NEW and more EXTENSIVE PREMISES, near his Old Establishment (which has had to give way to Railway Extensions), begs to thank the many Customers who have patronised him so well during the last 12 Years, and to inform them that he is still SELLING at the Cheapest Rate, and Lower than his usual Prices, a large Stock of Harness and Saddlery of every Description.
HORSE CLOTHING, RUGS, STABLE SHEETS, WATERPROOF CART & WAGGON COVERS, LOIN COVERS, GIG APRONS, GIG LAMPS, CLIPPING MACHINES, and all kinds of Stable Requisites.
SURPLUS SALE FOR 30 DAYS.
T. OWEN also wishes to intimate that, owing to the extensive Premises he has acquired, and which are now undergoing important alterations, he will be able to execute any Order, large or small, by which he may be favoured, with great despatch.

Business Announcements.

DON'T FORGET!
GEORGE McNEAL,
BILL-POSTER, ANNFIELD PLAIN.
HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000 BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Pit Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton, East Castle, &c.

COCKBURN'S
FOR STATIONERY, CONFECTIONERY, FANCY AND USEFUL ARTICLES,
DIARIES, POCKET BOOKS, DAY BOOKS, LEDGERS, SCHOOL REWARDS,
BOOKS BOUND, PICTURES FRAMED,
Spectacles for all Sights.
13, FRONT STREET CONSETT.
Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

MR. JOHN USHER,
LATE
MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET,
£1 TO £10
begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, for first-class workmanship and best material, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s 6d per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. 724h

HEPTON'S NOTED CLOTHING STORE TO SUIT THE TIMES.
1,000 OVERCOATS, COATS, JACKETS, TROUSERS, VESTS, BED QUILTS, BED RUGS, BLANKETS, SHEETS. Men's, Women's, and Children's Clothing at Given Away Prices at
HEPTON'S UNREDEEMED PLEDGE STORE, BLACKHILL.
Money Lent on every Description of Clothing.

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

ALL COUNTRY VISITORS TO CONSETT DURING THE NEXT FOUR WEEKS, ARE REQUESTED TO CALL AT
T. MILNER'S,
CHEMIST, CONSETT,
FOR PURE DRUGS, CHEMICALS, COUGH AND INFLUENZA REMEDIES.
Chest and Lung Protectors.
INVALID'S WINES, ÆRATED WATERS.
Toilet Soap Perfumes.
HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.
Hovell and Co's Celebrated Crackers.
Every Purchaser of 10s Value during the next Four Weeks, including Monday, January 8th, will receive a Life-like PICTURE of MISS ELLEN TERRY, as "Queen Catherine," in Shakespeare's Henry the VIII. 723m

WORTH KNOWING.
K. VOSS,
65, 67, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE,
Has the Greatest VARIETY of LEFT-OFF CLOTHING in the Provinces for LADIES, GENTLEMEN, and CHILDREN'S Wear.
HUNDREDS of SUITS.
HUNDREDS of OVERCOATS.
HUNDREDS of WATERPROOFS.
THOUSANDS of TROUSERS.
K.V. advertises largely, and buys direct from some of the best families in England, which enables him to Sell the Best and Latest Style of Clothing at prices to suit the Working Classes.
Come and look for Yourselves.
VOSS, 65, 65½, 67, 69, and 71, BLACKETT STREET.
A GREAT QUANTITY OF DRESS CLOTHING Always in Stock.
LADIES GOODS in every Variety.
A Large Stock of Guns, Field and Opera Glasses and other Goods too numerous to mention. 751

Business Announcements.

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

MARBLE AND 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.

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH
FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.
THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.,
CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 3 TO 6 P.M.,
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13 AND 14, FRONT STREET.
(SIDE DOOR).

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, DECEMBER, 1893.
GEORGE RICHARDSON & SON,
HAVE pleasure in announcing the arrival of NEW GOODS in all departments for Christmas Trade. FANCY ARTICLES in great variety, including special Purchase of Manufacturers' Stock of SPANISH FANS to be Offered much under ordinary Prices.
WELL-ASSORTED STOCK OF WOOL WRAPS, SILK NECKERCHIEFS, & MUFFLERS.
Hemstitch and Embroidered Hankerchiefs for Xmas Presents.
LATEST STYLES IN LADIES' JACKETS, CLOAKS, AND HATS
WITNEY AND CLOTH BLANKETS (SUMMER FINISHED), AT LOWEST PRICES.
EXTENSIVE RANGES OF FLANNELS, FLANNELETTES, WOOL AND GRANDRIL SHIRTINGS.
TAILORS, DRESSMAKERS, AND MILLINERS, ON PREMISES.
INSPECTION INVITED.
GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
SILK MERCERS, LINEN AND WOOLEN DRAPERS,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

S. A. FAIRLESS,
WISHES to inform the INHABITANTS of WEST DURHAM that she is now in a position to undertake all kinds of TEAS, PIC-NICS, BALLS, PARTIES, &c. All Goods made on her own Premises, and with the very best Materials. Samples sent on application.
Note the Address:—
S. A. FAIRLESS,
WEST DURHAM BAKERY, HIGH SPEN, BY LINTZ GREEN. 4481

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

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 9, NEWMARKET STREET CONSETT

W. BORROW,
COOPER, TEMPLETOWN, CONSETT,
MAKES TO ORDER CHURNS, BUTTER TUBS, POSS TUBS, WASHING TUBS, &c., ON REASONABLE TERMS.
REPAIRING DONE TO ORDER. 444

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

POPULAR PRICES AND SUPREME VALUES
ALWAYS RULE AT
J. W. DAVISON & SONS,
GENERAL HOUSE FURNISHERS AND IRONMONGERS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND LONDON HOUSE, STANLEY.
Our STOCK is the Largest and Best in the District, and before Purchasing elsewhere, we invite you to compare our Quality and Prices.
ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, WE SHALL MAKE OUR
BIG SHOW OF CHRISTMAS TOYS AND FANCY GOODS,
AT
STANLEY,
WHICH WILL EXCEL OUR GREAT DISPLAY OF LAST YEAR, WHICH WAS THE ONE GREAT ATTRACTION OF STANLEY AND DISTRICT.

JOHN HUME & SON,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.
TRY THEIR ORIGINAL
OPTIMUS HORSE MIXTURE,
Which is perfectly cleaned by special machinery. Do not be led away by other and cheaper Mixtures claiming to be the same.
ORDERS TAKEN FOR
BRIDES LOAVES, BIRTHDAY CAKES, SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEAS, &c.
ALL KINDS OF BREAD AND CONFECTIONERY FRESH DAILY.
OUSEBURN MILLS;
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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

Business Announcements

W. T. SMITH,
AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett, Stanley, and surrounding Districts that he visits as usual at MRS. JONES', 10, Mount Pleasant, Consett, every MONDAY, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, Stanley, every FRIDAY from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
ARTIFICIAL TEETH
Made with all the Latest Improvements, at the Lowest Possible Price that Good Teeth can be made for with the Best Materials. Old Sets Re-made and Repaired on his own system, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new.
All Teeth Extracted Painlessly by his recent discovery, which is perfectly harmless, thus avoiding the danger of the old system by the use of Cocaine.
W. T. SMITH thoroughly guarantees all his work for 5 years, and a written guarantee will be given when required, and as he has been practising in Newcastle and District for 15 years, it will be seen that he has a permanent Address at 19, Eldon Square, where he can always be found, as guarantees are of no value from others who have no permanent place, but simply visit the district for a time and leave no address. Train Fare will be allowed to all Patients desiring to come to Newcastle, where they can, at times, consult me personally.
REMEMBER THE ADDRESSES—
MRS. JONES'S, 10, Mount Pleasant, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY from 11 to 5.
AND AT
MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, STANLEY, EVERY FRIDAY, from 11 to 5

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

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NOTICE.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
BLACKHILL, LEADGATE, AND WEST STANLEY,
THE WELL-KNOWN FAMILY GROCER, PROVISION DEALER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
Respectfully desires to acknowledge the long-continued and Increasing Support by his Customers and the Public generally.
VERY LARGE, COMPREHENSIVE, AND SUPERIOR STOCKS ARE HELD IN MY PRINCIPAL AND DIFFERENT BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS FOR THE COMING FESTIVE SEASON.
WISHING YOU ALL THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.
All Orders by Post or Telephone carefully attended to. Please send Orders early.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

Good Currants, 1½d., 2d., 3d., and 4d. per lb.
Finest Currants, 5d. per lb.
Lemon Peel, 4½d. per lb.
Thick Lemon Peel, 6d. per lb.
Orange Peel, 8d. per lb.
Selected Citron, 10d. per lb.
Figs, 4½d., 6d., and 1s. per box.
Finest Figs, 6d. per lb.
Valencia Almonds, 1s. 2d. per lb.
Jordon Almonds, 2s. per lb.
Ground Mace, 3d. per oz.
Ground Nutmeg, 3d. per oz.
Ground Cinnamon, 3d. per oz.
Stick Cinnamon, 3d. per oz.
Whole Nutmegs, 3d. per oz.
Pure Cassia, 1s. per lb.
Valencia Raisins, 1½d., 4d., and 5d. per lb.
Sultanas, 4d. and 5d. per lb.
Fine Muscatels, 1s. and 1s. 4d. per lb.
Flavouring Essences.
Lemon, Vanilla, Bitter Almonds, Ratifia Cochineal.
Dessicated Cocoanut.
Crystallized Ginger, 1s. per lb.
Cake Flours, "Feculina"
Cocoanut, Sultana, Madeira, Ginger, Victoria, Rice, Snow Flour, 4½d. per lb.
Icing Sugar, 4½d. per lb.
Banquet Sugar, 4d. per lb. (Superior to Castor).
Lump Sugar, 2½d. per lb.
Demerara Sugar, 2½d. per lb.
Fine Granulated, 2d. per lb.
Prunes, 6d. per lb.
Hartley's Jams:
Black Currants, 1 lb jar, 6d.
„ 2 lb jar, 1s.
Strawberry, 1 lb jar, 6d.
„ 2 lb jar, 1s.
Raspberry, 1lb jar, 6d.
„ 2lb jar, 1s.
Apricot, 1lb jar, 6d.
Mincemeat, 1lb jar, 1s.
Hartley's Marmalade, 2lb jar, 8d.
„ „ Home-made, 2lb jar, 1s.
„ „ „ 1lb jar, 6d.
Apple Jelly, 1lb jar, 6d.
Black Currant Jelly, 6d. (Crosse and Blackwell).
Red Currant, Jelly, 6d. (Crosse and Blackwell).

Ground Rice, 6d per quarter stone.
Corn Flour, 5d. per lb.
Carolina Rice, 4d. per lb., or 1s. per qr. stone.
Jelly Powders,
Lemon, Orange, Vanilla, Pineapple, Raspberry, Strawberry, 4d. per packet.
Clear Sheet Gelatine, 2d. per oz.
Blanc Mange Powders.
Lemon, Orange, 4d. per packet.
Bottled Fruits, assorted.
Tinned Fruits.
Pears, Apricots, Pineapple, Peaches.
Tinned Meats.
Fray Bentos Tongues, 2s. 8d.
Libby and McNeil's, 1s. 2d. per tin.
Chicken, Ham, and Tongue, 1s. and 2s. 6d.
Phillips and Canaud's Sardines in Tomatoes, 1s. 4d. per tin.
Small Sardines, 4½d. and 6d per tin.
Whole Rabbit, 1s per tin.
Brand Rabbit, 10½d. per tin.
Crown Brand Salmon, 8½d. per tin.
Black Eagle „ 6d. per tin.
Crosse and Blackwell's Soups, 10d. per tin
„ „ „ Pickles, 10½d. per bottle.
„ „ „ Chutney.
„ „ „ Vinegar.
Lea and Perrins Sauce, 10½d. per bottle.
Lemon Curd for Cheese cakes, 6d. and 10d. per jar.
Maccaroni, Vermicelli, 6d. per lb.
Semolina, 3½d. per packet.
Carr's Scotch Oaten, 9d. per packet.
Cocoa—Van Houten's, 10½d. per tin.
„ Fry's Concentrated, 8½d, per tin.
Cocoatina, 1s per tin
Rock Cocoa, 1s 2d per lb
Sole Agent for Seatree's Cumberland Brown Bread Meal, 11d per bag
Huntley and Palmer's Cakes—Almond, Iced, Rutland, Chatsworth, Snow, School, Rice, Genoa, Bristol
Biscuits of every description
Chocolates, Almondines, Almonds, Nougat, Montilmart, Cocoanut, Walnuts, Devonshire Cream, Chinese Cubes, Pistachio, 2d per oz., or 7d per quarter Also in Boxes of various sizes
Cosaques, from 6d to 2s 6d per box
Rose's Lime Juice, 1s 2d per bottle

PROVISIONS.

Extra Choice Butter, finest, 1s. 3d. per lb.
Choice Danish Butter, 1s. per lb.
Finest Butterines, 6d., 8d., and 10d. per lb.
Bladder Lard, finest, 8d. per lb.
Pail Lard, 6d. per lb.
Cambridge Sausage—Fresh every Thursday, 8d. per lb.
German Sausage and Saveloy, 6d. per lb.

Finest Hams, 6d. and 7d. per lb.
Cumberland Hams and Bacon
Irish Rolls, 9d. per lb.
Splendid American Rolls, 6d. and 7d. per lb.
American Shoulders 6d. per lb.
American Sides, 7d. per lb.
Smoked Bacon

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

FLOUR.
Finest Hungarian Flour, 2s.
Extra Whites
Superfine Fines

FLOUR.
Crushed Oats and Beans
Indian Meal
Rough Barley

Wheat Meal, Whole Meal, Boxings, Bran.

WM. AYNSLEY'S OLD-FASHIONED BLEND OF TEA
The unparalleled success which this Tea has attained is now well-known, and the thorough appreciation in which it is held by all who have given it a trial, cannot fail to convince the greatest connoisseur of its worth and genuineness. Sold at 2s, 2s 6d, 3s per lb.

BREAD DEPARTMENT at Middle Street, Consett.
White Bread made from Hungarian Flour, 2d., 3d., and 6d. per loaf. Tea Cakes, Muffins, Milk Cakes, Scones, Girdle Cakes, Tarts, &c.
Agent for Montgomery's Patent Extract of Malt Digestive Bread. 4d. per loaf, as used in the Queen's Household.
Chelsea Fruit Cake, 6d. per lb. Chelsea Genoa Cake, 8d. per lb. Chelsea Seed Cake, 7d. per lb.

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

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

All Bottles charged.
Salzbach Pints and Quarts, 1s 9d and 2s 6d per Dozen.
Soda, Potass, and Lemonade, 1s. 9d. per Dozen, best quality.
MILD and BITTER ALE, 6 Gallons Cask, 7s 6d; 9 Gallons Cask, 10s 6d.
BASS'S PALE ALE, 9 Gallons Cask, 12s 0d.; 18 Gallons Casks, 24s.
BRITISH WINES—GINGER, PORT, RASPBERRY, ORANGE, GRAPE, RAISIN.
These are the Pure British Wines, 1s. per Bottle.
AGENT FOR KOPS ALE AND STOUT, 2s. AND 3s 6d PER DOZEN.

SPECIAL WINES FOR INVALIDS.

Castle J Port (40 years old)	4s 5d per Bottle	Invalid Champagne.	
Castle J Sherry (11 years old)	3s 0d „	Pale Creaming, half bottles	
AUSTRALIAN WINES.		Canary Port Wine, in Flasks	1s 11d
Emu Brand Burgundy	2s 0d per bottle	Andalusia Sherry,	1s 0d
„ Flask	6d per flask	Old Glenlivet Whiskey	1s 0d per bottle
			3s 6d per bottle

GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE, 2s AND 3s 9d PER BOTTLE.
This Glenlivet Whiskey possesses a mellow, soft flavour, now so generally appreciated by consumers of Scotch Whiskey: it is thoroughly matured.

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

Correspondence.

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

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

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

Several Letters are held over.

"PAUL PRY" AND A LADY READER.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I do not care to interfere with your lady correspondent, as men, generally speaking, have a poor chance with the ladies in sound arguments. You generally get plenty of sound, but very little argument from the fair sex. Your correspondent wants to know if my surroundings are in good condition. Now sir, I am sorry to say that my surroundings are not in a good condition; but that is no fault of mine, as your correspondent ought to know, if she has been a constant reader of your paper, as I have on more than one occasion called the attention of the Inspector of Nuisances to the unsanitary condition of my surroundings. I have called the attention of our Local Board members to these unsanitary places which abound in our district, and I have also drawn the attention of the inhabitants of this place to the condition of things which prevails in their midst, and pointed out the nuisances which stand abutting the highway, which is one of the worst of nuisances. Your correspondent wants to know if the footpaths around me are in good condition? My answer to that is—no; and for a long time there have been no footpaths near me, as the cart roads have been the only footpaths for people to walk on, but it is intended by the Local Board to supply this long felt need by making new footpaths in this district. Your correspondent asks why I went into the Ryton Local Board to find fault. Sir, I did not find fault without a reason, as a friend of mine slipped his foot one dark night and fell into the ditch, I thought it my duty to ring the alarm-bell before anything serious took place. Your correspondent says I live in the dirtiest and most unsanitary part in Spen. But sir, it is quite evident she *does not know me*, when she makes this assertion, as "Paul Pry" lives in the best part of the Spen, and I hope she will be a little more careful the next time she writes you, and assert nothing more than she can prove to be true. Your correspondent urges that I should find fault at home first. If she had read all my notes she could not have written such an insulting letter as appeared in your last week's issue, as I have found fault with almost everything in this district; but I cannot make our Local Board members carry out the law. I know the law provides for the people that which would satisfy them. But laws are no use unless they are put into force. I hope your correspondent will advise her "canny man" to help "Paul Pry," "Tom of Coventry," and "Spen Park" to have us better represented on the Blaydon Local Board, as the present sitting members are as dead as door nails. They do not appear to be interested in the people who send them. I promise your correspondent a jar of wasp's honey if she can prove that I make any statements which cannot bear investigation. I thank her for the letter that appeared as substantiating what I had previously written. Thanking you for past favours, I am yours, &c.,—

High Spen, Dec. 19th, 1893. PAUL PRY.

ROYALTIES ON PIG IRON.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Being very much interested in the above subject since the correspondence began, I have perused very carefully each letter, thinking the knowledge upon such an important matter (in a district like Consett) to be gained therefrom must be of material benefit, especially to those in connection with the steel and iron manufacture. I am extremely disappointed by the tone of Mr Crauford's letter in your issue of last week. From his previous one, I, with many more, expected we were going to have something startling that was to put a complete stoppage to those "wild assertions" and "new wine" ravings of "I.L.P."; but instead, we have a composition of sickly attempts at wit and sarcasm. There is not one particle of sound, healthy argument, or those sweeping refutations we were led to expect. Perhaps we will get these when he "gets back to London." Judging from the arguments advanced by "I.L.P." I am convinced he must have strong evidence behind his assertions, and if Mr Crauford cannot combat the matter with wholesome argument, might I suggest that a proxy be found for him, or honourably give it up while he can do so?—Yours, &c.,

A WORKMAN.

Consett, Dec. 27th, 1893.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—In my letter which appeared in your issue of Nov. 10th, I made certain statements re Royalties at home and on the Continent. My reason for doing so was to show that the Britisher was at a great disadvantage in competing with the foreigner over the channel, owing largely to royalties, wayleaves, &c. I am firmly convinced, in my own mind, that these excessive charges have much to do with the present Government giving orders to French firms for projectiles, and now for boilers for the Sharpshooter. In the House of Commons on Tuesday, 12th of the present month, Mr Hanbury, having asked as to the amount of the order given for boilers, Sir W. Kay Shuttleworth replied, stating "that it was not desirable in the public interest to name the price given for the boilers, the requirements were that the quality and make should be of the highest, and no conditions were imposed as to the wages to be paid to the workmen employed." How workingmen can vote Liberal after a statement like that puzzles me very much, especially coming from the professed friends of the toilers. If the boilers meet the requirements of the office holders then they care not one jot whether the workers who make them sweated or not, be they English or French. I have been accused of dealing unfairly. Now in the production of pig iron, royalties are charged on ore, coal, and limestone. In speaking of the price per ton of pig iron, balls, or plates, you must, to give fairplay, add those charges on. This is simple enough for a child to grasp. Our London friend tells us that royalties are payments for so many tons of valuable stuff, which, once taken off a man's land can never be put back.

True, it is valuable stuff, not that the landlord owns it, but that the community want to use it, therefore it has a use value. If one man owned England, he would, providing there was only himself, be very poor, there would be no use for this stuff, therefore it would not be valuable. To me there is no more glaring injustice than a man, or number of men, having it in their power to chain up nature's stores from the rest of their fellows. Our London friend speaks of land as if it could be manufactured, or were allotted to certain individuals by Divine right. If he knows of any coming to possess land in this manner, then I am quite prepared to come down very "Peccavi." I remember reading the debates in the House of Commons concerning gold in Wales. I am very thankful to our friend for refreshing my memory about this matter; for this is another proof that our present rulers and their class are altogether incapable of directing and controlling the industries, yes, and the destinies too, of the people of these islands. Our friend is perfectly right in stating that Lord George Hamilton is not the brother of the Duke of Hamilton, but somehow he forgets to tell us that if he is not the brother of a duke, he is the son of one. Again, he does not deny that Lord George, for a few years of service at a high salary, now receives some £40 per week pension, and yet he does not believe in payment of members. For the information of our friend, the words I used were "Anarchic and Nationalise Anarchic," because things are not in order, let me ask our friend if it is right or just, or fairplay if he likes, for the working portion of a community to be either starving, or on the verge of it, and that too in the midst of plenty; while idlers revel in luxury and ease.

I like good out spoken English myself. Under one existing condition the coal merchant becomes a rich man, the collier either dies prematurely or drags out his last days in the mansion prepared for him by a wise and kind Government. In many cases separated from his poor old wife who has shared his joys and sorrows, and this is England with all its boasted strides in civilisation and christianity. Chaos and anarchy are present with us, more's the pity. Out spoken English indeed, "how this," the war which broke out with Lord Salisbury's Government and the Burmese, resulted in his lordship annexing Burmah. You will at once see that Burmah was not stole but simply and beautifully annexed. The schoolboy story, and fixed bayonets, are good, I feel confident "we shall arrive" after that. Sir, will you permit me to mention a few figures sent me by Mr Patrick Walls, blastfurnacemen's agent on the West Coast. On the 30th of March of the present year (1893) a joint meeting of Cumberland mineowners and ironmasters was held at Whitehaven with the object of unitedly asking for a reduction in royalties &c. In the secretary's report it is stated that "It is well known that a minimum of 2s a ton royalty is paid on one kind of all ore raised in Cumberland, and a minimum of 1s 10d on the other two kinds." It takes 1½ tons of Cumberland ore to make a ton of pig iron—3s 6d royalty. It takes one ton of coke, to produce which two tons of small coal is required, at say 6d a ton making 4s 6d which, with the royalty on limestone, gives 5s a ton royalty.

Mr Walls informs me that he went fully into the matter so as to give evidence before the Royal Commission. This was in January last. He states I got full information from managers, and I found that the average royalty on a ton of pig iron in Cumberland is 5s 3d., whilst the wages paid to blast-furnacemen is not half that amount for producing it, or in other words, any ironworks company in Cumberland pays more than twice as much in royalties as in wages.

Mr Walls resides at St. Michael's, Workington, Cumberland, he is labour representative on the town council. I hope our friend will write the authorities I mention, or make a raid on Jermyn Street, so as to verify my statements. If our friend does not want more surprises, then let him keep hands off I. L. P. men. Thanking you Mr Editor for allowing so much space in your valuable paper.—Yours &c.,

I. L. P.

Dec. 26th 1893.

Sporting Items.

Pigeon Flying at Leadgate.—On Saturday afternoon, a pigeon flying sweep from Consett Junction to Leadgate, a distance of two miles, was brought off, there being twelve entries. Result:—Dormer's Big Blue, 1min 55secs, 1; Reed's Little Blue, 2min 14secs, 2. J Rogerson acted as referee.

A match was made on Saturday night at Mr John Bennett's, Fox Inn, Dipton, between Chambers's Gipsy Queen, and Watson's Lad of the West, to run the best of 9 courses, for £10 a-side, in the grounds near the above house, on Saturday, January 6th. £1 was posted in the hands of Mr J Mellor, the stakeholder.

Rabbit Coursing at Burnopfield.—A match by greyhounds, at rabbits, for £10 a-side, the best of five courses, was decided on Saturday afternoon, in the ground connected with the house of Mr Richard Pace, Queen's Head Inn, Burnopfield, in the presence of 200 spectators, the contestants being McWater's Gas Yard Lad (Burnopfield), and Spring's Billy Taylor (Lintz Colliery). Betting ruled at 6 to 4 on Billy Taylor, who won easily. Scores:—Billy Taylor, 1 1 0 1—3; Gas Yard Lad, 0 0 1 0—1. R Bell, Burnopfield, was referee, and J Brown, slipper.

Pigeon Shooting at Tanfield.—There was a fairly good muster of spectators in the field adjoining the house of Mr Ralph Johnson, Peacock Inn, Tanfield, on Wednesday afternoon, to witness a shooting contest, Mr Ed. Shotton matching himself to kill 6 birds out of 10. The score was:—1 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 1—6.—A small sweep followed, with the result as below:—Ed. Shotton, 23 yards, 1 1 1 1; T Heslop, 22, 1 1 1 0; R Smith, 22, 1 0; J Thompson, 19, 1 0; Wm. Smith 18, 1 1 1 0; Wm Spee, 20, 1 1 1 1; W J B, 19, 0; R Johnson, 18, 0; W J B (2nd lot), 19, 1 0. Mr T Green was referee, W Robinson, trapper, and J Emerson, scorekeeper.

Rabbit Coursing at Dipton.—In the grounds attached to the house of Mr John Bennett, Fox Inn, Dipton, there was a large attendance on Saturday afternoon, to witness a match between Smith's Dominic, and Burdess's Break the Bank, both of Dipton, for £10 a-side, the best of 15 courses. Speculation ruled at 6 to 4 on Burdess's dog, who won by eight courses to four. Scores:—Break the Bank, 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1—8; Dominic, 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1—4.—J Cunningham, of Dipton, acted as judge.—Afterwards Mr John Mellor added £1 to an entry of 7s per lot of 20 dogs, the best of three courses. Details:—Harvest Won beat O S T by 2 to 1; Happy-go-Lucky beat Cottage Girl by 2 to 1; Gamecock beat Bitter Beer by 2 to 1; Iron Man beat Be Caney by 2 to 1; Bo Peep beat Last Try by 2 to 1; Wild West beat Sparkey by 2 to 1; Coastguard beat Rough and Ready by 2 to 0; Cousin Johnny beat Miss Nelly by 2 to 1; Highland Mary beat Just for Luck by 2 to 1; Roger beat Cottage Girl, 2nd lot, by 2 to 1. Darkness setting in, a division at this stage was agreed upon. Judge, Mr Mellor; pistol-firer, W. Smith; scorekeeper, J Cunningham, all of Dipton.

Sparrow Shooting at Medomsley.—A sparrow shooting sweep, organised by Mr R. M. Rutherford, of the Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, took place in a field belonging to Mr Hunter, of The Buildings Farm, near the village, on Christmas day. The weather was fine, and there was a numerous company of spectators; a good entry being also forthcoming. Scores:—First Try, 18, 1 0; Rutherford, 19, 1 1 0; Emerson, 18, 1 1 0; Chestnut Charlie, 17, 1 0; Kill the Devil, 19, 0; Railway Hotel, 18, 0; Johnny Robinson, 18, 1 1 1 0; Wilson, 18, 1 1 1 0; Paul Jones, 19, 0; Billy Howe, 19, 0; Butcher, 19, 0; Elm Park, 17, 0; Royal Oak, 17, 1 0; Paul Jones (2nd lot), 0; Sister Mary, 19, 0; Medomsley, 19, 1 0; Wilson (2nd lot), 1 0; Anderson, 18, 0; Fat Hand, 19, 0; Second Try, 18, 0; Butcher (2nd lot), 1 1 0; Jester, 18, 1 0; Medici, 19, 0; J Cetery, 19, 1 0; Peter Simple, 19, 1 0; Castleside Lad, 18, 0; J Perry, 17, 0; Edmond, 19, 1 1 1 1; Castleside Lad (2nd lot), 1 1 0; Bob, 19, 0; Lamp Oil, 18, 1 0; Broomhill, 19, 1 0; Consett Pop, 19, 1 1 0; W H, 19, 1 1 0; Paul Jones (2nd lot), 1 0. The following were the officials:—Handicapper and referee, Mr S. Burrell, Broomhill; scorekeeper, Mr R M Rutherford; trappers, Messrs Edger and Parker, Allendale Cottages.

Pigeon Shooting at The Spen.—The annual pigeon shooting, under the auspices of the Spen Excelsior Gun Club, was held in a field, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr Geo. Handyside, closely adjacent to Mr R Browell's, Miners' Arms, Spen, when a very large number of spectators assembled to witness a good day's sport. The duties of secretary were carried out by Mr John Robson, Spen, whilst John Armstrong, Spen, acted as referee. There were 39 shooters at 10 birds each. There were five valuable prizes offered, but owing to running short of pigeons, five were left in to shoot out on New Year's Day. Score:—John Armstrong, 22, 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1; Thos. Armstrong (Spen), 23, 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 1; Wm Shield, 21, 0 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1; Wm Mush, 22, 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 0; James Bell, 20, 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0; John Robinson, 24, 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 0; R Browell, 21, 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 1; R Rodham, 20, 1 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 1; Wm Rodham, 17, 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 1; A Smith, 20, 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 1; Lyle Hall, 17, 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0; Thos. Armstrong (Greenside), 18, 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0; John Robson, 23, 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0; Fred Cox, 17, 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1; Wm Robson, 18, 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0; R Spears, 20, 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0; George Smart, 18, 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0; G Gill, 18, 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0; John Suddes, 19, 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0; James Suddes, 20, 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 1; James Armstrong (Spen), 20, 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1; Thos Watson, 18, 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0; Thomas Spears, 20, 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0; G Greener, 20, 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0; W Bewick, 23, 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0; L Forster, 20, 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0; R Wilson, 22, 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1; Rob Wilson, 20, 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0; Ed. Wilson, 18, 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1; James Laing, 17, 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 1; John Armstrong (Terrace), 17, 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 0; S Morland, 17, 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0; Jos. Robson, 17, 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0; J Tiplady, 21, 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1; Thos. Rutherford, 20, 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0; Thomas Laing, 17, 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0; D Little, 17, 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1; J Thompson, 18, 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1; J Wilson, 17, 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1.—A large company assembled in a field closely adjacent to the house of Mr R Browell, Miners' Arms, Spen, to witness the sparrow shooting promoted by Mr Thos Leybourne, jun. Score:—B Brown, 17, 1 1 1 1 1; Buff, 18, 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 1; E Shotton, 18, 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 0; R Spears, 16, 0; Tom the Delver, 18, 0; B Brown, 2nd lot, 17, 0; Doggy, 18, 1 1 0; R Browell, 18, 1 1 0; James Aell, 16, 0; W Robson, 16, 0; 2nd lot, 0; Thos. Watson, 16, 1 1 0; John Hall, 18, 1 1 0; Rodger, 18, 1 0; R Lawson, 17, 0; J Cookey, 16, 1 0; Clayton Terrace, 17, 0; J Robson, 18, 0; 2nd lot, 1 0. R Spears officiated as referee and handicapper. The sparrow shooting match for £10, between J Hall, of Spen, and B Brown, of Blaydon, fell through owing to a dispute.

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

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

Wednesday, Dec. 20th.—Before His Honour, E. J. Meynell (Judge.)

NON-DESCRIPTION OF A DEFENDANT.

Williamson and Co. v Redshaw.—Messrs Williamson and Co., Grimsby, sued Elizabeth Redshaw, of the Commercial Inn, Consett, for £3 4s, for oils.—Mr J. McCartan (Consett) appeared for defendant, and drew His Honour's attention to the fact that his client was not properly described on the summons.—His Honour (to plaintiff's agent): You have not described the defendant on the summons either as a single or married woman, or a widow. The case will be struck out, and both defendant's and solicitor's costs allowed.—Plaintiff's agent considered this very hard. It was a well-known fact that defendant was a widow.—The Judge: You are bound according to law to give a proper description of a female defendant on the summons. That will do.

DAMAGING A ROLLER.

Carr v Saunders.—This case was brought by Thomas Carr, farmer, near Tow Law, against John Saunders, another farmer, for 10s damage to a metal roller, and 5s for its carriage from the farm to the blacksmith's shop at Tow Law and back again. Mr J. McCartan was for plaintiff, who stated that in the spring of 1892 defendant took his roller, and while using it broke one of the shafts and damaged the other. When he asked Saunders to pay the damage, the latter wanted to "square up" something which had transpired 10 years since.—Defendant said that plaintiff previously proffered him the roller, but when he learnt that Carr intended to charge him 6d per acre, he did not use it. The shafts were rotten and fell to pieces.—His Honour found for plaintiff for 15s.—Defendant said that plaintiff was owing him money, and he had helped him at times when he was in difficulties.—His Honour: Very well. You can sue him at any time.

AN ARCHITECT'S CLAIM FOR PREPARING PLANS.

WALKER v. CRAINE.

In this suit, John Walker, architect, of Grey Street, Newcastle, sought to recover from James Craine, cartman, of West Stanley, £14 8s, for professional work done. Mr Montgomery (Newcastle) represented plaintiff, while Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) defended.

Plaintiff said that in the spring of 1891, defendant instructed him to prepare plans for three cottages proposed to be built on a piece of land belonging the owners of the Towneley estate. He thought the site rather awkward for three cottages, and informed defendant that it seemed more suitable for four houses, if he could only get the assent of the owners of the estate. Defendant accordingly authorised him to prepare plans for four cottages. The plans were not at first approved of; but with some slight alterations the plans were eventually accepted by the Local Board. The objections to the plans had reference to the yard, which necessitated a little alteration. Plaintiff also prepared the necessary specifications, and advertised for tenders, besides negociating with certain builders. Three tenders were forthcoming, but Craine said he would get another tender from somebody else he knew; but this contract was apparently not satisfactory, and Craine agreed to accept the lowest tender he (Mr Walker) had received. The lowest contracts were:—For three cottages, £404; two cottages only, £324. None of the tenders were accepted, however, nor were the buildings erected. He first received instructions from Rev Father Thompson, Roman Catholic priest, of Stanley, who also sent him letters.

His Honour said he could not accept that evidence unless it was proved that he was the agent of the defendant.

Plaintiff added that he informed defendant that in buildings which cost over £500 the proper charge was five per cent. on the actual cost of work done, accepting the lowest tender. His charge, if the erections had been proceeded with, would have been £16 4s. He prepared three sets of plans.

By Mr Oliver: He did not tell defendant that there would be a considerable reduction if the buildings were carried out in a plain instead of an ornamental style. He sent defendant the plan produced (dated 13th May, 1891), and he was not prepared to say that he had sent others. There was some alteration of the frontage from 18 to 20 feet. Some of the plans were done in pencil. He considered they were finished to a certain point. They would not do in that state for either the Local Board or the builders, but they would be inked in as soon as the contract was let. He produced a letter received from defendant, stating that he would accept Messrs Lister's (Crook) tender. He also asked for a plan to be sent to him.

Mr Oliver's defence was that plaintiff had not done what he was instructed to do. He was directed to prepare plans for two cottages only, with an 18 feet frontage. Plaintiff himself recommended that plans for four houses should be prepared, showing a greater frontage, and then a larger quantity of ground would be built upon. Secondly, if defendant instructed the plaintiff the charges made by the latter were excessive. Mr Walker informed the defendant that his charge was five per cent. if the buildings were completed.

Defendant, questioned by Mr Montgomery, said he knew Father Thompson had talked to him about the building, but had not authorised the rev gentleman to write to Mr Walker on his behalf. Mr Walker never told him that they could not allow him to build four cottages on the site, but stated that he might put up a stable. He had not the money at the time, or he would have accepted Lister's tender. Plaintiff wrote him that the owners of the Towneley estate objected to a stable being built on the land, and wrote further that to keep on changing the plans was both wasting time and money.

John Craine, the younger, also gave evidence, alleging that his father wanted the houses built of rubble stone, while the plans showed blockers, which would cost double the money.

By Mr Montgomery: He was not aware that the deeds of the Towneley estate stipulated that all dwellings should be composed of blockers. There were other houses in the vicinity built of rubble stone.

John Norman, defendant's son-in-law, having tendered evidence, His Honour found for plaintiff for £12, repayable at £1 a month; the son alleging that his father was now out of work, and the houses were to be built for himself.

A POACHER'S ACCESSORIES:

CURIOUS ACTION.

Hall v. Stephenson.—John Hall, of Medomsley Road, Consett, a striker, sued Thomas Stephenson, a gamekeeper in the employment of Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., of Woodlands Hall, Consett, for 10s, being the value of a ferret.

Plaintiff said that on October 8th, himself and a companion were ferreting rabbits on Mr Van Haansbergen's estate. The keeper came upon the scene, and seized their three nets and the ferret.

His Honour: Were you summoned?

Plaintiff: Yes, at Consett Police Court on the 9th Oct., and fined £1 and 11s 6d costs.

His Honour: What has become of the nets?

Plaintiff: He has them as well.

His Honour: Have you ever applied for the return of the ferret?

Plaintiff: Yes, many a time, and he told me to put him in the County Court.

His Honour: Why did you not ask him for the nets as well?

Plaintiff: I did not think that we could recover the nets.

Defendant acknowledged that he got the ferret, but he was doubtful whether the animal belonged to plaintiff or not. The ferret was on the land, and he did not know whether it was Hall's or Forster's.

His Honour: Well, it is not Mr Haansbergen's ferret. Is that the only reason why you did not give it up?

Defendant: He is an old poacher, and has been convicted.

The Judge: What about the nets?

Witness: They have been forfeited.

His Honour: Did the Magistrates make any order with respect to the nets or ferret?

Defendant: No.

His Honour: I do not see that you have any right to keep the ferret, unless you can show me any clause in the Poaching Act which entitles you to do so.

A verdict was entered for the plaintiff for 10s, to be reduced to 1d if the ferret was delivered up in seven days.

Plaintiff asked for his expenses, but these were not allowed.

Defendant handed plaintiff a ferret out of a bag, and the latter said it was his.

Stephenson said he could bring Mr Haansbergen to prove that the ferret did not belong to Hall.

His Honour: Have you not got another ferret there? Let him see that.

Defendant: Both ferrets cannot belong to him.

His Honour: He has only made a mistake. The ferrets are so much alike.

A TRADESMAN'S WEDDING FESTIVITIES.

TWO LOVELY BLACK EYES.

Cumberledge v Bates.—*Alex. Cumberledge*, grocer, West Stanley, sought to receive 17s 11d from John Bates, watchmaker, of the same place, for goods sold and delivered. On a cross summons Bates claimed £1 4s 4d from Cumberledge as follows:—To 1lb raw beef for black eyes, 10d; one pair blue spectacles, 4s 6d; one week's board and lodging, 14s; four days board and lodging for plaintiff's wife, 5s. Mr J. L. Leadbitter (Catchgate) represented plaintiff, and Mr J. S. Murray (Consett) defended.

Mr Murray admitted that 14s 3d was owing, but plaintiff declined to accept this amount.

According to plaintiff's evidence the discrepency on the amount appeared to be based on the circumstance that two pairs of slippers, which were sent on approval were eventually returned. This, however, was denied by Cumberlege.

Cross-questioned by Mr Murray plaintiff stated that he lodged with Bates from Nov. 9th to the 25th Feb., 1892. He was married on the 18th Feb., 1892. Prior to his wedding he boarded himself, paying 3s 6d a week for his lodgings. He carried out the same practice the week after his marriage, and his wife stayed three days at the defendant's house. He did not remember coming home drunk on the 19th Feb., and had a pair of black eyes. (Laughter.)

His Honour: Don't you recollect if you had black eyes. (Laughter.)

Plaintiff: Yes, I do remember having black eyes. (Laughter.) He was not too tipsy to remember the circumstances. Two men named Montgomery and Jackson likewise lodged at Bates's house at the time. He did not remember a suggestion being made that raw beef should be applied to his eyes to take away the discolouration. (Laughter.) He did not know who applied the remedy.

Mr Murray: This was the day after your marriage. Were you not very anxious to have this discolouration removed from your eyes before the arrival of your wife? (Laughter.)

Plaintiff: I don't remember anything about that. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr Murray: Were you too drunk to remember? (Laughter.)

Plaintiff: No, I was not.

Mr Murray: You were very much concerned about the blackness of your eyes?

Plaintiff: I dare say I was. (Laughter.)

Mr Murray: Do you recollect Mr Bates saying that blue spectacles would hide the discolouration?

Plaintiff: Mr Bates is a watchmaker, but I can't remember asking him for a pair of blue spectacles. I did get the loan of a pair of spectacles from Bates, who said that "if I wished to purchase the spectacles he would charge 2s 6d for them. They were returned, however, to Bates by my wife. Montgomery was doing a little varnishing in my shop at the time I sent the servant girl with an account, probably on Easter Monday, for 15s 11d; and on the succeeding Monday I sent her with a second account for 17s 11d, some other goods having been added thereto. Mr Bates came and saw me. I do not remember losing my temper. Mr Bates did not tell me he had an account standing against me. He said he had returned the slippers, and he offered to pay the account, minus the slippers. I do not remember that it was in consequence of my violent conduct that Bates had to leave the shop. There have been some differences between myself and Bates. I did not know that he had to seek a policeman to protect him. I did not create a disturbance when I went to seek the account.

Mr Murray: Yes, when you went between 11 and 12 o'clock very drunk.

Plaintiff: Oh no; I never received a contra account from Bates till my solicitor got one during last week.

Elizabeth Cumberledge, plaintiff's wife, testified that they were married on 18th February. She had dinner on the Monday at Bates's expense, because Mrs Bates had "fettled" some meat, and told witness that she need not bother to cook. She paid Mrs Bates 10s for the last week's lodging money for her husband and the three days that she stayed at the house. Mrs Bates asked her not to tell her husband that the money had been paid. Witness returned the spectacles to Mr Bates in his shop.

By Mr Murray: The 10s she paid was not for three weeks arrears previously owing by her husband. There was 3s 6d overplus, and she requested Mrs Bates to keep the "change." Witness twice sought the account from Mr Bates, but he refused to pay, and said that if they sued him, he would make a claim against them. Bates never declined to accept the spectacles, and said that Cumberledge had bought them. She did not see them on the counter and rush out of the shop.

For the defence Mr Bates was called, and deposed that Cumberledge was married on the 18th February, and remained at their house till the 25th of that month. Plaintiff came into the house on the 19th February, with a couple of black eyes; and he requested them to use every means to take away the discolouration, because his wife was coming on the following Sunday or Monday, and he did not want her to see the plight he was in. Witness applied 1 lb of raw beef, and also poulticed the eyes, and sat up with Cumberledge nearly the whole of the night. Cumberledge was subsequently supplied with a pair of blue spectacles, which he bought for 4s 6d. He kept them five or six weeks and then returned them. On the 22nd February Mrs Cumberledge came to the house and stayed till the 25th February. The first pair of slippers were paid for on the 11th March, and the other pair were sent back. When witness took his account to Cumberlege, the latter would not even look at it. He flew into a passion and conducted himself so violently that he was obliged to leave the shop. Since that period he had suffered a good deal of annoyance at the hands of plaintiff, and had to seek the protection of the police. The spectacles were first brought back by the servant girl, but he declined to accept them, inasmuch as Cumberledge had bought them. A week later his wife came to his shop, and after talking to him a while, she laid the spectacles down, and then went out of the shop before he had time to speak to her. She merely said "Mr Cumberledge has sent those glasses." Plaintiff never came to settle up till 11 o'clock one night when he was drunk, and kicked up a row.

Questioned by Mr Welford: There were three weeks' arears for lodgings standing against Cumberledge before his marriage. The night he was so drunk he was ill-used over some betting transactions in a public-house. Plaintiff vomited the night he got the black eyes.

Deborah Bates, wife of defendant, spoke to returning the slippers and receiving 10s from Mrs Cumberledge in payment of three week's lodgings owing by her husband before his marriage.

John Jackson, clothier, Tynemouth, who was staying at Mr Bates's at the time, swore that Cumberledge bought the blue spectacles for 4s 6d. He said that his wife was coming home on the following day, and these glasses would make him present a better appearance. (Laughter.)

Thomas Montgomery, painter, now of Shotley Bridge, likewise adduced corroborative testimony, adding that he suggested the use of raw beef to remove the discolourations.

His Honour found for plaintiff for 14s 3d. the amount admitted by Bates, and on the set off he allowed 10d for the raw beef, entering a verdict for 13s 5d altogether, to be paid in 14 days.

ACTION AGAINST A BROTHER.

Hetherington v Hetherington.—John Hetherington, South Pontop Colliery, checkweighman, sued his brother Michael Hetherington, Catchgate, miner, for £35 4s 10d, balance of house rent due. Mr Leadbitter appeared for plaintiff, and called evidence to prove that defendant received notice to quit. Plaintiff obtained judgment against his brother at the October sitting of the Court for £9 13s 6d.—Defendant averred that he could not get another house.—The Judge decided in favour of plaintiff, and ordered defendant to clear out of the house in seven days.

NON-MAINTENANCE OF A WIFE.

Strachan v Strachan.—Elizabeth Strachan, of Blackhill, preferred a suit against her husband, John Strachan, a steelworker, for £7 10s. which was due on a deed of separation, wherein the husband agreed to pay 12s a week towards the support of his wife and two children. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) attended for plaintiff, and produced the agreement, which was entered into on November 30th, 1892.—Defendant declared that he paid regularly, but his wife had driven him out of the place. She said that she had "picked up a better man than him to go with." (Laughter.) The agreement set forth that his wife was not to trouble him.—His Honour pointed out that that was no valid reason after defendant had covenanted to pay.—Defendant: She has even annoyed me at the works.—The Judge: It doesn't matter. I give a verdict for £7 10s at £4 a month.—Defendant: I shall not pay.—His Honour: Then you will be sent to prison.

DID NOT PAY FOR HIS LODGINGS.

Shield v Appleby.—Wilkinson Shield, miner, South Moor, proceeded against Robert Appleby, also a miner, for money owing for lodgings.—Mr Leadbitter appeared for plaintiff, and said that defendant lodged with him, agreeing to pay 10s a week during the strike and 12s weekly when he was at work.—Case adjourned for plaintiff's wife to attend.

A MASTER AND SERVANT'S CASE.

Steff v Barber.—William Steff, gardener, sued Thomas Platt Barber, gentleman, Shotley Bridge, for 28s, wages due.—Defendant explained that he had paid 16s 9d into Court, and claimed 6s 3d as a set off. Defendant said that Steff acted as his gardener, receiving 25s a week and a free house.—His Honour: How do you claim 2s 6d for rent?—Defendant: His notice was up on Saturday, Nov. 25th, but he did not deliver up the key till the Tuesday following. Steff had also broken a window in the laundry—a place he had no business to enter.—Stephen Perry, defendant's coachman, said that plaintiff confessed to him that he had broken the window.—Steff stated that as it was a wet day, he carried two clothes props into the laundry for his wife. He caught against the handle of a mowing machine, and inadvertently pushed a prop through the window. He could have got out of the house on the Saturday only Mr Barber kept him at work till four o'clock in the afternoon.—Judgment for defendant, with costs.

DIDN'T KNOW HOW HE GOT THE PIANO.

Ramsden v Pillington.—Archibald Ramsden and Co., musical instrument manufacturers, Consett, claimed £3 13s from Thomas Pillington, miner, The Lizzie Colliery, Annfield Plain, in respect of a piano purchased on the hire system. Mr Welford conducted plaintiff's case.—Defendant averred that he knew nothing about the piano, and was not aware of the circumstances under which the instrument arrived at his house.—His Honour: But you have signed this agreement?—Defendant: I know nothing about it.—A verdict was pronounced for plaintiffs for full amount, repayable at 4s a month.

The same defendant also made application for an administration order, but as he had neglected to include Messrs Ramsden amongst his creditors, His Honour stated that he could not hear the application till an accurate form had been prepared.—Mr Leadbitter opposed the application.—His Honour also advised Messrs Ramsden's agent to get the piano forte away as soon as possible.

MISS TAIT'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, CONSETT.

On Wednesday afternoon week, the annual distribution of prizes in connection with the above school took place in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. The chair was occupied by Rev. T. Durant, who was supported by Rev. C. S. Wilson. There was a good attendance of relatives and friends of the pupils. At one end of the room was an exhibition of paintings, drawings, and maps done in the school during the year.

Previous to the distribution of the prizes the following programme of music was gone through in a highly creditable manner, and the efforts of the various performers were appreciated by the audience:—Duet, "Hypatia Waltz," Misses Whitehead and Powell; song, "Sweet and Low," Chorus; song, "Daddy," Miss Maud Davison; recitation, "Curfew must not ring to-night," Miss Katie Powell; pianoforte solo, "Tarantelle," Miss Cornforth; song, "Prayer on the waters," Chorus; song, "Gates of the West," Miss Marian Lumley; duet, "Sleigh Bells," Miss Cornforth and Whitehead; song, "The Children's Home," Miss Katie Powell; recitation, "How Jane Conquest rang the Bell," Miss Mary Christopher; song, "Shadowland," Chorus.

At the end of the programme the Chairman stated that words would inadequately express the pleasure it afforded him to preside on that occasion. No one present, he felt sure, would doubt Miss Tait's qualifications for the position she occupied, but those who knew her best esteemed her most, and it was owing to the esteem he had for her that he returned two days earlier than he had intended from a visit to the south in order to be present. As he had had one very dear to him under Miss Tait's tuition in the past he was able to form an opinion of her good influence over those committed to her charge. After presenting the prizes the rev gentleman made some very appropriate remarks to the pupils, and earnestly urged them, while making the best of their opportunities for improvement, not to neglect the most important of all studies—the study of the Bible. The quality and quantity of the work exhibited at the other end of the room showed much industry, and the work done at this end, viz., the music, had given him great pleasure, He then called upon the Rev Mr Wilson to say a few words.

In his remarks the Rev Mr Wilson stated that he endorsed all that had been said of Miss Tait and of her school, and he felt quite sure he was expressing her sentiments when he said he considered Mr Durant deserved many thanks for being so good as to curtail his visit in order to take the chair that afternoon.

The prize winners were:—

CLASS I.

Prize for Physiology—Katie Powell.
Ancient History and Literature Prize—Eveline Palliser.
Class Prize—Katie Powell.

CLASS II.

Scripture Prize—Elizabeth Raw.
Class Prize—Edith Powell.
Essay Prize—Elizabeth Raw.

CLASS III.

1st Prize—Nora Christopher.
2nd Prize—Bertha Davison.

CLASS IV.

Class Prize—Edie Elliott.
French Class, 1st Prize—Edith Dora Wilson.
French Class, 2nd Prize—Winnie Wade.

The proceedings ended with the National Anthem.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held at Lanchester on Thursday sen'night under the chairmanship of Mr Wm. Logan, J.P. The following waywardens were in attendance:—Councillor T. J. Muse, Messrs George Hobson, J. Towns, R. Armstrong, W. Gray, W. J. Handcock, R. Robson, T. Loudon, the clerk (Mr Crofton Maynard), the Surveyor (Mr Wm. Dixon), and the assistant surveyor (Mr Henry Dixon.)

BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD.

A communication was received from the Clerk to the Whickham Local Board, in reference to this matter which, however, still remains in *status quo*.

PROPOSED DIVERSON OF A HIGHWAY.

A letter was read from Rev. T. H. Archdale, M.A., vicar of Tanfield, enclosing copies of resolutions passed at a vestry meeting of ratepayers of the parish, to the effect that application should be made to the Highway Board to make a footpath wherever possible along the side of the road from Mountsett to Lintz Green, and further requesting the Board to divert the highway, known as Sandy Path, through the wood near the Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, to a branch adjoining the National Schools, and thence towards Rowland's Gill Station, and that permission for such diversion should be obtained from the Marquis of Bute and the owners of the land.

Mr Handcock strongly advocated the desirability of diverting the road, the Sandy Path being in a very rocky state, and almost impassable. He dwelt upon the advantages to be gained by the contemplated diversion, the chief benefits being that it would shorten the distance, and make a better thoroughfare, and that it would be the means of avoiding the necessity of traversing the Busty Bank, which was in a very dangerous condition. He read a letter from Messrs T. and R. Armstrong, agent, of Newcastle, to the Marquis of Bute, assenting to the diversion, and Mrs Watson, of Burnopfield House, was also in favour thereof, but wished to see the plans before committing herself.

The Chairman suggested that the Surveyor should prepare plans and specifications of the probable cost, and lay the same before the next meeting, and that he have the assistance of the local waywardens in the performance of his work.

The Surveyor said he should certainly oppose the carrying out of one part of the proposed diversion, viz, going through the quarry.

Mr Handcock thought that the difficulty could be overcome. The Sandy Path road might be closed to the general public, and could be used by the farmers who had land on either side of it.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Handcock, the Surveyor was authorised to make the necessary plans and specifications for next meeting.

The question of making the footpath was left over till next year's estimates were prepared.

SEEKING FOR INFORMATION.

A letter was read from Mr Elliott Leybourne, Castleside, stating that he paid rates in three townships. The highway rate in Muggleswick was 7d, in Rowley 8d, and the Healeyfield 9d in the pound. He wished to know the reason of the discrepancy.

The Clerk was deputed to reply to the effect that no doubt the waywardens for the parishes named would be able to satisfactorily explain the matter. The Highway Board having issued precepts for a rate of 7d in the pound.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor reported that the workmen in the district were engaged in laying stones upon the different roads. The steam roller had been employed on the highways in the townships of Lanchester, Butsfield, and Holmside; and next week he promised to visit Consett and Castleside with the roller. (Mr Muse: Hear, hear.) He complained of the manner in which the Sanley authorities pipe track at Catchgate had been filled up, and the Surveyor was authorised to communicate with Mr J. E. Parker, the inspector, touching the subject, with a request that the surface of the highway should be put into a proper state of repairs.

FINANCE.

The Surveyor's monthly paybill amounted to £354 9s 2d, also the officers quarterly salaries were ordered to be paid.

ANOTHER ROLLER REQUIRED.

Councillor Muse observed that the steam roller had answered so admirably, and he thought the time had arrived when the Board should take steps for obtaining another roller.

The Chairman said it was the intention of the Board from the outset to procure a heavier roller as soon as the lighter machine had been tried and found to answer. They proposed to keep the 10 ton roller for the district roads, and purchase a 15 ton roller for the main roads.

Mr Loudon said the steam roller had undoubtedly effected an improvement in the state of the roads.

Eventually, the clerk was instructed to write to some of the leading firms for prices, designs, and specifications for a 15-ton roller.

This was all the principal business.

WEARDALE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

Ald. Livingstone presided at last Friday's meeting.—A discussion arose in respect to the adoption of children out of the workhouse by persons who, having them a few days, send them back again. Some of the Board Members thought it was unfair. The Clerk was deputed to look into the legal aspect of the case, and report to another meeting.—The number of tramps was reported by the Master to be largely on the increase.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Ald. Livingstone presided at Friday's meeting.—A letter was read from the Local Government Board, in respect to the drainage of Crawleyside. The Clerk was instructed to acknowledge it.—A case of typhoid fever was reported from Westgate, imported from the eastern part of the county of Durham. The Inspector had visited the case, and suggested some improvements around the place.

THE LATE MR SILVERTOP, OF MINSTFRACRES.

The remains of Mr Henry Thomas Silvertop, J.P., for the counties of Antrim and Northumberland—whose death occurred very suddenly at Minsteracres in the early hours of Sunday morning—were interred amid every token of sorrow and respect on Thursday se'nnight. The body was first placed in a plain deal case, which was surrounded by a leaden shell, the outer coffin being made of polished oak, with brass mountings. The lid bore the following inscription:—"Henry Thomas Silvertop, born 1853; died 1893. R I P," and was covered with wreaths. The corpse had been placed on a bier or catafalque in the chancel of the Roman Catholic Church adjoining Minsteracres Hall, on Wednesday, so that the relatives, servants, and tenantry might have a last opportunity of looking at the deceased. The service commenced at 11 a.m., Thursday, the principal mourners being the Rev Geo. Silvertop, of Fort Augustus Priory, near Inverness, Scotland (the deceased's brother); Mrs Silvertop (his wife); Master Frank Silvertop, the eldest son and heir to the estates, together with the next son and daughter, and a number of Mrs Silvertop's relatives from Ireland. There were also several of the deceased gentleman's brother magistrates, all the tenantary on the estate, the household servants, and Dr Allen, of Shotley Bridge, the family medical adviser. The little church was quite filled. The cermony began with a Requiem Mass, and was of a plain but impressive character; the officiating clergy being Father Silvertop and the Rev Edward Barnett, the resident Chaplain of the family. The interior of the sacred edifice had been draped in black. A short funeral oration was delivered by Father Silvertop, who spoke of his departed brother as being imbued with great religious fervour. He was generous and kind at heart, and was on the most friendly terms with his tenantary, by whom he was sincerely beloved, as he lived in their midst. He exhorted them, in conclusion, to pray for the repose of the soul of the deceased gentleman. The coffin was then lowered into the large vault underneath the church, where the rest of the members of the Silvertop family are buried. The ceremony lasted a little over an hour.

The *Newcastle Journal* writes:—"The death of Mr Henry Silvertop, of Minsteracres, recalls the great service his family have rendered to art by their patronage and liberal support. The grandfather of the deceased Mr Silvertop had, in the course of his travels in foreign lands, collected many rare and beautiful specimens of painting and sculpture, as well as many foreign plants with which to beautify his home and grounds at Minsteracres. His refined taste and correct knowledge of art has made the mansion and extensive park one of the most delightful seats in the North of England. Among the numerous works of art which adorn the walls of Minsteracres, are several valuable examples of the old masters, including those of Michael Angelo and Canova; also numerous family portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir Thomas Lawrence and Pond. The walls of the dining room are hung with tapestry brought from Rome, representing scenes in the lives of Antony and Cleopatra. There is also an exquisite piece of carving, reaching from the floor to the ceiling, by the famous Italian sculptor, Signor Bulletti. Another work of art, no less interesting from its excellence than from the history of its many narrow escapes from destruction at remarkable historical periods, is the painting of a nun, which shows three perforations caused by shot from the guns of Cromwell's soldiers; and a fourth by a cannon ball during the French siege of Rome in 1849."

"The local association of Mr George Silvertop with the well-known North-country sculptor, Lough, will ever cause the name to be cherished in the history of art; for it was Mr Silvertop who first discovered and encouraged the genius of the creator of "Milo," and "The Mourners." As Mr Silvertop was one day returning from hunting, he saw in a garden attached to Lough's parents' cottage numerous models of legs and arms lying about in all directions. He alighted, walked in, and found the ceiling of the cottage covered with drawings, and models lying about the room. The future sculptor was sent for, and invited by Mr Silvertop to his house, where he was shown the wealth of art which fills the rooms of Minsteracres. This was the first glimpse Lough had of the beautiful art which he himself lived to enrich with his genius. In after years there was no piece of sculpture which the family prized more than the exquisite model of Lough's celebrated master-piece, "The Mourners."

Trade Notes.

OPERATIVES' DELEGATES AT CONSETT.

At a meeting of the workmen at the Consett Company's Iron and Steel Works, held on Saturday night, Mr John Wildsmith was unanimously re-elected the men's representative on the Northern Board of Arbitration and Conciliation and kindred bodies. For the Consett Iron Company's Tinmill Works, five candidates were nominated, and the voting, on Thursday se'nnight, resulted as follows:—Mr Hy. Lodge (the late delegate), 224 votes; Mr Jas. Richards, 67; Mr T. Davis, 28. Mr T. Kane and Mr S. Phillips withdrew their candidature.

Volunteer Intelligence.

Volunteer Shooting at Blaydon.—On Saturday, the annual prize shooting under the auspices of the Winlaton (D and K) Company, was held on the Bues Hills range, near Blaydon. The weather was favourable. The conditions were:—Class firing, 3rd class targets and scoring. 10 shots at 100 yards (5 each kneeling and standing), 5 at 200 kneeling, 5 at 300 prone, highest possible score 80. Sergt.-Instructor Urry was in charge of the range, and the scores were:—Colour-Sergt. W V Shotton, 73; Sergt. T H Siddle, 68; Private J W Robson, 68; Corp. J Miller, 67; Lance-Corp. L Bennett, 67; Corp. R Gardiner, 66; Pte. T W Ryding, 65; Lance-Corp. T Spark, 65; Corp. G Hall, 64; Pte. R Sawyers, 64; Corp. J Dixon, 63; Pte. W C Bennett, 61; Pte. J Sawyers, 61; Pte. W Prown, 61; Lance-Corp. J Grundy, 60; Pte. J J Patterson, 60; Pte. W Brooks, 60; Sergt. R E Shotton, 59; Pte. T P Shotton, 59; Corp. L Renwick, 59; Pte. H Gilhespy, 59; Pte. R Renwick, 58; Lance-Corp. J Whitfield, 58; Sergt. H Burns, 58; Pte. W Sawyers, 58; Pte. R Weass, 57; Corp. R Archbold, 57; Pte. J Johnson, 56; Pte. M Crane, 55; Sergt. J Robson, 55; Pte. J Jeavens, 55; Pte. W Atkinson, 55; Sergt. J Parkin, 53; Pte. W Hall, 51; Pte. J Bennett, 50; Pte. T Prudhoe, 50; Pte. M Flynn, 48; Pte. R Gilfillan, 48. The scores in the recruit competition were as follows:—Pte. B Duddy, 51; Pte. G Armstrong, 48; Pte. N Renwick, 47; Pte. T Telford, 42; Pte. J Robson, 41; Pte. J Maddison, 30.

Ruptures.—White's Moc-Main Lever Truss the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive catalogue with testimonials & Prices to J. White and Co. (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell you imitations of our Moc-main. J White and Co. have not any agents.

Christmas Festivities.

LEADGATE WESLEYANS.—On Christmas evening, the Wesleyans of Leadgate held a magic-lantern entertainment in the school-room, which was well patronised.

TREAT TO POOR CHILDREN AT CONSETT.—On Tuesday, through the hospitality of a lady named Mrs Hodgson, of Shotley Bridge, some 150 poor children, connected with the district were entertained to a sumptuous tea at Mr Daglish's Cocoa Rooms, Middle Street, Consett.

CONSETT BAPTIST CHURCH.—The members of this church held their annual Christmas tree and sale of work on Christmas Day. There was a capital attendance of old and young people, and the various articles on the tree were in great demand, with the result that there was a speedy clearance. The stalls containing the sale of work were presided over by several of the ladies connected with the church. During the evening, a coffee supper was provided, and was largely patronised.

LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST SOCIETY.—The usual Christmas festivities, in connection with the above Society at Leadgate, were celebrated as follows:—On Sunday, Mr James Christie, of Consett, preached two excellent sermons to large congregations. Good collections were taken after each service.—On Christmas Day, a sale of work was opened in the school-room by the Rev R. B. Hanley, of Consett, (in the unavoidable absence of Mr William Skelton, of Consett), before a good company. A knife and fork tea was provided by Mr and Mrs W. Rodgerson, Leadgate, and gave the utmost satisfaction. The chief attraction was the exhibition of a marvellous collection of natural curiosities, which have been preserved by Mr Joseph Brown, of Consett, who has lately returned from Australia. Mr Brown gave a description of his collection which comprised—snakes, skins, fish, eggs, shells, works of industry by the natives of Africa and Australia, numerous views, and a large and expensive assortment of serpents, &c., well worth seeing. The bazaar was a success.

WOLSINGHAM.—Christmas Day at Wolsingham was quieter than usual, possible owing to the wet weather. The usual services were held in the several places of worship, with the addition of communion of St. Matthew's, and High Mass at St. Joseph's at midnight on Sunday. In the evening, the Baptists had their annual tea and public meeting.

WEARDALE.—Christmas was observed in a quiet way. Several sacred concerts were given at the different places of worship. The weather was very nasty, and fatally interfered with the perambulations of waits and suchlike Christmas visitors.

TOW LAW.—The customary services were held in the Parish Church and Wesleyan Chapel in the morning. In the evening the Wesleyan Vigilance Band held its annual meeting in the large day school, when addresses were given by Messrs Sproates, Norman, and Hillary, the chair being occupied by Mr Gradon. At the close a coffee supper took place. At the Primitive Chapel an entertainment consisting of songs, solos, speeches, and recitations were given on behalf of the Sabbath School; the recently-formed string band also took part in the entertainment. A coffee supper closed the proceedings. During the day the band of the Salvation Army played selections throughout the town, and the Good Templars also sang carols.

WESTGATE (WEARDALE).—On Saturday afternoon a sale of work and Christmas tree was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. The opening ceremony was performed by Dr Hewitson, of St John's Chapel, accompanied by Mrs Hewitson, who were introduced by the Rev R. Walton. The stall-holders were:—Mrs R. Walton, Mrs Moore, Mrs John Kidd, Mrs Jos. Kidd, Mrs Freeman, Mrs Lee, Mrs J. Walton, Miss Maddison, Mrs Furness, Miss Herdman, Miss Kidd, Misses Forster, Miss Lonsdale, Messrs Barkus, Furness, Moses, T. Walton, and J. Forster. A public tea and supper were also provided, to which a large number of people sat down. The choir, under the leadership of Mr Freeman and Mr Kidd, rendered a choice selection of anthems, choruses, &c. The total proceeds were £87 13s 9d.

BLAYDON. — Unseasonable weather prevailed during the early hours of Christmas Day at Blaydon. The weather during the night was quite out of harmony with the season, rain falling nearly all the time and making matters the reverse of pleasant for the carol singers. The Salvation Army Corps turned out at midnight, and with a good many followers, paraded the streets of the place singing seasonable hymns, and concluding their nocturnal rambling with a public breakfast on Christmas morning in the old Wesleyan Chapel, where there was a large attendance. On Christmas morning a peal was rung by the bell-ringers of St. Cuthbert's Parish Church. In accordance with the custom of the Catholic Church six services were held at Stella Parish Church.

BLAYDON HAUGHS PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL—The anniversary of the above place of worship was celebrated on Sunday, when Rev Jos Tweddle, Blaydon, preached to crowded congregations. Offertories were taken on behalf of the chapel fund. On Christmas Day the celebrations were continued, when the annual public tea was held, a large number of people being present. In the evening there was again a large attendance at the public meeting and concert, presided over by Mr M. Henderson, Bennington. An enjoyable programme of music was gone through by several ladies and gentlemen, and anthems, glees, &c. were efficiently rendered by the choir. Addresses were delivered by Messrs R. Moody, J. Graham, and A. Skidmore.

BLAYDON FREE METHODIST CHURCH.—On Christmas day the annual sale of work under the auspices of the Blaydon Free Methodist Church, was commenced in the Board Schools, Blaydon, and was attended with every success. Rev George Kaines performed the opening ceremony, the chair being occupied by Mr W. Plender. The following presided at the stalls:—Mesdames Bateman and Marshall, and Miss Plender, Denton, Marshall, Muir, Gray, Jefferson, and Reed. A public tea was held at which there was a large attendance, and in addition to the sale of work there was a ventriloquial and conjuring entertainment by Professor Boz, together with a lantern lecture by Mr R. Scott, assisted by Mr George Ogilvie. Other features were an art gallery, and waxworks show, which were greatly patronised. The proceeds are in aid of the new building fund. The sale of work was re-opened on Tuesday.

BLACKHILL ST. ANDREWS' PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL.—The teachers of this school celebrated another anniversary on Christmas Day by holding a Christmas tree for the children in the afternoon. There was a large gathering of young people. A public tea was also provided, and the good things were partaken of by a large number of members and friends connected with the church. In the evening, a cantata entitled "A Christmas Vision," was rendered in character by several of the scholars. The principal characters represented were "Louisa Andrews," Miss M. Clark; "Charles Andrews," Master J. H. Jones; "Santa Claus," Mr Robert Hall. The whole piece was most creditably performed, and was witnessed by a large company. Mr A Richardson conducted, whilst Mrs Baillie presided at the piano. The chair was occupied by the pastor (Rev A. Baillie.) The interesting proceedings were brought to a conclusion by a public supper. The proceeds were in aid of the school funds.

BLACKHILL PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday, special sermons were preached in this place of worship, in the morning by the Rev R. B. Hanley, Consett, and in the afternoon and evening by Mr R. Foster, Newcastle. Large congregations were present. On the following evening a fruit banquet was held, presided over by Mr Campbell, Shotley Bridge. Addresses were delivered by Revs Raistrick, Blackhill; R. B. Hanley, Consett; Mr R. Foster, Newcastle; and others. Selections of music were rendered by the choir, and the gathering proved quite a success.

BLACKHILL UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH.—In connection with this church on Christmas Day, a most successful entertainment was given in the evening by the members of the choir and friends. There was a large company present, presided over by the Rev J. Pitchord, (pastor). A capital programme consisting of songs, glees, recitations, &c., were most creditably performed. Mr McWilliams, Blackhill, conducted, whilst Miss Turner, Blackhill, officiated as accompanist. Afterwards a pie supper was provided, and the same was well patronised. This has been one of the most gatherings ever held for some years.

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—On Christmas eve, the usual gospel service under the auspices of this association was held in the Co-operative Hall Consett. There was a large company present presided over by Mr Jacob Urwin, Highgate. A capital programme of music was rendered. Two pianoforte selections were given, one by Miss Brodie, Blackhill, and the other by Miss A. Redshaw, both of which were highly appreciated. The two quartettes, "Gathering Home," and "Out of darkness into light," were executed by Misses Fawell, Allison, Lennox, Harwood, and Messrs C. Allison, and E. Hobday. Miss Harwood favoured with a song, after which the piece "Beautiful home on high," was rendered by Miss Urwin, who was accompanied by Miss Wilson. The programme was brought to a conclusion by the duet "Good bye till we meet again," by Misses Urwin and Wilson. Mrs R. C. Foster, Blackhill, officiated at the piano. The address on the words "Glory to God in the highest," was delivered by Rev Thomas Durant (Baptist), Consett, and was a most appropriate one. The interesting service was brought to a conclusion by the doxology.

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Christmas Day a grand conversazione was held in the school-room, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion with evergreens, flowers, &c. The entertainment was opened by singing the hymn "Hark the herald angles sing," and after prayer Mr Wm Strachan introduced the programme which consisted of solos, duetts, quartettes, and carols, by members of the choir, also by Mr Frankland, Hill Top, and Mr McTaggart, Leadgate. A piano and violin duet was given by Miss M. Brown, and Mr T. Reed; also violin solo by Miss Richardson. Selections were also rendered by the orchestral band, conducted by Mr J. Palliser, and the proceedings throughout was of a most enthusiastic character. Mr J. Davison, and Mr W. H. Palliser ably acted as accompanists on the piano, while Mr J. Bell conducted the choir. During the entertainment a ham supper was being partaken of by the audience which was kindly provided by the friends of the society. The proceeds being in aid of the choir and trust fund.

OLD PEOPLE'S TREAT AT CORNSAY COLLIERY.—An old people's knife-and-fork tea was provided in the Temperance Hall, Cornsay Colliery, by the committee of the Cornsay social gatherings. The workmen contributed largely to the undertaking. Mr J. H. Love, colliery owner, sent £1 1s, and Mr Kirkup, manager, 5s. The Cornsay string band entertained the old people. About 100 sat down and enjoyed a hearty meal. The following helped in carrying out the arrangements:—Messrs P. Kirkup (manager), Hill Walker, Thomas Harrison, H. F. Hardy, George Wilson, Samuel Porter, P. Sands, J. Henderson, John Storey (secretary), Mesdames Hugh McGowan, Maud, H. F. Hardy, W. Halkier, Misses Maddison, Seary, Allport, Austin, Mesdames Henderson, Rutherford, and T. Dodgson.

STANHOPE WESLEYANS.—On Christmas evening, the Stanhope Wesleyan choir gave a service of song entitled "The two cabins." The Rev Mr Cooper gave the connective readings. Mr R. Ward presided at the organ. The proceeds were to be distributed among the poor of the place.

BAZAAR AT WINLATON.—On Christmas Day, a bazaar and Christmas fair was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, to raise money on behalf of the building fund. There were numerous stalls, and a curiosities' exhibition and a shooting gallery. The bazaar was opened by Mr Wm. Maughan, Stargate, assisted by the Rev. Jos. Tweddle, Blaydon. During the evening, violin solos were rendered by Miss Winskell, of Low Prudhoe, and songs by Misses Curry and Atkinson and Mr Laidler. The annual tea, which was held in the schoolroom, was largely attended. Altogether, the day's receipts were highly satisfactory to the members of the chapel.

WINLATON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The anniversary of this place of worship was celebrated on Sunday, when sermons were preached morning and evening to crowded congregations by the Rev. A. B. Tebb. In the evening a service of song entitled "Two Golden Lilies" was admirably rendered by the choir, under the direction of Mr R. Foster. The connective readings were given by Mr Tebb, and Mr J. T. Ramsay presided at the organ. On Christmas Day the annual tea was held, and was largely patronised, being followed by a public meeting under the presidency of Mr Tebb.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Christmas Day the third of the series of social gatherings, promoted by the teachers of the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School took place in the Co-operative Hall, when there was a sale of work at which was a brisk sale of goods. The stall was managed by Misses H. Carey, Carr, and M. Watson, who exercised great business tact in disposing of the goods. Tea was served in the afternoon, to a large company, by Miss M. Carr, Lowrie, A. Grainger, Pratt, L. Watson, Lowden, Adamson, and Moir. In the evening a concert was held when every available seat was occupied. Rev. R. W. Butterworth, superintendent, opened the proceedings, after which the choir, under the leadership of Mr W. Lowrie, sang an excellent selection of music, and the proceedings were agreeably diversified by recitations by Mr Wallace. The proceeds were in aid of the new schools which are intended to be built during the year, to complete the scheme which, up till now, has been so successful.

DRAWING ROOM PARTY AND TEA AT STANHOPE.—The Stanhope Primitives held a drawing room tea on Christmas Day, given by Mrs Chunn the ministers wife. It was highly patronised by all classes both church and dissent. Most of the *elite* of the place were also present. It was a pronounced success, and realised a handsome sum.

WASKERLEY.—On Christmas evening, the Castleside Primitive Methodist Choir gave an entertainment in the Primitive Methodist school-room in aid of the chapel funds. It need scarcely be mentioned that under the leadership of Mr T. Raine, the entertainment was a very great success. The rendering of some of the hymns being most tastefully given, both with respect to meaning and devotion. Much credit is due to Mr Raine, for the high state of proficiency to which he has raised the choir. A vote of thanks was moved, seconded, and heartily responded to by the audience, and an excellent supper terminated the proceedings, of what may be regarded as being one of the most successful meetings of the kind that has ever been held here. Misses Raine, Featherstone, Gowland, the two Miss Robsons and Miss Lowes presided with praiseworthy attention to the wants of the large numbers who occupied the tables. Mr Jos. Robson presided over the meeting.

SPEN.—At this village the Temperance Band under the leadership of Mr A. Barker, turned out early on Christmas morning, and rendered suitable music at the various farmhouses, &c., in the neighbourhood. They did not get round the whole of the streets in the village, but intend giving them a call on New Year's Day.

EBCHESTER SCHOOL.—A Kinderspiel entitled "Playmates," was given by the children attending Ebchester School on Thursday sen'night. The school was crowded to excess, and the children performed the parts allotted them in a very creditable manner. Miss Lottie Elsom made an excellent "Mother Goose," and J. Ward "Jock Goose," performed his part well. The other leading parts were taken by Masters F. Newton "Dick Whittington," A. Rowell "Jack the Giant Killer," A. Lane "Simple Simon," W. Taylor "Jack o' the Beanstalk," Miss B. Wade "Annie Laurie," Miss N. Smith "Flora McDonald," Miss L. Noble "Meggie Lauder." During the interval "Sir Roger" was danced by the infants, and the lancers by the elder children. The musical drill was well taken with. The Rev P. Cameron took the chair. The proceeds are to provide prizes for the children.

SUPPER AT LANGLEY PARK.—A complimentary supper was provided at the Langley Park Hotel on Saturday night, when between 30 and 40 sat down to a splendid supper provided by Mr and Mrs White. After the cloths were removed Mr Tolliday was voted to the chair, and Mr Hepburn to the vice-chair. Mr J. Clark proposed, and Mr D. Ough seconded a vote of thanks to the host and hostess for the able manner in which they had provided the supper. Great credit is due to the following singers for the way in which they entertained the company during the evening:—Messrs Strong, Sleetburn; Clark, Waldridge Fell; Cooper, Shorton, Nattrass, and Kidd, Langley Park. There is special credit due to Mr Kidd for the "Lost Cow."

ST. CUTHBERT'S BENFIELDSIDE.—The St. Cuthbert's Church bells were rung as usual at midnight on Christmas Eve. There were three celebrations of the Holy Communion during Christmas morning, a seven, eight, and at morning prayer. The church was tastefully decorated, and a special anthem was sung by the choir.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—In connection with this place of worship special services have been conducted by Miss Peart, an evangelist, of Weardale. On Christmas evening a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr Robert Brown, Consett. Addresses were delivered by Miss Peart, Mr R. Turnbull, P. Hall, and others. Afterwards a coffee supper was provided, and was well patronised.

THE DELVES SAINT PIT SICK FUND.—This yearly club, which is carried on by the workmen employed at the Delves Saint Pit has just finished a most flourishing year. At a meeting held recently at Mr R. Eccles Grey Horse Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, a balance sheet was submitted to the members, which showed the society had paid to sick members no less a sum than £20 during the year. The balance in hand was then divided, and each member received the sum of 2s 7d.—The report was most satisfactory. It was resolved to commence the club again for the ensuing year. A large number expressed their willingness to become members. The officers were elected as follows:—President and treasurer, Mr R. Turnbull; secretary Mr J. W. Bainbridge; committee, Messrs Coulson, Forster, and Donnelly. This club is open to all workmen connected with the colliery at a nominal entrance fee, whilst the contributions are only a few pence per fortnight.

LANCHESTER UNION WORKHOUSE.

According to a time honoured custom—which it is to be hoped will never fall into disuse—the inmates of the Lanchester Workhouse; who now number over 200 men, women, and children, were provided by the Guardians on Christmas Day with their customary fare of roast beef, and potatoes, followed by an ample supply of plum pudding. The substantial repast was followed by a plentiful dispensation of pipes and tobacco, nuts, oranges, sweets, and other delicacies, besides Christmas presents and toys. The superb decorations of the dining hall were objects of much admiration, each year the interior of the spacious structure being resplendent with garlands and bunches of evergreens, appropriate illustrated texts and mottoes, and other artistic devices, this work having been carried out under the supervision of Mr F. Blackmuir, the drill instructor. When lit up in the evening, the hall was most artistic and picturesque. The feast was thoroughly enjoyed by both old and young, judging by the amount of beef, potatoes, and pudding consumed in a very short interval. The beef was cut from a prime animal, bred and fed by Mr Graham, of Whittonstall; and purchased by Mr John Parker, the well-known butcher, of Leadgate. At the Benfieldside Christmas Stock Mart. The huge joints of beef supplied were universally admired, and for nutrition and quality could not have been surpassed. The eatables were done to perfection, thanks to the culinary resources of the establishment being in the hands of such a capable person as Mrs Brotherhood, who was ably assisted by Miss Brooks, assistant matron, Mrs Reed, and others. The provisions were supplied by Mrs Reed, of Lanchester, and were of a high-class quality, leaving nothing to be desired. Amongst the ladies and gentlemen who graced the assemblage by their patronage, and assisted in feeding the poor folks were:—Rev George Jepson, M.A., vicar of Lanchester, and Mrs Jepson; County Councillor T. J. Muse, Castleside, chairman of the visiting committee, and Miss Muse) Mr Thomas Wilkinson, guardian for Lanchester; Mr Joseph and Mrs Towns; Mr R. M. White; Mr Ralph Walton, and Miss Walton, Belle Vue; Mrs Reed, Miss Maud and Miss Ada Reed; Mr J. Parker, Leadgate; Mr G. R. Hobson, Catchgate, (who came as a substitute for his father); Mr T. Sadler, stationmaster; Mr W. Eales, Consett; Mr Thos. Wilson, Mrs Waugh, Mr Arthur Edwards, Blackhill; and Miss Christie Scott, West Hartlepool. The absence, through illness, of Mrs Maltby, of Sawley, Derbyshire, sister to Mrs Brotherhood, who is always a regular attender at the Christmas and New Year's gathering, was much regretted. We ought not to omit to mention the fact that Coun. Richard Murray, Benfieldside House, generously supplied two barrels of ale, and the liquour seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed by the adults. Mr N. Elsdon, of Consett, also furnished a quantity of aerated waters, and the same was "popped" out of sight by the juveniles with surprising rapidity. The inmates, at the close of the feast, rendered their thanks to the Guardians, and those who had ministered to their wants by a series of hearty cheers.

Mr MUSE, whose rubicund countenance seemed to illumine the whole building, then stepped forward and addressed a few appropriate remarks to the inmates. He likewise read the subjoined letter from Rev T. W. Glyn, of Fontmell Rectory, Shaftesbury:—"Our best wishes to the Master, Matron, Miss Brooks, and all the inmates of the best workhouse in the United Kingdom—(applause)—and a very happy New Year, when it comes, Mr and Mrs Glyn are very sorry to miss the Christmas dinner, and hope it will agree with all." (Cheers.)

Mr JEPSON also spoke a few words, and after giving lusty cheers for Mr and Mrs Brotherhood, Miss Brooks, and the rest of the officers, they filed off to their respective wards.

Afterwards Mr Muse took the chair, and the vicar the vice-chair.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of Mr and Mrs Brotherhood, and referred to the excellent arrangements and admirable discipline in the well-managed institution. The inmates, he asserted, had never had a better spread set before them.

Mr BROTHERHOOD responded on behalf of himself and his wife, thanking all for their presence and assistance that day.

PELTON FELL.

On Saturday evening, the usual Christmas festivals commenced in this village. when the deputies and officials of Pelton Fell Colliery held their annual supper at the house of Mr Maddison, and the company did full justice to the good things provided. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

At the Primitive Methodist Chapel a concert was provided by the members of the choir, the chair being taken by Mr J. Lloyd. An excellent programme was given. After which there was the usual ham and coffee supper, to which a a fair company sat down.

On Christmas morning, the choirs of the Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist Chapels sang as usual, and the Colliery Brass Band and the Pelton Fell Primitive Methodist Temperance Brass Band played round the village during the day.

In the afternoon, the Wesleyans held their annual Christmas tree and sale of work in their school-room, which was opened by Dr C. Rutherford, assisted by Rev W. Sharpley, circuit minister. A fair amount of business was done, close on £36 being taken.

The senior portion of the Pelton Fell Primitive Methodist Band of Hope held a social tea in the chapel, when about fifty sat down to partake of the good things provided. The evening was spent in games of a social and harmless character, and a and a good supply of fruit was provided.

CHRISTMAS IN WEARDALE.

The great Christmas festival was ushered into Weardale this year by mild, genial, spring-like weather. Primroses, wall flowers, and other spring flowers were in bloom in some gardens, and whins in full flower, in large quantities, might be seen 'twixt Eastgate and Stanhope, by the river side. Old Father Christmas came in an unusual garb—no ice-bound streams or landscapes wrapped in the fleecy, feathery, snowy mantle this year; yet come as he may, the season is always in Weardale made the occasion of family re-unions, family gatherings, and fraternal and social intercourse among both friends and neighbours. The day itself is also made the occasion of Church and Chapel efforts and gatherings throughout Weardale. At Stanhope, the old Church bells rang a merry peal at day break, and the "waits" awoke the stillness of the morning air by the sound of sweet song ere people had arisen. The day was observed as a general holiday—there was a complete cessation from all labour at the public works. The inmates of the Weardale Union Workhouse were regaled with a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, Mr George Curry, of Wolsingham, supplying them with a cask of ale, and Mr J. Maddison providing a supply of tobacco, and others oranges. Mrs Livingstone, the wife of Ald. Livingstone, J.P., also treated them on Saturday evening to a substantial knife-and-fork tea. Special services were held at Stanhope Church on Sunday, and a number of Christmas carols were sung by the choir. The Wesleyans had a service of song in the evening, and the Primitives a drawing room tea, given by Mrs G. Chunn, the resident minister's wife, which was a great success. At Wolsingham, the Baptists held their annual school anniversary, and the Catholics had a midnight service on Christmas Eve. At Frosterley, a Christmas tree, concert, and coffee supper were held by the Church party, on Saturday evening, and was well attended. At Westgate, the Primitives had a bazaar and sale of work, which realised about £68. There were football matches at Stanhope on Christmas Day, and bands of music played at the farmhouses in different parts of the dale. There were a large number of social Christmas parties, and less drunkenness than on former occasions. There was a lack of the one thing needful among the working classes, consequent upon trade depression, which made the joyous season with them somewhat dull, but on the whole the Christmas of 1893 was very enjoyable in Weardale.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting took place at Lanchester Workhouse on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Logan J.P. There were also present; Miss G. M. Gibson; Councillors T. J. Muse and J. A. Curry; Revs P. C. Fortin and P. Cameron, Messrs G. Hobson, W. Gray, J. Oliver, T. Wilkinson; P. Kirkup, T. Lowden, J. Lax, R. Robson, W. M. Handcock, T. Pringle, and the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF RELIEF.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

Present No. of inmates	190
Corresponding period last year	168
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	30
Corresponding period last year	15

Mr R. Walton, relieving officer, eastern district, reported:—

Adults, not able-bodied—Males	69
Females	129
Able-bodied (temporarily disabled)	—
Females (in health)	—
Temporarily disabled	38
Children under 16 years	183
Total	419

Amount of relief in money, £69 17s 6d.

Mr J. Moon, relieving officer, western district, also reported:—

Adults, not able-bodied—Males	5g
Females	139
Able-bodied—Males	—
Females (in health)	9
Temporarily disabled	62
Children under 16 years	267
Total	254

Amount of relief in money, £87 2s 6d.

TOTALS.

Adults, not able-bodied	396
Able-bodied	109
Children	437
Total	942

Amount of relief, £157 0s 0d.

Figures for the corresponding period of last year:—

Adults, not able-bodied	348
Able-bodied	135
Children	464
Total	946

Amount of relief, £154 12s 8d.

THE NEW CHAPLAIN.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board approving of the appointment of Rev George Jepson, M.A., vicar of Lanchester, as chaplain to the Workhouse, at a salary of £10 per annum.

PUBLIC-HOUSES AS VACCINATION STATIONS.

With reference to the proposed removal of the public vaccination station from Holmside National Schools to Mrs Dixon's public-house at South Moor—objection having been taken to licensed premises being used for such a purpose at the last meeting—the Clerk said he had made enquiries as instructed, with the object of securing a more suitable place. He had seen Dr Wilson and Mr Proud, the vaccination officer, and both gentlemen declared that there was not a more convenient or central place than Mrs Dixon's house. The schoolroom was out of the way, and too far away from Wagtail Cottages.

Mr GRAY said it was perfectly correct what he said at the last meeting—that Mrs Dixon's house was the proper place.

Mr HOBSON: Well, the schoolroom is a long way out of the road.

Mr GRAY moved, and Mr HOBSON seconded, that Mrs Dixon's public-house should in future be used as a vaccination station.

This was agreed to.

POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

A long circular was read from the Dewsbury Union, with reference to the appointment of the Central Committee of the London Poor Law Conference, as follow:—

Dewsbury Union.

Dewsbury, Dec. 15th, 1893.

DEAR SIR.

I am requested by the Guardians of this Union to advert to the letter which I addressed to you on the 25th of October last, with reference to the appointment &c., of the Central Committee for Poor Law Conferences, and to acquaint you with the result of the action taken by their representatives at the annual Conference held in London last month.

When Mr Brown, one of the representatives from this Board, rose on the first day of the Conference to put the questions of which notice had been given, Mr Pell, the Chairman, declined to allow the matter to be discussed at that stage, but promised that the Committee would grant an interview to Mr Brown and his colleagues at the close of that day, when the information asked for would be furnished, and he went on to state that in the event of Mr Brown not being satisfied with the information afforded, then the latter would be allowed an opportunity of again drawing attention to the matter at the second day's Conference. Mr Brown, desirous that all the delegates should have the information as to the constitution of the Conference Committee, strongly protested against this arrangement, as he considered that many of the delegates would then have returned home, or left the meeting, and consequently the matter could not fairly be considered and discussed, but in the end he had to give way. The representatives from this Board accordingly waited upon the Committee in the evening when Mr Pell and his colleagues gave the following information, viz:—

That the proposal to form a Central Committee for Poor Law Conferences originated with the late Mr T. B. Ll. Baker, of Gloucester, who, in March, 1874, addressed a circular to a number of his friends suggesting the establishment of such a Committee. That in the same year the executive or Central Committee was constituted, and that in 1877 such Committee was enlarged, and made to consist of 38 members, but by whom or how no one appears to know. No further meetings appear to have been held until 1880. Mr Pell stated that 11 persons held a meeting on the 24th July in that year and "selected" 40 additional members, since which time there had been no further elections, so in the effect the members of the Committee are practically self-elected. Also, that there had been no re-election of members at any time, so that the members are in reality elected for life. Mr Pell went on to state that he had been elected permanent Chairman, but could not tell us when or how. Mr Bousfield, M.P., volunteered the information that the Committee was intended to be "autocratic" in its character and business, and that it was simply a matter of courtesy that the interview had been granted to us at all. That although the Committee acted in the name of the Boards of Guardians throughout the county, and derived their funds from them direct, yet no balance sheet or financial statement had ever been prepared for submission to the Conference, and that the accounts for many of the earlier years were lost altogether. At the close of the interview Mr Brown asked if he could be allowed to submit a resolution to the Conference on the following day touching the constitution of the Committee, but Mr Pell declined to permit this to be done.

My Board think it will readily be admitted on all hands from a perusal of the above statements that the present committee have not been elected on a proper basis; and as at present constituted does not fairly represent the Boards of Guardians in whose name it acts, nor has the conduct of the business of the Conference, nor the range of subjects discussed been such as to secure the greatest amount of good possible from such a Conference, and believes that the time has now arrived for the Conference to appoint its own executive and arrange its own business on a wider and sounder basis than ever it has been before, securing to all Boards of Guardians in the country the right to send up subjects for discussion, and to have full information as to how the funds of the Conference are raised and applied.

It will thus be seen that the object of this Board is not to destroy or even weaken the Central Poor Law Conference, but to strengthen it and largely increase its usefulness in the sphere it was originally intended to occupy, and to make it in fact what hitherto it has been only in name the focus of influence, education, and help, in matters relating to the wise, proper, and efficient administration of the Poor Laws throughout the country.

If your Board is willing to join in the effort to improve the constitution of the Committee and the work of the Conference, will you kindly intimate same to me, and when replies are to hand you shall be informed of the number who are willing so to work together, and further arrangements can then be made so as to secure the necessary concerted action in the steps to be taken and the future policy to be pursued.

Meantime, I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

J. PEACE,
Clerk to the Guardians.

Father FORTIN, who represented the Lanchester Board at the Conference, concurred with the terms of the circular. He proposed that they join the Dewsbury Union, not with a view of impairing the efficency of the Committee, but to render it more useful and beneficial.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Clerk reply to the circular, informing the Dewsbury Guardians that they fully sympathised with their object, and promising to co-operate in any future action they took in the matter.

Mr HOBSON seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE OFFICERS' DIETARY TABLE.

At the request of the District Auditor, the Master (Mr W. Brotherhood) was directed to prepare a dietary table for the officers of the Workhouse, and submit the same to the Visiting Committee a week hence.

LANCHESTER SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

The monthly meeting took place on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of the Rev P. C. Fortin.—The reports of the schoolwardens were considered as follows:—

Southern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month sickness in various forms has been prevalent in the district, which, together with the unpropitious weather has prevented a large number of children attending school.

Cornsay R. C. school has been closed since 11th inst on account of an outbreak of measles amongst children attending that school.

New House R. C. School was closed on Friday last and the remainder of the schools will close to-day or to-morrow for Christmas holidays. Langley Park British, Hedley Hill Colliery and Cornsay Almshouses will re-open on Jan. 3rd, and the other on Jan. 8th 1894.

The annual inspection by H. M's Inspectors of schools took place at Hamsteels National, Esh R. C., and Esh National on Nov. 24th, 27th, and Dec. 1st respectively.

I have made 338 absentee visits. Fifteen visits to schools have been made as per sheet annexed hereto.

VISITS TO SCHOOLS.

Name of Schools.	Dates of Visits. 1893.
Lanchester National	December 4th
Hamsteels ,,	,, 14
Burnhope Colliery	,, 11
Holmside National	,, ,,
South Moor Infant	,, 12
Do Girls	,, 12
Esh Winning Brit.	,, 18
Ushaw Moor R. C.	,, 19
Esh National	,, 19
New House R. C.	closed
Langley Park Brit.	5 19
Esh Village R. C.	,, 19
Satley National	,, 19
Cornsay British	,, 20
Do R. C.	closed
Do Almshouses	,, 20
Hedley Hill Colliery	,, 20
East Hedleyhope Colliery	
Tow Law R. C.	

Bye-law notices have been served at South Moor, Craghead, Holmside, Burnhope, Maiden Law, Hamsteels Colliery, and Quebec. Total 40.

Indisposition in health has prevented me being out during the earlier part of the month.

I have entered cases in the report book for your direction to-day.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBSON.

Lanchester, Dec. 20th, 1893.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee.

GENTLEMEN,—Below are the names and ages of 17 children I have found staying at three of the lodging houses at Consett during the past month. Both they and their parents belong to the nomadic or wandering class, and the children are not practically attending any school. Two of the parents are professional beggars, and one a street singer, and the children are trained accordingly. All of them have now, however, left the town excepting the two children last named:—

Name.	Age.
Timothy Flynn	8
Michael ,,	6
Peter ,,	4
John Adam Dobie	9
Jane ,,	7
Frances ,,	5
Bridget Colling	14
Catherine ,,	12
William ,,	4
Owen McCormick	5
Christopher ,,	8
Alexander Todd	12
Richard ,,	9
David McKenzie	10½
Thomas ,,	8½
Robert Eadie	11
Margaret ,,	4½

I have made 686 absentee visits in the parish of Conside and Knitsley, 236 in Iveston, and two in Ebchester, total 924; reported 128 absentees to the officers of the adjoining districts, served 13 bye-law notices respecting 18 children, and made 30 visits to schools as follows:—

Name of Schools.	Dates of Visits. 1893.
Consett National	November 23rd
,, St. Patricks	,, 24
,, Wesleyan	,, ,,
,, British	,, ,,
Iveston British	,, 27
Leadgate National	,, 29
,, Wesleyan	,, ,,
,, Infant	,, ,,
Consett National	December 1st
,, St. Patricks	,, ,,
,, Wesleyan (mixed)	,, ,,
,, British	,, 6
,, Wesleyan I.	,, ,,
Benfieldside Board G.	,, 7
Iveston British	,, 8
Leadgate National	,, 11
,, Wesleyan	,, ,,
,, Infant	,, ,,
Consett Wesleyan	,, ,,
,, St. Patricks	,, ,,
,, National	,, ,,
,, British	,, 12
Ebchester National	,, ,,
Leadgate National	,, 15
,, Wesleyan	,, 18
,, Infant	,, ,,
Consett British	,, 20
,, Wesleyan	,, ,,
,, National	,, ,,
,, St Patricks	,, ,,

Owing in a great measure to sickness the attendance at the schools is far from good.

I have entered 15 cases, including 8 where the fines inflicted have not been paid, in my report-book for your directions thereon.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WM. WARE.

Iveston, Dec. 21st, 1893.

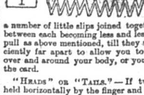
UNITY IS STRENGTH may indeed be said with regard to Holloway's Pills and Ointment, for when used together, they are remarkable in their effects upon disease. No matter how stubborn the symptoms may be, they cannot long withstand these remedies. All sufferers, whom other treatment has failed to relieve, should try the celebrated Ointment, which will strengthen and cure them. The Pills recommend themselves to the attention of all sufferers. No injurious consequences can result from their use; no mistake can be made in their administration. In indigestion, confirmed dyspepsia and chronic constipation, the most beneficial effects have been and always must be, from the wholesome power exerted by these purifying Pills over the digestion.

TRICKS AND PUZZLES.

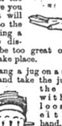
A DECEPTIVE PILE OF PENCE.—There is a curious difference of opinion if several persons are asked separately to guess how many pennies laid flat go to make up the height of one penny standing edgeways. Try it, the result will surprise you.

EGG PUZZLE.—A farmer's wife, carrying eggs to a garrison, had three guards to pass. To the first guard she sold half the number of eggs she had and half an egg more. To the second, the half of what remained and half an egg beside. To the third guard, she sold the half of the remainder, and half another egg. When she arrived at the market-place she had three dozen still to sell. How was this possible without breaking any of the eggs?

TO PASS A PERSON'S BODY THROUGH A PLAYING CARD.—Take a card and cut it longitudinally down the middle, stopping just short of each end, as shown by diagram No. 1 of our illustration. You fold the card in half along the line of the incision, and then with a pair of scissors you make a succession of cuts through the double thickness, from each side alternately, as shown in diagram No. 2. Again unfold the card, and drawing its ends apart, you will find it transformed into an endless extensible band, composed of a number of little slips joined together, the angles between each becoming less and less acute as you pull as above mentioned, till they are drawn sufficiently far apart to allow you to pass the card over and around your body, or your body through the card.



"HEADS" OR "TAILS."—If two pennies are held horizontally by the finger and thumb pressing against the edges, and the lower penny is allowed to fall flat from a height of about twelve to eighteen inches on to the outspread palm of the other hand, a different side to that you would expect appears uppermost; that is to say, if the "head" was underneath before you allowed the coin to drop, it will fall "head" uppermost on to the hand, the coin invisibly turning a somersault as it falls. The distance of the fall must not be too great or too little, or this result will not take place.



A JUG TRICK.—How to hang a jug on a stick, grasp the stick at both ends and take the jug off the stick without loosing either hand. To take the jug off the stick, allow the jug to rest on a table and hold the stick in the centre of the handle, so that it neither touches the handle or the jug.



AN EASY TRICK OF SLEIGHT-OF-HAND.—Take a very small dice, not more than a quarter of an inch square, and hold it between the balls of the thumb and first finger. Show your audience the number at top side of the dice. Turn your hand over and show them the undermost number. In returning the hand to the first position the dice can be turned over with a twist of the finger and thumb without the closest observer seeing the change. It is a trick that is more easily found out by a trial or two than by description.

THE VANISHING COIN.—Fix a small piece of soap, about the size of a pea, to a corner of your handkerchief, or have the bit of soap handy if you borrow some other person's. Spread out the handkerchief on the table, place a threepenny piece, or sixpence, in the centre. Bring your soaped corner, which should be nearest the right hand, down on the coin; fold the other corners over in the same way. Bunch up the handkerchief, and, keeping the soaped corner in the fingers, shake out the handkerchief, or spread it out, showing the coin to have disappeared. Very little practice is required to do this neatly.

CONUNDRUMS.

A CHRISTMAS BARBARITY.—Toasting your friend.

THE best foot on which to put the Christmas stocking.—The foot of the bed.

WHY is an owl like an opinion?—Because it has two i's.

WHY is your back-bone like a ghost?—Because you have never seen it.

JACK JOHNSON has a sister Sophia whom he is always putting into a passion. Now, why is Jack Johnson like a poker?—Because he stirs Sophia! (£10,000 will be paid for a worse riddle than this.)

O AND P ran a race. I backed O. P won. Why was this like sending my servant for cigars and he brought me cavendish?—Because it was wrong *to back O.* Ha! ha!

WHY is wit like a Chinese lady's foot?—Because *brevity* is the *sole* of it.

WHEN is butter like Irish children?—When it is made into little pats.

WHY do sheep resemble fast young men?—Because they *gamble* (gambol) in their youth, are always on the *turf*, are very frequently *black-legs*, and are universally *fleeced*.

WHAT part of a locomotive requires the most attention?—The "tender" part.

WHY are cowardly soldiers like butter?—Because when exposed to fire they run.

WHY are there three objections to taking a glass of brandy?—Because there are three *scruples* to a *dram*.

WHAT word will, if you take away the first letter, make you sick?—Music. (*M-usic*).

IN what case is it impossible to be slow and sure?—In the case of a watch.

WHY does an Irishman leave his country?—Because he cannot take it with him.

A GRATE ATTRACTION.—A good fire.

A CHRISTMAS *Draw* which is *Not* Illegal.—Drawing the Christmas turkey.

WHY have fowls no future state?—Because they have their next world in this world (*necks twirled in this world*).

SUITABLE medicine after too much Christmas turkey.—Turkey rhubarb.

HUMOUR.

FIRST FRIEND: "I did not know that Harry Spats knew Miss Ducats." Second Friend: "Oh, he didn't, but he was skating Christmas Day and he tripped her up. They both fell, and that—er—broke the ice, you know."

WOMAN'S WAY.—Mr. Wickwire: "What are you diving into my overcoat pockets for? There is nothing in them you ought to see." Mrs. Wickwire: "No. But I thought there possibly might be something or other I oughtn't to see."

WITH INTENT TO DECEIVE.—She (as they entered the ball-room again): "Now, for your own sake look cheerful so they won't know I have rejected you." He: "I wish I could, but I can't." She (generously): "Well, I'll look as unhappy as I can and they'll think I have accepted you."

A NATURAL INQUIRY.—A Texas clergyman, who was a reformed gambler, was absorbed in thought one Sunday morning just before divine service began, when he was approached by the organist, who asked, referring to the opening hymn: "What shall I play?" "What kind of hand have you got?" responded the absent-minded clergyman.

A GOOD PLACE FOR THEM.—Mr. Wearyman (searching despairingly for his slippers under the wardrobe): "Where on earth can those slippers have got to now?" Mrs. Wearyman (entering): "I declare, Parkerhouse, you're enough to tire a saint! There (pointing to a wall pocket near the picture moulding) are your slippers. I put them where I thought you could not help seeing them." Mr. Wearyman: "Thank you, dear." (Moves away). Mrs. Wearyman: "Aren't you going to put them on?" Mr. Wearyman: "No, dear. Let us leave them there; then I'll know just where to look for them to-morrow."

Business Announcements.

TWENTY-FIRST YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

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

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., and 5 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 23, 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.

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

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. NATIONAL GOLD MEDALLIST, TRINITY COLLEGE.

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

ADDRESS:—THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

E. SLOANE, Esq., A.R.C.M., is Stock a good Selection of PIANOS, ORGANS, VIOLINS, &c., unrivalled in Tone, Quality, and Model, from the best Manufacturers, at the Lowest Possible Prices. 817b

ORGANS, PIANOS, &c., Tuned and Repaired.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

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

Every Set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s. to 6l 10s.

PARTIAL SETS, from 2s. to 10s. per Tooth

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL

SURGEON DENTIST,

No. 8, GRAINGER STREET,

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

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

All CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.

CONSULTATION FREE.

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

Appointments may be made with Mr. DODDINGTON, Cooke's Buildings, Annfield Plain.

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

F. WELCH AND CO.,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

ANNFIELD PLAIN & STANLEY,

Are noted for their Wedding Rings, and continue to PRESENT Half-a-Dozen Nickel Silver Teaspoons with each Ring.

All CUSTOMERS SERVED IN PRIVATE. 994

MUSICAL TUITION.

FLORENCE L. STELLING, having passed the Intermediate and Senior Examinations of the London College of Music, is PREPARED TO GIVE LESSONS on the Pianoforte and Organ, and also in Theory. PUPILS Trained for Practical and Theoretical Examinations. Terms moderate.

ADDRESS: 33, ROGER STREET, BLACKHILL

REMEMBER

WALTER WILLSON'S

GREAT ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COST PRICE SALE.

FOR PRICES, &c., SEE POSTERS AND CIRCULARS.

SEE PRICE LIST FOR CHOICE CEYLON TEA AT 1s. 4d. PER LB.

AND OTHER GOODS AT EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICES.

THE FLOUR

WHICH WILL YIELD THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF BREAD IS

HALL'S NUMBER 1,

ONLY 1s. 4d. PER STONE, OR 12s. 6d. PER 10 STONE BAG.

GOOD FLOURS, 1s. 3d. AND 1s. 2d. PER STONE, OR 10s. 0d. AND 11s. 6d. PER BAG.

The FINEST TEA (in the District) is HALL'S GOLDEN PEKOE & CEYLON, at 3s. 4d. Per lb.

FINEST DANISH BUTTER ONLY 1s. 3d. PER LB.

THE LARGEST PATENT MEDICINE VENDOR IN THE DISTRICT IS HALL'S.

SEND FOR PRICE LIST OF OVER 30 PAGES.

JOHN HALL & CO.,

FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

TEA DEALERS, PROVISION MERCHANTS, HORSE AND CATTLE PROVENDORS, &c.

SOLE AGENTS FOR OLIVER'S MALT BROWN BREAD.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

S. H. HORSEY,

105, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of CONSETT, STANLEY and DISTRICT, that, having left the service of Mr W. T. Smith, he now attends at the house of Mr Brown, 5, Newmarket Street Consett, every Saturday, from 11 till 5, also at Mr Thomas Armstrong's, Front Street, Stanley, every Monday from 11 till 5, and is prepared to supply the finest English and American Mineral Teeth at the most Reasonable Charges, consistent with perfect workmanship.

A Single Tooth from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Complete Upper or Lower Set from One to Five Guineas. These Teeth can be adjusted without pain or the removal of stumps or loose teeth. Patients attended at their own residences if desired. Old sets re-modelled or new teeth added. Successful treatment guaranteed and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or a new set made

NOTE THE ADDRESSES:—

ATTENDANCE AT MR. BROWN'S, 5, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT (Opposite Co-operative Stores), every Saturday, from 11 till 5. Also,

ATTENDANCE AT MR. THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, FRONT STREET, STANLEY, Every Monday from 11 till 5. 418g

PIANOS!!! ORGANS!!!

WADDINGTON & SONS, 15, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

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

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

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

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

Write or send for Price Lists and Designs.

WADDINGTON & SONS MANUFACTORY, YORK, & at PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

Manager - JAS. ERESBY 866a

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

NEW YEAR'S CARDS

AND A LARGE VARIETY OF GOODS SUITABLE FOR

NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS

AT THE

GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET, AND 21, NEWMARKET STREET,

CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

XMAS & NEW YEAR CARDS,

(NEWEST DESIGNS.)

TOYS, DOLLS (Grand Stock), GAMES, FANCY GOODS, SKATES, AND FOOTBALLS.

ALBUMS IN GREAT VARIETY.

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF TOBACCONISTS' GOODS. CIGARS, BEST BRANDS.

SANTA CLAUS. SANTA CLAUS.

TO FILL A LARGE STOCKING WITH LITTLE MONEY, VISIT

HARRY CORNFORTH'S,

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, AND 18, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT. 801m

DECLINING BUSINESS.

NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.

TOM GRIEVES,

16, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

CHRISTMAS BARGAINS.

M. ALMOND'S,

GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

(Established 1847).

INVITES the attention of her Customers and Residents of the surrounding District to her NEW and CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF GOODS of every description suitable for the Christmas Season.

TEAS.

For the past Forty-four Years this Establishment has enjoyed the reputation of supplying the Best Value in Teas that can be produced. Our well-known Blends at 1s. 6d., 1s. 8d., 2s. 0d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. 0d. per lb.

Just arrived a Splendid STOCK OF NEW FRUIT, which for quality and price cannot be beaten.

Good Currants, 3½d. per lb., very Finest Currants, 4d. per lb., Muscatels, Sultanas, 4d. per lb.

Lemon Peel, from 5d. per lb.

METZ FRUITS, FIGS, ALMONDS, TINNED FRUITS, APRICOTS, PEARS, PINEAPPLE, &c.

Also, TINNED MEATS of every description—Roast Beef, Lunch Tongues, Ox Tongue, Salmon, Lobster, &c.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF PEAK, FREAN, & CO.'S CAKES—RUIT, PRICE, ALMOND, AND COCOA NUT, &c.

AGENT FOR GILLON & CO.'S WINES—PORT, SHERRY, GINGER, ORANGE.

Sole Agent for the District for the CELEBRATED LIQUOR TEA, the Best Home Tea in the World.

Presents given to all Purchasers.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ANY PART OF THE DISTRICT.

OBSERVE THE ADDRESS—

M. ALMOND. 56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

THOMAS LATHAM,

GREAT

CHRISTMAS SALE

ON FRIDAY FIRST, AND FOLLOWING DAYS,

WHEN WILL BE OFFERED A MOST CHOICE SELECTION OF GOODS SUITABLE FOR XMAS PRESENTS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS,

Consisting of Toys, Games, Albums, Fancy Brackets, Scenes, Pictures, Purses, Bags, Fans, Ornaments, Work Boxes, Christmas and New Year's Cards, &c.

DOLLS! DOLLS! DOLLS! ! ! HUNDREDS OF DOLLS FROM 1d TO 3s 6d EACH.

SEE THE WINDOWS

Also will be OFFERED a large STOCK of the following GOODS, all of the most reliable makes, at astonishing low Prices—

MEN'S, YOUTHS, AND BOYS READY-MADE CLOTHING,

MILLINERY, CORSETS, FANCY APRONS, BINAFORES, TUN CS,

Ladies' Knitted Wool Shawls, Ladies' and Children's Underclothing, Flannelettes, Sheets, Blankets, Bed Rugs, Hearthrugs, Towels, Lace Shades, Fringes, Antimacasars, Carpets, Oilcloths, Cretonnes and Furniture Prints, Shirtings, Calicoes, &c.

SPECIAL SHOW ON FRIDAY FIRST AND FOLLOWING DAYS, AT

THOMAS LATHAM,

FASHIONABLE CASH DRAPER,

(Next Door to the POST OFFICE,)

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

CHRISTMAS, 1893.

JOSEPH MURRAY,

GROCER, FLOUR, PROVISION AND WINE MERCHANT, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND HIGH SPEN.

IN thanking the Public for their Patronage throughout the year, wishes to call their attention to the large and varied Stock of Goods of every description for the Christmas Season, which for Quality and Price, will compare favourably with any Establishment in the District.

HUNTLEY and PALMER'S CAKES.

Snow, Holiday, Lisbon, School-cakes, &c.

Huntley, and Palmer's Fancy Biscuits, in their newest styles of fancy tins.

PEEK, FREAN, AND CO'S CAKES, FRESH EVERY WEEK.

1 lb. Sultana, Madeira, Currant, Cocoa Nut, and Seed Cakes, 5½d each

Quadrant Fruit Cake, 4d per lb.

Chelsea Fruit Cake, 6d per lb.

FELL'S RENOWNED CAKE FLOURS IN SNOW, SULTANA, COCOA NUT, FRUIT, AND RICE.

Fine Whole Leaf Tea, 1s 2d per lb.

Splendid Assam Tea, 1s 6d per lb.

Blend of Indian and China, "Cannot be beat," 1s 10d per lb.

Assam and Ceylon Tea, in lead packets, 2s per lb.

The Noted "Tiger" Brand of Pure Ceylon Tea, 2s 6d per lb.

Finest Tea in the Market, 3s per lb.

Pure Coffee, Finest quality, 1s 4d per lb.

ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST, BLACK TWIST, NAILROD, AND ROUGH CUT SHAG.

Good White Sugar, 1½d per lb.

Crystal Sugar, 2d per lb.

Best Loaf Sugar, 2½d per lb.

Castor and Icing, 3d per lb.

Crystal Demerara, 2½ per lb.

Splendid Rice, 2d per lb.

HEALTH SALTS, containing Medical Properties, in 2½d. and 5½d. Tins.

Notwithstanding the large Crop of Currants this Season, good CURRANTS command reasonable Prices. Inferior and last season's crop can be bought at any price; but they cannot give satisfaction.

I GUARANTEE ALL MY STOCK TO BE NEW SEASON'S FRUIT.

Good Clean Currants, 2d and 3d per lb.

Very Finest Currants, 4d per lb.

Finest Valencia Raisins, 4d per lb.

Finest Sultana Raisins, 4d per lb.

WINE ESSENCES.—Ginger, Port, Sherry, Raspberry, Black Currant, Cherry, Pine Apple, and Orange.

FRUIT WINES IN BOTTLES AND DECANTERS.—Ginger, Raspberry, Port, Sherry, &c.

FINEST SMOKED WILTSHIRE BACON! IRISH ROLLS! CUMBERLAND BACON!!!

QUALITY OF ALL PROVISIONS GUARANTEED.

Owing to the Provision market being so unsettled at present, Prices can hardly be quoted with any certainty, but customers may rely on getting the best possible value.

A splendid line in mild-cured Hams, about 12 lb weight, 7d per lb.

The very Finest Long Cut Hams, 7½d per lb.

Very mild Shoulders and Rolls.

FINEST DANISH BUTTER RICH AND BEST DANISH MIXTURE, 1s. per lb.

Lemon, Citron, and Orange Peels.

Small Trays of very fine Muscatel Raisins.

Large and small boxes of Figs, Prunes, Dates, Nuts, Walnuts, Almonds, Apples, Oranges, &c.

Prime Cuts of Shoulder Bacon.

Prime Cuts of Side Bacon.

A good assortment of Cothertsone, Cheshire, Derby, Gorgonzola, Gouda, Edam, and American, Cheeses.

AMERICAN CHEESE, from 4d to 8d per lb.

GOUDA " 6d per lb.

EDAM " Whole " 6d per lb.

AND CREAMY, 1s. 2d. Per Lb.

SPLENDID MARGARINE, Fresh and Sweet, 6d. and 8d. per lb.

BLADDER AND PAIL LARD, Guaranteed absolutely Pure.

GOOD FLOUR, 1s. 2d. per Stone.

Very good FLOUR, 1s. 3d. per Stone, or 12s per 10 Stone Bag.

ROLLER FLOUR, 1s. 4d. per Stone, or 13s. per 10 Stone Bag.

EXTRA SUPERS, 1s. 6d. per Stone, or 15s. 6d per 10 Stone Bag.

EXTRA WHITES, 1s. 6d. per Stone, or 14s. per 10 Stone Bag.

BRAN, BOXINGS, INDIAN MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, MAIZE, WHOLE OATS, HORSE CORN (Very good), ENNISH AND SCOTCH OATMEALS, all very Cheap.

Having added the BRITISH AND FOREIGN WINES to my Stock, I am offering a fine Selection in Foreign Port and Sherry at 1s 6d, 1s 8d, 2s 1d, and 2s per Bottle.

6d. Julien Claret at 1s 6d and 1s 8d per Bottle.

Burgundy Wine—The famous "Oomoo" Brand, in Flagons, 2s 6d.

In British Wines, I offer the famous "Lion" Brand (Whitwell, Mark, and Co., Rendal), which has stood the test as THE BEST for about 130 years, in the following kinds:—

GINGER, ORANGE, RASPBERRY, RICH RAISIN, PORT, SHERRY, TENT, COWSLIP, all at 1s per bottle.

GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT.

ORDERS CAREFULLY ATTENDED TO, AND GOODS DELIVERED OVER THE DISTRICT.

NOTE THE ADDRESS.

JOSEPH MURRAY,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER, PROVISION AND FLOUR MERCHANT,

CONSETT AND HIGH SPEN.

Business Announcements.

J. & J. PARKER,

2, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Have now in Stock for the Present FESTIVE SEASON, a Large Supply of FANCY APRONS, FANCY DRESS CAPS,

And a Large Assortment of

DOLLS, TOYS, AND USEFUL PRESENTS,

At all Prices. 804m

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

MARSHALL AND SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS.

A PRESENT GIVEN OF A HANDSOME GOLD-PLATED ALBERT TO ALL PURCHASERS OF A LADY'S OR GENTLEMAN'S SILVER WATCH.

JEWELLERY—EXCELLENT ASSORTMENT.

BEST WATCHES WARRANTED FIVE YEARS.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, AND BLACKHILL.

XMAS & NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

F. WELCH & CO.,

WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS, AND HARDWAREMEN,

ANNFIELD PLAIN,

Have just received a very

RICH ASSORTMENT OF GOODS SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS TIME.

Clocks, Watches, Bronzes, Electro-Plated Goods, Cutlery, Spoons, Forks, Bags, Purses, and a general lot of Fancy Goods.

SPECIAL SHOW IN TOYS, DOLLS, GAMES, &c. FOOTBALLS AND SKATES.

"The Leading House for JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATE, WATCHES, and CLOCKS is the CONSETT JEWELLERY EMPORIUM."—*Public Opinion.*

JOSEPH MARSHALL & SON, JEWELLERS,

Are Daily receiving from the Manufacturers PARCELS of the Latest Novelties in RINGS, CRUETS, BANGLES, BROOCHES, &c., at

"THE EMPORIUM," PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

We are giving usual Presents. Call and see us. Only one Address. 840m

XMAS SHOW.

ROBERT ENGLISH,

THE CASH DRAPER,

IS NOW SHOWING ALL THE LATEST NOVELTIES

SUITABLE FOR XMAS PRESENTS,

IN

LADIES' GLOVES, SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, FRILLINGS, CORSETS, UMBRELLAS, APRONS, &c., &c.,

AND A SPLENDID VARIETY OF

GENTLEMEN'S SILK TIES, HANDKERCHIEFS, MUFFLERS, BRACES, COLLARS CUFFS, FRONTS. HATS AND CAPS in all the Newest and Most Fashionable Shapes and Designs.

R. ENGLISH,

THE CASH DRAPER,

15, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

JOSEPH POSTLE,

FAMILY GROCER, TEA DEALER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

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

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

Boy, ROWAT'S CHRISTMAS FRUIT WINES, Ginger, Port, Sherry, Black Currant, Rasp, Raisin, Elderberry, in Large Decanters, 10d each.

MASON'S WINE ESSENCE, 6d. bottles for 4½d.

CHEESE—Splendid DERBY, GLO'STER, CHESHIRE, and the Finest AMERICAN obtainable.

EDAMS and GOUDAS.

MILD CURED HAMS AND BACON, Splendid Flavour.

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

CURRANTS, 2½d and 4d per lb., the Finest Grown. 5d. RAISINS—All kinds.

LEMON and CITRON PEEL. FIGS, ALMONDS.

SPECIAL BLENDS OF CEYLON AND INDIAN TEAS, 1s 4d, 1s 8d, 2s, 2s 4d, 2s 10d, and 3s per lb.

FLOUR—FINEST HUNGARIAN, EXTRA WHITES, EXTRA SUPERFINES.

WHEAT MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, BOXINGS, ROUGH BARLEY, INDIAN CORN, BRAN.

JOSEPH POSTLE,

25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. 864m

W. F. TAIT,

WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER, JEWELLER,

FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Has in Stock the latest Novelties in JEWELLERY, SILVER TEA PLATE, &c. Choice Selection of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES, and LADIES' and GENTS' GOLD and SILVER ALBERTS. HALF-DOZEN best NICKLE SILVER TEASPOONS presented to each Purchaser of a Wedding Ring. Spectacles to suit all sights. 515b

MERRY FOLKS!

JOSEPH WALTON, VENTRILOQUIST and MIMIC. Life-sized Mechanical Figures. Concerts, Bazaars, Parties, and Schools. Terms on application—292, Leadgate. 328m

JEFFREY'S Celebrated EYE CURE, Patented as a Fact. Per Bottle, Cures Weak or Inflamed Eyes, and for Impaired Vision it is unequalled, and perfectly harmless.—Address: JEFFREY, Castleside, Post Office.

MOST IMPORTANT NOTICE.

"CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE-A-YEAR,

AND WHEN IT COMES IT BRINGS GOOD CHEER."

So say the Hundreds of People who crowd our Establishment,

65, FRONT STREET, CONSETT (NEXT DOOR TO NORTH-EASTERN BANK),

Every Christmas and New Year.

The enormous and ever-increasing demand for our Christmas Bottles, is "proof positive," that the Wines and Spirits we offer are undoubtedly the best money's worth in the County or elsewhere.

We purchase all our Wines and Spirits in the countries of their production, and Bottle them in our Customers superior Goods at lowest possible prices.

SCOTCH WHISKY.

	Per Bot.
Finest Scotch Whisky	1s 9d and 2s
Glenlivet Whisky	3s
Our own Famous Blends, Glenfyne, FOH, and S YOH	3s and 3s 6d
Splendid Whisky	3s per qt.

GIN.

	Per Bot.
Splendid Gin	1s 9d and 2s
Finest London	2s 6d and 2s 8d
Old Tom	2s 6d and 3s
Holland (best Brand)	2s 6d and 3s
Marvellous quality	3s per qt.

CHAMPAGNE & CLARETS.

All the Best Brands at lowest Market Prices.

IRISH WHISKY.

	Per Bot.
Old Irish Whisky	1s, 9s, 2s, 2s 6d
Mitchell's Very Old Irish	2s 8d, 3s, 3s 6d
Splendid Quality	3s per qt.

PORT WINES.

	Per Bot.
Fine Port	1s, 1s 3d, 1s 6d, 2s
Superior Port	2s 6d, 3s
Very Old Port	3s 6d to 4s 6d
Our Invalid Port specially recommended by the medical faculty	3s

BRITISH WINES.

Rasp, Raisin, Orange, &c., 1s and 1s 3d per bottle.

JAMAICA RUM.

	Per Bot.
Vatted Jamaica Rum	2s and 2s 6d
Special Line do., 6 years old	2s
Do. 10 years old	2s 6d
Wonderful quality	3s per qt.

SHERRIES.

	Per Bot.
Beautiful Sherry	1s 3d, 1s 6d, 2s
Old Sherry	2s 6d and 3s
Fine Old Depasto do.	3s and 3s 6d

FINEST SHERUCK on BLACK BEER, 1s 4s per Bottle.

ALL GOODS DELIVERED FREE BY OUR OWN CARTS.

P.S.—On account of the great crush at our establishment on Christmas and New Year's Eves, we respectfully ask our patrons to kindly favour us with their Orders as early as possible, so that they may be attended to with care and promptitude.

Everything we sell is guaranteed to be as labelled.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESS—

T. D DRYDEN & CO.

GROCERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

65, FRONT STREET, CONSETT (NEXT DOOR TO NORTH-EASTERN BANK). 896m

Business Announcements.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS
AS SUPPLIED TO
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY,
HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.
HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF WURTEMBERG.
HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ROUMANIA.
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

FRANZ LISZT says:—
"The SCHIEDMAYER Pianofortes have been for a long time favourably known. I have recommended them very often on account of their solid construction and their excellent qualities."

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

The SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS were amongst the first foreign instruments imported into Great Britain 25 years ago, and HAVE MAINTAINED THEIR SUPERIORITY OVER OTHER MAKERS.
Send for Catalogue.

SCHIEDMAYETPIANOS.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

ADOLPH HENSELT, Cannstadt, says:—
"I have been greatly pleased with your beautiful Pianos. The tone, both of the Grand and Upright, is especially even throughout, and the touch most excellent and exact."
Send for Catalogue.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

CAMILLE SAINT SAENS says:—
"The SCHIEDMAYER Pianofortes are beautiful in tone, brilliant, and yet sustaining. The touch is easy and sympathetic."
Send for Catalogue.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

Professor S. GAMBATI writes:—
"The two instruments you supplied to the Royal College of Music, Rome, have been most satisfactory; they preserve in a remarkable manner their fine quality of tone, and their smartness, smoothness, and delicacy of touch defy the severe use they have had to undertake for many years."
Send for Catalogue.

SEE DOHERTY ORGANS
AT
£21 Cash; or 13s 4d per Month.
£25 Cash; or 15s per Month.
£28 Cash; or 18s 4d per Month.

THESE ORGANS ARE SPLENDID VALUE FOR MONEY.
A Large Stock of Organs, by other Makers, from 8s 10d per Month

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SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

TESTIMONIAL FROM MR EDWARD LLOYD.
LONDON, August 17th, 1892.
"Dear Mr RAMSDEN,—
"The two Schiedmayer Pianofortes which I bought from you—a Grand and an Upright—Manufactured by the Schiedmayer Pianoforte Fabrik, Stuttgart, are simply charming, and both give me the greatest satisfaction.
"Beautifully sympathetic in tone, a touch that is most agreeable, and for evenness and repetition all that can be desired.
"I may add that my musical Friends who are Pianists, and who have played upon these Pianos, have expressed the same opinion.
Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LLOYD.
"To Archibald Ramsden (Limited), 103, New Bond Street, London, W."
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN INVITES INSPECTION OF THESE INSTRUMENTS, A LARGE AND CHOICE SELECTION ALWAYS IN STOCK.
Advantageous terms for Cash or Thre Year' System.
Instruments taken in Exchange.
Carriage pa'd.

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NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT.
NEWGATE STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND,
47, NORTHGATE, DARLINGTON,
12, PARK ROW, LEEDS,
AND
103, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S CHEER.

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

MUSICAL TUITION.

GEORGE DRYDEN, A.L.C.M., SILVER MEDALLIST (Organist of Medomsley Church), gives LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and THEORY OF MUSIC.
G.D. devotes particular attention to the Preparation of Candidates for Examinations, his Pupils having gained over 50 Certificates, including THE SILVER MEDALLIST for 1890; also FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD-CLASS HONOURS IN EVERY GRADE.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.
ADDRESS:—No. 28, PARK ROAD, CONSETT

J. L. BRODIE,
2 ST. AIDAN'S STREET,
BLACKHILL,
FOR
FASHIONABLE 52s. 6d. SUITS.

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GIVES LESSONS ON PIANOFORTE AND IN MUSICAL THEORY—HARMONY, COUNTER-POINT, &c.
VIOLIN.
MISS A. C. HARKER.
GIVES LESSONS ON VIOLIN AND IN THEORY OF MUSIC.
Pupils carefully Trained for Examinations.
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AMERICAN LINE. — SOUTHAMPTON — NEW YORK SERVICE.
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Highest Class of accommodation for Saloon, Second Cabin, and Steerage Passengers.
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LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.
Passengers and Goods are landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has the Shortest and most Direct Route to all places in the Western States.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., Southampton or Liverpool; or J. CRAWFORD, Victoria Street, Consett; T. D. DRYDEN and Co., Front Street, Consett; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; WILLIAM GRAY 5, North Road, Durham; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; ARTHUR F. FENTON, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; WILLIAM ANDERSON, Bridge Street, Tow Law; E. SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; JOHN GALE, Royal George Hotel, Tow Law. 896m

Business Announcements

MUSIC LESSONS.

LESSONS in PIANO, ORGAN, and SINGING, given by J. SURTEES, Organist of Consett Church, at his own or Pupils' Homes. Graduated scale of Fees.
ADDRESS:—
2, CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL. 123h

MUSICAL TUITION.

MR J. W. PEELE, Solo Violinist, &c., visits Consett and District Weekly, to give LESSONS on the VIOLIN. Pupils thoroughly trained in Solo and Orchestral Playing. Catchgate, &c., on Tuesdays. For terms, &c., apply to J. L. LEADBITTER, Esq., Catchgate, or to Mr J. W. PEELE, James Street, Blaydon-on-Tyne. 497m

"SAUCINE," Registered.
THIS IS THE SAUCE.
Stomach Persuading.
Liver Invigorating.
Kidney Stimulating.
Nerve Exhilarating. THIS IS THE SAUCE.
Ask your grocer for "SAUCINE."
Sole maker—J. J. SNAITH, Sauce and Pickle Manufacturer, Tyne Dock, South Shields. 369m

MRS CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL, BISHOP AUCKLAND. — English by Certificated Mistresses; Drawing and Painting by the Head Master, Science and Art, Darlington; French by a resident Parisian; Mathematics by a Master and Mistress; Violin and Piano by a Master and Mistresses. Forty-seven University, Local, and other Public Examination Certificates gained during the last three years. The House large and airy; Tennis Lawn and Play-ground.

A COUGH, SIR? A COLD, SIR? YES! "SPICED HONEY." (Honey with Medicinal Properties). From all Chemists, Wine Merchants, and Stores. LOCAL AGENTS.—Consett—Milner, chemist; Annfield Plain—Watson, Druggist; Hall & Co., merchants' Stanley—Robinson, chemist. Chester-le-Street—Robinson & Co., chemists. Leadgate—Parker. Victoria Garesfield—Bagnall. Dipton—Murray. 3d and 6d bottles Get one to day. 784m

MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

ELECTRIC BELLHANGER,
RALPH RITSON,
PLUMBER & GAS-FITTER,
CHANDELIERS, GAS BRACKETS, &c.,
always in Stock.

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VENICE DUNN,
PHOTOGRAPHER,
HAS REMOVED TO HIS NEW PREMISES
7, AND 8, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.
He will supply enlarged PHOTOS, finished in Oils, Water Colours, or Crayons, Framed complete, prices varying from 15s to 45s. Persons wishing to join our Club can do so by apply for card and particulars. PHOTOS artistically finished in the latest and most improved styles. Cabinets, 10s to 12s Per Dozen; Carte-de-Visites, 5s to 6s Per Dozen. Bands, Choirs, and Wedding Groups, also Architectural and Landscape Work done on reasonable Terms. Photos and Pictures Framed. 869i

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
("THE OLDEST AND LARGEST.")
HAS SINCE 1849 PAID FOR
ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS
£3,200,000.
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W. D. MASSY, } Secretaries.
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Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

WEST STANLEY
COCOA ROOMS,
VICTORIA THEATRE,
NOTED FOR DINNERS, TEAS, &c., POT PIES, MELTON PIES, PUDDINGS, CAKES, PASTRY, &c.
SPORTS, BALLS, PARTIES CATERED FOR.
Proprietor, L. W. ROWE,
8721 Late of Consett Cocoa Rooms.

Public Notices.

FOR CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR, AND BIRTHDAY CARDS, TOYS, GAMES, AND CHRISTMAS PRESENTS OF GREAT VARIETY, CALL AT
J. LUMLEY'S,
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY.
Newsagent, Stationer, Tobacconist, Dealer in Glass, Pictures, Mouldings, Mounts, &c.
Agent for Bradburn, Dyers. 729m

A GRAND DISPLAY
OF
CHRISTMAS GOODS
AT
FORSTER, RUSSELL, & COS,
GROCERS, AND DRAPERS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.
A LARGE VARIETY OF GOODS, SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.
SEE THE WINDOWS. 810m

E. S. BELL AND CO.,
PRACTICAL TAILORS and MEN'S MERCERS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
In returning thanks for past favours, wish to announce that they have just received a Splendid Assortment of Cloths and Tweeds, Hats, Caps, Ties, &c., suitable for the Season.
A Splendid Assortment of Caped Waterproofed Overcoats.
P.S.—All Goods made to order. Executed on the Premises by First-class Workmen. Good fit guaranteed. 793m

DALGLEISH,
(Late Rowe and Co.'s)
COCOA ROOMS, CONSETT,
Mr GEO. DALGLEISH begs to thank the public of Consett and neighbourhood for the support hitherto accorded to him, and hopes to merit a continuance of the same.
For Xmas and New Year a large stock of Xmas Cakes and Fruit Loaves—
Fruit Loaves, from 4½d. to 1s. each.
Melton Mowbray Pies, 2d., 4d., and 6d. each.
Balls, Tea Parties, etc., contracted for.
Balls, Tea Parties, etc., catered for on reasonable terms.
J. H. COURTNEY, Manager.

XMAS PRESENTS.
THE 2 W'S
CONSETT,
Are now displaying their Large and Choice Selection of
SILK TIES, SILK HANDERCHIEFS AND MUFFLERS,
SUITABLE FOR PRESENT SEASON.
Also, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN'S WINTER GLOVES AND UMBRELLAS.
LADIES GLOVES A SPECIALITY.
GENTLEMEN'S HATS AND CAPS
In all the Latest Styles.
BALLS! BALLS!!
WHITE DRESS SHIRTS, AND GLOVES IN SILK AND KID,
And CHOICE SELECTIONS OF DRESS BOWS
AT
THE 2 W's,
HATTERS AND MERCERS,
24, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, AND NEWCASTLE. 799m

Public Notices.

BLACK STAR MINSTREL TROUPE.

THIS Troupe will give PERFORMANCES the following places—
SHOTLEY BRIDGE, DECEMBER 28th, 1893.
LEADGATE, 30th,
CASTLESIDE, JANUARY 6TH, 1894. 900m
CONSETT, JANUARY 18TH, 1894.

HENRY HANSOM, having purchased the business from Mr. Robert Hart, Shakespeare Street, Consett, begs to inform the public generally that he provides Dinners, Teas, &c. as before. First-class Dinners always ready. Our Home-made Meat Pies, 2d each; Mince and Pork Pies specially for Christmas. 840m

DON'T FORGET
COCKBURN'S
FOR
XMAS CARDS,
Largest and best Selection.
PRESENTS! PRESENTS!!
SEE WINDOWS.
FANCY REPOSITORY
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

MRS. A. SHIPLEY,
47, FRONT STREET, CONSETT
(Next door to Mr Nichol, Sadler,)
Begs to thank her friends for their patronage, and begs to state that she has bought from the makers, a large assortment of LADIES' MOB AND DRESS CAPS, SERVANTS' CAPS, APRONS, PINAFORES, BERLIN AND OTHER WOOL IN GREAT VARIETY.
Fancy Goods suitable for Presents. 812m

HERE WE ARE AGAIN!

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL, AND MAY YOU HAVE A JOLLY GOOD OLD TIME.
NATHAN FAWELL, JUN.,
42, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
STATIONER, FANCY GOODS DEALER, &c
CHRISTMAS AND
NEW YEAR'S CARDS.
A GOOD SELECTION OF
DOLLS AND TOYS.
TOBACCO, CIGARS, AND PIPES.
798m MEN'S AND BOY'S SKATES AT ALL PRICES

GREAT TEMPERANCE FESTIVAL.

THE Medomsley "Sons of Temperance" will hold their Seventeeth ANNUAL FESTIVAL on New Year's Day, 1894, in their Temperance Hall. A sumptuous KNIFE and FORK TEA will be provided at 3·30 p.m.
In the Evening a Grand CONCERT will be given. MISS E. L. CONNELL, member of the Gateshead School Board will give an address on Temperance
Come early for Tea Tickets.
For particulars see bills. 888m

XMAS AND NEW YEAR.

FOR TEAS, COFFEES, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, etc.,
For the Festive Season, try
M. FAWELL,
40 FRONT STREET, (Corner of Delves Lane), CONSETT.
Goods Delivered to any Part.
Agent for TOWER TEA, the Best in the Market
A Stock of FEEDING STUFFS always on hand.

OUR XMAS PRESENT.
W. GILHESPY & SON
Will give a Handsome
TEAPOT
To every purchaser of 5s worth of goods during Christmas and New Year's week.
W. GILHESPY AND SON,
BOOT MANUFACTURERS,
18 and 19, Middle Street,
CONSETT. 816m

GO TO
CAREY'S
FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GOODS: THE SHOP FOR VALUE.
G.C., in calling the attention of the Public to his specially selected STOCK OF CHRISTMAS GOODS, has every confidence in soliciting a trial, as to satisfaction, being ensured.
The shop for TEAS and COFFEES.
FRUITS in good show: Currants, 2d per lb. Sultanas and Valencias. Cakes for the Season.
Choice arrival of CHEESE: Derby, Wensleydale, American, and Goudas.
PROVISIONS: Sides, Hams, Shoulders, Very fine.
FLOUR and MEAL DEPARTMENT: Special attention given. Flower to suit all round.
NOTE WELL THE SHOP.
DON'T MISTAKE THE ADDRESS:
G. CAREY,
3, FRONT STREET, CONSETT

DEPRESSION IN TRADE.
RICHARDSON,
BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL,
Offers his Entire STOCK OF DRAPERIES AT ENORMOUS REDUCTIONS
For 28 DAYS.
NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED
To Ensure a Clearance.
All Accounts owing must be PAID before the 1st Feb., or arranged for.
REMEMBER THE SALE FOR 28 DAYS.
CASH. FRIDAY, DEC. 22ND.
BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.

FOR THE BEST FLOUR,
FOR FINEST PROVISIONS,
AT LOWEST PRICES,
CALL AT
W. WHITFIELD'S
PROVISION STORES,
LEADGATE. 854m

JAMES DALY & CO.
BEG to return thanks to their numerous Friends for the very generous support received during the past twelve months.
We again call attention to the quality of our
2/6 TEA.
AND OUR YORKSHIRE FLOUR.
There is nothing yet in the Market to equal them.
We have been appointed Agents for the following FURNITURE & BED MANUFACTURERS—
S. Thompson and Co., Keighley.
W. H. Davis and Co., Birmingham
N. Rosenstruch, London.
Customers should examine our Samples and Catalogues before buying elsewhere, as all Goods will be Sold at Manufacturers' Prices. 863m

Public Notices.

WILLIAM FOSTER,
THE PEOPLE'S TAILOR,
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT. 852m

MESSRS. KING AND O'CONNOR, Front Street, Consett, beg to inform the Public that they have a fine selection of Suitings and Overcoatings on hand. A trial solicited. Agents for the celebrated Light Flexible Felt Hats. 837m

MISS WILSON, Shakespeare Street (opposite the Old Post Office), Consett, begs to inform the public that she has a splendid stock of first-class Confectionery and Toys, Tobacco, Cigars, &c., suitable for the festive season. 839m

MRS. HETHERINGTON, CONFECTIONER, Newmarket Street, Consett, has at present on hand a good ASSORTMENT of CONFECTIONERY of the best Quality. FRUIT and RICE LOAVES of all sizes. HOME-MADE BREAD and TEA-CAKES. A great Variety of Toys and Fancy Goods.

DERWENT VALLEY PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION.

THE FIRST ANNUAL PLOUGHING COMPETITION will be held on January 17th, 1894, or first favourable Wednesday. Prize List, Rules, and Form of Entry, may be had on application to Secretaries.
Entries close January 3rd, 1894. 894m

J. R. BRODIE,
OUTFITTER AND HATTER,
CHURCH STREET, CONSETT
Has the latest styles in Silk Handerchiefs, Scarfs, &c., for Christmas and New Year's Gifts. Best shop for Men's Mercery of all descriptions. J.R.B. thanks the public for past favours, and trusts by supplying a good article at a moderate price, to still merit an increasing share of patronage and support. 838m

E. TAYLOR, Shoemaker, Shakespeare Street, Consett, begs most respectfully to thank his friends and the general public for past patronage accorded to him during the 26 years he has been in business, and trusts to merit a continuance of the same. A large and well-selected stock of Boots and Shoes for winter wear. All repairs done on the shortest notice. Best workmanship and material guaranteed. 844m

W. B. FOGGON, Durham Road, Blackhill, begs most respectfully to thank his customers and the public generally for their liberal support, and respectfully informs them that he has secured for the festive season some Prime Heifer Beef, Black-faced Wedder Mutton, and Dairy-fed Pork of the finest quality. 879m

CONSETT PRIVATE ASSEMBLY.

THE ANNUAL BALL will be held in New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday, January 3rd, 1894. Music by Mr R. Smith's Orchestral Band. Decorations by Carnegie and Co., Newcastle. Invitations may be had by applying to G. JACKSON, 24, Newmarket Street. 902m

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.

IN consequence of the holidays, the next Subscription Meeting will take place on TUESDAY, the 2nd January, in the small hall of the New Town Hall, between 7 and 8 o'clock. 843m

MISSES BELL AND BINNING, Dressmakers and Milliners, New Town Hall, Consett, return their sincere thanks to their many friends and the public for the patronage already bestowed, and hope to secure continued favours in the future. Hats trimmed and Dresses made to order on the premises. A large variety of suitable presents for Xmas and New Year, including Fans, Gloves, Lace, Handkerchiefs, etc., for evening wear. 847m

NOTICE.

THE FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370th STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

NO Subscriptions will be taken on the 26th of December, and 2nd January. If paid on the 9th of January, no fines will be charged for those two weeks. An Appropriation Meeting will be held on the 15th of January in Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, at 7-30 p.m. All clear will participate according to Rule.—By order,
D. ORMEROD, Chairman.
848m J. GIBBINSON, Secretary.

GEORGE WADE,
The Oldest Established Butcher in Consett, begs to thank his customers and the public generally for past patronage, and hopes to receive a continuance of the same. For the Festive Season, he has secured some PRIME ENGLISH HEIFERS from Mrs Anderson's Black Hedley. He has also received a large Supply of Beef, Mutton, Pork, Veal, and Geese. 877m

PHILIPSON BROS.,
GROCERS, FLOUR, AND PROVISION MERCHANTS.
Hams, Finest, 7½d per Lb.; Bacon, 6d and 7d. best Bladder Lard, 7d; Selected Cheeses.
Try a Bag of our Flour at 12s 6d.
Tea at 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 10d, and 2s 4d.
Currants, 2½d and 4d. White Sugar, 2d per lb.
55, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

BLACKHILL, CONSETT, AND DISTRICT "MODEL" BUILDING SOCIETY.
NOTICE TO MEMBERS.
Xmas and New Year's Holidays (Dec. 25th, and Jan. 2nd next.
OWING to the above holidays the ordinary subscription meetings of this Society will be held on Thursdays, Dec. 28th, and Jan. 4th, at the usual hours W. RAMSEY, Secretary.
Office:—65, Derwent Street, Blackhill. 882m

GOOD OLD ENGLISH BEEF AND MUTTON

JOHN LOVAT, Derwent Street, Blackhill, in again returning thanks to his customers and the general public for their most liberal patronage in the past, begs to inform them that he has secured for the festive Season, some Prime BEEF and MUTTON, purchased from the best well-known breeders of the district. Sausage, Potted Meat, etc, at prices to meet the times. A good supply of Dairy-fed Pork and Veal, at the lowest remunerative prices. 883m

MR R. HAND,
BUTCHER,
13, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,
Again returns thanks to his numerous customers for their past patronage, and begs to state that for the Festive Season he has procured some PRIME BEEF, MUTTON, and PORK, bred and fed by Mr Majoribanks, Liberal member for Berwickshire.
See the window for cuts and quality, which are to be disposed of at reasonable prices. All orders will have prompt attention. 861m

FISH! FISH!! FISH!!!

THOSE who wish to spend a Merry Christmas are invited to pay a visit to the noted CONSETT FISH SHOP (the largest in North-West Durham), where a choice Selection of FISH can be obtained at Moderate Prices.
PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
THOMAS CRICK,
HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT.

SHAKESPEARE BOOT SHOP.

A WELL ASSORTED STOCK OF BOOTS to select from suitable for Winter wear.
Gent's Waterproof Boots, from 14s 6d per Pair.
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO REPAIRING.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:
NINIAN BELL,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

F. A. COLTMAN,
PROPRIETOR OF THE WHEAT SHEAF INN, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
BEGS to thank all his Friends and Customers for the kind patronage and support accorded to him hitherto, and trusts by supplying everything of the best quality, to still further merit a continuance of their favours.
F. A. C. has some fine Blends of Old Scotch and Irish Whiskies, of the highest quality; also, Wines and Champagnes, Cigars, &c., which he can thoroughly recommend. Private Families supplied. Prices and Samples given on application. 880m

Public Notices.

171 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Quilt raffled at 23, Benfieldside Road.

166 IS the WINNING NUMBER of Watch drawn for at 490, Tin Street, Leadgate.

64 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Pig Raffled at No. 1, Furnace Row, Consett.

214 IS the WINNING NUMBER of Goose raffled in aid of Francis Rutherford's Widow and Children, of Shield Row. 932m

353. 103, 311, 178, 276, are the Winning Numbers of the Geese and Ducks Raffled for at Hill Top.

THE following are the WINNING NUMBERS of the Benefit Drawing on behalf of WM. WAILES and THOS. HODGE:—First, 1082; 2nd, 406; 3rd, 863; 4th, 305; 5th, 929; 6th, 773; 7th, 748; 8th, 535; 9th, 71; 10th 546. 934m

CONSETT NEW WESLEYAN CHURCH.
ALL SEATS FREE.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST.
Morning, 10·30. } Mr T. CAREY.
Evening 6, } Mr J. W. SWAINSTON.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNCILLOR WINTER will ADDRESS a MEETING of his Constituents in the Miners' Hall, Leadgate, on Thursday, January 4th, 1894. Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock p.m. 941m

IVESTON ASSEMBLY.

A PUBLIC BALL will be held on Jan. 1st, 1894. Admission, including Supper, 2s 6d per couple. 956m

ST. IVES' CHURCH, LEADGATE.

THERE will be (D.V.) a MIDNIGHTSERVICE at St. Ives' Church, on Dec. 31st, to begin at 11·30.
958m THOMAS VARLEY, Vicar.

REDUCTION IN PRICE OF COKE.

THE PRICE OF COKE has been REDUCED to 5s Per Ton; 3d Per Cwt. at the Gas Works, Shotley Bridge.
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
December 27th, 1893. 948m

LEADGATE NEW SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

A SALE OF WORK will be OPENED in the above Schools, by GEO. NICHOLSON, Esq., of Leadgate, at Three o'clock, on New Year's Day. TEA Provided at Four o'clock. 960m

BLACKHILL ROVERS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

GRAND EVENING CONCERT in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, Saturday, January 13th, 1894. The Renowned Humourist, Mr T. HOFFMAN, Newcastle, will appear. Front Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d. 931m

LEADGATE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL, & POULTRY SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of Members of the above Society will be held in the Ante-room of the Miners' Hall, on Wednesday, January 3rd, 1894, at Seven o'clock p.m.
940m J. W. WINTER, Secretary.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741ST STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

THE SUBSCRIPTION MEETING will not be held on Monday First. If three week's Subscriptions are paid on January 8th, no Fines will be charged.
C. W. ALMOND, Chairman.
947m ALEX. ROBSON, Secretary.

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

IN connection with the usual GOSPEL SERVICE on Sunday Night, in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, a Temperance Service of Song, "GRIZZIE AND JIM," will be given by the Blackhill P.M. Choir. The connective Readings to be given by Miss Mary Williams; Conductor, Mr Jas. Greenwood; Accompanist, Miss Brodie, Blackhill. See Bills.

PIGEON SHOOTING.—Mr Thos. Mason will add £2 10s to an Entrance Money of 3s per lot, to be Shot for, commencing on Saturday first, Dec. 30th, and finish on Saturday, January 6th. To meet at Mr W. TEMPERLEY'S, Raven Inn, Broomhill, near Ebchester, at 12 30 prompt. The conditions are from 18 to 24 yards rise, 60 yards fall. Single gun 1¼ oz. shot; double gun 1¼ oz. shot, use of both barrels. Bell's Life Rules strictly in force, bar No. 1, No more than four competitors to divide.

MRS SARAH DICKINSON, DECEASED.—All Persons having Claims against the Estate of SARAH DICKINSON, late of Belle Vue House, Shotley Bridge, in the County of Durham, Widow, who died on the 18th day of December, 1893, are requested to send full particulars of such Claims to us, the undersigned, the Solicitors for the Executors, on or before the 8th day of January, 1894.
Dated this 22nd day of December, 1893.
CLAYTON & GIBSON,
926m Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
EXCURSION TO LONDON.

ON MONDAY, the 1st of January, 1894, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave NEWCASTLE at 12·5 a.m. (with Bookings from Consett, Hexham, Blaydon, &c.), for LONDON, for Two or Four Days.
For further particulars see Bills, copies of which may be obtained at the District Passenger Superintendent's Office, Central Station, Newcastle.
GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.
York, Dec., 1893. 945m

NEW VICTORIA THEATRE,
WEST STANLEY.
Proprietor - - - - T. C. RAWES.
Manager - - - - MARK H. LINDON.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF DICK WHITTINGTON. Hundreds unable to gain Admission last Saturday. Will give a Special Afternoon PERFORMANCE on Saturday, Dec. 30th, at Two o'clock. Also, on New Year's Day at the same time. Children, Half-price; Adults, Full Price. 959m

CONSETT SCIENCE AND ART CLASSES.
A SERIES OF
LECTURES
WILL BE GIVEN IN THE
NATIONAL SCHOOLS, & CO-OPERATIVE HALL, CONSETT,
ON
"ELECTRICTY,"
BY
V. A. MUNDELLA, Esq.,
Of the Durham College of Science, Newcastle.
The First Lecture will be delivered in the National Schools, on Saturday, January 6th, 1894 at 6 30 p.m. Also at the same place on January 13th, and Feb. 17th; the remaining Nine Lectures to be given in the Co operative Hall.
Tickets (for the Course), 1s each, or 2d each Lecture, may be had of any of the Committee.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY (LIMITED).

THE QUARTERLY MEETING will be held on Saturday Evening, January 6th, 1894, in the Co-operative Hall. Chair to be taken at 6·30 p.m., when the following Business will be brought forward for consideration. Newspapers will be Sold by Auction at Six p.m. prompt.
1.—Minutes of last Quarterly Meeting.
2—Minutes of Committee for past Quarter.
3—Report and Balance Sheet.
4—Notice of Motion—*Re* Better accommodation for Reading Room and Library.
5—Election of President.
6—Election of Three Committee men.
7—Election of One Auditor.
8—Consideration of Appeal from Newbottle.
9—Recommendation from the Committee—To give £5 towards the Sunderland Congress.
10—Recommendation from the Committee—To give £2 2s. towards the Beamish, Pontop and Consett Agricultural Society.
11—Miscellaneous Business.
The Members' Share Books will be balanced and given out on and after the 8th January, 1894.
No Withdrawals will be paid ten days previous to the end of each Quarter.
All Savings Bank Books to be sent in during February for Audit. 935m

Public Notices.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

SOCIAL EVENING, CONCERT, and SUPPER in the Wesleyan Gibson Street Schools, Consett, at 6·30 p.m., on New Year's Day. Tickets 6d each.

MUSICAL HONOURS.

WE have pleasure in announcing that Master John Urwin, aged 12, and Miss Charlottie Blatchford, aged 8, of Dipton, pupils of Mr Fred Stokoe, Blackhill, have successfully PASSED the Primary Division Examination of the Musical International College held in Newcastle on Dec. 20th, 1893,—Professor E. M. Lott, Mus. Doc., examiner.

WILLIAM ROWE, Baker and Confectioner, Front Street, Leadgate, in thanking his Customers and the Public, begs to state that he has a large Variety of FRUIT LOAVES, SEED CAKE RICE CAKES, etc., and General CONFECTIONERY. 876m

MRS R. HAND, Milliner and Fancy Goods dealer, Newmarket Street, Consett, thanks her customers and the public generally for the patronage already accorded to her, and begs to inform them that she has a nice selection of goods suitable for presents, including Ladies' Shawls, Pinafores, Aprons, etc. Millinery done on the premises. 862m

SONS OF TEMPERANCE, BLACKHILL.

THE Annual MEETING of the "Star of Hope" Division, will be held in the Hall, on Friday night, December 29th, for the Election of Officers, and other important business.
871m A. RICHARDSON, R.S.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Consett Auction Mart, Gibson Street, Consett.
Wednesday First, January 3rd, 1894.
MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will hold his usual MONTHLY SALE of HORSES, CARTS, HARNESS, &c., at the above Mart. Present Entries:—10 Horses and Ponies, Carts, Harness, Pigs, &c.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Entries respectfully solicited, and taken up to day of sale.

22, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.
MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, that Well-built FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE, No. 22, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, at an early date. Particulars will follow.

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST, 1894,
NEW YEAR'S DAY.
15 Prime Fat Cattle, several of which were intended for the Christmas Sale from the Derwent Flour Mill Farm.
100 Fat Sheep.
Bacon, Pork, and Store Pigs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
12 to 20 very useful Cows and Heifers, a few calved, the others close up.
A grand St. Bernard Dog, 2½ years old.
A very clever Brown Mare Cob, 6 y.o., 14·3 h.h., a first-class Hack and Harness Mare.
Pair Patent Chain Blocks.
2 Pair Pulley Blocks and Ropes.
4 Dozen Steel Gripes and Shovels.
4 Stackyard Ladders.
Poultry, Harness, &c.
Sale at 10·30, on the arrival of the Train from Newcastle.
JNO. S. MURRAY,
The Agricultural Auctioneer.
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

Farm Stock Sale, Castle Dene Farm, near Iveston.
MR J. S. MURRAY, instructed by Mr Thos. Turnbull, who is declining Farming, will SELL BY AUCTION on Wednesday, January 3rd, 1894, the whole of his FARM STOCK, Implements, Dairy Utensils, and part Household Furniture, &c., viz:—
4 Young Geld Cows, all in milk.
1 do. do. due to calve in May.
3 Spring Calvers.
1 Fat Bullock.
2 One-and-a-half year old Stirks.
3 Yearling Stirks.
1 Shearling Leicester Tup, fat.
Coup Cart and Shelvings, Horse Hay Rake, Iron Plough, Pair of Harrows, Sheep Rack, Sheep Troughs, 4 Ladders, Hay Knife, Hay Spade, 2 Grindstones, Cart Saddle and Trapping, Trace Chains, Head Collars, Neck Collars, Backbands, Bellybands, &c., the whole of the Dairy Utensils, Churn, Milk Bowls, Dishes, Cans, &c., Hay Rakes and Forks, Gripes, Shovels, 3 Large Metal Pans, Old Iron, &c., and part of the Household Furniture.
Sale at one o'clock.
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

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

By Messrs Green and Dowson.

Lanchester Auction Mart.
MONDAY, January 1st, at 11 o'clock, with Sundries.—10 to 15 Cows; 15 Fat Cattle; 160 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; Pigs, Poultry, Harness, Side Saddle, 4 Ladders. Entries to time of sale to J. GREEN, Satley. 950m

By Mr. John Pedley.

Murray's Hall, West Stanley.
MR JOHN PEDLEY, the Yorkshire Drapers Auctioneer, will return to the above hall, on Saturday, December 30th, 1893, and commence a 16 Days SALE OF CLOTHING, DRAPERY, BOOTS, CARPETS, WRINGING AND SEWING MACHINES, OILCLOTHS, and FURNITURE, &c., &c.
Auction Sale each night at 6·30.
Not the slightest Reserve. Over £700 worth to clear.

By Mr J Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.
MONDAY, Jan. 1st, 1894.—50 to 70 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 12 Fat Cattle; 120 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 6 Store Cattle; 9 Finger Calves; Good Draught Horse; 4 new Ladders.
Entries to day of Sale. Sale at Half past Ten a.m.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer

J. BAGNALL, AUCTIONEER, VALUER HOUSE and LAND AGENT, will undertake Auction Sales upon most reasonable Terms, and conduct in the best style. Letters by Post will have prompt attention, and all sorts of Goods, Furniture, &c., bought right out for cash. Sale Offices, Holly Lodge, Shotley Bridge, and Hat and Feather Inn Medomsley, R.S.O. 455m

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

T. D. DRYDEN, AUCTIONEER FRONTSTREET, CONSETT.
Sales, Commissions, Valuations, and Auctioneering in all its Branches, at Moderate Charges, and Quick Settlements. T. D. D. has been commissioned by Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress Warrants under the Agricultural Holdings' Act. Authorised Emigration Agent for the Allan, American, Guion, and Other Lines.
OFFICES—67, FRONT STREET, CONSETT
(Next Door to North-Eastern Bank.)

SPECIAL NOTICE.
A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for Cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Office—Front Street, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station

A TOW LAW GOOD TEMPLAR.

SKETCH OF BRO. J. E. DIXON, D.C.T.

The Good Templar's Watchword gives an interesting sketch of Bro. John Elliott Dixon, D.C.T., of Tow Law, accompanied by a striking likeness. Reference is made in commencement to the "model" character of the South Durham District Lodge and the prominent position it occupies in England Good Templary, owing, it is said, to its enterprise in mission work, and the effective stand taken in electoral matters. The article then proceeds:—

"Bro Dixon was born on August 30th, 1859, at Escomb, on the banks of the Wear, a lovely sequestered village near Bishop Auckland, famed for its old Saxon church, 1,400 years old. Bro. Dixon's parents removed to Spennymoor while he was quite young, and his first temperance experiences are connected with the Primitive Methodist Band of Hope. In 1870 the family removed to Tow Law, where they have resided ever since. Bro Dixon is a Methodist of the fourth generation—his great grandfather being a convert of the Rev John Wesley—and in the Primitive Methodist body he found useful employment, beginning in the Sunday schools, where he served with acceptance as teacher, secretary, and superintendent. Later in life he became a local preacher, in which capacity he is very popular, and has done good service.

"He joined the 'Beacon of Hope' Lodge, No. 999, Tow Law, on January 8th, 1878, and has some lively recollections of his initiation, which took place in the crowded kitchen of a private house, in front of a genuine North-country fire. This lodge attracted many good workers, and in conjunction with its neighbour, the 'Pride of the West' Lodge, has exerted a powerful influence on public opinion in Tow Law, making a storng temperance sentiment, which will bring forth good fruit when the Local Veto Bill becomes law. In the varied work of the lodge Bro. Dixon has always taken an active part.

"He joined the District Lodge in August, 1878, and took his G.L. degree at Durham in October, 1879. His reputation for persevering and useful work soon attracted the attention of the D.L. Executive, and he was appointed Visiting Deputy of a wide sub-district, comprising several scattered lodges, the visitation of which entailed many miles of walking in all kinds of weather, and was always faithfully performed. In this important work Bro. Dixon made a name for himself.

"In February, 1882, he was appointed D.G., in 1883 and 1884 elected D.Chap., in 1885 D.Mar., and in August, 1889, D. Coun. In February, 1890, he was unanimously elected District Chief Templar, and at each succeeding annual session his re-election has been most cordial and unanimous. Residing, as Bro. Dixon does, in the heart of the colliery district, his services have been most cheerfully rendered. He entered upon his new duties with great vigour, and was rewarded by a steady increase in membership, which rose from 1,444 at the time of his election to 1,964 a year and a half later. He has represented his D.L. at the G.L. Sessions at Manchester, and (excepting Isle of Wight) at each session since.

"Since September, 1890, Bro. Dixon has been a member of the committee of the North of England Temperance League, which covers in its area the five northern counties, and of which our esteemed P.G.Mar., Bro. Guy Hayler, is the hard-working and successful secretary. In business, our brother has charge of the coke-making department of the Weardale Iron and Coal Company's West Thornley Colliery, having been in that company's employ from his youth up.

"Bro. Dixon was married on September 23rd, 1886, and found in his wife a true woman and a helpmeet in every sense of the word. For six and a half years they lived a very happy life. This year, however, sad domestic trouble has befallen him, his wife dying after only a few days' illness on February 8th, and his youngest son five months later. Great sympathy was manifested with him from all parts of the district in these bereavements.

"Our brother, who has been throughout his career an ardent admirer and follower of such veterans as George Charlton and George Dodds, is one of those to whose devoted labours the Templar movement owes much, and whose earnestness and enthusiasm no difficulties seem able to lessen. Young as he is, he has taken a full share in carrying on the struggle against the liquor traffic, and can look confidently forward to seeing the time when the victory shall be won, and our country be made sober and free, and to a share in the triumphs which await the workers who have borne the burden and heat of the conflict against the greatest curse of our land."

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

CONSETT TOWN v. AXWELL ROVERS (SWALWELL.)

This game will take place at Consett to-morrow, when the home team intend trying to make up some of the ground which they have lost during the last two games. The following team will do duty for Consett:—Goal, J. Winter; backs, Wm. Graham and Geo. Eustace; half-backs, R. Wake, J. Carruthers, and B. Smith; forwards, P. Rafferty and P. McKie, right wing; R. Russell, centre; M. Eustace and R. Harkness (capt.), left wing. Reserves, T. Skelton, J. Allison, and A. Callender. Linesman, J. W. Bryant. Kick-off at 2-30.

BLACKHILL ROVERS v. HAMSTEELS.

This match will be played at Blackfine, when a good game should result. The following will represent the Rovers:—Full back, Thos. Elliott; three-quarter backs, J. Askew, J. Aitken, A. Dickinson, and E. Robson; half-backs, G. Smailes (capt.) and J. Brown; forwards, Geo. Sayers, Wm. Brown, Geo. Aitken, A. Taylor, J. Anderson, G. Hewitson, R. Stobbs, and J. Grant. Kick-off at 2-30 prompt. Referee, Mr J. Askew.

BLACKHILL ROVERS v. LOW FELL.

These teams will meet at Blackfine on New Year's Day. The Rovers will be represented as follows:—Full back, T. Elliott; three-quarter backs, E. Robson, A. Dickinson, Jas. Aitken, and J. Askew; half-backs, J. Anderson and J. Brown; forwards, Geo. Aitken, R. Stobbs, G. Sayers, A. Taylor, J. Grant, G. Hewitson, W. Brown, and A. McGhee. Kick-off at 2-30 prompt. Referee, Mr Jos. Askew.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v HEATON UNITED.—These teams will meet at Leadgate to-morrow, while on Monday the Reserve play Heaton Guild. Good games should be witnessed on both days. The Park teams will be chosen from the following:—C. Burnhope, J. Jones, R. R. Walker, J. Brown, W. Hagan, J. Day (capt.), J. T. Willey, H. Makepeace, R. Foster, J. Barnes, G. Foster, T. Foster, W. A. Perrins, and W. G. Robson.

The following reports of matches reached us too late for insertion in our football columns:—

Catchgate Albions beat Kyo Rascals by six goals to two.

Esh Wandering Stars beat Ushaw Moor by four goals to nil.

Waldridge White Star 2nd defeated South Moor Albions by one goal to nil.

LINTZFORD v GREENSIDE.—Played at Lintzford, and after a good game resulted in a draw of two goals each.

LINTZFORD JUNIORS v WALLSEND HOPE VILLA.—Played on the latter's ground, a good game ending in a draw of two goals each.

LINTZFORD JUNIORS v JESMOND VALE.—Played at Lintzford on Christmas Day. The Vale were much the heavier team, but Lintzford played a clever game and won by three goals to nil.

HOBSON WANDERERS v CAMBOIS.—Played at Cambois before a good attendance, and after a hard and fast game resulted in a draw, each side scoring two goals.

BURNOPFIELD TEMPERANCE v HIGH ROW SPORTSMEN.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in an easy victory for the Temperance by five goals to one.

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

SHROUDED IN MYSTERY;

OR,

WHICH GIRL DID HE MARRY?

A LEGEND OF TWO CONSETT GIRLS

BY SKIPP BORLASE,

Author of "Darker than Death," "Riches to Ruin," "An Ocean Secret," "Recalled to Life," "Who Killed John Cameron?" "The Police Minister," "For True Love's Sake," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XII.

'My Father though you are, I will Defend Her Against You with My Life."

The bride could not help acknowledging to herself, and she did so with a shudder, followed by a little desponding sigh, that Derwent Hall looked a fit habitation for a spectre, or, indeed, for anything else that was ghostly and infernal.

The carriage had been brought to a standstill at the bridge by the time that the massive oak, huge-nail studded, and iron clamped hall door was opened with many a creak and scroop, revealing within a group of elderly domestics, who looked, to Rose, as grey, grim, and stony as the Hall itself.

Peering bashfully, and also in a sacred kind of manner, over the shoulder of one of these, who, on account of her black satin dress and the great bunch of keys that dangled at her girdle, Rose supposed to be the house-keeper, she caught sight of a strikingly beautiful, yet pallid-faced and wild-eyed girl, who she felt rather than merely conjectured was her step-daughter Lucy, whom all the persuasions and entreaties of her father had failed to entice to his wedding.

"The girl looks as though she had been either frightened or ill-treated into a condition of half idiotcy. I must try my hardest to alter all that, for, unless I can make of her a loving and a cheerful companion, my own life in this gloomy place will be melancholy and sorrowful indeed," was the bride's first thought.

Her next was, "My husband seems fearful that some disgraceful mystery environs me. Heaven grant that he may not be shrouded in one of a far deeper and darker nature. This morning I felt inclined to laugh at his blue beard, but now I am more disposed to tremble at it. Oh, can this be Heaven's vengeance on me already?"

Whilst thus almost agonisingly communing with herself, Rose was assisted out of the carriage by her husband, and conducted across the bridge and under the dark, arched, frowning portico into the vast hall.

Here the baronet brought her to a standstill, and said, in morose sounding tones to the servants: "Welcome my lady and your new mistress. Dame Dorothy, the time has arrived for you to give up your keys. Please to do so forthwith."

The commanded welcome was not a hearty one, and sounded to Rose like the gobbling of a lot of frightened turkeys.

The starched and prim old housekeeper made a stiff and stately curtsey, and, detaching the keys from her belt, held them out to Rose with what sounded to her like a sarcastic and malevolent: "I am your ladyship's most humble servant."

"No, no," she therefore said, pushing them gently away, "a faithful service of so many years should not be so suddenly deprived of its well-merited honours. Keep them, good Mistress Dorothy. Do pray keep them."

"This house cannot have two mistresses, and the will of its master must be law," interrupted the baronet, sternly; "Dorothy, surrender your charge. Rose, relieve her of it—and—be thou also worthy."

The old woman now positively thrust the keys into the bride's hands, who no longer dared to decline their acceptance.

Hardly had her white fingers closed around the great bronze ring that sustained them, however, when the baronet gave utterance to a sound which resembled the snort of an enraged horse than a human utterance, and snatching them out of her hand he exclaimed, angrily:

"You old dotard! Did I not order you to remove the key of the north wing and place it in my private cabinet before you delivered the others over, and yet it is still here amongst them! What is the meaning of such culpable negligence? But there, you needn't answer me, for I hate all manner of excuses."

And with eager and trembling fingers he tore the key indicated from off the ring and pocketed it.

Rose observed that the key was of antique shape, and of most intricate construction. Curious scroll work ornamented the handle, and the lock must have been complicated indeed that such a key fitted.

Here and there about it were patches of red rust that might have easily been mistaken for great drops of dried-up blood, and the entire incident seemed to Rose's horrified fancy a fitting supplement to her lord's blue chin, suggesting, as it did to her, the grim story of Blue Beard even more strongly than that had done, and in a yet more terrible manner.

The same idea seemed to occur suddenly to Sir Harry, and it caused his humour to take another turn.

"Come, this is really too absurd," he ejaculated, with a laugh. "I know what you are thinking of, Rose, but you see I'm not going to lay a trap for my wife as my illustrious prototype did for poor Fatima. No, no, the natural curiosity that is inherent in all feminine natures shall have no chance of destroying you. I have taken the most effectual measure to prevent it, by—removing the temptation. But, a truce to joking. Let us instead go and hunt up Lucy, who has evidently taken fright and hidden herself somewhere or other. We must learn to love instead of to doubt and fear each other, or else we shall be anything but a lively or a happy household."

A good deal of this speech was whispered in his wife's ear instead of spoken aloud, and having thus said his say he offered her his arm and led her adown the hall, whilst the housekeeper and the other servants dispersed noiselessly in different directions.

A gloomy enough old hall it was, for the floors and the walls were of black oak, and the great staircase, with its massive balustrades, was the same. Of dark, carved oak, too, was the ceiling, and the fireplace (an open, raised, and whitened hearth, with iron dogs) was large enough to have roasted an ox in.

Dummy figures, clad in suits of antique armour, were ranged on pedestals around the walls, whilst above them hung, in some instances, torn and riven banners, and in others shields, charged with the grotesque monsters that exist only in heraldry.

Here and there, too, were stacks or stars of ancient weapons, which seemed to reflect a pale and phosphorescent sheen, and, in kind of alcove at the far end, under the dark shadow of the carved gallery that encircled three sides of the hall, but revealed by looped-up curtains and a lighted lamp that was hung within them, a life sized figure, clad in chain mail, and grasping a dagger, bent with frowning brow over a bed, whereon lay the waxen effigies of two beautiful children, who seemed to be buried in sleep.

"What does that fearful scene represent?" asked Rose in terrified tones, of her companion.

"That is the presentment of the family spectre," was the reply. "The man is the cruel uncle, and the children were the rightful heirs of Derwent Castle and it's, at that time broad domain. In order to possess himself of their inheritance, he first stabbed them to death, and then threw them over the ramparts into the deep moat which we have just crossed. In time his conscience began to torment him, and he perished, raving mad, by his own hand, and with him the original line of the once great and powerful Barons of Derwent Castle became extinct—that is to say, in the flesh, for, as you are aware, his spirit is said still to haunt the place. Thomas Abington, cofferer to Queen Elizabeth, who, in course of time, became its possessor, pulled it down in order to get rid of its ghostly tenant, and erected a mansion where a castle had erst stood, but the spectre soon made himself as much at home in the new structure as in the old one, and to its malevolence Abington is said to have owed most of his misfortunes, for it revealed to the agents of the Government, who came over to search the place, the secret chamber wherein he had concealed Garnet and Oldcorn, two of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators, for which he was condemned to death; but his sentence was afterwards commuted to six years' imprisonment in the Tower of London, and after that to perpetual residence within the borders of Durham County. Apropos of the ghost, who is said to have done all this mischief, I think I've already told you that no one has seen it for many years, and that I myself am extremely incredulous about the entire affair."

"Oh, would that I had never seen that awful group. Why did you not have it covered over ere I came?" asked Rose.

"I ordered it to be, but it must have been forgotten. What's every one's business is no one's business, you know."

"If Dame Dorothy had been a kind, good, old woman she would have seen that it was done."

"Dame Dorothy is proud of everything that belongs to the old house—aye, even of its spectre. Egad, had she only been able to manage it, that of late years extremely retiring and unobtrusive gentleman would have been marshalled by her amongst your other welcomers. But there, there, famous spectre of Derwent Hall is, after all, you may depend upon it, only an old wife's tale, so, once more, let us hunt up Lucy."

Upon Rose gladly assenting to the proposal the girl was hunted up without much difficulty, for they discovered her in the very first room they entered, standing by the antique fireplace, and gazing at them in a seemingly frightened and awestruck manner as they came in at the door.

"Lucy, this is your new mamma. Come over and kiss her, my dear," said Sir Harry kindly; adding, "Why, this morning you were positively longing to see her. Whence this sudden change in you, little woman?"

"Because I daren't grow to love her, for if I were to do it I should miss her so much when she comes to be taken from me—when she falls down the stairs and dies, I mean, and you put her away under the big, ugly stone, along with my first, my own mamma," answered the girl, with a look of horror coming into her face the while. "Oh! take her away! take her away! I can't bear even to look upon her, knowing, as I do, what will happen—what will surely happen!"

"Idiot!" roared Sir Harry. "But—but you have been put up to this. Dame Dorothy has been at her tricks with you. It is her fault and not yours, my poor child, and she shall leave the Hall, bag and baggage, the first thing to-morrow. She shall go whatever comes of it—aye, whatever comes of it—comes of it!"

He dropped into a morose and brooding mood at this juncture, and might have remained in it there is no saying how long, had he not been suddenly startled thereout by his bride's shrill cry as she fell to the floor in a swoon, when he turned hastily round, and with an oath advanced towards her.

But he was anticipated by his daughter, who, rushing forward, cast herself on her knees beside her young step-mother, and motioned him away with both outstretched arms, at the same time exclaiming, in a shrill and most piteous sounding wail:

"You shan't come near her—you shan't touch her—there is blood upon your hands—blood—blood. My father though you are, I will defend her against you with my life—my very life!"

A look of intense horror, mingled with positive affright, came then into the baronet's face, and, pressing his open palms against his throbbing temples, he turned away, muttering to himself: "The old malady has returned, and, apparently, with redoubled strength, when I thought that she had out-grown it, and was cured of it for ever. And at what a time—at what a time! What am I to do? What say? What?"

CHAPTER XIII.

Sir Harry Tells His Bride how his First Wife came by Her Death.

Though in doubt for a moment the baronet very soon decided what to say and do, for he first of all rang furiously for Dame Dorothy, and on her appearance ordered her to remove Miss Lucy to her own chamber and keep careful watch over her there.

"You shall give me an explanation of the condition in which I have found her to-morrow," he concluded by saying, with menace in his tone; to which the old woman replied: "As you like, Sir Harry. My conduct and my doings will bear the light of day as well as anyone or anything else in this house will do it," and with what looked almost like a mocking curtsey, and her wrinkled mouth puckered up in a strange smile the while, she quitted the room, with Lucy clinging in a confiding sort of manner to her arm.

Sir Harry closed the door behind them, and then strode back to the fireplace, where, as though perfectly unconscious that his lovely bride lay insensible on the floor, he muttered to himself whilst he nervously rubbed his hands together, and great beads of perspiration stood out on his throbbing brow:

"The old hag has turned my poor girl's brain with some horrid sight, backed up, more likely than not, by a still more horrible tale, and, fool that I am, I deemed that she loved her as though she was her own child, and would not inflict pain upon her for worlds. This comes of her fiendish jealousy because she is no longer the mistress of the mansion whose every stone, beam, and rafter she almost worships; aye, more than she values the life or honour of a hundred benefactors. Such women have the nature of cats, and their affection is all bestowed on the roof that covers instead of upon the hands that feeds them. Like the cat, too, she has just shown me that a velvet paw may conceal talons all ready to rend and tear. What a fool and coward I have been to run off to foreign wars instead of staying at home and manfully clearing away all traces of that terrible night, for—Oh, God! I was her murderer! her murderer!"

Thus muttering he began to pace up and down the chamber with hurried and disordered strides, and his at last almost falling over his bride alone recalled to him the fact of her existence:

"Pure young creature," he then murmured; "Heaven knows that I love you well, and fully intend to make your life a happy one—aye, equally as I once intended to have made hers. Will the remorseless Fates be kinder in your case, I wonder, or have they already arrayed themselves against you? Their welcome to Derwent Hall is, God wot, ominous enough, but someone or other has written that a resolute man may defy destiny, or, rather, shape his own. Well, I will be bold, and for your sake, sweet Rose, and then—we shall see—yes, we shall see."

He went to the sideboard and poured out and drank a glass of brandy, which seemed to somewhat steady his nerves. He next proceeded to stir up the wood fire into a cheerful blaze, to draw the curtains across the window, and to illuminate the dozen wax candles in the great chandelier, for, though it was still almost broad daylight out of doors, the casement was so small and closely leaded, the walls so thick, and the furniture so dark and heavy, that the apartment had begun to be wrapt in deep gloom.

It looked, on the contrary, positively cheerful now, and the baronet's face brightened as he for the first time took active measures to restore Rose to consciousness; and, as she was already beginning to recover without any notice being taken of her, he succeeded in his laudable efforts much quicker than he had expected would have been the case.

But to restore her to reason and to give her back her peace of mind he found to be two very different things, for the first use that she made of her recovered senses was to cry out, piteously:

"Oh, let me go! let me go! Don't ask me to stop in such a fearful place and amongst such dreadful people. I also shall go mad if I do."

"And where would you wish to go?" asked the baronet, soothingly, yet scarcely knowing what he uttered. "Home?"

"No, no," wailed Rose, who was not even yet in full possession of her faculties. "Not home—not home! To London or Liverpool, or to any large town, in fact, where I may be lost in the crowd and be known to none. I would hide myself there—hide myself there."

Sir Harry was too anxious to comfort her to take any special note of the extreme strangeness of her desires.

He was ready also to promise anything in the future in order to make her feel happier and more comfortable in the present, and so he said:

"My darling, if after you've given our Hall a full week's trial you don't like it better than you do at the present, I'll discharge the servants, shut the place up, put my dear child under the care of a near relative at Lanchester, and lose myself along with you in the busy world of London. I have, however, a tale to tell, which, if you will but listen patiently thereto, will, I think, render you much less timid both of this house and of its occupants, and cause you to regard me especially with a great deal more of pity than of terror."

He said all this very softly, and persuasively, and Rose felt great comfort from his concluding words, so that she presently found courage to look around her, and the room appeared so wholly different with the gloomy landscape shut out, the fire burning brightly, and the 12 wax candles all alight, that she said, in turn:

"I'm afraid that I have been very foolish, but you should have told me that your daughter Lucy was something more than shy—that, in fact—she was insane—and then her actions and words would not have had such an affect upon me as they had."

"Upon my most sacred word of honour, Rose, my dear child was as sane as either you or I when I quitted home this morning, and, moreover, has been so for years past, for I do not account shyness and a slight eccentricity or two as insanity. She became like she is now immediately after the death of her mother, but was soon cured, and has never since had a relapse. I had not the slightest reason for supposing that she would ever be so afflicted again. She must, I imagine, have experienced some great fright or shock to-day."

"What made her become insane after her mother's death? Was it then owing to a fright or shock?" asked Rose, quickly.

"Yes."

"What shock?"

"That forms part of the sad story which I am ready to narrate in order to comfort you."

"Well, if you are ready to tell it, I am equally ready to listen to it."

"But you will take some refreshment first? See, the table is already spread."

"Then please to give me a glass of wine. I cannot possibly eat anything until I am calmer—and—happier."

"So be it, Rose, though I should have been glad of even so brief a respite. I did not think, an hour ago, that I should have been driven to tear open a wound so long closed, but my daughter's ravings render it a necessity, or else, my God! you will have apparent good reason for supposing that I was my first wife's murderer! Well, you shall know all, and at whatever cost, and I will not even attempt to excuse my own conduct in the least, for it was truly deserving of great blame.

"I fell in love, then, with a beautiful, but totally uneducated, girl, and, rather than ruin her, married her. Bye-and-bye, however, I tired of my choice, for, as far as companionship went, I might as well have united myself to a statute or a picture. She was good, she was amiable, but a mere wax doll and nothing more, and I, therefore, soon sought the society of others. Not of other women, as Heaven is my judge, but of boon-companions of my own sex, with whom I filled this old house almost nightly until even the family spectre must have grown to desire a quieter resting place.

"Now, poor Laura could not understand my changed nature, and because I gave less time to her lovely face and silent tongue she thought that she must be supplanted by another, and as a suspicious and jealous woman soon finds an object for her distrust, no matter how absurd and improbable an one it may be, Laura's almost at once fell upon Mistress Dorothy, though old enough to have been her mother, or, for that matter, even mine.

"I had given her the keys, and installed her house-keeper, with my wife's consent, who knew nothing whatever about the management of such a household, and seemed incapable of catching even the faintest idea. But now the changed nature of her feelings caused her to place a wrong construction even on that action, and a yet worse one on the frequent consultations which Mistress Dorothy and I were, in consequence, obliged to have together.

"Eventually she demanded that the dame should be dismissed from the house, but how could I thus treat one whose family had faithfully served mine for at least a dozen of generations?

"I, therefore, refused to gratify her unjust whim, and frequent quarrels were the result.

Once, and may Heaven forgive me for so unmanly an act, she incensed me to such a degree by her unjust accusations and taunts that I actually struck her.

"Well, Rose, to cut a most painful story as short as possible, she got out of bed one night, with the intention of creeping down a straight and very steep back staircase, in order to listen in secret to what Mistress Dorothy and I were talking about, and a grand confabulation we were, in truth, having about a great supper party that I was bent upon giving on the morrow.

"Poor creature, she missed her footing in the darkness, and fell from the top of the almost ladder-like staircase to the bottom, inflicting on herself the most fearful injuries in her downward progress.

"From which she died?" ejaculated Rose, tremulously, yet, nevertheless, with evident relief in her tone.

"Alas! would that she had," answered the baronet, "for, in that case, I could, at the very least, have given her Christian burial. We carried her upstairs, a doctor was summoned, who tended her and regarded her recovery as certain. But her enforced inaction and her powerlessness to amuse herself, for she could not even read, gave her all the more time for indulging in her harrowing suspicion concerning Mistress Dorothy and myself, and, owing to her inability, on account of her injuries, to any longer creep about to watch and listen, she committed self-destruction."

"Oh, Heaven! how terrible, how appalling; and her daughter Lucy was so affected, I suppose, by her mother's sad fate, that she lost her reason?"

"Lucy was then a mere child, yet, nevertheless, quite old enough to understand what directly appealed to her senses of sight and hearing. Awakened by her mother's screams, she got out of bed, and crept into her chamber unnoticed by any of us, and there beheld the whole terrible spectacle and heard our horrified comments thereon. Can you at all wonder at what followed?"

"Indeed, I cannot, and, doubtless, the constant mention of a new mother re-awakened all her fading and softened memories of her own real mamma, and occasioned the return of her dreadful malady? Oh, I will try my hardest to fill her dead mother's place worthily, or, at all events, I will do my utmost to teach her to look upon me as a loving sister, for I'm scarcely old enough for her ever to be able to regard me as anything nearer and dearer. And yet, after all, how shall I be able to live here."

"You need have no fear. There is no occasion that you should ever behold that portion of the old house wherein this dreadful and ever to be regretted catastrophe occurred. No one but myself has ever visited the north wing since—I mean no one but myself and Dame Dorothy. It was the key of the door leading thereto that you saw me tear off the bunch, and now you will be able to understand why I was angry at the stupid old woman disobeying my orders and leaving it thereon."

"Yes, I think that I should have been angry had I been you—and I might have acted in the same manner also."

"Do you mean in all things—from the very first?"

"Yes, in all things, and from the very first—I might."

"But you cannot absolve me from blame? That were impossible."

"Yes, quite impossible. But I can remember that you are only human."

"In that case you will still try to love me and even to become reconciled to Derwent Hall, Will you?"

"Heaven helping me, I will do both. But, in return, you must put faith in me, as I do now in you, and whatever ill you may hear of me you must not believe it, but reflect, instead, that nearly everything will bear two constructions, even as in your case it seems to me that you might have been tried and hanged for the murder of your wife, though all the while perfectly innocent."

Sir Harry acknowledged that such might indeed have been his fate, and then quickly added:

"But what about the strange string of mysteries that have enveloped and shrouded you to-day, Rose?"

"Ah! they are precisely what I was alluding to," she rejoined, quietly. They also will bear two constructions, but one confession is amply sufficient for one evening."

(To be continued.)

MEDOMSLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The ordinary meeting of this Board was held on the 21st inst., when there were present:—Rev W. Cockin (chairman), Messrs W. R. Cooke, T. Simpson, and J. W. Jamieson.

The minutes were read and signed.

The attendance officer's report was read, and instructions given.

W. G. Thompson's application for advance of salary was ordered to stand over until next meeting.

It was agreed that the new bye-laws receive the seal of the Board.

The Clerk was instructed to give the school teachers notice to terminate their agreement.

Cheques were signed for £122 18s 7d. The Clerk reported that the balance in the treasurer's hands to the credit of the Board was £357 14s 6d.

The meeting then adjourned.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held on Wednesday, 13th inst. Present: Messrs W. Atkinson (chairman), W. R. Teasdale, W. H. Telford, C. Rowe, and A. W. Emmerson.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr John Hillary) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Tow Law Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I shall have Pit House Road footpath completed shortly, weather permitting. That piece of road, or rather the space where the road should be, in Smith Street, ought to have early attention. I have ordered kerb and channel for opposite Foundry Gate, but the stone is not to hand yet. I present a plan of proposed cowbyre from Mr T. McGinn. I have had your water cart put away for the winter in Mr W. C. Smith's shed on usual terms. I wrote to Mr H. Armstrong respecting the year's rent of Old Purifying House, which should have been paid three months ago, but have not received any reply. I have deposited with your bankers during the month, for burial fees and residuals, £8.

Monthly Wages Bill.

	£	s	d
Sewerage—wages	0	11	4
Gasworks—wages	8	10	8
Public lighting—wages	2	6	6
Establishment—wages	0	8	0
Cemetery—wages	2	8	0
Manual labour—			
Main Roads—wages	2	19	5
Other Roads—wages	0	13	5
Scavenging—wages	0	7	8
Team labour—			
Main Roads—wages	3	7	6
Special scavenging—wages	0	15	0
	£22	7	6

Leaving £2 5s 3d in my custody.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant.

JOHN HILLARY.

Tow Law, Dec. 13th, 1893.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr W. Garraway) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Tow Law Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—The principal business I wish to bring before you is that nearly the whole of the privies and ashpits and other receptacles for manures, &c., are full up, and in some cases overflowing, and need attention, or the Board adopting some other means or recommendations made by Dr McLean Wilson, as it is becoming a general idea among the inhabitants that it is the Board's duty. Several other nuisances, which have previously been reported, and are of long standing, require attention—viz., Ridley Terrace, Thornley Pit Houses drainage, and Mr E. T. Smith's property at Dan's Castle. Probably in the latter case the weather may have impeded the progress of the work, as a commencement was made in repairing the roof.

Your Medical Officer and myself must have our half-yearly inspection completed by next Board meeting, and will be able to lay before you a full-detailed account of our inspection, weather permitting.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. GARRAWAY.

Tow Law, Dec. 13th, 1893.

The reports were approved of.

PAY-BILL.

The Clerk presented a pay-bill for £66 5s 5d, and the same was ordered to be paid.

REMOVAL OF ASHES.

The Clerk was instructed to draw up a hand-bill in accordance with that portion of the Board's bye-laws which deals with the removal of ashes, &c.

A NUISANCE.

A notice was ordered to be served upon Mr Joseph Ridley to abate a nuisance on his property in High Street.

RATING OF COW-BYRES.

A letter was read from Mr John Graham, Dan's Castle, complaining of the Board's action in regard to the rating of cow-byres, &c., and the Clerk was directed to inform him that the matter had not been ordered by the Board.

PLANS.

A plan submitted by T. McGinn was adjourned for alteration, the same to be approved by the Surveyor.

GENERAL DISTRICT RATE.

A general district rate of 9d in the £ was passed, and sealed by the Chairman.

PROPOSED BOARD OFFICE.

Messrs Atkinson, Telford, and Emerson were appointed a committee to inspect the site for the proposed Board office, and instruct the Clerk to apply to the Weardale Iron Co. as to the price, &c.

GAS COAL.

The Clerk was ordered to get prices of gas coal for the next 12 months.

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

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

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL & STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES, quickly correct all irregularities, remove all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes, 1s 1½d. and 2s 9d of all chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps by the Maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

HUMAN LIFE.—Fifty years' record of Facts Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Disease and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr Samuel Birley, M.D. Ph.D.; author of "Patriarchal Longevity Reasonable," "Earth-Life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every Sufferer. Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 48, Theobald's Road Holborn, London, W.C.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION at the lowest possible prices by ROBERT JACKSON "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates furnished.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE

Those who are afflicted with Consumption, Tumours, Cancer, and Influenza, should go to Handyside's Rooms or Carriages and hear from the patients themselves what this medicine has done. If the lungs are eaten away all that it will do will only ease the pain, but if taken in time no one need die of Consumption or Lupus, and Cancer can be considerably reduced.

The Blood Food prepared by G. Handyside is simply a vegetable extract, and thereby God's natural remedy for building up the body, and when the body is strong it defies all disease. It contains no medicine, and therefore cannot ruin the constitution as doctors' medicines do. Everyone should take it for Indigestion, Costiveness, Sleeplessness, Dizziness of the Head, Fits, Asthma, Bronchitis, Change of Life, and is a most marvellous thing for Influenza. Delicate people should take it for-ever.

Handyside's Rheumatic Cure does not fail once in a hundred cases, when it is applied according to directions. 20,000 people have been rubbed at Handyside's Rooms, and 99 out of every 100 have been cured, but a good many who rub themselves have failed, because they did not go by the directions. Whenever it fails they should communicate with Mr Handyside. Anyone who has to live by his industry, and unable to walk through Sciatica or Rheumatism, a cab will be sent for him, and cured free, and enabled to walk in three-quarters of an hour, if his age is below 60; if above 60 it is more difficult to cure.

These preparations were not brought out entirely for money, therefore they are given away to all who are unable to pay for them at all Handyside's places of business, and at 12 Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle, every Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m. Everyone should go and hear and see the marvellous change this preparation produces on all diseases.

The Pills prepared by G. Handyside, are composed of rhubarb root and other vegetable extracts, and they are earning a great name. They contain no medicine, therefore cannot ruin the constitution, as it is well known that those who take the most doctors' medicine have the worst health. And it cannot be otherwise, for most of it irritates the stomach, and drives the food out of the system before it has nourished the body, but these Pills prepared by G. Handyside, feed the digestive organs and enable them to digest the food, and after they have been taken for some time the residue of the bowels show natural digestion, while those who take doctors' medicine the food is driven away from an irritated stomach. But this is not all. The stomach contains millions of small tubes, no thicker than a fine hair, to convey the gastric juice to mix with the food. The continual irritation of the stomach through purging medicines, must have a tendency to fill up these small tubes and prevent a proper supply of gastric juice, which is necessary for proper digestion, therefore it is not surprising that everyone who take the most doctors' medicine have the worst health. Purging pills do good for a day or two, and then you are worse than ever. You take more; relief is given to you again for a day or two. You are worse than ever, and you go on till your constitution is ruined. Two doctors are now needed where one was sufficient fifty years ago, when people preserved their health by God's natural remedy, the fruits of the field. Both sexes should continually take the Pills after the age of forty, for the heart after that age ossifies. No delicate person or growing youth should be without them. And they should be taken strictly by the directions. Thousands of testimonials; extracts sent post free.

A thousand pounds has been deposited in the hands of Messrs Watson and Dendy of this city, and challenged all the doctors' medicines three years ago, but has never been accepted. The challenge is still open, and a hundred pounds will be given to the person who brings a doctor forward to accept this challenge.

If you cannot get them from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle. All the preparations are sent out without the money, and they can be tried before the money is sent, and if you are not satisfied that it has done more good than all the medicines have done no money is required. Ask your butcher or baker or any other tradesmen to sell under these conditions. If they did they would get little money, and if these were not exceptionally grand preparations I dare not do it.

No one should be persuaded from these preparations by tradesmen recommending other preparations for the sake of extra profit.

DR. ORTON'S HAIR RESTORER.

Time is the almighty changer of all things. It makes dull the most brilliant intellect; brings infirmities to the most elastic step of youth; dims the most bewitching smiles, and pales the rosy lips of beauty, but on nothing does it press its unwelcome hand so much as a lady's head of hair. Everyone who wishes to preserve a luxuriant crop of hair, should use DR ORTON'S HAIR RESTORER, and thereby be enabled in old age to retain all the bewitching loveliness of youth. It contains no poison as most hair restorers do, therefore cannot injure the brain. The maker will give £10 to anyone who can discover a poison in this preparation. It is a grand hair wash, and from its cleansing properties it invigorates the skin, and enables the skin to grow the hair. Price 1s. per bottle: equal to some that are sold at 5s. per bottle.

DIGESTIVE SYRUP
PREPARED BY DAB and Co.
Wholesale Chemists, Bentinck, Newcastle.

This has been publicly known for two hundred years, and from the good work it is doing the sales are increasing enormously; more of this medicine is sold for Indigestion, Costiveness, &c., than any other medicine known. Some even prefer it to Handyside's Consumption Cure, which is considered the best Medicine in the world. It may not build up the constitution so well, but it acts quicker in giving relief. A great many intelligent, thoughtful people ingnore the doctor, and the digestive syrup is the only doctors they ever have. Price 1s. per bottle. The usual price is 2s. per bottle. As the makers of this preparation buy their materials largely at first hand for cash, they are enabled to sell this preparation at ONE-HALF the cost of other makers.

LIVER PILLS
Prepared by DAB & Co.

These Pills are what the greatest physicians order for a defective liver. They were used by the great John Wesley, who retained his boyish ruddiness, and juvenile elasticity up to a ripe old age. Each Pill contains half a grain of calomell. They are a grand Pill for the liver, an overloaded stomach, or after drunken dissipations. They contain strong and effective medicine, and should only be taken when needed.

COUGH MIXTURE prepared by DAB & Co.—Coughs should always be arrested at the beginning or they often lead to Consumption, or other ailments. The mixture prepared by Dab & Co. is a grand thing for arresting it, and preventing an early grave. Price 1s. per bottle, being half the usual price this mixture is sold for.

MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour. It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, moving dandruff rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female young and old Sold by Chemists and Perfumers.

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

"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 sixpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson's bookseller, Front Street and 20 Newmarket Street, Consett.

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

Football.

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

ASSOCIATION.

Waldridge Juniors beat South Moor Albions, on the former's ground, by one goal to nil.

Iveston Villa 2nd beat Leadgate Boys' Brigade, at Iveston, by three goals to two.

Cornsay Rising Stars beat Tow Law Celtic, on the latter's ground, by two goals to one.

Lintzford Red Stars beat Hamsterley Rising Stars, on the former's ground, on Monday, by six goals to one.

Lintzford Red Stars defeated Spen Wanderers, at the Spen, after a very pleasant game, by two goals to none.

Lintzford Red Stars beat Spen Wanderers by three goals to none, on the former's ground, on Christmas Day.

HAMSTERLEY UNITED v JESMOND VALE.—Played at Hamsterley, and resulted in a draw, nothing being scored.

BLACKFINE RAMBLERS v DERWENT COTTAGES RANGERS.—Played at Blackfine, and resulted in a win for the Ramblers by two goals to one.

NEWFIELD JUNIORS v WALDRIDGE FELL 2ND.—Played on the former's ground, and ended in a victory for Newfield by three goals to one.

CONSETT Y.M.C.A. 2ND v CONSETT SHAMROCKS.—Played on the former's ground, the home team winning by two goals to one.

HEDLEY HILL FELL HARRIERS v OLD CORNSAY RAMBLERS.—Played on the latter's ground, and after an unpleasant game ended in a win for the Harriers by four goals to nil.

HAMSTERLEY RISING STARS v HAMSTERLEY UNITED 2ND.—Played on the former's ground, and after a hard and exciting game the Stars were victorious by one goal to nil.

CONSETT ALBIONS v CONSETT SWIFTS.—Played on the former's ground, and after a very quarrelsome game resulted in a win for the Albions by four goals to three.

CONSETT FELL RANGERS v CONSETT Y.M.C.A. 2ND.—Played on the latter's ground on Christmas Day, and after a very exciting game resulted in a win for the Rangers by two goals to nil.

LINTZ JUNIORS v SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS 2ND.—Played on the latter's ground, and after a pleasant game resulted in a victory for the Lintz by two goals to one.

WALDRIDGE WHITE STAR v PELTON FELL INSTITUTE 1ST.—This game was commenced on the latter's ground, but was not finished owing to darkness setting in, the score then standing—Waldridge, two goals; Institute, two goals.

WATERHOUSES WANDERERS v BLACKHILL PARK.—Played on the Wanderers' ground in the presence of a good attendance. The Park were late in arriving, and short time had to be played. The game was very fast, and rough at times, and ended in a win for the Wanderers by one goal to nil.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v NORTHUMBRIAN (Felling.)—The Reserve team journeyed to the Felling to play the above club with a very weak eleven. They arrived with 10 men, but found an able substitute. The visitors did all the pressing in the first half, and scored three goals by the aid of Wilson, Bell, and Iley. The second half was more evenly contested, Barnes (a new man) playing a clever game on the Leadgate left wing. Result—

Park ....Three goals
Northumbrian ....Nil

OUSTON INSTITUTE v OAKEY'S LILYWHITES.—Played at Ouston on Christmas Day. The visitors winning the toss, choose to play with the wind at their backs. McDermott started the ball, and some good play followed. The Lilywhites placed two goals to their credit, and also had two disallowed for off-side. The second part of the game became rather rough, but the home team, with the aid of the wind, added four goals. The visitors left the field about 15 minutes before the finish, owing to a dispute, and the final result was as under—

Ouston ....Four goals
Lilywhites ....Two goals

BEARPARK ALBIONS v LANGLEY PARK ALBIONS.—This return match was played at Langley Park on Christmas Day. Wardle won the toss, and elected to play with the wind and slope in his favour. The first half, with the exception of one or two rather dangerous breaks away by the visitors' right, was fought out in the Bearpark territory, Smith (2), Cooper, and Wardle scoring for the home team, who led at the interval by four goals to nil. Smith scored another goal for the homesters in the second period, and the game ended—

Langley Park ....Five goals
Bearpark ....Nil

ALLENDALE PARK v CAXTON B (Newcastle.)—These teams met at Medomsley on Monday. The visitors won the toss, and decided to play up the incline. On the ball being started, the Caxton goal was at once attacked, the backs relieving the pressure. The visitors' forwards now made a grand run, and Mulanney sent in a stinger, but Bailey saved in his usual cool style. E. Lynop secured and took the globe down to the Newcastle goal, but was repulsed by Robson, the latter returning to midfield, where Walton received and sent in a good shot which just went under the bar, scoring the first point for the Park amid loud cheers. The Caxton right wing made several desperate efforts to get near the home goal, but Gunner proved too much for them, and placing to Murphy, the latter put on a second goal. Half-time score—

Park ....Two goals
Caxton ....Nil

On resuming, the visitors played up determinedly, and by neat play carried the globe down, and from a long dropping shot (which Bailey touched but could not save), scored their first goal, and soon afterwards added another. The home team now woke up, and the halves repulsed all further attempts on the part of the visitors. Gunner getting possession sent in a stinger, which was cleared at the expense of a corner. E. Lynop placed to Burns, who shot, but the custodian fisted out smartly, the result being a scrimmage in the goal-mouth. E. Parker (who was playing a splendid game) made a neat pass to Lynop, who put on a third goal for the home team. No more scoring was done, and the result was—

Park ....Three goals
Caxton ....Two goals

LANGLEY PARK ALBIONS v BEARPARK ALBIONS.—Played at Bearpark before a large company of spectators. The home captain won the toss, and elected to play with the wind and slope in his favour. T. Lamb kicked off for the visitors, and the opening exchanges were very even, neither side gaining much advantage. At length the home team began to press, and attacked the Langley goal, but Dodgson at back was as reliable as ever, and easily pulled up the Bearpark forwards. The visitors had a try at the other end, but shot over the bar. The homesters got away and scored with a good shot. Some appeared to think that the leather went over the top, but the referee allowed a goal. The visitors now got into the home quarters, and gave the defence plenty of work, but they could not open their record, and the call of half-time found the score standing—

Bearpark ....One goal
Langley Park ....Nil

On resuming, the visitors showed up much better, and were soon in the home territory, where corner after corner was conceded to them, but they could not improve on them. However, the Langley men were not to be denied, and Lamb drew first blood. After some midfield play, the visitors again took up the running and scored No. 2. The home team could not, despite all their efforts, get through again, and a good game resulted as under—

Langley Park ....Two goals
Bearpark ....One goal

The following represented the Albions:—Goal, J. Vickers; backs, J. Shorten and Ed. Dodgson; half-backs, J. Wardle (capt.), M. Maddison, and J. Eggleston; forwards, W. Pattinson and W. Hallam, right wing; T. Lamb, centre; J. Smith and J. Reed, left wing. Linesman, M. Crawford.

BLACKHILL PARK v SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS.—Played on the Shotley Spa ground before a capital muster of spectators. The home captain won the toss, and elected to play down the slope with a slight breeze in his favour. Smith started for the visitors, who came straight away into the home territory, Lindsay ending past. Then Dempsey secured, but was dispossessed by Glendinning, who put the ball to Watson, and this player ran down and shot past Hobday, thus drawing first blood for the Rovers. This appeared to put the Park on their mettle, for immediately after the ball was re-started the visiting forwards got away in good style time after time, but could not break through the grand defence, Errington being prominent in goal on several occasions. At last Leadbitter relieved with a huge kick, Joice receiving, but he was repulsed by Tindle, who was playing a capital game. Smith shot in and Errington conceded a corner, which proved useless. The Park still kept up the pressure, and Dempsey receiving, dodged the backs, and had the goal at his mercy, but shot wide. Robinson returned the goal kick, and Lindsay shot, the custodian clearing. Joice and Lishman dribbled down, and the former shot, Hobday, in trying to fist out, being rushed through along with the ball. The Park were conceded several corners, but could not improve upon them, and the half-time signal sounded with the score reading—

Rovers ....Two goals
Park ....Nil

After a short interval, Price re-started. The visitors at once settled down to their work (Tindle having gone on the left wing with Dempsey, Whitelaw going full back.) Robinson got in a nice kick, Tindle receiving and shooting, but Errington proved equal to the occasion. Richardson got away, but was dispossessed by Taylor, who put on to Dempsey, the latter putting in a long shot which beat the goalkeeper, thus scoring No. 1 for the Park. Urged on by their success, the visitors continued to attack. Smith got hold and had a fine chance, but shot over the bar. From the goal kick, Evans headed the ball back to Tindle, who centred beautifully, and the goalkeeper and leather were charged through, scoring No. 2 for the visitors amid ringing cheers from their supporters. The Park were now having much the best of the game. Chatt got away and passed to Lindsay, who shot over the line. Watson replied with a short run, but was checked by Taylor. Nixon returned up the field, and Watson and Richardson dribbled neatly, the former shooting and causing Hobday to give a corner, which proved fruitless. After Tindle had shot wide, Watson was pulled up by Robinson, and the visitors made a final effort to land the winning point. Dempsey shot in, Leadbitter saving at the expense of a corner, which was of no avail. Towards the finish, Joice and Lishman got in some splendid sprints, but nothing further was scored, and the result was—

Rovers ....Two goals
Park ....Two goals

The Park team was as follows:—Goal, H. Hobday; backs, J. Whitelaw and T. Robinson; half-backs, R. Taylor, R. Evans, and J. Butler; forwards, A. Lindsay and J. Chatt, right wing; P. Smith, centre; H. Tindle and J. Dempsey, left wing. The Rovers' team was—Goal, T. Errington; backs, Nixon and J. Leadbitter; half-backs, J. Glendinning, H. Surtees, and E. Proud; forwards, R. Watson and Richardson, right wing; Price, centre; Lishman and Joice, left wing. Referee, Mr W. Oliver.

IVESTON VILLA v LIZZIE CELTICS.—This return game was played at Iveston on Christmas Day before a most encouraging turnout of spectators. The visitors arrived with a very strong team, including W. Ellis, of Dipton Wanderers. Robson (the Celtic captain) won the toss, and the Villa kicked off in the face of a blinding storm of wind and rain. After a few smart exchanges, the Celtic forwards got possession and ran well down into the home quarters, where, after a short bully in the goal-mouth, the leather was forced through, thus drawing first blood for the visitors two minutes from the start. The Celtic continued to play with great dash and determination, the halves effectually nipping in the bud any attempts made by the home forwards to get away. After a very smart run by the Lizzie left wing, Thompson Robson got possession and sent in a terrific shot with which the goalkeeper had no chance. The Villa now began to find their feet, and played a greatly improved game, Hanson stopping several difficult shots, while the halves and backs tackled and kicked with great precision and force. The forwards also came away with several nice runs, but the visitors' defence was very sound. Young at this time obtained possession, and racing away on the right put in a grand centre, which Gladders smartly put through amid loud and continued cheering. The Lizzie after this, with the help of the wind, continued to hold the advantage until half-time, when the score read—

Celtic ....Two goals
Villa ....One goal

After the cross-over, the home team played a splendid game, the backs, especially Haughan, kicking grandly, while the halves robbed the Celtic forwards again and again. Temple and Young, the two outside men (most unselfishly fed by their partners), made several grand runs, from one of which Cruddas got possession in the centre, and dodging Burton, sent in a splendid shot which completely beat Errington, thus making the scores equal. At this time Harper, who was playing a great game, twisted his knee and left the field, the home team playing with ten men until the end of the game. Play continued very fast and exciting, both teams coming near scoring, but nothing further was done, a very fast game ending in a draw, with the score as under—

Celtics ....Two goals
Villa ....Two goals

The home team was:—Goal, G. Hanson; backs, W. Haughan and Thompson; half-backs, Foster, Harper, and McEnaney; forwards, Young and G. Gladders, right wing; H. Cruddas (capt.), centre; J. Tweedy and G. Temple, left wing. Linesman, G. Henderson. The Celtics' team was as follows:—Goal, Errington; backs, J. Burton and J. Graham; half-backs, Martin, P. Bell, and J. Coyle; forwards, W. Ellis and T. Robson, right wing; J. Herdman, centre; Thompson Robson (capt.) and R. Bell, left wing. Referee, Mr R. Haughan.

LEADGATE PARK v. ELSWICK WESLEY.

These teams met at Leadgate on Christmas Day. The Park committee tried a change in the forwards, which proved successful. The home captain won the toss, and played from the west goal with the wind in his favour. They soon made their presence felt, but the Elswick backs defended strongly. At last Robson put one of his centres across, and scored No. 1 for the Park. Play now became fast, and from a free kick F. Foreman struck the bar, and the globe was headed through by T. Foster, who was playing a good game. Robson notched No. 3 after a splendid run, and half-time found the score—

Park ....Three goals
Elswick ....Nil

The home team, with the wind against them, opened strongly, the backs defending grandly, and all the visitors' attempts to score proved futile. At length a combined run was made by the Leadgate forwards, and Robson scored again. The same player added two more goals and Graham one to the home score. The visitors now roused themselves, and put in a long shot, Crowther letting slip the wet ball, which went through, scoring the first and only goal for Wesley. A pleasant game ended—

Park ....Seven goals
Elswick ....One goal

The Park team was as follows:—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, F. Foreman and Wm. Foreman; half-backs, W. Bell, R. Wilson, and T. Snowdon; forwards, Jos. Robson and R. Graham, right wing; T. Foster, centre; A. Burnhope and J. Wilson, left wing.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

HEBBURN ARGYLE v. DIPTON WANDERERS.

This Alliance match was played at Hebburn before a very large attendance. The visitors won the toss, and Argyle kicked off, and quickly took the ball into their opponents' quarters. Davidson relieved in good style, Flynn securing and passing to Stewart, who sent well up. Dipton were awarded a free kick for hands, and pressed strongly, but McShane and Stewart got away, only to be repulsed by Rowell. The visitors continued to attack, but could not score, and Stewart made a fast run for Hebburn, but was neatly stopped by Davidson. The Wanderers again pressed fiercely, and Evans scored a good goal. The home team now secured a corner, but McShane placed badly. A free kick was obtained by Argyle for hands, the kick being nicely placed, but Freek fisted out well, and the ball was carried down the field by Evans, Walker, and Hunter. Rowell had a shot, hitting the upright, and McShane and Stewart raced away to the other end. Inglis secured from McDonald, passed Davidson and Rowell, and sent in a fast shot which struck the posts. Half-time score—

Dipton ....One goal
Argyle ....Nil

The second period opened in favour of the homesters, Flynn equalising from a scrimmage in front of goal three minutes from re-starting. Hebburn continued to press, and Stewart rushed the globe through from a shot by Halliday. Play still ruled rather in favour of Argyle, but the Wanderers showed grand defence, Freek being very prominent with some remarkable saves in goal. Dipton several times got nicely away, and reached the other end, but could not add to their score, although they experienced very hard lines on two or three occasions. Then Butterworth passed to McCarthy, who gave to Halliday, the latter scoring the third point for the home team. The Wanderers attacked towards the finish, but Toward cleared, and a good game ended—

Argyle ....Three goals
Dipton ....One goal

The Wanderers were represented by the following team:—Goal, R. Freek; backs, W. M. Davidson and T. Rowell (capt.); half-backs, T. Turpin, E. Buck, and R. Coates; forwards, S. Gardiner and F. Harle, right wing; W. Evans, centre; J. Hunter and T. Walker, left wing. Linesman, T. Swinbank. Referee, Mr J. Conqueror, Southwick.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[BY "OFF-SIDE."]

A BATTLE ROYAL AT SHOTLEY SPA.

It would be difficult to find two keener and better-matched rivals than Blackhill Park and Shotley Bridge Rovers, and their return fixture in the Shotley Spa grounds last Saturday was numerously attended by the partisans of each club, who did not fail to make their presence known when anything occurred to call forth a display of lung power. Although the actual result was a draw, there is little doubt that on the day's play the visitors were the superior eleven. They attacked far oftener than the Rovers, and had their shooting only been equal to their play in the open, they would certainly have pulled through somewhat comfortably. Dempsey and Smith both missed the easiest of easy chances, and how they failed to steer the globe between the uprights, when they had only the custodian to beat, passes my comprehension.

—o—

As regards the individual play, Hobday has been seen to greater advantage in the Blackhill goal, and appeared a trifle nervous, or he would have saved one of the goals. Robinson was decidedly the better back, kicking and tackling very coolly. I liked Evans the best of the halves, albeit Butler and Taylor by no means played badly. Butler only wants a little more pace to make a real good half. The forwards were in splendid trim, but have one bad fault—viz., not lying far enough up the field. They lost chances out of number on Saturday by this failing, coupled with their inability to shoot anything like decently. Lindsay and Chatt combined nicely, and the former especially is an extremely clever little player. Smith is a very fair centre, but inclined to be rather rash at times. Dempsey and Tindle are a capital wing, and had the latter been among the forwards in the first half the Park might fared more successfully.

—o—

The Rovers have an admirable custodian in Errington, who never allows the warmest attacks to flurry him. He had no chance with the couple of shots that beat him. Nixon and Leadbitter were a couple of reliable backs, the former in particular defending well. Glendinning far outshone his partners at half, of whom Proud showed very poor form. He appears to think that half-back play consists of rushing at an opponent like a mad bull, oblivious as to whether he gets the ball or not. The forwards displayed great pace, but lacked combination. Watson and Richardson were perhaps the best wing, but they were not much in front of Joice and Lishman, the former of whom played a splendid game. Price showed up creditably in the centre. It should be mentioned that the Rovers were short of two or three good men, but their substitutes left nothing to be desired.

—o—

LANGLEY PARK ALBIONS STILL UNBEATEN.

The above club still continue their victorious career, and for a newly-formed team have displayed form much above the average. The Langley men journeyed to Bearpark last Saturday to meet their namesakes—the Albions. The latter were pretty confident of winning, but they had to strike their flag to the all-conquering Langly Park club. The home team are a set of likely-looking young fellows, but have no idea of combination. They have a couple of good backs, and three capital halves; but the forward play is only so-so. When the front rank learn something approaching the modern style of football, they will render a much better account of themselves.

—o—

John Vickers again kept goal in excellent style for the visitors, and there seemed to be an element of doubt as to the legitimacy of the only point which Bearpark were credited with. Dodgson and Shorten both played a grand back game, and are a pair of stout defenders who take a great deal of beating. Maddison showed improved form at half, while Wardle and Eggleston played their usual safe game, and used admirable judgment. Smith, Hallam, and Reed were about the pick of the forwards, Pattison and Lamb also putting in good work at times.

—o—

IVESTON SURPRISE THE CELTICS.

Iveston Villa is a team that is rapidly coming to the front, and their draw against a strong eleven representing Lizzie Celtics was a most meritorious performance. The Iveston spectators were greatly surprised at the result, for after the rather easy manner in which the Celtics won the first match, they were fully prepared to see the Villa defeated; they went away simply delighted with the play of the team. In the Villa goal, Hansom continues to improve, and got rid of some difficult shots in good style, while Haughan and Thompson played grandly at back, Haughan being the best. The halves were also very good, Foster being the pick, although Harper and McEnaney ran him very close. The forwards passed and dribbled splendidly, and if they can keep up the form they displayed on Monday will be very bad to stop. Among the Celtics, Coyle, Thompson Robson, P. Bell, and Errington stood out conspicuously in a very well-balanced team.

—o—

ALLENDALE PARK IN FORM.

A capital struggle resulted from the encounter between the Park and Caxton (Newcastle), the former, however, being too good for their opponents. The Caxton goalkeeper stopped some warm shots, while the backs were in excellent trim, especially Robson. The halves performed very creditably, while the forwards displayed grand combination. The whole of the winners showed splendid form. Bailey had not much work in goal, but did what fell to his lot in safe fashion. Longstaff and Clegg played a sound game at back, while the halves showed up grandly, Gunner astonishing the spectators by his tricky play. The forwards worked hard and effectively.

—o—

MEDOMSLEY WHITE STARS EXPLAIN.

DEAR SIR,—In perusing your welcome paper of 22nd Dec., I saw West Stanley Athletic were complaining of the treatment received at Medomsley on Saturday, 16th inst., and out of fairness to Medomsley White Stars, I beg to say that we treated them as well as we possibly could, and in fact better than they treated us at Stanley. We arranged for our 2nd team to play Stanley here, but as they could not raise a team, and we expected that they had got to know from the 2nd eleven secretary, we arranged a game with Iveston Villa. The last-named club coming on to the field first, we, of course, played them, and then not wanting to send the Stanley team home without a game, we agreed to play them two quarters and not ten minutes each way as your correspondent says, and some of the Stanley players even wanted the referee to blow the whistle five minutes before the time was up. This is the first charge we have had made against us, and we feel that it is unmerited.—Yours truly,

A SUPPORTER OF MEDOMSLEY WHITE STARS.

—o—

DISAPPOINTMENTS.

Complaints referring to the above are continually reaching us, and publishing the names of the delinquents does not appear to put a stop to the reprehensible practice. In cases where clubs who indulge in this amusement are affiliated to an association, it would be well for the club disappointed to report them to that association, who would probably do something with a view to putting an end to what is rapidly become a complete nuisance.

Mr F. Siddle says:—Would you kindly allow me a small space in your valuable paper to complain about the conduct of the following teams:—Burnhope Rovers 2nd and Shotley Bridge Rovers 2nd. We, the Consett Y.M.C.A. 2nd, have been disappointed two Saturdays in succession at home. I think if such clubs don't intend to fulfil their fixtures, they should not arrange them.

The Blackhill Park secretary writes:—While looking through your football notes, I noticed two clubs complaining of disappointments from Blackhill Park. The first one, Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's, stated that they were distinctly told that the return fixture would not be played. This I do not deny, for they distinctly told us before they left the field what they would give us when they got us over to Marley Hill. This, and the treatment we received the last time we were there, was enough to make us cancel the return fixture. The other club, Lintzford, I think is making a mistake. As you are aware, there was a note in your "Jottings" to the effect that they had cancelled all engagements, on account of the death of a vice-president, and we never got any word that we had to till about 11 o'clock on the Saturday morning, when we could not possibly raise a team.

Consett Fell Rangers write to say that they were disappointed by Tanfield Lea Cæsars on Saturday last.

—o—

"ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE."

Our esteemed contributor, "Stanhope," often reminds us of the clever men which Weardale has produced, and although we may at times have been somewhat sceptical on the point, an incident which has happened this week has banished all our doubts. On Tuesday morning, a somewhat dangerous looking missive bearing the Wolsingham post-mark, and addressed "To the Editor off the Concert Gardian," reached our office. We opened it in fear and trembling, but were perfectly re-assured when we found that it only contained the following:—

"Please will you put it into print that the Lilly Whites beat St. Mathew by four goals to 3. J. Ford played well for the Lilly Whites, C. Nixon as well, T. Smith as well, M. Brough as well, R. Johnson as well."

There are undoubtedly some clever people in Weardale. What do you think?

—o—

THE PARK SCORE HEAVILY.

The Leadgate Park committee arranged for a visit from the well-known Elswick Wesley team on Christmas Day, the latter being assisted by Taylor, of Rendel. The Park forwards were re-organised, and played a remarkably clever passing game, their shooting also being very deadly. Joe Robson on the outside right gave a surprisingly good display, registering five of the prettiest goals ever scored on the Park ground. Graham was placed as inside right, and shaped capitally. T. Foster, who was given a trial in the centre, more than fulfilled anticipations, shooting and passing with the greatest judgment. A. Burnhope and Joe Wilson formed the left wing, and played together in admirable fashion. The halves were again in rare form, and it would be unfair to single any one of them out for special mention. The backs were very safe, W. Foreman's kicking against the wind being grand. Frank was not quite as good as his brother, but played a sound game. Crowther was only troubled with one shot, and let it score.

—o—

NORTHERN ALLIANCE

The following are the results of the Northern Alliance Competition up to Saturday:—

	Plyd	Won	Lst	Drn	Goals For	Goals Agst	Pts
Hebburn Argyle	7	6	1	0	19	7	12
Sunderland A	8	6	2	0	23	13	12
Gateshead N.E.R.	9	5	2	2	24	18	12
Shankhouse	8	3	1	4	21	10	10
Rendel	10	3	3	4	23	21	10
Newcastle United A	11	4	5	2	26	24	10
Blyth	9	3	5	1	19	19	7
Willington Athletic	6	1	1	4	8	7	6
Dipton Wanderers	10	2	6	2	16	28	6
Southwick	8	0	7	1	4	36	1

—o—

MEMS.

What a pity it is that the splendid football ground at Shotley Spa is not more centrally situated.

I am pleased to observe that Blackhill Rovers have secured a grand array of talent (including Mr T. Hoffman, of Newcastle) for their concert, which takes place on Saturday, January 13th.

As there will be a considerable number of matches played during the New Year's holidays, correspondents will greatly oblige us by forwarding their reports next week as early as they possibly can.

Unless this is attended to, clubs must not blame us if their communications are much condensed, if not omitted altogether.

Barnes, a new man from Glasgow—who was tried in the Leadgate Park Reserve team on Saturday—is, without doubt, the prettiest dribbler that has ever been seen in the Park ranks, and his centres are very dangerous.

—o—

MATCHES WANTED.

Blackfine Ramblers would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 13 to 16. Apply, Charles Lumley, 27, Dixon Street, Blackfine.

Hamsterley United have a few vacant dates, and would like to have them filled up with moderate 1st or good 2nd teams. Apply, J. T. Little, School Row, Hamsterley, *via* Ebchester.

Hedley Hill Fell Harriers would like to arrange dates with junior teams. Ages, 14 to 17. Apply, J. Brennan, Hedley Hill.

Hare Law Wanderers would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 12 to 14. Apply, Peter Graham, Hill Top, Dipton.

LANCHESTER JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC ABATING.

At the monthly meeting held on Thursday afternoon week, under the chairmanship of Mr William Logan, J.P., Dr G. Renton, Medical Officer, reported that during the last month eight patients suffering from small-pox had been admitted to the Infectious Hospital, and 28 small-pox patients had been discharged. There were at present six inmates suffering from from small-pox, four of whom would be discharged during the week. Of the fresh cases, five were from Leadgate, one from Bradley Cottages, one from Consett, and one from Templetown.

The CHAIRMAN said the report was more satisfactory than any they had received during the past three months.

Coun. MUSE: How many deaths have occurred since the small-pox first broke out?

The Clerk: Five or six.

Coun. MUSE was pleased to hear that Dr Maclean Wilson, the Local Government Inspector, spoke very favourably of the Fever Hospital.

Mr OLIVER: Yes. He regards our Hospital as second to none in the country, and speaks very highly of the way in which the various Sanitary Authorities have coped with the disease.

The CHAIRMAN stated that they had incurred considerable expense in dealing with the small-pox epidemic, and the Hospital Board was now in debt.

The Clerk presented the following special precepts—

	£	s	d
Lanchester R.S.A.	377	2	6
Consett Local Board	123	11	10
Benfieldside do.	37	18	7
Leadgate do.	102	0	4
Stanley do.	50	16	9
Total	£691	10	4

The CHAIRMAN stated that £180 12s 0d was for the care and maintenance of patients.

The Clerk also presented an account from the Hospital caretaker, claiming £7 7s 6d for the removal of patients, and £7 17s 6d for disinfecting clothing; but as he anticipated there would be some extra remuneration required by the Hospital staff as soon as the epidemic was stamped out, it was suggested that the matter should remain in abeyance.

It was decided to have a pole affixed to the ambulance carriage, so that it could be drawn by a couple of horses.

It was further agreed to retain Corby Castle as an Infectious Hospital until May next.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year, more than £300 000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1,000 a week more in wages, and large numbers of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism. 306j

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, &c., are made to serve man, by 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 13½d and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather. Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

"CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints cured by Buchu-paiba." At Chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agent King Edward Street, London E.C.

SANNA [illegible] Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental [illegible]. At Chemists.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is nounced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, kidney diseases, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the description free of charge, on receipt of a self addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper.

"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. 1s. and 6½d. boxes.

Business Announcements.

ECONOMY! FRUGALITY!!

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE!

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HALF PRICE.

WHITE SEWING MACHINES.

Light Running, Speedy and Noiseless, Simple in Construction, and of Thorough Workmanship.

OVER 800,000 NOW IN USE.

GOLD MEDAL AT PARIS EXHIBITION, 1889.

WHITE SEWING MACHINES.

For Family Use, Corset Making, Dressmaking, Mantle-making, &c., &c. Hand Machines, convenient for carrying about, Prices from Fifty Shillings. Hand and Treadle Machines. Large Machines for Tailors and Manufacturers; in short, suitable Machines for all classes of work.

WHITE SEWING MACHINES.

Guaranteed for Five Years; no charge for repairs in that time, and despite the large numbers sold, the Company has never failed in a single instance to make good its guarantee.

Weekly or Monthly Payments, without Additional Cost.

Price Lists and Samples of Work by Post, Free.

Beautiful Samples always on View.

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DR LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE

FOR THIRTY YEARS has maintained its world-wide reputation as the only safe, reliable phosphoric cure for Brain Wreckage, Sleeplessness, Hysteria, Dreams, and all Functional and Diseased Conditions of the System caused by the Deficiency of the Vital Forces.

Supplies the Blood with its Brain, Nerve, and Bone-forming element—Phosphorus, and by its tonic action on the Nervous System, stimulates Heart, Lungs, Liver, Kidneys and Stomach to the healthy performance of their several functions.

The effects of DR. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE in Nervous Debility and its Kindred Evils is immediate and permanent; all the Miserable Feelings and Distressing Symptoms disappearing with a rapidity that is REALLY MARVELLOUS.

Is unsurpassed as a Tonic after Influenza and all Debilitating Diseases.

Thousands of unimpeachable Testimonials from all parts of the world, and from the Highest Medical Authorities.

Sold in Bottles, 4s. 6d. and 11s. each, by all Chemists.

Address—DR. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE LABORATORY HAMPSTEAD, LONDON, N.W.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

THE SILVER LINING.

When poets sing of lover's woes,
And blighted lives and throbs and throes
And yearnings—goodness only knows
It's all a pose.

I am a poet too, you know;
I too was young once long ago,
And wrote such stuff myself, and so
I ought to know

I for my stricken heart found balm
In sonnets to Amanda's calm
High brow, or Julia's lily palm
Or perfect arm.

Which, when she scorned, did I resign
To flames, and go into decline?
Not much! When sonnets fetched per line
Enough to dine.

So, reader, when you read in print
A poet's woe—beware and stint
Your tears—and take this gentle hint—
It is his mint.

When Julia's "fair as flowery mead,"
Or when she "makes his heart-strings bleed,"
Know then she's furnishing his feed
Or fragrant weed.

And even as you read—who knows,
Like cannibal that eats his foes
He dines off Julia's "heart that froze,"
Or "cheek of Rose."

HARDLY AN ADVERTISEMENT.

Sinnick: "Did you hear about poor Kiedley?"

Quidney: No. What about him?"

Sinnick: "Why, only twelve months ago he invested all his money in a new invention and built a large factory, and last night a fire broke out and burned it to the ground, walls and all."

Quidney: "Poor beggar! By the way, what line was he in?"

Sinnick: "Patent fire-proof building materials!"

MISS OR MADAME.

Shop Assistant: "I really don't know whether it is safer to address that strange lady as 'Miss' or 'Madame.'"

Floor Walker: "Why what difference will it make?"

S. A.: "Well, you see if I call her 'Madame' she'll think I think she looks so old that she must be married. And if I call her 'Miss' she'll think I have spotted her as an old maid who couldn't get married."

IN HONOUR OF THE DAY.

Laddie had got out of petticoats and into knickerbockers, and the first morning when he appeared in the more dignified vestments, he was proud indeed.

"They're better than petticoats, aren't they, mamma?" he inquired, looking complacently down at his chubby legs.

"Very much better."

"Do you suppose folks will notice them?"

"A very few, perhaps."

"Mamma," said he a moment later, remembering one unfailing indication of very important occasions, "do you s'pose the shops will be closed?"

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Druggists, Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. 6½d. and 1s. bottles.

DR BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For eradicating 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.

UNION LINE FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD FIELDS. [illegible]

WILLIAM ELLIOTT, 5, Mount Pleasant, Consett.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."

CLARKE'S WORLD FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER AND RESTORER

FOR CLEANSING and CLEARING the BLOOD from ALL IMPURITIES it cannot be too highly recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds it is a never-failing and permanent cure.

Cures Old Sores.
Cures Sores on the Neck.
Cures Sore Legs.
Cures Blackheads or Pimples on the Face.
Cures Scurvy.
Cures Eczema.
Cures Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.
Clears the Blood from all impure matter.
From whatever cause arising.

It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains. It removes the cause from the blood and bones.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

"CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE is entirely free from any poison or metallic impregnation, does not contain any injurious ingredient, and is a good, safe, and useful medicine."—ALFRED SWAN TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology.

"257, St. George's-road, Hull, Jan. 12, 1892.

"I thought it was my duty to let you know what Clarke's Blood Mixture has done for me. After suffering for three years with abscesses on my arm and leg, and the doctors not being able to do me any good I am thankful to say, after taking a few bottles of your Clarke's Blood Mixture, I am restored to perfect health again, and would have the whole world know of your wonderful medicine.—Yours truly,

"Miss HOUGHTON."

"7, Canonbury-park North, London, N., Jan. 13, 1892.

"I had a very bad arm for eight or nine months, and had medical advice, which did not benefit me much. I met a gentleman at the Crystal Palace, and he told me a friend of his had a carbuncle on his leg, and that your Blood Mixture cured him right out. He advised me to try it, which I did, and after taking four 2s 9d bottles, I am glad to tell you the place healed quite up, and I have not felt anything of it since.

"I have no objection to you publishing this cure.

"Yours faithfully,

"A. BONNER.

IMPORTANT ADVICE TO ALL.—Cleanse the vitiated blood whenever you find its impurities bursting through the skin in pimples, eruptions, and sores; cleanse it when you find it obstructed and sluggish in the veins; cleanse it when it is foul—your feelings will tell you when. Keep your blood pure, and the health of the system will follow.

Sold in Bottles 2s 9d, and 11s each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases.

By ALL CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world, or sent to any address on receipt of 33 or 132 Stamps by the proprietors, THE LINCOLN & MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY LINCOLN.

Write for the New Pamphlet on Skin and Blood Diseases with full directions for diet, &c., to Secretary, Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Sent post free.

TRADE MARK, "BLOOD MIXTURE."

ASK FOR CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE, and not be persuaded to take an *imitation*

GALVANIZED CORRUGATED IRON

ROOFING SHEETS,

Large quantity of Slightly Defective Sheets:—

5ft. long by 2ft. wide	....	1s 3d each.
6 " " "	....	1s 6d "
7 " " "	....	1s 10d "
8 " " "	....	2s 1d "
9 " " "	....	2s 6d "
10 " " "	....	3s 0d "

For all practical purposes the above are as good as perfect sheets, being water-tight, fire-proof, &c.

If painted with red Oxide 2d to 6d per sheet extra.

Red Oxide Paint specially prepared for iron work and ready for use. Price on application

Galvanized Ridging, Gutters, and Down Spouting Nails, Screws, Washers, &c., and all Materials for fixing.

BRUCE AND STILL,

CONTRACTORS FOR

IRON ROOFS AND BUILDINGS

DESIGNS AND ESTIMATES FREE.

75 NORFOLK STREET, LIVERPOOL.

LOVE ROMANCE IN A WORKHOUSE.

The master of the Yeovil Warkhouse was recently visited by a farm labourer of about forty years of age, who, says the "Exeter Gazette," stated that his wife was dead, and he had no one to keep home for him. He asked if the master could recommend him a decent woman as housekeeper with a view to marriage. The master told him that there were several who would probably be only too pleased to become his housekeeper, and, after he had satisfied himself as to the man's bona-fides, introduced him to a single woman, the mother of a boy ten years of age, and of a baby eleven weeks old, but who had the virtue of being cleanly and domesticated, and withal, comely in appearance. The master told the women the object of the man's visit, and left them in the hall together to discuss terms. Half an hour afterwards he returned to find that during the interval wonderful progress had been made in the direction of sealing a bargain, for the man declared that Lucy was everything his heart could wish for. He addressed her most affectionately, as if he had known her for years—an affection which Lucy heartily reciprocated. The master pointed out to the man the responsibility he wished to undertake, but George said he was anxious to take the woman and the family, and implored the master to draw up an agreement to the effect that he would marry her as soon as the necessary formalities could be gone through, which was done. The man having signed it, the couple bid each other an affectionate good-bye, and George promised to fetch Lucy and her family and a few "sticks" of furniture she had on the following Monday. True to his promise he arrived at the workhouse on the morning of the day named, with his employer's horse and farm waggon (having previously written Lucy a gushing love letter), and drove triumphantly away with his intended wife and children, saying that he was going to give her all the money he earned every week, and that he was sure she would make him a comfortable home. The wedding will take place in about a week.

Business Announcements

BLINDS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
MADE TO ORDER.

VENETIAN BLINDS MADE TO ORDER.
OLD BLINDS CLEANED, MADE EQUAL TO NEW.
ALL SUNDRIES KEPT IN STOCK.
ESTIMATES GIVEN. PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION
STUDDY AND ALEXANDER,
BLIND MANUFACTURERS,
1 PICTON PLACE, OPPOSITE BLYTH AND TYNE STATION,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

WILLIAM RAW, AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, Land, House, and Commission Agent. Auction Sales conducted with experience, ability, and care. Prompt Payments. Appointed by His Honour, Judge Meynell, to levy Distress for Rent under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Also, Architect and Surveyor. Plans for Houses Designed, and Building carried out for Convenience, Ease, and Comfort. Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill. 465m

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SMART & CO.,
42, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
(Branch, 42, Fawcett Street, Sunderland).
Open Daily from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m. (Saturday 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.)
WRITING.—By Smart & Co's renowned system of Instruction the worst style of writing is transformed into a good Business hand in a single Course of Lessons. Success guaranteed. Fee, One Guinea.
BOOKEEPING by Single and Double Entry. Students are taken through a complete course of study, adapted to their requirements, for a fixed Fee, without limit to lessons.
SHORTHAND.—Pitman's Phonography, Elementary and Advanced. Unlimited facilities are afforded for acquiring a practical knowledge. Tuition and speed practice all day, from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m.
TYPEWRITING, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Composition, and all the Branches of a sound, Commercial Education taught individually by specialists.
Private Rooms for Ladies. 640m

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
(THREE DOORS BELOW BLACKETT ST)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
CHEAP WATCHES.
GENUINE ENGLISH LEVERS £1 10s 0d
SILVER GENEVAS 10s 6d
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF & MALT WINE
THE MOST RELIABLE WINE FOR INVALIDS.
Composed of Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract, and old Port Wine. It forms a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength
PRICES: 3s. 9d. PER BOTTLE; 2s. PER HALF-BOTTLE.
Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, Newcastle.
LOCAL AGENTS:—
ANNFIELD PLAIN.—J. LUMLEY, Railway Inn
BLACKHALL MILL.—T. ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
BLACKHILL.—R. MURRAY, Royal Hotel.
BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES, Burton House.
CONSETT.—W. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c; T. D. DRYDEN, Grocers, &c.; THOMAS MILNER Chemist.
DIPTON.—R. ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
ESH.—WM. OYSTON, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
LEADGATE.—WM. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c.; JOHN SNAITH, Queen Victoria Hotel.
MEDOMSLEY.—R. RUTHERFORD, Royal Oak Hotel.
SOUTH MOOR.—M. DIXON, Oak Inn.
STANLEY.—WM. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c.; T. FORSTER, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—M. ELSDON, Wheat Sheaf Inn.
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TANFIELD.—JOHN IRWIN, Pack Horse Inn.
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Agents in every town and village.
Prepared only by
W. GLENDENNING and SONS,
Newcastle-on-Tyne. 769m

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, 1893.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGNO."]

THE NEW YEAR.

A year has sped with noiseless tread—
A gift from the hand of God—
But it's left a stain on brow and brain,
And a cloud o'er many abode.

No mere man will dare to question the truth of the sentiment embodied in the foregoing lines. The successive years come and go, and although a shadow falls upon the grass and leaves no stain behind, it is very different with the shadows of life. The poet in the olden time expressed this idea very beautifully in the lines:

Ah! not in heaven, but upon earth
Are signs of change expressed,
The closing year has left its mark
On human brow and breast.

Let not, however, the human heart be troubled. We are on the eve of a new year—a mighty unwritten volume fresh from the land of God. Our names are written therein, but the untold possibilities of the future are hidden—and wisely hidden—from mortal ken. Good old John Milton put it on record that it was well to follow the ideal:

How'er thou livest, live well,
How long or short permit to heaven.

There is no need then to sit down and brood over the buried past, although it is most essential that men should look backward at this season of the year and pause and ponder in order that the rocks and the quicksands on the shores of life may be avoided as the days, weeks, and months come and go. Commercial men make a rule of making a searching investigation touching their gains and losses at the end of the year, and such a *modus operandi* is just as necessary in the individual experience of men. In the case of the latter, however, there is not the bustle of the counting-house, nor the introduction of the science of figures. Dean Swift said every tub should stand on its own bottom, and so every man must stand in his own boots. We hear a great deal in these days of union being strength, but what we want above all things *is* solid individual worth, and how to achieve it is to recognise its value and to follow the stereotyped course by virtue of which men have burst the bands of circumstance and climbed the heights, on the summit of which—not the temple of fame, but the temple of manhood, shines afar. Look the door then as the closing hours of the dying year draws nigh; draw the curtains close, screw down the light and look into the fire. There are faces in the fire, you know, when the lights burn low, and the bairns have been lulled to rest for the night. There are voices too—still small voices—if you listen intently, echoes which come along the corridors of the past as the footfalls of the dying year are becoming fainter in the distance. To sit in the firelight on a winter evening—and noteably on the threshold of a new year—is much akin to reclining under a rosebush by a murmuring strain in the summer days. The influence of both are inspiring, inasmuch as they bring into action ideas which seek to crush the meaner thoughts and bid the nobler soar. These mystic voices will be what is denominated many-sided, for as men sow, so shall they also reap. There is many a vacant chair in the homes of men, and many a change has taken place since the dying year began its destined course. What has been will be again, and so on for ever. It is written that "man is born to trouble, as the sparks fly upwards," but the joys of life far outweigh its sorrows, the majority of which are created by ourselves. The ancients said that every successive year died on a pyre, like the Assyrian kings. The idea intended to be conveyed was that the memories of the failures of the past should be burned up root and branch, and the mind set free for the contingencies of the future. It is of the utmost importance that life should be regarded from this ever-changing point of view. We dream dreams and look hopefully forward to their realisation, and although our efforts fail, too often, alas! to achieve the desideratum, the exercise of mind and will leaves us stronger than we were before; just as Tennyson phrased it:—

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

Let the new year find us then ready, aye ready, to make the most and the best of the turn of events which the fates have in store for us. Young, the author of "Night Thoughts," says that to know ourselves diseased is half our cure, and with that knowledge before us we may go hopefully forward, nothing doubting. I wish my many readers the compliments of the season, and may the day be far distant when the cloud of misfortune will darken the door of even the least of them.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—*Under Two Flags* is the holiday attraction here this week and is being fairly well patronised. Mr David McFarlane in the dual role of "Bertie Cecil" and "Louis Victor" is excellent, and as "Ezra Baroni," Mr Evan Roland does very well. Mr George Salmon is a good "Lord Rockingham," and as "Rake Flanagan" Mr Frank Stone is most acceptable. As the "Princess Venita Corona" Miss Violet Temple displays exceptional ability; and as "Cigarette," Miss Grace Temple is a thorough success. Miss Ada Salmon as "Odette," also sings and dances very nicely. To-night (Friday) Ouida's beautiful drama *Moths* will be produced, and to-morrow night *Under Two Flags* will be repeated.

Sir George Elliot, Bart., died at his London residence, on Saturday afternoon, after a severe illness extending over three weeks. The news was received with feelings of great regret throughout Durham and the adjacent districts.

BRITISH SCHOOLS.—At the closing of the schools for the customary Christmas holidays, Miss F. E. Lee, who left to be married, was presented with a handsome silver cruet; Miss M. Cox, who has been appointed to the Infant Department of the Practising Schools of the Darlington Training College, with a lady's travelling bag; and Mr H. Farnsworth, who is about to enter the Westminster Training College, London, with a Gladstone travelling bag, as tokens of esteem. The headmaster (Mr Hyden) made the presentation on behalf of the scholars and staff, and the recipients suitably replied.

LECTURES.—On Wednesday evening week, Rev J. R. Shortt completed the course of four lectures on "Political economy," arranged by the Educational Committee of the Consett Co-operative Society, the third having been given the previous Wednesday by Rev A. Watts on "Land, labour, and capital." These lectures have been productive of good discussion, and have supplied material for thought which the more intelligent will be pretty sure to turn to future profit.

LEADGATE.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to Councillor Winter's address to his constituents in the Miners' Hall, Leadgate, on Thursday first, at seven o'clock.

PRESENTATION.—On the occasion of the "breaking up" of the Leadgate Wesleyan Day Schools for their Christmas holidays, Miss Sarah Lee, mistress, was presented, in the presence of the school managers, with a writing desk, two pictures, and a silver-mounted jelly dish (scholar's present), as a memento of the esteem in which she was held. Mr T. Harrison, Leadgate, made the presentation, and Mr Lane, schoolmaster, referred to the manner in which Miss Lee had taught the children, and the loss the school would sustain by her leaving. Miss Lee suitably replied.

ST. IVES'.—The festival season of Christmas has not passed unobserved at St. Ives', Leadgate. On Monday night week, the children connected with the Infants' School entertained their parents and friends by giving a concert, varied by recitations, musical drill, &c., in the Infants' School. Mr Geo. Nicholson presided. Under the able management of Miss Wharton and her staff of assistants, the children acquitted themselves most admirably, and greatly delighted, with their quaint ways, the large audience which filled the room to overflowing. On Wednesday evening, the Church choir gave a sacred concert in the Redwell Hills Schools, the vicar, who has quite recovered from his recent illness, presiding. A number of sacred songs, sung as solos, formed the first part of the programme, and the second part consisted of the sacred cantata, "The Nativity." The Rev R. S. Hay acted as choirmaster, Miss M. Blanch accompanied the solos, and Mr Wm. Brears presided at the harmonium during the singing of "The Nativity." The room was well filled, and the concert was greatly enjoyed.

DIPTON.

A FRIENDLY SUPPER, promoted by the officials of South Medomsley Colliery Sick Fund, was held at the Black Bull Inn, Dipton, on Saturday last, when about 50 partook of an excellent repast, provided by Mr and Mrs Bennison, host and hostess. Mr Joseph Gray occupied the chair, and Mr T. Laverick was vice-chairman. Both the chairman and vice-chairman referred in eulogistic terms to the Sick Fund and its benefits, after which the evening was spent harmoniously.

WATERHOUSES.

ALLEGED BEEF STEALERS.—At Durham County Police Court on Wednesday, *George Simmons* and *John Thompson* were brought up on a charge of shop-breaking at Waterhouses on the 23rd inst.—It was alleged that prisoners broke into the shop of George Elliott, butcher, Bagle Hill, Waterhouses, and carried off a quantity of beef. Their noise in getting in and out, and the barking of a dog in the premises, aroused the attention of prosecutor and his brother, who were about to retire to bed, and they gave chase. The two thieves thereupon dropped the meat and ran away. Prosecutor could not identify the men, but the prisoners were found in a coke oven with wet boots and trousers, and the boots were found to correspond with plaster casts taken of some strangers' footprints found in the prosecutor's house.—The men were committed to the Quarter Sessions.

MEDOMSLEY.

We are asked to contradict a report that Mr R. M. Rutherford, of the Royal Oak Hotel, intends to remove from Medomsley to Tow Law.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—On Friday evening, a grocer's assistant named Richardson, of Annfield Plain, cut his throat with some sharp weapon, and remained out all night with the bleeding wound. When he presented himself at his home on the following (Saturday) morning, he was in such a fearful condition that it was deemed advisable to remove him to the Royal Infirmary, at Newcastle.

WEST STANLEY.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—On Wednesday evening, the Stanley District Philharmonic Society, held their third bi-annual concert in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley, when they produced Handel's "Messiah", in splendid style. There were, including the orchestra, about 100 members taking part. The solos were most excellently rendered by Miss Kate Fairley, R.A.M., soprano; Madam Bellas-Dryden, contralto; Mr D. S. MacDonald, of Durham Cathedral, tenor; and Mr Nutton, Durham Cathedral, bass. There was a large and appreciative audience, who appeared delighted with the performance, and *encored* the soloists. These concerts are becoming very popular in Stanley. Great credit is due to Mr Foster for having trained the choristers so efficiently.

LANCHESTER.

On Friday night, Mr W. S. Vallance, the renowned humourist, gave one of his popular entertainments in the National Schoolroom, at Lanchester, before a good audience.

Mr Thomas Wilkinson, veterinary surgeon, and Mrs Wilkinson, of Lanchester, had a narrow escape at mid-day on Saturday. They were driving along the road, when the horse stumbled and fell, seriously injuring its fore legs. Mrs Wilkinson was thrown out of the conveyance, and remained in a state of semi-consciousness for some time. She is now recovering from the shock.

FROSTERLEY.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND SALE OF WORK.—The Church party at Frosterley held a Christmas tree, concert, coffee supper, and sale of work in the North Board School, on Saturday evening. The concert was a grand success, there being a crowded house. The Rev F. C. Jagg presided, while Messrs J. Bell, Stanhope, and Siddle, Willington, presided at the piano. The performers were principally local, with the exception of Mr H. Waller, Stockton; Mr Laybourne, Willington; and Mr G. Egglestone, Stanhope. The proceeds amounted to nearly £10, and it is expected, after the Christmas tree goods are all disposed of, that the amount will reach £15 or so.

STANHOPE.

DRAWING-ROOM PARTY.—Mrs Chunn, wife of the resident Primitive Methodist minister, Stanhope, gave a drawing-room tea and party, on Christmas Day, at the Primitive chapel and schools, in connection with the ladies' sewing meeting effort. It was a complete success, and was patronised by nearly all the *elite* of the place, including both Church people and Wesleyans, as well as the general public. The decorations were superb, and the music excellent. The results financially were close upon £15.

STANLEY.

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE MEETING.—On Sunday evening Mr Ross occupied the chair, and Mr Lowther's company gave an excellent performance of suitable music.

THE "HOPE OF WEST STANLEY" LODGE, I.O.G.T.—A concert was held on Saturday night last, in the Wesleyan schoolroom, West Stanley, kindly given by Mr Lowther's string band, from West Pelton. The programme was exceedingly well rendered, the selections by the band calling forth well merited praise. The singing of Misses Turnbull and Lowther was exceptionally good, while the recitations of Master Riddell evoked hearty outbursts of applause. Another splendid feature was the playing of "The Blue Bells of Scotland," on the violin, by Miss Barbara Lowther, who is only 8 years of age. The only drawback to the proceedings was the meagre attendance, due no doubt to the many attractions in the district. Mr W. Ross occupied the chair.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—On Saturday evening last there was produced for the first time in Stanley the Christmas pantomime entitled *Dick Whittington*, with undoubted success, the house being literally packed from floor to ceiling, and an immense number being turned away. The libretto is by Mr Fred H. Graham, and is brimful of wit and fun. The caste, which is an excellent one, is well filled by able artistes. Miss Maud Elliston is an attractive "Dick," and for her singing and dancing she was the recipient of well-deserved applause. As "Sergeant Smeakem," Mr Guy Merville is very funny, and with Miss Millward as "Sarah Maud," managed to keep the house in roars of laughter. Miss Lily Morrell was a complete success as "Alice," this lady's singing being deservedly applauded. Mr James Matthewson as "Thomas Fitzwarren," and Mr J. Allen as "Jack Doolittle," were very good; as was also Mr Gus Bowerman as "Capt. Blubber," and Mr Mark Lindon as "Emperor McMurphy." Miss Lily Seymore as "Tim Mainbrace," and Miss Alice Granville as "Flo," was very pleasing. The rest of the caste was well sustained by the remainder of the company. In the fourth scene, "London by Winter," an "Arab Ballet" is rendered by the Misses Mason, Holmes, and Butterfield, which is highly appreciated. In the fifth, or Palace Scene, the Sisters Abbot introduce some good skirt dancing. The Brothers Allen appear in their statue dance, and do a Gavotti, which is a really creditable performance. The transformation scene "Blossomland" is by Mr Cattermole Cathery, and is a work of art. The local children have been trained, and their dresses designed by Mrs Lindon, and reflect very great credit upon that lady. Some new and special scenery by Messrs John Dixon and F. Egerton is also introduced, and the whole pantomime has been produced by Mr Guy Morville under the personal supervision of Mr M. Lindon. The Harlequinade which is excessively funny has been invented by Mr James Mathewson who plays the Clown while the Bros Allen play Pantaloon and Harlequin respectively. Miss F. Clark is the Columbine, and Mr F. Hall is the policeman. Excellent houses have been present every night, and Mr Rawes may congratulate himself upon the success of his first Christmas pantomime. An afternoon performance is announced for Saturday next at 2 0 p.m.

PRUDHOE.

POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW.—On Saturday afternoon, in the National Schools, the third annual exhibition of the Prudhoe and District Poultry, Pigeon, and Cage Bird Society was held, and proved a complete success. The entries were numerous, and for a country club show were exceedingly good in many respects. The birds were well caged and looked after by the local agents of Messrs Spratt's Patent. The judging was in the hands of Mr E. Hutton Leeds.

FATALITY ON THE RAILWAY.—On Saturday, Mr T. Rutherford, deputy-coroner for South Northumberland, held an inquest at the Boat House Inn, Prudhoe, touching the death of Thomas Jameson, whose dead body was found on the railway about a mile from Prudhoe Station that morning. Inspector Hunt watched the case on behalf of the North-Eastern Railway Company.—Jas. Jameson, miner, High Mickley, indentified the body as that of his brother, a miner, living at Clara Vale, near Wylam. His brother was 54 years of age.—George Pringle, High Woodside, Ryton, said that on Friday, 2nd inst., he attended a funeral at Corbridge along with deceased. They left Corbridge by the 6 p.m. train, and the deceased got out at Wylam, while witness went on to Ryton.—Robert Little, porter at Prudhoe Station, said that about half-past 5 o'clock on Saturday morning he was walking up the line from Wylam to Prudhoe, and he found the dead body of the deceased lying on the north side of the rails.—Sergeant Waugh stated that from information he received, he went to a spot about a mile east of Prudhoe, and there found the body of the deceased man lying about three yards on the outside of the up line. There was a wound on the head on the left side just above the ear. A railway ticket dated Dec. 22nd, and issued from Corbridge to Wylam, was lying near the body. The body was conveyed to Prudhoe. His opinion was that deceased intended to walk along the line from Wylam to Clara Vale, but had taken the wrong direction and gone towards Prudhoe, and had been knocked down by a passing train.—The jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally killed."

TOW LAW.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A FARMER.—On Tuesday week, William Fleming, aged 30 years, a farmer, residing with his mother at Thornley Cottages, near Tow Law, died rather suddenly. It appears deceased left his residence to proceed to the Tow Law auction mart. After the sale he had been at home, and went to Mr Smith's public-house, where he had a little whisky. When in the public-house yard he fell down, and became so ill that he had to be conveyed home in a cart, and was afterwards attended by Dr Charlton and Dr Collins. The latter gentleman stated that he was requested, at half-past four on the day in question, to go to Fleming's at once, and on going found he was dead. The medical gentleman, on making an examination, found life to be extinct.

The respected Presbyterian minister, Rev. G. Samuel, M.A., will have the sympathy of his members and the inhabitants generally in the loss he has just sustained of his youngest brother, resident in Glasgow, who died somewhat suddenly at the close of last week.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "ANNFIELDITE."]

CANTATA.

The cantata given by the philharmonic class at Stanley last week, was an evidence of the great musical ability of this district, together with a desire to attain to yet higher proficency. Mr Foster, the conductor of this class, is a man of some ability, and under his tuition the members of the class will attain to a good position in the singing world. The class is composed of persons from all the villages within a reasonable distance of Stanley, and not a few are drawn from our own town, both male and female, who are making great advancement in musical art. I hope they will continue to go ahead and not lag behind in this musical age.

RELIEF FUND.

The local lodge of the Permanent Relief Fund, at Pontop Colliery, held their annual meeting on Wednesday night. The president, Mr E. Purvis, opened the meeting, and called upon the secretary, Mr P. Reay, to give a report of the doings of the lodge for the year, which showed that they were in a very healthy condition. There had not been any serious accidents during the year, and only ten shillings had been paid in two cases, which shows that there are very few accidents at the colliery. There are five old men and one widow receiving relief. The officers were elected as follows:—President, Mr E. Purvis; secretary, Mr P. Reay; treasurer, Mr J. McPherson; committee, Messrs M. Elliott, R. Hall, J. H. Thompson, and W. Baxter. Mr P. Reay was nominated for the general committee.

RATEPAYERS' MEETING.

On Wednesday se'nnight, the adjourned ratepayers meeting should have been held at Annfield Plain. There were a few persons collected, but as no replies from the authorities had come to hand, and as it was commonly reported that the meetings which had been held previously were out of order, inasmuch as it was stated that the chairman had been chosen beforehand, and also the overseers had no minutes of business done. It was arranged to call a meeting by requisition, through the overseers, and to proceed with matters in such a way as to make it felt that the people are determined to have their wrongs redressed. The meeting will shortly be held, when the various matters will be dealt with. It is well that all wisdom is not confined to the south and west of the Lanchester Union.

CHRISTMAS TIME.

The usual observance of the Xmas festivities were celebrated in the Annfield Plain district. The choirs of the Primitive Methodist Chapel and the Lay Church heralded in Christmas morning with lively singing, though the morning was windy, with occasional showers of rain. The Mission Temperance Band was out during the forenoon, and played well, under the leadership of Mr S. Castle. The prize band was also on duty. The Rev J. Crawshaw preached a most suitable sermon in the Wesleyan Chapel. At night, the choir gave a service of song, and at the close the bachelors of the congregation gave a ham and coffee supper, which was well patronised. The proceeds were over £15. The Free Church and Lay Church also had suitable entertainments, which were well attended and very successful.

FOOTBALL.

TO MORROW'S FIXTURES (SATURDAY, DEC. 30TH.)

Consett Town v Axwell Rovers (Swalwell), at Consett.
Blackhill Rovers v Hamsteels, at Blackfine.
Dipton Wanderers v Ashington, at Dipton.
Lintzford v St. Anthony's, at Lintzford.
Lintzford 2nd v South Moor Heroes, at Lintzford.
Oakey's Lilywhites v Ouston Institute, at Stanley.
Leadgate Park Reserve v Heaton United, at Leadgate.
Esh True Blues v Brandon Rovers, at Esh.
Blackhill Park v Medomsley White Stars, at Blackhill.
Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's v Burnopfield Temperance, at Marley Hill.
Waldridge White Star v Newcastle St. Michael's, at Newcastle.
Lizzie Celtics v Waterhouses Wanderers, at Waterhouses.
Hedley Hill Terrace Rangers v Wolsingham C.I., at Wolsingham.
South Moor Violets v Lintz Rovers, at the Lintz.
Consett Y.M.C.A. 2nd v Lanchester Rising Stars, at Lanchester.
Consett Fell Rangers v Burnhope Rovers 2nd, at Consett.
Oakey's Lilywhites 2nd v Ouston Institute 2nd, at Ouston.
Lintzford Juniors v Hotspur, at Lintzford.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Leadgate Park v Middlesbrough Swifts, at Leadgate.
Dipton Wanderers v Monkwearmouth, at Dipton.
Lintzford v Mickley Reserve, at Mickley.
Wolsingham Rising Stars v Wolsingham Bible Class, on the former's ground.
Blackhill Park v Allendale Park, at Blackhill.
Consett Fell Rangers v Castleside Rovers, at Consett.
Dipton Wanderers Reserve v Oakey's Lilywhites, at Dipton.
Oakey's Lilywhites 2nd v High Row Sportsmen, at Marley Hill.
Lintzford 2nd v Burnopfield Temperance, at Lintzford.
Leadgate Park Reserve v Heaton Guild, at Leadgate.
Waldridge White Star v Lizzie Celtics, at the Lizzie.
Waterhouses Wanderers v Heaton Guild, at Waterhouses.

HOBSON WANDERERS v. BRIGHTON (NEWCASTLE)

This game was played at the Hobson on Christmas Day, and came to an unpleasant termination. In the first half, the Wanderers, losing the toss, played against the wind, and Brighton succeeded in scoring twice, leading at half-time by two goals to nil. The second period was only 15 minutes' old when the visitors disputed the referee's decision, and left the field, after the home team had scored twice, leaving the result—

Hobson ....Two goals
Brighton ....Two goals

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d, tins 1s 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & CO., LTD., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Dr. Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."

THE SMALL-POX.

Odd cases of small-pox have cropped up both in Consett and Leadgate during the past week, but none of the patients are seriously attacked. A great many people are disposed to cavil at Dr Geo. Renton for having so persistently advocated the desirability of re-vaccination as the only safeguard against this loathsome disease. It is gratifying, however, to know that his contention has been voluntarily corroborated by a private letter which we have this week received from a medical practitioner in Manchester. He says:—"I am awfully sorry to hear you have the small-pox in your vicinity. . . . The only true preventative is re-vaccination—at least that is what I find the most sure remedy and the cheapest."

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "CASTLESIDEITE."]

The Christmas holidays have passed quietly with the villagers. The weather has been, upon the whole, mild: but at times rather boisterous. No doubt many would have rather seen a little snow on the ground.

Professor Morgan concluded his mesmeric entertainments on Wednesday night, the last night being a bumper. The professor found the village youths rather difficult to handle. Out of the number who mounted the platform, only one became subject to his stronger will. Surely Mr Morgan will have concluded by this, that the boys on the hill tops are a lot of thick scalps or stubborn willed, perhaps both.

We feel somewhat proud to learn that our neighbour Mr M. Anderson, Whitehall, took first prize at the Christmas Fat Cattle Show, at the Royal Auction Mart, Blackhill, on Monday the 18th inst. We congratulate him on his success.

An entertainment of a high-class character was given in the Board Schools on Saturday night, which was organised by a number of the Wesleyan Sunday scholars, in behalf of Dr Stephenson's Orphan Home, an institution which claims the attention and sympathy of all well meaning men and women. The chair was occupied by Councillor T. J. Muse, a very excellent programme was gone through by the following talented artistes:—Miss Harwood and Mr Hobday, Consett; Miss Stokoe and Mr J. W. Golightly, Rowley; Miss L. Jackson, and Miss Jeffrey, Castleside; Mr J. Bell, Edmondbyres; and Miss Leybourne, Castleside, presided at the piano. A dialogue entitled "How would you manage her?" by nine characters, was rendered in fine style.

On Christmas day the teachers and friends connected with the Wesleyan Sunday-school entertained the children belonging the school to tea. The teachers had also a fine display of toys for sale. In the evening an entertainment was given by a number of the scholars, and was presided over by Councillor Muse. After which a ham and coffee supper took place in the schoolroom, the tables were attended by Misses E. Muse, A. Byres, E. Storey, assisted by Mesdames Muse, Dent, Fairless, and Bainbridge.

The Castleside Primitive Methodist Choir visited Waskerley on Chistmas Day, and gave a concert in the schools in aid of their chapel funds. The chair was occupied by Mr Joseph Robson. Mr Thos. Raine conducted the singing, Mr F. B. Raine presided at the organ. A very hearty and complimentary vote of thanks to the choir for their services was moved by Mr Campbell (schoolmaster), and seconded by Mr J. Golden, which was supported by Mr G. Raine and Mr J. Robson. A ham supper followed, and a large company sat down, who did ample justice to the good things. The tables were attended by a number of painstaking and pleasing mannered matron and maiden ladies, all bent on doing their best to please and supply the wants of friend and stranger

The sewing meeting supper held in the Primitive Methodist Schoolroom on Saturday night was provided by Mrs J. Ripley; Misses Forster, Bainbridge, and Harker attended the tables, whilst Mesdames T. Raine, and R. Jewitt, in the absence of Mrs Ripley, who has been confined to her room for some months past through affliction, took charge of the kitchen. The supper was continued on Tuesday night as some provisions were left. After which many and various games were entered into, and a pleasant evening was spent. The supper realised the sum of £2 10s 7d.

The Primitives were disappointed in the preacher appointed for the day on Sunday, but found an excellent supply in the person of Mr J. Moffatt, (Wesleyan), Tyne Dock, a nephew of the late Messrs J. Hudson (Castle Dean), and W. Hudson (Smiddy Shaw), Waskerley, who was spending his Christmas holidays at Toddhills with his friends. Many have expressed pleasure in hearing Mr Moffatt.

NOTES FROM STANLEY DISTRICT.

["BY OBSERVER."]

Christmas has come and gone, and the most of us have enjoyed ourselves, seen our friends in large groups, talked over the year's troubles, cares, difficulties, disappointments, successes, improvements, and expectations. By an exchange of our varied experience we are united in expressions of gratitude toward Providence for our present positions. Some of us will be bilious for a few days through transgressing the laws of health, but what are we to do when such specimens of "Plum puddings" stand steaming with rich odour before you.

I am glad many of the choirs turned out and sang so sweetly. The moon shone beautiful and the weather was wonderful, with the exception of a few slight showers.

The Stanley Philharmonic Society gave positive proof of their musical ability on the 20th inst., in the West Stanley Co-operative Hall. The people of West Stanley have a just right to be proud of this musical society, which is giving their children a capital chance of being systematically trained in the science of music.

On Friday last a man named Maxwell was walking from East Stanley Colliery to Beamish, on the private railway, when he was caught by the waggons which almost severed one of his feet from his body, and necessitated his removal to the Newcastle Infirmary where he now lies.

On Saturday, on the North-Eastern Railway, between Twizell and Grange Villa, a set of waggons became detached from the rope by a broken link in a chain, when the waggons ran down the declivity with great velocity and came in contact with another set which was coming in another direction. The collision was violent, and the trucks were thrown over an embankment with considerable force and breakage. One of the waggon riders, named George Findley, got his leg broken, happily others escaped.

The Grange Villa choir gave a concert in their own chapel on Saturday last, when a miscellaneous programme was gone through in a very satisfactory manner to an appreciative audience.

On Saturday evening, a concert was given in the Iron School-room, West Stanley, by several amateur musicians from the West Pelton district, under the leadership of Mr J. W. Lowther. A select programme was given, consisting of vocal and instrumental music.

The East Stanley Primitive Methodists are putting forth a special effort to procure funds for their new chapel. County Councillor J. W. Allison, of Birtley, preached two practical sermons on Sunday last to good audiences.

The West Stanley Primitives held a public tea on Christmas Day, and after the tea an interesting entertainment was given by several friends. An enjoyable evening was the result.

The Beamish Wesleyans held a public tea and an amusing entertainment on Christmas Day. The Sunday school scholars were nicely trained in various interesting dialogues and amusing songs, which they rendered in good style to an eager and enthusiastic audience.

POLICE PRESENTATION.—Mr John Christison, late sergeant of police, who retired on a pension a few months ago, was publicly presented, in the Mechanics' Institute, Tow Law, on Wednesday se'nnight, with a handsome gold albert and apendage and a purse of gold. Mrs Christison was also presented with a gold brooch. The vicar the Rev. T. H. E. Espin, J.P., made the presentation.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

(*Continued.*)

SEASONABLE GENEROSITY AT CONSETT.—Last week-end, Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P., presented the Consett Tinmill workmen with either a pound or a half-a-pound of tea. The soup kitchen was opened on Saturday, and each of the men received a loaf of bread in addition.

BURNHOPESIDE.

Mr and Mrs Edward Hedley, of Burnhopeside, and Rainham, Beckenham, Kent, we are glad to record, continue the generous custom of distributing at this festive season suitable and acceptable mementoes of their remembrance of their friends and of the poor of Lanchester, Craghead, and South Moor Collieries. Since Mr Hedley succeeded to the estate of Burnhopeside he has been a very generous supporter of all schemes for the benefit of Lanchester and its inhabitants, and during the past year has rendered valuable assistance in various ways. He is also a staunch supporter of the Church, and has rendered willing pecuniary assistance for its improvement and adornment. During the past week there has been distributed from the hall, the beef of a prime three-years-old heifer, weighing 65 stones, fed by Mr Wood, of The Middles Farm, belonging to Mr Hedley, and the mutton of six splendid South Down sheep, weighing upwards of 40 stones, fed by Mr Fawcett upon the home farm, besides large numbers of geese, turkeys, and heads of game. The whole was portioned out under the able superintendency of Mrs Dixon, and distributed to the various recipients by Messrs Laidler, Nicholson, and Snaith.

FROSTERLEY.

Christmas has been celebrated here with genial spring-like weather. There has been very little astir to remind one of the festive season, but that can be in a great measure accounted for through the long spell of depression under which we are passing. On Saturday night last, the band was out on the hill sides among the farmers, as is their custom at Christmas and New Year's time; and early on Monday morning the Wesleyan Choir was out singing their Christmas carols, which is very nice to listen to when all is quiet, and later on in the day the Primitive Choir went out singing. Their object was to raise money for their new school. Upon the whole it has been very quiet. Christmas Day was observed as a general holiday, the quarries being all laid off, and places of business were closed.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CONSETT—18, Palmerston Terrace, 24th inst., the wife of Wm. Thos. Gaskill, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LANCHESTER—Register Office, 23rd inst., J. Clark, to E. Brown, both of Dipton.—Same day, J. Glendinning, of Westwood, to Tamer Porken, of Medomsley.—27th inst., John Elliott, of Tantobie, to Elizabeth Charlton, of The Lintz.

STANHOPE—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 23rd inst., by Rev G. Chunn, George Bond, of Frosterley, to Mrs Gardner, of Newcastle.

LONDON—At St. Simon's, West Kensington Park, on the 23rd inst., William Oley, eldest son of Mr William Oley, formerly of Shotley Bridge, to Miss Susan Ford Berry, of Christ Church, Hants. 927m

LESMAHAGOW—At U. P. Manse, 26th inst., James Wands, M.B., C.M., Stanley, to M. Lindsay, second daughter of Rev Robert Cordiner.

DEATHS.

LEADGATE—518, North Cross Street, 27th inst., in the 65th year of her age, Maria, widow of the late Samuel Bunney. To be interred at St. Ives' Church, Leadgate, on Saturday, at three o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

36, Plantation Street, 23rd inst., aged 6 years, Joseph Robert, second son of Robert and Elizabeth Pull. 954m

BLACKFINE—28, Dixon Street, 22nd inst., aged 1 year and 8 months, John Thomas, youngest and dearly-beloved son of James and Mary Ann Hope. 939m

WESTWOOD—21st inst., William Nichol, husband of Mary Nichol.

PIT HILL—25th inst., Joseph, husband of Dorothy Gray.

SOUTH MOOR—24th inst., aged 61, Mary, wife of Robert Stokoe.

DIPTON—22nd inst., aged 70, Henry, husband of Ann Dixon.

MARLEY HILL—21st inst., aged 9½ years, Eleanor, daughter of B. and P. Davison.

USHAW MOOR—Flass Inn, 22nd inst., in his 32rd year, Charles, husband of Isabella Dawson.

WEST PELTON—Alma Place, 20th inst., aged 25, Mary Ann, wife of Robert Granham.

RYTON—10, Wallace Terrace, 21st inst., aged 78, Jeremiah Spence.

LOW PRUDHOE—22nd inst., aged 2 years, Alice Hannah, daughter of Charles W. and Margaret H. Lamb.

SUNNISIDE—22nd inst., aged 11 years and 4 months, Thomas, son of John and Jane Wilson.

PICKTREE—22nd inst., aged 79, Robert Usher.

WINLATON—19th inst., aged 47, J. C. Renwick.

STANHOPE—Crawley Hall, 26th inst., aged 53, Harrison Walton.

In loving memory of my dear sister, Ann Winship, who died at Tanfield Lea, on December 31st, 1891.

"Her way were ways of pleasantness, and all her paths were peace."—M. B. 936m

In loving memory of my dear mother, Alice Tenwick, who died December 30th, 1891. Also, in ever loving memory of my dearly-beloved husband, Robert Thompson, who died July 23rd, 1893.

"Memory, fond memory, when all things fade we fly to thee."—MARY ISA. THOMPSON.

In loving memory of my dear brother, Gabriel Davison Harle, of Consett, who departed this life December 26th, 1892, aged 30 years.

"Alas! He's gone, whom we dearly loved,
Whose tender kindness we so often proved;
O, yes, he's gone, his happy spirit's fled,
And now he's numbered with the silent dead."
"Deeply lamented."—M. J. D. H. 944m

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