THE EYE AND EAR

A NEW TREATMENT.

Without Operation, for Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears cured; Deafness from Influenza cured. Hundreds of letters in testimony of success. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer sent free. Mr T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds. At Leeds every Tuesday and Alternate Saturdays, Dec. 9th & Jan. 13th. Hours, 10 to 7.—Artificial Eyes, Spectacles, etc.

NOTICE. — Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends same hotels as for last twelve years. Sutties' Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Monday, Jan. 22nd; Hours, 12 to 4·30. North-Eastern Hotel, Darlington, Monday, January 8th, Hours 11-30 to 5. Queen's Hotel, Sunderland, Thursday, January 11th, Hours 12-30 to 4.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE

BRAIN FOOD

HARBURN'S PHOSPHORISED TONIC

RENEWS BRAIN, NERVE & BLOOD.

In Bottles 1s1½d. and 2s 9d. from Chemists, or direct from A. HARBURN, M.P.S., Pharmaceutical Chemist, Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

No. 2054 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. | FRIDAY, December 29th, 1899. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTICE.

Advertisements of Wants, To Lets, For Sales, Public Notices, Sales by Auction, &c., will be found on Page 2.

Christmas Announcements.

ECIAL CHRISTMAS LIST.

W[illegible]AM AYNSLEY, Limited,

Respectfully invite an inspection of their

[illegible]E AND VARIED STOCK OF FRUITS, &c.,

[illegible]le for the Christmas Trade, all of which have been carefully selected, and are of the Choicest Quality.

[illegible]ETT, LEADGATE, BLACKHILL
[illegible] AYNSLEY BUILDINGS, WEST STANLEY,
AND BLACKHALL MILL.

SELECTED NEW SEASON TEAS.

FINEST SELECTED FRUITS, FOR DESSERT AND COOKING.

CURRANTS.

EXTRA CHOICE, 5d per lb.
EXTRA FINE, 4d per lb.
VERY FINE, 3½d and 3d per lb.

RAISINS.

EXTRA CHOICE, 6d per lb.
VERY FINE, 4d per lb.

SULTANAS.

FINEST, PALE COLOUR, 5d and 6d per lb.

FIGS.

LAYERS, 8d per lb.
BOX, 6d and 10½d each.
MAT FIGS, 3d per lb.

MUSCATELS.

EXTRA CHOICE CLUSTERS, 1s per lb.
VERY FINE, 10d per lb.

ALMONDS.

FINEST JORDAN, 1s 8d per lb.
VALENCIA, FINEST, 1s 2d per lb.
VERY FINE, 1s per lb.

LEMON PEEL.

THIN LEMON, 4d per lb.
THICK LEMON, 6d per lb.

ORANGE and CITRON.

NUTS.

BRAZIL, 4d per lb.
WALNUTS, 4d per lb.
CHESTNUTS, [illegible]
BARCELONA, 3½d per lb.
MONKEY, 3d per lb.

TINNED FRUITS.

SINGAPORE PINES, 4d per Tin.
CHUNKS PINES, 10½d per Tin.
GOLDEN MORN PEACHES, 10d per Tin.
GOLDEN MORN APRICOTS, 9½d per Tin.
GOLDEN MORN PEARS, 10d per Tin.

MAZAWATTEE TEAS

1s 10d, 2s 4d, 2s 10d, and 4s per lb.

FANCY TINS, 5 lbs, 8s per Tin.
OLD-FASHIONED BLEND, A TREAT, 3s per lb.
CHOICE ASSAM, 2s 4d per lb.
OUR CHALLENGE, 2s per lb.
OUR SPECIAL, 1s 6d per lb.
OUR CHAMPION, 1s 4d per lb.
PRESENT TEA, 2s 6d per lb.

SUGARS

FINE GRANULATED, 1½d per lb.
MOIST, 1d per lb.
TATE'S CUBES, 2d per lb.
GOOD LUMP, 1½d per lb.
BANQUET, 3d per lb.
CASTOR, 2d per lb.
PURE ICING, 4d per lb.

RICE.

CAROLINA, 4d per lb., 1s per qr.
PATNA, 2d per lb., 6d per qr.
JAPAN, 2d per lb., 6d per qr.
RANGOON, 1½d per lb., 5d per qr.
FLAKE, 2½d per Bag.

JELLIES

MOIR'S POWDERS to make One Pint Delicious JELLY, ORANGE, CALF'S FEET, LEMON, RASPBERRY, STRAWBERRY, &c.

FINEST PLANTATION COFFEE.

ROASTED AND GROUND DAILY.

SPECIAL BLEND, 1s 8d per lb.
SPECIAL MIXED, 1s 4d per lb.
do. 1s per lb.
MAZAWATTEE, 1s, 1s 4d, 2s per lb.

SOAP.

PALE BRIGHT SOAP, 2d per lb.
FINE PALE, 6d per qr. st.
MARGERISON'S GOLDEN WINDSOR, 3d per lb.
PEARS' SOAP, 3½d per Tablet.
WHITE, WATER MOTTLED, & FANCY SOAPS.

CANDLES.

1-lb. PACKETS, 15's and 10's, 11d Each.
SELF-FITTING, 6's and 12's 6d per Box.
PIANO, 9d per Box.
CARRIAGE, 1s per Dozen.
DIPS AND SNUFFLESS DIPS. FAIRY LIGHTS.

JAMS

HARTLEY'S RASPBERRY, 1s per 2-lb Jar.
Do. STRAWBERRY, 11d per 2-lb Jar.
Do. BLACK CURRANT, 11d per 2-lb Jar.
Do. BRAMBLE JELLY, 6d and 10½d per 2-lb Jar.
MARMALADE.
OTHER MAKERS AT REASONABLE PRICES.

SPICES.

MIXED, 1d per oz. CINNAMON, GROUND.
MACE, GROUND.
NUTMEG, GROUND.
GROUND ALMONDS.
DESSICATED COCOANUT. DRIED CHERRIES.

CHOCOLATES

ROWNTREE'S CREAMS. ALMONDS.
ALMONDINES. COFFEE. DEVONSHIRE.
PINEAPPLE. COCOANUT. NOUGAT.
MONTELIMART. PEACH.
FLORAL BON-BONS.
EXHIBITION 2-lb BOXES, 7d per Quarter, 4s per Box.

ORANGES. APPLES.

TINNED FRUITS IN SYRUP.

BOTTLES.

BILBERRIES, 9½d per Bottle.
BLACK CURRANT, 10½d per Bottle.
CHERRIES, BLACKHEARTS, 8½d per Bottle.
CHESHIRE DAMSONS, 7½d per Bottle.
VICTORIA PLUMS, 8d per Bottle.

TINNED GOODS.

TONGUES, FRAY BENTOS, 3s 6d per Tin.
Do. LUNCH, 1s per Tin.
CHICKEN, HAM AND TONGUE.
TURKEY AND TONGUE.
CHICKEN AND HAM, 2s 6d per Tin.
ROAST CHICKEN, 1s per Tin.
ROAST PHEASANT, 1s per Tin.
SARDINES (PRILLIPPE AND CAUNAUD), 1s 4d per Tin.
SARDINES IN TOMATOES, 1s per Tin.
SMALL, 4½d per Tin.
SALMON STEAKS, 10½d per Tin.
Do. SPLENDID, 6d per Tin.
BEEF, ROAST, 7½d per Tin.
MUTTON, ROAST, 10d per Tin.
MUTTON, 6lbs, 3s per Tin.
PLUMTREES POTTED MEATS, 4d per Jar. (A luxury.)

SOUPS.

CROSSE AND BLACKWELL'S.
HARE. MOCK TURTLE, 10½d.
OX-TAIL, 10½d per Tin. REAL TURTLE, 2s 6d.
KIDNEY. JULIENNE. GRAVY.
HEINZ TOMATO SOUP, 1s 6d per Tin.

CONFECTIONERY.

A NICE ASSORTMENT OF CHOCOLATES, 1d per oz.
Fancy Boxes from 6d.
ROWNTREE'S JUJUBES.
MIXED MILLE FRUIT.
ORANGE. RASPBERRY.
LIME. GLYCERINE. LIQUORICE.

CAKE FLOUR.

FECULINA BRAND. SNOW, SEED, RICE, CURRANT, SPONGE, SULTANA, &c.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.

(Huntley and Palmer's.)
ALMOND, GENOA, SULTANA, FRUIT, SCHOOL, VALENCIA, AND CHATSWORTH.
SHORTBREAD, in Tins.
CAKES TO CUT—4d, 6d, 8d, 10d, 1s, and 1s 6d per lb.

BISCUITS in endless variety.

Agent for G. GREEN'S (Blackett Street, Newcastle), BREAD, TEA CAKES, TARTS, MUFFINS, GIRDLE SCONES, BRIDES-CAKES, and MALT BREAD.
GAME PIES TO ORDER.

CHRISTMAS CHEESE.

CHESHIRE'S GOLD MEDAL DAIRY, 10d per lb.
SECOND QUALITY, 8d per lb.
GOUDAS, 5½d per lb.
AMERICAN, 7d per lb.
EDAMS, 6d per lb.
FINEST, 8d per lb.
STILTONS, WENSLEYDALES, GORGONZOLA, ROQUEFORT.
We confidently recommend the above Cheeses, they are all perfection.

LARD.

PURE LARD, 3½d and 4d per lb.
ENGLISH, 6d per lb.
IRISH AND AMERICAN, FINEST QUALITY.

CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGE

Fresh Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 8d per lb.

XMAS ALES AND STOUT,

BASS, 2s and 3s 6d per Dozen.
WHITBREAD AND CO.'s ALES AND STOUT, 1s 6d and 2s 6d per Dozen.
9 GALLON CASKS, 10s 6d.

BACON AND HAMS, A SPECIALITY.

MILD CURED HAMS, SIDES EQUAL TO HOME-FED.
ROLLS AND SQUARES, MILD AND LEAN, SPLENDID.
We only keep one quality, and guarantee every pound.
IRISH ROLL, WILTSHIRE BACON AND HAMS, HOME-FED HAMS, 1s per lb.
BOILED HAMS, ready for use, 1s per lb.

BUTTER.

CHOICEST DANISH, 1s 3d per lb.
FINEST KIEL, 1s 1d per lb.
FRESH MARGERINE, 4d, 6d, 8d per lb.
PREPARED SUET, 8d per lb.

XMAS WINES AND SPIRITS.

SCOTCH WHISKEY, 3s per Quart.
OLD SPECIAL, 3s per Bottle.
WINES, &c. See List.

WINE ESSENCES.

GINGER, PORT, RASP, TENT, BLACK CURRANT &c., 4d per Bottle.

FLOURS.

FAMILY PRIDE OR WHITES, 1s 5d per Stone.
BEST SUPERS, 1s 3d per Stone.
BEST FINES, 1s 2d per Stone.
BEST HOUSEHOLD, 1s per Stone.
FINEST YEAST, 1½d per quarter.
BRAN, BOXINGS, OATS, AND HORSE CORN, MAIZE, INDIAN MEAL, BARLEY, AND BARLEY MEAL. LINSEEDS, AND OTHER FEEDING STUFFS.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Limited,

CONSETT, LEADGATE, BLACKHILL, WEST STANLEY, AND BLACKHALL MILL.

1899. CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR. 1900.

M. MACKENZIE & SONS'

WINES AND SPIRITS

ARE THE BEST VALUE OBTAINABLE.

Fine Old SCOTCH WHISKEY, 1s 9d, 2s 4d, and 3s per Bottle.
The "Adore" Blend of Old HIGHLAND WHISKEY, 3s 6d per Bottle. Mild and Mellow, and specially recommended.
The "Irish Gentleman" Blend of Old IRISH WHISKEY, 3s per Bottle.
PORT WINE, 1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. per Bottle.
BURGUNDY, 1s. 6d. per Bottle, 2s. 3d. per Flagon.
Detailed Price Lists Free on Application.

M. MACKENZIE & SONS,

25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

Christmas Announcements.

WHERE TO FURNISH YOUR HOMES.

LARGE STOCKS ALWAYS ON HAND.

SWAINSTON'S

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT,
FRONT STREET AND NELSON STREET,
CONSETT.

SPECIAL.—TELESCOPE DINING TABLES from 26s. 255g

C. A. MARSHALL'S, 3 SHAKESPEARE ST., CONSETT.

NOVELTIES IN GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY.
NOVELTIES IN SILVER-PLATED AND GILT GOODS.
NOVELTIES IN WATCHES, CLOCKS, RINGS, & PLATE.
NOVELTIES AT LOW PRICES OF GOOD QUALITY FOR

XMAS & NEW YEAR

PRESENTS FOR LADIES. LARGEST CHOICE.
PRESENTS FOR GENTLEMEN, USEFUL & NEAT.
PRESENTS SUITABLE FOR OLD & YOUNG.
PRESENTS, ALL PRICES, FROM 6d. TO £20.

LARGEST STOCK IN THE DISTRICT OF ☞ PRESENTS

3, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

IT IS AN ASTONISHING FACT THAT EVERYONE WHO IS ILL AND CANNOT GET CURED GO AT ONCE TO

GEO. PATTRICK,

CHEMIST, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

WHO HAS MADE SOME MARVELLOUS RESTORATIONS TO HEALTH IN CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS.

GO TO HIM AT ONCE IF YOU ARE NOT WELL. THOUSANDS OF CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.

MRS. FAIRLESS,

NORTH-WEST DURHAM BAKERY,
SPEN, LINTZ GREEN,

Is now prepared to supply Game, Poultry, Geese, Ducks, Turkeys, Hares, and Rabbits. All Orders promptly attended to, and delivered to any Address.

CHRISTMAS CAKES AND SWEETMENTS.

The following among other Specialities—Maderia, Cherry, Fruit, Plum, Rice, Seed, Snow, Cocoanut, Sultana, and Ginger Bread. Order early to prevent disappointment.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

TURNBULL BROTHERS,

LEAZES & LINTZ COLLIERY,

TEA MERCHANTS, GROCERS, DRAPERS, AND PROVISION DEALERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

GROCERY AND PROVISION DEPARTMENT.

TEA at less than Cost Price: From 1s 1d per lb. New Season's Fruit at Startlingly Low Prices.

CHEESE—Prize Cheshire, Finest American, Wensleydale, Edam, &c., &c.

FLOUR—From best Millers in England from 1s 1d per Stone.

CHOICEST HAMS, extra Selected for Christmas Trade, 7d per lb.

BEST BACON obtainable, Finest Sholder, from 4½d per lb.

JAMS of all kinds. CAKES in endless Variety.

WINE, SPIRIT, AND ALE DEPARTMENT.

The largest direct Irish Whisky buyers in the District.

WHISKEY (Lea-ess) ... ... 2s 6d & 3s per bot.
" " ... ... 3s, 3s 6d, & 4s " "
" (Counsel) ... ... 3s " "
" " ... ... 3s per qrt. bot.

Counsel Whiskey keeps its place—Always in Front.

GIN (Old Tom) ... ... 2s 9d per bot.
BRANDY ... ... 3s 6d " "
" (Three Star) ... ... 4s 9d " "
(Usual Price 5s 6d.)

AGENTS FOR WHITBREAD'S, WORTHINGTON'S AND TRUMAN, HANBURY, & CO.'S ALES.

☞ Our Customers may depend that the great object we aim at is TO SEND ALES AND SPIRITS OUT in the VERY BEST CONDITION, so that they may give every Satisfaction.

ASK TO SEE OUR PRICE LISTS.

FOR YOUR 'XMAS REQUIREMENTS

PAY A VISIT AND INSPECT CAREFULLY

JOHN HALL & CO.'S,

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Where you can be supplied with either Cakes, or Plum Puddings, Fruits or Mince Meat, Prize Cheshire Cheese, or the finest Canadian. Finest Hams and Bacon.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Almonds, Peel, Dessicated Cocoa Nut, Muscatels and Figs. 10g

TELEPHONE: "BAKERY, MELBOURNE STREET, NEWCASTLE, 1239."

JOHN HUME & SON,

CONFECTIONERS, AND BAKERS,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

CHRISTMAS CAKES,
BIRTHDAY CAKES,
CHRISTENING CAKES,
WEDDING CAKES.
(ICED AND ORNAMENTED TO ORDER.)

School Treats, Public Teas, Social Gatherings catered for on best terms. Funeral Orders promptly attended to. High-class Chocolates and Confectionery always on hand.

AGENTS FOR

BROOKE, BOND CO.'S HIGH-CLASS TEAS.

They sell 1-lb. in every 19-lb. of Tea consumed in all Great Britain. This fact is the best proof of value.

THE FINEST FRUITS OF THE SEASON. FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S, NEW SEASON'S FRUITS.

Have arrived and cannot fail to evoke the hearty appreciation of all who see and try them. They are

CLEAN, FLESHY, DELICIOUS, ECONOMICAL.

Large Variety of Goods suitable for Christmas and New Year.

SPECIALITY: Challenge Check Tea at 2s. and 2s 6d. per lb.; 6d Check with every pound.

Their Grocery and Provision Departments are Stocked with a variety of CHRISTMAS GOODS—Currants, Raisins, Muscatels, Oranges, Apples, and a Large Assortment of Cakes at Lowest Prices. They have also a supply of excellent Bacon, Shoulders, Rolls, Butter, Lard and Cheese of various kinds—including Prize Cheshire from the great Cheese Shows.

Their DRAPERY DEPARTMENT comprises a lot of Useful and Seasonable Goods suitable for Presents. White and Fancy Aprons; Silk, Lace, and Embroidered Motto Handkerchiefs; Pincushions, Collars, Mob Caps. Novelties in made up Lace Collarettes, Ladies' Fur-top Lined Kid Gloves, Gents' Lined Kid Gloves, Gents' Silk Hankerchiefs and Mufflers, Ties, Collars, Shirts, Fronts, Hosiery, &c.

SEE OUR CHRISTMAS WINDOWS.

The Thrifty Housewife invests wisely when she purchases at

FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,

DRAPERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Business Announcements.

HAVE YOU MACHINERY? YES.

THEN USE DICKINSON BROS.' LUBRICANTS.

BEST AND CHEAPEST.

WORKS: CLOSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 122g

CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES.
STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

Christmas Announcements.

SWAINSTON BROTHERS

Are well Prepared for the Season's Trade with the usual well-assorted Stock, which includes:—

	per lb.		
Glace Cherries	1s 4d	Dried Apricots (a delicious fruit)	10d
Almonds	1s, 1s 4d, & 1s 8d	Stoned Raisins	6d
Muscatels	9d	Christmas Hams	7d
Ground Sweet Almonds	1s 4d	(We have been noted for these for 20 years.)	
" (2-lb Bottles)	2s 6d each	Danish Butter Mixture	1s 3d
		Icing Sugar	3d & 4d

The best Present you can give to your Friends, and one most appreciated, is a 3-lb PARCEL OF OUR SUPERB 1s 8d TEA. The Price for the Season is 4s 9d. It is vastly Superior to most 2s TEAS.

SWAINSTON BROTHERS,

12 MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

THE BEST OF GOOD CHEER!

WALTER WILLSON'S COST PRICE SALE

OF

CHRISTMAS TEAS. CHRISTMAS CAKES.
CHRISTMAS FRUITS.
CHRISTMAS CHEESE. CHRISTMAS WINES.
CHRISTMAS HAMS.

SEE PRICE LISTS.

WALTER WILLSON,

LARGEST GROCER,

WEST STANLEY, SOUTH MOOR, AND BURNOPFIELD.

ALSO AT 100 OTHER BRANCHES.

JAMES DALY & CO.,

Wish to return thanks to their numerous Customers for their increased patronage during the Year, and wish to inform the Public generally that they are offering the best possible value for money in Flour, Groceries and Provisions, Ales, Wines, and Spirits, etc., during the Christmas Season.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Try our celebrated Yorkshire Flour, from 1/- to 1/6 per Stone.

Our TEAS recommend themselves at the following prices, 1/-, 1/4, 1/6, 1/8, and 2/-. Our 2/6 Tea a Speciality, no better obtainable, honestly worth 3/- per lb.

Currants, Raisins, Spices, Candied Peels, Almonds, Jams, Jellies, Marmalade, Tinned Meats, and preserved Fruits of all descriptions.

CAKE FLOUR—Snow, Madeira, Cocoanut, Sultana, Almonds, Rice, Lemon, Fruit, &c., 4d per packet.

DALY'S BREAKFAST BACON, and IRISH ROLL, defy competition. A choice selection of (Kingan's) Hams, Rolls, Shoulders, and Sides. Prices from 3½d to 7d per lb.

CHEESE.—Dutch, Edam, Cheshire, American, Gorgonzola, Wensleydale &c., from 3d to 9d per lb.

Our Pure DANISH and IRISH BUTTER cannot be beaten. We also have a Choice Selection of MARGARINE, and Mixtures.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

We are the Sole Proprietors of the Celebrated DREAMLAND and FAIRYLAND WHISKIES, and Sole Agents for this District for the ROYAL BLEND as supplied to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. COLERAINE as supplied to the House of Commons, and John Jamieson and Son's famous Old IRISH WHISKEY, also ANDREW USHER'S Old Vatted GLENLIVIT, GREER & Co.'s Old Vatted HIGHLAND, McCONNELL & Co.'s Old IRISH, (Pot Stilled) WHISKEY, DUNVILLE'S V.R., &c.

For Age and Maturity no better Whiskies than the above can be had, as they are specially recommended by the Medical profession.

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES at the following prices:—1/10, 2/-, 2/3, 2/6, 2/8, 3/-, 3/3, 3/6 per bottle; 3/-, 3/6, 4/-, 4/6 per quart.

BRANDY:—1/10, 2/8, 3/6, 4/-, 4/6, per bottle, 20 Years Old Liquer, 5/-; 40 Years' Old Vintage Brandy, 6/6.

RUM:—1/8, 2/-, 2/3, 2/6, 2/10, 3/- per bottle; Special quarts 3/- and 3/6.

GIN:—1/8, 1/10, 2/-, 2/4, 2/6, 2/9, per bottle.

PORT WINE:—10d, 1/-, 1/3, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 2/9, 3/-, per bottle; Very Old Invalid Port, 3/6 per bottle.

SHERRY:—1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, per bottle.

CLARET:—10d, 1/-, 1/3, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, per bottle.

BURGUNDY:—1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, per bottle; Flagons (Emu Brand), 2/-.

TINTARA WINE:—3/-, per flagon.

WINES.

Also the following WINES in Stock:—Champagnes, Hocks, Sparkling Hocks, Moselles, Sparkling Moselles, Marsalas, Madeiras, Benedictine, Chartreuse, Cherry Brandy, &c., &c., at lowest possible prices.

ALES AND STOUT.

Agents for VAUX'S PALE ALES and Highly Nourishing STOUT. Pints at 2s 9d per dozen; Gills, 1s 9d per dozen. ALLSOPP'S ALES and STOUT, 2s 6d per dozen pints.

TRUMAN, HANBURY, and BUXTON'S EAGLE ALE and STOUT, 2s 6d per dozen pints; 1s 6d per dozen Gills. McEWAN and YOUNGER'S ALES on Draught.

All orders promptly and accurately executed.

FOR DETAILED PRICE LISTS, APPLY TO

JAMES DALY & CO.,

2, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

HENRY WALKER & SON, LTD.,

SHOW ROOMS: 55, WESTGATE ROAD,
IRON AND MARBLE WORKS: GALLOWGATE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DISTRICT AGENTS FOR THE BOWES' PATENT "WELL FIRE"

Great Heat. Economy of Fuel. Perfect Combustion. Controlled Draught. Saves Labour. Burns 10 hours without attention.

DISTRICT AGENTS FOR THE "EAGLE" RANGES AND GRATES

Mantlepieces, Grates, Tiles, Ranges.
Incandescent Lamps and Fittings. Cabinet and Builders' Hardware and Furnishing Ironmongery.
Steam or Hot Water Heating Apparatus. Guaranteed Efficiency.

265d HIGH-CLASS SANITARY ENGINEERING.

Christmas Announcements.

R. D. GRUNDY,

THE NOTED HAT AND CAP SHOP.

Hats, Caps, Shirts, Ties, in endless variety.
Suits to measure, made on the premises, 42s. upwards.
A large stock of Overcoats.

WATSON'S BUILDINGS, STANLEY. 7171

"LION TEA WAREHOUSE," DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL,

GEO. J. ROBINSON,

TEA DEALER, GROCER, PROVISION MERCHANT.

Has now an

UP-TO-DADE STOCK OF SPECIALITIES FOR THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TRADE.

NEW SEASON'S FRUITS.
RAISINS.
MUSCATELS.
SULTANAS.
VALENCIAS.
CURRANTS.
FIGS.
CANDIED PEEL.

PROVISIONS.
BUTTER. LARD.
SPECIAL MILD CURED BACON.
SPLENDID MILD HAMS.
RICH CHEESE.
FINEST QUALITY CHESHIRE.
CHOICE STILTON.
SPECIAL CONSIGNMENT OF WENSLEYDALES AND EDAMS.

Try our HOUSEHOLD TEA at 1s 8d., and 2/-, extra quality and blend.

CHRISTMAS, 1899.

JOSEPH POSTLE,

THE FAMILY GROCER AND NOTED PROVISION MERCHANT.

16, NEWMARKET STREET,
AND TOP OF PARK ROAD, CONSETT,

Returns his sincere thanks to his numerous Customers and the Public generally, for their generous favours during the year.

J.P. wishes to draw Special Attention to his large and varied Stock of Groceries and Provisions.

CHESHIRE CHEESE FROM PRIZE DAIRIES.

All those who are requiring the Finest Cheshire CHEESE that can be obtained, should give me an early call. Finest Canadian, Derby, Gorgonzola, Edams, and Goudas.

Mild Cured HAMS and BACON, noted for Standard Quality, and Flavour.

Perfect Danish BUTTER, finest obtainable. Pure Lard. Choice Margarine. Buttercup Mixture, delicious.

Choice Currants, New and Rich Raisins, all kinds in Stock. Finest Orange, Lemon, and Citron Peel. Ground Almonds, Dessicated Cocoanut.

Mason's Fruit Wines and Wine Essences. A Large Assortment of Biscuits and Cakes of every description. Cake Flour—Snow, Lemon, Sponge, Seed, Sultana, Cherry, Cocoanut. Jams and Jellies. Pickles and Sauces.

Tinned Fruits—Strawberries, Pears, Apricots, Pine Apple. Preserved Fruit in bottles—Cherry, Green Plum, Red Plum, Cranberries, Greengage, and Gooseberries.

Special Blends Ceylon and Indian Teas, 1s, 1s4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, 2s, 2s 4d, 2s 10d, and 3s per lb. Sensation Prize Tea at 2s 6d per lb., is good value; Splendid Presents.

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Cognac Brandy	3s 6d
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Gin	1s 9d and 2s
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Good Quality	3s per quart
Schweppe (Aromatic)	

PORT WINE.

	Per Bottle.
Good Sound Port Wine	1s, 1s 3d, and 1s 6d
Vintage Style (Grand Value)	2s
Glendinning's Malt, Beef, and Wine	2s and 3/9
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Ginger, Rasp, Orange, &c.	1s and 1s 3d
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IRISH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
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Amoroso, 1884	30/- "	2/6 "
Bizardo	30/-, 36/-, and 48/- per doz.;	2/6 3/-, and 4/- per bot.

CLARETS.

	per doz.	per bot.	per ½-doz.
Good Dinner Wine	12/-	1/-	
Bordeaux	15/-	1/3	
St. Estephe	20/-	1/8	[illegible]
St. Julian	20/-	1/8	12/-
Superior Bas Medoc, 1884	24/-	2/-	Very Superior
Chateau La Tour Morin	18/-	1/6	[illegible]
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PIANOS. Famous for Durability. PIANOS
PIANOS. Famous for Tone. PIANOS.
PIANOS. Famous for Cheapness. PIANOS.

£19 10s 0d Cash, £23 Cash, £28 Cash, £33 Cash, or on ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S DEFERRED PAYMENT SYSTEM: 12s 9d, 15s, 18s 4d, and 21s per month.

SEE AND HEAR THESE BEAUTIFUL INSTRUMENTS.

THOUSANDS ARE IN USE AND ARE UNIVERSALLY ADMIRED.

GUARANTEED TEN YEARS.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

SEE
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S DISPLAY OF
HIGH-CLASS PIANOS
HIGH-CLASS PIANOS
HIGH-CLASS PIANOS
BY THE WORLD'S GREATEST MAKERS.

IN ANY VARIETY OR STYLE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S STOCK OF
HORIZONTAL GRANDS
HORIZONTAL GRANDS
HORIZONTAL GRANDS
IS THE LARGEST AND MOST VARIED IN THE PROVINCES.

The relative merits of each maker's instrument may be ascertained by a close and equal comparison, WHICH IS OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO A PURCHASER.

SEND FOR ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.

KNAUSS PIONAS.
KNAUSS PIANOS.
KNAUSS PIANOS.

THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS
Acknowledged by connoisseurs to be
THE BEST HIGH-CLASS PIANO IN THE MARKET AT A MODERATE PRICE.

The KNAUSS PIANOS are wonderfully popular with the Musical Public, and are known to be Instruments of the greatest stability.

Inspection invited.

CATALOGUES FORWARDED FREE

AMERICAN ORGANS. AMERICAN ORGANS

In large numbers, Second-hand, at all prices, and bargains.

SPECIAL NEW MODELS OF BEAUTIFUL DESIGN, Sweet Tone, and substantially made at £12, £14, £15, and higher prices.

CATALOGUES FREE.

SEND FOR PARTICULARS OF
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S
FREE LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME.
FREE LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME.

Since this scheme was introduced by Archibald Ramsden over £800 has been paid.

IT IS WORTH THE ATTENTION OF INTENDING PURCHASERS.

It is Free, being given to every Purchaser on their Hire and Purchase System.

HARMONIUMS.
HARMONIUMS.

Second-hand, at any price. Good Instruments are offered at so low price as £2.

SEND FOR PARTICULARS.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S THREE YEARS SYSTEM IS THE FAIREST IN USE, and is adapted to the special requirements of their customers. Every consideration is shown to purchasers who from unforeseen circumstances are not always able to make their payments punctually.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LIMITED), FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
PARK ROW, LEEDS;
23, HUNSLET ROAD, LEEDS; 103, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, and NUMEROUS BRANCHES.

Business Announcements.

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

F. W. PIGFORD.
CATCHGATE.
PAINTER PAPERHANGER, &c
ESTIMATES GIVEN.

J. MORGAN,

Hardware Dealer, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT, the shop for Quality and Cheapness combined for all kinds of Hardware Goods, Glass, China, Earthenware, &c. Our Celebrated Electric Brand Lamp Oil, Lamps, Chimneys, and Wicks of all kinds.

Clubs are now being formed for all kinds of Goods. Particulars on application.

SAFES FROM 55/-	CARRIAGE FREE. LOWEST CASH PRICES OR INSTALMENTS. State Size Required. LEVY'S Mercantile Office, 35, Frederick St., Sunderland

SERVANTS REGISTRY WEST STANLEY.

MRS. SCOTT begs to inform the Public that she has removed to the FRONT STREET opposite the Co-operative Stores, West Stanley.—All letters and applications promptly attended to. 928e

NEWCASTLE WARDROBE CO.,
31, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
NEW AND SECOND-HAND CLOTHES, BEDS, &c.

Orders executed for Oilskin Garments, guaranteed Waterproof; Leather Goods, &c. Inspection invited. 330e

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE. DAY & BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS. A THOROUGH MODERN EDUCATION. On reasonable terms in most healthy situation Successful preparation for all preliminary Examinations.

Next Term, January 17th, 1900.

Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Drawing and Music.

A Field for Cricket, Tennis and Football.
MONTAGU V. STEGGALL, M.A., Head-master.

HOSPITAL
FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.

GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED...		2s 9d
LADIES' Do.	Do. ...	1s 9d

With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand.

(Signed), J. ORTON.

ESTABLISHED 26 YEARS.

MRS. ROGERS,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
13, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

DESIRE to return her very sincere thanks for the generous patronage bestowed upon her since the death of her late husband, and trusts by Excellence of Material and Workmanship, and Guaranteed Style and Fit, to continue to receive the confidence and support of the public of Consett and District.

SCOTCH, IRISH, AND WEST OF ENGLAND TWEEDS, LARGE ASSORTMENT TO CHOOSE FROM. 14g

£4 000 000 HAVE NOW BEEN PAID IN RESPECT OF
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
ALL ACCIDENTS,
WORKMEN'S ACCIDENTS,
FIDELITY GUARANTEE,
BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. J. L. LEADBITTER Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

Agents required in unrepresented Districts.

FOR USEFUL
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
TRY

R. C. FOSTER,
11, and 12, FRONT STREET, CONSETT
(Opposite "Guardian" Office.)

SPECIALITIES:—

Hemstitched Hand-embroidered Linen Sheets, Tea Cloths, Tray Cloths, Sideboard Cloths, Pillow Cases, Brush and Comb Bags, Handkerchiefs D'Oyleys, &c.

PURE IRISH LINEN DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS, SERVIETTES, &c.
GLOVES, UMBRELLAS,
APRONS, PINAFORES,
FUR NECKLETS, &c.

Public Notices.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF DIPTON

SHOULD any ASHPITS or PRIVIES be Overlooked or not properly Cleaned, please notify the Contractor at once when they will be attended to. Signed,

572e G. NICHOLSON, Contractor.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

THE Directors of this Company beg to give notice that the PRICE of GAS, consumed in their District, from the 1st day of January, 1900, will be Three Shillings and Fourpence per 1,000 Cubic Feet nett. All Discounts hitherto allowed will be discontinued until further notice.

By Order of the Board.
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.

Dec. 27th, 1899. 350g

HYDEN TESTIMONIAL.

MR. G. T. HYDEN, Head Master of the Consett Iron Co's British Schools, Consett, completes 21 years' service in that post at Christmas, and it has been decided to present a Testimonial to him to mark the event.

Will Old Scholars, Parents, and Friends, who desire to subscribe, kindly address their communications to

MR. S. RAYNER,
4, Barr House Avenue,
Consett.

All communications will be promptly acknowledged. 978f

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	2263	14	6
W. M. Annandale, Esq., Lintzford	5	5	0
	£2268	19	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett; or further information from the Hon. Secretaries—Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Brynglass, Consett; or Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

GREENSIDE, RYTON, WINLATON, AND BARLOW DISTRICTS PLOUGHING AND HEDGE-CUTTING ASSOCIATION.

PRESIDENT, JOHN SIDDELL, Esq., Prudhoe Hall.

THE NINTH ANNUAL COMPETITION will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 3rd, 1900, (weather permitting), on Ash Tree Farm, Chopwell.

Champion Class in both Ploughing and Hedge-cutting.

Entries close on Wednesday, Dec. 20th, 1899, to EDWARD FORREST, West Kyo, Ryton-on-Tyne, Secretary.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms on Application.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
CHIEF OFFICES: LONDON BRIDGE, CITY, E.C.

NOTICE TO POLICY-HOLDERS.

OUR REPRESENTATIVES in Consett district having resigned their positions with us, are now seeking to damage the reputation of the Company by alleging that we have attempted to reduce their wages. We have only to say that this statement is absolutely false.

By Order of the Board,
J. F. FOLEY,
Managing Director.

Public Notices.

158 Is the Winning Number of PONY Drawn for at Dipton. 387g

LEADGATE GRAND SUBSCRIPTION SALE

THE following are the Winning Numbers.—521, 659, 825, 760, 108, 302, 267, 148, 715, 348, 300, 464, 352, 21, 503, 706, 708, 218, 605, 857, 509, 271, 50, 295, 705.—Apply to COUN. WINTER, Leadgate, between 7 and 9 o'clock, on Friday night first. 383g

TEAM VALLEY PLOUGHING & HEDGE-CUTTING ASSOCIATION.
ALTERATION OF DATE.

The SECOND ANNUAL COMPETITION will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, 1900, or on the first favourable Tuesday afterwards. 349g

HOBSON WANDERERS' A.F.C.

PRIZE DRAWING.—1, 803; 2, 850; 3, 1,578; 4, 601; 5, 745; 6, 1,573; 7, 884; 8, 1,563; 9, 572; 10, 620; 11, 1,845; 12, 1,003; 13, 902; 14, 909; 15, 619; 16, 247; 17, 1,643; 18, 700; 19, 1,454; 20, 898; 21, 548; 22, 613; 23, 1,948; 24, 218; 25, 1,144. All Prizes to be claimed within seven days. 370g

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY LTD.
NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

THE 146th QUARTERLY MEETING of Members will be held in the PRIMITIVE METHODIST SCHOOLROOM, CONSETT, on Saturday Night, Jan. 6th, 1900. Newspapers and Magazines of Branch Reading Rooms will be Sold by Auction at 6 p.m., by MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Consett. For Agenda see Balance Sheets and Windows.

The Members' Share Books will be balanced and given out on and after Jan. 8th, 1900.

By Order of the Committee.
354g EDW. HUNTLEY, Secretary.

DERWENT VALLEY HABITATION OF THE PRIMROSE LEAGUE.

THE ANNUAL BALL in connection with the above Habitation will be held on Thursday, Jan. 18th, 1900, in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge. Dancing from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Price of Tickets, Members 2s. 6d.; Non-Members 3s., (including refreshments). If Tickets are taken *after* Tuesday, Jan. 16th, prices will be Members 3s.; Non-Members 4s. Tickets may be obtained from MRS. TOWN and MR. R. HALL, Shotley Bridge; MISS RICHLEY, Blackhill; MISS NIXON, Victoria Garesfield; MISS HETHERINGTON, Medomsley; MRS. ARMSTRONG, Blackhall Mill; and MISS WALTON-WILSON, Shotley Hall. 571g

SCOTT'S NEW BUILDINGS, FRONT ST., WEST STANLEY.

MESSRS. JACOBS BROS, Pawnbrokers' Auctioneers, will Sell by Public Auction without RESERVE, a large quantity of Pawnbrokers' UNREDEEMED PLEDGES, consisting of Gold and Silver Watches, Brooches, Alberts, Clocks, Cutlery, Cruets, and numerous other lots too numerous to mention. Sale each evening at 7 o'clock. For a short time only.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY,

Last Three Nights of

SINBAD THE SAILOR.

MONDAY, January 1st, and during the Week, The Versatile Character Actor-Vocalist,

HARRY STARE,

and Miss ETHEL DANBURY, the beautiful American Soubrette in the popular Musical Comedy Drama—

CARL, THE CLOCKMAKER.

Time and Prices as usual. 390g

NEW THEATRE,
CONSETT.

Lessee and Manager .. Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
(Also of the Royal Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne).
Resident Manager .. Mr. LLOYD CLARANCE.

Last Three Nights of the Immensely Successful Play—

THE POISONER OF MILAN.

JANUARY 1st, for Six Nights only,
Enormous Attraction!
The Great Military Drama—

AT DUTY'S CALL.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA,

FUND in aid of the Wives and Families of of Soldiers and Sailors serving with the Colours.

CONSETT DISTRICT.

CHAIRMAN:—COUN. WM. AYNSLEY, J.P., CONSETT.

HON. TREASURER:—MR. T. L. GLEDSTONE, NORTH-EASTERN BANK, CONSETT.

HON. SECRETARY:—MR. T. W. WELFORD, CLERK, CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY PROMISED OR RECEIVED.

	£	s	d
Geo. Ainsworth, Esq., J.P.	5	0	0
Messrs Davison and Sons	5	5	0
Mr. John Petherick	3	3	0
Wm. Aynsley, Esq., J.P.	2	2	0
Mr. G. D. Powell	1	0	0
Mr. R. C. Foster	1	0	0
Mr. John Lowes	1	0	0
Mr. Geo. Harrison	1	1	0
Mr. Jos. Pescod	1	0	0
Mr. G. T. Hyden	1	0	0
Mr. M. Cowen	1	1	0
Mr. T. W. Welford, jun.	1	10	0
Mr. Jos. Murray	1	1	0
Mr. Hardy		5	0
Mr. T. L. Gledstone	1	0	0
Rev. W. D. Croudace	1	0	0
Mr. F. A. Coltman	1	1	0
Mr. T. D. Dryden	1	1	0
Mr. C. Almond	1	1	0
Mrs. Imison		10	6
Mr. J. R. Brodie		5	0
Mr. T. Milner		5	0
Mr. J. H. Wood		5	0
Mr. J. W. Hardcastle		5	0
Mr. Bell		5	0
Mr. Dodd		5	0
Caledonian Society per Mr. A Russel	2	7	3
Mr. Alex. Russell		10	6
Mr. Wm. McKay		10	6
Mr. E. J. Kirkhouse	1	1	0
Rev. J. Foran		10	6
Mr. Tos. Maughan		5	0
Mr. W. S. Macfeggan		10	0
Mr. D. H. C. Balleny		5	0
Mr. Geo. Dawson		10	6
Mr. Jas Scott	2	2	0
Mr. Wm. Ward		5	0
Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne	1	1	0
	42	9	9

Subscriptions will be gladly received by any Member of the Committee; or at any of the Local Banks, or at the Office of the Local Secretary.

W. AYNSLEY, Chairman,
287g T. W. WELFORD, Secretary,

Church Notices.

ST. AIDAN'S, BLACKHILL.

THE Young Ladies connected with the above Church will hold their ANNUAL SOCIAL on New Year's Day (January 1st) 1900. Vocal and Instrumental Music, and Dancing. Admission, 1s.; to commence at seven o'clock. Refreshments, at Moderate Charges. 307g

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1899.
Morning 10-30 — Rev. J. BISHOP.
Evening 6 Rev. A. BARRACLOUGH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1899.
Morning, 10-30 Mr. S. H. LIDDELL.
Evening, 6 Mr. A. STODDART.

ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT WESLEYAN CHURCH HALL.

AN "AT HOME" will be held in the above Hall, on New Year's Day, 1900. Selections of Music by several Local Artistes. Part Songs and Madrigals by the Choir. Selections by Church Orchestra; Conductor, Mr. W. Lowrie; Accompanist, Mr. C. Stelling. Chair to be taken at 6.30, by Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne. Tea, Coffee, and Refreshments at intervals. Admission to Tea and Entertainment, 9d.

EBCHESTER WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, 1900, at seven o'clock, followed by a HAM SUPPER. The Shotley Bridge String Band under the leadership of MR. THOS. NIXON.

N.B.—The usual WATCH NIGHT SERVICE on Sunday night, Dec. 31st, at 10.30.

ANNFIELD PLAIN WESLEYAN METHODIST NEW CHURCH.

GRAND EVENING CONCERT, in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, on Saturday, January 6th, 1900.

ARTISTES.—Soprano, Miss Armytage; Contralto, Miss Mimi Beers; Tenor, Mr. Wm. Catcheside; Basso, Mr. J. A. London Humorist, Mr. Frank Cooke, the Celebrated Tyneside Comic.

Accompanist, Coun. R. Affleck, Esq., J.P.
Pianist, Miss May Ellis, A.L.C.M.

Chair to be taken at 7.30 p.m., by Alderman J. Barker Ellis, Chairman of the Corporation Concerts, Newcastle. Tickets, One Shilling each. 346g

Public Notices.

REMEMBER THE ANNUAL TEA AND CONCERT of the Medomsley Sons of Temperance, to be held on NEW YEAR'S DAY (January 1st, 1900), in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley: Special Engagement of MR. T. NIXON'S ORCHESTRAL BAND, Shotley Bridge. Tea at 4; Concert at 6.30. Temperance Address by MR. D. McMILLAN, Sunderland. Chair to be taken by MR. WM. ANDERSON, of the Briary, Shotley Bridge. Tea and Concert, 1s.; Concert, 6d. Tickets may be had from any of the Members. 353g

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Green.

BLACKHILL FARMERS' MART CO., LTD.
MONDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1900.
MR. JACKSON GREEN, AUCTIONEER.
12 Fat Beast.
150 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
Cows, Calves, Poultry, Carrots, Halters, Cords, &c.
Sale at 10.30 a.m.
J. W. OSBORNE, Secretary,
386g 10a, Durham Road, Blackhill.

MR. JACKSON GREEN
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.
Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.
All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.
SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

By Mr John Crawford

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the two FREEHOLD COTTAGES, Raglan Place, Burnopfield, now occupied by Messrs Welsh and Lammonby, at an early date. Full particulars next week. Anyone wishing to sell Property or Shares, can have them included in this Sale, by applying to the Auctioneer.

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.

NATHAN ELSDON.
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

N. ELSDON wishes his friends and customers to know that he has the LARGEST AND BEST SALE ROOMS in the district and that he is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and all classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Sell on Commission according to arrangement.

All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,
AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.
SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.
Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

T. D. DRYDEN,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

JOHN SWINBURNE MURRAY,
THE
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.
BLACKHILL.

Being done with the Auction Mart, is at liberty to take Sales of every description on any day of the week.

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

All Sales conducted with Care, Economy, and Quick Settlements.

WHITEHALL LODGE, BLACKHILL.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

By Mr John T Weston, Junr

Earl Grey Inn, West Kyo, near Annfield Plain.

To Contractors and others.

Owing to the Completion of a Contract,

JOHN T. WESTON, Jun., is instructed to offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Wednesday, Jan. 17th, 1900. Cart Horses, Harness, Sanitary Pipes, sizes various. Particulars later.

Entries can be left at Mr. Thomas Gatiss' Earl Grey Inn, West Kyo, near Annfield Plain, or the Auctioneer.

Sale Office: Cornwall House,
Annfield Plain, R.S.O. 236g

43, Joicey Terrace, Oxhill.

JOHN T. WESTON, Jun., Auctioneer, instructed by the Executor of the late Mr. H. Fleming, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, Valuable FURNITURE, etc., on Monday, Jan. 8th, 1900.

Sale at One o'clock, p.m.

N.B.—Anyone having Goods to dispose of, can have them included in the above Sale.

See Bills for particulars.
Sale Office: Cornwall House,
Annfield Plain, R.S.O. 235g

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.

Excursions

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY,
EXCURSION TRAIN.
SATURDAY, JAN. 6th, 1900; from CONSETT, at 3.10 p.m. for NEWCASTLE.
For further particulars see bills.
York, GEORGE S. GIBB,
December, 1899. General Manager.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

BY "ROSICRUCIAN."

LAMESLEY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

It will be remembered that the Tanfield School Board passed a resolution just before the close of the School year to debar children coming from the Lamesley area to the Camey or other School under the Board, unless the Lamesley parish contributed towards the cost. It was, of course, unfair for the ratepayers of one district to pay for the education of children from another, and this view has evidently been taken by the Education Department, who have ordered the Lamesley ratepayers to contribute proportionately to the education of 50 children.

A "MERRY" CHRISTMAS.

So far as the weather is concerned it could not have been more appropriate for the Christmas season, but it cannot be said that it has been a merry period in Stanley any more than it has been elsewhere. It would not have been right to have gone into an ecstacy of enjoyment in view of the sorrow existing in so many homes where happiness might well have been expected to reign. How can one look at the obituary columns, and read "killed in action," or be an observer of touching farewells at wayside stations, when the breadwinners are leaving for the front, and wives, sisters, and children are left to sit round a mournful fireside, or how can one take up the long list of casualities, and perhaps come across the names of friends we know, and then talk about a merry Christmas? It would be un-English, and I am glad to say, so far as my observations have gone, merriment has been curtailed, and more serious thought have been permitted to prevail than those connected with a super-abundance of self pleasure.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

There seemed to be something of the holiday fever about the Stanley District Council on Wednesday night. The long-suffering reporters anticipated an all-night sitting, with a series of adjournments over the Highways and Lighting Committee's report, in which all the advantages, disadvantages, and eccentricities of electricity were to be laid bare; in which the ratepayers were to be shown how their darkness was to be lighted, how the penny-in-the-slot merchant would find his occupation gone, and how the millenium had breasted the hill, and was making straight for Stanley. Unfortunately, some incompetent workman "switched off;" the committee had no report, there was no discussion, there was nothing else worth discussing, and the reporters were left to kick their heels against what a policeman told them was a lamp-post, while they were waiting for a train, which they fondly imagined they would have to make a desperate rush for. It was a "burning" shame on such a cold night.

MOURNING CARDS in all the Newest Patterns printed neatly and expeditiously at the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CONSETT.

BLACKHILL.

OLD ESTABLISHED POSTING BUSINESS.
PROPRIETOR:—

GEORGE J. CHRISTOPHER

Postal Address:	Telegraphic Address
GEO. J. CHRISTOPHER,	CHRISTOPHER
Blackhill.	Blackhill.

Hearse of the most Modern and Unique Design. Mourning Coaches. Carriages for Weddings, Brakes and Waggonettes for Pleasure Parties.

Posting in all its Branches done upon the most reasonable terms.

Attendant at yard from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., where orders may be left. 380e

COMING EVENTS.

MEDOMSLEY.

Sons of Temperance.—The annual tea and concert will be held on New Year's Day, in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley.

EBCHESTER.

Wesleyan Chapel.—The New Year's festival will be held on Tuesday first. The usual watch-night service on Sunday first, at 10.30 p.m.

CONSETT.

Wesleyan Church Hall.—An "At Home" will be held in the above hall on New Year's Day, when there will be selections of music, and refreshments at intervals.

"WE attend to our own Business." Everybody to their Business.

OUR Business is not only to supply Oak and Polished Coffins of a superior description at the lowest Prices, but we also Supply Hearses, Coaches, Cabs for Weddings, and Horses and Conveyances of all kinds.

Trips by Brakes specially Contracted for.

The Mourning is under our personal supervision, and everything is done when care and respectability is needed, and to suit the pockets of all Classes. A Stock always on hand that can be finished at a few hours' notice.

T. C. RAWES & Co.
FUNERAL FURNISHERS,
CONSETT. 940b.

SIMON ROWE,
BRIDES' CAKE MANUFACTURER,
FUNERALS AND PARTIES CATERED FOR.
29, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

HEWISON—JOHNSON.—North Shields, at Holy Trinity Church, on the 26th Dec., by the Rev. G. H. Hewison, B.A., (brother of the bridegroom), assistant curate of Normanton, assisted by the Rev. A. Gwilliam, Frederick Ernest, son of the Rev. G. H. Hewison, M.A., rector of St. Dennis with St. George, York, to Annie Amelia, daughter of Isaac Johnson, late of Blaydon and Newcastle.

POTTS—GREEN.—At Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Dec 26th, by the Rev. J. S. Nightingale, Jacob Potts, Consett, to Lily Green.

PHILIPSON—RUTHERFORD.—At St. Patrick's Church, High Spen, on the 26th inst., by the Rev. G. D'Eath, Henry French Philipson, of Wallsend, to Jane (Jenny) Rutherford, of High Spen.

ROBSON—THOMPSON.—Holy Island Parish Church, on Dec. 23rd, by the Rev. D. Bryson, Vicar (brother-in-law of the bride), Alec. Robson, solicitor, Hebburn and South Shields, to Maggie, third daughter of Thomas Thompson, Carr House, Consett.

Deaths.

ARMSTRONG.—Moor Mills, Lamesley, on the 20th inst., in his 23rd year, John William Armstrong.

BENDIN.—Winlaton, 19th inst., Charles, husband of Elizabeth (Bessy) Bendin, aged 71 years.

BRASS.—Stillington, 19th inst., aged 36, Mary Jane, wife of James R. Brass, and daughter of the late Francis and Ann Holmes, of Findon Hill.

BARRASS.—Sacriston, on the 21st inst., aged 71, Eleanor Barrass.

CHAMBERS.—Blaydon, 14, James Street, on the 20th inst., aged 64, John Chambers.

COOK.—Swalwell, Lamp Black Works, on the 20th inst., aged 30 years, Thomas, eldest son of John and Mary Jane Cook.

DOWSON.—Path Head, on 25th inst., William, husband of the late Ann Dowson.

ENGLAND.—Tow Law, Thornley Terrace, on the 21st inst., in his 77th year, John England.

FORSTER.—Perseverance Arms, Springwell, on the 25th inst., Margaret Jane, wife of the late John Forster.

GORDON.—Craghead, on the 24th inst., aged 55, Elizabeth Gordon.

GRAY.—Beamish, 6, Wood Row, on the 20th inst., aged 70, John Gray.

GLADDERS.—Coal City, Illinois, America, on the 19th inst., Elizabeth, widow of John H. Gladders, late of Lints and South Garesfield Collieries.

HAY.—Chester-le-Street, The Orchard, 27th inst., Peter Hay, husband of Margaret Hay.

HARBOTTLE.—At Derwent Cottages, 24th inst., aged 70 years, Anthony Harbottle.

HERDMAN.—West Stanley, 51, Towneley Street, on the 24th inst., Edward Herdman.

HUMBLE.—Leadgate, Plantation Street, aged 87 years, Mary Ann, widow of the late Ed. Humble.

JOHNSON.—Birtley, Field House, 23rd inst., in her 84th year, Ann, widow of the late John Johnson.

KERR.—Dipton, 3, Curry's Square, aged 56 years, William Kerr.

MORRIS.—Holly Avenue, Medomsley, 23rd inst., aged 45 years, William Paul Morris, late under-manager of the Hunter Colliery.

PROUD.—Hown's Gill, on the 23rd inst., aged 81 years, Elizabeth, widow of the late Joseph Proud.

PARKINSON.—Waterhouses, Black Horse Inn, 21st inst., George William Parkinson.

RIDLEY.—At 10, Thornton Street, Pelton Fell, on the 26th inst., Isabella, infant daughter of Ralph and the late Julia Ridley.

RUTHERFORD.—At Park View, Burnopfield, on the 21st inst., aged 67 years, Francis, the dearly beloved husband of the late Mary Rutherford. Deeply lamented.

ROBINSON.—Castle Hills, Castleside, on the 16th inst., aged 63 years, Christopher Robinson.

SCOTT.—St. Ives Road, Leadgate, on the 18th inst., Annie Scott, aged 34 years.

SWINBANKS.—White-le-Head, 22nd inst., aged 73 years, Ann, widow of the late Robert Swinbanks.

THIRLWELL.—Barcus Close, on the 25th inst., aged 71, William Thirlwell.

WILSON.—East Pontop, 23th inst., Emma Wilson, wife of Moses Wilson, aged 53 years.

WHEATLEY.—At Pelton Fell, on the 24th inst., aged 63, Susannah, wife of George Wheatley, late of Chester-le-Street.

In affectionate remembrance of Thomas A. W., beloved son of Matthew and Alice Dickinson, of Tow Law, who died Dec. 29th, 1893, aged 6 years and 10 months.

In affectionate remembrance of Mrs Agnes Brand, who died at 21, Victoria Street, Consett, on Dec. 28th., 1898.
Ever remembered by husband and family.

In loving memory of Charles, the beloved husband of Elizabeth Barresford, who died at Mountsett, on Dec. 21st, 1894, ager 29 years.

Loved by all who knew him here,
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Lord, I love him, let him stay.
Ever remembered
By his dear mother, brother, and sisters.

ROBERT BEALL,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR
IN GRANITE, MARBLE, AND STONE
HIGH LEVEL APPROACH, NEWCASTLE.
Largest Stock in the North. Designs and Estimates on application. 731t.

GEORGE HOPE
MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE STONE, AND GRANITE.
LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD, AND STANLEY.
Inscriptions neatly executed in Town or Country. Special Designs and Estimates on application.

WM. AYTON & SONS
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN STONE MARBLE AND GRANITE.
JESSAMINE COTTAGE, BENFIELDSIDE.
Designs on application, and Special Designs prepared.
Inscriptions neatly cut at moderate charges.
WORKS AND SHOW ROOMS IN GOODS YARD, BLACKHILL.

BLACKHILL.
OLD ESTABLISHED POSTING BUSINESS.
Proprietor:—
GEORGE J. CHRISTOPHER
Postal Address: Telegraphic Address:
Geo. J. Christopher, Christopher,
Blackhill. Blackhill.
Hearse of the most Modern and Unique Design, Mourning Coaches, Carriages for Weddings, Brakes and Waggonettes for Pleasure Parties.
Posting in all its Branches done upon the most reasonable terms.
Attendant at yard from 7 a.m. until [illegible] p.m., where orders may be left.

COMING EVENTS.

MEDOMSLEY.

Sons of Temperance.—The annual tea and concert will be held on New Year's Day, in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley.

EBCHESTER.

Wesleyan Chapel.—The New Year's festival will be held on Tuesday first. The usual watchnight service on Sunday first, at 10.30 p.m.

CONSETT.

Wesleyan Church Hall.—An "At Home" will be held in the above hall on New Year's Day, when there will be selections of music, and refreshments at intervals.

"We attend to our own Business," Everybody to their Business.

Our Business is not only to supply Oak and Polished Coffins of a superior description at the lowest Prices, but we also Supply Hearses, Coaches, Cabs for Weddings, and Horses and Conveyances of all kinds.

Trips by Brakes specially Contracted for.

The Mourning is under our personal supervision, and everything is done when care and respectability are needed, and to suit the pockets of all Classes. A Stock always on hand that can be finished at a few hours' notice.

T. C. RAWES & Co.,
FUNERAL FURNISHERS,
CONSETT.

SIMON ROWE,
BRIDES' CAKE MANUFACTURER,
FUNERALS AND PARTIES CATERED FOR.
29, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

HEWISON—JOHNSON.—North Shields, at Holy Trinity Church, on the 26th Dec., by the Rev. G. H. Hewison, B.A., (brother of the bridegroom), assistant curate of Normanton, assisted by the Rev. A. Gwilliam, Frederick Ernest, son of the Rev. G. H. Hewison, M.A., rector of St. Dennis with St. George, York, to Annie Amelia, daughter of Isaac Johnson, late of Blaydon and Newcastle.

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PHILIPSON—RUTHERFORD.—At St. Patrick's Church, High Spen, on the 26th inst., by the Rev. G. D'Eath, Henry French Philipson, of Wallsend, to Jane (Jenny) Rutherford, of High Spen.

ROBSON—THOMPSON.—Holy Island Parish Church, on Dec. 23rd, by the Rev. D. Bryson, Vicar (brother-in-law of the bride), Alex. Robson, solicitor, Hebburn and South Shields, to Maggie, third daughter of Thomas Thompson, Carr House, Consett.

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MARBLE AND GRAN
JESSAMINE COTTAGE, BENF
Designs on application, and Sp
prepared.

Burnopfield Boot and Shoe Emporium.

EDWIN ROBINSON
HAS OPENED the above with a large assortment of BOOTS, SHOES, SLIPPERS, and CLOGS. Leather and Grindery Stores.
REPAIRS DONE ON THE PREMISES.
Note Address—
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD.

AFTER CHRISTMAS
YOU WILL NEED

In order to avoid the possible necessity of having to lay off work, as a loss of time, especially when ill health overtakes you, is a serious consideration. Working men cannot afford to be sick, neither can they afford to be idle, working women cannot afford to be sick, neither can they afford any needless doctors' bills. Christmas festivities are often followed by serious derangement of the Stomach and Liver. What you need then is VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC. You cannot find a better medicine no matter where you go, for indigestion, flatulence, torpid liver, constipation, sick headache, weak heart, and that heavy, dull, sinking feeling. It is a Godsend to men and women who are suffering from Stomach, Liver, Kidney and Blood disease.

VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC

Is the Best and Safest Cure for Ailments arising from a diseased condition of the Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, and Blood, such as Indigestion, Wind, Biliousness, Sick Headache, and Weakness. It is the best medicine for weak, pale debilitated men and women, especially where there is heart weakness and constipation. Price 1s 1½d and 2s 9d.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.

It stops an ordinary cough in one night, and cures Chronic Coughs, Asthma, Bronchitis, Weak Lungs, Catarrh, Influenza, and whooping-cough rapidly. Its vast superiority over the different emulsions and ordinary cough mixtures cannot be estimated. It has saved thousands of lives after they had been turned out of hospitals. It is a scientific remedy, endorsed by medical men. Ask for VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE. Price 1s 1½d. and Sold by the Consett and Stanley Co-operative Societies, and all medicine vendors. When you ask for VENO'S REMEDIES see you get them. AVOID the man who offers a substitute. Some irresponsible dealers are in the habit of offering you a cheap common mixture of their own. 324g.

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.
SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.
Friday, December 29th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

Our Weardale correspondent informs us that it is just possible that Stanhope may lose the Bishop of Richmond, who, it appears, has been strongly recommended by the Bishop of Ripon as a suitable candidate for the Bishopric of Liverpool. Should Dr. Pulleine resign his present position, it would undoubtedly be a very great loss to Stanhope and the locality. The Bishop has ever shown himself to be a most broad-minded man, taking the greatest interest in everything connected with the welfare of the district, and he is highly popular with all classes, irrespective of creed or religion. He is a gentleman whom it is only necessary to know to admire.

Respecting the determination of the managers of Iveston village school to build a residence in Iveston for the head-master (Mr. Goulden), the outlay, we learn, is estimated to be about £250, excluding cost of site, which as we have explained, is already provided. The Rev. Thos. Varley (Vicar of St. Ives, Leadgate) was appointed treasurer to the building fund, and, as we announced last week, Mr. C. F. Scott, of New Bell, will act as secretary. In addition to the generous offer of £50 made by Mr. T. S. Longstaff, of Leadgate, several other subscriptions have been promised, including one of £20 and two others of £10 each. With such an auspicious beginning we are sadly mistaken in the capabilities of the two gentlemen named above if the matter is not brought to a successful issue.

An important matter was mooted at the last meeting of the Medomsley Parish Council by Coun. Robinson, who had a motion on the agenda paper asking the Council to consider the advisability of illuminating that part of their district now lighted by oil with electricity. It would seem that the oil lamps are far from giving satisfaction, and many people consider the sum spent upon them as so much money wasted. Of course, Coun. Robinson does not wish the Council to go in for a complete electrical plant of their own, as this would probably be too costly; but his idea is that they should approach the Consett Iron Company, and ask them to supply the electricity. From a statement made by the Chairman (Coun. Palmer), it was gathered that the Company's dynamo at the colliery was not used at nights to its fullest extent, and that it was capable of lighting some 200 lamps. As the Council would not require illuminating power for more than half this number of lamps, the matter apparently could be easily dealt with by the Company's dynamo, providing satisfactory terms can be agreed upon. Coun. Jamieson had taken the trouble to go into the probable cost of lighting these lamps by electricity, and, in putting down the outlay at 32/- per lamp per season, he explained that his figures were open to modification, as he had not been able to go thoroughly into the question. As the matter is unquestionably an important one—and might possibly lead to other developments—it was wisely decided to refer it to a small committee, who will inquire into all details, and report to a subsequent meeting of the Council. Judging from what Coun. Palmer said, the Consett Iron Company are not disposed to view the scheme unfavourably, and will probably be prepared to meet the Council in a fair way.

SCOTCH CONCERT, Monday 29th January, 1900.
ARTISTES:—
MISS JESSIE McLACHLAN.
MISS LIZZIE HUNTER.
MR. J. M. HAMILTON.
MR. R. BROWN.
MR. HARRY LAUDER.
MR. R. BUCHANAN.
Full particulars later. 186g

Local and District News.

Consett.

Mr Ed. Holliday has been re-elected the representative of the Consett workmen on the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Northern Iron and Steel Trade for the ensuing twelve months.

POLICE COURT.—On Wednesday morning, before Mr W. Aynsley, a man named James McCrindle was charged with having begged at St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside, Blackhill, on Tuesday.—Defendant was sent to gaol for seven days.—P.C. Johnson proved the case.

P. M. CHURCH.—In connection with the young People's Christian Endeavour a service of song, entitled "Little Eva," was given in the schoolroom of the above place of worship on Christmas night. The service of song was illustrated by lime-light views. Afterwards a supper was provided, to which a good number sat down.

STEELWORKERS' WAGES.—According to an official notification received on Tuesday by the Consett Iron Company, Limited, and Mr Ed. Holliday, the operatives' representative, signed by Messrs J. R. Winpenny and James Cox, the general secretaries of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Manufactured Iron and Steel Trade of the North of England, it appears that they were in receipt of Mr. Waterhouse's ascertainment of the average net selling price of steel plates at Consett during the months of September, October, and November, 1899, with the result that the wages to be paid to the steel millmen will, in pursuance of the sliding scale agreement entered into on the 30th March, 1895, during January, February, and March, 1900, be 17½ per cent. above the standard, or in other words 5 per cent. above the wages prevailing during the current quarter. It is interesting to remark that the wages reached the standard during 1898, and remained at that point until the period terminating June, 1898, but since then there have been increases of 2½ per cent. in each successive quarter until the present, when for the first time in the history of the renewed scale there is a jump of 5 per cent. This substantial advance has come as an agreeable surprise, as the highest increase that was generally expected was the usual 2½ per cent. By many it is thought the topmost point has been reached.

CHRIST CHURCH.—There was a special service on Christmas Day at the above church, the preacher being the Rev. W. D. Croudace (vicar.) The surpliced choir rendered the anthem, "Sing, O! ye heavens," the solo being taken by Master Shell, and the quartette by Messrs C. Stephenson, R. Pearson, Miss Surtees, and Master Shell. Mr. J. Surtees presided at the organ.

WEDDING AT CARR HOUSE.—On Monday, there was celebrated at Christ Church, Consett, by the Vicar, Rev. W. D. Croudace, the wedding between Mr John Thos. Spence, of Consett, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Blake Westhorp, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thos. Westhorp, of Carr House, Consett. Mr R. Eccles, of Blackhill, was "best man," whilst Miss Sarah Blake Westhorp (sister of the bride) acted as bridesmaid. The father of the bride gave her away. A pleasant day was afterwards spent at the residence of the bride's parents by a number of relatives and friends. Mr and Mrs Spence received many useful presents, amongst these being a magnificent wedding cake (standing about three feet high) from a friend in Newcastle.

WESLEYAN CHURCH.—On Christmas night, an excellent entertainment took place in the hall of the above place of worship. There was a good attendance, presided over by the Rev. G. B. Polkinghorne, who wished all present the compliments of the season. The programme that followed was one of the best ever given in the district, and was performed by a choir of Sunday School scholars. The opening item was a selection, "La Poi," which was well rendered by the Church Orchestra. The unison song, "Old Jack Frost," was nicely sung by the choir, numbering 80 voices. Then followed the chorus, "Christmas Time," and the trio, "There was silence," by Misses Wildsmith, Stelling, and Elliott. The march, "Palestine," was well given by the orchestra, and Master Wildsmith sang "Christmas Bells" exceedingly well. The chorus, "Christmas Tree," by the children, caused great enthusiasm, Master Chas. Davison parading in front of the platform while the children sang "Hurrah for Father Christmas." This piece was encored, as was the duet, "The wassail song," by Masters Hickford and Skelton. Miss Scott gave a nice recitation, and the orchestra favoured with a selection. The trio, "The star in the east," was well rendered by Misses Wildsmith, Stelling, and Elliott, who were succeeded by the choir, who sang "Now, 'tis Christmas time." Mr. Alf. Swainston ably recited "The absent-minded beggar." Mr. W. Lowrie acted as conductor, and Mr. C. Stelling as accompanist. Afterwards an excellent supper was provided, the wants of the guests being seen after by Misses Hickford (2), Elliott, Wildsmith, Bell, Potts, Johnson (2), Mrs. Potts, Misses Reid, Bainbridge, Hay, Tilley, Best, Hickford, Millhouse, and Stelling. The kitchen department was ably looked after by Mrs. Cook, Mrs. H. Davison, Mrs. J. Cummings, and Messrs Parsons and Grant.

Annfield Plain.

Time means money! Have the correct time, by wearing J. T. Castle's 50s English Lever.

AGED MINERS' HOMES AND THE RESERVISTS.—On Friday evening, Mr. J. Smith, of Annfield Plain, gave a magic-lantern entertainment in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, in aid of the aged miners' homes and the widows and children of reservists now serving in South Africa. Mr. George Sterling, Annfield Plain, presided, and explained the views as they were put upon the screen by a powerful lime-light lantern, ably manipulated by Mr. Smith. During the evening songs were sung by Mrs. Burns and Mr. T. Holland, while Mr. Sterling recited "The absent-minded Beggar." There was a fairly good company present.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Xmas Day the members of the Wesley Guild Band, Annfield Plain, gave a grand concert in the new Board Schools, under the leadership of Mr. Bert Smith. The effort was in aid of the Sunday School funds, and considering the counter attractions in the district, there was a good company present. The proceedings were enlivened by Mr. Geo. Dunn, who gave two recitations in an able manner, and Mr. Geo. Ferguson, who sang two humourous Irish songs in good style. Mr. J. F. Elliott, of Annfield Plain, occupied the chair. After the concert a supper was provided, the tables being presided over by the elder scholars of the school, and was fairly well patronised.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.—On Christmas Day the members of this flourishing society held a Christmas tree and sale of work in the school-room connected with the church, which was opened by Coun. J. Storey, of Catchgate, who contributed a handsome donation towards the reduction of the £500 odd debt remaining on this new sacred edifice. In his remarks Coun. Storey made fitting allusion to the many changes which had taken place since he first opened the bazaar two years ago. He also congratulated the ladies on the fine display they had been able to make on the stalls, and trusted the articles would speedily be turned into money. (Applause.) Tea and supper were very generously provided by Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, of Hare Law. At intervals during the day entertainments, spelling-bees, and concerts were conducted by Messrs W. Herdman, H. Herdman, and J. Robinson. Great assistance had been given to the decorators by Mr. M. Ross, of South Moor. The drapery stalls were presided over by Mrs Gair, Mrs Mordue, Miss Purvis, Miss Donaldson, Mesdames Herdman, Robinson, Bainbridge, and Misses Gibson and Gair; the fancy stall by Mesdames Carr, H. Herdman, Robson, and Miss Elliott; china stall, the Misses Purvis, Cowey, and Reed; toy and sweet stall, Mrs. J. Malcolm, Misses Murray, Turnbull, L. Watson, Florrie Mordue, R. Bainbridge, S. E. Birtley, and Lishburn; refreshments in a room upstairs were supplied by Mesdames Geo. Bainbridge, Dearing, J. Dunn, Gibson, Henderson, Paget, Bell, and Doney. On Tuesday evening the sale of work was continued, and was opened by Mr. Geo. Dearing, when much amusement was created by a washing competition.

Catchgate

CHRISTIAN LAY CHURCH.—On Christmas Day Dr. Morison, of Catchgate, opened a sale of work in the above chapel, while in the evening a miscellaneous entertainment was rendered by several local friends. The ladies who presided over the stalls were as follows:—Drapery stall, Mesdames Down and Stott; toy stall, Mesdames Woolcock, and Sowden; Christmas tree, Messrs W. J. Sowden and N. Chapman; fruit stall, Mr. T. Pickervance; tea tables, Mesdames Graham and Anderson; sweet stall, Mrs. M. A. Graham. A goodly company of friends assembled at the annual gathering and enjoyed the holiday.

FREE CHURCH.—On Christmas Day Mrs. Storey, the wife of Coun. J. Storey, of Catchgate, opened a Christmas tree in the Greencroft Board Schools, kindly granted for the occasion. There was a large company present to witness the opening ceremony, which was gracefully performed by Mrs. Storey, who gave a handsome donation towards the object—the new church building fund. The ladies who were kept busy at the stalls were as follows:—Sweet and fruit stall, Misses Bates, Lunn, and Daw; Christmas tree, Mrs Collicott, Miss Davison, Miss Foster, and Miss Houghton. Tea provided on the Lockhart system was ably presided over by Mesdames Davison and Foster. In the evening, Mr. J. Smith, of Annfield Plain, gave a lime-light exhibition of views of the Transvaal, which were much admired. The effort was highly successful.

AITCHISON & CO.,
(LATE R. HEWITT),
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MIDDLE ST., CONSETT,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
FRUITERERS, FLORISTS, AND CONFECTIONERS.
CHOICE FRESH CUT FLOWERS ALWAYS ON HAND. BALL SPRAYS, BOUQUETS, WREATHS, CROSSES, &c., MADE ON THE PREMISES.
LARGE ARRIVALS OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES DAILY.
ALSO AT GATESHEAD. 80f

Blackhill.

WESLEYAN CHURCH.—On Christmas night the members of the Wesleyan Church Choir gave a concert in the above school-room, when glees, quartettes, etc., were rendered by the choir. Violin solos were finely given by Miss Richardson, whilst Mr. R. Frankland obliged with two excellent recitations, "The charge of the Light Brigade" and "The Relief of Lucknow." Mr J. Palliser occupied the chair in his usual able manner. Afterwards a well-patronised supper was provided and enjoyed. The proceeds were in aid of the choir funds.

HIGHGATE BAPTIST CHAPEL.—The anniversary of the above place of worship was celebrated on Christmas Day. A public meeting was held in the evening, presided over by the Rev. E. W. Jenkins. Excellent addresses were given by the Rev. Jas. Taylor (Blackhill) and Coun. R. C. Foster. Selections were rendered by the choir, under the leadership of Mr J. E. Thompson. There was a good company present, who afterwards partook of a substantial supper, the tables being presided over by the young ladies of the congregation.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—At this church a Christmas Tree was held in the School-room, on the afternoon of Christmas Day, which was followed by a free tea to the Sunday School scholars. A public tea took place afterwards, and was liberally patronised. In the evening there was a magic-lantern entertainment, entitled "A peep behind the scenes," by the Rev W. Dryburgh, of Swalwell. At the conclusion of the entertainment a well-attended supper was provided. The Rev. A. Baillie (pastor) occupied the chair.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.—A fruit banquet was held in the School-room on Christmas night, presided over by Mr Jas. Greenwood, of Blackhill. An address was given by the Rev. Jas. Taylor, of Blackhill. Anthems were rendered by the choir, and solos by Misses Williams, English, and M. Brodie, Mr R. Evans and Mr Robinson. A duet was given by Mr and Mrs Robinson, and a recitation by Miss Parker, of Leadgate. The accompanist was Miss Greenwood. Fruit was served at intervals, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

Birtley

The members of the Birtley Temperance Society held their annual demonstration on Christmas Day. In the afternoon the members paraded the village, headed by the Birtley Temperance Brass Band. Afterwards they held a public tea and entertainment in the Co-operative Hall.

Chester-le-Street

CALL AT PETER HAY'S, CHESTER-LE-STREET, for Gents', Youths, and Boys Overcoats, Ready-made Suits. Gent's Mercery, Evening Dress Material. Endless variety of Fancy Goods, suitable for Christmas and New Year presents.

SUDDEN DEATH OF AN ACTRESS.—Among those engaged to appear in the pantomime of "Sinbad the Sailor" at the Queen's Theatre, Chester-le-Street, was Miss Dorothy Fitzgerald, who took lodgings at No. 3, Wear Street. She had been in Chester-le-Street for about a fortnight, and had attended several rehearsals. A few mornings ago she was found dead in bed, and Dr. Brown, who saw the body, stated that she had been dead for several hours. She came from Bury, in Lancashire, where, presumably, she had been medically attended, as no inquest was deemed necessary.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SALE OF WORK.—The Primitive Methodists held their annual sale of work on Christmas Day. The opening ceremony was performed by Miss Kate Pringle, of Chester-le-Street, youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Pringle. The stalls were well supplied with useful and fancy articles, and during the day good business was done. A splendid exhibition of tableaux vivants was given by trained children and drew large audiences, each display being loudly applauded. The debt on the present building being now removed, the plans for the new church are in the hands of the Rev. A. J. Campbell, superintendent minister, and this and future efforts will be in aid of this object, over £2,000 being required.

DEATH OF MR. PETER HAY.—We deeply regret to record the death of Mr Peter Hay, of Chester-le-Street, which took place at his residence, Red Rose Terrace, on Wednesday. The deceased gentleman had been in failing health for some time, and a few weeks ago he was seized with paralysis from which he never recovered. He was a native of Glasgow, and came to Chester-le-Street many years ago, where he commenced business as a draper in a very small way. Success gradually attended his efforts until he became one of the leading tradesmen in the town, and having a large staff under him, he was able to devote much of his time to public affairs. He was one of the most prominent members of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians, Rural District Council, and Parish Council. In politics he was a Liberal and in religion a Churchman, transferring his affections from Presbyterianism. He took a great interest in athletics and was an ardent supporter of local cricket and football, as well as being a faithful disciple of Isaac Walton. His death creates the fourth vacancy on the Guardians and Council since the 10th of Nov. last. The deceased gentleman was very popular in the old town of his adoption, and his kindly presence will be greatly missed.

Castleside

WEDDING OF MISS M. H. YOUNG.—On Saturday, at the Wesleyan Church, Shotley Bridge, there was celebrated the wedding of Mr. Geo. Douglas Sheldon, son of Mr. Thos. Sheldon, of Blackhill, to Miss Margt. Harriet Young, of Castleside. The Rev. J. Bishop performed the marriage ceremony. Mr. Lamb (brother-in-law of the bride) acted as best man, whilst Mr. Wm. Young (brother of the bride) was groomsman. The bridesmaids were Miss J. A. Young (sister of the bride) and Miss Annie Sheldon (sister of the bridegroom.) At the conclusion of the ceremony, the bridal party returned to the home of the bride's parents at Castleside, where a pleasant day was spent by a good company of relatives and friends. The presents received were numerous and useful.

Dipton

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—The teachers and Band of Hope committee connected with this church held a Christmas gathering in the school-room on Christmas Day. A sweet and fruit stall was attended to by Mr. and Mrs. J. Pearson, a shooting gallery by Mr. A. Phillipson, junr., and Master S. Stobbs. The tea tables were presided over by the Misses A. Gray and A. Biggs, who were assisted by Miss Fairless, Mesdames Kirsopp and Barnes. In the evening the Dipton W. M. Equal Voice Choral Society rendered the sacred cantata, "Christ our Redeemer," in the chapel, the chairman for the evening being Mr T. Reed, of Catchgate. The solos were taken by the Misses E. Browell, M. Hunter, B. Gibson, H. Brankston, M. Chambers, E. Phillipson, and A. Gibson, while the accompaniments were supplied by Mr. J. J. Phillipson. Immediately after the cantata a supper, which was provided in the school-room, was well patronised, and proved successful. The proceeds were in aid of the Sunday School and Band of Hope funds.

Dunston

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Christmas Day the teachers connected with the Dunston Wesleyan Chapel held their annual tea, at which a large company were present.

SALE OF WORK.—On Monday afternoon, in the presence of a large gathering, Miss Cooper opened the annual sale of work promoted by the members of the Dunston Primitive Methodist Society. A large and expensive assortment of goods were offered for sale, and soon found purchasers, the sale proving most successful. During the afternoon a well-attended tea was held, the tables being under the care of Mrs Harrison, Miss Harrison, Miss Graham, Miss Bell, Mrs Curry, and Mrs Burton. The stall-holders were:—Mesdames Scott (2), Errington, and Noble. In the evening a service of song, entitled "Old Davie," was rendered by the married people, under the guidance of Mr Wakefield. Mr Beasley, conducted.

Ebchester

BAND OF HOPE.—A splendid company was present at the Band of Hope meeting in the Wesleyan chapel on Christmas Day, when a capital programme was presented and admirably performed, to the delight of the audience, solos being sung by Misses Angus, Peck, and Waggott, and Mrs. Graham; recitations and readings by Misses Irving, Angus, Waggott, Ewart, Bell, Graham, Mr. H. Peck, Mrs. Graham, and Mr. J. Bell. Several pieces were sung by the choir, the audience joining in. A very pleasant time was spent.

Medomsley.

FOOTBALLERS' SOCIAL.—On Friday evening the Allendale Park Association Football Club held their annual social in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley, when a good company assembled and entered heartily into the proceedings. The onerous duties of M.C.'s were ably discharged by Messrs T. Bailey, W. Lovat, and J. Charlton, while Messrs Lovat and Charlton also made very capable secretaries. The music was supplied by the Misses Dawson, of Westwood, in an able manner.

DEATH OF MRS. WHITE.—We regret to record the death of one of the oldest inhabitants and standards in the parish of Medomsley, in the person of Mrs. Elizabeth White, which took place somewhat suddenly on Thursday, December 14th, in the 81st year of her age. She had resided in the village about sixty years, and was well known and highly respected, her husband having predeceased her 16 years. Her remains were interred at Medomsley on Sunday, December 17th, the remains being followed to their last resting place by a large circle of friends.

Leadgate.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Christmas night, the members of the Mission Band held a coffee supper in the school-room connected with the above place of worship. There was a large attendance, the proceeds being in aid of the band funds.

ST. IVES CHURCH.—There were services at eight o'clock and 10.30 at this church on Christmas Day. Special hymns suitable to the occasion were sung by the choir, conducted by Mr. G. W. Goulden. Mr. W. Breare presided at the organ.

BROOMS' SOCIAL.—This popular event came off in the Brooms school-room on Tuesday evening, and passed off very successfully. There were over 100 guests in attendance, who spent an enjoyable evening in singing and games. Mr. E. J. Sloane, Mus. Bac., of Blackhill, supplied the music in his customary finished manner, whilst Mr. P. Daly carried out the secretarial duties to the satisfaction of all concerned.

DEATH OF A CHILD.—On Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, Thomas Albert Emmerson, aged eight months, the infant son of James Emmerson, of No. 569, Tin Street, Leadgate, was found dead in bed. As no known illness or injury existed before death Dr. Henley, of Front Street, Leadgate, withheld the certificate of death, and Coroner Graham was communicated with, with the result that no inquest was ordered. It appears that the mother of the deceased child had it up and gave it the breast at 6 a.m., on Sunday morning, after which she laid it into bed again. At about 10 a.m. she went back to the bed to see if the child was all-right, when she found it had died.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—A capital entertainment in connection with this society was held on Christmas night. The chair was ably occupied by Mr. J. T. Longstaff. Miss Mary Waters opened with a solo given in fine fashion, for which she received a well-merited encore. An auto-harp solo followed by Miss Coates, and a reading by Mr. Thos. Smith caused much amusement. Master Bow gave a good cornet solo. Miss Alderson sung very nicely, after which Master T. D. Thompson, of Consett, was encored for "I won't go to school any more." A recitation by Mr. H. Thompson was much appreciated. The choir was in attendance, and rendered a few anthems under the conductorship of Mr. H. Thompson. Mr. W. Thompson presided at the organ. At the conclusion of the entertainment a supper was provided in the school-room, to which a large number sat down.

SPINSTERS' SOCIAL.—On Tuesday evening, in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate, a successful social was held by the spinsters on behalf of the Soldiers and Sailors' Families Association. The arrangements were very ably carried out by a committee consisting of Miss Russell, Miss Stephenson, Miss Jahrns, Miss Greener, Miss Mary Black, Miss Maggie Black, Miss K. Winter, Miss Dawson, Miss D. Burnhope (treasurer), and Miss L. Winter (hon. sec.) Despite many counter-attractions there was a good company present, probably numbering about 106. The music was admirably supplied by Mr. R. Winter (piano) and Mr. H. Hall (violin), whilst Messrs M. Bell and F. Walker acted as M.C's. The refreshments were generously provided by several friends free of charge, and were dispensed by Mrs. Winter, Mrs. W. Black, and Miss B. Burnhope. An extremely pleasant night was spent by all present, and the worthy object aimed at will probably receive a fairly substantial addition to its funds. It should be mentioned that the Store committee kindly granted the use of the hall and piano up to 11 o'clock for bare expenses.

Milkwell Burn

FREE CHURCH.—On Christmas Day a grand tea was held in the above place of worship, and was patronised by a large company. The good things were served out by Mesdames Stewart, Proudlock, Golightly, and Miss Rutter. After tea a splendid concert followed. Choruses and anthems were rendered by the choir in a most creditable manner. Solos were rendered by Miss Haw, Miss Daw, and Mr. Tindale (Catchgate), which were highly appreciated by the company. The baton was wielded by Mr. R. Robinson. Mr. W. Richardson officiated at the organ. In the unavoidable absence of the advertised chairman (Dr. Marshall), the meeting was presided over by Mr. I. Clark. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by singing the Doxology. The proceeds, which were very satisfactory, were devoted to the new building fund.

Ouston

TREAT TO THE AGED POOR.—The annual free Christmas dinner for the old people and widows in the district was served in the workmen's Hall, Ouston, on Saturday afternoon. One hundred people sat down to a substantial dinner, and thirty dinners were sent out to those who were not able to attend. Each of the guests was given a quarter of a pound of tobacco or tea. A new suit and an invalid chair was presented to G. Fenwick, who got lamed in the Urpeth Busty Pit three years ago.

Swalwell.

CO-OPERATION.—The 143rd quarterly report and balance sheet, which has just been issued by the Swalwell Co-operative Society, states that the members are able to declare a dividend of 3s 6d in the £.

DRUNKENNESS.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Charles Higgins was fined 5/- and costs for being drunk and disorderly at Swalwell.—John Leck was ordered to pay 2/6 and costs for a similar offence.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Christmas Day the members of the Swalwell Wesleyan Chapel held their annual tea, at which a large company sat down. In the evening a public meeting, under the presidency of Mr R. Lawson, of Newcastle, took place, when addresses were ably delivered by Mr D. Bone (Newcastle), Mr J. Lawson (Blaydon), and Mr Lumley (Swalwell.) On Sunday large congregations assembled morning and evening to listen to the Rev. W. H. Moseley (Supt. Minister), who preached eloquent and inspiring sermons.

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—A well selected miscellaneous programme was submitted at the usual weekly entertainment held under the auspices of the above society, in the old Presbyterian Church, on Saturday evening, under the chairmanship of Mr O. W. Hurford Heaton. The artistes were Messrs J. Ladyman, R. Sample, J. Swalwell, J. McKenzie, Robinson, Willis, and the Carheavilleton Musical Combination. Mr A. Newton, N.T.S., Newcastle, delivered a highly-appreciative address. Mr J. McKenzie discharged the duties of accompanist.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday night the choir connected with the above place of worship held their annual coffee supper, at which a fair company were present. The tables were ably presided over by Misses Charlton, Brown, Murray, Errington, McGregor, and Horsley, whilst Miss Brown and Mrs Barnes served out the bread. In the evening a successful entertainment took place presided over by Mr. A. A. Fletcher. The choir delighted a large audience with some admirable selections of music, and solos were also rendered by Misses McGregor, Murrey, Errington, and H. Brown, with much acceptance. A stirring address was delivered by Mr. Robert Jobling, of South Shields. Votes of thanks ended a pleasant day's proceedings. The proceeds were in aid of the choir's annual excursion. On Sunday special sermons were preached morning and evening by Mr. Dobson to large congregations. Collections were taken in aid of the choir's efforts for a new chapel. During the early hours of Christmas morning the choir visited about thirty houses in the village, at which they sang Christmas carols with great acceptance. The journey, which proved very profitable, was accomplished by four a.m., after which the members of the choir sat down to a well-served up breakfast at the house of Mr. J. Johnston, where they were kindly attended to by Mrs. Johnston.

Weardale

ACCIDENT TO MINERS.—Whilst two miners named Jno. E. Hodgson, Westgate, and W. Martin, Nenthead, were at work in Nenthead mine a shot of dynamite exploded unexpectedly in a hole they had drilled, seriously injuring the first-named about the arms and Martin about the head and hands.

WEARDALE PATRIOTISM.—At a meeting of the Stanhope volunteers on Saturday night, twenty-two volunteered for the front. More offered their services, but were too young, and were not accepted. If required for garrison duty they would almost to a man volunteer. The men are enthusiastic. At both Wolsingham and Cowshill have men offered their services for the front and been accepted; also for garrison duty if required.

XMASTIDE IN WEARDALE.—Xmas morning broke clear and crisp. The morning was sunny, but very cold. As the day wore on the crisp frost intensified until it was real Christmas weather. The roads were a sheet of ice, and were difficult to walk upon. One side of the valley was snow-capped. The other showed green fields. During the night, however, there was a fall of snow, and Boxing Day saw a white world. There were the customary family and social gatherings everywhere. Christmas Day was observed as a holiday, and was little different from a Sunday save for the footballers in the different villages, and the bands playing about. The workhouse inmates were regaled with their usual Christmas dinner of roast beef and plum pudding and beer, the latter luxury being presented to them by Mr. G. Currey, of Bishop Oak, Wolsingham. Special services were held in several of the places of worship, and special anthems and hymns sung in many of the churches. The Westgate Primitives and Wearhead Primitives held Christmas trees and bazaars. The Stanhope footballers held a pie supper and dance, and the Stanhope Primitives an "At Home," given by the adults. Football matches were played at several of the villages. Barnard Castle and Stanhope met at Stanhope, the home team winning by five goals to nil. On the whole the great Christmas festival was duly honoured this year.

Stanley.

Is marriage a failure? Certainly not, if united with one of J. T. Castle's Wedding Rings.

The hard frost of the last few days has afforded excellent skating on the various ponds round about Stanley.

P.M. SALE OF WORK.—On Christmas Day the Primitive Methodists of West Stanley held a sale of work in the School-room at which the lady members of the congregation took an active part. Although on a small scale the efforts realised a useful sum. A large number sat down to tea and in the evening Mr Black, of Stanley, gave a performance on the gramophone.

STANLEY ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.—A grand sacred concert was given on Sunday night last, in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley, by the members of the Stanley and District Orchestral Society. In addition to excellent contributions by the band, solos were rendered by Miss J. Aisbett, and Mr R. D. Grundy. Mr W. Moody officiating as accompanist. The band consisted of 30 performers under the conductorship of Mr J. G. Garbutt. A large audience enjoyed an excellent concert.

"SINDBAD THE SAILOR."—For the Christmas holidays Mr Lindon, of the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, has, by arrangement with Mr Val Simpson, placed before his patrons a capital pantomime entitled, "Sindbad the Sailor," which has been received by large and appreciative audiences. A very capable company has been engaged, and the rollicking "show" has gone on merrily since the opening performance on Saturday night last. There are a dozen scenes and the effects are worth a visit in themselves. Excellent music is introduced by special permission of Messrs Francis and Day and others, and the effective lime-light properties and appliances are by Mr Sam Ireland. During the course of the pantomime proper a variety entertainment is introduced to the delight of the audiences. There will be an afternoon performance on Saturday when the Lanchester Workhouse children will be given a treat. Next week "Carl the Clockmaker" will be produced.

DEATH OF MR. E. HERDMAN.—We regret to have to announce the death of Mr E. Herdman, of 51, Towneley Street, Stanley, which took place on Christmas Eve. Mr Herdman, who was the son of Mr Geo. H. Herdman, of Kyo, was only 27 years of age, and had risen to the responsible position of manager of the greengrocery department of the Co-operative Stores. About a month ago he was seized with illness, which culminated in paralysis and death. He was held in very high esteem, and great sympathy is expressed for his young widow and child. The interment took place on Wednesday afternoon, when the hearse was preceded by a very large number of mourners and friends. The Ancient Order of Shepherds, of which he was a member, was largely represented, and among others present were employees of the Co-operative Society; Mr. and Mrs. George Young, Newcastle; Mr. and Miss Trewick, and Mr J. Cosker, Tyne Dock. The underbearers were Messrs W. B. Wood, G. Whaley, J. Newton, and Wm. Wrangham; the bidders were Mr B. Johnson and Mr J. Robson, and the lady servers, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Fothergill. Beautiful wreaths were sent by, among others, the employees of the Store, the Victoria Club, Mr R. Naylor (Newcastle), Mrs Pogson (Newcastle), Mr and Mrs Wm. Ridley, jun., Miss Brennen, and Mr George Sanderson, jun. The ceremony in the Church and at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. D. W. James, Vicar of Stanley.

NOT PAYING FOR THEIR MACHINES.—At the Newcastle Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, Mr. John Dawson, cycle agent, Stanley, examined for the first time, said he was a butcher by trade, but had in recent years worked in the coal mines. About four years ago he started as a cycle agent, but did not take a shop till a year ago. He had no money when he started the agency. He had sold eleven new cycles during the present year. Two persons went off without paying for their machines, while a great many repairs which he did had not been paid for. To those two facts he attributed his failure.—The examination was adjourned.

SALE OF WORK.—On Saturday a successful two days' sale of work was opened in the East Stanley Board Schools by the members of the East Stanley Primitive Methodist Chapel, the proceeds being in aid of the Trust Funds. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr T. Collinson, of Annfield Plain, in the presence of a large company, after which a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to that gentleman for his services on the proposition of Mr Wm. Kelly, seconded by Mr Wm. Cummings. The stalls, which were stocked with useful and valuable goods, were relieved of their contents with amazing rapidity. The stalls were graciously given and presided over as under:—Drapery stalls—Mrs Cummings, Mrs Atkinson, and Mrs Summerbell. A drapery stall was also kindly given by the members of the Y.P.S.C.E. The society's stall was presided over by Mrs T. Hall, Mrs R. Appleby, Miss R. Watt, and Miss M. Atkinson, whilst the fruit stall was attended to by Mr W. Kelly and Mr J. T. Curry, and the sweet stall by Mr A. Watt. A well-equipped toy stall was presided over by several members of the Y.P.S.C.E., Messrs Hudson and Slater were in charge of the sweet department. A tea given by the young men of the society was well-attended, the tea tables being presided over by Miss Dixon, Miss Leighton, Miss Shield, Miss Summerbell, Miss Porter, and Miss Cooper. The members of Mr Lowery's String Band from West Pelton were in attendance, and delighted the company with excellent selections of music, whilst successful entertainments were given by the children at East Stanley School, under the care of Miss Thornton. The sale of work was continued on Monday, when success again attended the venture.

Stanhope

BOARD SCHOOL CONCERT.—This concert, held on Friday night, and presided over by the Rev. A. Woolescroft, was a success. The children's rendition of the various pieces elicited great praise.

Tow Law.

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—A solemn mass was sung in the Church of St. Joseph, Tow Law, on Sunday, for the repose of the souls of the British soldiers who have fallen in South Africa. The celebrant of the mass was the incumbent, the Rev. Matthew Culley. There was a large congregation.

ORDER OF DRUIDS.—The Rehoboth Lodge of the above Order held their annual supper on Saturday at the Royal George Hotel. Over 50 members sat down to an excellent repast, provided by Mrs Alsop, assisted by Mrs Harrison. After the removal of the cloth Coun. T. Hall was voted to the chair, Mr W. Littlejohn being vice-chairman.—The Chairman in a few appropriate remarks proposed the health of the Queen, which was received with great enthusiasm.—The next toast was "Our brave soldiers in Africa."—The harmony of the evening was well sustained, the principal contributors being Messrs T. Harrison, T. Mellee, J. C. Nattrass, R. Elcoat, J. Golightly, and E. Sharpe. A most enjoyable evening was spent concluding with "Auld Lang Syne" by the whole company. During the past year the above club has made very satisfactory progress, having added twelve members, and is in a flourishing condition.

Wolsingham

CURIOUS ACCIDENT.—On Friday, at Wolsingham, Joseph Galley, an employe at the branch shop of the Tow Law Industrial and Provident Society, Limited, was taking an eighteen gallon vinegar cask down the cellar steps, when he lost control of it, and it rolled over him, severely crushing his chest.

BAPTIST ANNIVERSARY.—Successful services have been held during the Christmastide in connection with the Baptist Sunday School anniversary. On Sunday morning the Rev. J. Black, B.A., preached an excellent and timely sermon. During the afternoon and evening the scholars recited and sang very pleasingly, showing that some time and pains had been spent on their training. On Monday afternoon the usual public tea was well patronised, after which (the scholars' tea being held on the following day) a well-attended public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by the Pastor. The speakers included the Rev. G. Samuels, M.A., Tow Law; Rev. W. H. Rowling, of Hamsterley; and Mr W. Steel, Wesleyan local preacher. Owing to sudden indisposition the Rev. J. P. Yates, Wesleyan superintendent, was unable to be present, to the great regret of the congregation. Several recitations were admirably rendered by the scholars, and the singing was greatly enjoyed, Mr. John Nesbit being the conductor. Several duets greatly contributed to the evening's enjoyment. Miss Polly Pettitt ably presided at the organ.

White-le-Head

PRIMITIVE CHAPEL.—On Saturday evening Mrs. Campbell, the wife of the Rev. E. Campbell, of Burnopfield, opened a sale of work in the White-le-Head Primitive Chapel, in aid of the new chapel building fund. Mr. T. Huggup introduced Mrs. Campbell in a few well-chosen remarks. The stall-holders at the confectionery stall were, Mr. and Mrs. Rodham; drapery stall, Mesdames Reay, Bates, Arkless, and Ledger; toy stall, Mesdames Kellor, Crisp, and Pyle. The tea tables were presided over by the Misses Harrison (2), Atthey, and Reay, while Misses Crisp, Kellor, and Mrs. Kellor massed the tea. There were good companies present and the effort proved very successful.

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FASHIONABLE WEDDING AT HOLY ISLAND

MR. ALEX. ROBSON and MISS MAGGIE THOMPSON.

The picturesque little village of Holy Island was "en fete" on Saturday, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Alexander Robson, solicitor, of Westoe and Hebburn, to Miss Maggie Thompson, third daughter of Mr. Thos. Thompson, of Carr House, Consett. Mr. Robson, it will be remembered, was for some years with Mr. T. W. Welford, of Consett, and left the latter place on his appointment as clerk to the Hebburn District Council, which important post he secured out of a number of applicants. The event caused the greatest stir in Holy Island, and decorations were displayed at several points of vantage, whilst the villagers turned out in full force. The ceremony took place at the Parish Church, and was performed by the Rev. D. Bryson (vicar), brother-in-law of the bride. The latter (who was given away by her brother, Mr. Robt. Thompson) looked charming in a dress of ivory silk, trimmed with lace, chiffon, and orange blossom, and she also wore a veil and a wreath of orange blossom. The bridesmaids were Miss Ethel Bryson (niece of the bride), and Miss Edith Binks, of Darlington (cousin of the bride), who were attired in white muslin dresses with white silk sashes, with white felt hats trimmed with chiffon and tips. They also wore gold necklaces, with pendant, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried shower bouquets, also presents from the bridegroom. Master Victor Hamilton Bryson (nephew of the bride) attended as page. The service was fully choral, the surpliced choir meeting the bridal party at the entrance to the church, and preceded them into the sacred edifice, singing "Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us." Miss Jennie Thompson (sister of the bride) officiated at the organ, and played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" as the congregation filed out of the church. At the conclusion of the ceremony a reception was held at the Vicarage, where a large number of relatives and friends were entertained. Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Robson left for London, to spend the honeymoon. The bride's going-away dress was of dove-coloured cloth, trimmed with kurl cloth and trimmings. After the ceremony the enthusiastic fishermen fired several volleys from the Vicarage lawn in honour of the occasion. The presents received were very numerous and costly. We take this opportunity of wishing Mr. and Mrs. Robson the utmost prosperity and happiness.

FOOTBALL TEAMS

ALLENDALE PARK v. HAMSTERLEY.

Both clubs were fairly well represented on Christmas Day at Medomsley. The visitors, who played a magnificent game, ran out easy winners by six goals to one.

Referee, Mr R. Milligan.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

STANLEY v. SHANKHOUSE.

At Stanley on Saturday.

STANLEY.—(Selected from)—Spink, Saunders, Devine, Coats, Ellis, Allison, Crute, Robson, O'Connor, Douglass, Masterman, Green, and Armstrong.

STANLEY v. SUNDERLAND.

Played at Stanley on New Year's Day.

STANLEY.—(Selected from)—Spinks, Saunders, Liddle, Coats, Ellis, Allison, Crute, Robson, O'Connor, Douglass, Masterman, Armstrong, and Green.

LEADGATE PARK v. MIDDLESBROUGH A.

This game takes place at Leadgate on Monday, and should produce a fine struggle for the points at issue. Kick-off at 2.15.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

ALLENDALE PARK v. LEADGATE PARK.

These teams meet at Medomsley on Saturday, and a good game should result. The kick-off is fixed at 2.30, and Mr H. Smith, of Gateshead, will referee. Teams:—

ALLENDALE.—Goal, Jno. Scott; backs, W. Hunter and M. Walton; half-backs, H. Holday, T. Walton, and T. Taylor; forwards, Robinson, Brown, Truman, Yeats, and Lynap.

LEADGATE.—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, G. Temple and J. Wilson; half-backs, T. Cartmel, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, B. Cook, J. Grant, W. Crowther, S. Thompson, and P. Daly. Brake leaves headquarters at 1.15.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. BIRTLEY.

At Consett on Monday.

CONSETT SWIFTS.—Goal, W. Graham; backs, R. Patterson and J. Laidler; half-backs, P. McNally, J. Rafferty, and J. Dempsey; forwards, B. Rafferty, H. Armstrong, Jas. Finnigan, J. Little, and J. Morgan.

Referee, Mr. J. Minns. Linesman, J. McArdle. Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. BLAYDON.

At Consett on Saturday.

CONSETT SWIFTS.—Goal, W. Graham; backs, R. Patterson and J. Laidler; half-backs, P. McNally, R. Bradley, and J. Dempsey; forwards, B. Rafferty, H. Armstrong, Jas. Finnigan, J. Little, and J. Morgan.

Referee, T. Amos. Linesman, R. Charlton. Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE v. BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S.

At Shotley Spa.

CONSETT SWIFTS' RESERVE.—Goal, J. Coleman; backs, J. Wilson and G. Wood; half-backs, T. Dempsey, J. McKie, and W. Atkinson; forwards, W. Walton, R. McAlear, J. Sheldon, E. Pratt, and T. Boyle.

Referee, W. Hodgson. Linesman, W. Little. Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.

BURNHOPE v. HAMSTERLEY.

At Burnhope, when the following will represent

HAMSTERLEY.—Goal, Rudd; backs, Carr and Dodds; half-backs, Ferry, Swinburn, and Anderson (Capt.); forwards, Parker, Johnson, T. Seath, Fenwick, and D. Seath.

THE WAR

LOCAL VOLUNTEER OFFICERS OFFER THEIR SERVICES.

Captain and Adjutant Reid and the commanding officer of the 4th V.B.D.L.I., acting on the information published in the press as to volunteers being accepted for service in South Africa and at home, have issued notices at the headquarters of the various corps of the battalion inviting both men and officers to enroll themselves for active service. A company of 115 men and four officers will be required from Durham county, and already in response to this notice the number who have volunteered has far exceeded the present requirements. This will, the commanding officer says, enable them to make a good selection, and, giving preference to good shots and single men, he hopes to raise a capable company. Among the officers who have already intimated their wish to join are Captain Turnbull, Chester-le-Street; Captain Cook, Washington; Lieut. Marr, Birtley; Lieut. Ritson, Sacriston; Lieut. Roberts and Lieut. Dixon, Durham.

Alarming Gas Explosion at Swalwell

A Youth in Flames

At an early hour on Tuesday morning Swalwell Garesfield Colliery was the scene of an alarming gas explosion, which resulted in a driver lad being severely burnt. It would appear that some of the driver lads are wont to hide their whips, with a view to preventing them from being appropriated by other persons, and it is said that whilst a youth named Thomas Ledger was looking for his whip with a naked light in the fire-quarter seam, an explosion of gas took place. The unfortunate youth was hurled to the ground, whilst his clothes were ignited. A younger brother of the lad's, who was working close by, went to his assistance, and managed to extinguish the burning garments, by throwing water upon them. With all haste Ledger was conveyed to his home, where he was attended to by Dr. Smith, of Whickham. It was then seen that he had been severely burnt about the head, face, arms, and chest.

Whickham

SPOOR MEMORIAL CHAPEL.—The anniversary services in connection with the above place of worship were celebrated on Sunday, when special sermons were preached in the afternoon and evening by the Rev. B. Dennison, of Gateshead to very good congregations. On Monday (Christmas Day) the annual tea was provided. The tables were presided over by Misses Lawson, Kydd, Rutherford, and Mack, and a goodly number sat down and did ample justice to the good things provided. In the evening a splendid concert was given, anthems and choruses being rendered by the choir. Solos, recitations, etc., were admirably rendered by Misses Lawson, Rutherford, Stark, Cook, Spoor, and Maddison, and Messrs R. Cook, and J. Stark, jun. Mr J. Dinsdale, of Dudley, late of Whickham, ably presided at the organ. Mr T. M. Stark, in the absence of Mr J. Foster, acted as conducter. The chair was taken by Mr J. Dinsdale, of Whickham. Votes of thanks brought a very enjoyable meeting to a close.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!!
N. ELSDON
IS AGAIN TO THE FRONT WITH HIS
Wines, Spirits, Mineral Waters, Ales, Stout, &c.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d	6s 0d
2s 6d	3s 3d	14s 0d	7s 0d
2s 9d	3s 6d	16s 0d	8s 0d
3s 0d	3s 9d	17s 0d	8s 6d
3s 6d	4s 0d	18s 0d	9s 0d
	4s 6d	19s 0d	9s 6d
	5s 0d	21s 0d	10s 6d

RUM.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d
2s 6d	3s 6d	14s 0d
3s 0d	4s 0d	16s 0d

SHERRY.

Per ½ Gal.	Per Bot.
6s 0d	1s 6d
7s 0d	2s 0d
8s 0d	2s 6d
	3s 0d

GIN,

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0	13s 0d	6s 6d
2s 6d	4s 0	16s 0d	8s 0d

HOLLANDS:—1s per Bottle.

BRANDY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
3s 0d	3s 9d	16s 0d	8s 0d
3s 3d	4s 6d	18s 0d	9s 0d
3s 6d	5s 0d	20s 0d	10s 0d
4s 0d	6s 0d	24s 0d	12s 0d
5s 0d			
6s 0d			

GINGER CORDIALS, &c., 1s 3d per Bottle. BLACK BEER, 1s 3d.
GOOD PORT WINE, 1s 6d, 2s 3s, 4s, and 5s per Bottle.

FINE ALES (OCTOBER BREWINGS), IN BOTTLES.
PALE ALE ... 1s 6d per doz. Gills; Reputed Pints, 2s
MILD ALE ... " " " "
STOUT ... " " " "
BASS'S ALE ... 1s 9d per doz. Gills; 9-gal. Casks, 9s & 10s 6d
" ... 2s 9d per doz. Pints; 18-gal. Casks, 18s & 21s.

Don't wait till Christmas and New Year's Eve, but come before the rush, so that you may get supplied. Send your Orders by Post, and the Goods will be delivered promptly by my own men. Eight Vans on the road daily.

Wishing you the Compliments of the Season, I am, your humble Servant,
N. ELSDON.
DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS:—NEAR THE NEW CONSETT STATION. 217g

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Second Subscription Concert

The second concert for the season took place in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday evening last, before a large and influential audience. The special work for the occasion was Spohr's "Last Judgment" which formed the first part of the programme, the second part taking the form of a miscellaneous programme. The special artistes engaged were Madame Kate Bensberg (soprano), Miss Lucie Johnstone (contralto), Mr. James Leyland (tenor), Mr. Francis Harford (baritone), all of whom came with the highest credentials, and flattering press notices. The full band and chorus number 130 performers, the Orchestra being augmented for the occasion by professional musicians from Manchester, Newcastle, etc., the whole being under the able conductorship of Mr. G. P. Stephenson (organist and choirmaster St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside.) The first item on the programme was an overture by the band, which was excellently performed, the clarionets, drums, piccolo, and cornet shewing to special advantage, as indeed these instruments did all the way through. The chorus with solo, "Praise His awful name" introduced to the audience the full powers of Madame Kate Bensberg, Mr. Francis Harford, and the choir. Mr. Francis Harford and Mr. James Leyland followed on in the duet "Come up hither," both gentlemen proving themselves to be masterly exponents of their respective parts. The solo and chorus, "Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts," by Mr. James Leyland and the choir, was beautifully rendered, a volume of applause greeting its conclusion. The recitative, "Behold the Lamb that was slain," was given in excellent voice by Madame Bensberg, as was also the recitative "And the elders fell down," by the same artiste. The tenor solo, "Weep no more," by Mr. James Leyland, only served to further intensify the good impression created by this artiste. The concluding quartette and chorus in the first part of the work, viz., "Lord God of Heaven and Earth" by Madame Bensberg, Miss Lucie Johnstone, Mr. J. Leyland, Mr. Francis Harford, and the choir was a splendid triumph of choral and instrumental art. The contralto singer made her debut in this item, when it was at once perceived that she was the possessor of a rich contralto voice, of unusual richness and tone. In the second part of the work, the duet "Forsake me not in this dread hour" by Madame Bensberg and Mr. James Leyland, and the quartette and chorus "Blest are the departed" were sung with magnificent effect, the latter receiving a most persistent encore, but without response. The second part of the programme proper opened out with a symphony "Largo Allegro Vivael and Adagio" (Hayden), by the Orchestra. Perhaps the most successful feature of the evening's programme was the performance of the orchestra, no meed of praise being too much for the splendid performances. It certainly was never heard to better advantage than on Wednesday evening. A cordial round of applause ensued at the hands of the audience, at the conclusion of the symphony. Mr. James Leyland next gave the Berceuse "Angels guard thee" (Godard), in a beautiful sweet tenor voice of exquisite sweetness and pathos, the audience shewing their appreciation in a most demonstrative manner. Miss Lucie Johnstone instead of "The Enchantress" sang the more appropriate song of "Here's to the year that's awa'" and scored a big success from a dual standpoint, as in addition to its fitting sentiment the singer gave a most charming interpretion to the song. An undeniable encore was responded to by the singer giving a repetition of one verse. The next item was a solo and chorus "The night is calm and cloudless" (Sullivan) by Madame Bensberg and the choir, with orchestral accompaniment. The singer was heard to much advantage in this song, even more so than in the first part of the programme, taking the high notes in clear and ringing style, above the whole of the chorus. Madame Bensberg returned to the platform and bowed her acknowledgments to the vociferous plaudits of the audience. Mr. Harford's "The Pilgrim's Song" was nicely sung, but failed to rouse the enthusiasm of the audience to the same pitch as the immediately preceding efforts of the two lady artistes. Madame Bensberg came again in splendid voice with "When all the world is fair" (J. H. Cowen) whilst Miss Lucie Johnstone again delighted her audience with "Weary the waiting" (Felix Corbett) and Madame Bensberg with "Scenes that are brightest" (Maritana), after which came the National Anthem. The concert on the whole must undoubtedly be pronounced an unqualified success. The previous attainments of the Society were undoubtedly eclipsed on Wednesday last and we have no hesitation in saying that in our opinion it was one of the highest, most intellectual, and pretty concerts that has ever been given in Consett. Respecting the soloists the two ladies were positively fine in their respective parts, whilst the tenor also came in for a lot of favourable comment and general good appreciation. A consensus of opinion pointed to the singer, otherwise good and musical, being rather light. At any rate lacking in volume behind such men as Ivan Price and others which the Society has so meritoriously brought before the public from time to time. The artistes were certainly more popular in the second part of the programme practically no encores being given in "The Last Judgment." Miss Lucie Johnstone fairly enchanted her audience with "Here's to the year that's awa" whilst Madame Bensberg carried the audience away with her in her magnificent rendering of "Scenes that are brightest." The chorus was splendidly balanced, any casual preponderance observable leaning towards the bass, which was very good indeed. The orchestra as already referred to was almost the maximum of perfection, the general harmonic and dramatic display being indeed fine.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

On Thursday and Saturday evenings of last week the many friends of Mr and Mrs Lloyd Clarance rallied round the popular manager and his wife, on the occasion of their third annual complimentary benefit. An original farcical comedy, in three acts, written by Mr Clarance, and entitled "Mixed; or, all in the wrong," formed the tit-bit each evening, and was admirably performed by a company of lady and gentlemen amateurs. The "caste" was as follows:—"Frank Goldsworthy," Mr W. McFeggan; "Benjamin Smith," a martyr to gout, Arabella's uncle, Mr Joe Robinson; "Hasley Drawl," in search of a fortune, Mr Lloyd Clarance; "Gubbins," waiter at the Grand Hotel, Mr Geo. A. Williams; "Miss Avonia Smith," an elderly spinster, Arabella's aunt, Mrs Lloyd Clarance; "Miss Anastatia Smith," a romantic young lady, Arabella's cousin, Mrs. R. J. Colmar; "Miss Arabella Smith," the heiress, Miss L. Davison; "Zillah," a fortune-teller, Miss K. Eltringham; "Little Ada," Miss McGurk; "Giles," Master Arthur Clarance. The piece went off capitally, and elicited any amount of amusement. As a curtain-raiser we had the laughable farce, "No. 1 Round the Corner," the parts being taken by Mr A. K. Robinson ("Flipper"), and Mr Geo. A. Williams ("Nobbler.") Altogether the benefit went off exceedingly well.—This week the attraction has been Mr Dempster's Company in the sensational drama, "The Poisoner of Milan." There was a crowded house on Tuesday night, and, judging by the applause, the fare provided was to their liking. The play abounds in exciting and well-developed incidents, and is very capably impersonated by a good company. Miss Amy Ellam is charming as "Dolores Rigo," whilst Miss Ethel Vinroy and Miss Nellie Fern are admirable as "Morosca" and "Amelia Patchett" respectively. In the dual role of "Valga" (the poisoner of Milan) and "Juan Rigo" (a bull-fighter), Mr John Paley makes a great hit, and much of the success of the performance is due to his efforts. Mr Walter Copley is splendid as "Count Sagosta," and others seen to great advantage are Mr. Stanley Leedam ("Gerald Mortimer"), Mr Fred Wilberforce ("Captain Gares"), Mr Harry Harrop ("Horatio Nelson Patchett"), and Mr Frank Green ("Detective Kinch.") The remaining parts are all filled most satisfactorily. The play is well mounted, and should command large houses during the week.

THE RESERVISTS' FUND.

HEDLEY HILL COTTAGES.

THE RESERVISTS.—A concert was given at the above place on Saturday evening on behalf of the Reservists' Fund, by a few local friends, at the request of the Hedleyhope Parish Council, who have formed themselves into a committee for this worthy object. Notwithstanding the bad weather upwards of £3 was taken. The performers, who were well received, were:—Miss Mary Love, Cornsay; Miss Hume and Miss Dufton, Hedley Hill; Mr. Jas. Anderson, Mr. W. Alderson, and Mr. R. Crowe, Cornsay; Mr. J. Walton, East Hedleyhope. Mr. Joyce, Cornsay, ably presided at the piano, which was kindly lent by Mr. Tomlinson. Coun Robert Robson presided. Another concert is arranged to be held at East Hedleyhope.

TOW LAW.

Mr. Joseph Vickers, C.C., presided at a meeting of the committee of the Tow Law Branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, in the Council Chamber on Friday night.—The Treasurer (Councillor W. Atkinson) stated that the contributions from the people of the district had been highly satisfactory. He hoped the colliery lodgers would see their way clear to hand their money to the local treasurer, and swell the total from Tow Law. In less than a fortnight, and with all books not in, Tow Law people had given £25 0s 6½d, irrespective of what the miners were doing. He understood the men at Bonds Steel Works were levying themselves. He hoped to send at least £12 per fortnight out of Tow Law. (Applause.) The people had responded most loyally. He had great pleasure in telling them that the Rev. Father Culley had given them £5, and was willing to give more. (Applause.)—Councillor Vickers said that a concert should be got up, and other means adopted to get money for the ones left at home.

Sunniside

NEW CONNEXION CHAPEL.—On Saturday last, the M.N.C. Choir of Causey Row, rendered a service of song, entitled "Harvest Pictures." The connective readings were given by Mrs Bone, Marley Hill, after which a ham and coffee supper was provided, and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all. The proceeds were in aid of the choir funds.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off use the MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER, for it will positively restore in every case, grey or white hair to its original colour. It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth. Price 3s 6d. per bottle.

APIOL and STEEL PILLS for females A French remedy for all irregularities and obstructions, superseding bitter apple, pill cochiae pennyroyal, &c. Price 4/6 post free. Obtainable only from MARTIN, Foreign Chemist, SOUTHAMPTON.

The Best and Cheapest House in the District, for
MENS', YOUTHS', and BOYS' READY-MADE CLOTHING, GENERAL DRAPERY GOODS,
FANCY GOODS.
Ladies' Jackets, Mantles and Costumes,
Maids' Jackets and Costumes,
Children's Coats, Pelisses, and Millinery.
Ladies' Waterproof Cloaks,
Maids' Waterproof Cloaks,
Gents' Waterproof Coats.
ALL BEST MAKES.
Suits Made to Measure, from 30s. Trousers made to Measure, from 8s 11d. Fit and Style Guaranteed.
Splendid Show of New Goods for Xmas Trade,
SEE THE WINDOWS AT
J. W. WOOD'S
The noted Cheap Clothing and General Drapery Store.
FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

Christmas Announcements.

COMING EVENTS.

WALTER WILLSON'S
CHRISTMAS
COST PRICE SALE
IS THE SENSATION OF THE GROCERY TRADE.
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

The Delight of the Public. The Original. The Largest. The Cheapest. The Best. All through December. All over the North. Price List ready Dec. 1st. Everybody should get one of Walter Willson's Price Lists. Over 50,000 delivered in the immediate District. Ask for Price List and compare prices.

CONSETT AND LEADGATE.
100 Branches all over the North. 992f

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.

F. WELCH & CO.,

Are as usual to the Front with

NOVELTIES FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON. Special provision for the Children; no dull Christmas for them after paying a visit to

WELCH'S.

We hold the Largest Stock of Games in the District. A large Variety of Mechanical TOYS, also Steam Models, in Locomotives, Vertical Engines, Motor Cars, Dredgers, &c., &c.

DOLLS! DOLLS! DOLLS! All sorts, from 1d up wards, Magic Lanterns, Panoramas, Kinetescopes, Guns, Pistols, Fur Toys, Railways, Lanterns, Drawing Plates, &c., &c.

We have not forgot the Older Folk. To those about to marry we have some Lucky Wedding Rings, and we give half-dozen good Nickel Tea Spoons to each purchaser of a Ring. Then we supply on reasonable Terms, FURNITURE of all kinds—Presses, Drawers, Couches, Chairs, Tables, Beds, Bedsteads, Secret or Sideboard Beds, Cornice Poles, Fenders, Fire-irons, and Brasses; Rugs, Mats, Mattresses (Flock, Spring, and Straw), and everything suitable for House-keeping and Cleaning.

☞ We hold a Large Stock of WALL-PAPERS.

WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS

We have some very pretty Articles suitable for these Occasions.

ELECTRO-PLATED JELLY & BUTTER DISHES,
CRUETS, TEA POTS, JAM & BUTTER KNIVES,
PICKLE FORKS, FISH AND MEAT CARVERS,
SERVIETTE RINGS, TEA & TABLE SPOONS,
DINNER, DESSERT, & TEA KNIVES & FORKS.
CLOCKS, WATCHES, AND JEWELLERY—
LADIES' & GENTS' SILVER WATCHES & CHAINS.
At Specially Low Prices.
GOLD & SILVER BROOCHES, THIMBLES, ENGAGEMENT RINGS, KEEPER RINGS, &c.
Fancy Goods in LADIES' BAGS, COMPANIONS, PURSES, WRITING DESKS, &c.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY.

ANTHONY HALL'S
XMAS SALE
IS NOW IN FULL SWING.

CURRANTS, (NEW FRUIT) 2d. per lb.
VALENCIA RAISINS, (BEST) 4d. „
FIGS, from 3d. per lb.
LARGE BOTTLES WINE ONLY 7d. per bottle.
DECANTERS, NEW SHAPE, ONLY 9d. each.

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ANTHONY HALL'S,
PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

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

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST SHOP IN THE DISTRICT FOR
XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.
WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, SILVER AND ELECTRO-PLATE.

WATCHES ... ... From 2s 11d to £10 0s 0d
CLOCKS ... ... 2s 11d to £5 0s 0d
RINGS, BROOCHES, ALBERTS, ETC. AT ALL PRICES.

☞ REPAIRS CAREFULLY ATTENDED TO AT REASONABLE CHARGES.

JOSEPH MURRAY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER, CONFECTIONER, PROVISION, FLOUR, AND WINE MERCHANT.
CONSETT, SPEN, & CRAGHEAD.

In presenting the undermentioned Christmas List, I wish to convey to my Customers my Thanks for their liberal support throughout the Year, and hope in future to merit still further your patronage and confidence.

CAKES AND BISCUITS.

In Cakes we have a very choice selection the quality will be found to be all that can be desired and the prices moderate. Sultana and Currant Cake, 4d per lb.

Sultana and Currant Cake, 6d per lb.
Fruit and Rice with Almond Paste in centre, 8d per lb.
Rice and Seed Cake, first class quality, 7d per lb.
Fruit, Genoa, Cherry, Sultana Cake, 8d per lb.
Rich Plum Cake with thick Almond Paste on top 1/- per lb.

Huntley and Palmer's Cakes, Shortbread, etc.
Jacob and Co.'s Fancy Cakes, Fancy tins and Biscuits in large variety.
Jacob and Co.'s Shortbread in Boxes 6d and 1/2 per Box.
Latham and Co.'s Fancy Cakes in various packages and prices.

WHOLESALE PRICES FOR CAKES AND BISCUITS ON APPLICATION.

Barcelona, Brazil, and Walnuts, Muscatels, Almonds, Figs, Prunes, Dates, Apples, Oranges, Preserved Fruits, Metz Fruits, loose and fancy boxes of Chocolates in great variety.

MINCEMEAT.

Special line in Mincemeat, 6d and 10d per jar; Splendid quality.

PROVISIONS.

We have for your inspection this 'Xmas some very fine quality of CHEESE, consisting of Wensleydale, Cotherstone, Stilton, Gorgonzola, Cheshire, Derby, Canadian, Gouda and Edams.

A splendid lot of Well flavoured Hams, Sides, and Shoulders, Cumberland, Irish Roll, and Smoked Wiltshire Bacon.

Finest DANISH and other BUTTERS, Pure LARD and fresh MARGARINE. See the windows for prices and cuts.

TEAS.

In asking the favour of a call from you for our Teas we can with confidence say we are able to give you as good, and in many instances much better quality, than can be got elsewhere. Prices from 1/2 per lb.

PRESENTATION TEA at 2/6 per lb.

The quality of this Tea and the Presents show without doubt the best value in Presentation Teas ever offered to you. We would ask you to test the quality and examine the presents which are from time to time shown in the windows.

WINES. WINES.

Port Wines, 1/4, 1/8, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 3/6, per Bottle.
Sherry, 1/4, 1/8, 2/1, 2/6, 4/- per Bottle.
Claret, 1/4, 1/6, 2/6 per Bottle.
Champagne 4/6 per Bottle, 2/6 per ½-Bottle.
Australian Burgundy, Oomoo Brand 2/- per Flagon.
Australian Tintara, 3/- per Flagon
Flagons 6d each returnable.

Glendinning's Coco Wine 3/9 per Bottle.
Glendinning's Beef and Malt 3/9 per Bottle.
Do Do 2/- per Bottle.
Glendinning's Invalid Port 3/- per Bottle.
British Wines in Port, Sherry, Ginger, Rasp, Cowslip, Tent, Orange, Raisin, and Gooseberry, 1/- per Bottle.

FRUIT WINES:—Port, Ginger, Rasp, 8d per Bottle.

We hold a good stock of Groceries, Sundries, etc., and respectfully ask the favour of your Orders which shall have careful and prompt attention.

Christmas Announcements.

THE BEST PREVENTATIVE AGAINST COUGHS, COLDS, AND INFLUENZA, IS TO BE WELL SHOD. TO SECURE THIS, CALL AT

MRS. STRAWBRIDGE'S,
THE BOOT AND SHOE DEALER,
STRAWBRIDGE'S BUILDINGS, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

A Large Assortment of Ladies Dress Shoes in Stock. Easy Slippers.

FOR DOLLS, PLAQUES, FANS, BRACKETS, HANDSOME HANDKERCHIEF AND GLOVE CASES, ORNAMENTS, LADIES' COMPANIONS, PERFUMES, &c., &c.

VISIT

JOHN HALL & CO.'S
DRAPERY DEPARTMENT, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

☞ Stock Specially Selected for the Season. 94g

ESTABLISHED 1847.

THE OLDEST BUSINESS HOUSE IN CONSETT.

M. ALMOND,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

Is quite prepared to meet all demands for the CHRISTMAS SEASON.
Just arrived CURRANTS, SULTANAS, VALENCIAS, and SEEDLESS RAISINS, FIGS,
PLUMS, MUSCATELS, ALMONDS, SPICES, &c.
YORKSHIRE BACON AND HAMS,
(Smoked and Pale.)
SAUSAGE, BRAWN, AND POTTED TONGUE.
STILTON, CHESHIRE, WENSLEYDALE, CANADIAN, AMERICAN, EDAMS, AND DUTCH CHEESE.
JOHN HILL'S CAKES, BISCUITS, AND PLUM PUDDINGS, HOLGATE'S JAMS, JELLIES, AND MINCEMEAT.
CARR AND CO.'S BISCUITS IN FANCY TINS.
PORT, SHERRY, AND GINGER WINE.
If you want good Bread use M. ALMOND'S FLOUR.

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

USEFUL PRESENTS FOR CHRISTMASTIDE.

CALL AND SEE

BELL & BINNING'S XMAS SHOW.

Their Stock includes all the Choicest Novelties in FANCY GOODS, comprising Writing Cases, Shaving Mirrors, Dressing Cases, Photo Frames, Purses, Bronze Ornaments, and Beautiful Oriental Goods.

Also a Great Variety of Evening Shawls, Gloves, Fans, Head Dresses, Cravats, Blouses, Fancy Handkerchiefs, &c., besides a great display of Table Centres, Tea Cosies, Fancy Muslin Aprons, Maids' Caps, and other useful Articles.

WEST END HOUSE MILLINERY AND FANCY ESTABLISHMENT,
2, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

MESSRS J. & J. PARKER,

Beg to announce that they have provided very extensively for the coming Festive Season with a varied Stock of Useful, Ornamental, and Fancy Articles, suitable alike for Presents and Decorating your Homes.

SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN !!

Dressed Dolls; also, a large assortment of Mechanical and Musical Toys, Games, and many other Novelties too numerous to particularise.

LADIES! GIVE YOUR SPECIAL ATTENTION!

Ladies' White Muslin Aprons, Children's Embroidered Pinafores, Children's Dresses, Hats, Bonnets, Costumes, &c. A Speciality in Ladies' Companions, Fancy Tidies, Silk Pockets, Work Baskets, Needle Cases, Scents, &c. Silk Handkerchiefs, very effective. Ladies' and Children's Kid Gloves. A splendid assortment of Shawls.

A LINE FOR GENTLEMEN. MARK THESE, PLEASE!

Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Pouches, Pipes, &c. Call and inspect them. Gentlemen wishing to make a nice Present to a Lady and vice versa will do well to pay us a visit.

CARDS! CARDS! BEAUTIFUL CARDS!

A brilliant display. A splendid assortment. Most exquisite designs of Christmas and New Year Cards. In this line we do excel.
Don't miss this grand opportunity. Give us an early call, and
Your homes will be brightened,
Your Children delighted,
If you purchase your Toys at our Stand—
No. 2, FRONT STREET.

P.S.—Fancy Wools kept in Stock.

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THOMAS JONES,
DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

PIANOS, ORGANS, HARMONIUMS, &c., BY THE BEST ENGLISH AND FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS.

30 to 35 per cent. Discount for Cash off Makers' Price List.

Newest Designs and latest Improvements at the Lowest Possible Prices. Inspection invited. Sole Agent for H. Matz and Co.'s Pianos, Berlin, and the "Bell" American Organs. The largest stock of Music in the district.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical, Practical, and Singing Examinations. Latest success in Singing—First and Second Class Honours.

Pianos, American Organs, and Harmoniums Tuned and Repaired.
All the Latest Patriotic Songs, War Marches, Dance Albums, Comic and Sentimental Songs, for the Festive Season.

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JACKSON'S ARTISTIC SERIES OF BEAUTIFUL NEW **VIEWS**
OF CONSETT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD
PRICE: ONE SHILLING (BY POST, 1s. 1½d.).
AN ELEGANT PRESENT!!

CONTAINING THE LATEST VIEWS OF

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.
WESLEYAN CHURCH, CONSETT.
CONSETT IRON CO.'s OFFICES.
CONSETT IRON WORKS (Angle Mills.
BLACKHILL (looking from the Park.)
ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
HOWEN'S GILL BRIDGE, (Consett.)
ALLANSFORD (Gill Bridge in distance.)
GIBSIDE HALL.
BLANCHLAND.
BURNOPFIELD & BYERMOOR.
TANFIELD CHURCH.
SNOWS GREEN, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
THE LODGE, SPA GROUNDS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
THE SPA WELL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE "GUARDIAN" FOUNTAIN PEN,
Complete with Filler, only ONE SHILLING EACH. FINE OR BROAD PEN.
To be had at the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

ONE MOMENT, IF YOU PLEASE.
IF YOU WANT THE BEST GOODS AT THE LOWEST PRICES
GO TO

C. F. COOKE,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER, WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER,
ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMAN, AND DRAPER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

One of the oldest established Businesses in the County of Durham.
Fragrant, Fresh, Reviving Coffee, Roasted and Ground fresh every Morning. Only Highest Class Brands of Butter, Bacon, Lard, Cheese, and Flour are stocked.
A Large Stock of Christmas Novelties in the Drapery Department.
☞ SEE THE WINDOWS.

INFLUENZA,
INFLUENZA.
INFLUENZA.

Do you feel a pain in the back, aching of the limbs, headache, dizziness, etc? If so you are feeling the first symptoms of an attack of influenza.

INFLUENZA CAN BE WARDED OFF IN 12 HOURS BY TAKING A BOTTLE OF SWINDALE'S INFLUENZA MIXTURE. PRICE,—ONE SHILLING PER BOTTLE.

Ordinary Cough Mixtures are worse than useless.

JABEZ SWINDALE,
CHEMIST,
BLACKHILL, CONSETT, & LEADGATE.

XMAS PRESENTS AND
NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.
GIVEN AWAY. GIVEN AWAY.

MARSHALL & SONS,
WATCHMAKERS and JEWELLERS, NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, AND BLACKHILL,

Beg to announce that they have an Excellent Assortment of JEWELLERY and NOVELTIES for the Season. Ladies' and Gents' Gold and Silver Watches at all prices; Brooches, Bangles, Dress and Engagement Rings, Gold and Silver Scarf Pins, Gents' Rings, Time-pieces, &c.

GIVEN AWAY.—A SOLID SILVER ALBERT to all Buyers of our ENGLISH SILVER LEVER WATCHES—Prices from 50s. upwards. Also, a LADY'S ALBERT given away with our SILVER GENEVA WATCHES—Prices from 21s. A Handsome Present given away with our (18 carat) WEDDING RINGS. 296g

Christmas Announcements.

Consett.

P. O'NEIL, TINSMITH AND IRON-PLATE WORKER, RAGLAN ST., CONSETT. Thankfully acknowledges the patronage of his Friends and the Public; and respectfully solicits a continuance of their favours. Repairs neatly executed.

HART'S DINING ROOMS
12, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.
(Opposite Salvation Army Barracks),

HOT DINNERS DAILY.
REFRESHMENTS at Moderate Charges.
Good Accommodation.
TRY HART'S PORK AND MUTTON PIES.

F. ROBINSON,
DRESSMAKER AND MILLINER,
15, PARK ROAD, CONSETT,

RETURNS Thanks for the patronage accorded her during the twelve months she has been in business, and trusts to receive a continuance of their valued support.

Always in hand a good Stock of Home-made Goods, such as Shirts, Ladies' Underclothing, Hosiery, Men's Mercery, &c.

ROBSON AND ROWLAND,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
14, JOHN STREET, CONSETT.

WITH the advent of the Festive Season we wish to Thank our many Customers for their generous patronage. Our Mineral Waters are acknowledged to be "A.1."

Specialities for the Winter Season,
GREEN GINGER CHAMPAGNE,
RASPBERRY AND LEMONADE.
☞ ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. Trial Solicited.
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

MRS. PURVIS,
6, HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT.
(Late of Blackhill.)

BEGS to announce to the inhabitants of Consett and District that she has removed to the above address. Refreshments at any time. Home-made Bread and Teacakes.

☞ Funerals and Parties Catered For.

MADGE HARRIS,
CONFECTIONER,
3, HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT.

BEGS to thank her customers and the public for their past favours and hopes to receive a continuance of their support. She has a good assortment of confectionery, tobacco, and cigars of the best quality at reasonable prices. Mineral Waters and light refreshments. Pouches and cigarette cases; fancy goods, and Xmas cards for seasonable presents.

JOHN CRAWFORD,
VICTORIA STREET, AND 2, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to thank his many Customers for their Patronage during the last 30 Years. He will have, during Christmas Week, a large STOCK of GRAND BEEF and MUTTON, DAIRY-FED PORK, TURKEYS, GEESE, and DUCKS, at prices to suit the Times.

A large Consignment of Turkeys, Geese, and Ducks will be shown FOR SALE in the Victoria Street Sale Rooms, on FRIDAY and SATURDAY First, at Reasonable Prices.

ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO 331g

ROBERT HAND,
BUTCHER,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

RETURNS thanks to his numerous Customers for their past patronage, and begs to state that for the Festive Season he has secured a very choice selection of BEEF, MUTTON, AND DAIRY-FED PORK, from the most noted breeders and feeders in the district.

INSPECTION INVITED.
All orders promptly attended to.

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS.
HAVELOCK STREET.

J. H. COURTNEY thanks the Public of Consett and District for the support hitherto accorded to him, and hopes to merit a share of their future Patronage. Agent for Genuine Melton Mowbray Pies. Hot Joints and Pot Pies every day. Fruit Loaf, from 4d. per lb. Suppers and Parties catered for on reasonable terms. Rooms to Let for small meetings.

DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.
Accommodation for Football Clubs.

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

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

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S BOOTS,
SUITABLE FOR EVERY SEASON.

Sole Agent for Consett, for the Patent Pneumatic Boots and Shoes, made in a variety of Shapes and Fittings for Ladies and Gentlemen. 56g

---

W. E. TURNER,
HIGH CLASS TAILOR AND HATTER,
LONDON HOUSE,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

IN wishing his many Friends and Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, begs to remind them that he has a choice Selection of Overcoats, Suits, Hats, Caps, Ties, Silk Kerchiefs, &c., at a price to suit all.

Special Attraction.—Meerschaum Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Holders, Cases, Gent's Walking Sticks in Great variety, suitable for Christmas Presents. 166g

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THE RETURN OF THE FESTIVE SEASON GIVES

EDWARD WYLAM,
FREEMASONS' ARMS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT

THE opportunity as well as the pleasure of wishing his Friends and Patrons a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and sincerely thanking them for their support during the time he has occupied the above Hotel. By keeping only the BEST MILD AND BITTER ALES, STOUT, WINES, SPIRITS, &c.,

He hopes to merit a continuance of their favours.

☞ FIRST-CLASS ORDINARY DAILY.
COMFORTABLE BEDS. GOOD STABLING.

M. J. CHORLEY,
CONFECTIONER,
43, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

IN Thanking her Customers for the liberal support given her for the year she has been in business, begs to assure them that nothing on her part shall be wanting to merit a continuance of their patronage. Refreshment, Dining, and Tea Rooms on the Cafe system. Orders for Cakes, Pastry, Trifles, Creams, Plain and Fancy Jellies, &c., promptly attended to.

Dinners and Social Parties a Speciality.

NOTE THE ADDRESS.
PARK ROAD REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
43, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

GO TO—

H. P. TYLER,

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

Gents' Special DERBY BOX CALF, 10/6.
Ladies' DRESS SHOES, Endless Variety.
The Grandest Show of Boots and Shoes in Consett.
☞ See Windows before Purchasing elsewhere.

ALMANACK, SPECIAL.
"ANXIOUS MOMENTS."
AT
11, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
AND
2, AYNSLEY'S BUILDINGS, BLACKHILL.
REPAIRS NEATLY EXECUTED.

"GUARDIAN" STATIONERY STORES,
59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

PRIVATE NEW YEAR CARDS.
1899-1900.

With your own Greeting, Name, and Address. Prices: From 1s for 12, and 9d per dozen after. Cheapest and Best Value in the District.

WE have now on view, a large assortment of entirely new fashionable and inexpensive designs in NEW YEAR CARDS. Owing to the great demand which is made for select patterns as the season advances, it is very desirable to prevent disappointment, that orders should be placed with us as soon as possible.

We shall be pleased if you will kindly favour us by taking an early opportunity of calling and inspecting the selection.

Sample Books sent on application.

Our Representative will have pleasure in waiting upon you with complete samples on receipt of postcard.

Yours respectfully,
ROBERT JACKSON,
"GUARDIAN" OFFICE,
59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 15g

Christmas Announcements.

Consett.

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

RETURNS Thanks to the Public for the patronage accorded him during the past 20 years, and respectfully solicits a continuance of their favours.

FUNERALS COMPLETELY FURNISHED.

JOSEPH HALL,
BLACKSMITH AND HORSE-SHOER,
TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT,

RETURNS Thanks for the patronage accorded to him hitherto, and respectfully solicits a continuance of their favours.

☞ **MARK COATES,**
EDINBURGH HOUSE,
13, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

IS getting his name up for XXX and XXXX Sparkling Bitter and Mild Ales, drawn from the Wood. Cigars a speciality.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

WHERE TO GET
PORK PIES,
SAUSAGES, AND
FRESH PORK, DAILY.

HENRY HANSOM,
SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,

THANKS his Friends and Customers for the Generous Support accorded to him since his establishment at above address.

REFRESHMENTS AT MODERATE CHARGES.

GEORGE WADE JUN.,
IRONMONGER, &c.,
55a, FRONT STREET, CONETT.

G. W. wishes to Thank the Public generally for the liberal support received, and begs to state that he has a good selection of Cutlery in Razors and Strops, Pen and Pocket Knives, Scissors, etc., suitable for Xmas Presents. Joiners' Tools from noted makers, and Builders' Hardware in general. Petroleum Oil. Pictures Framed. Repairs Neatly Executed, &c. Venetian Blinds made to Order. All goods not in Stock procured on the shortest notice. 177g

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

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

BEGS Respectfully to Thank the Inhabitants of Consett and District for their past Support, and intimates that he has a Choice Selection of Meerschaum Pipes, Briars, Tobacco Pouches, Cigar and Cigarette Cases, and Holders, Walking-Sticks, &c., suitable for Christmas and New Year Presents.

A Splendid Selection of British and Foreign Cigars.

NOTE THE ADDRESS.

ANTHONY COOPER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FRUIT AND POTATO MERCHANT,
24, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT

BEGS to Thank his Customers for past favours. He will, as usual, give the Best Article at a Moderate Price.

Try our Best SCOTCH MAIN CROPS
At Market Prices; also, at
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

A Good Stock of Geese, Chickens, Ducks, and Rabbits, for the Xmas Trade.

E. D. TURNBULL,
ÆRATED WATER MANUFACTURER,
GREEN STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to Thank his Friends and Customers for their patronage since he commenced business, and to state that he continues to supply High-class Mineral Waters in Bottles and Syphons, at reasonable prices consistent with quality.

Special Agent for—
WHEATLEY'S HOP BITTERS,
STONE GINGER BEER, and
WARD'S HOP BITTERS.

All orders by post or otherwise receive prompt attention.

A TRIAL SOLICITED. 166g

PREVIOUS TO REMOVAL TO NEW PREMISES IN MIDDLE STREET.

J. COCKBURN,

BEGS to Thank the General Public for their Patronage and Support during the many years he has been in business.

FOR XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS, FANCY GOODS, ANNUALS, DIARIES, POCKET BOOKS, PURSES, HYMN BOOKS, PRAYER BOOKS, BIBLES, &c., &c., TRY

JASPER COCKBURN,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

☞ SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.
Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND 1, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT.

Try our Flour, which gives everybody satisfaction, and when once tried is continued.

Our Teas and Coffee for prices and quality, cannot be surpassed.

Our Provisions are A1.

Our Fruits for the Season are equal to any, and cannot be beaten in price and quality; Fruit Wines and Bottled Fruits very cheap. See our special Candied Peel.

In the Drapery Department are some very specially Cheap Lines.

Come and See for Yourselves.

M. FAWELL,
40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

FOR Good Value in HOME-MADE FURNITURE, BEST SHEFFIELD CUTLERY, AND SILVER-PLATED GOODS,

TRY

JOHN LOWES,
JOHN STREET SQUARE, CONSETT.
(Back of British School, Medomsley Road).

THE House for Musical Instruments by Best Makers.
PIANOS BY PFEIFFER, STRAUSS, LANGE, &c.
AMERICAN ORGANS BY STERLING.
MELODEONS AND VIOLINS.
FINE SELECTION OF WALL PAPERS.
Five minutes walk from Consett Station.

JOHN G. WADE,
52, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WISHES to Thank the Public generally for the liberal support given him during the year, and would again remind them that for the coming Festive Season he has on view—

A SPLENDID DISPLAY OF NOVELTIES.

In Gents' Silk Mufflers, Hats, Caps, Ties, Woollen Shirts, Macintoshes, Umbrellas, Suitings, &c. Also a very Choice Selection of Ladies' Gloves, Laces, Lace Caps, Fancy Aprons, and Pinafores; Umbrellas, Corsets, and Costumes; also Millinery in all its branches.

A Splendid Assortment of Children's Costumes always on hand.

TAILORING.—All garments cut and made on the Premises by First-class Workmen. A Trial Solicited.

Wishing you all the Compliments of the Season.

WILLIAM LEE,
Will have for Xmas
GRAND BEEF AND MUTTON,
AND LOCAL DAIRY-FED PORK,
PRIME GEESE, TURKEYS, AND DUCKS
At prices to suit you all.
200 Fine Northumberland Ducks and Geese from 9d per lb. Order early.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
29a, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

W. GILHESPY & SON,
THE LEADING NORTHERN SHOE FIRM
Are Showing all the
LATEST NOVELTIES IN BOOTS AND SHOES
For Winter Wear.

A Large Choice of
LADIES' DRESS SHOES
1s 11d to 5s 11d.
In White Kid, from 2s 11d.
LADIES' BOX CALF BOOTS & SHOES,
From 5s 11d.
LADIES' GAITERS,
11d, 1s 6d, & 1s 11d.
Try our Celebrated
GENTS' 10s 6d BOOTS FOR HARD WEAR.
Special Show of Rubber Goods.

CHILDREN'S GOLOSHES	From 1s 3d
LADIES' „	1s 11d
GENTS' „	2s 11d
LADIES' SNOW SHOES	4s 11d
GENTS' „	5s 11d
GENTS' TAN NEWMARKET LEGGINGS ...	4s 11d

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
18 and 19, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Christmas Announcements.

Consett

WILLIAM BRAND,
FISH DEALER,
RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.

Fresh Fish Daily. Finest and Freshest in the Market. All at Popular Prices.
CALL HERE TO GET SATISFACTION.
To arrive—A large quantity of Geese, Ducks, Rabbits, and Poultry of all descriptions.

M. A. HAGAN,
English and Foreign
FRUIT AND POTATO MERCHANT,
CONFECTIONER, &c.,
19, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
All Orders promptly attended to.

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

BEGS to return Thanks for the support that has been accorded to him during the many eyars that he has been in business. It has always been his endeavour to turn out good substantial work; and he hopes, by strict attention to business and carrying out his contracts in a workmanlike manner, to merit a continuance of public favour and support. Repairs done on reasonable terms.

Try our Pork Pies, Home-made.

M. TWEDDALL,
CONFECTIONER AND FANCY BREAD BAKER,
22, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

Tea Cakes fresh daily. Baby Linen and General Drapery. Small Wares and all kinds of Plain Wools kept in Stock.

J. R. BRODIE,
TAILOR, WOOLLEN DRAPER, HATTER, MEN'S MERCER, &c.,
6, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT,

THANKS his Customers for past favours, and hopes by strict attention to business to merit a continuance of public favour and support. 259g

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E. TAYLOR, Shoemaker, Shakespeare Street, Consett, begs most respectfully to thank his friends and the general public, for the patronage accorded to him during the last 32 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. A lot of good Leather kept in Stock for Repairs. Special Agent in Consett for the Celebrated Waterproof Boots. All Repairs done on the shortest notice. Best workmanship and material guaranteed. 210g

---

THOS. BRIDGEWATER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

RETURNS his Thanks for past favours, and reminds his Customers, Friends, and the Public that he continues the FRIED FISH AND POTATO CHIP SALOON, in Mr. Elsdon's Saleroom Building (behind the Black Horse), also next door to Mr. Cant's, Front Street, Consett. All orders punctually attended to. Times for Frying: 4 to 11; Saturday, 12 to 11. Supper orders sent out. Note the address. 265g

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For Best and Cheapest
BEDSTEADS, BEDDING, CARPETS,
HEARTHRUGS, MATS,
LINOLEUMS, &c.
MANGLES, SEWING MACHINES,
(Best Makers.)
JEWELLERY, CLOCKS, TIME-PIECES,
CUTLERY, &c., &c.
GO TO

WILLIAM BEST,
ROSE MOUNT, CONSETT.

Inspection invited. Liberal Discount for Cash.

HUGH MURPHY,
STIRLING CASTLE, CONSETT.

BEGS to return his sincere Thanks to the Public generally for their esteemed support, and he hopes, by the careful management of the house, and by supplying the Best Liquors, to merit a continuance of public patronage. He wishes his Friends and Customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and invites a trial of his well-selected stock of Wines, Whiskies, and Ales for the Festive Season. 274g

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MRS. CANNON,
THE ORIGINAL JUBILEE BAR,
THOMAS STREET, CONSETT,

THANKS her numerous Friends and Customers for their past support. She continues to supply Woods, Sons, and Co.'s Botanic Beer, R. Emmerson, Jun's., Mineral Waters, and Taylor's Original Melton Mowbray Pies, High Class Confectionery, Sinclair's and Newbegin's Tobaccos and Cigars, and other good makes. Also, a selection of Pipes, Pouches, &c., suitable for presents.

EDWARD LOCKEY,
FAMILY BUTCHER
5, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

AGAIN takes the opportunity of Thanking his Customers and the Public generally for their liberal support in the past, and trusts by strict attention to business, and by supplying a Real First-class Article at Moderate Cost, to merit a still further share of their favours. He also begs to call attention to the fact of having a supply for the Festive Season equal to all comers. The First Prize grey-faced Shearlings, and also Special Prize for the best sheep at Blackhill Farmers' Mart, fed by Mr. Teasdale. Black-faced from Mr. Pickering, of Acton, and Hoggs from Mr. White, of Frosterley. Bullocks from Messrs Graham, Whittonstall, and Mr. Anderson, of Black Hedley, Heifers from Mr. Arcison, Field Head, also a fine Selection of

DAIRY-FED PORK

from the best feeders. 31g

The Queen some day may pass this way
To have a chat with Rafferty;
Here she'll stop and have a drop
To make her subjects happy.

D. RAFFERTY,
QUEEN'S HOTEL,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

TENDERS his Thanks to his Friends and Customers for the liberal support he has received from them in the past, and desires to state that he has prepared for them blends of the finest

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES,
And WINES of the choicest Vintages.
MILD AND BITTER ALES
That cannot be equalled.
TOBACCOS and CIGARS of the finest brands.

I like a drop of good Beer,
I'm fond of a drop of good Beer.
Let gentlemen fine drink their wine,
But I will stick to my Beer.

JOHN McKIE,
BURTON HOTEL,
CHURCH STREET, CONSETT,

DESIRES to return Thanks to his friends and Customers for their liberal patronage, and, in wishing them the compliments of the Festive Season, he begs to express the hope that by providing articles of the very best description for their comfort and enjoyment, he may deserve and receive a continuance of that support which has been accorded him in the past.

BASS'S BURTON, AND OTHER MILD AND BITTER ALES.
STOUT IN PERFECTION.
SPARKLING WINES. CHOICE TOBACCOS AND CIGARS.

CASH PROVISION STORES,
4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

ALL who desire to spend a Happy Christmas should purchase their Groceries at the above Establishment, where Sterling Value is the rule All the Year Round.

CURRANTS, RAISINS, LEMON PEEL, MINCEMEAT, FRUIT CAKES, BISCUITS, In Great Variety.
JAMS, &c., from the Best Makers.
HAMS, BACON, and CHEESE, Best Value in Town.
OUR SPECIAL FLOUR, The Delight of the District.
Our Fine Flavoured TEAS, Recommend themselves

All our
Groceries and Provisions are sold at
LOWEST MARKET PRICES
All the Year Round
AT

G. D. POWELL'S,
CASH PROVISION STORES,
4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

Christmas Announcements.

Consett

FOR A GOOD SHOW OF XMAS BEEF, MUTTON, PORK, OR VEAL, GO TO

ROBERT MILBURN,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WHO has purchased very largely for Christmas. He has purchased from Blackhill Mart Co., Two very prime Second Prize Bullocks, fed by Mr. Drummond, Kip Pit Hill. Other Cattle fed by Mr. Stephenson, Newbiggen, Blanchland. Also First Prize Sheep fed by Mr. Lowery, New House Farm, and other Sheep from Mr. S. Brown, Newlands Grange. Farm Dairy-fed Pork from Mr. H. Oliver, Hurbuck Farm. Veal Calves fed by Mr. P. Brown, Medomsley Edge.

Come and See for Yourselves. 19g

JAMES FORKIN,
BUTCHER,
2, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

IN thanking his customers in Consett and District for the liberal support given him during the time he has been in business amongst them, begs to assure them that nothing shall be wanting on his part to merit a further continuance of their patronage. For the Christmas and New Year trade he has secured a Prime Bullock, bred and fed by Mr. Wm. Thompson, Capheaton; Mr. J. Davison, Byerside, Ebchester; which were highly commended at the Blackhill Mart Show on Monday last; a pen of Sheep from Mr. Simpson, Low Bradley, and Mr. Newton, Waskerley. Real Dairy-fed Porkers from Mr. J. Anderson West Law Farm, Ebchester.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
2, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

F. A. COLTMAN,
WHEAT SHEAF INN, CONSETT.

BEGS to announce that he has just withdrawn from bond specialities in Wine, Scotch and Irish Whiskies, Liquors, Rum, Gin, &c., for the Festive Season, and is now in a position to supply the most fastidious connoisseur. All old Noted Blends still kept in Stock. Bottles of Bass's Ale and Guinesses' Stout, Perry and Cider. All orders by letter, or left at the above address shall have prompt and careful attention. 325g

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CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.
BUTCHERING DEPARTMENT.

IN returning thanks to our many customers, we beg to state for Christmas consumption we have secured the following choice and well-fed stock:—Eight Prime Heifers and Bullocks, Four from Mr. Robert Dixon, of Broad Oak; Two from Mr. Graham, Wittonstall Hall Farm; and one from Mr. J. E. Nicholson, Manor House, Lanchester; prime Scotch Wether Mutton from Mr. Sherlock, Gold Hill, and Mr. Robson. Dairy-fed Pork from Local Breeders and Feeders. 300g

Blackhall Mill.

MRS. THOS. ARMSTRONG,
MILLINER, DRESSMAKER, AND FANCY GOODS DEALER,
BLACKHALL MILL.

IN Thanking her many Customers for their large and increasing patronage in the past, takes this opportunity of informing them that she is REMOVING to larger and more suitable premises, lately in the occupation of Mr. Welch, Watch and Clock Maker, and will open with an entirely New Stock. All the old stock to be cleared at Sensationally Low Prices.

The Shop for Really Useful Presents.

THOMAS ARMSTRONG,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT
ÆRATED WATER MANUFACTURER,
BLACKHALL MILL.

TENDERS his very best thanks to his customers for their most generous support during the past year, and he has full confidence that by selecting the CHOICEST BRANDS in the Trade, to merit a larger share of Public Patronage than ever to his steadily increasing Business.

The very Superior Quality of his Stock of IRISH and SCOTCH WHISKIES, RUMS, &c., is noted throughout the entire District.

BLACKHALL MILL.

JOSEPH RENNISON,
SHIP INN,
BLACKHALL MILL.

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

SPARKLING MILD & BITTER ALES
That Cannot be Equalled.
OLD SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES
of the Finest Blends. 277g

Broomhill.

RAVEN INN, BROOMHILL.

WILLIAM TEMPERLEY

TAKES the present opportunity of returning Thanks to his Friends and Customers for their kind support in the past, and begs to assure them that it will be his honest endeavor always to merit it. He wishes them "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," and hopes that there will be increased prosperity for all classes during the incoming year.

Those who want Really Good Beer are invited to try his Celebrated MILD and BITTER ALES.

Creamy Old Scotch and Irish Whiskies.

Castleside

SMELTERS' ARMS, CASTLESIDE.

ISAAC DAVIES,

RETURNS Thanks to his Friends and the Public generally for the liberal support bestowed on him during his Management of the above old-established Hotel, and he trusts, by attending to their wants and comfort, to merit a continuance of their support.

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

Good Stabling and Loose Boxes.

Ebchester.

J. W. SIMPSON,
EBCHESTER AND PRUDHOE.
SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER.
SADDLES, BRIDLES, and every kind of Work Neatly Executed. 113g

Tantobie.

COMMERCIAL INN, TANTOBIE.

MRS. SNOWDON

WISHES all her Customers the Compliments of the Season, and begs to inform them that for the Festive Season she has stocked some rare old WINES and SPIRITS. ALES of the Best, both Mild and Bitter.

Also Choice Cigars of the Best Brands.

☞ TRY OUR CELEBRATED MOUNTAIN DEW WHISKEY.

Great Sale of Christmas and New Year's Cards.

As in previous years,

WILLIAM HOLMES,
NEWSAGENT AND STATIONER,
TANTOBIE POST OFFICE,

HAS provided for his Customers a large and varied stock of Cards, etc., etc.

All kinds of Newspapers and Periodicals supplied.

W.H. takes the opportunity at this return of the festive season to thank his many parons of Tantobie and District for their continued confidence and support.

THE RIGHT PLACE FOR A GOOD TURN-OUT.
Cabs, Brakes and Traps on Hire. 153g

Christmas Announcements.

Annfield Plain.

CARDS!!! CARDS!!! CARDS!!!
For Xmas and New Year.

JOHN HUMBLE,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

HAS in stock a large assortment of Toys, Toy Books, Picture Books, China, Mottoes, etc., etc., suitable for presentation at this season. Large stock of Wall Papers —New designs. 98g

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

LARGE ASSORTMENT of New and Second-Hand Silver Lever Watches. Ladies' Gold and Silver Watches and Alberts. All kinds of Silver and Electro-Plated Goods for Presents.

☞ All Repairs done on the premises by Experienced Workmen.

Spectacles to suit all sights. 96g

MISSES A. & M. WAKE,
MILLINERS, DRESSMAKERS, DRAPERS, AND FANCY GOODS DEALERS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

TAKE this opportunity of Thanking their Customers for the generous support accorded to them during the three years they have been in business. A nice stock of Fancy Goods for presentation. Children's Clothing, Wools of all kinds, choice Fingerings, Ready-made Skirts, Hats, Capes, and Bonnets. Orders punctually attended to. 97g

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FOR YOUR FRUIT AND VEGETABLES GO TO

WESTON & SONS,
FRUITERERS, FLORISTS, GROCERS, AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
FRONT STREET AND ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Speciality HAMS! HAMS!
Cheapest and Best to be obtained anywhere. Fancy Sweets. Fresh supplies of Fruits and Vegetables daily.

☞ J. T. WESTON, Jun., Auctioneer.

JOSEPH LUMLEY,
THE RAILWAY INN, ANNFIELD PLAIN,

ESIRES to Thnk his Customers for the very encouraging support that he has received during his occupancy of the above Hotel, now upwards of 22 years; and hopes, by assiduous attention to business, to merit a continuance of public favour and patronage. He wishes his friends and neighbours the Compliments of the Season, and begs to intimate that he has provided for their Refreshment and Entertainment during the Festive Season

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES
Of the Most Noted Blends.
SPARKLING BITTER AND MILD ALES.
☞ CHOICE WINES, CIGARS, AND TOBACCO.
GOOD STABLING. 93g

XMAS.

THOMAS LATHAM'S
CHRISTMAS SHOW AND SALE,
Will commence on
FRIDAY FIRST,
And Continue for 21 DAYS.

When he will offer an immense Stock of all the latest NOVELTIES, suitable for XMAS PRESENTS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

Comprising:—Toys, Games, Photo Frames, Work Boxes, Ornaments, Ladies' Fancy Bags, Scents, Purses, Xmas and New Year's Cards, Inkstands, Writing Cases, &c.

DOLLS! DOLLS!! DOLLS!!!
Hundreds of Dolls, from 1d. to 2s. 6d.
A GRAND DISPLAY
Will be made in our
NEW SHOW ROOM.
Everybody should inspect these Goods before Purchasing.

T. L. also begs to call attention to the ENORMOUS STOCK he is now Showing of all the Newest Goods in Millinery, Ladies' Felt Hats, Ladies' Bonnets, Children's Granny Bonnets, Tams, Wings, Flowers, Ornaments, &c.

Owing to the extra Room this Department has been greatly enlarged, and Ladies will be able to procure Goods quite equal both in STYLE AND QUALITY to anything that can be bought in the Large Towns, and much Lower in Price. Children's Pinafores, Ladies' and Children's Underclothing, Corsets, Tweed Blouses, Ladies' Divided Skirts, Aprons, Capes, Fur Boas, Wool Shawls, &c., all at SPECIAL PRICES.

Also,
SPECIAL BARGAINS
In Blankets, Sheets, Bed Rugs, Oilcloths, Dress Goods, Cretonnes, Corsets, Lace Shades, Flannellettes, Men's, Youths, and Boys' Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Caps, Ties, Shirts, &c.

SPECIAL SHOW
ON FRIDAY FIRST AT
THOMAS LATHAM'S
THE NOTED CASH DRAPER,
TYNE HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Blackhill

STEPHEN LOWES,
BUTCHER,
PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

THANKS his Customers for their continued support, and begs to inform them that he will have for the Festive Season, Prime Well-fed Beef and Mutton; also, selected Dairy-fed Pork, fine selection.

MISS BRUNSKILL,
CONFECTIONER, GROCER, AND FANCY GOODS DEALER,
29, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to inform the Public of Blackhill and District that she has commenced Business at the above address.

☞ Bread and Tea Cakes always on hand.

A. H. MORALEE,
FAMILY BUTCHER,
CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL.

BEGS to return Thanks to his numerous Customers and Friends for their past support, and announces that he has bought Prime Beef from noted feeders, 1st prize Sheep at Benfieldside Auction Mart, and also a splendid pen of Hoggs. Porkers from our own Dairy-farm. Quality here the true test of cheapness. 317g.

ALICE CANCICK,
STATION HOTEL, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to Thank her many Friends and the Public for their esteemed patronage, and wishes them

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

She has pleasure in inviting a trial of her Wines, Spirits, Ales, &c., which will be found of First-rate Quality.

BEST BLENDS OF IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.
MILD AND BITTER ALES
On Draught and in Bottles.
FINEST WINES, CIGARS, TOBACCOS, &c.

Read this, my boys and then walk in,
For here is Brandy, Whisky, Rum, and Gin!
Come, taste our beer, and be in no hurry
To leave behind your old friend Murray.

RICHARD MURRAY,
ROYAL HOTEL, BLACKHILL,

TENDERS his Thanks to the Inhabitants of Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, Leadgate, and North-West Durham generally, for the liberal support that has been accorded to him during the many years that he has been privileged to live among them, and he trusts, by selling only articles of the best quality, and being always ready to cater for their pleasure and refreshment, to merit a continuance of public favour and support.

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES OF THE MOST MATURED QUALITY.
SPARKLING BITTER AND MILD ALE,
On Draught and in Bottles.
CHAMPAGNE WINES, CIGARS, TOBACCO,
Commercial and Billiard Rooms.
ROBT. J. BRODIE, Manager.

Dipton

R. BRANKSTON
BLACK BULL HOTEL, DIPTON.

RETURNS his warmest thanks to his numerous Patrons in Dipton and District, and wishes them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hopes by careful attention to the requirements of Travellers and the Public to continue to meet with approval for his Liquors. He has a carefully selected Stock for the Holiday Season.

FINEST SCOTCH & IRISH WHISKIES,
BEST WINES & COGNAC BRANDY,
SUPERIOR ALES & STOUT.

Christmas Announcements.

Blackhill.

GEORGE YOUNG,
38, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
NEWSAGENT, STATIONER, AND FANCY GOODS DEALER.

XMAS TOYS IN ENDLESS VARIETY, DOLLS, AND CHOICE CONFECTIONS. LARGE AND CHOICE SELECTION OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

NOTE THE ADDRESS.

MRS. SWAINSTON,
FISH DEALER,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to Thank her Friends and Customers for their support during so many years.

FRESH FISH DAILY.

Orders delivered to all parts of the District.
☞ Note above Address for Fresh Daily Supplies. 162g

MRS. LAMB,
BAKER, CONFECTIONER, AND FANCY DEALER,
65, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to Thank her many Customers for their generous patronage during the past year, and intimates to them that for Christmas and the New Year she will have a large supply of Cakes, Fancy and Plain Bread, and Confections.

All Orders Receive Prompt Attention.

J. JOHNSON,
TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
24, ELTRINGHAM STREET, BLACKHILL.
CHOICE NEW FRUIT.

☞ Try our unequalled Teas. Also our Coffee. Noted for good Flour. American, Wensleydale, and Cheshire, Cheeses.

HAMS AND BACON.
FINEST QUALITY. 100g

MINERS' ARMS, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL.

EDWARD GAILES

HAS again laid in a large Stock of the Finest ALES, WINES, and SPIRITS procurable, and makes this occasion the time for thanking his many Friends for their generous support. Don't forget to obtain a bottle of our Noted Whiskey.

CHOICE CIGARS. 99g

For Good English
BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK Try
JOHN LOVAT, Butcher,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

J. L. desires to Thank his Customers and the general Public for their liberal patronage in the past, and begs to inform them that he will this year have a supply of BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK from the best Breeders and Feeders in the district. While the quality is Good the price will be Low.

CHOICE DAIRY-FED PORK.
Place your orders early. 101g

HENR RULE,

BEGS respectfully to thank his numerous Customers and Friends for the support they have been pleased to give him for such a number of years. He heartily wishes them the Compliments of the Season, and hopes for a continuance of their support—assuring them as in the past, so in the future, he is determined to supply them with Goods of the highest Quality, and at the Lowest Possible Rate, with the most careful attention and prompt delivery.

HENRY RULE,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

ESTABLISHED 1878.

JOHN EDGAR,
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,
41, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

EGS to Thank his numerous Customers for the Patronage they have so liberally bestowed upon him, and hopes for a continuance of the same.

Special Discounts of 10 per cent on all Purchases During Christmas and New Year.

REPAIRS PROMPTLY EXECUTED. NEATNESS AND DURABILITY GUARANTEED.

W. PALLISER,
OLDEST GROCERY AND PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to call special attention to his Xmas Show. Special line in Prize Cheshire Cheeses! Fine Tyneside made Cheeses. Good quality Goudas, Canadian, Worsleydale, &c.

Fine selection of Cakes for the coming Season.

Also, Noted for Flour, Butter, Bacon, Fruits, and Tea.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

BLACKHILL AND CONSETT PLUMBING WORKS.

WILLIAM STRACHAN,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, AND BELL-HANGER,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL, AND VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

RESPECTRULLY returns his sincere Thanks for the patronage accorded to him during the Thirty-six years he has been in Business, and trusts by strict attention to all orders entrusted to him, good workmanship, and moderate charges, to secure a continuance of their favours. Always on hand a large stock of Materials, so that he is prepared to execute orders speedily and economically.

The shop at Consett is replete with a large stock of Gasfittings and Sanitary Appliances, for Customers' selection.

AUTHORISED AGENT FOR THE WELSBACH INCANDESCENT LIGHT.

34, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

F. TURNER,
HOUSE AND GENERAL FURNISHER, CONFECTIONER, &c., &c.

CHOICE CONFECTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS.

Please your children by buying your Toys, Dolls, &c., here.

Large Assortment of Goods suitable for Presents.

GAMES! GAMES! GAMES! All the newest. Christmas and New Year's Cards. Furnishing in all Departments. The Cheap Shop for Hardware.

Note the Address as above. 23g

THE NOTED FLOUR, GROCERY, AND PROVISION STORES.

68 AND 69, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

JAMES PALLISER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA MERCHANT, FAMILY GROCER, AND PROVISION DEALER.

FOR FINEST SELECTED FRUITS.
FOR NEW CURRANTS, NEW RAISINS, NEW SULTANAS, AND MUSCATELS.
FOR RICHEST CHEESE OF ALL KINDS.
FOR MILD CURED HAMS AND BACON.
FOR GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.
FOR BUTTER AND LARD.
FOR TEAS OF HIGHEST QUALITY AND BLEND COMBINED WITH CHEAPNESS. 24g

Cornsay

GEORGE T. STOREY,
THE FURNISHING HOUSES,
COMMERCIAL STREET, CORNSAY.
JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, CABINET MAKER, GENERAL SMITH, HARDWARE, FURNITURE, AND GENERAL DEALER,

RETURNS his sincere Thanks to his numerous Customers for past favours, and hopes to receive the same patronage in the future as he has received in the past. He has purchased for the Festive Season a large Assortment of Christmas Presents for Old and Young. Toys of every variety at reasonable prices.

SEE THE WINDOWS FOR THE DISPLAY.
Come in Crowds! Come in Crowds!!

Christmas Announcements.

Burnopfield.

JAMES LOUGH,
LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD,
HORSE-SHOER AND GENERAL SMITH,

BEGS to Thank his numerous Customers for their kind patronage. All orders will be promptly executed.

Repairs carried out with Despatch.
HORSES CAREFULLY SHOD.

FOR THE BEST VALUE IN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CARDS,
TOY BOOKS, AND FANCY GOODS,
Try the Stock kept by

B. C. BARKUS,
At the Stationery Emporium,
DERWENT VIEW, BURNOPFIELD.

A Large Assortment of SWEETS of Good QUALITY is always on hand. 210g

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THE OLD ESTABLISHED BUTCHERING BUSINESS,
LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

M. ADAMSON

WISHES his Friends and Customers the Compliments of the Season, and desires to state that his Christmas and New Year's supply of BEEF, MUTTON, and PORK, will be of the very Best.

Prime Hams and Bacon always in Stock.

NOTE THE ADDRESS.
THE OLD FIRM.

BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD.

N. R. HERDMAN,
STATIONER AND NEWSAGENT,
TOYS! DOLLS! TOYS!

IN THANKING his many Friends for their past favours would like to call attention to the greater facilities he possesses in his new and larger premises for dealing with his increasing trade. Christmas Cards, Local Views, Christmas Confectionery and Cakes. Presents. Presents. Presents. Patent and Family Medicines. All kinds of Daily, Weekly, and Monthly Periodicals supplied. Note Address. 144g

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BLACK HORSE INN, BURNOPFIELD.

J. WELCH

RETURNS his warmest Thanks to his many Friends and the Public generally for their patronage, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season. He can with every confidence, recommend his Select Brands of Wines, Brandies, Ales &c.

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES
From the Leading Distilleries.
ALES and STOUT on Draught and in Bottles.
Tobacco and Cigars of the Finest Quality.

W. CUTHBERTSON,
FAMILY BUTCHER,
CROOKGATE, BURNOPFIELD,

RESPECTFULLY returns his sincere Thanks to his many Customers for their past favours, and hopes by continuing to supply only first-class BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK, To receive a continuance of their support.

PRIMEST BEEF, MUTTON, AND DAIRY-FED PORK. 151g

MRS. E. WILSON,
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD,

Desires to inform the Public that she HAS NOW OPENED HER NEW SHOP, (Next door to Walter Willson's)

FIRST-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.
Extra Large Stock of
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CAKES,
Madeira, Rice, Fruit, Seed, Cocoanut, Ginger Bread, and Cakes of all Descriptions.
HOME-MADE BREAD.
FRESH PORK AND PORK SAUSAGE DAILY.
PATENT MEDICINES.
Supplied from leading firms.
Noted Tic Powders, Embrocation, etc., etc.

NOTE THE ADDRESS
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD

Catchgate

J. PEARS,
CROWN AND THISTLE INN, CATCHGATE.

WISHES his numerous Customers a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year, and begs to call attention to his choice stock of ALES, WINES, AND SPIRITS.

Kyo.

EARL GREY INN, KYO.

THOS. GATISS

BEGS to Thank the Inhabitants of Kyo and District for their liberal support, and would like to see his many Friends gather together once again at the festive season.

ALES, WINES, and SPIRITS of the Finest Quality.

TRY OUR NOTED GLENLOCH WHISKEY.

Langley Park

GEORGE RITCHIE,
GROCER AND DRAPER,
POST OFFICE, LANGLEY PARK,

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

Lanchester.

J. G. BRYDSON,
GROCERY AND GENERAL SUPPLY STORES, LANCHESTER.

WARES, HARDWARE, AND OILS.
BOOTS, SHOES, AND SLIPPERS.
Choice Consignment of
NEW SEASON'S FRUITS, CHEESE, BACON, HAMS, &c. 232g

J. G. B. takes this opportunity of Thanking all his Friends and Customers for their past Patronage.

THOMAS PALLISTER,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, LANCHESTER,

THANKS his Customers for the Patronage bestowed upon him during the many years that he has been in business, and begs to solicit an inspection of his

GRAND DISPLAY
OF
PRIME ENGLISH BEEF AND MUTTON.

Good roads I make, and pipes I lay,
To make things clean and sweet;
From fields I drain water away,
And trim up footpaths neat.

DAVID CHAMPNEY,
MASON AND CONTRACTOR,
LANCHESTER,

BEGS to Thank the respective Sanitary Authorities in the Lanchester Union, as well as the Gentry and Public generally, for their Commissions and Orders, which he has always endeavoured to execute to their entire satisfaction. His Drainers and Excavators are all Experienced Men, and he will Match them against any other workmen in the Country. Come to CHAMPNEY if your Drains are stopped up, or you want a New Sewer put in. He can fit you up and make you happy.

Estimates for all kinds of work given.

JOHN SNAITH,
BLUE BELL HOTEL, LANCHESTER.
PROPRIETOR.

WHILE thanking his numerous Customers for past favours, wishes to intimate that he has just secured a Large Stock of the finest blends of

OLD SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKIES AND RUM,

all of which are guaranteed old, and well matured. Mr. Snaith has taken up the WHOLESALE BUSINESS, and is prepared to supply, on the shortest notice at cheap rates, any quantities of the above.

McEWAN'S and BASS'S ALES of the best quality.
RITCHIE'S AND McKENZIE'S STOUTS are a speciality. Mineral Waters of all descriptions are always kept in stock.

Christmas Announcements.

Leadgate.

YOUR NEW HATS AND BONNETS.

P. KEENLEYSIDE,
MILLINER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

Newest Designs in Felts, Straw, and Chip Hats and Bonnets. Neatly Trimmed. Frillings in Great Assortment. All Orders Executed with Despatch.

JAMES TEASDALE,
SPORTSMAN'S ARMS, LEADGATE.

WISHES all his old friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and assures them of a hearty welcome when they call. His STOCK OF BEER AND WHISKEY is the best that can be produced; the former being light and sparkling and the latter mellowed with age. 89g

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T. LAMMONBY & SON,
GROCERS AND EARTHENWARE DEALERS, OIL & COLOUR MERCHANTS, IRONMONGERS, AND HARDWAREMEN.

Choice Selection of Tobaccos and Pipes.
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.
N.B.—Our Van travels the surrounding District. 90g

MASONS' ARMS,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

T. S. LONGSTAFF

WISHES his numerous Customers a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year, and begs to call attention to his Choice Stock of ALES, WINES, AND SPIRITS.

THE BLACK BULL HOTEL, LEADGATE.

WM. SMITH

HAS stocked a fine selection of ALES, WINES, and SPIRITS for the present Season.

J. SMITH,
DRESSMAKER AND MILLINER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

The right place for Millinery and Dressmaking.

Hats, Caps, and Bonnets. 87g

THOS. W. C. SINCLAIR,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,

AGAIN takes the opportunity of the return of the Festive Season to Thank his numerous Customers for their kind support. This year he has secured a Prime Heifer and Bullock from Mr. John Davison, Byerside; also some fine mule Hoggs from the same gentleman; Black-faced Wethers from Mr. Atkinson, Healeyfield; Home-fed Pork and a grand lot of Geese. 311g

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J. E. KINLESIDE,
POST OFFICE, LEADGATE.

TOBACCONIST.—Smokers' requisites. Try Kinleside's noted Specials.

TO ARTISTS—Paints, Oils, Brushes, Canvasses, Opals, etc. Materials and Tools for Leather Work.

Choice selection of Stationery and Wedding Cards. Book of PRIVATE GREETING CARDS for 'Xmas and New Year, 1899-1900.

Registry Office for Servants.

Eyes Tested and Spectacles supplied.

Footballers' Outfits, &c.

GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT.

Best and Finest Cheese, Bacon, Lard, Currants, Figs, and Raisins obtainable.

Special Consignment for Christmas. 191g

JAMES KELLY,
QUEEN'S HEAD HOTEL, LEADGATE.
(LATE OF ROYAL OAK HOTEL, MEDOMSLEY.)

BEGS to inform his numerous Patrons that he has removed to the above Hostelry, where he will be happy to meet all his old Friends. J.K. also begs to intimate that he has in stock a very Choice Selection of Whiskeys, Rum, Wines, &c., suitable for the Festive Season.

Wm. Younger and Co's Mild and Bitter Ales in excellent condition. 290g.

FOR

CURRANTS & RAISINS

FINEST

HAMS AND BACON

AT PRICES TO SUIT YOU

TRY

W. WHITFIELD,

LEADGATE.

South Moor.

The SOUTH MOOR BOOT and SHOE STORES.

R. WADGE & SON,
BOOT, SHOE, CLOG, AND LEATHER MERCHANTS.

All Repairs executed with despatch. Hand-sewn Boots and Shoes.

No cold feet when wearing boots
Guaranteed by R. W. and Sons.

Special line in Ladies' Dress Shoes, Children's Hard Wearing School Boots. 175g

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WILLIAM DAVISON,
GROCER, PROVISION DEALER, DRAPER, FANCY GOODS DEALER, AND GENERAL WAREHOUSEMAN, NEWSAGENT, AND STATIONER,
FRONT STREET, SOUTH MOOR,
THE OLD ESTABLISHED GROCERY AND PROVISION HOUSE.

SOUTH MOOR HOTEL.

THOMAS OXLEY,
PROPRIETOR,

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

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

G. OXLEY,
BUTCHER,
SOUTH MOOR.

FOR PRIMEST FED OX BEEF,
BEST SELECTED YOUNG MUTTON.
DAIRY FED PORK.

G. O. Having purchased from some of the most noted local Breeders and Feeders, would call the attention of his Customers and Friends to his unrivalled Stock.

NOTE ADDRESS. 221g

G. W. TROTTER,
BUTCHER,
SAUSAGE & PORK PIE MANUFACTURER,
SOUTH MOOR.

IN Thanking his Patrons and Friends for their kind favours, would announce to his Customers that he has procured for the Festive Season Heifers and Sheep from the leading Breeders. A choice selection. Also, Prime Fat Geese and Dairy-Fed Pork.

Try Our Sausage and Pork Pies.

Christmas Announcements

Lintz Colliery.

WHO shall decide! Why of Course the Public.

HAVE YOU TRIED
NEVIN'S 1s 6d TEA?

If not, take the public's advice, and try it. Best value in the World. Our 1s 4d Tea is sterling value. Our 1s 10d Tea is simply matchless. Try them, and you will always Buy them.

HAVE YOU TRIED
NEVIN'S PROVISIONS?

If not, do so at once. Splendid, Choice, and Cheap. Really Tip-top.

Try our Noted Fruit and Rice Cakes, From 6d to 8d per lb.

Give us a trial. You'll never regret it.

HAVE YOU TRIED
NEVIN'S ALES AND SPIRITS?

If not, by all means do so. The Best and Cheapest in the Country.

Highly matured Scotch and Irish Whiskies at 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, and 4s 6d per quart. Highly Matured Scotch and Irish Whiskies at 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d, per bottle. Rum at 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, and 4s 6d per quart. Rum at 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle. Best London Gin at 2s, 2s 6d and 3s per bottle. Brandies at 4s 6d and 5s per bottle. Ales and Stouts at 1s 6d per dozen half-pints. Nine Gallon Casks, 9s and 10s.

J. NEVIN,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT, ALE AND PORTER BOTTLER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
LINTZ COLLIERY.

☞ CONTRACTS TAKEN FOR ALL KINDS OF DRAINAGE AND LEADING. ☜ 152g

Medomsley.

FINES HOUSE, MEDOMSLEY.

RALPH P. GOLIGHTLEY,
HARDWAREMAN, FANCY GOODS, AND GENERAL DEALER,

TAKES the occasion of the return of the Festive Season to Thank his numerous Patrons for their increasing support. For Christmas he has laid in a very large Stock of Dolls, Toys of all Description, Placques, Bric-a-Brac, and Ornaments for Christmas Trees.

☞ Confectionery of all Kinds.

MRS. ELLIOTT,
MEDOMSLEY,
CONFECTIONER AND GENERAL DEALER,

IN Thanking the Public of Medomsley and District for their kind patronage during the time she has been in Business, desires to state that for Christmas and New Year she has laid in a large stock of Christmas Confectionery and Toys.

TRY ELLIOTT'S BOOTS AND SHOES.

G. E. & M. T. MILBURN,
Butchers,
MEDOMSLEY,

DESIRE to thank the inhabitants of Medomsley and District for their past patronage. They beg to intimate that they have purchased a good selection of Fat Stock for the Christmas Season. First Prize Heifer from Hexham Mart; First Prize Shearling Wethers from Benfieldside; also a grand lot from noted breeders and feeders in the district.

Prime Dairy-fed Pork.

ROYAL OAK HOTEL, MEDOMSLEY.

THOMAS TRAYNOR,

IN thanking his numerous friends for the very liberal patronage extended to him during the past year, trusts that they will kindly bear him in mind in giving their orders during the Festive Season.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKIES
Of First-class Blends.
THE FAMOUS SPOT BARRED WHISKEY
Quite a treat.
MILD AND BITTER ALES
Of Excellent Quality.
BASS'S drawn from the Wood and in Bottles.

A FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD TABLE,
By Burroughes and Watts.

ROBERT MOFFITT,
JOINER,
CARTWRIGHT, AND COACH-BUILDER,
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DESIRES to Thank his Customers in Medomsley and District for their esteemed Patronage, wishes them the Compliments of the Season, and hopes, by prompt attention to Orders, to continue to merit public support.

All kinds of Joinery and Cartwright Work promptly executed.

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FACTS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS.
It is a fact that
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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Is the most replete out of Town.

CHRISTMAS CARDS in endless variety and at sensational prices.

TOYS, DOLLS, ALBUMS, PURSES.

Everything in fact required to please young and old.

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Ask to see our Christmas Show-Room.

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Always a Choice Selection of
BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK.
Special PORK SAUSAGES, HAMS, and BACON of the Highest Quality.
Orders Have Prompt Attention.
☞ Goods Delivered all Over the District.

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THE most replete and Heavily Stocked Ready-money Establishment in the District.

Special Attraction for Christmas and New Year's trade.

Stop here to spend your money wisely and well. 119g

Shotley Bridge

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CONFECTIONER AND BAKER,
FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THANKS his Customers for the many favours which have been bestowed upon him during so many years past.

BREAD AND TEA CAKES ALWAYS ON HAND.
CHRISTMAS AND OTHER PARTIES CATERED FOR 1''g

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

Paper-Hanging, Writing, Gilding, Glazing, &c., &c. Orders Expeditiously Executed.

Near to the Shotley Spa Well Grounds
The village smithy stands,
The smith, a genial man is he,
Who has a host of friends.

EDWARD WARDHAUGH,
HORSESHOER AND GENERAL SMITH,

BEGS to Thank the Public of Shotley Bridge and District for their long-continued support.

Horses carefully shod.
Repairs of all kinds executed with despatch.
All order promptly attended to.
Estimates Given. 110g

KING'S HEAD HOTEL,
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WISHES all his Customers "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." He offers special value in Liquors during the Holiday Season—Wines, Whiskies, Brandies, and Ale of A1 quality.

CHOICE CIGARS, AS SUPPLIED TO THE CARLTON CLUB, LONDON.

Try a bottle of our Special Brand Whiskey. 112g

Christmas Announcements.

Stanley.

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Offers the best Goods at lowest prices.

TRY OUR MILD CURED HAM AND BACON.

CHOICE LOT OF XMAS CHEESE.

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Has always on hand a good supply of Fruit, Vegetables, and Confectionery.

A trial is earnestly solicited. Flowers to order.

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TAILOR AND OUTFITTER,
CLIFFORD ROAD, STANLEY.

THANKS the Public of Stanley and Neighbourhood for the liberal Patronage they have given him in the past, and hopes, by Selling Goods of the BEST QUALITY at REASONABLE PRICES, to merit a continuance of the same.

VISITORS TO WEST STANLEY SHOULD CALL AT

GEO. STACEY'S,
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HOT DINNERS DAILY.

Special Dining Room for Commercials. Also Good Sleeping Accommodation. Large Stock of all kinds of Cakes and Confectionery for the Christmas and New Year Season.

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MILLINER, DRAPER, AND FANCY GOODS DEALER, STANLEY,

THANKS her Patrons of Stanley and surrounding District for their past favours, and begs to call their special attention to her stock of CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GOODS.

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☞ PRICES TO SUIT ALL PURSES. ☜

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BEGS to tender his Thanks to all Customers for past favours, and hopes for a continuance of patronage.

See his First-class Stock of
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SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SHOW.

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ALES, WINES, AND SPIRITS
Of the finest Quality.
GOOD STABLING.

Also at the
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FOR GOOD WEAR,
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Christmas Announcements.

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Oriental, Japanese, and Chinese Goods, Handsome Trays, Vases, Glove and Handkerchief Boxes, and all Kinds of Exclusive Novelties.

DRAPERIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

INSPECTION INVITED. ☜
☞ COMPARISON SOLICITED.

The Crown and Swords has a real Christmas Cheer,
A real old English welcome awaits you here.

THE COMMERCIAL INN, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

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RETURNS his warmest Thanks to his many Friends and the Public generally for their esteemed patronage, and wishes them the Compliments of the Season. He can, with every confidence, recommend his Select Brands of Wines, Brandies, Ales, &c.,

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKEYS.
From the Leading Distilleries.
Ales and Stout on Draught and in Bottles.
Tobacco and Cigars of the Finest Quality.

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HAS this year a choice selection of Well-fed BEEF, MUTTON, and PORK. He has secured amongst others a Second Prize Sheep from Mr. Hunter, Medomsley. Fine quality Beef bred and fed by Mr. Jonathan Pattison, High Waskerley. Selected stock from Benfieldside Auction Mart, and from Newcastle. Home-fed Pork, and best quality sausage. Quality unsurpassed.

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WRITING—COPYING—DUAL—
FOUNTAIN PEN.
GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
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BLUE-BLACK, BLACK, AND COLOURS.
Good Value.

Sold Wholesale and Retail by
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Established 1833.

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CLOCK AND WATCH MANUFACTURERS, OF LEEDS.

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Makers of the Great Clock and Electric Greenwich Time Signal at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Consett Town Clock, and many others in the Northern Counties.

Established 1854.

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NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

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J. A. CASTLE has undoubtedly made the above a Noted Establishment for quality and cheapness. Every Branch of his Trade will be found well represented.

His Tailoring Department is a very special feature, having considerably over 1,000 patterns of the Newest Scotch, West of England, and Irish Woollens to select from.

Style and perfect fit guaranteed.
Gents' Suits to order from 25s.

THE NEWEST MATERIALS IN
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£1 TO £10

EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. 724

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MISS JACKS,
GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

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FRESH CREAM and BUTTER always on hand.

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HEARSE ON HIRE.
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Repairs to Property, in all its branches, with promptness and efficiency.
Estimates supplied for all classes of Work.

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Liver Invigorating
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THE NOTED SHOP
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NOTED LEMON SQUASH.
Try our
STONE GINGER BEER.
SODAS AND LIME JUICE a Speciality.
Goods delivered by our own Vans.
SPECIAL TERMS TO RETAILERS.

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BRAMWELL'S BONDS,
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CHURCH STREET, SUNDERLAND.
130 YEARS' REPUTATION
FOR WINES AND SPIRITS.

Present Proprietors:
THE NORTH-EASTERN BREWERIES LTD.
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RICHARD MURRAY, Managing Director.
Speciality:—
"NEB" MALT STOUT.

FOOTBALL.

MATCHES.

HAMSTERLEY LILYWHITES v. SPEN BOERS.

Played at the Spen on Saturday, and resulted in a win for Hamsterley by four goals to one.

HAMSTERLEY LILYWHITES v. SPEN BOERS.

Played on Monday on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for Hamsterley by five goals to three.

STANHOPE v. ELDON ALBIONS.

Played at Stanhope on Saturday. Result:—Stanhope two goals, Eldon Albions one goal.

STANHOPE v. BARNARD CASTLE.

This match came off on Christmas Day, and resulted in a win for Stanhope by five goals to nil.

CONSETT YOUNG SWIFTS v. BURNHOPE ROVERS.

These teams met at Burnhope on Christmas Day. Burnhope won the toss, and elected to play down the hill. McKie kicked off for Consett, and Perry gave to Winter who made a good run down the field, tricking the full backs, and shot into the net. From the centre kick McKie broke away and passing to Hopper, the latter scored a second goal with a nice shot. Shortly afterwards the whistle blew for half-time, Consett leading with two goals to nil. In the second half Perry scored a third goal. Final—Consett three goals, Burnhope nil.

Consett team—Goal, McBride; backs, Redshaw and Gregory; half-backs, Swalwell, Hopper and Perry; forwards, Winter, Perry, McKie, Donaghy and Craig.

CONSETT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS v. CONSETT UNITED.

These teams met at Leadgate on Saturday, and as both teams are in the running for the championship there was a pretty good attendance. The visitors defended the entrance goal at the start, but the Park were the first to attack, and Dodds dealt with several dangerous shots in excellent style. Do as they would the home lads could not get through, the goal-keeper being in rare form. The United put in good play at times, but Johns was not often tested in the home goal. However, a run by the Consett left saw the Leadgate custodian have to clear, but the ball was returned, and the centre forward had no difficulty in opening the scoring. The Park now played up—Calvert, Davison, and Walton shining—and a penalty was awarded the home team, which D. Overall safely landed into the net. At the interval the score read—

Consett .... One goal.
Leadgate .... One goal.

Upon resuming, the Park at once went to the front, and a long shot from Walton deceived Dodds, and scored the leading point for the Park. The visitors did not seem able to get properly going, although Grant and Bridgewater did their best, but the defence of Thompson and Overall was very sound. Leadgate pressed severely, and Walker put on the third goal with a nice header. At this point the United custodian—for some reason best known to himself—left the field, and Overall went into goal. The Park were now having nearly all the game, and a second penalty was again converted by D. Overall. This free scoring was evidently too much for the visitors, as they all left the field about 10 minutes before time. The home lads and the referee remained until time was up, when the result was—

Leadgate .... Four goals.
Consett .... One goal.

Referee, Mr. W. Bell, Catchgate.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

ANNFIELD CELTIC v. CONSETT SWIFTS.

On Saturday afternoon this fixture was decided on the Celtic ground before a small sprinkling of spectators. When Mr. G. L. Dent, of Gateshead, called the teams together they were represented as follows:—

Annfield Plain—Goal, S. Foster; backs, A. Bell and J. Coyle; half-backs, W. Cox, W. Parker, and A. Coyle; forwards, R. Foster, Armstrong, T. Bell, D. Pendleton, and E. McKie.

Consett Swifts—Goal, W. Graham; backs, R. Patterson and J. Laidler; half-backs, J. Rafferty, P. McNally, and W. J. Little; forwards, J. Little, Armstrong, R. Rafferty, M. Morgan, and J. Dempsey.

The Celts winning the toss set the Swifts to defend the entrance goal. Rafferty set the ball rolling, and along with his comrades made for the home goal, where Morgan became dangerous for a time, but was successfully repulsed. Getting the ball on to the low side of the half-way line a futile attempt was made to break the visitors' defence, which was very good. The effort was nullified, and a corner gained by the Swifts, which proved useless to them. When the homesters were forcing matters pretty closely R. Foster, in running with the ball, slipped and fell, and unfortunately neutralised a fine chance. Continuing the pressure the visitors lost a good opportunity when Armstrong put over the cross-bar, the Celts at the other end immediately after doing ditto. Keeping the play in the visitors' territory the homesters became very dangerous. From a goal-kick Foster worked his way through the visitors' front rank, and was instrumental in forcing a corner, from which Armstrong opened the scoring with a beauty. Half-time—

Celtics .... One goal.
Consett Swifts .... Nil.

After a short breathing time give-and-take play followed for some time, and then a foul against the visitors in a dangerous position resulted in Pendleton adding a second goal for the Celts. Both teams now warmed up to their duties, and Morgan running down put on a goal for the visitors which seemed off-side, and the homesters on seeing him in his position stopped running, expecting to hear the referee's whistle blow; but the point was allowed. Continuing to be aggressive, the Celts, from a corner-kick, secured the third and final goal from the toe of "Walloper," the game ending—

Annfield Plain Celtic .... Three goals.
Consett Swifts .... One goal.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

LINTZ ROVERS v. BURNHOPE.

This Derwent Valley League game was played at the Lintz before a poor muster of spectators. When Burnhope kicked off there was about six inches of snow on the ground. The Lintz went straight away and scored the first goal, and very soon Sinclair headed the second goal. Talbot, of Burnhope, scored for the visitors, but McGinn put on the third goal amid great cheers from the Lintz supporters, and very soon after J. Humble scored no. 4. Half-time arrived with

Lintz .... Four goals
Burnhope .... One goal

After a short interval the Lintz set the ball a-rolling, when W. Humble scored a fifth, and very soon after Pyle, the out-side right, added numbers six and seven, making the Lintz easy winners after a one-sided game. Final—

Lintz .... Seven goals.
Burnhope .... One goal.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE

STANLEY v. SOUTH SHIELDS

Stanley visited South Shields on Saturday for the purpose of fulfilling a Northern Alliance engagement on the well-appointed Mowbray Road ground. Owing to the heavy traffic the train service was as bad as it well could be, and the team did not reach High Shields station until ten minutes past two o'clock, the journey of about twenty miles occupying two hours and a quarter. The start was in consequence somewhat delayed, and it was agreed to play short time in order to finish before darkness set in. There were several changes in the Stanley team, Ellis going in goal for Laycock, E. Nicholson appearing for the first time at centre half, and Green going forward for McGarry. The home club were represented by the best combination they have put upon the field this season, including Sharp, Carmichael, and Berry, transferred from Sunderland. The teams were:

Stanley—Goal, Ellis; backs, Sanders and Joyce; half-backs, Coates, E. Nicholson, and J. Allison; forwards, Crute, Robson, O'Connor, Masterman, and Green.

South Shields—Goal, Seymour; backs, Wilson and Sharp; half-backs, Dewhurst, Harrison, and Ford; forwards, Gall, Turner, Berry, Murphy, and Carmichael.

Berry commenced operations, and matters were at once made fairly warm for the visitors, the centre half being well backed up by Gall and Harrison. The game was quite young when Harrison took advantage of an opening, and got the ball beyond Ellis. The Stanley custodian immediately afterwards had a hot low shot from Carmichael to negotiate, and succeeded in clearing. Stanley then broke away, and on two occasions Seymour had some trouble in saving his charge. The visitors' attack, however, was not sustained, and the home forwards soon re-asserted themselves. In each department the style of play adopted by the Shieldsmen was vastly superior to that of Stanley, who were robbed times out of number, and apparently with ease. As a result Gall, Murphy, and Turner kept peppering away at Ellis, who, considering the nature of the attack, did well to keep down the score as long as he did. He was, however, unable to resist a couple of shots from Turner before the interval, who timed his essays to a nicety and gave Ellis no chance. The game almost throughout the first half was in favour of the home team, who played pretty, attractive, and effective football. Half-time score:—

South Shields .... Three goals
Stanley .... Nil

O'Connor re-started, and Allison putting in a timely kick a corner accrued to Stanley. It was well placed, and Allison, by a capital shot, had hard lines, the ball just missing the net. A good run by Carmichael was spoiled by Berry shooting over. Some very smart play by the homesters was cleverly checked by Allison and Masterman, but soon after, as a result of a fine piece of passing between Murphy and Berry, the latter delivered the ball safely into the net. The Shields forwards evidently had the measure of the west countrymen, and going in for the passing game, which they played in captial style, Murphy was able to add a fifth goal. Almost immediately after the kick-off Ellis had a very difficult shot to deal with, and when it was seen that he had averted the danger the spectators loudly cheered him. O'Connor set a good example to his side by a fine piece of play, and for a few minutes Stanley became severely aggressive. Seymour was distinctly lucky in one or two saves. Midfield play followed, in the course of which Carmichael missed a good opening. He appeared to have the goal at his mercy, but badly miskicked, and Stanley again attacked, Seymour having a hard ground shot to deal with. He just managed to get the ball away, and then Shields again took up the offensive, and shortly before time Gall added the sixth and last goal. Final—

South Shields .... Six goals
Stanley .... Nil

STANLEY v. NEWCASTLE UNITED A.

This important engagement took place at Oakey's on Christmas Day, and was the means of drawing a large number of spectators. There was a considerable amount of frost in the air, and the ground was slippery in places, but under the circumstances, was in good condition. As compared with the team which beat St. Peter's Albion on Saturday by three to none, Kniften and Niblo (the latter injured) were left out of the St. James' team, their places being taken by Birnie and Harvey, a powerful exchange. On the Stanley side, Spinks, of Dipton, was tried in goal, leaving Ellis free to go to centre half, and Liddle was fortunately at liberty to partner Saunders at back. In the forward line Douglas re-appeared in the absence of Thompson Robson, who was otherwise engaged. The teams were:—

Stanley—Goal, Spinks; backs, Saunders and Liddle; half-backs, Coates, Ellis, and Allison; forwards, Crute, Green, O'Connor, Douglas, and Masterman.

Newcastle—Goal, Watts; backs, Lacey and Birnie; half-backs, Proctor, Veitch, and Harvey; forwards, Kelly, Milne, Simm, Collins and Rae.

Simm commenced operations for Newcastle, and Stanley went off at a tangent, getting well within reach of the United goal. Birnie led the way back, and although Allison made a useful return the visitors again got along, and when nicely placed in front of the Stanley goal they sent in some wretched shots, which enabled the homesters to carry along the left wing from where Douglas sent over. A foul against O'Connor was splendidly returned by Saunders, and some rapid exchanges followed. Then play rested in the Newcastle quarter and Masterman sent over. The visitors were making headway when they were pulled for doubtful off-side ruling. A foul against Masterman caused a flutter in the home dovecot, and this was followed by Crute getting nicely away, but Douglas intervened in an off-side position. Ellis was fouled by Simm, and the left wing sent to touch. From a return by Birnie, Kelly and Milne made a great effort to score, but sent wide—fortunately for Spinks. Another foul against Newcastle was too forcibly returned by Liddle, who sent over. Coates followed with good work, but also ended by sending beyond the line. Some good headwork by Ellis and Masterman gave Green a chance, but he missed. Then O'Connor sent in a good shot, which just went wide. From the left wing Green was given another good opening, but he failed to take advantage. Nearly half-an-hour had elapsed before Spinks received a shot full into his hands. He cleared easily, but the Tynesiders were in a pressing humour until O'Connor tried conclusions with Watts, in which the goalkeeper came out best. The visitors again got along and Spinks received the ball in the corner of the goal and luckily got it away. O'Connor, Masterman, and Douglass made a strenuous effort to score, and just missed by sending outside. Coates sent a shot along in Masterman's direction, but the Stanley captain was too far off to assist. A corner fell to Stanley, which was quickly cleared. Liddle returned, and Douglass and O'Connor followed well up, but Watts was too quick, and just managed to make a clearance. The Tyneside custodian was again hard pressed by O'Connor, Ellis, and Masterman, but Harvey came to the rescue, and, driving along, sent into Spinks' hands, who cleared. The Newcastle right wing had a great chance until they were fairly and squarely robbed by Liddle, a corner soon after falling to Stanley's lot. From the placing the home team narrowly missed scoring, and soon after from a free kick the ball was sent close past. Just before the interval Liddle and Masterman placed Douglass in possession, but at a critical moment he slipped and lost a splendid chance. Half-time then arrived with the score:—

Stanley .... Nil
Newcastle .... Nil

Rapid exchanges followed O'Connor's kick-off, and at the outset the visitors had the best of matters, but failing to find the goal dropped the ball over the line on several occasions. From a throw-in Coates conceded a corner, which was nicely placed for Veitch, who kicked over the bar. Then Spinks had a couple of shots to negotiate, and returned the play to the open. A good run by Green was smartly checked, and the visitors scored, but were rightly ruled off-side. A good run by the home forwards ended in Crute kicking high over. Newcastle again made headway, and the Stanley players appeared to be feeling the stress of the game. They were, however, far from done with, for at this stage Masterman received a pass, and racing away along the wing centred at the right moment. Green came up with a splendid opening before him, but he made a poor shot and sent wide. The ball was worked down to the other end, where a series of corners fell to the lot of the Tynesiders, and Spinks was rather more severely tested. He succeeded in saving and Crute got possession with a clear wing run. He was hotly pursued and Birnie had to save by conceding a corner. Stanley failed to take advantage of a good placing, but they continued to press hard for a minute or two. Another corner fell to the home lot, and Masterman receiving sent in the best shot of the day. Watts received it with full force, and had some trouble in keeping on the right side of the goal line prior to delivering the ball into the open. The venue was quickly changed, and Newcastle had another corner, after which some very rapid play was witnessed, in the course of which Masterman and O'Connor changed places. Three minutes from time Newcastle made desperate efforts to score, but were driven back, and Masterman with another grand run brought Watts right out from goal to avert danger. Neither side could gain the advantage, and the game ended—

Stanley .... Nil
Newcastle United A .... Nil

MATCHES WANTED.

Consett Young Swifts have a few vacant dates—ages 13 to 15.—Apply Owen McKie, No. 7, Alexandra Street, Consett.

Hamsterley Lilywhites are willing to play Allendale Putters on neutral ground for a football. Meet at Trainer's Public House.

Westwood Rovers are in want of matches—ages 13 to 15—Apply Wm. Rowland, 64, Allendale Cottages, Medomsley, R.S.O.

Bradley White Stars are in want of matches; ages, 12 to 14 years.—Apply, G. Smith, 16, Bradley Cottages.

Consett Young Swifts have all dates vacant; ages, 13 to 15.—Apply, Owen McKie, 7, Alexander Street Consett.

Grange Villa Rising Stars are in want of matches; average 10 to 12.—Apply, F. Cornforth, 2, New Row, Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street.

Allendale Putters would like to play Hamsterley Lilywhites for a ball on neutral ground; meet at Trainer's public-house.

Ouston Lilywhites have a few vacant dates; ages, 13 to 15. Apply, E. Suggett, Ouston Square, Ouston.

Consett Young Swifts have a few vacant date; ages, 13 to 15. Apply, O. McKie, 7, Alexandra Street, Consett.

All clubs having dates with South Moor United please cancel them.

South Moor Starwell Rovers have Christmas Day and New Year's Day vacant; average age, 13. Apply, A. Waites, 41, Poplar Street, South Moor.

J. T. Castle, Front St., Stanley, is not excelled in the district for Wedding Presents in Sterling and Electro-Silver.

How's your Liver? Why I never know I have one now, as I always keep a bottle of Pattrick's Medicine by me, and if I feel a little "off," I take a dose, and am soon myself again. Everyone who is ill goes to Pattrick, Chemist, 5, Front Street, Consett, who can cure almost any complaint. Mte.

PARDON ME!

HAVE YOU TRIED THE POPULAR KYTE TEA? Sold at 1/6, 1/10, 2/-, 2/4, 2/8, 2/10, & 3/2. Aroma and Quality Delicious.

HAVE YOU USED KYTE COFFEE? The Essence of Perfection.

In ¼, ½, and 1-lb Tins. Sold at 1/- 1/4, and 1/8 per lb.

KYTE HEALTH SALT. The Indispensable Remedy for Disordered Liver. A Morning Tonic.

KYTE BAKING POWDER. Absolutely Pure—Therefore Best.

Use your Judgment and insist on having KYTE BRAND GOODS. The Standard of Quality.

May be obtained from Grocers and Co-operative Stores.

Wholesale from ANTHONY OATES, ST. MARTIN'S COURT, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

By "OFF-SIDE."

JOE ALLISON, OF STANLEY.

Mr. Joe Allison, of Stanley A.F.C., writes "Northener" in the "Football Leader," is a native of Consett, and is now only 22 years of age. Commencing to play football when quite young, he was associated with a junior team which played under the name of Consett Swifts. Afterwards, on its amalgamation with the senior team of the town, we find Joe as captain of the reserve team, doing yeoman service at half-back. In this season and the folllowing one his team won the Shotley Spa Cup, which became their own property, and is at the present time in the keeping of the president of Consett Town Swifts. The following year, the now well-known and flourishing Consett Town Swifts (present holders of the Durham Amateur Cup) was formed, with our subject as captain and his brother Tom as Secretary. After playing with, and captaining, the Swifts for four seasons, he, towards the latter end of 1898, went to assist Leadgate Park in their Northern League fixtures, playing in either the half-back or forward line, and right well, too. During last close season he was approached by several clubs of good standing, but having many friends at Stanley, he ultimately decided to associate himself with that organisation, and is now playing left-half-back for them, with great success. In fact he is about the best man Stanley have. Naturally a quiet easy-going young fellow, he is seldom heard upon the field, but, nevertheless, is always plodding away for the benefit of his team. Stanley are fortunate in possessing such a capable half-back, for that is his correct position, and as a left half, he has few, if any, superiors in Alliance ranks.

—o—

STANLEY BEATEN AT SHIELDS.

It was a weary journey to the seaside on Saturday. Cooped up in overcrowded compartments we crept slowly along, and arrived at High Shields with ruffled tempers and stiffened joints, the matter of an hour after we might and ought to have been there. It did not bode well for Stanley who had to bolt along Laygate and on to Mowbray Road, where bare time was allowed them for dressing operations. The time of the match had to be curtailed, and, under the circumstances, it was as well for Stanley, for on the day's play they were by no means a match for the Shieldsmen. The difference in the style of the play was at times most marked, the homesters appearing to have the least possible difficulty in obtaining and retaining possession of the ball. Without a doubt the visitors had to meet a very smart team, and one which the Shields committee will do well to stick to. Sharp, Carmichael, and Berry, who have just been transferred from Sunderland, were included in the team, and with capital play by Harrison, Gall, Turner, and Murphy, they made up a combination which required a better preparation on the part of opponents than that obtainable in a packed and crawling train.

—o—

Ellis took charge of the goal for Stanley, and, although six to none does not look very cheerful, he was one of the hardest workers for his side. Some of his saves were really fine, and one especially gained for him unstinted cheers from the onlookers. Allison and Masterman were the best of the others, whilst O'Connor and Crute occasionally gave evidence of their presence. Stanley were dangerous on one or two occasions, but their efforts were not sustained. Seymour had much to thank his backs for, and had Ellis been as well supported the score would not have been so stupendous. In the long and weary hours occupied in making the return journey Stanley were able to reckon up their position on the Alliance Table as follows:—Played, 10; won, 2; lost, 7; drawn, 1. Goals for, 8; against, 31. Points, 5. Not an attractive set of figures with which to meet Newcastle United A.

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STANLEY REDIVIVUS.

Christmas Day, however, brought Stanley out of the dumps. It was a revival with a vengeance, and must have been a terrific eye-opener to even a wider circle than the Northern Alliance. United honoured the West Countrymen with a class team, and the Oakey representatives rose to the occasion. They were a meant and a meaning team, and whatever United thought at the outset they found as the game progressed that rocks were a-head, and if they were to retain their unbeaten certificate they must treat the Stanley team with more than ordinary respect. Thus it became a game of all in and all triers, and a finer battle royal has never been witnessed on the Stanley ground. It was a determined struggle with varying chances. In a fast and open game such as it was, individualism becomes less prominent, and as each team played in the manner indicated it became a matter chiefly of side against side. Still there were shining lights. Birnie, Harvey, Milne, and Collins, were prominent for Newcastle; Liddle, Masterman, and Allison chiefly for Stanley. Both teams played from start to finish in a ding dong fashion, and a pointless draw was really a fitting conclusion to the nature of the hour-and-a-half's play.

—o—

A MISERABLE JOURNEY.

The Park travelled to Shankhouse for the first time during their career, and they are not likely to forget it. Leaving Leadgate station at 10 o'clock they had a cold ride to Newcastle. On making inquiries at the Central a porter directed them to the wrong platform, with the result that the train they should have journeyed with to Cramlington went off without them. There was then nothing left but to wait for the next one, and consequently they were about an hour late in turning up. Therefore, the game had to be abandoned after about fifteen minutes play in the second half. At this point the official verdict was in favour of Shankhouse by a goal to nil, but it is exceedingly doubtful whether the home team scored. A shot was put in which Hedley cleared all right. Shankhouse appealed for a goal, and the referee (Mr. A. H. White), after examining the goal-line, allowed the claim. The Park had very hard lines on several occasions, Cook being particularly unfortunate, as he made the cross-bar rattle two or three times. The match will probably have to be re-played, and the Parkites are confident that they can manage a point at least.

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CONSETT UNITED'S FIRST DEFEAT.

Up to Saturday last Consett United had been carrying all before them in the Junior League, but they came a sad cropper at Leadgate against the Park Juniors. The visitors evidently did not relish being beaten, as they left the field about 10 minutes before time, presumably because they did not agree with the referee's decisions. When the United adopted this unsportsmanlike course the home lads were leading by four to one, so that they seemed to have an easy victory in view. In the first game at Consett the Juniors played with eight or nine men, and although badly beaten they played the game out, and accepted the rulings of the referee with good grace. The United must be prepared for defeat sometimes, and not think that they are absolutely invincible just yet. They were a much bigger team than the Juniors, but the latter wore them down, and were having nearly all the play when Consett threw up the sponge. What the decision of the league committee will be it is hard to say, but anyone possessed of an ordinary amount of commonsense knows what it should be.

—o—

NEWS.

Strange rumours about Birtley.

Are they going to crack up?

For uncertainty in football commend me to Stanley.

In two matches they lose 13 goals and four points.

And then meet the admittedly best team in the Alliance.

And nearly lick them.

At Shields they were streets behind on form.

It must have been a lesson to them.

They played a champion game against Newcastle.

True they had Liddle again.

But the improvement was not confined to the backs.

It was manifest forward.

The Tynesiders got a "gliff"

And if Green had been more fortunate in his shots they would have departed with a broken record.

Masterman nearly tumbled Watts head over heels.

Any five out of six goalkeepers would have fallen into the net.

Spinks was not nearly so rocky as he looked.

He always got the ball away.

And that was all Charley Watts could do.

United were glad when it was all over.

And so were the Stanley spectators.

The feeling was not all one way.

There was a happy smoker afterwards at the Royal Hotel.

And a kindly feeling withal.

So it ought to be at Christmas time.

Stanley take on Shankhouse on Saturday.

And Sunderland A on Monday.

Both at home.

What will happen?

Lintz Rovers rubbed it in to Burnhope.

The latter never reckoned upon a seven to one defeat.

However, the Lintz boys are a funny lot at home.

The brothers Humble played a fine game together for the winners.

Pyle showed up very well, as usual.

And he was given every chance by McGinn, who continually set him going.

Brown, a young player, did very creditably in the centre.

M. Hughes played well all through.

Dews at left half had a warm handful in Peter Talbot.

Turpin, the old Dipton player, keeps it up wonderfully for a veteran.

J. Dews was very safe in goal.

In Willie Calvert the Park have one of the most promising players in the district.

He was the best man on the field in the game between Consett United and the Park Juniors.

And fairly ran himself off his feet.

Len Davison is a plucky youngster.

Thompson and D. Overall played well at back.

Overall converted a couple of penalties in good style.

Dodds (the United custodian) is a capital player.

But showed bad form in being the first to leave the field.

The Park are not anxious for another visit to Shankhouse.

Except it is in the summer.

For a pic-nic.

The goal alleged to have been scored by Shankhouse was open to grave doubt.

Hedley undoubtedly cleared the ball.

And the visitors are confident that it never crossed the line.

Ben Cook came near scoring twice or thrice.

It is rumoured that George Forster will shortly be seen in the Swifts' ranks.

There will be two important Alliance games in the district on Monday.

Stanley entertain Sunderland A.

Whilst Middlesbrough A will visit Leadgate.

Both the local teams will have to be going if they hope to pick up points.

As the visitors in each instance are very strong.

I understand that Mr. J. Burnhope has resigned his seat on the Leadgate Park committee.

Mr. J. Kershaw has been elected to fill the vacancy.

And should make a most useful committeeman.

The Plain turned the tables on the Swifts on Saturday.

It is curious how each team generally wins on its own ground.

The losers were not fully represented.

"Walloper" turned out for the Celts, and played a capital game.

He scored the last goal.

What is the matter with the Hobson?

They don't seem to be playing many games.

Has that suspension business knocked them?

Now, friend Amos, buck up.

Stanley will not be sorry at the Hobson playing few games.

They know what a tower of strength Liddle is.

Has Laycock been dropped after his display at Leadgate?

It looks like it.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, December 21st, 1899.—Before Mr. W. Logan, Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, and Dr. J. Wilson.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following is a list of the cases of drunkenness and the fines imposed:—Jacob Bushby, 2/6 and costs; Thos. McCabe, 2/6 and costs; Hannah Armstrong, 1/- and costs; Robt. Green, 2/6 and costs; [illegible] and costs; Chas. Hetherington, 5/- and costs; Jon. Vasey, 5/- and costs; Luke Elmore, 5/- and costs; John Chapman, 5/- and costs; Wm. Parker, 5/- and costs; Thos. Chapman, 5/- and costs; John Maclaren, 2/6 and costs; Thos. Storey, 2/6 and costs; Jas. Murphy, 2/6 and costs; Mark Dawson, 2/6 costs; Miles Handy, 5/- and costs; Jos. Lockerby, 5/- and costs; Geo. Henderson, 2/6 and costs; Thos. Wall, 5/5 and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Jos. Storey and Wm. Bruce, Geo. Christelow and Thos. Christelow, were bound over to keep the peace, for fighting at Catchgate, on December 9th, 1899.

DAMAGE TO OVENS.

Geo. Wilkinson, J. W. Cooke, and Luke Cooke, were summoned by P.C. Robinson for having attempted to damage two ovens, the property of Messrs Pease and Co., at Esh Colliery.—P.C. Robinson said he saw the defendants committing the damage.—A fine of 5/-, 2/- damage, and costs was imposed.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Patrick O'Connor and Robt. Errington were summoned by P.C. Hildreth, of Catchgate, for playing at pitch and toss at Collierley.—A fine of 2/6 and costs was imposed.

MAINTENANCE ORDER.

Jonathan Woodall was summoned by Mr. Ralph Walton, Relieving Officer, of Lanchester, for refusing to maintain his father who had become chargeable to the Lanchester Union.—An order for 1/6 a week and costs was made.

TRESPASSING IN SEARCH OF GAME.

Frederick Humphrey was fined 10/- and costs for trespassing in search of game on land belonging to Messrs Hedley.

BREACH OF SPECIAL RULES.

Wm. Brown, a putter, working at the old Louisa Pit, was summoned for refusing to give up his pony to the horsekeeper. Mr. T. W. Welford, Consett, prosecuted.—Defendant was fined 10/- and costs.

Jae Finnigan was summoned for unlocking a safety lamp at the Louisa Pit, contrary to the special rules.—Defendant was fined 5/- and costs.

ASSAULTS.

John Lowe was summoned for assaulting his wife, on December 11th.—Defendant was fined 2/6 and costs.

Sarah Dixon, a single woman, living with Wm. Maughan as his wife, at Annfield Plain, summoned him for assaulting her on December 10th.—Complainant said defendant struck her in the eye and on the cheek bone, and chased her out of the yard.—On being asked if defendant was any relation, complainant said they had been living together as man and wife. Defendant had always promised to marry her. He had a wife living at Annfield Plain.—A sister of the defendant's was called in support of the complainant's case, who stated that the defendant struck the complainant on the cheek, after which complainant struck defendant with a brush.—A fine of 2/6 and costs was imposed.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Geo. Shipley, manager, Malton Colliery, summoned Jos. Wardle, G. W. McKenna, John Welch, Thos. Leslie, and John Tilley, for damaging the tiles at Malton Brick Works, on Monday night, to the amount of 5/-.—Geo. Shipley said the defendants broke several tiles at the brick works. They could not keep them away.—Cuthbert Wilson, a workman, said on Monday night he saw the defendants about nine p.m. throwing stones at the tiles of the Brick Works. He ran them away from the hot kilns.—Mrs. Leslie attended, and stated that her son was not out of the house that night, and the case was withdrawn against him.—The other defendants, who appeared, were fined 1/- and costs, and McKenna was fined 2/- and costs, and the damage for not appearing.

BLAYDON.

The Lamp Breaking Nuisance.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday—before Mr. J. G. Hodgson (presiding), and Mr. Claude B. Palmer—a youth named Thomas Fee was charged with doing wilful damage to a street lamp, the property of the Blaydon U.D. Council, to the amount of 1/6. The accused pleaded guilty.—Evidence was tendered by a youth who saw the accused break the glass of a lamp, on November 26th. The informant added that he saw the defendant pick up a stone and exclaim, "Ladies and gentlemen, watch me put a stone through the lamp," which he did.—The Surveyor to the Blaydon Council said he had been instructed by that authority to take the present proceedings, as much damage had been done.—The Bench decided to fine the defendant the smallest penalty they could, and ordered him to pay a fine of 1/- and costs, and the damage—1/6.—An application by the Surveyor to the Council for expenses was refused.

WATERHOUSES.

Evangelical Free Church Council.—Under the auspices of the above Council the Rev. J. W. Ogden, F.R.G.S., of Tynemouth, visited the Primitive Methodist Church, Waterhouses, on Thursday evening, and delivered his popular lecture, "The Geographical Development of the British Empire in the Victorian Era." The lecturer illustrated his subject by a powerful magic lantern. At the close of the lecture he recited Mr. Kipling's poem, "The Absent-minded Beggar," and a collection of £1 0s 2d was taken for the War Fund.

LAMESLEY.

Drowned whilst in a Fit.—Deputy-Coroner Shepherd held an inquest one Friday night on the body of John William Armstrong, 22 years of age, who for some years past had been subject to epileptic fits. He was last seen alive at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday morning, and 15 minutes later the body was discovered in the mill race in four inches of water. Deceased had been working there. The doctor was of opinion that the deceased had taken a fit and thus had been suffocated by the water.—The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.

The 'Castle' Watch-works, Stanley, is the place for the Finest and Cheapest display of Xmas Presents.

MEDOMSLEY AND DISTRICT CYCLING CLUB.

ANNUAL BALL.

The members of the above flourishing club held their second annual ball on Tuesday night, in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley. The building had been nicely decorated for the occasion with curtains, Chinese lanterns, etc., whilst a free-wheel cycle occupied a prominent position. There was a good response to the invitations issued by the committee, and when the dance was at its height it must be admitted the scene was a brilliant one, all the ladies present being attired in ball dress. A special word of praise is due to the courteous and energetic hon. sec., Mr. Jos. Walton, who worked most assiduously for the success of the undertaking, and he was well backed up by the committee. The music was supplied by Mr. W. Veitch, Medomsley (piano) and Mr. Campbell, Hamsterley (violin.) Messrs Jos. Walton, W. Lovat, I. Rutherford, and M. Cousins acted as stewards. The refreshments were in the able hands of Mrs. R. Moffitt, of Medomsley, and it is almost needless to add that they gave every satisfaction. Amongst those present we noticed the following:—

Mr. E. Dixon, Broad Oak, and Miss Hunter, Grange Farm, Medomsley.
Messrs J. and A. Thompson, Medomsley.
Mr. Jos. Walton, Medomsley, Miss F. Shipley, Malton Colliery, and Miss N. Walton, Medomsley.
Mr. T. and Miss Lillie Hunter, Medomsley.
Mr. J. T. Milburn, Allendale Cottages.
Mr. R. Death, Leadgate, and Miss Hadwin, Medomsley.
Miss P. Hadwin, Medomsley.
Misses Gibson (2), Medomsley.
Mr. and Mrs. I. Rutherford and family, Medomsley.
Mr. Jas. Wass, Medomsley.
Mr. A. Noble, Broomhill.
Mr. S. Judge, Benfieldside.
Miss Jones, Medomsley.
Miss S. Calvert, Medomsley.
Miss Surtees, Harrogate.
Mr. M. Cousins and Miss Armstrong, Blackhall Mill.
Mr. W. Hunter, Medomsley.
Mr. J. Cant, Hylton.
Mr. T. Bell, Medomsley.
Mr. M. Bearsley and Miss Lovat, Medomsley.
Mr. R. and Miss Wilson, Medomsley.
Mr. S. Brown, Croniwell.
Mr. J. Hughes, Croniwell.
Miss Nichol, Blackhall Mill.
Mr. Jos. Walton, Langley Park, and the Misses Burdon, Lanchester.
Mr. R. Awaley, Malton Colliery.
Mr. W. Hunter, Medomsley, and Miss Humble, Lanchester.
Mr. J. Heckels, Lanchester, and Miss S. Deason, Langley Park.
Mr. G. W. Shipley, Malton Colliery, and Miss E. Pearson, Langley Park.
Miss E. Pallister, Lanchester.
Miss Pickering, Medomsley.
Mrs. Brown and Miss Mossinson, Ebchester.
Miss A. Pattinson.
Mr. W. Cant, Medomsley.
Mr. M. T. Milburn, Medomsley.
Mr. G. Fittock, Medomsley.
Mr. I. Pearson, Medomsley.
Miss Thorpe, Shotley Bridge.
Mr. J. Curry and Miss Armstrong, Shotley Bridge.
Miss Mase, Medomsley.
Mrs. Miller, Burnley, and Miss Almond, Medomsley.

GRAND CONCERT AT STANLEY

On Christmas night a grand sacred concert was held in the Stanley Wesleyan Church, and in point of merit, was one of the best ever held in the district. To Mr. Joseph Dixon, the conductor, is due the credit for the unqualified success attending the undertaking. The programme which he had sketched out was an ambitious one, and thoroughly well calculated to test the musical abilities, vocal and instrumental, of the district, and that it should have been accomplished to the utmost satisfaction of a large audience must have been gratifying both to Mr. Dixon and to all concerned. His first task was to set about raising a choir of upwards of 120 voices, and bringing his local knowledge and musical enthusiasm to bear, he soon had the necessary strength at hand, and was able to make an early start with the rehearsals. The chorus was divided into 51 sopranos, 25 contraltos, 21 tenors, and 28 basses, which will be regarded as an excellent division of volume between the various parts. In addition to the chorus, arrangements were made with the Stanley and District Orchestral Society to play selections, and assist in the accompaniments. The band, under the leadership of Mr. Garbutt, consisted of six first violins, four second violins, one violoncello, one bass, two clarionets, one oboe, two flutes, three trombones, one euphonium, and two cornets, with Mr. John Russell, jun., as organist. Mr. Dixon had also succeeded in engaging Miss Maggie Wilson, soprano, Newcastle, and Mr. Sam Heenan, tenor, Newcastle, as soloists, and Miss Effie Smith, A.R.C.M., violinist, Newcastle, was expected, but was unable to attend, her place being very ably taken by a youth, who showed wonderful mastery over his instrument. Mr. Wm. Rutherford, of Catchgate, presided, and having made a few opening remarks the opening chorus, "Worthy is the Lamb" was rendered in a style which at once showed the excellent preparation the singers had undergone at the hands of Mr. Dixon. The whole of the parts were capitally balanced, and at the close a well deserved round of applause was accorded. The choir also sang in the first part of the programme "Strike the Lyre" (Cooke), and "The Lord is my Shepherd" (Leslie), with a soprano solo by Miss Wilson. The opening chorus in the second part was "The Heavens are telling," and here again the audience was given a rare treat. Later, the anthem "Seek ye the Lord" (J. V. Roberts), with a tenor solo by Mr. Heenan, was rendered, and the closing contribution by the choir was the Hallelujah Chorus, given with great effect. Miss Wilson sang "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and "The coming of the King," and her beautiful, well modulated voice went round the building with thrilling effect, the applause which greeted her efforts being loud and hearty. Mr. Sam Heenan was also in good form, his first solo being "If with all your hearts," from "Elijah," which he gave with excellent effect. He was, however, even more successful in his rendition of "The Star of Bethlehem," which elicited the hearty approval of his auditors. Miss Wilson and Mr. Heenan also sang the duet "Love Divine," and thus they each had a good share in the night's entertainment. Miss Russell, Miss Green, Mr. R. Lewis, and Mr. A. W. Kyles gave the quartette "God is a spirit," in very acceptable style, and when the doxology was sung it was felt that all had assisted in a high class, and very successful concert. The proceeds of the concert were in aid of the New Church and School Building fund, and Messrs G. A. Moore and A. Routledge, the secretaries, will have a substantial sum to hand over.

A BOOK FOR THE HOME.

An excellent and usefull little work is "Holloway's Almanac and Family Friend," and coming, as it does, from one who has done so much for education (as witness that magnificent Institution the Royal Holloway College, at Egham), it may be relied on as an acceptable gift. It is issued free of cost, but its enormous popularity is not due to that fact alone. A copy of the issue for 1900 is to hand. It is very daintily got-up, and is full of excellent pictures. Besides a mass of information, which makes the almanac useful as a reference book, it contains a series of finely illustrated articles on the old customs of many nations. Every copy also carries with it a Railway Insurance Policy of £100 for the whole of the year 1900. The little book is sent free by Thomas Holloway (the proprietor of Holloway's Pills and ointment), 78, New Oxford Street, to any one who sends one halfpenny stamp for postage. The same firm sends us specimens of beautifully-coloured Natural History cards, of which there are seventy-eight in all. This is a delightful idea for popularising Natural History, certain to bring pleasure to the hearts of countless youngsters, and on a par with those excellent Drawing Books, Atlas, Copyright Songs and other now well-known publications issued by them. Readers, by mentioning the name of this paper, may obtain samples of these cards post free on application to T. Holloway, 78, New Oxford Street, London, or the whole set carefully packed in a box in return for three penny stamps.—"Christian Globe."

TOW LAW.

Death of a Weardale Company's Servant.—The death occurred at Tow Law on Thursday of Mr. England, formerly chief clerk to the Weardale Iron Company at Tow Law. Deceased, who came to the district some 47 years ago from the Shields district, was originally under the late Mr. Elliott. He had been 30 years with the firm, but had retired on a pension some little time ago.

Tradesmen's Supper.—A social gathering took place on Wednesday night at the Tow Law Hotel, which was practically under the auspices of the tradesmen of the town. A capital supper was served by Host Scott. At the smoker which followed Mr. T. Hall presided, Mr. J. Turnbull being in the vice-chair. Numerous songs and toasts were given, Mr. E. Milburn ably responding for the "Army and Navy."

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 Tuesday morning.

THE RESERVISTS' FUNDS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN.")

Sir,—I desire to acknowledge through your columns the receipt by me on the 23rd inst., of a £5 note, sent by "M.S.G.," for the "sick and wounded" in the war. As I have no such fund in my hand, nor am I aware of any which has this object, except one of the branches of the Lord Mayor's Fund, I have forwarded "M.S.G.'s" kind donation to the Lord Mayor's secretary, with a request that it may be applied in the manner desired, and an acknowledgement of its receipt inserted in the London daily papers.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

A. A. GARSTIN,
Colonel, Commdg 5-68 R. Dist.
Newcastle Barracks, Dec. 26th, 1899.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN.")

Sir,—I desire to acknowledge the donations as under which have been kindly sent to me to help to provide warm clothing and comfort for the Northumberland Fusiliers and Durham Light Infantry, now serving in South Africa:—*Mr. Wigham Richardson, £5; *Mrs and Mr. Mulcaster, £3 3s; †Mrs Gibson, £1; Messrs Snowball (penny collection), 10s 6d; Mr. Coulthard, 4s. Half the sums marked * and the whole of that marked † are for the 1st Durham Light Infantry, the remainder being for the 1st and 2nd Battalions Northumberland Fusiliers.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

A. A. GARSTIN,
Colonel, Commdg 5-68 R. Dist.
Newcastle Barracks, Dec. 26th, 1899.

LEADGATE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—I beg through the columns of your widely spread paper to be allowed to offer my warmest thanks to the medical officers (Drs. Allan and Burke), the master and matron (Mr and Mrs F. Longstaff) of the above hospital for their unremitting attention and kindness to me during my illness and convalescence. The arrangements, and the extreme kindness of all who attended me, I feel sure could not be equalled at home, and I take this opportunity of stating in the public press the benefits and excellent treatment I received. Thanking you in anticipation,—I remain, yours sincerely,

J. H. MOUNTAIN.
5, Joicey's Square, Stanley.
Dec. 25th, 1899.

ROYAL ALFRED AGED MERCHANT SEAMEN'S INSTITUTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—At this season of the year when you cheerfully give space to appeals, I beg a kind word for our aged and destitute British seamen.

The roving life of the sailor separates him from home and kindred; out in the solitudes of sea and sky risking his life for his daily bread, yet all the while an unobtrusive factor in welding together our mighty Empire, leaving him in the end more dependent upon the liberality of the public than any other class of our countrymen. Surely it becomes us to lend him a hand when his compass to steer a course is well-nigh broken, his once cheery "all's well" but a sad reminiscence, and his "aloft" the solemn hereafter, when the present voyage is ended.

In this, the greatest maritime nation in the world, the only Institution which gives, without distinction of rank, creed, or ports of service, a Home or Pension to the merchant sailor, when old and destitute, is the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution and yet its income from all sources last year amounted to only £9,495.

There are now some 250 'human derelicts' on the list of applicants, whose ages range from 65 to 90 years.

Thousands who are able and no doubt willing to help, do not know of the existence of this "Poor Jack's last Port," hence this appeal for a kind, helping and prominent word for the "Royal Alfred Institution" and "Poor Jack."

On behalf of the Committee,
Yours faithfully,
J. BAILEY WALKER.
Secretary,
Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution, 58, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

DEATH OF MR. W. P. MORRIS, OF MEDOMSLEY

We regret to record the death of Mr. Wm. Paul Morris, which took place at Holly Avenue, Medomsley, on Saturday morning. The deceased gentleman, who had been in failing health for some months, was 45 years of age. For a large number of years he acted as under-manager of the Consett Iron Company's Hunter Pit at Medomsley, and was very highly esteemed by his workmen. On the occasion of his relinquishing his position Mr. Morris was, two or three months since, presented by the workmen of the Hunter Pit and friends with a gold watch, a report of the proceedings appearing in our columns at the time. The deceased had been a member of the Medomsley Church choir for nearly 20 years, and took a great interest in the social and athletic events of the village. He was a vice-president of the Medomsley Cricket Club, the Allendale Park Football Club, and the Medomsley and District Cycling Club. He was very popular amongst all classes, and for 12 months sat as a member of the Medomsley Parish Council. Mr. Morris was of a social and genial disposition, and his demise will be sincerely regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The interment took place on Tuesday afternoon at Medomsley churchyard, and it is somewhat singular that this day should be the 45th anniversary of the deceased gentleman's birthday. It is also curious that his brother, the late Mr. John H. Morris, also died at the age of 45. Despite the bitterly cold weather there was a good number present to pay their last tribute of respect. The service both in the church and at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. W. Cockin, M.A. (vicar), whilst, as the congregation left the sacred edifice, the organist (Mr. Geo. Dryden, jun., Consett) played the "Dead March" in "Saul." The under-bearers were Messrs W. Cant, J. Oxley, W. Bell, and J. Bell. The principal mourners included Mr. Morris, Pelton Fell (brother), Mr. Geo. B. Morris, Medomsley (nephew), Miss Ethel Morris, Medomsley (niece), Dr. Downs, Medomsley; Mr. and Mrs. White, Langley Park. Amongst others present were—Mr. T. D. Dryden, Consett; Mr. E. Lockey, Consett; Mr. Geo. Dryden, jun., Consett; Mr. G. E. Milburn, Medomsley; Mr. J. Hunter, Town Farm, Medomsley; Mr. Raeburn, Medomsley; Mr. W. R. Cooke, Westwood; Mr. M. T. Milburn, Mr. J. F. Thompson, Mr. J. W. Jamieson, Mr. Jacob Walton, Mr. W. Robinson, Mr. T. Robinson, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. M. Charlton, Mr. W. Hunter, Mr. T. Calvert, Mr. T. Traynor, Mr. and Mrs. Moffitt, Mrs. Hetherington, Medomsley; Mr. T. Whitfield, Mr. Jas. Davison, Mr. J. Foreman, Mr. John Davison, Mr. D. Turner, Mr. I. Maughan, Mr. D. McKinnell, Mr. J. Sopham, Mr. R. F. Taylor, etc. Beautiful wreaths were forwarded by the workmen of the Hunter Pit and the members of the Church choir. The coffin was a handsome one of pitch pine, with brass mountings. Mr. R. Moffitt, of Medomsley, acted as undertaker.

WEDDING AT CONSETT

On Tuesday afternoon an interesting wedding was celebrated at the Consett Wesleyan Church. The contracting parties were Mr. Frederick Alexander Hillman, youngest son of Mr. Hillman, Constance Street, Consett, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Walton, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Walton, of Foster Street, Consett. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. J. J. Walton, was attired in a white crepon de soie dress, and wore a white picture hat. The bridesmaids Miss Tryphena Walton, sister of the bride and Miss Lucy Milburn, of Consett, were dressed in cream and heliotrope, and wore black velvet picture hats, while Miss Nora Walton (niece of the bride), and Miss Amy Williams (niece of the bridegroom), wore cream dresses and hats. The "best man" was Mr. Richard Pearson, of Consett. As both the bride and bridegroom had been members of the Consett Wesleyan Church Choir, a considerable amount of interest was manifested in the ceremony. After the ceremony a reception was held at the house of the bride's mother, where a large number of relations and friends assembled to partake of the marriage feast, amongst whom were Mrs. Walton; Mrs. Bell and family; Mr. and Mrs. A. Thompson, Medomsley Edge; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Walton, Medomsley; Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford, Hebburn; Miss Metcalfe, Leeds; Mr. and Mrs. Hillman (senior), Miss Ettie Walton, Miss Jennie Walton, Mr. Willie and Mr. Geo. Walton, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Consett; Mrs. Gill, Consett; Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, Africa; Mrs. Stephenson, Consett; Mrs. Milburn, Consett; Mrs. Johnson and family, Consett; Miss S. Milburn, Consett Junction; Miss Dewar, Hebburn; Mr. Geo. Craggs, and Miss Mason, Consett; Miss Polly Walton, Bradley Cottages; Miss Brown, Middlesbro'; Mr. Thos. Pallister, Consett; Mr. and Mrs. Bromwell, Sunderland, and others. A large number of handsome and costly presents were given to the newly married couple, who have our heartiest good wishes for a long, happy, and useful life.

The Drink for the Season.

Absolutely a New Drink.

Awarded 8 Gold Medals.

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Try it. An Ideal Summer Drink.

MADE ONLY BY

J. KERSHAW and SONS,

LEADGATE and GATESHEAD.

ALARMING FIRE AT BLACKHALL MILL

BUSINESS PREMISES GUTTED.

ENORMOUS DAMAGE.

The quiet little village of Blackhall Mill was on Friday the scene of an alarming conflagration which resulted in the destruction of the double-fronted shop occupied by Mr. Wm. Aynsley, grocer and provision merchant, and also damage to the licensed premises known as the Ship Inn, occupied by Mr. Dennison, and owned by the North-Eastern Breweries Ltd. The outbreak occurred about 11 o'clock in the morning as near as can be ascertained, and was first discovered by the manager, Mr. Thomas Lee, who found one of the upper rooms filled with smoke. Mr. Lee at once raised an alarm, and the shop assistants, together with a number of villagers, were soon upon the scene, and at once set to work to quench the flames, by conveying buckets of water from the Derwent. The fire spread with alarming rapidity, and defied all attempts to extinguish it. Those present, including P.C. Johnson, of Shotley Bridge, and P.C. Sindon, Hamsterley, worked with a will, but despite their heroic attempts to quell the flames, the other part of the building became ignited. The shop was evacuated of its contents, with all possible speed, but so fiercely raged the fire that the greater portion of this was destroyed, and by 12 o'clock the place was practically in ruins. From the very first fears were entertained that the Ship Inn would become ignited, and unfortunately these apprehensions were only too well founded, for shortly after the outbreak, the west-end parlour of these premises caught fire. Not a minute was lost in removing the furniture from the Inn, but in the hurry to get this clear of danger much of it was damaged. By this time the fire began to assume serious proportions, and a messenger was despatched for the fire appliance kept at Messrs John Annandale and Sons, paper-mills, which arrived soon afterwards under the care of Mr. Elder. A plentiful supply of water was at once procured from the Derwent, and willing hands were soon directing a good stream of water upon the burning buildings. Meantime a messenger was despatched for the Consett Fire Brigade, and a few minutes after 2 o'clock this brigade also put in an appearance under the charge of Captain W. S. Stell, and Lieut. G. T. Egglestone. No time was lost in having the last named fire extinguishing apparatus put into working order, and with two brigades at work the fire was gradually mastered, but not before it had done considerable damage. The greater portion of the groceries and provisions which were stocked in Mr. Aynsley's shop were destroyed either by fire, water, or smoke, whilst it was not long before the roof of the building fell in with a crash. It was not until after 3 o'clock that the fire showed signs of abating, and by about 4 p.m. the fire was got sufficiently under control as to justify the brigade from Consett in withdrawing from the scene. Flames still continued to break out at the back part of the premises up to after 5 o'clock, but the efforts of those manipulating the fire apparatus from Lintzford were sufficient to cope with these small outbreaks. No elucidation could be forthcoming as to the origin of the fire, as acetylene gas is used in the shop occupied by Mr. Aynsley, and no fire or light of any description was burning in the room where the flames were first noticed. At 9 o'clock in the morning when Mr. Lee visited the room everything was in order, and how the fire broke out is a mystery. The fire occurred at a most unfortunate time when the shop was stocked with a special Christmas display, and contained nearly three times the usual quantity of goods, the same being valued at about £2,000. The whole of the premises are owned by the North-Eastern Breweries Ltd., and the total damage is estimated at between £6,000 and £7,000. The loss, we understand, is covered by insurance. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the villagers who so energetically assisted at the fire, together with the two officers, who never relaxed their efforts. It was not until after the fire had been extinguished that the work rendered by these helpers could be appreciated, and it was almost pitiful to see many of them running about drenched to the skin. The fire was not without its humorous side, for, during the conflagration one daring individual startled those present by appearing at the top of the burning building, and issuing for the proclamation that he was L——'s "leading article." Another poor fellow, well advanced in years, kept up an unfruitful search for his coat, which he was told had been devoured by the elements. Others were eager to have their names put down in the little book, which was to inform the Insurance Company who had been the workers. We must say that had it not been for the excellent services rendered by those present, the fire would most assuredly have been of a much more serious character.

Death of Mrs. M. Hedley

The death is announced as having taken place at Rainham, Beckenham, Kent, of Mrs Margaret Hedley, the widow of the late Mr Oswald Dodd Hedley, at the age of 83 years. The deceased lady was the mother of the late Messrs William and George Hedley, of Burnhopeside Hall, near Lanchester, the well-known wealthy coalowners, and the grandmother of Messrs George, Edward, and John Thomas Hedley, Mr Edward Hedley having died at Burnhopeside Hall over two years ago. Her husband was the brother of the late Mr William Hedley, who became famous as the inventor of the first steam engine, known as the "Wylam Billy." The deceased lady used frequently to visit Burnhopeside Hall in the summer up to about two years ago. A little over three years since there were festive rejoicings on a lavish scale at Burnhopeside on the occasion of the old lady attaining her 80th birthday.

DERWENT VALLEY NOTES.

[BY "ROWLEY."]

MEDOMSLEY CHORAL SOCIETY.

Those who were present at the first entertainment given by the members of the newly-formed Medomsley Choral Society on Wednesday week in the National Schools, must assuredly have been impressed by the creditable performance given by the members on their first appearance before a public audience. When we take into consideration that the society only dates back to October, it must be admitted by all who were present that the members have reached a wonderful stage of perfection in a remarkably short space of time. This is not to be wondered at when we find such a capable conductor at the head of affairs as Mr. F. J. Dales, whilst in Miss M. J. Smith the society possess a skilled accompanist. May these two persons be long spared to lend their kindly aid. The programme was not a pretentious one, but sufficiently difficult to test the capabilities of any young society, and the manner in which the same was gone through left no room for adverse criticism. The society is now at about the most critical stage of its career, and I hope that the music-loving inhabitants of the district will show the members that their efforts are appreciated, and not lose sight of the fact that their exchequer is not overburdened with wealth.

YOUTHFUL ARTISTS.

The Church Hall at Consett, on Thursday afternoon, held within its walls as fine a sample of drawings and paintings as one might wish to gaze upon, and what lent additional interest to this exhibition of art was the fact that all the paintings and drawings were the work of youthful artists, tender in years, whose touch upon the canvas is accompanied with that delicacy only possessed by those of tender years. The exhibition I refer to was the annual display by the pupils attending Miss Tait's school, which proved a credit to the students as well as their instructor. Whilst examining the work of these young students one could hardly realise that the beautiful and neatly finished drawings and paintings were the efforts of children so young in years. Consett might be well proud at having reared such talented artists, and it is to be hoped that they will persevere in the art which they have proved masters of at such an early age. Just a word of advice to my skilled little friends. Ponderation was the word by which J. F. Millet summed up all the requisite qualities in a picture. If a painting possesses this balance or equipoise, as the term Millet used may be translated, it is a picture, though it may be but a mere sketch; if it has not, no artful juxtaposition of pure colours, no elaboration of careful finish can make a picture of it. No theory will enable a man who has no eye for harmony of colour and harmony of proportion to make a good picture, any more than any theory of music will enable one who has not a musical ear to distinguish between concords and discords in music.

PURSE SNATCHING.

Let me warn my readers who may travel by train this week-end to take precautions against the unscrupulous methods adopted by certain individuals who have been wont to relieve several women of their purses. On Saturday night last several cases of purse snatching occurred in the trains running between Newcastle and Blackhill.

TO MY READERS.

I take this opportunity of wishing all my readers "A happy and prosperous New Year.

ALLEGED SHOPBREAKING AT BLACKHALL MILL.

Whilst P.C. Sindon was on duty at Blackhall Mill between Sunday night and Monday morning, he discovered three men on the premises of Messrs Aynsley, Ltd., apparently with the intention of committing a robbery. He arrested the men, and brought them before Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, at Consett police-station on Tuesday morning. Their names are Wm. Charlton, miner, of Milkwell Burn; John Robson, and George Young, miners, of Blackhall Mill. The officer having given formal evidence Mr. Balleny remanded the prisoners until to-day (Thursday), when the ordinary sitting of the Court was held, owing to Monday being Christmas Day.

Weldon's Practical Needlework (2d). No 169, contains designs for a variety of crochet edgings for ornamental trimmings, including underwear.

Weldon's Knitted and Crochet Comfort (1d) is the handbook which every woman who is anxious to contribute, in ever so small a degree, to the mitigation of the hardships of war, will do well to purchase without delay. Besides several designs for the sleeping helmet or Balaclava cap, there are easy directions for making Tam o' Shanters, scarf, socks in different patterns, mittens, wristlets, and a chest and back protector, all of which articles will meet with undoubted favour from the gentlemen in khaki ordered south, for whom they are destined.

Weldon's Ladies' Journal (3d), January —Enough cannot be said in appreciation of the fashions in this issue, where every possible want for the most extravagant or fastidious of wearers at this season is forestalled with admirable precision in its pages. Dressy toilettes for home and visiting wear, fashionable mourning, dainty evening gowns, cape and mantle, the favourite skirts with box pleated backs, popular fancy dresses, a set of pretty lingerie, and instructions for making an immensely becoming toque are among a few only of the novelties to delight the fancy of gentle admirers. Two cut out paper patterns are given away, consisting of a smart arrangement of the now so fashionable coatee or basque coat, and a combination garment designed for flannel goods. There is also presented a coloured plate of the latest novelties for the month. A most useful article containing helpful hints for giving effective and artistic finishes to [illegible] this magazine, also [illegible] particularly party in[illegible] ery for holiday fest[illegible] some length, and [illegible] tributes an interest[illegible] New Year Gift" to an already enchanting number.

New Fermented Drink for Summer and Winter!

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TO BE HAD FROM ALL RETAILERS, OR WHOLESALE FROM THE ANNFIELD PLAIN ÆRATED WATER CO

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Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin, CUTICURA Ointment, to heal the skin, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool the blood, is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring skin, scalp, and blood humours, rashes, itchings, and irritations, with loss of hair, when the best physicians, and all other remedies fail.
Sold everywhere. Price, THE SET, postpaid, 6s.; or, CUTICURA SOAP, 1s.; OINTMENT, 2s. 6d.; RESOLVENT, 2s. 6d. F. NEWBERY & SONS, London. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.

COLLIERLEY SCHOOL BOARD

On Thursday evening, the monthly meeting of the Collierley School Board was held in the Board Room of the Collierley Board Schools, under the presidency of Mr J. T. Robinson. There were also present—Messrs W. Young, S. Swalwell, T. Clark, J. B. Armstrong, Mr A. Phillipson (Clerk), and Mr H. Beatham (Attendance Officer.)

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mr H. Beatham, Attendance Officer, reported that during the month he had visited 263 absentees, served two official warnings, and four bye-law notices on parents for negligence. He found that whooping cough was prevalent among the children, and a few cases of scarlet fever. Those with other cases of sickness, such as severe colds and coughs had affected the attendance materially. The recent storm had also brought the attendance down in the infant department from 69 per cent to 51 per cent.

The report was adopted.

A COMPLAINT.

With reference to a complaint made by Miss Terry to Mr Young, vice-chairman, respecting the state of the school after the evening on which the Dipton Cricket Club held their social. Mr Young explained that when Miss Terry asked him to go over and see the schools he consented, and Miss Terry complained about some 25 or 30 fans, the property of the school had been taken from the walls of the school, while the floor and tables had been left in a dirty state.

Several rumours having been circulated in the village respecting the affair the committee of the club decided to send a deputation to the Board to explain their position.

Messrs R. Preick and J. Adams attended the Board, when the latter gentleman explained that as a member of the committee he was not aware that the fans were school property, or he would not have allowed them to have been taken off the walls. He understood the fans were the property of the club. But having taken them the club was willing to pay for what had been lost.

The Chairman: Independent of that there is the destroying of the walls of the school.

After further discussion, Mr Swalwell moved, and Mr Young seconded, that the explanation be considered satisfactory.

The motion was carried, and the deputation withdrew.

NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.

A letter was read from the National Union of Teachers with reference to the salaries of infant teachers. The Union asked that the teachers in infant schools be paid at the same rate of payment as those in the girls' schools, seeing that they had to pass the same examinations and had the same responsibilities.

Mr Clark moved, and Mr Swalwell seconded, the motion that the matter lie on the table. Carried.

AN APPLICATION.

[illegible] Harrison, Dipton, applied for an advance of salary, having completed his term of [illegible]ship with the Board.

Mr Clark moved, and Mr Swalwell seconded, that Mr Harrison and other teachers who sat [illegible] examination be paid on the [illegible] of salary.

A RATHER BIG ORDER.

[illegible] was read from the Clerk of the Greencroft School Board stating that according to agreement of the Collierley School Board with the Greencroft School Board the authority were allowed to send 100 [illegible] to the Greencroft Board Schools, for [illegible] paid seven-ninths of the cost of maintenance and enlargement of the schools under [illegible] Board. It was now found [illegible] mentioned the letter, to enlarge the [illegible] Schools, which was intended to be [illegible] building a class-room to accommodate 180 [illegible] and it was thought that the Collierley School Board should pay the whole of the enlargement, and enter into a [illegible] agreement as to the proportion of contribution.

[illegible] thought it would be as well to [illegible] of the children attending the Greencroft schools belonging to the Collierley district.

The Chairman: According to the papers they have commenced with the work.

Mr Clark thought there should be a special meeting held, and have the matter discussed before meeting the Greencroft Board.

Mr Armstrong considered the suggestion of having a census taken a good one, as they required something to work upon.

The Chairman concurred.

Mr Swalwell said that in that part of Catchgate belonging to the Collierley district there had been very few houses built, and he could not see how the number of scholars had increased.

Mr Armstrong seconded Mr Swalwell's suggestion, which put as a motion.

Mr Young thought there was nothing in the agreement specifying the number of children who should be admitted into the Greencroft Schools from the Collierley side.

Mr Clark: The next thing will be as to whether we are not entitled to have a representative on the Greencroft School Board.

Mr Armstrong: Yes.

Mr Swalwell: I should think we are entitled to one. I see the Lamesley people have got one on the Whickham School Board.

The Chairman moved, and Mr Clark seconded, that the Attendance Officer (Mr Beatham) prepare a census for the next Board meeting.

TEACHERS' REPORTS.

Mr W. McQuillen, head-master of the Boys' School, reported the average attendance for the month at 194.9. The attendance had been affected by sickness, particularly towards the end of the month. He would be glad if the Board would provide nine flutes in order to reorganise the band.

Miss [illegible] Dickinson, head-mistress of the Girls' School, reported the average attendance for the month at 196.7. Her department had been visited by H.M. Inspector, Mr W. H. Crompton, on [illegible] 21st. There was a good deal of draught from the doors leading into the various rooms connected with the outside of the building, which she thought could be avoided by fixing india-rubber round the doors.

Miss Ferry, head-mistress of the Infants' School, reported that the average attendance during the month was 145.7. The school was visited on Nov. 30th by Mr Crompton, H.M. Inspector.

CHEQUES.

Cheques were signed for payment for £340, after which the Board arose.

[illegible]e at South Pelaw Colliery

Considerable excitement was aroused in the vicinity of South Pelaw Colliery, Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday night week, on a report being circulated that the pit had fired. As there was a considerable number of men in the pit at the time anxiety for their safety prevailed on all hands, and immediate steps were taken to form a rescue party. Mr. Edward Watson, the local manager, and his staff, were quickly on the scene, as also were Mr Henry Armstrong, J.P., and Mr R. G. Wilson, both of Pelaw Colliery, and there was any number of volunteers for rescue parties. By midnight, or shortly afterwards, Mr T. C. Robson, Redheugh Colliery, and Mr J. Turnbull arrived, followed, after a brief interval, by Messrs W. Walker and Donald Bain, mine inspectors. A descent was made, and an investigation elicited the fact that a petroleum lamp in use at the bottom of the shaft had either been overturned or had exploded. The result was that the whole of the extensive wood work and timbering about the shaft took fire, and huge clouds of choking and blinding smoke were rushed into the workings. The majority of the workmen quickly found that there was something amiss, and without knowing what made at once for the shaft, and for bank. The fire kept gaining ground, and great anxiety was felt for fifteen men who were still in the pit. Rescue parties were formed, and the air courses changed, and one by one the entombed men were brought out in a terribly exhausted state. It was feared that three men had perished, but it turned out that one of them, Robert Williamson, as soon as he found out that something was wrong led the others into the return air course, and thus saved their lives, after many hours of anxiety as to what their ultimate fate would be. Shortly after one o'clock on Thursday morning the last of the fifteen men was brought to bank, amid hearty cheering. After being provided with stimulants and dry clothing at the colliery, the men were taken to their homes in conveyances. At noon the fire was still burning, although the officials considered that they had then got it under control, and as a matter of fact an hour or two later all danger was over. Of the 50 horses and ponies in the pit, and for whose safety little hopes were entertained, only one succumbed. Mr John Wilson, M.P., and Mr. [illegible] Johnson (Durham Miners' Association) visited the pit during the afternoon.

CHESTER-LE-STREET GUARDIANS

A monthly meeting of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians was held on Thursday afternoon last, in the New Board Room,—Mr. J. Humble presiding. There were also present Messrs J. Mitchell, J. W. Brown, W. Norman, T. C. Renwick, J. Tully, F. Harle, J. Emmerson, R. R. Lonsdale, J. H. R. Garson, Geo. Middlemass, J. Sharp, P. Oswald, W. S. Harris, C. J. Banks, G. H. Hornsby, R. B. Purves, T. Richardson, J. W. Patterson, J. Smith, T. Arnell, B. B. Clark, R. Bolam, R. Morris, the Clerk (Mr. R. Dickinson), and the Assistant-Clerk (Mr. R. V. Dickinson.)

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Mitchell said that the regrettable death of Mr. Hodgson left the vice-chair of that Board vacant. He did not think he could do better than to nominate Mr. Humble to fill the position.

Mr. Renwick seconded the nomination, which was unanimously approved of, and Mr. Humble briefly acknowledged the compliment.

Letters from Mrs. Hodgson and Mrs. Henderson thanking the Board for their expressions of sympathy, on the death of their respective husbands, were read, and were ordered to be entered upon the minutes.

PAUPER STATISTICS.

The Workhouse Master (Mr. Aikman) reported that the number of inmates in the House was 154, as against 150 in the corresponding period of last year, representing an increase of four. The number of vagrants was 155, as against 138, showing an increase of 17.

WORKHOUSE NURSERY.

The Clerk read a letter from the Local Government Board assenting to the Guardians expending a sum of £15 on the proposed alteration at the Workhouse Nursery, in addition to the amount of £35 authorised on the 30th of August last.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS WIVES.

The Clerk read a communication from the Poplar Union, with a copy of a resolution for the provision being made out of the National Funds for (1), adequate maintenance for Soldiers' and Sailors' wives and children; (2) adequate maintenance for all disabled Soldiers and Sailors, and (3), adequate maintainance for the widows and orphans of Soldiers and Sailors. It was suggested that Boards of Guardians should join in a petition to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging him to take steps to provide a sufficient sum of money for the purpose from National sources.

Mr. Richardson moved that the resolution be supported and said he thought the Government ought to show their responsibility by making provision that the wives and children should not be dependent on charity.

Mr. Renwick seconded the motion which was agreed to.

OUT DOOR ALLOWANCE.

Mr. Mitchell moved "That this Board do hereby resolve to pay to each adult pauper chargeable to this Union residing out of the Workhouse, the sum of 1s. weekly, and to each child 6d. weekly, for the Christmas and New Year weeks next ensuing, in addition to the ordinary relief they are receiving." He further moved that the relieving officers be authorised to pay the additional relief.

Mr. Renwick seconded the motion which was agreed to.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

Messrs W. Parkin and R. Findlay were reappointed School Attendance Officers for twelve months at a salary of £105 each and 10 per cent for the collection of fines under the Education Act.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE.

For the vacancies caused on the Assessment Committee by the deaths of Messrs Hodgson and Henderson, there were four nominations, namely, Messrs Harle, Renwick, J. W. Bolam, and Sharp. Mr. Harle receiving 19 votes on the first division was declared elected. Messrs Sharp, 11 votes, and Bolam 8, were voted upon a second time, Mr. Renwick only receiving 5. Mr. Sharp was finally elected by 13 votes to 8 cast for Mr. Bolam.

There was no other business before the Board.

CHESTER-LE-STREET HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

An ordinary meeting of the Highways Committee of the Chester-le-Street Rural District Council was held on Thursday morning last in the New Board Room, when there was a fair attendance of members.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr. J. Mitchell said their first duty that day was to elect a chairman, in succession to Mr. H. E. Henderson, whose death they all lamented. He had pleasure in moving that Mr. J. W. Bolam be elected to preside over their proceedings.

The motion having been seconded, was carried unanimously, and Mr. Bolam acknowledged the honour conferred upon him.

It was resolved to send a vote of condolence to the relatives of the late Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. Starford.

COST OF ROAD MAINTENANCE.

Mr. G. W. Ayton, surveyor, stated that it had been reported that the maintenance of the roads in the district generally cost about £100 per mile, whereas in Chester-le-Street, the cost was £200. In consequence of that statement having been circulated he had gone into the facts and figures, and he found that the Chester-le-Street cost was £73 without improvement, and £138 inclusive of everything. For the district the cost without improvement was £56 12s, whilst with improvement it was £72.

AN ALLEGED ENCROACHMENT.

The Committee appointed to consider the alleged encroachment on the highway at the Coach and Horses Inn, Eighton Banks, reported that they had inquired into the matter, and the owner had agreed to put the wall back nine feet.

The report was adopted.

LANGLEY ESTATE RIGHT OF WAY.

A report from a Committee appointed to consider the alleged obstruction of a right of way over the Langley Estate, complained of by the Witton Gilbert Parish Council was submitted. The matter was discussed at a previous meeting, and on the report now submitted it was agreed not to take any action in the matter.

WASHINGTON NEW ROAD.

Correspondence with Messrs Bowes and Partners, Ltd., and Messrs Balfour and Sons, was read as to the terms on which the former were willing to give the necessary land for the formation of the proposed new road from New Washington to Jingling Gate. Plans of the approaches to the new road proposed by Lord Boyne's agent were also submitted.

It was agreed to accept the terms, and to advertise for tenders.

LEVEL CROSSING AT WASHINGTON.

A letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company, stating that Mr. Stobart, Lord Durham's agent, was willing to meet a Committee from that authority, and a representative from the Railway Company, to discuss the question of the protection of the level crossing near Washington Board Schools.

After a short discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the Washington Local Committee.

FOOTBRIDGE AT COXGREEN.

Correspondence was read between the Clerk and the Houghton-le-Spring Rural District Council (Highways Committee), and Messrs Balfour and Sons, with reference to the memorial to the County Council for a contribution towards the cost of the proposed footbridge at Coxgreen.

It was resolved that the memorial be signed and forwarded to the County Council.

PELTON ROADS.

The Clerk (Mr. Chambers) read a letter from the Pelton Parish Council calling attention to the bad state of the roads at Hylton Terrace and Munro's Buildings, and enquiring whether the Highways Committee could do anything in the matter or compel the owners to put the roads in repair.

Some discussion ensued, and it was resolved to reply to the effect that the streets named were private roads and the Clerk was instructed to add that the only way in which to deal with the matter was by adopting the Private Streets Act.

WEST LANE, CHESTER-LE-STREET.

The Clerk read letters from the Secretary of the North-Eastern Railway Co. and Sir Lindsay Wood to the effect that if the Committee would contribute £50 towards the cost of making an archway through the stone-built pier of the railway bridge over West Lane Chester-le-Street, and undertake to maintain the footpath, the Company would carry out the suggested alteration.

A favourable report by the Chester-le-Street Local Committee having been read it was agreed that the work should be done.

WALDRIDGE FELL.

Messrs Booth and Lazenby, Durham, wrote stating that nothing had been done with respect to the fencing off of the road over Waldridge Fell.

The Surveyor said they were busy with the work, and it was resolved to reply to that effect.

The meeting soon after terminated.

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93, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

MEDOMSLEY SCHOOL BOARD

The monthly meeting of this body was held on Thursday night, at the Board-room, Medomsley. Mr. H. Palmer, J.P. (chairman) presided, and there were also present—the Rev. W. Cockin, M.A., Mr. W. R. Cooke, Mr. Wm. Robinson; and the Clerk (Mr. J. H. Coupland.)

NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.

The Chairman intimated that the Clerk had made arrangements for the Board to join the above, in place of the Pupil Teachers Association.

ELECTRICITY.

With respect to the head-master's application for electricity to be put into his house, the Chairman said he need say nothing about the matter just then, owing to what had taken place the previous evening at the meeting of the Parish Council. The question had been referred to a small committee, who would report later on, and then they would see in what position they were placed.

TEACHERS' REPORTS.

Mr. J. W. Daniels reported:—No. on books, 341; admitted, 3; left, 16; average attendance, 280; average percentage 81. The attendance last week was poor, only 76 per cent., and it is about the same this week. The usual progress has been made during the month.

The following are particular of the evening schools:—Chemistry and physics—No. on books, 17; average attendance, 11; geography, 17, 12; arithmetic, 19, 13; writing and composition, 19, 13; shorthand, 21, 17. I beg to suggest that the classes close at the end of January, if we can secure a visit from the Inspector by that time, as all the conditions of the Code will then be fulfilled, and it is our experience that the numbers fall off considerably after the new year. Already there is a fall, and it would be a pity to have the fair attendance of the early part of the session spoiled by that of the latter part, and as a consequence of low average suffer a reduction of grant, as was the case last year. The 17.6 limit is still in existence.

Miss M. J. Watson reported:—No. on books, 191; no. left for the winter, 6; average percentage, 54.7.

EVENING SCHOOLS.

It was decided to hold over the question of the closing of the evening schools until the next meeting.

THE ATTENDANCE.

The Attendance Officer (Mr. M. T. Milburn) reported that there was a lot of sickness in the district, especially measles. The average percentage of attendance for the four schools was 79.

Mr. Robinson said that was only two below the average for the country.

The Chairman pointed out that this was the worst part of the year.

FEE GRANT.

The Chairman said the fee grant had been received from the Department, amounting to £54 15s.

A SOCIAL GATHERING.

The Chairman remarked that they would all probably know that there had been a little gathering at the Westwood Schools the previous day. He was unfortunately not able to be present, but what appeared to be a satisfactory programme had been carried out. The mothers of the children had been invited, and he thought the idea a good one, and he was pleased that Miss Watson had done this.

Mr. Cooke said he was present, and the room was crowded.

APPLICATION FOR ADVANCE.

The Chairman read an application from Mr. Geo. Robson, caretaker of the Westwood Schools, asking for an advance of salary owing to increased work.

Mr. Robinson thought the only thing uncertain with regard to the application was as to the time the schools were enlarged. The caretaker got an increase when the schools were enlarged, although the communication would seem to infer that he did not.

The Chairman was rather inclined to think that there was not sufficient discrepancy between the pay in summer and that in winter. They paid 16/- in summer and 20/- in winter. He would have thought that 14/- and 22/- would have been more like it.

Mr. Cooke suggested that the matter be referred to a small committee to interview the caretaker at the schools, as to the alleged increase of work. He took it that the Board were also not satisfied with the fuel consumed, and the committee might consider this at the same time.

The Chairman said they had practically used a ton of coke per week for the past 10 weeks. He thought Mr. Cooke's suggestion a good one. He would move it as a motion.

Mr. Robinson seconded, and the motion was carried.

The committee appointed was Messrs Cooke, Jamieson, and Hogg.

The Clerk, referring to the fuel, said in these stoves the coke wanted to be broken. It was not broken at the schools.

The Chairman said they were anxious to deal fairly with the caretaker, and pay him the worth of his labour.

FINANCE.

The Chairman said that sums were required for cheques amounting to £95 9s 9d. The balance in the treasurer's hands before the cheques were drawn was £377 11s 6d.

Mr. Robinson: Hear, hear.

This concluded the business.

BILE BEANS FOR CHILDREN

LOSS OF APPETITE CURED.

A LEEDS FATHER'S LETTER.

15, Ward Street, Hunslet, Leeds,
October 7th, 1899.

To the Bile Bean Manufacturing Company.

Gentlemen,—I have lately been trying your Bile Beans for my little boy, who was 10 years old last birthday. He has for some time been suffering from loss of appetite, retching, and sickness, particularly after dinner. I firmly believe they have done him a great deal of good, as he now takes his meals heartily and without any of the unpleasant after-effects from which he suffered before. We commenced with one Bean after dinner, and half at bedtime, and keeping up this regularly, a marked improvement was soon evident in his condition. His health is now all that could be desired. If my little testimonial will do you any good you are quite welcome to use it.

I am, yours truly,
(Signed) W. E. BEST.

Charles Forde's Bile Beans are specially adapted for children, as they are purely vegetable, and their action is very gentle. If your children live in town or city, or through force of circumstances are unable to get that amount of fresh air which is necessary to good health, Charles Forde's Bile Beans for Biliousness are invaluable. They remove the waste matter from the body and keep the digestive organs in good working order. If used at this season of the year they will be found very effective for rheumatism, sciatica, and in breaking up colds and influenza, and ailments such as liver chill, i.e. (coldness in the morning, shivering, cold hands and feet, etc.) Bile Beans are sold by all chemists or can be obtained direct from the London Depot of the Bile Bean Manufacturing Company, 119 and 120, London Wall, on receipt of prices, 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per box.

VOLUNTEER GATHERING AT BLAYDON

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

There was a very large company present at the new Co-operative Hall, Blaydon, on Thursday night, the occasion being the presentation of prizes to the successful competitors in the competition promoted by the Blaydon Company of the 5th V.B. Durham Light Infantry. The spacious hall, capable of sitting nearly a thousand people, was almost filled.

Capt. M. H. Graham occupied the chair, and in his opening statement said that out of 115 men they had 112 efficients, and the average drills put in by them was 40. The musketry figure of merit for the year on the Government returns was 96, and for recruits 98. The recruits figure was exceedingly good; as good, in fact as would be found in most battalions. The figure of merit for the efficients might have been better, and he hoped another year it would be so. They had had great difficulty with their ranges, and had them to alter for the new rifle. They had now practically completed the Blaydon one, but the one at Tyne Dock still needed some alteration. The Government had given a grant of £1,900 towards this. They were very much indebted to Mr. Cowen for the Blaydon range, and he scarcely knew what they would have done without him. The Company had shot with others for the Havelock-Allan Cup, and they were second. The competitions enabled them to practice in field firing with the ball cartridge, which was most essential work for a volunteer. They had that year succeeded in winning the late Colonel Cowen's Cup, which was given to that Company in the Battalion whose attendances was the best, and who had the best figure of merit in the musketry return. The cup and medal presented to them by Mr. Adams had been won by Lance-Corporal March. (Applause.) Mrs. Adams had also presented them with two medals for the recruits, and these had been won by Private Battensby and Private J. Arkless. The lady donor would again present medals next year. The beautiful bowl presented by Mr. R. Deuchar had been won for the first time by Lance-Corporal E. R. Chilton. It became personal property on being won twice in succession or three times in all. They had expected to have been able to make that presentation in a hall of their own, but they had not yet been able to get a suitable site. Before another year they hoped to have a hall suitable for drill. He urged upon those who were eligible to join the company to do so at once, and therefore increase the Government grant. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering, of Axwell Park, then presented prizes to the following:—

Sergt. J. Marley, 47, 1; Pte. R. Chilton, 44, 2; Pte. J. Chilton, 43, 3; Lance-Corpl. G. R. Chilton, 43; Lance-Corpl. W. March, 42; Pte. W. Thompson, 42; Lance-Corpl. W. Brown, 42; Lance-Sergt. W. Gardner, 41; Pte. M. Bell, 41; Sergt. W. March, 39; Pte. J. W. Clark, 39; Pte. R. Davison, 39; Sergt. J. Bates, 38; Capt. M. H. Graham, 38; Pte. D. R. Currie, 38; Pte. C. Higgins, 37; Pte. J. D. Hymers, 37; Color-Sergt. Vallance, 37; Pte. J. Biggers, 35; Pte. J. T. Chapman, 35; Pte. G. Phillipson, 35; Corpl. P. J. Conlon, 34; Pte. W. H. Viner, 34; Pte. J. Hands, 34.

Cup presented by Mrs. Ed. Adams.—Corpl. W. March; Pte. S. Hands, 34; Pte. E. Adams, 33; Pte. J. J. Brass, 32; Pte. G. R. Higgins, 32; Pte. J. Olleman, 31; Pte. T. Daglish, 31; Pte. T. Hands, 31; Pte. W. Hunter, 30; Pte. T. Armstrong, 30; Pte. R. Rescamp, 30.

Recruits.—Pte. E. Battensby, 30; Pte. J. Clark, 26; Pte. R. Battensby, 26; Pte. J. A. Vallance, 25; Pte. W. J. D glish, 25; Pte. J. Arkless, 24; Pte. A. Forster, 24; Pte. W. March, 24; Pte. W. D. Chilton, 23, Pte. J. W. Thompson, 23; Pte. J. W. Hall, 23; Pte. R. Thompson, 23

The following have qualified as "Marksmen":—Lance-Corpl. W. March (best shot in Company), Capt. M. H. Graham, Color-Sergt. T. Vallance, Sergt. T. Bates, Sergt. J. Marley, Lance-Corpl. W. Brown, Lance-Corpl. G. R. Chilton, Pte. R. Chilton, Pte. J. Chilton, Pte. J. W. Clark, Sergt. W. Gardner, Pte. J. Hands, Pte. T. Hands, Pte. W. Thompson, and Pte. J. Ward.

In response to a vote of thanks, the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering expressed his pleasure at being present at such a function. It was of great importance to our country that many more should join the volunteers, and also learn to shoot well. We had a great lesson from our present enemies on this point. They all knew how to shoot well, and if we were to maintain our position, we must also be good shots. Nothing was more important. If we looked back, however, it was wonderful to see what great advancement had been made. He remembered well being present at a function many years ago when an officer, in returning thanks for the army, said there was nothing he should like to see better than the troops armed with breach-loading rifles. Such a speech nowadays would be laughed at. He hoped the patriotic spirit that had been aroused throughout the country would be lasting, and result in thousands coming forward to join the Volunteer movement. (Applause.) The rev. gentleman then referred to his family's close relation to the army, his father having served in the Peninsular War, his eldest brother in India, and his two sons now had commissions. (Applause.) The speaker concluded by wishing success to the officers and men of the Blaydon Company.

During the evening, the following ladies and gentlemen contributed songs, &c.:—Miss Dalton, Miss E. Wilkinson, Pte. W. Nicholson, Messrs Rayne and Waugh, Mr. Mothersall, Miss Bennett, Miss E. Patterson, and the Blaydon Glee Party.

A dance was afterwards held in the hall.

LOCAL PATENTS

The following list is specially compiled by Mr J. A. Harvey, chartered patent agent, 1, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whom all information concerning patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained

APPLICATIONS.

24,578. December 11th, 1899. E. L. Pease and A. B. Pease, Stockton-on-Tees. An improvement in gas holders.

APPLICATIONS COMPLETED AND ACCEPTED.

896. January 14th, 1899. W. Ward, Newcastle-on-Tyne and H. J. Waterston, Sunderland. An improved tube stopper.

PATENTS SEALED.

21,118. October 7th, 1898. H. Simpson, sen., and C. Simpson, jun., Gateshead. Leatherless saddles.

21,119. October 7th, 1898. H. Simpson, sen., and C. Simpson, jun., Gateshead. Hameless collars.

21,121. October 7th, 1898. G. Barker and G. H. Allison, Stockton-on-Tees. An improved self-registering tap for drawing off liquid to measure.

24,338. November 18th, 1898. F. Woollons, Stockton-on-Tees. An improved lid and frame for bunkers.

25,500. December 2nd, 1898. G. W. Sivewright, Hartlepool. Improvements in cattle-stall and like fittings.

Shotley Bridge Floral and Horticultural Society

On Friday evening the annual meeting of the Shotley Bridge Floral and Horticultural Society was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge. Mr. Joe. Eltringham presided over a moderate attendance. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the Chairman read the financial statement, which showed that the receipts amounted to £154 10s 8d, the chief items being the gate money, which amounted to £72, sale of tent, £30, and the subscriptions which brought in £31 0s 6d. The expenditure amounted to £142 18s 1d, leaving a balance in hand of £11 12s 7d. The largest amounts on the expenditure side were £60 7s 10d for prize money, £27 0s 5d, for balance due to the treasurer, and £12 8s for advertising.—The statement was considered to be very satisfactory, and on the motion of Mr. Barclay, was adopted.—The election of officers was next proceeded with, and Mr. J. G. Faber was unanimously re-elected president. The vice-presidents, with one or two exceptions were all re-elected. The committee for the coming year were also re-elected, with the addition of the names of Messrs Bruce, J. H. Brown and J. Gibson. Mr. Barclay was re-appointed hon. treasurer, and the auditors were also re-elected, namely, Messrs Collinson and Wilkinson, while Mr. Coupland was re-elected secretary. After some discussion it was decided that the date of the show next year be August 25th.

How good tempered and rosy your baby is, Mrs Jones! Whatever do you give it? Oh, just one or two of Patrick's Cooling & Teething Powders every week. They are the cheapest and best in the district—only 8d per dozen, from Patrick, Chemist, 5, Front Street, Consett. 369a.

Parliament dissolves by effluxion of time, but Time's flight only adds to the power of disease if means are not taken to eradicate it. Indigestion, stomach and liver complaints especially require urgent treatment, and there are no medicines known which act upon these ailments with such success as Holloway's Pills. These good remedies strengthen the stomach, increase the appetite, and rouse the sluggish liver. For bowel complaints they are invaluable as they remove every primary derangement. They may be used at all times and in all climates by persons affected by biliousness or nausea; for flatulency and heartburn they are specifics. Indeed, no ailment of the digestive organs can resist their purifying and corrective powers.

UNDER ROYAL PATRONAGE.

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MORRELL'S INKS,
(BLUE BLACK WRITING AND COPYING,)
In Patent Screw-stoppered Bottles, with Lip.
BRILLIANT, PERMANENT, AND NON-CORROSIVE.
ALWAYS FLUID. NEVER FADE.

ESTABLISHED 150 YEARS.

Works: 2, Cook's Road, Bow Bridge, London, E.

SALE OF BUSINESS PROPERTY AT CRAWCROOK.

Messrs R. March and Son sold by auction on Thursday afternoon, at the Rising Sun Inn, Crawcrook, the following freehold properties:—Lot 1, a handsome and substantially-built freehold dwelling-house, situate at Crawcrook, and containing eight rooms, with butcher's shop, slaughter-house, stable, byre, and yard, in the occupation of Mr. J. H. Watson; together with a small corner building site closely adjoining, having an acre of 175 square yards or thereabouts, and a frontage of 10 feet 6 inches or thereby to the main road, and lot 2, all the desirable freehold dwelling-house, known as Ivy Cottage, No. 7, Beech Grove Terrace, Crawcrook, containing sitting-room, three bedrooms, kitchen, pantry, and wash-house, in the occupation of Mrs. Ellen Pattinson and Mr. Thomas Harman, at an annual rental of £20 16s. There was a very large company present, and bidding was of a most animated description. For lot 1 the competition was very keen, and the auctioneer, in his request for a bid, was promptly started with £400 by Mr. T. Hammond, and is mediately followed by Mr. P. Fellows at £500, Mr. C. Hall £550, and Mr. Brown £560. At this price an open sale was declared, and the bidding was carried to £720 by Messrs Hall, Brown, Brannen, Johnson, Fisher, and Fellows. The latter gentleman ultimately became the purchaser at the figure mentioned. Lot 2 was set away by Mr. Spence at £100, and the responses continuing to come rapidly from Messrs Johnson, Spence, and Dickinson, until £215 was reached, the latter was declared the purchaser. The solicitors for the vendors were Messrs Chertree and Youll, 18, Grainger Street West, Newcastle.

DUNSTON.

Drunkenness.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Joshua O'Brien and Joseph Wilkinson were each fined 1/- and costs for being drunk and disorderly at Dunston.—Wm. Robinson was fined 2/6 and costs for a like offence.

LINTZ COLLIERY.

Explosion at South Garesfield Colliery.—On Saturday morning, at about four o'clock, an explosion of a gelignite cartridge took place at the above colliery, whereby a young man named Christopher Wilson was seriously injured. It appears that Wilson went to work on Saturday at 2 a.m., and at about 4 a.m. he was found in an unconscious state, lumps of flesh having been blown out of his legs and arms. He was also severely injured about the face and neck. He was at once removed to Newcastle Infirmary. He was unable to give any account about the explosion, and the colliery officials have no idea how it occurred.

TOW LAW.

Tow Law Men at the Front.—From Tow Law, small as it is, there are four in South Africa, namely, Private James Hogshaw, 1st Coldstreams, with Lord Methuen; Private R. Hogshaw (brother of the above), King's Own Scottish Borderers, Buller's force; Private Joseph Kemp (son of the gaswork's manager), 1st Durham Light Infantry, Buller's force, and Private Arthur Horne, of the Royal Army Medical Corps, with Buller's column. Private James Hogshaw has got through without a scratch so far, as his parents got a letter last Saturday, saying he was well, but it was very hot during the day.

Printing of every description, at the lowest possible prices by Robert Jackson, "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates given.

Don't Die in the House.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed bugs, fleas, ants, moles, shipmunks, gophers. 6d and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

"Rough on Corns."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. 6d and 1s bottles.

"Buchu-Paiba."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, indigestion, inflammations. Of Chemists. F. Newbery & Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

"Rough on Rats."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, fleas, bed-bugs, ants, roaches, insects, ground moles, &c. 1/- and 6d boxes.

Printing of Every Description at the lowest possible prices by Robert Jackson, "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates given.

STOP A COUGH IN ONE NIGHT.

Take Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. It stops an ordinary cough in one night, and cures chronic coughs, bronchitis, asthma, catarrh, influenza, and whooping cough rapidly. Its vast superiority over the different emulsions and ordinary cough mixtures cannot be estimated. It has saved thousands of lives after they had been turned out of hospitals. It is a new scientific remedy endorsed by medical men. Ask for Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and see that you get it, price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle (copyright). Sold by all Chemists and Co-op. Stores.

Dales' GOLD MEDAL Dubbin
Is a wonderful waterproofer for BOOTS and HARNESS. Softens and preserves the leather. Pleasant odour, allows polishing with blacking. 17 EXHIBITION HIGHEST AWARDS.
Tins 2d, 4d, 1s, and 2s 6d of Boot Makers, Saddlers, Ironmongers, &c.
Manufactory, Dulwich, London.

OVERTIRED?
Take a Bath to which a little
CONDY'S FLUID
Has been added.
The Invigorating Effect is Magical.
ALL SUBSTITUTES ARE INFERIOR.
Insist on buying "CONDY'S FLUID."
Of all Chemists and Stores at 1/- per bottle.

CONGREVE'S
BALSAMIC ELIXIR
HAS STOOD THE TEST OF MANY YEARS.
Modern Scientific methods have discovered [illegible] remedy so generally efficacious.
New Treatment of Consumption
by Open-Air, Rest, and Overfeeding, whilst useful in many cases, does not change the condition of the majority of patients. Medicine is Required to check the spread of tubercular growth, and to heal the [illegible]
CONGREVE'S
BALSAMIC ELIXIR
has been abundantly proved to produce these effects when regularly and perseveringly taken.
FOR
ASTHMA, in several varieties;
BRONCHITIS, especially in the chronic form;
COUGHS, and common COLDS,
CONGREVE'S ELIXIR.
Sold by all Chemists & Patent Medicine Vendors.
NOTE. The numerous [illegible]
MR. CONGREVE'S BOOK on CONSUMPTION [illegible] Smaller Edition, 6d. from Coombe Lodge, Peckham, London, S.E.

HANDYSIDE'S
CONSUMPTION
CURE

The last marvellous cures of this medicine was the restoration of sight and hearing, but lately still more wonderful cures have been effected. Fully half of the people above sixty are troubled with bladder disease and stoppage of water. The Consumption Cure has proved itself to be a certain cure. This Medicine is sent out without the money on the clear understanding that if it does not do good for Consumption, Cancer, Tumours, Sleeplessness, Debility, Languidness, Indigestion, Blindness, Costiveness, Bladder Diseases, and all other diseases, no money is required. It must be perfectly understood that if the organs of the eyes are defective no cure for blindness need be accepted, but the many thousands of cases of blindness, through weakness of the organisms of the eyes can be obtained. The marvellous cure of blindness at the Sunderland Dispensary was seen by the reporter of the "Jarrow Guardian," and when the lady was restored to the blessings of sight I invited him to see the marvellous results, which he published. Bladder disease has never been cured in the annals of the world, but millions of people have died with it in torturing pain. The person I allude to would have given a fortune to be cured, but no one could hold out any hopes, and the way it was discovered to cure Bladder Disease was he took it for another disease, and to the great astonishment of myself and his doctor he got perfectly well. He ceased to take the Medicine for nine years, and back the disease came, and after again taking the Medicine for a few weeks he is perfectly well. I have been much pressed by many people who have received benefit from it to make the Medicine better known. I intend to do so, and will open out more Dispensaries, where anyone can go and see for themselves cures that have baffled all medical skill. To those who live too far away from the Dispensaries I intend to ask newspaper reporters to visit the Dispensaries, and report upon the marvellous cures the Medicine is making.

HOW TO CURE
RHEUMATISM AND SCIATICA.

Take Handyside's Rheumatic Cure, and rub the part affected twice a day. Care should be taken not to rub too quick to produce friction and bring off the skin. Very little Liniment should be used after the first five minutes' rubbing. When there is little applied to the part affected it removes the invisible scurf, and when all the scurf is removed it must be rubbed until the pain is gone or considerably lessened. Some cases require a full hour's rubbing to get sufficient Liniment rubbed into the part affected. Sometimes one or two rubbings is quite sufficient to cure either Rheumatism or Sciatica, if the patient is below sixty, but if above sixty, and in a malignant form or long-standing it should be rubbed full two hours at a time, and rubbed three times a day. A warm bath should be frequently taken. A good quick walk once or twice a day if able to do so, will be of benefit. Above sixty it is difficult to cure, but when a good deal of time is spent in rubbing, the patient may enjoy life and walk without pain.

BLOOD FOOD

The Blood Food prepared by G. Handyside is unrivalled, being a highly concentrated preparation, for Costiveness, Sleeplessness, Indigestion, and Languidness, but it will not cure cancer, tumours, or bladder disease. It contains no medicine, therefore cannot injure the constitution as other medicines do. If taken according to directions it will add ten years to anyone's life and will enable the patient to retain the bloom of health and the vigour of youth to a very old age.

PILLS

The PILLS prepared by G. Handyside are the best Pills ever discovered for simple diseases. There is nothing like them for Indigestion, Costiveness, Languidness, want of appetite, lowness of spirits, &c. A small sample box will be sent out free of charge carriage paid, to anyone. Take one or two at night and one or two in the morning. A half tumbler of water should be taken after them. They contain no medicine, therefore cannot ruin the constitution as all medicines do. If you cannot get them from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A DOLEFUL
COUNTENANCE.

Is a sure and certain sign that something is going wrong. When a man finds every morning that his top hair is getting thinner, things are not exactly right. If he is a good man he says it is a nuisance. If he is a bad one he swears at his wife, or kicks the dog. It does not grow any better in either case. When a woman finds that every day she brushes her hair back she brings out a handful of hair, it is certain that if she goes on at that rate she will soon have no "back hair" left, and that she will be taking a look at the hair-dressers' windows, and saying, "I wonder how that piece of hair will match mine," (women have a very practical way of looking at things.) But that won't make her own grow again. A man's hair does not differ from a woman's, and Dr. Hoston's Celebrated Hair Fertiliser will make both grow. It produces a plentiful growth of rich and glossy hair, and prevents it turning grey. It contains a large quantity of the materials of which hair is composed, and it thus acts as a fertiliser, causing the hair to grow without drawing on the strength of the individual. Baldness is caused by an affection of the hair follicles, and Dr. Hoston's Hair Fertiliser strengthens these and the roots of the hair, and thus prevents baldness.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, Price 1/3; DOUBLE QUANTITY 2/- Post Free. Order from Sole Agents in Great Britain, SOAMES & Co., 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle, and mention this paper. Bald people, and those who have weak and falling hair, who use Dr. Hoston's Hair Fertiliser, always have afterwards

A CHEERFUL
COUNTENANCE.

How's your Liver? Why I never know I have one now, as I always keep a bottle of Patrick's Medicine by me, and if I feel a little "off," I take a dose, and am soon myself again. Everyone who is ill goes to Patrick, Chemist, 5, Front Street, Consett, who can cure almost any complaint. 371a.

Floriline!—For the Teeth and Breath. Thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, and gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness and a delightful fragrance to the breath. Price 2s 6d for the liquid, or 1s per jar for the Floriline "Powder," of all Chemists and Druggists.

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 then be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism.

ECONOMY. FRUGALITY
WORCESTERSHIRE
HOLBROOK & Co.'s SAUCE. HALF PRICE

HAVE YOU TRIED
PARSONS' "PHLEGMO."
COUGH AND INFLUENZA MIXTURE.
Fortify yourself against the above diseases by taking PARSONS' REMEDY. Prevention is better than cure. See Hundreds of Testimonials from all Classes.
SOLD BY THE PROPRIETOR, G. PARSONS, 1, TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.
The CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY and its Branches.
Agents Wanted where not represented. 419c

BENSON'S Warranted WATCHES
BEST VALUE in THE MARKET, AT MAKER'S CASH PRICES.
In Silver Cases.
£3.10
Just the Watch for British Working Men.
The MARVEL of the 20th CENTURY.
BENSON'S
ENGLISH LEVER.
WE wish the public to buy a Good LONDON-MADE ENGLISH LEVER, instead of common country-made English, Swiss, or American work, and are sure they will find it much cheaper in the long run, hence our introduction of this Watch for those who do not wish to spend more than £3 10s.
The movement is ¾-plate of our best London make, Jewelled in 7 actions. In Massive Sterling Silver, Crystal Glass Cases, £3 10s.
Sent free and safe at our risk, to all parts of the World for cash, or P.O.O.
BENSON'S BOOK of WATCHES from £2 to £500. CLOCKS, CHAINS, ENGAGEMENT RINGS, BROOCHES, PLATE, &c., &c. Post free on application.
In Silver Cases.
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BENSON'S
LEVER WATCHES
can only be excelled by the New English Lever described above. A sound Watch at a very low price. In Sterling Silver, Crystal Glass Cases, price £2. Unequalled by any other Watch sold at the price.
Selections of Watches or Jewellery sent free on receipt of reference.
OLD WATCHES AND JEWELLERY TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.
WATCHES and JEWELLERY sent free by post at our risk to all parts of the World or Cash for Post Office Order.
J. W. BENSON, Ltd.,
H.M. THE QUEEN'S WATCHMAKERS,
THE STEAM FACTORY—
62 & 64, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.
CLOCKS for Presentation Church, School, and Public Buildings.
PARTICULARS POST FREE.
Notice.—Obtainable on "THE TIMES" system of Monthly Payments of £1.
Order Forms Free.

GOLD MEDAL, Health Exhibition, London.
BENGER'S
FOOD for
INFANTS,
INVALIDS, and the AGED.
Benger's Food is sold in Tins by Chemists, &c., everywhere.
DELICIOUS, NUTRITIVE, and DIGESTIBLE.
"Mr. Benger's admirable preparation."
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—London Medical Record.
"Benger's Food has by its excellence established a reputation of its own."
—The British Medical Journal.

To Mothers.—Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething with perfect success. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is pleasant to taste; it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." Of all chemists, 1/1½ per bottle. 731q

The Most Wholesome and nutritious of confections 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.

Man's Noblest Work.—This is an age of great and wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably, the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. Their effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy today who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers, Hoarseness, Croup, or any other affections whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only cure for Throat and Lung affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2/9. Boxes sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. William Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

Every House may shortly be supplied with electric light by a simple piece of mechanism placed over the kitchen chimney, if a new plan of Edison's for generating electricity directly from heat is successful. Thus the poorest person could have the benefit of a useful invention which is now regarded as a luxury only for the comfort of the rich. Mr. Thomas Holloway, however has a greater blessing to humanity than has yet been afforded by the most wonderful discoveries of science. His Pills and Ointment have succeeded in cases where the greatest authorities on medical treatment have failed. Whatever the condition of a patient may be, these medicines will effect a cure if such athing is humanly possible.

BUNN'S ROOT REMEDIES.
MR. F. KELLY SOLE AGENT AND VENDOR.
DEPOT IN WEST STANLEY.
We beg to give Notice that we have decided to appoint one of the oldest and most respected inhabitants of the District, as our sole Agent for North-West Durham. This gentleman can supply exactly the same Real Root Remedies, by means of which we cured 100 of the sick and helpless of County Durham within one year, and thus obtain our Gold Medal. He will sell you that old favourite, the Plain Root Charcoal, at the same old price, namely, Sixpence for Seven Powders. Also a packet of Real Root Laxative for the same small sum. You should have a packet of each sort, and take one of each kind mixed together every morning. Call on him, he would like to see you.
24, TOWNELEY STREET, WEST STANLEY.

WHITE SEWING
MACHINES
ARE WITHOUT DOUBT
THE BEST.
NEW PATENT TENSION.
GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS.

ALL LATEST
IMPROVEMENTS.
SO BEAUTIFULLY FINISH IN EVERY DETAIL.
A CHILD can use it.
OVER A MILLION IN USE.
AGENT:—
W. BEST,
Rosemount, Medomsley Road,
Consett.
830f

Towle's Pennyroyal and 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 (contains three times the quantity), of all Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps, by E. T. Towle & Co., Manufacturers, Dryden Street, Nottingham. Beware of Imitations injurious and worthless. 823a

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

How to Prove a Will.—Without expense—price 6. Will Forms 3d each; Improved Will Forms, with full directions how to fill it up, with printed example, 6d each, at the "Guardian" Office, Front Street, Consett.

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 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

Mrs 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, removing dandruf, 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.

Human Life.—Fifty years record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Diseases and the Preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr. Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D., author of "Patriarchal Longevity Returnable." "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.

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ROOFING SHEETS
— Large quantity of Slightly Defective Sheets.

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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, Ready for use. Prices on application.
Galvanised Ridging, Gutters, and Down Spouting, Nails, Screws, Washers, &c., and all Materials for fixing.
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CONTRACTORS FOR
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DESIGNS AND ESTIMATES FREE.
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THE FAMOUS TYNESIDE HEALER'S
"HUMAN RESTORER"
PILLS
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Are recognised and recommended by Ladies' and Gentlemen to be a perfect cure for Indigestion, Lumbago, Dyspepsia, Kidney and Liver Complaints.
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C. S. Ridley, Merchant, Chester-le-Street.
J. Douthwaite, Chemist, West Stanley. 74a

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At Greatly Reduced Prices to clear. Bargains for all.

GREAT REMOVAL CLEARANCE SALE.

Millinery of all kinds, and Fancy Goods. Ladies' and Children's Outfitting. Millinery and Drapery.

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AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF
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Attends at MR. JONES' 10, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, every MONDAY, from a.m. to 5 p.m.; and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, LONG ROW, STANLEY, every PAY FRIDAY, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.; also, at MRS. HEPBURN'S 8, SOUTH STREET, LANGLEY PARK, every ALTERNATE TUESDAY, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Made with all the Latest Improvements and Best Materials at 5s, 7s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. per Tooth. Can also supply a cheaper Tooth if required. They are retained in the Mouth by Suction, a recent American Invention, without the aid of Springs. OLD SETS REMODELLED OR NEW TEETH ADDED, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new. All Sets made not giving Entire Satisfaction, will be attended to if they call at above Address.

ALL TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN,

By a Recent Discovery, which is Perfectly Harmless, thus avoiding the Danger of the Old System by the use of Chloroform and Gas.

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NORTHFIELD HOUSE WINLATON-ON-TYNE.

ATTENDANCE AT
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Be sure and get to the right Address.
STANLEY every Monday, at Front Street, 1-30 till 5.
The Best English and American ARTIFICIAL TEETH at moderate prices.
TEETH EXTRACTED by a Painless System, 1s.

All operations will be painless, guaranteed, and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or an entire Set made Free of Charge. 96f

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WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

D.G. Has removed into his NEW PREMISES, nearly opposite Old Shop, where he keeps a good selection of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, and Optical Goods of Reliable and Guaranteed Quality.

WATCH AND CLOCK REPAIRS A SPECIALTY, CLOCKS CLEANED AND REPAIRED IN TOWN OR COUNTRY.

SHOP DOOR CLOSED FROM 12-30 TO 1-30 O'CLOCK. 49f

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Are especially requested to look out for the brilliant display
IN
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ALSO,

The Favourite IVORY FLOATING SOAP for Children, 2d and 4d per Tablet.
HAIR, TOOTH, and NAIL BRUSHES.
Choice PERFUMES and TOILET REQUISITES
BRITISH and FOREIGN MINERAL WATERS.
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SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23y
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With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

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

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s to £4 10s.
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HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

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SURGEON DENTIST,
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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. Appointments may be made with Mr. Dobinson, Cooke's Buildings, Annfield Plain. 772b

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GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS.

BEG respectfully to draw attention to their recent Purchases of NEW GOODS for Autumn and Winter Wear. Our Stock of Dress Goods is one of the largest in this district, and Ladies will find a Splendid Range of Goods to select from.
New Black Surah, Morgurette, and Bengaline Silks.
Dress Trimmings, Gloves, Corsets, Umbrellas, and Laces
Wool Shirtings, Flannels, Wool Mixtures, and Blankets of exceptional Value.

DRESSMAKERS, TAILORS, and MILLINERS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

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Of 16, GRAINGER STREET NEWCASTLE,
Attends CONSETT every MONDAY from 1 to 3 o'clock, at
MRS. ELLIOTTS, 9, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
ESTABLISHED 1888. 160v

WILLIAM STRACHAN,
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VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

where he will carry on the above Business in all its Branches, and hopes by strict attention, good workmanship, and moderate charges to meet with liberal support.

Authorised Agent for the WELSBACH INCANDESCENT LIGHTING CO.

A Choice Selection of Gas Fittings of all descriptions, Burners, Mantles, Globes, Chimneys &c. Baths, Washbasins, Beer Pumps, Spirit Taps, and everything connected with the Trade kept in stock.

FARMERS BEFORE ORDERING THEIR SEEDS will do well to examine **HOBSON'S**

LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF THE VERY BEST

CLOVERS, GRASS, & TURNIP SEEDS.
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PIANOS. PIANOS. ORGANS. ORGANS.

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W. E. WARDILL'S,
The COUNTY MUSIC WAREHOUSE,
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Wardill's Genuine International Gold Medal PIANOS are admired by all the leading Musicians of the Country. His Stock comprises Pianos by all the leading makers such as Collard and Collard, Haake, Scheidmayer, Justin Browne, Sames, Neiber, Challim and Sons, Chappell and Co., &c., &c. Organs by Mason and Hamlin, Packard, Estey, Sames, and many others too numerous to mention.

Call and hear the celebrated Haake Piano for which W. E. Wardill holds the sole agency.

Please note our easy payment system is by far the most equitable. He has never been known to take undue advantage of any of his numerous customers.

Being a large Importer of Foreign Musical Instruments, he is able to offer such bargains as cannot be equalled in England; also, being a Wholesale Dealer, Cash Customers have exceptional advantages. All who are thinking of buying a Piano or Organ will do well to look through his Stock before purchasing. No pressure will be put upon you to buy.

PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESSES—
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NEWCASTLE.

NOTICE.

Advertisements of Wants, To Lets, For Sales, Public Notices, Sales by Auction, &c., &c., will be found on Page 2.

Blackhill and District Institutes' Billiard Tournament.

Review of the Proceedings Up-to-date.

How the Institutes Stand.

[BY "IVORY THE SECOND."]

Although the "Consett Guardian" has not up to the present commented upon the various Institutes' doings in this season's Tournament it has nevertheless from time to time laid hold of all results, and now that the fixture card calls "half-time" I think it opportune to put these results before you "en bloc." First, a table shewing full totals and position of each Institute; then, the weekly games from which this table has been compiled.

TABLE.

	P.	W.	L.	Scores For	Scores Agst	Avg.
Stanley	42	28	14	3906	2979	93
Consett Town Hall	42	30	12	3881	3340	92·4
Blackhill	42	26	16	3860	3353	91·9
Allendale Cottages	42	21	21	3591	3640	85·5
Shotley Bridge	42	21	21	3564	3580	84·85
Leadgate League	42	17	25	3428	3843	81·61
Leadgate Guild	42	17	25	3412	3849	81·23
Derwent Cottages	42	8	34	2932	3990	69·8
				28574	28574	

Stanley players worked themselves into second place on the third week's play, and the following week mounted top, where they still stand. The leaders and runners-up have been as follows:—

	Leaders.	Runners-up.
First week	Shotley	Blackhill
Second week	Allendale	Blackhill
Third week	Blackhill	Stanley
Fourth week	Stanley	Blackhill
Fifth week	Stanley	Town Hall
Sixth week	Stanley	Blackhill
Seventh week	Stanley	Town Hall

FIRST WEEK.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE v. DERWENT COTTAGES.

J. W. Foster	100	A. C. Blunt	70
J. Carr	100	G. Walton	72
F. Cole	100	J. W. Sanderson	55
J. Birrell	100	J. Barron	87
J. Henry	100	T. Leathard	53
E. Newbiggen	100	L. McTaggart	65
	600		401

CONSETT TOWN HALL v. STANLEY.

F. McNally	73	W. Long	100
J. Merritt	100	G. Bird	72
W. Smurthwaite	87	C. Pringle	100
H. Wood	100	J. Smith	85
W. Elliott	100	W. Rose	86
G. Turner	58	J. Maggison	100
	488		543

LEADGATE LEAGUE v. BLACKHILL.

E. Batey	82	M. Hobday	100
F. McDonald	86	J. Barrow	100
J. Matthews	100	T. Gaughan	93
J. Monaghan	100	T. Gallaghar	85
P. Daly	53	W. Atkinson	100
P. Matthews	56	C. Merritt	100
	477		578

ALLENDALE v. LEADGATE GUILD.

T. Young	88	J. Kershaw	100
R. Ashby	100	F. Lockey	93
G. Walton	84	J. S. Jopling	100
W. Egglestone	100	J. E. Kinleside	85
L. Kelly	100	H. Makepeace	84
J. Page	91	C. O. Todd	100
	558		562

SECOND WEEK.

STANLEY v. SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

J. Smith	100	J. W. Foster	63
W. Long	100	F. Cole	98
J. Maggison	100	J. Carr	18
G. Bird	100	J. Henry	91
W. Rose	82	J. Birrell	100
C. Pringle	92	E. Newbiggen	100
	574		470

BLACKHILL v. CONSETT TOWN HALL.

T. Gaughan	100	H. Wood	84
M. Hobday	70	F. McNally	100
W. Atkinson	97	J. Merritt	100
C. Merritt	100	S. Aynsley	81
T. Gallagher	99	J. Collinson	100
J. Barrow	89	W. Elliott	100
	555		565

LEADGATE GUILD v. LEADGATE LEAGUE.

J. Kershaw	99	F. McDonald	100
C. Todd	100	R. Cheesmond	81
F. Lockey	95	J. Matthews	100
H. Makepeace	100	J. Monaghan	86
T. R. Wilson	50	P. Daly	100
J. S. Jobling	100	P. Matthews	55
	544		522

DERWENT COTTAGES v. ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

A. C. Blunt	41	R. Ashby	100
G. Walton	37	G. Walton	100
J. W. Sanderson	58	W. Beck	100
T. Leathard	100	C. Kemp	91
J. Barron	87	L. Kelly	100
C. Campbell	85	W. Egglestone	100
	408		591

THIRD WEEK.

CONSETT TOWN HALL v. LEADGATE GUILD.

J. Merritt	100	C. Todd	47
F. McNally	100	J. E. Kinleside	71
H. Wood	100	F. Lockey	92
G. Turner	90	H. Makepeace	100
W. Elliott	100	J. S. Jopling	91
W. Smurthwaite	68	J. Kershaw	100
	558		501

LEADGATE LEAGUE v. DERWENT COTTAGES.

R. Cheesmond	100	J. W. Sanderson	63
F. McDonald	100	T. Leatherd	95
J. Matthews	100	J. Curley	70
T. Ward	79	J. Barron	100
P. Matthews	91	G. Campbell	100
A. McGurk	100	A. C. Blunt	87
	563		515

ALLENDALE v. STANLEY.

G. Walton	56	W. Long	100
J. Longstaff	68	J. Maggison	100
R. Ashby	81	C. Pringle	100
J. Page	81	W. Clark	100
A. White	100	W. Barker	92
W. Egglestone	38	W. Rose	100
	434		592

SHOTLEY BRIDGE v. BLACKHILL.

J. Carr	74	T. Gaughan	100
F. Cole	100	W. Atkinson	84
E. Newbiggen	73	C. Merritt	100
J. Henry	54	T. Gallagher	100
J. W. Foster	52	M. Hobday	100
J. Birrell	88	J. Barrow	100
	441		584

FOURTH WEEK.

DERWENT COTTAGES v. CONSETT TOWN H.

J. Pattinson	68	W. Elliott	100
J. Curley	62	F. McNally	100
G. Campbell	87	H. Wood	100
L. McTaggart	44	J. Collinson	100
J. Barron	52	J. Merritt	100
A. C. Blunt	100	G. Turner	58
	413		558

STANLEY v. LEADGATE LEAGUE.

W. Long	100	F. McDonald	95
W. Rose	81	R. Cheesmond	100
W. Clark	100	E. Batey	64
C. Pringle	100	J. Matthews	75
J. Maggison	100	P. Matthews	14
J. Smith	100	P. Daly	43
	581		389

BLACKHILL v. ALLENDALE.

T. Gaughan	58	G. Walton	100
M. Hobday	82	R. Ashby	100
J. Barrow	100	J. Longstaff	93
W. Atkinson	100	L. Kelly	63
T. Gallagher	78	W. Egglestone	100
T. Atkinson	100	J. Page	91
	519		547

LEADGATE GUILD v. SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

J. Kershaw	53	J. Carr	100
H. Makepeace	77	F. Cole	100
F. Lockey	60	J. Henry	100
J. S. Jobling	88	J. Birrell	100
T. R. Wilson	56	J. W. Foster	100
C. Todd	75	E. Newbiggen	100
	415		600

FIFTH WEEK.

DERWENT COTTAGES v. LEADGATE GUILD.

A. C. Blunt	100	J. Kershaw	84
J. Barron	89	F. Lockey	100
J. Pattison	94	H. Makepeace	100
J. Anderson	100	C. Todd	55
J. Curley	73	J. E. Kinleside	100
G. Campbell	71	J. S. Jobling	100
	580		539

STANLEY v. BLACKHILL.

C. Pringle	100	T. Gallagher	50
W. Clark	100	M. Hobday	78
W. Long	100	T. Gaughan	93
W. Barker	80	W. Atkinson	100
J. Smith	48	C. Merritt	100
J. Maggison	100	J. Barrow	56
	528		477

CONSETT TOWN HALL v. SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

W. Elliott	100	F. Cole	69
J. Collinson	100	J. Birrell	57
J. Merritt	100	J. Carr	79
F. McNally	100	J. W. Foster	52
S. Aynsley	100	E. Newbiggen	58
H. Wood	100	J. Henry	98
	600		413

LEADGATE LEAGUE v. ALLENDALE.

P. Matthews	72	J. Longstaff	100
F. McDonald	56	G. Walton	100
E. Batey	100	R. Ashby	55
P. Daly	41	W. Egglestone	100
J. Matthews	100	L. Kelly	57
R. Cheesmond	100	A. White	96
	469		508

SIXTH WEEK.

BLACKHILL v. DERWENT COTTAGES.

M. Hobday	100	J. W. Sanderson	76
T. Gaughan	100	J. Anderson	56
C. Merritt	100	J. Curley	27
E. Lennox	100	G. Campbell	61
W. Atkinson	100	A. C. Blunt	45
J. Barrow	100	J. Barron	67
	600		363

LEADGATE GUILD v. STANLEY.

J. E. Kinleside	100	T. Kilgallon	74
J. S. Jopling	84	J. Meggison	100
F. Lockey	100	W. Clark	89
J. Kershaw	88	C. Pringle	100
H. Makepeace	47	J. Smith	100
T. W. Hanson	100	W. Long	86
	419		549

ALLENDALE COTTAGES v. CONSETT TOWN H.

R. Ashby	100	J. Merritt	70
G. Walton	58	S. Aynsley	100
J. Longstaff	26	W. Elliott	100
W. Egglestone	100	H. Wood	67
A. White	60	F. McNally	100
L. Kelly	[illegible]	J. Collinson	98
	443		535

SHOTLEY BRIDGE v. LEADGATE LEAGUE.

F. Cole	100	T. Ward	47
E. Newbiggen	57	P. Matthews	100
J. W. Foster	74	F. McDonald	100
J. Henry	100	R. Cheesmond	98
J. Garnett	100	P. Daly	70
J. Birrell	72	J. Matthews	100
	505		515

SEVENTH WEEK.

DERWENT COTTAGES v. STANLEY.

A. C. Blunt	78	J. Maggison	100
J. Barron	100	W. Clark	63
G. Campbell	44	R. Murphy	100
J. Anderson	100	C. Pringle	74
J. Pattison	21	J. Smith	100
L. McTaggart	19	W. Long	100
	312		[illegible]

BLACKHILL v. LEADGATE GUILD.

T. Gaughan	100	J. Kershaw	43
J. Barrow	87	J. E. Kinleside	100
W. Atkinson	100	F. Lockey	62
M. Hobday	100	T. W. Hanson	73
C. Merritt	100	H. Makepeace	54
E. Lennox	90	J. S. Jobling	100
	547		432

CONSETT TOWN HALL v. LEADGATE LEAGUE

J. Collinson	100	P. Daly	41
J. Merritt	100	R. Cheesmond	93
W. Elliott	100	J. Matthews	99
H. Wood	82	F. McDonald	100
S. Aynsley	100	E. Batey	82
F. McNally	100	P. Matthews	59
	582		473

SHOTLEY BRIDGE v. ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

J. Garnett	84	R. Ashby	100
J. Birrell	100	G. Walton	77
J. W. Foster	72	J. Longstaff	100
J. Henry	79	W. Egglestone	100
E. Newbiggen	100	A. White	84
F. Cole	100	M. Walton	30
	535		491

In preference to making observations separately on the above-mentioned games, which include all sorts of endings from close shaves to to hollow lickings, I have worked out each individual performance in total, shewing through whom and how an Institute takes it allotted place in the tables. Appended is the list:—

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES.

STANLEY VICTORIA.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
J. Maggison	7	7	0	700	278	422	
C. Pringle	7	5	2	668	501	167	
J. Smith	6	4	2	533	374	154	
W. Long	7	6	1	686	532	159	
R. Murphy	1	1	0	100	44	56	
W. Clark	5	3	2	452	421	31	
W. Rose	4	1	3	349	338	11	
G. Bird	2	1	1	172	191	0	19
T. Kilgallon	1	0	1	74	100	0	26
W. Barker	2	0	2	172	200	0	28
	42	28	14	3906	2979	1000	73

The position of Stanley at the head of affairs is in a great measure due to a youth named Maggison, the mere mention of whose name damps the ardour of all contestants, and a confirmation of the rumour that he shortly leaves the district would be welcomed by seven of the eight institutes, as sincerely as news of Ladysmith's relief. Not only has he won every game, but the average score against him is only a paltry 39.71 per game. Charles Pringle is about as pretty a cuist as I have seen in the district, and, although scarcely up to his standard of a few years ago, has materially helped in reducing other teams' aggregate. J. Smith follows closely with a very similar performance, as does W. Long, who maintains the form so often commented upon last season. Only once has he knuckled under, and then by but 14 points. "Well played, Walter!" W. Clark's last game rather marred a hitherto first-class performance. However, he hauled in points on the whole. I scarcely know what to say about W. Rose, whose manipulation of the balls is superb, yet we find him on the losing side three times out of four. The result is that the Stanley selection committee has thought fit to give him a rest. Any cuists repeatedly playing a losing game—against palpably inferior opponents—with ulterior motives, is not for our tournament.

The remaining players who have played in odd games cannot boast of a credit balance excepting R. Murphy. His single game yields the large gain of 56 points. This team is infinitely superior to that of last season, and a stiff task is in front of any other would-be champions.

CONSETT TOWN HALL.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
F. McNally	7	6	1	673	473	200	
W. Elliott	7	7	0	700	527	173	
J. Collinson	6	4	1	498	340	158	
J. Merritt	7	6	1	670	540	130	
S. Aynsley	4	3	1	381	298	83	
H. Wood	7	4	3	633	648		19
W. Smurthwaite	2	0	2	120	200		80
G. Turner	3	0	3	206	300		94
	42	30	12	3,881	3,340	744	202

Throughout the piece last season Frank McNally stood first for his old Institute, Consett Irish, and now we find him in a similar position for the one surviving Consett organisation. Truly, he is a man of grit. W. Elliott, however, is virtually entitled to premier honours having annexed every point possible, and only being second to McNally on the ground of majority over opponents. After leaving Elliott off the list last year the Town Hall selection committee ought to be doubly grateful to him now. He is an old soldier at the game, and the right man to get his team out of a fix. J. Merritt is another class player who has faced the music in very confident style, and winds up with an aggregate just about equal to McNally's. Harry Wood fares worst of the full-timers, having lost points. Doubtless he finds the standard of play against him to be somewhat higher than a year ago. Of the players partaking in less than seven games John Atkinson—a veteran—possesses a grand line of figures, and I venture to say that many Consett people are sorry he has not played throughout. Stephen Aynsley introduced his customary dash into four games, and only failed to annex points on one occasion, which is excusable when we remember he faced the Blackhill crack. Steve should now have a permanent place on the team. W. Smurthwaite—from whom big things were expected—and G. Turner failed to stand the strain and, in consequence, will probably not be heard of very frequently in the second half.

This team although minus several last-year's heroes in R. Foster, J. Burnett, and J. W. Bryant, will be in the vicinity when the cup is won. On the whole they are a stronger lot than before.

BLACKHILL MECHANICS.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
C. Merritt	6	6	0	600	339	261	
W. Atkinson	7	5	2	681	503	178	
T. Gaughan	7	4	3	645	587	58	
M. Hobday	7	4	3	628	583	45	
E. Lennox	2	1	1	190	162	28	
J. Smith	6	4	2	553	374	159	
T. Atkinson	1	1	0	100	91	9	
J. Barrow	7	4	3	604	634		30
T. Gallagher	5	1	4	412	454		42
	42	26	16	3,860	3,353	579	72

Charles Merritt must be well satisfied with himself just now, and has every reason to be, for a majority of 261 over six games proves that he has not belied his great reputation. He was unavoidably prevented from fulfilling one of the fixtures. W. Atkinson is as good as ever—dropping only 19 points, and these against the tournament's best class. Michael Hobday has held his own, but occasionally we find him in indifferent form, hence a falling away from last year's figures. However, his large experience will tell in the long run. John Barrow's debit balance is due to two big whackings, thanks to Stanley and Leadgate Guild. We can account for the first, but will require to communicate with the postmaster about the other. Thomas Gaughan has justified his selection, and is really the most promising local youngster. He has good nerve, free style, and tremendous reach, the latter propensity aiding him when players of average reach would requisition the obnoxious "rest." Another youth—Thomas Gallagher—made his "debut" in tournament vicissitudes, and his position at bottom of the list is entirely due to the "draw" on various occasions. He was unfortunate enough to meet "Tartars" at every turn, and thus his downfall, which is now irretrievable as business demands his services in another town. This lad would certainly have done credit to Blackhill in the end. E. Lennox and T. Atkinson call for special mention, from the fact that as emergency men they have gathered grist to the mill. Blackhill team appears to be short of available reserves, and I think that the names of Joseph Askew and Jacob Siddell should have remained on the list, even though business or other matters interfered with constant participation. One of the two could surely have arranged to fill a gap now and then, but then they and their Institute settle the matter, not I.

This team will also be within speaking distance when the trophy is once more located.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
W. Egglestone	7	6	1	638	555	83	
R. Ashby	7	5	2	636	570	66	
W. Beck	1	1	0	100	58	42	
G. Walton	7	3	4	575	552	23	
C. Kemp	1	0	1	91	100		9
T. Young	1	0	1	88	100		12
L. Kelly	5	3	2	450	469		19
J. Page	3	0	3	263	300		37
A. White	4	1	3	339	382		53
M. Walton	1	0	1	30	100		70
J. Longstaff	5	2	3	386	444		58
	42	21	21	3,591	3,640	214	263

The fact of this old standing team having to call up eleven of their twelve registered players at the present stage undoubtedly explains why they are such a bad fourth on the list, but after the holidays I expect they will buck-up, and if not win, then near it same as last year. Only three players have participated in all games, viz., Egglestone, Ashby, and Walton, all of whom are credited with majorities, although not to any enormous extent. William Egglestone's only defeat at the hands of the "Ross mystery" was severe, otherwise his record might have revealed double the number of points gained, still I find him short of old form, a return of which would be welcomed by his friends, in the second stage. R. Ashby and G. Walton are still equal to the task of shewing up well against all comers, but J. Longstaff leaves a lot to be desired. An average of 77½ on five games is not a fair sample of his ability; probably he will see that this is improved upon later on. The youth Lewis Kelly claims an average of 90, and this is about as good as anything on his side. He is well worth retaining as a regular Allendaler. None of the remaining players have done anything extraordinary excepting W. Beck, and it is surprising that we have not heard of him more than once when the result of this game is remembered.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
J. Cole	7	5	2	657	483	174	
J. Garnett	2	1	1	184	170	14	
J. Henry	7	3	4	622	616	6	
J. Birrell	7	4	3	617	634		17
E. Newbiggen	7	4	3	588	616		28
J. Carr	5	2	3	371	425		54
J. W. Forster	7	2	5	515	626		111
	42	21	21	3,564	3,580	194	210

I must congratulate this Institute, possessed of a billiard table only some few months, on its excellent position in the table. A record equal to Allendale is the result of venture number one. Frank Cole has contributed largely to this, and although twice defeated is only 33 points short of the highest number obtainable. In point of majorities he stands alone for his club and is calculated to duplicate this performance in the next two months. Of the other four players who have been regularly engaged we find J. Henry only with a gain, but J. Birrell follows him very closely on aggregate score. I should set these two off a mark and classify them above the average tournament exponent. E. Newbiggen comes next with a fair show; but four games won, should, we think, have produced more points for than against. J. Carr is an able exponent, and we can duly account for his lowly position by saying that he fell against "class in form." J. W. Forster brings up the rear rather unexpectedly, when we remember that he is a seasoned player on whom the stress of competition games should have no deterring effect, however, there is yet time for redemption.

I predict that this team will finish almost as near the top as bottom.

LEADGATE LEAGUE OF THE CROSS.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
J. Matthews	7	5	2	674	617	57	
R. Cheesmond	6	3	3	672	640	32	
A. McGurk	1	1	0	100	87	13	
J. Monaghan	2	1	1	186	185	1	
F. McDonald	7	4	3	635	652		17
E. Batey	4	1	3	328	355		27
T. Ward	2	0	2	117	200		83
P. Daly	6	1	5	367	550		183
P. Matthews	7	1	6	449	657		208
	42	17	25	3,428	3,843	103	518

James Matthews' marked improvement towards the close of last winter has evidently been continued, as against strong opposition he is only 26 points short of a possible 700. A comparison may here be made. Twelve months ago he figured at the bottom with a sorry record, and his brother P. Matthews occupied first place 73 points to the good; now the tables are turned with a vengeance; however, we expect Paddy yet to wipe off that 208 points minority. A new introduction—R. Cheesmond—has justified his inclusion amongst the regulars, and in fact is the only consistent supporter of Matthews. Frank McDonald has almost held his own after going the full distance, but Secretary Daly's six games are somewhat expensive. E. Batey in four times out cannot be said to have let his team down to any great extent. J. Monaghan took part in the two first games, and did so well that I cannot refrain from expressing surprise at his sudden retirement. Then again, we have another war-horse, James McGee, who is not even registered. Why so?

This team has a record almost identical with their fellow townspeople, the Guild, and a rare tussle for supremacy should ensue.

LEADGATE GUILD.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
J. E. Kinleside	5	3	2	456	404	52	
J. S. Jobling	7	4	3	613	600	13	
T. W. Hanson	2	1	1	173	186		13
F. Lockey	7	2	5	608	671		63
T. R. Wilson	2	0	2	106	200		94
C. O. Todd	5	2	3	377	472		95
H. Makepeace	7	3	4	563	670		108
J. Kershaw	7	2	5	517	646		127
	42	17	25	3,412	3,849	65	502

Twelve months ago J. E. Kinleside had played the same number of games as above, but with entirely different results. It is a case of the last shall be first. He has this season played with great consistency and fully merits the capital average of 93. J. S. Jopling continues to be one of the Guild mainstays, and is not to be trifled with by the best of opponents. Fred Lockey, H. Makepeace, and Jack Kershaw all possess adverse results, and cannot be said to have improved on last season. Considering however, that Lockey has an average of 86.85, after being beaten five times, we can conclude he must have hung on to his adversaries till the last. Kershaw's first three games gave promise of him heading the list, but subsequent fixtures find him woefully behind. C. O. Todd also opened out in smart fashion, which, however, he eventually failed to sustain. T. R. Wilson is dead off, and now lies low, waiting a return of form. The Rev. T. W. Hanson's couple of games yield an average of 86.5, and we will doubtless hear of him again. He accomplished a great feat in overcoming the hitherto invincible W. Long.

As previously suggested this team and their neighbours, the League, promise to have an exciting run for superiority.

DERWENT COTTAGES.

	P.	W.	L.	Total For	Total Agst	Gn	Ls
J. Anderson	3	2	1	286	231	55	
T. Leatherd	3	1	2	247	291		
J. Barron	7	2	5	575	633		58
G. Walton	2	0	2	109	200		91
J. Pattison	3	0	3	183	300		117
G. Campbell	6	1	5	449	593		144
J. W. Sanderson	4	0	4	252	400		148
J. Curley	4	0	4	232	400		168
A. C. Blunt	7	2	5	471	642		171
L. McTaggart	3	0	3	128	300		172
	42	8	34	2,932	3,990	55	1,113

It was scarcely expected that a small place like "The Cottages" would for the first season occupy any other position than near the bottom as their players are for the most part yet to make. I understand, however, that out of their present membership a stronger list could have been registered, and it is to be hoped that such players will be in evidence another year. Joe Barron and the Rev. A. C. Blunt have come forward each week, winning a similar number of games, but Barron's aggregate is much the better, and I consider him the best player of the village team. J. Anderson heads the poll with a really creditable total on three games. He is one of these left-handers to be dreaded now and then.

The winning players have all met with a majority of downfalls, but their improvement is just a matter of time.

COMPARISONS.

The above heavy list of players shews us that most teams have waded well through their registered batch in search of the best, none having found the six first tried to be suitable or available, as the case may have been, week by week. This is only to be expected to some extent, where a leisure-hour-pastime is concerned, but still, after a season's experience, I thought the old teams would have had less shuffling of men, yet not so. Let us compare numbers:—

	Last Season.	This Season.
Blackhill	6	8
Allendale	7	11
Consett Town	8	8
Leadgate League	8	9
Stanley	9	10
Leadgate Guild	11	8
	48	54
Consett Irish	10	—
Shotley Bridge	—	7
Derwent Cottages	—	10

OTHER COMPARISONS.

While there is a difference in the number of participants between the winter of a year ago and the present one, we also find many changes in the names, notably at Consett, where the Town Hall people only turn out one old player. Other teams have made changes, though on a lesser scale. The following tabulation will show the number of players per Institute who took part in the first half of last season's tournament as well as the present. Their name may be easily traced by those tolerably well versed:—

Leadgate Guild	7
Allendale	6
Leadgate League	5
Stanley	4
Blackhill	4
Town Hall	1

AFTER-THOUGHTS.

Several players have done excellent work for their rooms, and a few of the best deserve a special line each:—

	P.	S.	M.	A.
J. Meggison (Stanley)	7	700	422	100
C. Merritt (Blackhill)	6	600	261	100
W. Elliott (Consett)	7	700	173	100
J. Collinson (Consett)	5	498	158	99.6
W. Long (Stanley)	7	686	154	98
W. Atkinson (Blackhill)	7	681	178	97.2
J. Matthews (League)	7	674	57	96.4
F. McNally (Consett)	7	673	200	96.1
J. Merritt (Consett)	7	670	130	95.7
C. Pringle (Stanley)	7	668	167	95.4
F. Cole (Shotley)	7	667	174	95.2
J. E. Kinleside (Guild)	5	456	52	91.2
W. Egglestone (Allendale)	7	638	83	91.1
R. Ashby (Allendale)	7	636	66	90.8
J. Anderson (Derwent Cott.)	3	286	55	[illegible]

Meggison is a bit above the class he is playing in. This I can safely assert without consulting a specialist. He holds the highest break (51), which may yet be topped, but I fancy not—except by himself. Talking of breaks, there have been numerous compilations of 20 and thereabouts, but few exceeding 30, in fact only two contestants can boast of reaching the latter figure, first, the modest George Walton, of Allendale, next the redoubtable William Atkinson, of Blackhill, who sooner or later always asserts himself in this respect. Of course we except Meggison, who, besides the afore mentioned 51, has run up 30 and 31; however, as this is common to him, it needs nothing more than mere mention.

In conclusion, I must add that the Tournament continues to be carried out in the spirit intended, and is undoubtedly a boon to all concerned.

INTERESTING WEDDING AT CASTLESIDE.

A very interesting and pretty wedding took place at Castleside on Tuesday last, when Miss Isabella Ripley, eldest daughter of Mr J. Ripley, Castleside, and Mr J. T. Allan, of Ryhope, were married at the P.M. Church. The wedding caused great interest, and when the bridal party arrived the Church was packed with friends of the bride and bridegroom. The service was fully choral, and when the bride entered the church, accompanied by her father, the organist, Mr Pallister, played "The Festive March," and at the conclusion, Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." The hymns, "The voice that breath'd o'er Eden" and "Saviour let Thy sanction be," were also sung. The bride wore a dress of grey silk nun's veiling, trimmed with chiffon, white satin ribbon, and orange blossom, with a hat to match, with white plumes and osprey tip, and she carried a shower bouquet. The bridesmaids wore dresses of grey cord, trimmed with white silk and watered silk sashes, with hats to match. The bridesmaids were Misses N. Ripley and F. Ripley (sisters of the bride), Miss B. Allan (sister of the bridegroom), and Miss W. Fleming. Mr J. Ripley (brother of the bride) was "best man," and his brother, Mr T. Ripley, was groomsman. After the ceremony, the bridal party were photographed, and then the guests were entertained to tea in the schoolroom adjoining the church. Among those present at the wedding were:—Mr W. Ripley, Mr and Mrs Wade (Consett), Mr W. Raine (Cotherstone), Miss Harrison (Wearhead), Mr and Mrs Thompson (Castleside), Mr and Mrs E. Lee (Castleside), Misses Carruthers (Castleside), Mrs Storey (Muggleswick), Mr and Mrs Moody (Castleside), Miss Watson (Wearhead), Mr and Mrs Fleming (Castleside), Miss Westgarth (Tow Law), Mr and Mrs T. Raine (Castleside), Miss Oliver, Mrs W. Pattinson, Mrs R. Jewitt, Mrs Lee, Miss Forster (Mosswood), Miss Jewitt, Miss Raine, Miss Pattinson, Miss E. Pattinson, Misses Muse, Mr Pattinson, Mr and Mrs J. W. Golightly, Mr W. Watson (Gateshead), Misses Stephenson, Mr G. Stephenson, Mr Jas. Stephenson, Miss Dawson (Frosterley), Mr and Miss Reed (Waskerley), P.C. and Mrs Hadwin, and Miss S. Davison. The following is a list of the wedding presents:—

Bridegroom to bride, gold curb bangle.

Bridegroom to bridesmaids, gold dress rings.

Bridegroom to little bridesmaids, gold brooches.

Bride to bridegroom, gold studs and links.

Father of the bride, a handsome present.

Mother of the bride, bed and linen.

Mr. J. A. Ripley (brother of the bride), china tea set.

Mr G. T. Ripley (brother of the bride), silver tea service.

Mr W. A. Ripley (brother of the bride), bed rug and tablecloth.

Miss E. A. Ripley (sister of the bride), picture.

Miss F. M. Ripley (sister of the bride), tablecloth.

Mr Allan, Ryhope, tea urn.

Miss M. Allan, Ryhope, decanter, two vases and two glasses.

Mrs Allan, Ryhope, white quilt, plush tablecloth, and set of jugs, etc.

Miss Allan, Ryhope, plush mantle cover.

Mr Allan, Ryhope, brass candle sticks and ornaments and photos.

Miss Smith, Ryhope, artificial flowers.

Mr E. D. Wilkie, Ryhope, fretwork clock.

Mr and Mrs G. Harrison, Ryhope, sugar basin and milk jug.

Mr and Mrs Harrison, Wearhead, counterpane and silk scarf.

Mrs Hodgson, Wearhead, cigar holder.

Miss Harrison, Wearhead, mantle board cover.

Miss Watson, Wearhead, beautiful worked cushion.

Mr and Mrs Fleming, Castleside, lamp.

Misses Carruthers, Castleside, silver jelly dish and spoon.

Mr and Mrs J. G. Raine, Castleside, fancy vases.

Mr and Mrs S. Thompson, Castleside, silver butter knife.

Mr and Mrs Wallis, The Vicarage, Castleside, scent case.

Mr and Mrs Wade, Consett, cushion and cigar bracket.

Mr and Mrs Muse and Family, Castleside, case of silver.

Mr Scott, The Sycamores, Rowley, dessert dish.

Mr H. Wanless, Wolverhampton, hand-painted opal.

Mr J. C. Raine, Hisehope, musical album.

Mr J. Pearson, Bishop Auckland, bronze horses.

Mr and Mrs Stephenson, Healeyfield House, cake stand.

Mr Jas. Stephenson, Healeyfield House, silver butter cooler.

Mr G. Stephenson, Healeyfield House, bamboo gipsy table.

Miss F. Stephenson, Healeyfield House, silk tray cloth.

Mrs. Leathard, Healeyfield House, worked cushion.

Misses Foster, Mosswood, tray cloth and table cloth.

Mr W. Foster, Mosswood, half-dozen forks.

Miss Oliver and Mr Hutchinson, Castleside, dining room candlesticks.

Mr and Mrs T. Raine, Castleside, handkerchief case.

Mr and Mrs Duckworth, Castleside, fancy flower stands.

Mr and Mrs Jewitt, Castleside, half-dozen dessert spoons.

Miss Jewitt, Castleside, fancy ornaments.

Mrs H. Thompson, Castleside, silver butter cooler.

Mr. Geo. Raine, jun., Castleside, silver jelly dish.

Miss N. Raine, silver jelly spoon.

Mr and Mrs Pattinson and Family, Waver Lea, Castleside, silver mounted biscuit bowl.

Mrs Hetherington, Castleside, photo frame.

Mr and Mrs T. Pattinson, Castleside, trays.

Misses E. and B. Pattinson, Castleside, tumblers.

Miss P. Robson, Castleside, Muffin dish.

Mrs Robson, Castleside, cruet.

Mr and Mrs I. Ripley, Derwent View, inkstand.

Miss Jackson, Castleside, set of D'oyleys.

Mr and Mrs Downs, Castleside, fancy ornaments.

Mr and Mrs Golightly, Castleside, pair of pictures.

Mrs Moody, Castleside, antimacassar.

Miss Harkness, Castleside, butter cooler.

Mr R. P. Richardson, Whickham, pair of pictures.

Mrs Brown, Consett, sideboard cloth.

Mr Wales, Castleside, scissors' rack.

Mrs Wales, Castleside, bread plates.

Miss Carrick, Castleside, cake bowls.

Miss Westgarth, Tow Law, beautiful oil painting.

Mrs Reed, Waskerley, glass jug and tumblers.

Miss Reed, Waskerley, biscuit bowl.

Mrs S. Davison, Castleside, butter cooler.

Mrs W. Davison, Castleside, sugar basin and cream jug.

Misses Johnson, Castleside, sugar, butter, and cream.

Misses Bewick, Castleside, photo frames.

Miss Ada Milner, Castleside, butter cooler.

Mr A. Lowden, fancy bracket.

Mr E. Gileson, Cotherstone, case of silver spoons.

Mr Dawson, Consett, fancy bracket.

Mr Barron, Consett, trays.

Rev. J. Taylor, Blackhill, "The Queen's Reign."

Mr Batey, Castleside, piece of gold.

Mrs Proud, Castleside, half-dozen knives.

Miss L. Yates, Castleside, flower vase.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected COCOA, Mr. Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—"Civil Service Gazette."—Made simply with boiling water or milk.—Sold only in packets and pound tins, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & CO., LTD., Homœopathic Chemists, London." 29f

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IN GREAT VARIETY, AND
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INTERESTING GATHERING AT CONSETT.

ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT, EXHIBITION, AND PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

On Thursday afternoon the scholars attending Miss Tait's School at Consett held their annual concert in the Church Hall, Consett, presided over by the Rev. W. D. Croudace, at which the successful students were presented with certificates. Prior to the entertainment an exhibition of drawings and paintings executed by the pupils took place. A large number of parents availed themselves of the opportunity to inspect the drawings and painting, which were indeed a credit to the scholars and principal alike. They were characterised by boldness of execution, and there could be no doubt that constant practice and study had been carefully attended to by the youthful artists, who executed their work with jewel-like fineness. On all hands expressions of admiration were to be heard of the high-class character of the work, which was truly excellent as regards scintillation of colours, together with warmth and balance of colour. A glance at some of the efforts of the pupils shewed that the youthful artists possessed the faculty for taking pains, and no doubt under the care of such an able tutor as Miss Tait the pupils will continue to improve in their art. Turning to the musical part of the proceedings this was rendered in a highly creditable manner, and plainly evidenced the fact that the pupils were gifted with musical powers of no mean order. The chairman, in opening, said he thought they had all enjoyed the little bit of time at their disposal, in looking at such beautiful paintings and drawings. Now it was time to begin with the musical portion of the afternoon's proceedings. Misses Bryson and Collinson opened with a well rendered pianoforte duet, which was followed by a pianoforte solo "La Harpe Eolienne" by Miss Allison, who creditably accomplished her task. "The Children's Home," was the title of a song, which was efficiently rendered by Miss Asabel Postle. Miss May Collinson delighted the company with an admirable rendering of Weber's "Last Waltz," whilst the pianoforte duet entitled, "The Merry Gipsy" by Miss May Kidd, and Miss Lily Lockey was rendered with precision. Miss May Collinson, who is gifted with a sweet voice sang "Home, Dearie Home," with much acceptance. Miss Ethel Beatrice Bryson evoked hearty applause by her efforts in the pianoforte solo "Orazone." Misses Bryson and Elliott were equally successful in the duet "Grand March." Miss Allison was fully deserving of the applause which was bestowed upon her for the manner in which she rendered the pianoforte solo "Chilperic." The musical part of the proceedings were brought to a close by the scholars singing "The Home Land," after which the presentation of certificates took place.

The Chairman, in performing this interesting ceremony, said it had been a matter of regret that he had not been present during the rendering of the programme, but he was sure that from what he had heard of the latter part of the same, he should have enjoyed himself. He was asked some months ago to be present at that gathering, and agreed to do so, but he did not realise at that time that he had another engagement which could not be set aside. His absence during part of the proceedings was due to that special engagement, and for which he would have to make a compromise, which he thought was a rather undesirable thing in this world, but he had to do it. Perhaps some of those present noticed that one part of the programme usually submitted had not taken place. He referred to the cantata, in regard to which Miss Tait had requested him to state that this was due to her mother's death, and therefore the cantata had been omitted. He was sure that they all deeply sympathised with Miss Tait in her loss. Miss Tait had also requested him to state that there had been a great deal of work done in the school, which was not available for exhibition, owing to the pupils having left the school. He believed that the display of work, which was excellent, was perhaps not so large as it had been on previous occasions. It was also unfortunate that many of the pupils were not able to be present amongst them owing to illness. They all knew that illness was prevalent in the town, and that a good many people were prostrate through influenza. At almost every house they visited illness prevailed. Turning to education the speaker considered this one of the most important matters in their life, and he was sure they were all glad to have in their midst a school where young ladies could be so efficiently, kindly, and carefully educated. He wanted the young people to know that if there was anything they required in this life, it was a good and sound education, which ought to be the aim and object of everyone. Unless they were furnished with a good education their prospects were not bright. They would find that unless they were equipped with knowledge they would be unable to hold their own whilst in conversation, and they would be brought down into a position which they would not envy. So much for education; but there were other things appertaining to efficiency. There was a way in which the parents could assist in the matter. Sometimes a boy or a girl got into the habit of wanting to stay from school, and asked their parents for that permission, which was sometimes granted. He held that such was utterly fatal to the child, and if he had to say anything to parents it was to be honest to their children, and give them every chance with regard to their education, by seeing that they were attentive to their work. Parents could do a great deal in that way, and he thought there was no parent present who did not realise the necessity of education in these days. One more word as regards young people. Some youths thought that when they left school that they were fully equipped for life. That was one of the great fallacies going, which was entirely wrong. They ought always to be learning as they advanced in years, and certainly adding to their store of knowledge. [illegible] continuation schools, and evening classes? They were to educate them after they had left school, and they would find that the more knowledge they acquired the better it would be for them in after life, and always keeping in view their spiritual wants, and they would grow up in the wisdom of God. They had a large number of certificates to be presented, and they would be presented as follows:—Forms 5.—1st position, Sarah Postle; 2nd position, Gertie Harrison. Certificates for special subjects: Holy Scripture, Sarah Postle; essay, Gertie Harrison; ancient history, Sarah Postle; literature, Sarah Postle. Form 4.—1st position, Lily Short; 2nd position, Ethel Bryson. Certificates for special subjects: arithmetic, Lily Short; Holy Scripture, Ethel Bryson; domestic economy, Lily Short; composition, Maggie Clegg. Form 3.—1st position, Lily Lockey; 2nd position, Nellie Quenick. Certificates for special subjects: writing, Nancy Elliott; Holy Scripture, Nellie Quenick; composition, May Thompson; recitation, Nellie Quenick. Forms 2.—1st position, Merlie Colman; 2nd position, Lily Turner. Forms 1.—1st position, Florence Wilson.

The Chairman after handing the certificates to the successful students called upon the Rev. T. Durant to say a few words.

The rev. gentleman scarcely thought he ought to say anything at all, for the reason that the vicar had said as much as they would perhaps be able to remember—(laughter)—and he should be very sorry to say one single word that would in the least degree interfere with the impression, which he hoped the chairman's remarks had made in their minds. The chairman had said what was quite true as regards the supposition held by some, who considered they were finished when they left school. Why! look upon the discoveries that had been made in connection with electricity during recent years. The speaker afterwards contrasted the opportunities afforded for the acquiring of a good education at the present day to those of his early days. Whilst attending to education they should not neglect their spiritual wants, and he urged them to seek the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness. There were things secular and things sacred and he asked them not to neglect the things sacred. Turning to the school he thought that good work had been done, and hoped that the institution would be still more successful in the future. (Applause.)

The chairman also said a few words. He was sure that the exhibition was a credit to any school, and he hoped that the mementoes which the pupils had received would inspire them still more in their work. He congratulated Miss Tait upon the success of her work and the scholars, and trusted that she would be spared amongst them for many years to come. (Applause.)

Permanent Relief Fund Dinner at Medomsley.

On Saturday night, in connection with the "Derwent" Lodge of the Miners' Permanent Relief Fund, the annual dinner was held at the Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley. A splendid spread was served up by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. T. Traynor, which was done full justice to by a large company. Upon the removal of the cloths Mr. G. Starford was voted to the chair, with Mr. Jas. Wess in the vice-chair.

The Chairman, at the outset, said he was very pleased to meet them all there that night, and he wished them all the compliments of the season. (Hear, hear.) Since their last annual gathering many changes had taken place. They had a new landlord and landlady for one thing, and he believed in Mr. and Mrs. Traynor they had worthy successors to Mr. and Mrs. Kelly. (Applause.) He had been connected with the Permanent Fund since its start, or thereabouts. There was no doubt that the fund had done a great amount of good. (Applause.) It had always been his endeavour to make the fund a great success. He hoped that the "Derwent" Lodge would long continue to prosper. (Applause.)

The Chairman next proposed "The Queen and Royal Family," which was warmly honoured, the company singing "Rule Britannia."

The Vice-chairman expressed the pleasure it gave him to see Mr. Starford amongst them that evening. (Applause.) He (Mr. Wess) had been in the fund for 20 years, and he could honestly say that it had been the means of doing very much good. (Applause.) He thought they would all spend a very pleasant evening, and he wished them the compliments of the season. (Applause.)

Mr. T. Hanley (as chairman of the local lodge) said that they had had no fatal accidents during the past year, which had been a very successful one in connection with the Derwent Lodge. (Applause.) There had not been many minor accidents either. They had always tried to do their best for every case that came before the committee. (Hear, hear.) That year was one of the brightest they had had for many years. (Applause.) He thought that they had every reason to be satisfied with the results of the year's working, and he trusted that the fund would long continue to prosper. (Applause.)

The Vice-chairman next proposed the health of the visitors from the Hunter Pit, and said that they were very pleased to welcome them. (Applause.)

Mr. D. McKinnell, in responding, referred to the regrettable death of the Hunter Pit secretary (Mr. W. P. Morris) that morning, and said they all respected and esteemed the late Mr. Morris.

The Vice-chairman next gave "The Chairman," and said they were all delighted to see Mr. Starford amongst them. (Applause.) He hoped that their chairman would be spared for many years to come among them. (Applause.)

The toast having been musically honoured, the Chairman returned thanks, remarking that he was very pleased when he received the invitation to come amongst them, and he would have been disappointed if he had not been invited. He trusted that they would all meet together on many similar occasions. (Applause.)

Mr. T. Pogue proposed "The Vice-chairman," whom, he said, he had not known very long, but what he had seen of him had made him (the speaker) proud. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in submitting this toast to them. (Applause.)

This toast was also accorded musical honours, after which the vice-chairman thanked the company for the kind manner in which they had drank his health. He hoped he would be there for a long time, and that they would have many pleasant gatherings of that description. (Applause.)

Mr. King, in giving "The Host and Hostess," said they had sat down to a capital spread, and one which they had all appreciated. He hoped that Mr. and Mrs. Traynor would be spared to provide many more. (Applause.)

Mr. Traynor expressed satisfaction that the efforts of his wife and himself had pleased them, and said that it would always be their aim so long as they remained in the house. (Applause.)

Other toasts were given and honoured whilst songs were ably rendered by Messrs A. Burns, J. Savage, J. McKinnell, J. Cawthorn, T. Pogue, T. Pullen, J. Williams, etc. Mr. Pogue's song, one of his own composition termed "The Dustman's Wife," fairly brought down the house. Mr. G. Lee also obliged with a recitation in good style, the singing of the National Anthem concluding an enjoyable gathering.

A WOLVISTON RECLUSE'S DEATH.

A LITTLE HOARD OF MONEY.

At Sedgefield Asylum on Monday, Mr. J. Hyslop Bell held an inquest on the body of James Hayton, aged 82 years, an ex-schoolmaster, who died on Friday afternoon at his home, Embleton, Wolviston. Since [illegible] deceased had lived a very lonely life, having no one to look after him. He was of eccentric habits, and the only companions he had were three cats. During last week nothing was seen of him, and, as the weather was bitterly cold, people wondered whether anything had happened to the old man. On Friday afternoon, Police-Constable Ashton forced an entrance into the house, and found the old man lying in a serious condition on the bed. He appeared to revive after drinking some stimulants, but later in the day, when the constable returned from the overseer's, to whom he had been to obtain further assistance, he found the old man dying, and death took place two or three hours later. The old man, however, was not in need of monetary assistance, as more than £27 in money was found in the house.—The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes," adding that no one was to blame.

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