The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

An ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Annfield Plain, Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, &c.

No. 576. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, 1871. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

REED BROTHERS,
GROCERS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BAKERS, AND MANUFACTURING CONFECTIONERS,
55, DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

TEA PARTIES, PIC-NICS, and FUNERALS Supplied or Contracted for. 734b

"REID'S CELEBRATED EIGHTPENNY MILD ALE (Lesser Brewery) is the best sample of heavy-bodied Ale brewed in Newcastle, and is well-known for its fine flavour."—From "Innkeeper's Trade Circular," for Feb., 1866. 493

"MELVIN'S NOTED EDINBURGH MILD and BITTER ALES are as good Ales as can be purchased, . . . and we do not wonder at the immense sale of these Ales."—(See "Innkeeper's Trade Circular" for Feb., 1866.) 494

EXTRA STRONG and other STEEL PENS, with every article of Stationery Sundries. Also, Twos. Lowe's celebrated Steel Pens. JOHN HEATH, George Street, Parade, Birmingham.
Agent for Consett and District—ROBERT JACKSON, Consett and Blackhill. 894a

WATSON & RICHARDSON,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERS,
SILK MERCERS,
HABERDASHERS, HATTERS, HOSIERS, &c.,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE. 903a

S. WALKER, HAIRDRESSER, DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL (next door to Mrs. Gradon). Periodicals, Newspapers, and Magazines supplied and every description of stationery.
N.B.—Pictures and Mourning Cards Framed and Umbrellas Repaired. 771a

A. RICHARDSON,
BUILDER, CABINET-MAKER, & GENERAL HOUSE FURNISHER,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.
Feathers, Flocks, Rabbit Down, and Mattresses. 892a

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER, HOUSE AGENT, APPRAISER, AND FURNITURE BROKER,
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 660a

EDUCATION.

MRS. NICHOLSON, 4, MOUNT PERLEANT, CONSETT, respectfully announces that her School is now open for the education of Children of both sexes in the usual branches of an English education, including Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, &c.; also, Needlework and Music. 381b

JOSHUA HETHERINGTON,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
RESPECTFULLY announces that he has lately visited various manufactories in Sheffield, Birmingham, and Staffordshire, and has purchased largely of HARDWARE, CUTLERY, PLATED, CHINA, and JEWELLERY, which he is prepared to sell, wholesale or retail, at the lowest remunerative prices. 215b

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
COUNTY OF DURHAM.

VALUATIONS MADE FOR PROBATE AND LEGACY DUTIES.

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

☞ All Orders attended to with care and punctuality

EMIGRATION AGENT. 27

ENLARGEMENT OF THE NEWCASTLE READY-MONEY MEAT AND PROVISION EMPORIUM

THE above Establishment has become so popular with the public of Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate, and vicinity that the Proprietor has been necessitated to take the large premises adjoining, which were used as Auction Rooms by Mr. Henry Brown. He is thus enabled to give more accommodation to his numerous Patrons, and also to have on hand a more extensive and varied Stock of Groceries and Provisions.
JAMES LAKE, PROPRIETOR,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. 117b

J. W. DAVISON,
CABINET-MAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND
CATCHGATE, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, in all its different Branches.
IRON BEDSTEADS, very Cheap.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN. HARDWARE GOODS.
WRINGING and WRINGING MACHINES
PAPER HANGINGS. PARAFFIN LAMPS.
PARAFFIN and BENZOLINE OILS, Best Quality.
FURNITURE DELIVERED FREE. 859a

THE TEST OF TWENTY YEARS
HAS FULLY PROVED THAT
THE PATENT LEVER WATCHES
MADE BY
JOHN D. CARIS,
20, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD,
AND
1, BROAD CHARE, QUAYSIDE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
ARE THE
BEST TIME KEEPERS ON RECORD,
WHILE THEY ARE ALSO
CHEAPER IN PRICE.

☞ Buyers of the above, within a radius of twelve miles, are allowed third-class railway fare. 235a

Business Announcements.

ESTABLISHED 1740.

DICKINSON,
TOBACCO MANUFACTURER,
22 AND 24, BIGG MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 23b

AUTUMN FASHIONS.

R. W. SHAW

IS now showing all the NEW STYLES in MILLINERY, DRESSES, SKIRTINGS, SHAWLS, FLOWERS, FEATHERS, RIBBONS, &c.

DRESSES.

A large Stock of French Merinoes, French Twills, Lustres, Coburgs, Alpacas, and Fancy Dresses, very cheap.

WINCEYS.

In this Department some rare Bargains are being offered. Strong Heavy Winceys, at 3½d. to 8½d.; a good quality in Saxony ditto, at 10½d. to 16½d. A splendid range of Patterns in all the prevailing Colours of the season.

SKIRTS AND SKIRTINGS.

A lot of Fancy Wincey Skirts, from 4s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. Fancy Skirtings in great variety.

SHAWLS.

Every novelty of the season will be shown in this Department in Clan Tartans, Queensland, Tasmania, and other Shawls. A very heavy good Shawl at 5s. 11d., worth 7s. 6d.

MILLINERY.

The largest selection of Straw, Terry, Velvet, Lace, and Crape Bonnets, and Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats in the district. All the leading Styles are now in Stock. Mourning orders entrusted to our care will receive prompt attention.
Milliners supplied at Wholesale Prices.

SHIRTINGS.

A special lot of Wool Shirtings bought previous to the advance in wool, which are now being offered at Old Prices.

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

The increasing demand in this Department is sufficient proof of the Cheapness and Quality of our Goods. Each garment is cut in the Newest Style and Well Made. Men's Cord and Moleskin Trousers, from 3s. 11d. Boys' ditto, at 1s. 11d. Men's Cloth Trousers, at 4s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. A large assortment of Fea Jackets and Black and Tweed Coats. Men's Suits from 19s. 6d. Boys' ditto, 4s. 6d.

R. W. SHAW, PROPRIETOR,
LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET,
AND
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND
LEADGATE. 551b

SUPERIOR WATCHES, SHIP CHRONOMETERS, ENGLISH AND FRENCH CLOCKS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Silver Patent Lever Watches	3 10 0 to 27	0 0
Gold Patent Lever Watches	10 10 0 to 40	0 0
Geneva Silver Watches.....	2 2 0 to 5	5 0
Geneva Gold Watches	5 5 0 to 30	0 0
Ship Chronometers	27 0 0 to 40	0 0

LISTER AND SONS,
WATCHMAKERS TO THE QUEEN, CHRONOMETER MAKERS TO THE ADMIRALTY,
12, 14, & 16, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. 392a

BLACKETT STREET TEA AND GROCERY WAREHOUSE,
91 and 93, BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

JAMES JOHNSON, FAMILY GROCER AND TEA DEALER. Teas, Coffees, and Spices of the Choicest Quality. Good Useful Teas from 2s. per pound. Coffees 1s. per pound. Household Soaps from 3d. per pound. All kinds of Drysaltery Goods cheap and of the best Quality. Hotels and families supplied at wholesale prices.
TERMS—CASH. 870a

Business Announcements.

ESTABLISHED 51 YEARS.

JOHN WILSON AND SON,
WORSTED AND YARN MANUFACTURERS, WHOLESALE HOSIERS, AND HABERDASHERS, BLANKET AND FLANNEL MERCHANTS,
35, DEAN STREET, AND 14 & 15, ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCHYARD,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. 706

A WORD ABOUT INDIAN TEA.

ENGLISH enterprise, capital, and industry have made India the Finest Tea Garden in the World, and now the British Tea Planting Companies of India have become the great competitors of the Chinese Empire. For years the Old People have said they could not get the Strong Firm Tea of the Olden Times. It is clear to us that either the Tea Plantations of the Chinese have become exhausted, or that the strongest desire of this peculiar people has been to give quantity rather than quality. It is plain to the most superficial observer, that even the Finest Chinese Tea, although it may be exquisite in flavour, lacks that power and richness peculiar to the Olden Times. It is well for the lover of that refreshing beverage, that the Cultivation of Tea in India has become a commercial success. Years ago, we commenced to combine the Chinese and Indian Teas. This method resulted in a great trade. You may have some idea of its properties, when we state that last year we sold 112,205 pounds of Tea to a delighted people.
The question will naturally suggest itself to your mind; Why do you not offer Indian Tea to the Public? We answer, the price appears high. We do not say they are dear, for the lasting power of Indian Tea is so great, that the second and third water in many instances is better than the first water of China Tea. Taking this economical view of the question, it is cheaper, suppose we say nothing of the increased satisfaction derived in drinking this life-sustaining Cup of pleasure. We would now like you to test the correctness of this opinion we have as to the strength, lasting power, richness, and economy of Indian Tea. We cannot sell this tea for less than 4s. per pound. We give you this notice that we do not intend to disturb the present mixed Tea Trade. We therefore desire you, should it be your pleasure to test our judgment, to inquire for Indian Tea at any of our Tea Establishments.
WILLIAM STEWART, THE TEA DEALER,
CENTRAL ESTABLISHMENT, 33, GRAINGER STREET,
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT, 33, SANDHILL,
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT, 32, MOSLEY STREET, } NEWCASTLE.
SUNDERLAND BRANCH, CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET. 644b

XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY

BEGS to intimate to the inhabitants of Consett and the locality that he has just received some prime Articles which will enable them to keep a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." The first is an importation of upwards of

10,000 BOTTLES OF WINES AND SPIRITS

of the finest Quality. Buyers of a Bottle are supplied as cheaply as Purchasers of large quantities.
Then there are his GROCERIES and PROVISIONS; and those who have not yet tested his extensive and varied Stock, he would respectfully invite to do so, as he has this year made special arrangements for the supply of his ever increasing Christmas trade, and is receiving large arrivals daily. The following W. A. specially recommends:—Teas, Sugars, Currants, Raisins, Butters, Lard, and the largest consignment of CHEESE ever brought into Consett.
Country buyers would do well to pay an early visit to

WILLIAM AYNSLEY'S,
THE TEA DEALER,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 741b

WINES (Foreign) on which duty was paid in London by some of the principal firms during the year 1868 —(*Wine Trade Review*, 15th Jan., 1869)

			Gallons
W & A Gilbey ...	...	...	676,904
Sandeman, Sons & Co ...	...	...	154,860
S. Hooper & Sons ...	...	...	130,655
Dingwall, Portal & Co ...	...	...	127,797
H. H. Williams & Co ...	...	...	121,958
J. W. Cosens ...	...	...	113,514
Boyes & Duckworth ...	...	...	99,666
Lightly & Simon ...	...	...	99,008
Cunliffe & Co ...	...	...	84,785
Tod-Heatley & Co ...	...	...	83,674
Lees Bottle Wine Co ...	...	...	80,351
T. Allnutt & Co ...	...	...	80,264
Dent, C. Neal & Co ...	...	...	78,884
Bond, Forbes & Co ...	...	...	70,977
D. Taylor & Sons ...	...	...	71,043
Mann Gregor ...	...	...	71,475
Scrutton, Campbell & Co ...	...	...	67,076
Board & Son ...	...	...	65,597
Finlinder & Co ...	...	...	65,161
Welch Bros & Co ...	...	...	66,074
Brooks & Oldham ...	...	...	64,709
C. Kinlock & Co ...	...	...	60,683
Robertson Bros ...	...	...	59,347
Lemon Hart & Son ...	...	...	59,213
Dennis & Co ...	...	...	58,179

SPIRITS (Foreign) on which duty was paid in London by some of the principal firms during the year 1868 —(*Wine Trade Review*, 15th Jan., 1869)

			Gallons
Twiss & Browning ...	...	...	849,456
W & A Gilbey ...	...	...	371,251
T. & W. Nicholson ...	...	...	165,807
D. Taylor & Sons ...	...	...	144,048
Tremoet & Lemoine ...	...	...	121,219
Dingwall, Portal & Co ...	...	...	119,963
R. Hooper & Sons ...	...	...	106,943
Bond, Forbes & Co ...	...	...	95,253
Seager & Evans ...	...	...	87,326
Board & Son ...	...	...	85,000
C. Wells ...	...	...	83,947
Barrett & Co ...	...	...	84,190
R. S. Pitch ...	...	...	60,253
Lemon Hart & Son ...	...	...	58,594
Bishop & Son ...	...	...	56,923
Rowenhead & Co ...	...	...	50,150
T. Allnutt & Co ...	...	...	49,945
Orrin & Co ...	...	...	47,758
J. & T. Vickers & Co ...	...	...	46,337
Wills & Underwood ...	...	...	45,958
Turnbull & Bisley ...	...	...	45,586
T. H. Farrer ...	...	...	45,367
J. Hall & Sons ...	...	...	44,144
Osmond & Co ...	...	...	38,200
Fockens & Co ...	...	...	38,000

Gins and Whiskies (W & A Gilbey 279,682 gallons) are not included in the above returns.
Total quantity of Wines and Spirits paid Duty on by W & A Gilbey in the year 1868 ... 1,182,030

W & A GILBEY—WINES & SPIRITS
Agent in CONSETT, from whom Single Bottles or larger quantities can be obtained :—

W AYNSLEY
Grocer,
CONSETT

The SHERRIES and the PORTS mentioned below have been selected by comparison entirely on their own merits, without the least prejudice or interest in favour of either estate, or grower. The consumer will be able by comparison to identify, with the gradual rise in price, the improvement in quality. For other Wines than those mentioned below, see Book of Prices sent on application

MARSALA SHERRIES

	from Sicily		Per Bottle	For Doz.	Page
Castle VM	*Gold*	MARSALA	1/4	16/	17
Castle A	*Pale*	MARSALA	1/6	18/	17
Castle O	*Pale*	MARSALA	1/8	20/	17
Castle D	*Gold*	MARSALA	1/8	20/	17
Castle B	*Brown*	MARSALA	1/8	20/	17

SHERRY *from Hambro'*

Castle	*Hambro' Sherry*		1/3	15/	9

SHERRIES *from Spain*

Castle 1A	*Pale*	SHERRY	1/6	18/	18
Castle 2A	*Gold*	SHERRY	1/6	18/	18
Castle 3A	*Brown*	SHERRY	1/6	18/	18
Castle A	*Pale*	SHERRY	1/10	22/	18
Castle AA	*Gold*	SHERRY	1/10	22/	18
Castle B	*Brown*	SHERRY	1/10	22/	18
Castle C	*Pale*	SHERRY	2/4	26/	18
Castle CC	*Gold*	SHERRY	2/4	26/	18
Castle D	*Brown*	SHERRY	2/4	26/	18
Castle G	*Pale*	SHERRY	2/10	34/	18
Castle H	*Gold*	SHERRY	2/10	34/	18
Castle F	*Brown*	SHERRY	2/10	34/	18
Castle K	*Pale*	SHERRY	3/6	42/	18
Castle M	*Gold*	SHERRY	3/6	42/	18
Castle J	*Brown*	SHERRY	3/6	42/	19

PORTS *from Spain*

Castle 1	SPANISH PORT		1/3	15/	13
Castle 2	SPANISH PORT		1/6	18/	13
Castle 3	SPANISH PORT		1/8	21/	13

PORTS *from Portugal*
PORTS—OLD IN WOOD

Castle A	PORT	5 *years in wood*	2/0	24/	14
Castle H	PORT	8 *years in wood*	2/6	28/	14
Castle O	PORT *Pruity*	11 *years in wood*	2/10	34/	14
Castle D	PORT *Pruity*	12 *years in wood*	3/0	36/	14
Castle B	PORT *Pruity*	15 *years in wood*	3/4	40/	14
Castle F	PORT *Dry*	15 *years in wood*	3/4	40/	14
Castle G	PORT *Pruity very old in wood*		4/0	48/	14
Castle H	PORT *Dry very old in wood*		4/0	48/	14
Castle 1867	PORT *for laying down*		2/10	24/	14

Bottles are charged 1d each, the same being allowed when returned

Each Cork will bear W & A Gilbey's patent Seal with the name and distinctive mark thus :—

The signature will also be on the side of each Cork thus :—

Business Announcements.

J. & J. PARKER,
JEWELLERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS,
(NEAR THE POLICE STATION,)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

NEW SILVER WATCHES, from 30s.
NEW CLOCKS, with Striking, from 15s. Warranted.
CLOCKS and WATCHES of every description repaired on the Premises. Guaranteed.
PORTRAITS taken on the shortest Notice. 330b

WOOLLEN GOODS AT LAST YEAR'S PRICES.

VARDY and COMPANY Bought and Contracted for, last March and April, 40 Bales of WOOLLEN GOODS, at Prices lower than they had been since the year 1848, and fully 30 per cent. below present cost. The full benefit of their successful purchases will be given to their customers at their several Establishments during the month of SEPTEMBER.
250 pairs of CLOTH BLANKETS, large size, pure wool, 7s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 14s. 6d. a pair; worth 3s., 4s., and 5s. a pair more.
900 yards of SCARLET FLANNELS, all wool, 7½d., 8½d., 10½d., 1s., 1s. 2½d. per yard.
1,040 yards of WHITE FLANNELS, all wool, 8½d., 9½d., 10½d., 1s., 1s. 2½d., to 2s. per yard.
900 yards of BLUE FLANNELS, all wool, 9½d., 10½d., 1s., 1s. 2½d., 1s. 4½d., 1s. 6d. per yard.
KERSEYS, SERGES, SCOURERS.
SCOTCH and LANCASHIRE WINCEYS.—3,000 yards, special lot, 2½d., 3½d., 4½d., 6½d. per yard.
1,600 yards of Real ABERDEEN WINCEY, 8½d., 10½d., 1s., 1s. 2½d., 1s. 6d. per yard. 534b

VARDY AND COMPANY,
VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.

CLARENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

JONATHAN C. WYLIE, MASTER.
Select Evening Classes as usual, in English, French, Latin, Greek, Italian, and Euclid. One Guinea per Qr.

MR. E. BURTON, Professor of Music, Organist of St. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, Benfieldside, TEACHER of the PIANOFORTE, ORGAN, HARMONIUM, &c. First-class References. Terms on application.
Poplar Cottage, Shotley Bridge. 25

MCEWAN'S CELEBRATED EDINBURGH ALES AND INDIA PALE ALE,
Are daily rising in public estimation.
Newcastle Stores and Offices—
FOUNTAIN HOUSE, Charlotte Square.
843 JAMES C. MCINTOSH, Agent.

THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED HAT SHOP IN NEWCASTLE.

THOMAS COCHRANE is now selling the BEST SILK HAT in the Trade at 10s. 6d.

THOMAS COCHRANE,
19, GRAINGER STREET,
(CORNER OF NUNS' STREET)
118a NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.
FIRE AND LIFE.
ESTABLISHED 1836.
Capital (fully subscribed) ..... £2,000,000.
Accumulated Funds ..... 1,000,000.
Annual Revenue 375,000

FARMING STOCK, PUBLIC and PRIVATE BUILDINGS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCK-IN-TRADE, and Goods of every description Insured on the most favourable terms.
All Policies issued by the Company include the risk of lightning or explosion by Gas, without extra Premium.
During the last Ten Years the "Northern" has paid more than *One Million Sterling* for Claims under its Fire Policies.
Life Assurances, Endowments and Annuities granted. For particulars apply to the
DISTRICT AGENTS—
ROBSON & LIDDELL,
5, RYEHILL STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 379b

THOMAS LAMB,
STATIONER, BOOKSELLER, PRINTER, AND BOOKBINDER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

BIBLES, Hymn Books, Ledgers, Day Books, and Memorandum Books of every description. School and Prize Books. Periodicals, Weekly and Monthly, of all kinds. All kinds of Tin and Hardware Goods, Jewellery, &c.
Memorial Cards and Raffle Tickets on the shortest notice. Pictures Framed neatly and cheaply.
Agent for the *Consett Guardian*, advertisements for which are received and inserted at moderate charges.

REID AND SONS
GOLDSMITHS AND JEWELLERS TO
THE QUEEN,
AND WATCH AND CLOCK MAKERS.

GUARD CHAINS in great variety, of all the newest and most fashionable styles, in 10 Carat Gold, from ..... £2 2s. to £10 10s.
GUARD CHAINS in Coloured Gold, 15 Carat, from ..... £4 4s. to £20 0s.
GUARD CHAINS in Dry Coloured Gold from ..... £6 6s. to £25 0s.
ALBERT GUARDS, a very large assortment of all the newest and most fashionable patterns, in 10 Carat Gold, from ..... £1 15 to £10 10s.
ALBERT GUARDS in Coloured Gold, 15 Carat, from ..... £3 10s. to £20 0s.
ALBERT GUARDS, in Dry Coloured Gold, 18 Carat, from ..... 7gs. to £25 0s.
LADIES' ALBERT or BROOCH CHAINS, in 10 Carat Gold, from ..... £1 10s. to £6 0s.
LADIES' ALBERT or BROOCH CHAINS, in Coloured Gold, 15 Carat, from ..... £2 10s. to 10gs.
LADIES' ALBERT or BROOCH CHAINS, in Dry Coloured Gold, 18 Carat, from ..... 4gs. to £15 15s.

SILVER HUNTING WATCHES, from ..... 3gs. to 14gs.
GOLD HUNTING WATCHES, from ..... 6gs. to 40gs.
SILVER WATCHES, from ..... 4gs. to 15gs.
GOLD WATCHES, from ..... 8gs. to 50gs.
REID AND SONS,
41, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Poetry: Original and Select.

CHRISTMASTIDE.

Rude is the wind and mourns through trees,
The Christmas morn, the carols' lay
Steals on the ear ere dawn of day,
And we wake her not.

Round festive board the guests are set,
Relations, friends with welcome met,
She feels it not.

In merry dance and mirthful glee
All join, and smiles alone we see;
She smiles not thrift.

Now all is dark, each pillow prosed'd,
Its burthen is with slumber blessed;
She sleeps not there.

Keen is the air, the snowflakes fall,
And sheet the earth in Winter's pall:
She feels it not.

Once green, but now bereft of leaves:
She hears it not.

With drifting snow and lamentful sound,
It wreathes in virgin white a mound,
And she sleeps there.

Gateshead, Xmas, 1871. T. G.

THE WIND AND THE MOON.

Said the Wind to the Moon, "I will blow you out.
You stare
In the air
Like a ghost in a chair,
Always looking what I am about:
I hate to be watched; I will blow you out."

The wind blew hard, and out went the Moon.
So deep,
Down it went,
Down to sleep,
Of clouds, to sleep,
Down by the wind, and slumbered soon—
Muttering low, "I've done for that Moon."

He turned in his bed: she was there again!
On high
In the sky,
With her one ghost eye,
The moon shone white and alive and plain.
Said the Wind, "I will blow you out again."

The Wind blew hard, and the moon grew dim.
"With my sledge
And my wedge
I have knocked off her edge!
If only I blow right fierce and grim,
The creature will soon be dimmer than'thin."

He blew and he blew, and she thinned to a thread.
"One puff
More's enough
To blow her to snuff!
One good puff more where the last was bred,
One good puff more where the last was bred,
And glimmer, glimmer, glimmer will go the thread!"

He blew a great blast, and the thread was gone:
In the air
Nowhere
Was a moonbeam bare;
Far off and harmless the shy stars shone:
Sure and certain the Moon was gone!

The wind he took to his revels once more;
On down,
In town,
Like a merry-mad clown,
He leaped and hollooed with whistle and roar.
"What's that? The glimmering thread once more!"

He flew in a rage—he danced and blew;
But in vain
Was the pain
Of his bursting brain;
For still the slender moon-crescent grew,
The broader he swelled his big cheeks and blew.

Slowly she grew—till she filled the night,
And shone
On her throne
In the sky alone,
A matchless, wonderful, silvery light,
Radiant and lovely, the queen of the night.

Said the Wind,—"What a marvel of power am I!
With my breath
Good faith!
I blew her to death—
First blew her away right out of the sky—
Then blew her in; what a strength am I!"

But the Moon she knew nothing of the affair;
For high
In the sky,
With her one white eye,
Motionless rides above the air,
She had never heard the great wind blare.

—*George Macdonald, in Good Words for the Young, for December.*

Varieties.

When is a clock on the stairs dangerous?—When it runs down.

Why are lawyers like ivy?—The greater the ruin the closer they cling.

Gentleman.—Are you the mate of the ship?—*Irish-man:* No, sir: I am the man as cooks the mate.

What is the difference between an auction and sea sickness?—The one is the sale of effects the other the effects of sale.

Extracts from PUNCH.

The Speaker's title, when he goes to the Upper Chamber, is to be Baron Commentary.

Christmas Box for Mr. Lowe (as Master of the Mint).—One of the worn-out sixpences.

MUSIC AT HOME.—*The Hostess.* "*Dear* Miss Linnet! would you—*would* you sing one of those charming ballads, while I go and see if supper's ready? *The Companion.* "O, don't ask me—I feel nervous. There are so many people—and—" *The Hostess.* "*Oh, they won't* listen, bless you! not *one* of them! *Now do!!!*

A YOUNG POSITIVIST.—*Parson.* "What's a miracle?" *Boy.* "Dunno, *Parson.*" "Well if the sun were to shine in the middle of the night, what should you say it was?" *Boy.* "The moon." "But if you were told it was the sun, what should you say it was?" *Boy.* "A lie." *Parson.* "*I* don't tell lies. Suppose *I* told you it was the Sun; what would you say *then?*" *Boy.* "That yer wasn't sober!"

Extracts from JUDY.

A watch word—Tick.

An extinct race—Childlike children.

A liberal measure—Thirteen to the dozen.

Good musicians execute their music, the bad ones murder it.

All marriages begin with union, and some end in one, too.

Legal query.—If a tenant shoots the moon, does the rack-rent Game Act apply to the case?

All the difference—The ancients urned their dead, the moderns earn their living.

Pawnbrokers and drunkards are always making pledges; the former sometimes redeem theirs.

It is not true that a doctor on the Tichborne jury has complained that if he is kept away from his patients much longer they will all get well.

PROGRESS IN IRELAND.—*Member of School Board.* Well, Thady Branagan, do you go to School? *Thady.* Bedad, I does, every blessed mornin', *Mr. of S. B.* And do you write? *Thady.* Begorra, I does, barrin' when I does wrong. *Mr. of S. B.* And do you read? *Thady.* Arrah, sure, I do, when I can't help it. *Mr. of S. B.* What do you do, then? *Thady.* Arrah, shure, I only goes to the schule shure for vittles for the pig, but I invir goes into the intarior.

Extracts from FUN.

Move on!—A "House of Detention." — The Lords'.

Better than a trap to catch a sunbeam—traps to imprison sewer gases.

TO OUR FAIR READERS.—The year of Grace, 1872, will be Leap Year—be merciful—and *don't all speak at once!*

Markets.

CORN MARKETS.

DURHAM CORN AND PROVISION MARKET, Saturday.—The following were the prices current at this market this day:—Barley 5s 6d; oats, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per boll. Beef, 5d to 6½d; mutton, 6d to 10½d; veal, 9d to 10d; pork, 8½d to 10d per lb. Chickens, 2s 6d to 2s 6d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; turkeys, 2s 6d to 12s 0d; geese, 6s 0d to 12s 0d; hares, 2s 0d to 4s 0d each. Pigeons, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; rabbits, 2s 6d to 2s 8d per couple. Partridges, 6d to 8s 0d; pheasants, 7s 0d to 9s per brace. Butter, 1s 8d to 1s 9d per lb. Eggs, 6 to 7 for 1s. Apples, 2s 0d to 3s 0d; cheese, 10d to 1s 0d per peck. Potatoes, 8d to 9d per stone.

HEXHAM CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—The supply of wheat at our market on Tuesday was about an average, and good dry samples sold readily at last week's rates, but inferior sorts were neglected. Barley a large supply, and sold slowly at previous quotations. Oats unchanged in value.

LONDON CORN MARKET, Wednesday.—Quiet holiday market. Trade very quiet, and prices nominally the same as on Friday last. Buyers show little disposition to purchase until the commencement of the new year.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE CATTLE MARKET, Tuesday.—The show of stock presented for sale exhibited a decline of 123 beasts and 1,030 sheep as compared with that of last week. Business being brisk, most of cattle has been considerably above an average, while sheep were only middling; but there were a fair show of pigs. The supply of beef numbered 1,147 head. The supplies being more than adequate to the demand, caused sales to be somewhat slowly effected, and prices were irregular. A few exceptional cases 10s would be obtained, but the general top figure for beef was 6s 0d per imperial stone, with a middling finish, and to that clearance was not effected. The number of sheep was 2,200. The mutton trade may be characterised as slow and dear, the finest descriptions of wedders making about 10d per lb. Pigs—600 were shown. There is a slight improvement to note in the pork trade from last week, the tendency being in favour of the seller, and all were disposed of.

Prices:—Beasts, prime, 5s 10d to 6s 0d per 14lbs.; secondary sorts, 8s 0d to 8s 9d; inferior sorts, 5s 6d to 7s 0d; first-class oxen, 9s 0d to 9s 6d; middling, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; cows, 5s 0d to 7s 0d; pork, large, 4s 0d to 6s 0d; small, 6s 6d to 7s 0d per stone of 14lbs. Sheep, good ewetable mutton, 9½d to 10d; middling, 7½d to 8½d; tups, ewes, and inferior, 8½d to 9d per lb., sinking offal.

WAKEFIELD CATTLE MARKET, Wednesday.—Considering that this was a holiday market there was a good show of beef and mutton. Beef, which was fully as dear as last week, sold steadily; whilst mutton made an advance of from ½d to 1d per lb., prime small sheep selling for 10½d per lb.

MISCELLANEOUS MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW MARKET, Tuesday.—There were 90 carts of hay, and 14 carts of straw at the market. Prices: old land hay, £6 0s 0d to £7 0s 0d; this year's grass, £4 0s 0d to £5 5s 0d; new land hay, £3 0s 0d to £5 0s 0d; this year's growth, £4 5s 0d to £5 0s 0d; clover, £3 10s 0d to £4 10s 0d per ton. Wheat straw, 2s 4d to 2s 7d. barley straw, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; and oat straw, 0s 0d to 0s 0d per thrave.

MIDDLESBROUGH FLOUR MARKET, Tuesday.—To-day's quotations on the Christmas holidays, the usual weekly iron market was not held. There is a great demand for iron of all kinds, and prices are fully maintained.

AN EVENING BEVERAGE.—CACA'OINE.—The *Food Journal* says:—"By a new process to which the nibs are subjected, the principal part of the oil is effectually removed, a thin beverage, well adapted for afternoons or evenings, and as a substitute for tea, being the result. The flavour of Caca'oine will, in addition, be a great attraction." Each packet or tin is labelled "JAMES EPPS and Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London," and "James Epps and Co.'s Milky Cacao'ine (Caca'oine and Condensed Milk)." 6670

EPPS'S CHOCOLATE.—*La Situation* (the Imperialist organ), in an article, entitled, France et Angleterre," says:—"Nous trouvons à Cannes, sur une seule usine on la préparation du Cacao emploie un matériel et un personnel aussi considérables que nous avons vus dans Paris." Visitors to Messieurs Epps C'est une véritable curiosité dans son genre que cette immense fabrique." The perfect purity and fine aroma of Chocolate prepared by this firm is labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Also manufacturers of Epps's Milky Chocolate (Chocolate and Condensed Milk).

FLORILINE.—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drops of the *Floriline Powder* on a wet tooth brush produces a delightful foam which cleanses the Teeth from all impurities, fortifies the gums, hardens the tissues, tones, and arrests the progress of decay. It gives to the Teeth a pearllike and beautiful whiteness, and imparts a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth, a disordered stomach, or tobacco smoke. The *Fragrant Floriline* is purely vegetable, and equally adapted to old and young. It is the greatest luxury of the very of the age. Sold at 2s. 6d. by all Chemists and Perfumers. Prepared only by H. C. GALLOY, 493, Oxford Street, London. The word "Floriline" is a "Trade Mark."

"THE LION, THE NET, AND THE HORSE."—To prevent Pirates, and unprincipled Traders from deceiving the public, the proprietors of the "LION, NET, AND HORSE" (Lion, Net, and Mussel), and this design will be found upon the label of the genuine Bottle, and any one printing it will render themselves liable to fine or imprisonment. Ask for Hooper's Pale Ale, and insist upon having it. Her Majesty's Royal Family have for many years used the wonderful curative properties of this Ale. Wick, North-East Coast of Scotland, 7th September, 1868.—Dear Sir,—I am afraid I am a most distressed and constant Cough, which caused me many sleepless nights and restless days, I was recommended by Her Majesty's Royal Family of Balmoral, to try your most invaluable Balsam of Aniseed, and I can assure you with the most I found relief, and continued to use it, even without loss of suspend my various duties; and the first small bottle completely restored me, and since then I have constantly kept in fully recommending it to the million. Most respectfully yours, W. Bignell, Esq. To Mr. Hooper, Chemist, Dewsbury. Prepared and Sold by THOMAS FOWELL, 16, Blackfriars Road, London: and Sold by Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World. In Bottles only, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each. Ask for "Fowell's Balsam of Aniseed." 6649

TOWNS AND VILLAGES ADJOINING THE CONSETT BRANCH OF THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

and their respective distances from the nearest Railway Station on that Line.

STATIONS.	FARES. 1	2	Gov.
NEWCASTLE	0	7	0
SCOTSWOOD	0	6	0
SWALWELL	0	10	0
ROWLAND'S GILL ..	1	0	1
LINTZ GREEN	1	2	1
EBCHESTER	2	4	1
SHOTLEY BRIDGE ..	2	6	1
BENTINCK DEDE ...	3	0	2
KNITSLEY	3	2	2
WITTON GILBERT ..	3	9	2
LANCHESTER	3	10	2
DURHAM	4	10	2

Allanaford ..... 2 miles from either Nos 5 or 6
Annfield Plain ..... 3 miles from No 8, and 4 miles from No 7

Andrew's House ..... 2½ miles from No 2.
Bankhaw Castle ..... 2½ miles from No 6.
Bedlesdale ..... 1 mile from No 6.
Berry Edge (now Consett) 1 mile from No 6.
Bitterley ..... 2 miles from No 2.
Blackhill ..... (Bedlesdale Station in centre of the village).

Bradley Cottages ..... 1½ mile from No 4.
Burnhope ..... 2 miles from No 8.
Burnopfield ..... 3 miles from No 9.
Byermoor ..... 2 miles from No 2.
Burnopfield Colliery ..... 2½ miles from No 9.

Castleside ..... 3 miles from No 6.
Catchgate ..... 3 miles from either Nos 3 or 8
Causey ..... 3½ miles from No 2.
Clough Dean ..... 2½ miles from No 3.
Collierley Dy ..... 2½ miles from No 8.
Colpike Hall ..... 1½ from No 8.
Consett (late Berry Edge) 1 mile from No 6.
Cornsay ..... 3 miles from No 8.
Craghead ..... 4 miles from No 8.
Crawcrook ..... 3½ miles from No 2.
Crookgate ..... 1½ mile from No 2.
Crookhall ..... 2 miles from No 5.
Derwent Cottage ..... 2½ miles from No 5.

Derwent Cote ..... 2 miles from either Nos 3 or 4
Dipton ..... 2 miles from No 3.
Dipton Cottages ..... 2 miles from No 3.
East Castle Colliery ..... 2 miles from No 4.
Ebchester ..... 1 mile from No 4.
Edmondbyers ..... 5 miles from either Nos 5 or 6.
Esh ..... 2½ miles from No 3.
Fellside ..... 2½ miles from No 1.
Flintfull ..... 2½ miles from No 3.
Front Side ..... 2½ miles from No 3.
Gibside ..... 1 mile from No 2.
Greencroft ..... 2½ miles from No 8.
Greencroft Cottages ..... 2½ miles from No 8.
Greenhead ..... 3 miles from No 5.
Greenside ..... 3 miles from No 2.
Hamsteels ..... 2 miles from No 8.
Hamsterley ..... 3 miles from No 5.
Happy Land ..... 1 miles from No 4.
Harperley Mill ..... 4 miles from No 2.
Hedley ..... 2½ miles from either Nos 7 or 8
Healeyfield ..... ¾ miles from No 6.
Hill Top (near Dipton) ..... ¾ miles from No 3.
Hill Top (near Esh) ..... 2 miles from No 9.
Hobson ..... (or Burnopfield Colliery).
Holmside ..... 2 miles from No 8.
Iveston ..... 3 miles from either Nos 4 or 7, and 2½ from No 8.
Kyo ..... ¾ miles from either Nos 3 or 8.
Knitsley ..... 1 mile from No 7.
Lanchester ..... Close to Station.
Langley ..... 2 miles from No 8.
Leadgate ..... 2 miles from either Nos 4 or6.
Linn Colliery ..... ¼ mile from No 3.
Lintz Paper Mill ..... 1 mile from No 3.
Lintz Green ..... ¼ mile from No 3.
Lizzie Colliery (or South Pontop) at Annfield Plain. 1 mile from Nos 3 or 4.
Loud ..... 1 mile from No 3.
Marley Hill ..... ¾ miles from No 1
Medomsley ..... ¾ mile from No 4.
Meadowfield ..... 2 miles from No 8.
Muggleswick ..... 5 miles from either Nos 6 or 7.
Minsteracres ..... 6 miles from either Nos 5 or 6.
Newbiggin (near Lanchester) ..... ¼ miles from No 8.
Newbiggen (near Blanchland) ..... 11 miles from No 5.
Newlands ..... 3 miles from No 4.
Oxhill ..... 4 miles from No 8, and 5 miles from No 3.
Pickering Nook ..... 2 miles from No 3.
Pontop ..... 3 miles from either Nos 3 or 4.
Rowley ..... ¾ miles fromeither No 3.
Satley ..... 4 miles from either Nos 7 or 8.
Shield Row ..... 5 miles from No 2.
Shotley Bridge ..... 1 mile from No 6.
Shotley Spa ..... ¼ mile from No 6.
Shotley Field ..... ¾ miles from either Nos 5 or 6.
Staley ..... 2 miles from either Nos 5 or 6.
Stones Green ..... ¼ mile from No 5.
South Derwent Colliery (Annfield Plain).
South Medomsley Colliery (Pontop).
South Moor ..... 3 miles from No 8.
South Pontop Colliery (or Lizzie) Annfield Plain.
Spen (Gateshead) ..... 2 miles from No 2.
Stanley ..... ¼ miles from No 3.
Sunniside (near Marley Hill) ..... 3 miles from No 1.
Swalwell ..... 1 miles from No 1.
Tanfield ..... 3 miles from No 2
Tanfield Lea ..... 3½ miles from No 2.
Tantobie ..... 3½ miles from either Nos 2 or 3
Waskerley ..... 4 miles from No 6.
Waskerley Park (near Shotley Bridge) ..... 2 miles from No 5.
Whickham ..... 1 mile from No 1.
White-le-Head ..... 2 miles from No 3.
Witton Gilbert ..... 1 mile from No 9.
Whittonstall ..... 2 miles from No 4.
Winlaton Mill ..... 1 mile from No 1.
Winlaton ..... 2 miles from No 1.

Railway Time Tables.

NOTE.—*These Tables are compiled from the best authorities, but we do not hold ourselves responsible for any errors they may contain.*

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY

GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.	A.M. 1, 2, 3.	P.M. 1, 2, 3	P.M. 1, 2, 3
Benfieldside ..... dep.	6-25	2-15	5-50
Cold Rowley	7- 3	4-35	....
Burnhill Junction .. "	7-12	4-45	....
Tow Law ..... "	7-22	4-55	....
	arr. 7-35	1, 2.	
Crook ..... { dep.	7-40	5-20	....
	arr.	5-25	....
Bishop Auckland .. "	8- 5	5-50	....
Darlington ..... "	8-35	6-20	....
Stockton ..... "	9-30	7-10	....
Middlesbro' ..... "	9-50	7-30	....

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.	A.M. 1, 2, 3.	P.M. 1, 2, 3.	P.M. 1, 2, 3.
Middlesbro' ..... dep.	6-22	5-15	....
Stockton ..... "	6-45	5-35	....
Darlington ..... "	7-15	4-30	....
Bishop Auckland .. "	7-48	5- 0	....
		1, 2, 3.	
Crook ..... { dep.	8-10	5-22	....
	arr.	5-25	....
Tow Law ..... "	8-23	5-40	....
Burnhill Junction .. "	8-35	5-48	....
Cold Rowley ..... "	8-45	5-58	....
Benfieldside ..... arr.	8-58	6-10	....

CONSETT BRANCH.

BY TRAINS RUNNING BETWEEN DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE.

STATIONS.	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G. P.M.
Newcastle ..... dep.	8-10..	12- 0..	3-15..	7-55
Scotswood ..... "	8-25..	12-14..	3- 9	8- 9
Swalwell ..... "	8-34..	12-23..	3-22..	8-24
Rowland's Gill ..... "	8-49..	10-24..	3-39..	8-44
Lintz Green ..... "	9-22..	10-30..	3-45..	8-50
Ebchester ..... "	9-29..	10-37..	3-52..	8-57
Shotley Bridge ..... "	9-44..	10-49..	4- 6..	9- 9
Benfieldside (Consett) ..... arr.	9-50..	10-55..	4-10..	9-15
Knitsley ..... "	7- 4..	11- 9..	....	6-29
Lanchester ..... "	7-19..	11-24..	....	6-38
Witton Gilbert ..... "	7-30..	11-27..	....	6-47
Durham ..... arr.	7-55..	11-40..	....	7- 0
	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G. P.M.
Durham ..... dep.	8-10..	12- 0..	....	7-55
Witton Gilbert ..... "	8-25..	12-14..	....	8- 9
Lanchester ..... "	8-36..	12-25..	....	8-20
Knitsley ..... "	8-47..	12-36..	....	8-31
Benfieldside (Consett) ..... arr.	9- 2..	12-50..	3-25..	8-43
Shotley Bridge ..... "	9- 7..	12-55..	3-30..	8-48
Ebchester ..... "	9-20..	1- 8..	3-34..	8-52
Lintz Green ..... "	9-25..	1- 9..	3-44..	9- 3
Rowland's Gill ..... "	9-32..	1-16..	3-51..	9- 8
Swalwell ..... "	9-34..	1-23..	3-47..	9-17
Scotswood ..... "	9-40..	1-29..	4- 8..	9-24
Newcastle ..... arr.	9-50..	1-40..	4-20..	9-34

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

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

UP TRAINS.

STATIONS.	GO. A.M.	RETURN. P.M.
Newcastle ..... dep.	8- 0	1- 0
Scotswood ..... "	8- 7	1- 9
Swalwell ..... "	8-15	1-15
Rowland's Gill ..... "	8-21	1-23
Lintz Green ..... "	8-27	1-29
Ebchester ..... "	8-32	1-34
Shotley Bridge ..... "	8-45	1-47
Benfieldside (or Consett) ..... arr.	8-50	1-56
	dep. 9-10	2-10
Knitsley ..... "	9-21	2-21
Lanchester ..... "	9-34	2-34
Witton Gilbert ..... "	9-46	2-46
Durham ..... arr.	10- 0	3- 0
	DOWN TRAINS.	
STATIONS.	GO. A.M.	RETURN. P.M.
Durham ..... dep.	8- 3	4- 0
Witton Gilbert ..... "	8-13	4-13
Lanchester ..... "	8-24	4-23
Knitsley ..... "	8-38	4-38
Benfieldside (or Consett) ..... arr.	8-49	4-34
	dep. 9-20	6-20
Shotley Bridge ..... "	9-23	6-24
Ebchester ..... "	9-36	6-36
Lintz Green ..... "	9-39	6-39
Rowland's Gill ..... "	9-46	6-46
Swalwell ..... "	9-57	6-56
Scotswood ..... "	10- 3	7- 7
Newcastle ..... arr.	10-15	7-15

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OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The present is by no means a pleasant week for a London Correspondent. Inclination to write is not strong at a time, when few readers are likely to be found undisturbed by the prevailing dyspepsia which invariably follows the plethora of good things indulged in by old and young at what is called the festive season." Patience is the most distinguishing virtue at a period when pleasant salutations and those meaningless nondescripts—"Compliments of the season" go out, and frequent reminders in the shape of "bottle bills" come in. However if there has not been much sterling intelligence to chronicle there have been this Christmas some peculiar characteristics which may be worth a passing note. London holidays have extended from Saturday afternoon to Wednesday morning—for no Cockney of course can he get to work on Boxing Day. The weather however has not been all that could be desired. At all times it required a considerable amount of patience and caution to thread the mazes of the City of London—I mean the City proper—embracing as it does a network of perhaps the busiest streets in the world, and planned originally, one would suppose by architects whose dread of distinction has been exemplified to our eternal discomfort by the manner in which they have carefully shunned anything approaching a "broad way"—but I never saw these narrow streets present such a dismal sight as on Saturday morning—the busiest time of the day, when everybody who could move station-wards had begun their journey. The situation was tantalizing and proved temper, trying to many, who sitting in the blocked-in cabs watched the precious moments which they vainly had hoped would have been sufficient to get them to the railway in time to catch a "special" or some other inexorable train which is known to wait for no man. In vain was impatient shout; or earnest entreaty to "move on." Darkness, by the shape of the thickest London fog, settled over everything and in the City at noon, gas lamps were as much in requisition in shop and street as at midnight. The dangers of the streets were of course multiplied by the additional amount of traffic, for in all practical intents and purposes Saturday in London was regarded as Christmas-Eve. Many and sore must have been the vexations and disappointments endured by people who left their shopping to the last day, and perhaps a less dreary sight will not be found even in "Dore's *London*" than the provision shops presented—glutted with fat food—keeping up an appearance of Christmas jollity, under boughs of holly and mistletoe which were enshrouded in the general gloom. Rows of turkeys and geese dangling in the thick air looked anything but inviting, and I fear the weather spoilt many a Londoner's Christmas dinner.

Christmas Eve falling on Sunday of course gave a stimulus to the religious observers of the season. Church decorations has been made quite a scientific pursuit, especially in high churches, and costly embellishments have been made a favourite form of investment, particularly among maiden ladies of a certain or perhaps uncertain age. I have heard that as much as ten guineas have been given for bouquets of Camellias, and that is one included in the grumble that such spikinards had not been given to the poor, if I had not seen in every part of London ample signs that the poor had by no means been forgotten. A vast number of charity dinners have been provided. The evening classes and Ward and Night Refuges dinners have been the rule, not the exception, and it was quite a common sight to see at such places as the Field Lane Refuge, ladies and gentlemen personally assisting at the long tables in serving out the viands of which the poor and famished freely partook with silent gratitude, enjoying probably the solitary good meal of the Year.

This has not been a very merry Christmas for the postmen, poor fellows! The asking for Christmas-boxes has not yet been forbidden, the Postmaster General told us not long since, but the public have largely taken advantage of Mr. Monsell's hint, given in the "don't pump upon him" style. Some postmen with whom I have been talking on this breeches-pocket subject assure me that they have had a very bad season, and that many who frequently have been told they are forbidden to receive Christmas-boxes. In fact, people have made the recent Post-Office ukase an excuse for not giving.

Christmas Day was a deliciously barren day in one respect—there was no news after the publication of the morning papers. The evening papers either did not come out at all, or else so ridiculously early that they might as well have stopped in.

I believe Dr. Gull will have the honour of a baronetcy. Without depreciating in any way the services rendered by the two other eminent men who have attended the Prince of Wales duringhis illness, Dr. Gull may be considered, though his name, as a matter of etiquette, did not appear first in the bulletins, to have asserted a predominant influence in the medical councils, and it was he who specially performed for the illustrious patient all those offices on which recovery so much depended. The country generally must have been glad that the Prince had so experienced a physician, among others, to wait on him, and watch the symptoms of his convalescence; but Dr. Gull is a man of large practice, and a large number of less illustrious sufferers than the Prince had reason to regret the doctor's compulsory absence.

Doubtless we all have our opinion of Mr. John Bright and his political views, but most people perhaps will rather like to know that in all human probability he will, next February, take his seat in the House of Commons, when that "extraordinary assembly," as Dickens called it, meets for the despatch of business. Mr. Bright will no doubt be of some service to the Government in connection with their Parliamentary and Municipal Elections Bill — commonly called the Ballot Bill—which will be introduced at such a period of the session as to deprive the Leader of the Opposition of the excuse which they made last session for not passing it. As a matter of course, Government have set their hearts on the passing of the Bill. Let us look ahead, and suppose this measure passed. It will produce one rather strange effect; it will cause ministers to be more ready than they otherwise would be to threaten a dissolution should there be any occasion for wielding this powerful rod *in terrorem*. And the country, too, will be rather anxious to know how the ballot will work, and what sort of a House of Commons will be elected under it. As an infinitesimal part of the community, your correspondent is extremely anxious to know "the grand secret," as Dr. Dodd said when the hangman put the rope round the rev. lord's neck. Will the Liberal majority be largely increased, or shall we have proofs of the Conservative reaction?

The Crystal Palace always provides a capital Christmas entertainment—on paper. And it would be very good in reality if people could only see and hear it. But to crowd the palace at Christmas-time is useless. Your only chance is to be in a reserved seat, and this nobody knows better than the directors. But really they are not to be blamed. They cannot contravene the laws of optics and acoustics.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

On Thursday, a general meeting of the waywardens of the Lanchester Highway Board was held in the Justices' room, Lanchester. The waywardens present were:—Lieut.-Col. Joicey (chairman), A. H. Talmadge, Esq., J.P. (vice-chairman), H. Smith, Esq., J.P., Messrs. G. Hodgson, J. Wilkinson, T. Leybourne, W. Bulman, T. Humphrey, T. Wilson, and G. Walker.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed,

MESSRS. FERENS AND LOVE'S CHARGES

to the Board for conveying limestone on their line of railway were discussed.

The CLERK said that he had seen Mr. Ferens but he had not succeeded in getting the charge, which was thought reasonable, reduced.

TUNNELLING THE ROAD.

Messrs. Ferens and Love applied for leave to cut a drift through the road near their railway which was granted, subject to the approval of the Surveyor.

GAS FOR STANLEY.

Mr. D. Burn asked permission of the Board to lay gaspipes in the highway at Stanley, which was granted on condition that the roads be made satisfactory to the Surveyor.

THE CARRIAGE OF LIMESTONE.

Notices were received from Messrs. Ord and Maddison that the price of limestone would be raised 3d. per ton at the undermentioned railway running yard.

TELEGRAPH AUTHORITIES AT FAULT.

The SURVEYOR reported that he had seen Mr. Heavisides and Mr. Richard Stanley, respecting the posts placed at the sides of the highway. The posts had been erected too near the roads and these gentlemen had agreed to place the posts as the Board required.

STONE BREAKING.

Some discussion took place as to whether it was advisable for the Board to purchase a stone-breaking machine, but the question was left over for further consideration.

NUISANCES AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Nuisances were reported at Annfield Plain, and the Clerk was instructed to write to the parties at fault to state that if the obstruction did not cease, the Board would take further steps in the matter.

THE CONTRACTS.

The SURVEYOR reported that in some of the townships the contracts were considerably behind, owing to the want of stone-breakers, and in other cases Messrs. Ord and Maddison being unable to supply the quantity of limestone. Cornsay, Hedleyhope, and Esh Townships were all in arrear with their contracts. The contractor for Esh, Mr. Harrison, had died from small-pox. The Surveyor was instructed to complete Esh contract on behalf of the Board.

Various accounts were then passed, after which the Board adjourned.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting of the Guardians of Lanchester Union was held at Burnhope, on Tuesday last, at which were present: Messrs. N. Clark (chairman), D. C. Balleny (vice-chairman), Robt. Dickinson, Thos. Armstrong, G. Hobson, R. Charlton, J. Calvert, W. Jenkins, W. Ritson, J. Gladstone, F. Holmes, G. Shotton, G. Alder, J. Bowey, T. Humphrey, T. Wilkinson, R. Bell, Burn, and J. Wilkinson. The minutes having been read over and confirmed,

THE CORRESPONDENCE

was read over by the CLERK. The first communication was from the Local Government Board, enclosing a letter from the Vaccination Inspector, in which he objected to the non-attendance of one party at the Union vaccinating children within the district of other medical officers.

Mr. CHARLTON thought if the Guardians had not allowed their medical officers to vaccinate except by this rule, the small-pox epidemic would have been much worse at Esh.

The CHAIRMAN said it was the best way the Guardians had of getting vaccination properly carried out.

Mr. JENKINS remarked that at Consett they had from 600 to 700 cases of vaccination and re-vaccination within a month. It was impossible for any medical man to neglect his other duties to attend to that alone.

Mr. BALLENY was afraid that the whole of their medical officers were guilty of encroaching upon the district of each other. The Guardians advertised for medical gentlemen to fill certain duties, and if they undertook these duties it was only fair that they performed them; but during the last outbreak it was almost impossible for them to do so, and he therefore moved that the Clerk write to the Local Government Board, giving them the reasons why they had given authority to their medical officers to depart from the rule in the present instance, and that the Chairman sign such letter on behalf of the Board.

Mr. E. CHARLTON seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

VACCINATION INSPECTORS.

The rates paid to Vaccination Inspectors having been ascertained to range in other Unions from 9d. to 1s. per case, it was decided to pay to the Vaccination Inspector 9d. for each case.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE WORKHOUSE.

The Local Government Board having approved of the decision of the Guardians to dispose of a portion of the land, and also of the loan of a further sum to finish the workhouse, it was decided to advertise the sale of the land.

RATING OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

A communication was received from Mr. John Watson, clerk of the County Rate Committee, asking for the basis on which the Assessment Committee rated agricultural lands for the past year, and the clerk was instructed to furnish the particulars required.

OUT-DOOR PAUPERS.

Mr. W. JENKINS asked whether the Guardians had taken any steps to ascertain whether the number of out-door paupers could not be reduced. He had no reason to suppose that they could reduce the number, but he had seen in the newspapers that considerable reductions had been made in some unions.

The CHAIRMAN said that they had a few out-door paupers, and that number would probably be reduced as soon as the workhouse was completed.

THE TREASURER'S SHEET

Showed a balance in hand of £125 5s. 1¼d.; and the monthly schedule of accounts, amounting to £311 17s. 3½d.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

passed accounts amounting to £12 3s. 7d., after which the Board adjourned.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

then met and heard the appeal from Mr. Lee, agent for the Stockton and Darlington Railway, for their line in the township of Conside and Knitsley, Ebchester, and Medomsley, on the rating at twelve shillings and 6d per mile. After hearing the objections to the rates, the Board reduced it to £220 per mile.

Mr. JENKINS, on behalf of the Consett Iron Company, appealed against the increase in the rating of their railway made by the overseers of Iveston township. This rate was formerly £40 for half-a-mile of line, but the overseer had raised it to £280, notwithstanding the traffic had considerably decreased, and had also included in the rating another railway which adjoins the colliery, the rate of which was included in the rate on the vend.—The case was adjourned.

SUDDEN DEATH OF Mr. JONATHAN RICHARDSON, OF WOODLANDS.

Close following the death of Mr. George Hudson, the "Railway King," we are called upon to record the demise of Mr. Jonathan Richardson, which took place at his residence, Woodlands, on Christmas day, under circumstances of startling suddenness. For some time past, Mr. Richardson had been in a declining state of health, but he has still been able to attend to his ordinary business transactions. During the latter part of last week he, accompanied by his wife, called upon several of the tradesmen of Shotley Bridge, and appeared to have been in his usual health, with the exception of a pain in the spine, of which he complained. On Sunday, he and his wife attended the Friends' Morning House at Snows Green. On the following morning he became somewhat indisposed, but nothing of a serious nature was anticipated. In accordance with their annual custom, the family of Mr. Richardson had assembled together under his roof to enjoy the festivities of the season. The dinner hour had arrived, and there was met a company including children and grand-children, to the number of about forty. At this time Mr. Richardson was compelled, by sudden indisposition to retire from the dining-room, but he did not deem it necessary that any one should accompany him. As he did not return after the lapse of fifteen minutes had elapsed, several members of the family went in search, and found him in his dressing apartment, in a sitting recumbent position. Upon being raised, he breathed once or twice, and then expired.

The deceased gentleman was a member of a Quaker family, which has been one of considerable influence in the North. Mr. Richardson married his cousin, Ann Robson, a member of the Backhouse family.

Perhaps no gentleman ever held in succession a position in the banking circles of the North of England as he did for many years. In his early career he was cashier and manager for Jonathan Backhouse, Darlington Branch of the Newcastle Bank, which, on being amalgamated with Sir Matthew White Ridley's Bank, was afterwards called the Northumberland and Durham District Joint Stock Bank, of which he was one of the directors from its commencement until its failure.

Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Richardson went to reside with his wife at Summerhill Grove, Newcastle, from which place he afterwards removed to one of the two houses provided for two of the directors of the bank. After remaining here a short time he came to reside at Shotley Lodge, better known as the Tinkler Hill estate, where he purposed to remain over the summer months. The beauty of the surrounding scenery, combined with other attractions, induced him to charge the Lodge which is now the residence of his eldest son, Jonathan B. Richardson, Esq. Shotley Lodge becoming too small for his increasing family, in 1841 Mr. Richardson bought the Snow's Green estate, and in the latter end of that year laid the foundation of the present Shotley Park. The mansion was finished about the latter end of 1842, when Mr. Richardson went to it to reside. During this time Mr. Richardson continued as a director of the Northumberland and Durham District Joint-Stock Bank. The affairs of the bank becoming complicated, Mr. Richardson went to reside at Benwell High Cross House, near Newcastle, and subsequently to Benwell House.

In 1852, the North of England Joint-Stock Bank came to a sudden standstill, and in the same year the Union Bank (now Woods and Company) was in difficulties. In November 1857, and nearly five years after the failure of those two banks, the bank of which Mr. Richardson was a director was announced to have failed. We doubt if this will ever be fully brought poverty to many a previously happy home, will yet be fresh in the mind of many a reader. Mr. Richardson, high sheriff of the County Durham, was blamed by some for the unfortunate occurrence. That the accusations laid to his charge were groundless many a time ere this been proved.

In 1839 the Derwent Iron Company was formed, and in that year the company began to explore for ironstone. Mr. Richardson at that time was the lessee of all the royalty under the Bishop of Durham. The following year the ironworks were commenced with, and a number of furnaces were erected. The importance of these works led to the erection of a number of houses in the locality, Blackhill being commenced with in 1841. So much for the affairs of this company conducted that at the time of the failure of the Northumberland and Durham District Bank they owed no less than £1,000,000 sterling, not on actual loan, but from their having been unable to pay interest on the first advance money.

After the failure of the bank in 1857, Mr. Richardson took the Derwent Iron Company in hand, and it was converted into a joint-stock company, limited, with Mr. Jonathan Peter as managing director. The misfortune which had hitherto attended this company, which was now named the Consett and Derwent Iron Company, at this period of its history received a change, and instead of not being self-supporting, good dividends were soon forthcoming. Mr. Jonathan Priestman continued as managing director until November, 1869, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Mr. David Dale, of Darlington, who is the present active head of the Consett Iron Company. To the exertions of Mr. Jonathan Richardson, Mr. Jonathan Priestman, and Mr. David Dale, the prosperity of the now Consett Iron Company is no small principally due.

Soon after the failure of the bank in 1857, Mr. Richardson retired from the many concerns with which he was formerly associated.

Woodlands, the residence of the late Mr. Richardson, stands on an eminence about two-and-a-half miles to the west of Lanchester, and about a similar distance to the south of Consett. Under the Act for the enclosure of moors and wastes within the parish of Lanchester, a portion of moor was sold to defray expenses. Thomas White, Esq., of Retford, was the principal purchaser, and by a spirited and successful speculation clothed these barren moors with a rising and thriving forest. In the midst of this new creation, Mr. Which built the present mansion-house of Woodlands, which subsequently came into the possession of Mr. Richardson, who made considerable alterations in the building, which at that time was in a very dilapidated condition.

As an employer of labour Mr. Richardson had few equals. Soon after his removal to Woodlands employment was very bad to get in the district, and Mr. Richardson, in order to furnish hundreds of men with employment, commenced draining and cultivate the moorland around the locality of his own residence.

Mr. Richardson deceased had not the gentlest way of addressing those with whom he came in contact, yet he was one of the kindest and most charitable men that this district ever had, and from his extensive local knowledge, he was well able to distinguish between real and pretended wants. No doubt many yet remember his acts of charity while a resident at Shotley Park, where it was a custom every morning to distribute bread to the poor and needy.

Mr. Richardson was strongly attached to the tradesmen of Shotley Bridge, who in Mr. Richardson's demise, have lost a friend and supporter. He was also strongly attached to the Methodist New Connexion, many of whom have reason to remember his many kindnesses.

In the summer of 1853, the tradesmen of Shotley Bridge presented a piece of silver to the deceased gentlemen, by whom, as we have already stated, he was held in high esteem.

Deceased was held in the highest estimation by all classes, and his demise, under such saddening circumstances, is a cause of the deepest sorrow to all by whom he was known. Mr. Richardson was sixty-nine years of age on the 16th of last month.

Mr. Richardson leaves a widow, and two sons and three daughters to mourn their loss.

HOW AN APPRENTICE GOT A FORTNIGHT'S HOLIDAY.

FIT-TAKING EXTRAORDINARY.

We often hear of practical joking, which, if not carried to an extreme, sometimes causes a little amusement, and does not seriously hurt anyone. I remember many "larks" which took place while I served my apprenticeship in a certain city, "not above one hundred miles" from Consett, famous for its "Wood and Water, and old Maids and Mustard." There were upwards of twenty hands employed in the establishment, the larger part of whom were apprentices like myself, and the reader may imagine that amongst such a number of youths, a little fun now and again was relished by the whole of us. Notably amongst the rest was a youth whose greatest delight it was to amuse himself at other people's expense, and who had on many a time got me into mischief but he was, to use an Irishism, "never at peace but when at war." If a joke (such as putting cayenne pepper into the men's snuff-boxes, causing a transformation scene by blowing into gas-pipes, &c.) was perpetrated, suspicion at once fell upon the brave "Scotty," who always was ready to put himself at the head of any piece of fun that might be suggested.

About eleven o'clock one morning the apprentice mentioned above came to where I was working, and by the playful smile on his lips and the merry twinkling of his eyes, I could plainly see that something was "in the wind."

"I have got a grand idea in my head," said he, at the same time motioning me to keep quiet.

By his manner I soon guessed that his "grand idea" was in no way projected for the enlightenment or edification of the public in any way, but simply a scheme he had laid for the purpose of obtaining from the master leave of absence for a fortnight, the master having repeatedly refused to grant him holiday in the ordinary course. I said he would be sent for arriving at the offices about an hour after the others had commenced work.

"How would a fit go down?" he inquired.

"What do you mean by a fit going down?" said I.

He replied, "Well, you know I have been under medical treatment lately for the spine, and have already certified I am not very strong. I have asked the governor to let me go away for a fortnight this Christmas, and he says that I have to learn to rise a little earlier in the mornings before I ask again. But I am determined to have holiday by some means, as I want to have a visit to Scotland to see my brother. You know how well I can act, so I intend to take a fit (a mock one you know), and then I am sure to get off."

I had so much confidence in his powers of mimicry and deception that I readily acquiesced in the plot; therefore it was agreed between us that he should go downstairs into a large room where we kept the firewood and the dust that was swept from the rooms, at which place he was to take the pretended fit, and that I was accidentally to discover him.

Accordingly, all being in readiness, I proceeded downstairs, where I found him lying on his face as if dead. Out of breath, I hastened back into the room where the others were working, and announced that Gibson was lying downstairs in a fit. At first they laughed at me, no doubt thinking I was joking, but my anxious look and grave face (which would require a deal of acting to imitate), induced three or four of the most curious lads to follow me down again, and seeing the prostrate body, soon the whole of the hands were in the room. A doctor (which happened to be very dirty) having been procured, one of the men commenced to bathe his temples.

"Stand back!" exclaimed one, "and let him have some fresh air!"

"Keep his hands open!" shouted another, at the same time wetting the palms of his hands with the dirty water.

His body was quite rigid, and his eyes, which were wide open, appeared dull and inexpressive. He remained in this seemingly unconscious state for a few minutes, when suddenly his countenance relaxed, and without a word or warning, he commenced to strike out with his hands and feet, knocking the youngest lad into the bucket of water.

"Run for the doctor!" shouted the foreman; "he is in another fit!"

"Poor fellow," said one, "look how his eye-lids are trembling!"

This was caused by some of the dust which he had raised in his struggles getting under the eyes, and this in a manner was nearly the death-blow of the joke, for the dust beginning to irritate his eyes, I could plainly see that it was much as he could do to keep his hands from rubbing them. An idea suddenly striking me, I got the remaining water out of the bucket, and "accidentally" let some of it fall in the face, after which I took my apron and gave his face a good rub, of course not forgetting his eyes.

At last he began to show signs of returning consciousness, but this was only momentary. With a loud shout he commenced to strike out with his hands and legs again, making the younger lads fly in all directions out of his reach.

"Keep hold of his arms!" shouted one lad, wiping away the tears which had been brought into his eyes by the dust.

Owing to the exertions he had made, together with the dirty water, about half the grime which had adhered to his face, he presented a sickly, and to me a very comical, appearance.

Almost things have an end, and the fit did not prove an exception. With a heavy sigh he opened his eyes, and looking about wonderingly he inquired where he was and what was the matter. After giving him the required information, we assisted him upstairs, where he was laid on a table, and made as warm as a good fire and half-a-dozen overcoats could make him.

At this stage of the proceedings a doctor made his appearance, and by Jove he was! The idea, when the plot was concocted, of a medical gentleman being present, and I began to feel apprehensive that our trick would be discovered; but the equanimity of the patient somewhat re-assured me.

I had often heard him affirm that he could beat what all the men in the place put together could do of, and that was by simply giving his elbow a peculiar knock against anything, which would make the pulse rise so quickly.

After feeling his pulse (the patient having given the necessary knock) the doctor stooped down, and placing his ear to the patient's chest, listened. I do not know whether he had the same knack of making his heart go through a similar performance, but there was no mistaking the confused noise which the heart at that moment thumped against his breast as though that member had received an impetus from some unknown agency.

"Have you ever suffered from rheumatism?" inquired the doctor.

"Yes, sir," replied the patient, "Dr. G—— has been treating me for that complaint."

We afterwards learned that the medical gentleman, prior to entering Shotley Bridge, had been in conversation with a person next door, who had heard of the occurrence, and who had told the doctor, as he entered the house, that the patient was weak lad, having suffered greatly from rheumatic pains.

"Have you ever any difficulty in breathing?" inquired the doctor physic.

"Yes, sir," replied the patient, feebly; "last night I had to sit up in bed to get fresh air."

The doctor having taken his departure, promising to look in again in the course of an hour, the brandy was brought. Some genius suggested that the brandy had better be burnt before it was given him, and this ceremony having been gone through by means of a dust-pan (no other utensil being at hand), a portion of the brandy was given him.

By this time the patient was convalescent, and a lad was at once despatched for a cab, on the arrival of which we led him out, one on each side and another behind. He and I having seated ourselves in the cab, I pulled down the blinds and gave the coachman orders to drive on.

Left to ourselves, we rolled about the cab—door and held our sides with laughter at the trick we had played. Having arrived at his residence, I assisted him out of the cab, and assuring his anxious parent that nothing of the nature was seriously the matter with him, I again got into the cab and was driven to my own home where I enjoyed a good laugh over my dinner, much to the astonishment of my mother.

"Correct *mis*-representations" of the case having been made in the proper quarter, it is needless to state that the required leave of absence was obtained, and also a bottle of wine to nourish my "weak friend," the first glass of which was drank in wishing him a pleasant trip.

G. N.

BLACKHILL TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above association was held in the Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Saturday evening last. The first part of the programme was be patronised by the members present of a tea and coffee supper with the substantial accompaniments of, boiled ham and tongue, kindly prepared by Mesdames Lowes and Bell to whom hearty votes of thanks were awarded. During the supper, one of the members introduced to the meeting Mr. Fred. Potter, of Cupar-Angus, Perthshire, Scotland Lodge, deputy of the Strathmore Lodge of Good Templars. Mr. Paton was very warmly received by the members of the association, and by the Good Templars present, who extended to him—the right hand of fellowship. The subsequent proceedings were conducted under the presidency of Mr. F. Smith, Shotley Bridge, and consisted chiefly of the reading of reports, giving of addresses, and singing of melodies. From the secretary's report we find that the association had had ten official and several unofficial meetings during the year in various parts of the country, and that about one hundred persons had taken the temperance pledge. The report expressed the warmest thanks of the Committee for the important and arduous services rendered by Messrs. G. Farrage, H. Carss, G. Lowes, J. Weir, J. Charlton, W. Armstrong, J. Montgomery, S. Leybourne, and W. Shimmin for travelling over many miles of country to spread the glorious principles.—The report of the treasurer stated that there was at the last year with a balance of £3 17s. 10d. their income had been £23 7s. 3d., the expenditure had been £20 17s. 10d. leaving a total balance of £6 7s. 10d. The above gratifying and encouraging statement was received with loud applause. The following committee were then appointed:—President, Rev. John Hicks; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. E. O. Tregelles, Charles Wilson, F. Smith, George Farrage, G. Lowes, and Wm. Baw; Secretary, Mr. C. W. Nicholson; Treasurer, Mr. A. Lowes; Committee, Messrs. M. Thompson, W. Walton, J. Weir, N. Hale, Wm. Shimmin, S. Leybourne, J. Montgomery, T. Hogg, J. Charlton, W. Armstrong, R. Featherstone, J. Paton, and Wm. Belt.

After the Committee was elected Mr. G. Lowes proposed and Mr. S. Leybourne seconded the following resolution, viz:—"That this meeting desires to express its heartfelt gratitude to Sir Wilfred Lawson and his many able helpers, including the officers and Executive Committee of the United Kingdom Alliance, for their judicious and effective labours in carrying forward the Permissive Bill." This motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Lodge-deputy PATON then gave a short account of the progress of Good Templarism in the north of Scotland. In one small town of 2,000 inhabitants, a lodge was formed by 14 members and in one year 100 persisted. In Dundee there were upwards of 30 lodges numbering above 150 members each, and so on through the North of Scotland. Mr. Paton's address was received with much manifest satisfaction.

Mr. W. SHIMMIN then detailed the doings of temperance in the Isle of Man, partly surrounded by Wales, Ireland, Scotland, and England, the initials of which form the word WINE. His experience had acted upon the wise policy of establishing temperance organisations all over the Island.

Mr. G. LOWES reported the progress of temperance in the district during the last ten or a dozen years.

Mr. FARRAGE related as an illustration of the usefulness of Good Templarism, that he was the previous night, when returning from Burnhope in company with brother Weir, they fell in with a poor wretch lying on the road, and succeeded in the stir, lifted him and carried him home, and thus, in all probability, preserved his life. (Cries of "Well done," and "Brave Farrage.")

Mr. BAW's was emphatically the speech of the evening. He urged the establishment of British Workmen Public Houses, and declared that if a strictly temperance measure was passed by the Legislature, the country could afford to abolish the House of Lords altogether. (Roars of laughter and cries of "Hear, hear.")

The speeches were pleasantly interspersed with melodious sung by Messrs. N. Hall, J. Weir and S. Leybourne.

After the usual votes of thanks the meeting adjourned.

Absence destroys small passions and increases great ones, as the wind extinguishes tapers and kindles fires.

COOKING BY GAS.—This is a process we venture to think not generally understood, but none the less worthy of the serious attention of all classes of the community. Its great recommendation is economy and the absence of waste. When a kettle has to be boiled, or a chop to be cooked in the ordinary way, the fire has to be lighted and burn up to a certain point of heat before the kettle can be put on to boil, or the fire is sufficiently clear for the chop to be cooked; and here is at once a large element of waste, as the fuel consumed in getting the process under way is not turned to any use; but where cooking by gas-stove is immediately available—time and money are both saved.

COMMUNISM AND CHRISTIANITY.—Now, perhaps we should be justified in asserting that modern communism is not Christian in order; and, instead of saying, "What is mine is thine," makes the legend run thus: "What is thine is mine, and I will take it;" although this is certainly the result to which its doctrines very frequently, if not invariably, tend; but this much is true concerning it—that it starts from the principle of repudiating altogether the idea of property. There is no such distinction, it tells me as that of "mine" and "thine." I have no right, it tells me, to put my hand upon a portion of this world's goods and call it my own. The thing may have been inherited by me—nay, it may be the produce of my own ingenuity and my own labour, and so completely so that but for me it would never have had any existence. No matter, according to communism it is not mine. It belongs no more to me than it does to any other member of the whole body with which I am associated; and for me to appropriate it to myself, and if I succeed in so appropriating it, I am guilty of theft—I am robbing the whole community, in order to attach to the benefit of one person, and that person myself, what is, in fact, the possession and is intended for the benefit of all. I say, then, that we have here a fundamental difference between the communism of the early Christians in Jerusalem, and some other systems of communism with which we have been made acquainted—the one proceeds upon the recognition of property, whilst the others commenced with ignoring and repudiating property altogether.—*From The Quiver.*"

D. IMRIE,
47 & 48, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
HAS the Best, Cheapest, and Largest Assortment of PAPER HANGINGS in the North of England. Hardware, China, Paraffin Oil and Glasses, equally reasonable. Powder, Shot, and Caps. 721b

D. IMRIE,
47 & 48, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
SUPPLIES [illegible] GROCERIES in Consols, [illegible] Sugars, Soaps, Tapioca, Sago, Rice, Spices, every other article of the Grocery Department.

Lost.

LOST at LEADGATE, on the 16th inst., A BLACK CUR DOG answers to the name of "Tip"; whosoever will return the same to Wm. Green, Butcher, Tantobie, will be rewarded. 774b

LOST, on the 27th inst., a Red-Coloured TERRIER DOG, with short tail, answers to the name of "Tip." Whoever has found the same and will return it to John Ritson, Knitsley Mill, near Consett, will be rewarded for their trouble, and anyone detaining it after this notice will be prosecuted. 779b

Public Notices.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN SCHOOL.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, SERMON, SPEECHES, TEA.
W. JENKINS, Esq., in the Chair. 756b

ST. IVES' SCHOOL, LEADGATE.

A CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT, on behalf of the School Building Fund, will be held in the Infants' School-room, Church Square, Leadgate, on New Year's Day. Chair to be taken at 6:20 p.m., by the Rev. J. W. Mitchell. Tickets, 2d. and 6d. each, may be had of Mr. Moorhouse, Mr. R. W. Shaw, or any of the elder scholars. 777b

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE ANNUAL BALL will be held on Monday, Evening, January 1st, 1872, in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge. Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock p.m. Tickets to be had of the Door.—Gentlemen, 1s. 6d.; Ladies, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.

N.B.—The Gallery to be cleared at Twelve o'clock.

(Refreshments will be provided; also, Breakfast, at the King's Head, Shotley Bridge, at Four o'clock a.m., on January 2nd, 1872. 750b

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL, THAFALGAR HOUSE, CONSETT.
Conducted by the Misses WILSON, from Chester-le-Street.

THE course of instruction will comprise the several branches of a good English Education, with Music, Vocal and Instrumental, Drawing, French, &c.

Duties to commence on Tuesday, Jan. 25th, 1872.
Prospectus of terms on application. 716b

NOTICE.

THAT the Benefit Friendly Society Meeting of Women was held according to Rule on Tuesday, December, 26th, 1871, and part of the Members paid up, according to their Rules. We suppose part of the Members paid their money at Tantobie, at which place they have formed a Society of their own; but ours shall be called the "Shield Row Benefit Friendly Society," the business thereof shall be carried on at the Shield Row Inn, Shield Row, County of Durham, as usual.
775b Members of the said Society.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all or any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry must first obtain the consent of the Secretary of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default thereof, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Persons will be Prosecuted as the Law directs. For the convenience of Persons in the Consett and Leadgate districts, the Secretary can be seen daily at the Brickworks Office, Consett, or at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.

By order of the Directors,
JOSEPH H BELL, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1870. 242a

COLLIERLEY CHURCH SERVICE, TEA, AND CONCERT.

THE Inhabitants of Collierley and the Neighbourhood are respectfully informed that on Saturday, January 6th, 1872, an AFTERNOON SERVICE will be held at the Church, commencing at Half-past Two o'clock, when the Sunday School Children will be catechised, and an Address will be given them by the Rev. W. J. Reeman, Curate.

After the Service a TEA will be provided in the School-Room.

In the Evening, there will be a GRAND CONCERT, at which event kind Friends from Leadgate and Stanley have granted their services. R. Spencer, Esq., Organist, of Ryton, has consented to be Pianist upon this occasion. The Concert to Commence at Seven p.m. Front Seats, One shilling; Back Seats, Sixpence. Tickets for Tea and Concert, One Shilling and Sixpence.

Proceeds to be devoted to giving the Sunday School Children their Tea gratis, and to procure Prizes. Tickets can be had of Mr. Geo. Church, Harelaw; Mr. Graham, Dipton; Mrs. Watson, Annfield Plain; Mr. Gray, The Lizzie; and Mr. Anderson, sexton. 773b

BEAMISH, PONTOP, AND CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE THIRD ANNUAL PLOUGHING and HEDGE-CUTTING MATCH of this Society will be held upon the Farms of Mr. G. Bailey, Pelton, and Mr. G. Heppell, Nowfield, on Wednesday, January 10th, 1872, when the following prizes will be competed for, viz:—

Class I.—Wheel Plotohs.
First Prize, £2; Second Prize, £1.
Class II.—Swing Plotohs.
First Prize, £2; Second Prize, £1.
Class III.—Wheel Plotohs, (Youths, under 18 years of age.)
First Prize, £2; Second Prize, £1; Third Prize, 10s.
Class IV.—Swing Plotoh (Youths under 18 years of age.)
First Prize, £2; Second Prize, £1; Third Prize, 10s.
Entry in above Classes 2s. 6d. each.
Class V.—Hedge Cutting.
To Cut and Scour about 3 Roods of Hedge.
First Prize, £1; Second Prize, 10s.; Third Prize, a Spade, presented by a member.

Competitors in each of the above Classes to be members of the Society (at this date), members sons or servants from Martinmas last.

Entries to be made to Mr. Geo. Heppell, Newfield, or the Secretaries, on or before Saturday, January 6th, 1872. Competitors to be on the Ground at Eight o'clock on the morning of the Match.

The DINNER will take place at the Pierce Inn, Pelton, at 4:30 p.m. Tickets, 2s. 6d. each.

JOHN RICHARDS, } Secs.
GEORGE RIDLEY, }
Beamish, 14th Dec. 1871. 749b

Public Notices.

NOW READY.—ENORMOUS DEMAND. IMMENSE POPULARITY.

JACKSON'S
BUSINESS AND HOUSEHOLD ALMANACK FOR 1872,
WHICH will be extensively circulated in Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, Leadgate, Annfield Plain, Stanley, Lanchester, Dipton, Ebchester, Tanfield, Castleside, Tow Law, and surrounding neighbourhood.

JACKSON'S
BUSINESS AND HOUSEHOLD ALMANACK FOR 1872,
Will contain, besides a vast amount of general information,
A DIRECTORY FOR THE DISTRICT,
Compiled at great expense, and corrected up to the time of going to press,
The names and residences of the Magistrates in the Lanchester Petty Sessional district;
Lanchester Board of Guardians;
Lanchester Highway Board;
Consett Local Board;
Leadgate Local Board;
Benfieldside Local Board;
Tow Law Local Board.
Directors of Consett Ironworks;
Directors of Consett Waterworks Company
Directors of Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company;
Directors of Annfield Plain Gas Company;
Directors of Dipton Gas Company.
Benfieldside Burial Board; also the
Cemetery Charges, with Rules and Regulations;
Shotley Bridge County Court.
The various places of Worship with the names and Residences of Ministers in the District.
The New Postal Regulations;
Postal Arrangements, including the time of Arrival and Departure of Mails from the various Post-offices in the District, and Names of Postmasters.
Shotley Bridge Hirings and Fairs;
Coaches and Carriers leaving Consett,
Shotley Bridge, &c.;
List of Bankers with their London Agents;
List of Fairs for the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.
The Population of the district at last census; with the rateable value of the various townships in Lanchester Union.
Local Building Societies with time and place of meeting;
Local Friendly Societies, with time and place of meeting.
Dates of holding Local Petty Sessions at Lanchester, Shotley Bridge, &c., &c.

CONTENTS OF ALMANACK FOR 1872.

Windsor and its Historical Associations—with an Engraving of Windsor Castle.
Hampton Court—with at engraving of Hampton Court.
Cottage on Magna Charta Island—with an engraving of the Cottage.
Medmenham Abbey—with an engraving.
Old Somerset House do.
The Star Chamber do.
Three Mile Cross do.
Old London Bridge, do.
Upton Church, do.
Eton College, do.
Hogarth's Tomb, do.
The first Bridge on the Thames, do.
Chelsea Bridge, do.
HAPPY HOMES.—
Home,
Look before you Leap.
Take care of the Dollars.
Courtship.
Taking a House.
Mutual Duties of Married Life.
Live Within your Means.
Home Training.
Home, sweet Home.
Woman's Sphere.
Order Heaven's first Law.
CHOICE READINGS.—
How Michael Faraday became a philosopher—with illustration.
Uses of Fog.
Uncontestable antipathies.
Are the Children at Home—a Poem.
Benevolence.
Business of ordinary life.
Children.
The Imperial Crown of England.
What constitutes a State?
The Steam Engine.
Rules for Speech.
Advantages of Reading.
Common Sense.
Art of Reflection.
Rules for Youth.
Physical glories of Britain.
Description of an Avalanche.
The National Debt.
Origin of the English Parliament.
Talks of English and Scottish Sovereigns.
INFORMATION FOR EVERYBODY.—
How to make your Will.
Form of a Will.
Rules for the Disposal of the Personal Estate of a Person Dying Intestate.
Probate and Letters of Administration, Assessed Taxes, Licenses, &c.
Rates of Postage.
Festivals.
Eclipses.
Bill Stamps and Promissory Notes.
Birthdays of the Royal Family.

PRICE ONE PENNY; ON SUPERIOR PAPER, WITH A DIARY, TWOPENCE.

D. IMRIE,
47 & 48, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
HAS always on hand a large Stock of the best WOOLS of all colours and prices. Haberdashery in large variety. CHRISTMAS TOYS for girls and boys. Come and buy! Come and buy!!

Christmas Announcements.

PARLOUR PLEASURES FOR XMAS.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and FURNISHINGS for CHRISTMAS TREES, to be had in great variety at
S. WALKER'S,
STATIONER,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL. 718b

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT
AND THE
CHOICEST PATTERNS
OF
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS
FROM WHICH TO SELECT, ARE AT
ROBERT JACKSON'S,
BOOKSELLER,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

CHRISTMAS, 1871.

JAMES LAKE,
HAS just returned from purchasing a first-class Lot of Cethersten, Cheshire, Gloucester, Derbyshire, and American CHEESE, which will be sold at exceedingly low Prices.

J. L. would call particular attention to his finest New Season's ASSAM and CHINA TEAS, and would state that every one should give them a trial, as they are now unsurpassed by any.

Finest EXILE and CUMBERLAND BUTTER.
Prime CUMBERLAND HAMS and BACON.
Fine New FRUITS, &c.
Agent for the Tunnicliff Baking Company. A large quantity of FRUIT LOAF at various Prices.
Address—NEWCASTLE TEA WAREHOUSE, 14 & 15, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. 726b

XMAS, XMAS, XMAS,
EVER FESTIVE XMAS.

M. ALMOND'S Grocery and Provision Establishment, 56, Front Street, Consett, is replete with a large, varied, and choice Selection of Articles suitable for the Christmas trade.

TEAS, and SUGARS. Strong, cheap, and fine flavoured, RAISINS, CURRANTS, LEMON PEEL, LARD, and SPICES.

A large and choice Assortment of CHEESE specially selected for the Christmas Festivities.

Beautifully Cured HAM at easy prices.

Note the Address—
M. ALMOND,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT.
56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 747b

XMAS BOTTLES
AT THE
QUEEN'S HEAD
SPIRIT STORES,
CONSETT.
R. MURRAY,
PROPRIETOR. 740b

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!!
CHEESE!
CHEESE!!
CHEESE!!!
COME and buy your Christmas CHEESE at the Ready-Money Tea Shop, where you can have Quality and Quantity. Fine and select Cheshire and Derbyshire Cheese at 8d. to 9d.

All that desire to make a discount and save money, ought to remember that a 1d. saved on every four-penny article is equal to a dividend of 2s. 6d. in the pound.

FRUITS! FRUITS!!
Fine Fruit Loaves, 6d. per lb.; very fine Currants, 4d.; Raisins, 4½d., now; Spices in great variety.

TEAS! TEAS!!
Of the finest importations; in fact, everything complete for making a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year, at

T. SWAINSTON'S,
THE READY-MONEY TEA DEALER,
12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 751b

D. IMRIE,
47 & 48, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
HAS always on hand a fresh and well-assorted Stock of DRUGS from the best houses. A splendid assortment of Perfumery, Hair and Tooth Brushes, Combs, and every requisite for the toilet table. Patent Medicines.

Business Announcements.

PRICE TWO SHILLINGS,
THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT, reprinted from the Original Copy.—Apply to Mr. Jones, Calvert, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 471b

WILLIAM WATSON, South Pentop, is prepared to supply PIC-NICS and TEA PARTIES of every description, or Contract for the same.
Funerals Supplied with Bread. 414b

THE PUBLIC BATHS, CONSETT,
ARE Open Daily from Seven a.m. till Nine p.m. To preserve the standard of health and keep away all infectious diseases the whole body should be washed with soap and warm water at least once a week. 545b

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER
LEADGATE AND CONSETT.
Middle St., Shop closed—orders to be left at Victoria St.
☞ Pic-Nics and Tea Parties Supplied or Contracted for. 685b

WM. MILLS, Carrier, (Successor to Joseph Barrow), from Newcastle, Ebchester, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, and Consett, begs to return his sincere thanks to the Public for their patronage since he commenced, and trusts by punctual attention to business to merit a continuance of further support. 714b

NOTICE.

FARMERS, GARDENERS, and others may be supplied with GAS LIME on easy terms, at the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company's Works, Shotley Bridge.
JOSEPH H. BELL, Secretary.
August 5th, 1870.

WILLIAM BORROW,
COOPER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
HAS always on hand CHURNS, BUTTER TUBS, POSS-TUBS, WASH-TUBS, PAILS, &c. Old Tubs repaired on the shortest notice. 341b

CLOCKS! CLOCKS!! CLOCKS!!!
First-class new Striking Clocks, from 12s. 6d.
Eight days' ditto, from 22s., warranted.
Second-hand Clocks, Sold by 2, WOOD'S Agency,
2, TRAFALGAR STREET CONSETT.
Clocks, Watches, Brooches, &c., Cleaned and Repaired on the most reasonable Terms. 638b

ENVELOPES! ENVELOPES!!
At Prices ranging from 2s. 6d. to 10s. per 1,000.
Sold by Robert Jackson, Bookseller, Derwent Street.

WILLIAM BROWN,
PRACTICAL CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER,
9, GIBSON STREET, CONSETT,
(Opposite the Co-operative Store Reading-Room.)
RESPECTFULLY announces to the inhabitants of Consett and District that he has commenced Business as above, and trusts by exceedingly moderate charges to merit a share of public support. 724b

GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL MILLER, and SEEDSMAN,
GROCER, DRAPER, & PROVISION MERCHANT
Harperley Steam & Water Corn Mill,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,
Has always on hand a large STOCK of Pure Linseed and Cotton Cakes; Indian Meal; Pea Meal; Barley Meal; Bootings, Sharps, and Bran; Oats whole and crushed, and feeding stuffs of every description.

G. H.'s Mixture of Permanent Clover and Grass Seeds has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturists of the District upwards of Twenty Years.

Fine Seed Peas, Spring Tares, Seed Barley &c., &c., on hand. 145b

D. HEANEY,
SOLE AGENT IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND
FOR THE
CITY OF EDINBURGH BREWERY COMPANY (LIMITED).
BEGS to announce to his numerous friends and customers, that he is now prepared to supply them with the superior Ales of the eminent Firm he has now the honour to represent, and requests the favour of receiving their esteemed orders immediately.

Offices:
THORNTON STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, AND WHITEHAVEN.

Note.—I deem it scarcely necessary to make any public allusion to the persistent and discreditable attempts which have lately been made, in some quarters, to damage my character and reputation as a man of business, but, in justice to myself and to those who have hitherto so kindly extended to me their support, I desire as briefly as possible to lay before them the facts of the case which was attempted to be bolstered up against me in the Tynemouth Petty Sessions last week, and which was so summarily disposed of by the magistrates, resulting in the entire discomfiture of my enemies, and my own honourable acquittal from the infamous and unfounded charge brought against me.

Daly, the person in whose name the charge was brought, was proved, on the investigation thereof, to be unable to write his own name, which was accordingly appended to the bill in question by his son, who was in the habit, as well as others of the family, of signing for the father his own signatures when required in the way of business. The Bill was signed in the presence of the father and his late wife, who managed the business, and ascertained the acceptance of the bill. It was drawn for a part only of a sum of £50 odds he owed me at the time, that part being for ales supplied by Messrs. Morison and Thompson, of Edinburgh, and hand over due, and I had no interest in, and derived no pecuniary benefit whatever from the proceeds thereof, even supposing that it had been honoured at maturity, but on the contrary was liable to Messrs. Morison and Thompson, in respect of the amount, I being responsible to them, under our agreement, for any bad debts made in the course of business. The bill having been dishonoured by Daly, the Edinburgh firm instituted proceedings against him for the recovery of the amount, and he subsequently transferred the business to his son, for the purpose of evading payment of his just debt, which was only partially recovered. I admit the irregularity which the circumstance of the bill having been actually signed upon me, but *how could there possibly be any intent to defraud*, such as is asserted by the prosecution, when Daly personally and at once discloses not only the utter groundlessness of the charge, but also the liability of himself and contemptible part of those with whom it originated. Not one word of this preposterous charge was ever even hinted, until at least three months after the events above mentioned, and it is inconceivable that it should have occurred to a man such as Daly, to bring forward a charge of procuring forgery of a bill, which he never did, personally at the time of the presentation, nor long afterwards. I can with the utmost confidence leave the matter in the hands of my friends and an unprejudiced public, in the belief that they will at once recognise the influence which has been at work, and the motives which have dictated this nefarious attempt to blast my character and future prospects in business. I can also, with equal confidence, solicit from my friends and customers a continuance of the many esteemed favours I have received from them in the past; and I can assure them that my efforts shall be wanting on my part to merit their kind support. I may say of the Brewery Company, I have now the honour to represent, that they will do everything in their power to produce an article which will give the fullest satisfaction.
740b D. HEANEY.

Business Announcements.

D. IMRIE,
47 & 48, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
KEEPS the Best and Purest CONFECTIONERY. Fruit Cake always on hand of his own manufacture, rich and good. British Wines unexcelled in quality. Fams, Jellies, and Marmalade.
TEA CAKES HOT EVERY DAY.

Business Announcements.

B. MOODY,
WATCH-MAKER, EBCHESTER.
708b

SMALL PROFITS AND QUICK RETURNS!
IN THE MONTH ADOPTED BY
JOHN STARFORTH,
AT HIS
NEW GROCERY EMPORIUM
9, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
WHERE a First-class Stock of the Finest TEAS, COFFEES, and General GROCERIES and PROVISIONS, may always be had at the Lowest Newcastle Prices.

☞ A discount of One Shilling in the pound on all Purchases of Five Shillings and upwards.

An early call is requested. 784b

MOWERS AND REAPERS by Hornsby, Burgess & Key, Wood, and others.
HAYMAKERS AND HORSE RAKES by Howard, Nicholson, and Ashby & Co.
Agricultural and Domestic Machinery of all kinds on hand or to order. Particulars and Prices on application to
HOBSON & LIDDELL,
Harperley Mills, and 5, Eyehill Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Town Warehouse:—Railway Yard, Cattle Market West.
Agents for "The Northern Fire and Life Assurance Co." 369b

CHEAP TAILORING AND DRAPERY
AT 8 AND 9, MILL TERRACE,
BLACKHILL.

DANIEL HARRIS
HAS now received his WINTER STOCK, and can make a GENTS' SUIT at Two Guineas for Ready-money only.
GENTS' SCARFS from 2½d.
STOCKINGS from 2½d.
WINCEYS from 3½d. per yard.
D. H. begs to announce that he Bought his Winter Stock before the Wool Markets got to such an enormous height, so that he is enabled to Sell at the above Low Prices. 671b

CARRIAGES NEW AND SECOND-HAND.

ATKINSON & PHILIPSON respectfully invite attention to their NEW LANDAUS, in three sizes, with and without side lights, and without outside head joints; and with the assistance of patent springs, a lady can with great ease open and close them from the inside.

Their BROUGHAMS, of Bijou, Miniature, Medium, and Clarence sizes, embrace several novelties, which give lightness and also style to their appearance.

Also, the VICTORIA PHAETON, with patent head, WAGONETTES, with and without heads, and Light PHAETONS under 4 cwt., of new design, and embracing the latest improvements in carriage building.

NORTHUMBERLAND CARRIAGE AND HARNESS MANUFACTORY,
15 PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 604b

PREPARITORY TO STOCKTAKING.

ON SATURDAY, December 23, we shall
Reduce our Prices of MANTLES and COSTUMES very considerably.
A Lot of LADIES' WATERPROOF CLOAKS will be offered at the very unusual price of 3s. 11d. and upwards.
A Lot of CHILDREN'S JACKETS, from 10½d. WOOL SHAWLS, from 3s. 11d., &c.

ROBERT HEDLEY & CO.,
BLACKHILL. 769b

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

R. HEDLEY & CO.
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL
BEG respectfully to announce to their numerous Friends and the Public that they will offer, during this month, their
STOCK OF READY-MADES
amounting to about £300, at very much Reduced Prices.
Pilot Jackets, from 8s. 11d. to 10s. 11d.; about Thirty of these were 12s. 6d. and 14s. 6d.
Tweed Trousers and Vests, at 24s., reduced to 16s. 6d.; a few will be cleared out at 8s. 11d. and upwards.
About Twenty Superfine Coats (Fashionable), will be offered at 18s. 11d.; former price 30s.
☞ They must be sold within two or three weeks, and R. H. & Co. therefore invite an early call, as they are really cheap and well-worthy attention 739b

BLANKETS! BLANKETS!!
TREMENDOUS ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF WOOL.
ABOUT FIFTEEN PER CENT. INCREASE IN MANUFACTURED GOODS.
SEEING that the great Advance in the Wool Markets would very much Increase the Price of Blankets, we Contracted early in the Summer Season for over ONE THOUSAND PAIRS,
which places us in the position of Supplying our Customers with those GOODS at
OLD PRICES.
We shall Show during the next month a large Stock at the following prices:—(Large sizes) 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 14s. 6d., 16s. 6d., 18s. 6d., and 20s.
We would earnestly appeal to our friends to avail themselves of this opportunity as in all probability they will not be obtainable at the Price for some years to come.
Our first delivery of FURS just to hand.
A Splendid Lot of MUSQUASH MUFFS at 3s. 11d.
ROBERT HEDLEY & CO.
BLACKHILL. 765b

Found.

FOUND at the Hagg Farm, Two Dwer can have the same by Fairbairn, and paying the expenses. in seven days will be sold to defray

Wanted

WANTED Immediately an API Butchering Business. Hedley, Middle Street, Consett.

WANTED, comfortable LODGI hill or Consett, by a young Address "A. B.," Post Office, Black

WANTED, a Small HAND-CA a Stationer.—Apply, statin *Guardian* Office, Consett.

WANTED, a Strong useful G Servant, accustomed to Farm to Wm. Hardy, Drover House, Satle

TO COAL HEWERS

WANTED, at the New Colliery, near Ebchester, a number of Apply to Mr. T. N. Soppet.

TO COAL HEWERS

WANTED, at Victoria Garde (Lintz Green Station) CO Steady men will meet with constant Apply to Mr. Jos. Barron, Chopwe

To Let.

TO BE LET, a useful one-d 12th of May, 1872, MIDDL FARM, in the chapelry of Tanfield, Durham, containing 61 Acres or which 26 Acres are old Pasture.

Middle Fryerside is situate one Iands Gill Station on the Consett North Eastern Railway, and about Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Mr. John Darling, Middle Frye the Farm with plan and conditi further particulars may be obtained King, Land Agent, Warkworth, offers up to the 6th of January next Warkworth, Acklington, Decemb

Sales by Auctio

By Mr. Henry Bro

PRELIMINARY NO

SALE of HORSES, CARTS, will take place on January, 17 ing to Mr. Andrew Fenn, Contract Particulars in future issues H. BROW

Consett, Dec. 21, 1871.

By Mr. J. Murra

CONSETT

FREEHOLD DWELLING-HO

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION Mr. Richard Murray, the Consett, on Monday, the 8th day Stockton, at Seven o'clock in the Evening

Sale contained in a Mortgage De

Mr. JOHN MURRAY

All that FREEHOLD DWE situate in Consett Iron Works Cellar, Parlour, Kitchen, and Stable, Pantry, and other conv occupied by Mr. Thos. Metcalfe Property has been properly sewe Water are laid on.

Further particulars can be had the Auctioneer, Consett; Mr. Geo. Auckland; or

W. DALE TROTT
Solicitor, B
Bishop Auckland, December 14

By Mr. John Jen

THIS DAY (SAT

DIPTON

MR. JOHN JENKINS is i William Morley, Joiner a to SELL BY PUBLIC CAST Dec. 30, 1871, A large quantity HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, convenience of Sale to Mr. H. Swainston's Arms Inn, Dipto Mahogany Sofa; in hair-cloth Balloon-backed Chairs, in hair Loo Table; Fulbree-quarter Ch Drawers; Bookcase and Desk Clock, in Mahogany Case; Pi Chairs; 2 Painted Longcettles; Tables; 3 Polished Tea Tables; Table; Washstand and Dressing Knife and Fork-room-case; Mahog Looking Glass; Fender and F Quantity of other Articles.

Sale to Commence at One o'cloc

Business Announcements.

PIANOFORTES.—First-class Pianos from the best London Makers may be had of E. MOORHOUSE, at very moderate prices. See specimens at the School House, Redwell Hills.
Pianofortes tuned. 778b

ONLY A QUESTION OF TIME.

THE steadily increasing demand for MRS. ORD'S, MILLINERY BONNETS is a certain indication of success. The remainder of the cheap BLACK STRAW HATS *reduced* to 3½d and 10½d., worth from 6½d to 2s. 11d.

Just received, 494 yards of STUFFS, all Remnants, 2½d. to 11½d. per yard, worth from 4½d to 8s. 6d. per yard.

Splendid JEWELLERY as CHRISTMAS BOXES. Buy a 2s. 6d. parcel and you will have your choice.

R. ORD & CO.,
LORNE HOUSE,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 760b

Found.

FOUND, at the HAGG FARM, TWO HEIFERS.—Owner can have the same by applying to A. FAIRBAIRN, and paying the expenses. If not claimed in seven days will be sold to defray expenses. 783b

Wanted

WANTED Immediately an APPRENTICE to the Butchering Business. — Apply to T. HEDLEY, Middle Street, Consett. 776b

WANTED, comfortable LODGINGS in BLACKHILL or CONSETT, by a young Gentleman.—Address "A. B.," Post Office, Blackhill. 782b

WANTED, a Small HAND-CART-Suitable for a Stationer.—Apply, stating terms, to the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 727b

WANTED, a Strong useful GIRL as general Servant, accustomed to Farm Work.—Apply to WM. HARDY, Drover House, Satley, Tow Law. 785b

TO COAL HEWERS.

WANTED, at the New Colliery, Milkwell Burn, near Ebchester, a number of Coal Hewers.—Apply to Mr. T. N. SOPPET. 677b

TO COAL HEWERS.

WANTED, at VICTORIA, GARESFIELD COLLIERY, (Lintz Green Station) COAL HEWERS. Steady men will meet with constant employment.—Apply to Mr. JOS. BARRON, Chopwell. 758b

To Let.

TO BE LET, a useful one-draught FARM, principally in grass. The Land will be shown, and written offers for the same will be received by Mr. EDMUND BALLENY, of Little Greencroft, near Knitsley Station, by Consett. The highest or any Tender may not necessarily be accepted.
Little Greencroft, Consett, 28th Dec., 1871. 771b

TO BE LET, Tithe free, and entered on the 12th of MAY, 1872, MIDDLE FRYERSIDE FARM, in the parish of Tanfield, and County of Durham, containing 64 Acres or thereabouts, of which 26 Acres are old Pasture.
Middle Fryerside is situate one mile from Rowlands Gill Station on the Consett Branch of the North Eastern Railway, and about eight miles from Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Mr. John Darling, Middle Fryerside, will shew the Farm with plan and conditions of letting, and further particulars may be obtained from Mr. R. H. King, Land Agent, Warkworth, who will receive offers up to the 6th of January next.
Warkworth, Acklington, December 15th, 1871. 743b

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Henry Brown.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

SALE of HORSES, CARTS, HARNESS, &c., will take place on January, 17th, 1872, belonging to Mr. ANDREW FOSS, Contractor, Blackhill.
Particulars in future announcements.
H. BROWN, Auctioneer.
Consett, Dec. 21, 1871. 765b

By Mr. J. Murray.

CONSETT.

FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE FOR SALE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at the house of Mr. RICHARD MURRAY, the QUEEN'S HOTEL, Consett, on MONDAY, the 8th day of JANUARY, 1872, at Seven o'clock in the Evening (under powers of Sale contained in a Mortgage Deed),
Mr. JOHN MURRAY Auctioneer.
All that FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE situate in GIBSON STREET, CONSETT, containing Cellar, Parlour, Kitchen, and 3 Bedrooms, with Stable, Pantry, and other conveniences, as now occupied by Mrs. MCGOUGH and another. The Property has been properly sewered, and Gas and Water are laid on.
Further particulars can be had on application to the Auctioneer, Consett; Mr. GEO. SHILLMAN, Bishop Auckland; or,
W. DALE TROTTER,
Solicitor, Bishop Auckland.
Bishop Auckland, December 14th, 1871. 757b

By Mr. John Jenkins.

THIS DAY (SATURDAY).
DIPTON.

MR. JOHN JENKINS is instructed by Mr. WILLIAM MOSTERY, Joiner and Cabinet-maker, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on SATURDAY, Dec. 30, 1871, a large quantity of VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, removed for convenience of Sale to Mr. R. CLARK's Large Room, SPORTSMAN'S ARMS INN, DIPTON, consisting of Mahogany Sofa in hair-seating; 6 Mahogany Ballon-backed Chairs, in hair-seating; Mahogany Loo Table; Three-quarter Chest of Mahogany Drawers; Bookcase and Drawers; Eight Days' Clock, in Mahogany Case; Painted Chest and Frame; 2 Painted Longettes; 3 Large Kitchen Tables; 2 Polished Tea-Tables; Mahogany Round Table; Washstand and Dressing Table; Mahogany Knife and Spoon-case; Dipton, consisting of Looking Glass; Fender and Fireirons; with a Quantity of other Articles.
Sale to Commence at One o'clock. 772b

Contracts.

BUILDERS are desired to Tender for the whole TWO COTTAGES on the Estate of Farm, near Medomsley, in the County of Durham, for the Trustees of Mr. Thomas Hunter, Esq.
The Drawings and Specifications will be for inspection at my office from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m., each day, and Tenders, sealed, and endorsed, will be received by me until the 12th day of JANUARY, 1872.
The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.
JOHN SMITH,
Architect and Surveyor.
Shotley Bridge, Dec. 27th, 1872. 781b

BUILDERS wishing to Tender for the Works required in the ERECTION OF NATIONAL SCHOOLS at Burnopfield, Flint Hill, and Stanley, in and for the Parish of Tanfield, in the County of Durham, are informed that the Drawings and Specifications will lie for inspection at my office from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. each day, between the 2nd and 16th days of JANUARY, 1872.
Tenders for each School, separately or otherwise, to be sealed, endorsed, and delivered, on or before the 16th day of JANUARY, 1872, to Mr. GEORGE RIDLEY, Shield Row Hall, via Chester-le-Street, County Durham.
The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.
Quantities (10s. 6d. for each School) will be supplied to persons sending their names and addresses accompanied by a remittance to my office by the 4th day of January, 1872.
JOHN SMITH,
Architect and Surveyor.
Shotley Bridge, Co. Durham, Dec. 20th, 1871. 780b

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a First-class BAGATELLE BOARD, Slate Bottom, and all complete.—Apply to ELIZABETH ROBINSON, Miners' Arms Inn, Castleside. —Nov. 30th. 710b

HARNESS, with Ostrich plumes, for one or a pair of horses; two Cc spring MOURNING COACHES; and a Onehorse BROUGHING COACH, with Box for Children's Funerals, for Sale.—Apply to ATKINSON and PHILIPSON, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 699b

TO TAILORS.

FOR SALE, a First-class THOMAS'S SEWING MACHINE.—Apply to R. ORD & Co., Middle Street, Consett. 699b

A GOOD BROUGHAM, A MINIATURE BROUGHAM, a Sociable LANDAU, a BAROUCHE, a WAGGONETTE, to carry six persons inside, and also one to carry four, a WAGONETTE OMNIBUS, a SHAMROCK PHAETON, a PONY PHAETON, and a DOG CART, also several sets of Single and Double HARNESS, sent in for Sale on Commission, at ATKINSON and PHILIPSON's Northern Counties' Carriage and Harness Repository, New Bridge Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 605b

FREEHOLD BUILDING SITES.

FREEHOLD BUILDING SITES for SALE on the Delves Estate, situate near the Consett Ironworks and the town of Consett.
These Building Sites are outside the district of the Consett Local Board, and are therefore free from all Building Regulations, and under the control of that Board.
Applications to be made to JOHN DOLPHIN, Esq., or Mr. T. R. ROBERTS, Delves House, Consett; or to Mr. J. P. DOLPHIN, solicitor, Wolsingham. 199b

TO ADVERTISERS.

All orders for advertisements in the *Guardian* should state the number of insertions for such advertisement. When this is not stated the insertion of the advertisement will be continued until an order to stop the announcement is received, up to which time it will be charged for.

The Consett Guardian,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1871.

THE NEW YEAR.

A RETROSPECT of the year 1871 might be indulged in to any extent, and column after column of more or less fine writing might be compiled with any amount of moralizing on the history of the past. But he who would attempt to forecast the leading events of the year 1872 must be a shallow-pated scribbler, whose vaticinations are only fitted for readers of similar mental calibre. Who shall say what is in the womb of Time, what the year 1872 may bring forth? But we may all look back on the past, examine thoughtfully the aspects of the present, and speculate modestly on some of the probabilities of the immediate future; and, indeed, from the latter few of us can refrain. Whatever the world may be destined to witness in the year of grace 1872, may it be spared the sad spectacle of such a terrific and desolating war as that which was so long waged between Germany and France. The misery that war produced is beyond all human calculation. The blood and treasure that were poured out; the thousands upon thousands that were slain by their fellow-men; the wives that were made widows, the children that were made orphans; the bitter and deadly heritage of revenge that was left to the conquered—who can estimate all this, or tell of its effects upon generations yet to come? May Heaven in its mercy spare mankind from giving way to the lust of ambition as unhappy France gave way previous to the most memorable war of our time. But sad as were the results of this war, they were not wholly so, and the long-protracted contest seems to have had a beneficial influence on other nations, deepening the horror of war generally and intensifying the desire for peace. It is not too much to say that a pacifying influence has thus been exerted in reference to the claims of the United States upon Great Britain, arising out of what are known as the Alabama depredations. The Washington Treaty, and the arrangement now in progress for settling American claims by arbitration, are cheering facts of the day, destined, we trust, to exert a beneficial influence upon the world's history. But it may be that we are on the eve of a war of another kind. There is a natural tendency to regard present times as critical times, and the oldest amongst us have been perpetually told from our childhood that "these are critical times." Now, we do not pretend to weigh and guage the characteristics of the present time, and compare it with times past; but it requires no sagacity to decide that there are now many great questions pressing for solution which may, for aught any of us can tell, throw our own country into commotion and produce great political and social results. The Ballot will in all probability be a question which next session will be settled, and, shut our eyes to this as we may, the ballot will give the working classes an immense increase of political power. There seems every probability also of republicanism and socialism in their many forms asserting themselves in a very unpleasant way during 1872. Loyalty to the throne and attachment to our institutions may be as staunch as ever in the hearts of the great mass of the people; but the probability we have mentioned is none the less to be despised on that account. And the war between Labour and Capital will be waged in 1872; that is no prophecy, for this war is continuous, and it is but its aspects that vary. It is particularly well known throughout the North of England that during the past year the short-time movement has made great strides. It was even said in a recent report from the Amalgamated Engineers, that by the commencement of the new year nearly all, if not all, of the masters would have conceded the demand for the nine hours, while the same demand in many other trades has been conceded long since. There having been no proportionate decrease in the wages, the condition of the working classes has undoubtedly considerably improved, and there are not wanting those who believe that our mechanics and artisans will avail themselves of their vantage-ground to battle for further demands. In any case the war between Labour and Capital will still be persistently urged, and we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that Labour for some time past has been getting the better of it. And then there is that terrible question looming in the future—the land question—a question on which many think our next revolution is to turn. We are not alarmists, and there is nothing in the aspect of public affairs that is of a particularly disquieting nature; but there is every probability of the year 1872 being a politically active period in our history. What it may have in store for us none can say, and we will only add the expression of our cordial wish that for each and all of our readers it may be

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

LOCAL NOTES,

By "A RAMBLER."

It has happened more than once that I have been snuffed out on the week before Christmas, and therefore have been denied the pleasure of writing the remarks of the *Guardian* "A Merry Christmas;" but it was gracefully done by the editor, and that's everything in that line. Christmas has gone for another year; and some of us will never see another. It was a day of great joy—a day of great grief; it was a day of happy recollections—a day of sad, sad memories. The remembrance of the day itself will stir the most pleasureable emotions—will stir the deepest feelings of sorrow. To one or the other will be the experience of very many of my readers. At some of the festive boards in our locality there was no empty chair—no intruding cloud from the years that "have gone with them beyond the flood;" while at others the tenantless "household god" occasioned no very long sigh for other beings or for "that undiscovered country"—made the joy not fearless, the gladness not unalloyed with sadness, though Hope forbad repining. On that gladsome day, there were few homes but whose every thread was welcome, whose every guest was bidden; but, alas! there was a hall, there was a cot, where the Most Unwelcome Guest entered and stole away the venerable sires. The music hushed, the mirthful prattle ceased—all, all, but the sighing, wailing, were the substitutes. What a strange Christmas we have had. May we all profit by its startling teachings, and be made wiser, so as to realise "A Happy New Year."

The new houses for the Consett Iron Company's workmen are, I am glad to know, to be of a rather superior class. A firm on the Tyne is treating with a large number of their workmen about dwellings, with the view of their becoming the property of the latter. It would perhaps be too late to have the same thing done here; at least I understand the contract has been let. The mode of procedure at the place I have hinted at is—The employers advance sufficient capital to build fifty uniform cottages; they and a committee of the men agree upon the place; interest is charged upon the capital at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and the rent, keeping the wages fortnightly, pays the capital and interest at the end of ten or eleven years, at which time the workmen become the owners. I like the idea well, and would like to see it become popular.

One cold night—or rather morning, for it was among the "sma' hours ayont th' twal,"—a week or two ago, two prominent apostles of the cold water persuasion were trudging home from a far-off "appointment." The night's triumph (several had signed the pledge) and kindred subjects provided material for making the home journey pleasant, and as they neared home no doubt the conversation would become more animated. All at once a check was put upon their intercourse by the sight of something in advance of an opposite creed, so—they curled their lips contemptuously, gave a heartless laugh, and passed on? No; they roused him, asked him where he lived, and took him home! Neither priests nor Levites these, but good Samaritans.

The almanack and directory printed at the *Guardian* office has created quite a sensation. It is certain that no one expected that such a good thing could come out of Consett, the gossippers who have written about it are unanimous in commending it. No doubt there are a few imperfections and omissions, but on the whole it is a wonderful production. It is too cheap by half; the wonder is, how does it pay? The sale should be enormous, and I believe it will. The publisher, I believe, is open to receive suggestions for its improvement, and all corrections, additions, and contributions will be thankfully received by him. How would it do to make a sixpenny "annual" of it, comprising almanack, directory, local tales, poems, etc.? I will just give the opinions of the scribes upon the almanack as they have appeared—the first being "Novocastrian" *(Northern Daily Express)*, the second "Tatler" *(Newcastle Daily Journal)*, and the third "Elfin" *(Newcastle Daily Chronicle)*:—

"Consett, until the Derwent Valley line was opened, was understood to be somewhere up in the hill country that leads to the hills and dales of Haxhamshire and Weardale, but little more was known about it. Now it is more accessible, and if we may judge of the importance of the district from 'Jackson's Business and Household Almanack and Directory,' Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, and Leadgate are busy places in something more than in the production of iron and paper. The almanack and directory is printed at the office of the *Consett Guardian*, and will bear comparison with the work produced in any establishment in Newcastle. It contains a great deal of useful information, in addition to the usual contents of an almanack and directory, and is, in fact, a guide in every respect to the towns and villages up the Derwent."

"I have just seen a handy and well got-up almanack and directory for Consett and the surrounding neighbourhood, published by Mr. Robert Jackson, of that town. In addition to an excellent almanack, which contains a great deal of miscellaneous information, it is carefully illustrated, the local directory is of great consequence to business people connected with the district. This directory contains a trade list for Consett and all the surrounding villages, in addition to which are carefully compiled lists, and a *resume* of information connected with local bodies, markets, locomotion, &c. It is superfluous to recommend such a serviceable publication."

"The season brings with it the usual variety of local almanacks, calendars, and other useful publications of the kind. Mr. R. Jackson, of Consett, has brought out a well-arranged and extremely useful almanack and local directory."

A seasonable hint to farmers—look after your roosts. The generality of people are "fowlish" just now, and there are certain of the "unwashed" that don't fancy paying for their fowl-dinners. In order that they may not be relieved of their feathery goods, farmers should be extra vigilant just now.

The foot-and-mouth disease, I am sorry to hear, has got to the Delves.

A good story is told of the father of one of the youths—Mainprize—who recently took a prize in connection with the North Yorkshire and South Durham Farmers' Association. It used to be (that is many years ago now, when the person referred to was far from being a father,) a prevailing custom in Wolsingham to congregate at the corners of the street. On one occasion a voracious youth, who had considerably profited in the capacity for eating English fruit, came up to where Mainprize and his fellow-idlers were, saying—"If aw had this apple eaten, aw dinnet knaw how mony aw've eaten to-day." "Tell us how many thou's eaten without it, Jan, and we'll tell thee how many them up," was the cool reply of Mainprize. Imagine the effect.

A document has been sent me to take care of till the year of grace 1900; but that is too much for me to do. As it is getting somewhat late, and others are filing the *Guardian*, the best thing I can do is to shove it in this week. Here it is, then:—Dear Rambler,—I suppose the editor of your paper intends in the year 1900 to commence a special Christmas number. I have written a little "local and district verse" for the first number, and beg that you will take care of it till wanted:—

Consett and the North of England generally has been very prosperous during the past year, and we expect a merry Christmas.

Citizen Dilke dines on Christmas-day at Stella House, but it is not a public dinner to the public. The only toasts proposed will be the prosperity of England, Sir Joseph Cowen, and the River Tyne Commission. The waiters have been instructed not to sing "God save the King" when visitors are at the house.

The Countess has just written Mr. H. Brown to say that nobody came to the rent-day, but next time she will have the notices countersigned by Lord Newcastle, and better circulated.

The Consett Local Board at their last meeting got a chairman by one of the servants mistaking the instrument for the original motion and holding up his hand at the wrong time.

The Future Birth Highway has been open to the public 12 years and has never needed any repairs.

The Benfieldside township has been illuminated three weeks with the "Northern Lights." The Northern Lights Commissioners at 15d. per hogshead, carriage paid, and the gas company shares have fallen 50 per cent.

The *Consett Guardian* has been issued daily for be 19 years, and the present extra number is intended to finish it by an evening edition, to commence on the 1st of January, 1901. Since the commencement of the *Guardian*, 15 local coffeemporaries have lived and died, and the *Consett Spectator* having issued the last number the week before last; but I hear a spirited company is being formed to start the *Consett Buzzer* something during the next month.

RAILWAY COLLISION.—A collision of a serious character occurred on Saturday morning, on the Stanhope and Tyne Railway, near Riding Mill. About nine o'clock, a mineral train and a goods train, travelling in opposite directions, by some inadvertence or mismanagement on the part of the railway servants, came into violent collision, the consequence being that a number of the trucks were broken to pieces and the line, and the line itself blocked up for several hours.

MR. GEORGE POTTER AT SUNDERLAND.—On Friday a meeting of working men was held in Sunderland for the purpose of hearing an address from Mr. George Potter, of London, on the subject of education. On Saturday, Mr. Potter, M.P., presided, and there was a large attendance. The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that their first duty was to congratulate themselves on the prospect of a steady convalescence of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as he was sure that working men were as truly interested in his welfare as any other class of Her Majesty's subjects. He then referred to the indifference which had been manifested by School Boards on the question of education, and contrasted the statement that Nonconformists were hindering the progress of the work. Mr. Potter's address which lasted above an hour, was listened to with great attention. He characterised the Act as a bundle of compromises, and quoted statistics to show that it had been practically futile for the objects for which it was passed. He urged upon the working men that their duty was to refuse payment of taxation levied for sectarian teaching, and made special reference to the position of the Sunderland Council upon the matter. A vote of thanks was accorded to him.

FUNERAL OF MR. J. RICHARDSON OF WOODLANDS.

To-day, the mortal remains of Mr. Jonathan Richardson, of Woodlands, were interred in the Burial ground, Benfieldside Edge Road. A large body of private carriages and friends of the deceased gentleman attended the corpse to its last resting place.

Local and District News.

STANLEY. — The grocers and drapers of Stanley and Havanna intend closing their places of business every alternate Wednesday at 12 o'clock, commencing on January 3rd, 1872.

BURGLARY AT LANCHESTER.—On Saturday morning last, the office of the Messrs. Dormand, the owners of Lanchester Colliery and Brickworks, was burglariously entered, and a compass and several other articles stolen.

1½ DISGRACEFUL PROCEEDINGS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.—On Christmas Eve an attack was made on the Wesleyan New Chapel at Annfield Plain, and a great amount of damage committed. The attacking parties have not yet been discovered.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN LESLIE, OF SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—We have to announce the death of the above gentleman, which took place at his residence, Shotley Bridge, on Christmas Day. The deceased was celebrated as a painter, and was much respected in the neighbourhood.

MR. I. LOWTHIAN BELL has just issumed a new portion of his elaborate treatise on the blast furnace, in which he records the result of his 742nd experiment on iron smelting on the large scale. This is one of the most important contributions to the science of iron making which has ever been made.

TEMPERANCE AT CROXDALE.—On Saturday night, a meeting was held in the above colliery village, when addresses were given by Messrs. J. Oley, H. Carse, and A. Seed. There was a fair attendance, and the cause of temperance seems to be making head way there.

SUDDEN DEATHS.—On Christmas Day, an old woman named Ellen Agnew, seventy years of age, residing at Medomsley Road, Consett, died very suddenly. The deceased, it appears, had been suffering from asthma, and on the above day she went to the house of a neighbour named Bennett Tumilty. After seating herself in a chair, she appeared to fall asleep, but shortly afterwards it was found that she was dead. On Monday last, a man named John Grange, a stonetaker, living at Castleside, also died very suddenly on Christmas Day.

FUNERAL OF A MECHANIC AT LEADGATE.—On Sunday afternoon the mortal remains of John Routledge, a member of the Brotherly Love Lodge of the Independent United Order of Mechanics, were interred in St. Ives Churchyard, Leadgate, with all the solemnities belonging to the order. About fifty of the brethren, preceded by the Leadgate Saxhorn band playing the "Dead march in Saul," accompanied the *corteye* to the place of sepulture. The impressive and sad scene will be long remembered by those who witnessed it, and as the *corteye* passed slowly through the village a feeling of sorrow pervaded the spectators. Many were the testimonials of respect manifested for the fellow who has been left to mourn the demise of her husband under somewhat painful and peculiar circumstances.

BLACKHILL U.P. MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—At a congregational meeting of the above church, held during the current week. The Rev. A Baillie, minister of the congregation, stated that the sum collected for missionary purposes during the year by the members amounted to £46, and that, after paying for the "Missionary Record," a balance of £41 6s. 6d. was left for mission purposes, which was divided as follows: Foreign missions, £25; home missions, £17 6s. 6d., of which latter sum £10 were given for yearly mission work, and £7 6s. 6d. to the ministers' stipend supplemental fund, from which the congregation received assistance a short time since. It is gratifying to record that this congregation, besides being self-supporting, can afford such a large sum for mission purposes.

COFFEE SUPPER AT MEDOMSLEY EDGE COLLIERY.—On Friday last, a coffee supper was held at the above place to celebrate the opening out of a Grand Temperance Hall, designed by Mr. Pratchett, owner of the colliery, Mr. E. O. Tregalles, as a reading-room, &c., for the use of the workmen connected with the Colliery. Upwards of 150 partook of the "cup that cheers but not inebriate," which was ably presided over by the following ladies:—The Misses Barron, Taylor, and Angus. After supper, a public meeting was held,—Mr. W. Robinson in the chair, when addresses, readings, and recitations were given by Messrs. W. Robinson, J. Armstrong, and R. Robson. The proceedings were agreeably diversified by a selection of sacred music by Mr. J. Armstrong on the accordion. At the conclusion of the meeting votes of thanks were given to Mr. E. O. Tregalles for the new hall presented to the workmen, and to the ladies for presiding over the suppers.

DASING ROBBERY FROM A RAILWAY CARRIAGE AT NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday the South Shields police apprehended a suspicious character, named W. Hawkey, on the charge of stealing a portmanteau containing wearing apparel to the value of £14, belonging to Miss Carr, of Newcastle. The prisoner had a key in his possession for opening railway carriage doors. Whilst a carriage was standing at the North Shields Station he had opened it by means of his key, and taken the portmanteau. As soon as it was missed information was given to the police, and the prisoner was afterwards seen in South Shields with the portmanteau in his possession, which he said he had brought from Southampton, and that it belonged to his wife. He was taken into custody, and on the way to the police station he dropped the key with which he had opened the carriage door. He was brought before the South Shields Police Bench and remanded.—On the same day Joseph Lewis, an American seaman, was remanded by the North Shields magistrates for stealing clothes from the North Shields Railway Station, to the value of £11, belonging to Peter Lake, seaman.

DRINNER AT TANFIELD.—On Wednesday evening, the annual meeting and dinner of the Tanfield Association for the Prosecution of Felons, was held in the house of Mr. Irwin, innkeeper, Tanfield. After the business of the association was finished the members to the number of upwards of 20 sat down to a sumptuous dinner, which was served up in a highly creditable manner. The following were among the number:—Messrs. Humble, Bushblades; R. Smith, Bradford; Wm. Scott, Burnopfield; J. Irwin, Catchgate; Whitfield, Linda Colliery; Moffat, Tanfield Lea; G. Smith, Tanfield; E. Smith, Annfield Plain; Wm. Hamilton, J. Taylor, Tanfield Grange; Wm. Swinburne, Waggon Inn; J. Mitchison, Low Ewehurst; F. Paton, Strathmore; R. Drummond, Follside; Wm. Dixon, Annfield Plain; J. Paton, Blackhill; J. Ramsay, J. Irwin, &c. The chair was occupied by Mr. Paton, Blackhill, and the vice-chair by Mr. Irwin. After dinner the vice-chairman, who was one the last surviving members of the committee of management, read the report which showed a balance in hand of £4. 10s. 10d. in favour of the society, a statement which was received with great satisfaction. The following gentlemen were elected the acting committee:—Messrs. Wm. Scott, Burnopfield; Whitfield; Wm. Hamilton, George Smith, and Matthew Irwin. After the loyal and patriotic toasts, and also the toasts of the evening, "Success to the Tanfield Association for the Prosecution of Felons" coupled with the name of the vice-chairman. Drunk with the name of the Lean gracefully returned thanks. Other toasts and songs followed, and a very pleasant evening was spent, the company breaking up at a late hour.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

To the Editor of the Guardian.

SIR,—I have heard some older people express their surprise at the introduction of Christmas trees in social circles. This innovation was made, I believe, by the late Prince Consort. The custom was for a long period peculiar to Germany. The following is from a great German authority :—Der erst Knecht Ruprecht, der das neuen Jahr anbringt, der auch Kinder stiehlen strafhende, das festes ankundigt der auch Kindgiften strahlende, das festes ankundigt der auch Kinder, und jedes wiederke Christbaum bleibt unvergessliche, und jedes wiederke hrende Weihnachtes bringt das unvergangene lebhaft Knight Ruprecht, who announced the approach of Christmas, remains unforgotten for the light-glance of Christmas, reminding Christmas tree, and every returning Christmas brings vividly to our recollection reminiscences of what that are past.

J. TAIT.

Consett, Dec. 26, 1871.

A FEW SERIOUS WORDS TO MINERS.

To the Editor of the Guardian.

SIR,—A serious accident occurred at Lintz Colliery, on Saturday December 16, 1871; Thomas Trawick, a youth of 17 years, was suddenly killed. The miner, sir, has to be very cautious, examine carefully, and use all the means within his power to preserve his life. My friend, I think that death is terrible when in a two-fold aspect, in reference to the death of sinners the brevity of human life, and to be careful in the hour of danger. Life is precious; great events hang on moments; the destinies of eternal destinies are suspended on life's feeble strings. To the young and thoughtless, I would counsel with a fatherly and friendly affection : be more at home and less at the tavern, and lay for ever in oblivion that dire and degrading practice—gambling. Oh! how painful is it to behold a group of young men "schooling" away their hard-earned wages; how much more happy to look at a man in matured life, with a wife and family depending on him for their daily sustenance, most deliberately gamble away his wages instead of taking them home to make his dependants comfortable and happy. "Home, sweet home," has the first claim. There are attractions at home that will never lose their effect, unless it be by the evil influence of dissipation and vice. We shall never be anything good or great if we do not endeavour to be so ourselves, but we shall remain weak and insignificant. Let us, then, try to give strong support of our sincerity to the distinguish ourselves as good men and citizens in the temple of fame. Perhaps you will allow me to refer you to living witnesses, who are bright illustrations of what I wish you to be. Look at Thomas Smith and Peter Clark, both accredited ministers in the Primitive Methodist Connexion! Look at Rev. J. Kennie, Harker, Hesketh, and Fenwick, "burning and shining lights" in the Wesleyan ministry! And the late Rev. Dr. Scott, Matthew Baxter, who has filled the presidential chair in the United Methodist Free Church Annual Assembly. I could easily add more, but I forbear at present. These have all risen from our ranks; they once cut the "black diamonds," as you and I do, but by dint of perseverance they have nobly trod the royal pathway of learning, and now they all enjoy the rich reward of a holy and virtuous life. Go you and do likewise.

Yourshumble servant,
HENRY FOGGON.

Lintz Colliery, Dec. 26, 1861.

THE CORRECTOR CORRECTED.

To the Editor of the Guardian.

SIR,—Briefly, for the last time on this subject (*I* you think your numerous readers can bear the infliction) I beg to address you. I perceive that Mr. Reynoldson, with Mr. Reynoldson, he is determined to *hedge*. My facts may be *non est* before him and *sowe* other minds; but they are *fire* and not *water* before others. Mr. Reynoldson is not to believe the evidence of his sense of sight, but I do deny him the right to deny *what he has never seen*. In respect to the *resolution* referred to, it was told me by an informant that it was *settled and agreed*, and when Englishmen are convened together for business purposes a resolution moved, seconded, &c., is the *only* way to *settle and agree*, copying the manner of the House of Commons, one of the best regulated assemblies in the world, quite thing being that it is agreed, if not unanimously enough to think, as any Englishman might do, those intelligent unionists would have done it rightly, that is, by a resolution. I said that *I would not take a man's conscience shift to me that work in which the tyranny I complained of was exercised*, and I repeat the words emphatically with all sobriety cannot kill or annihilate. I have summoned to a conference all my powers of recollection, and I come to the same conclusion as at first, I have not seen Mr. Reynoldson *in* (not at) the pit for three or four months, it is strange if I have, and have forgotten it, remember from 1st to November 18 *I could not*, for reasons given in my last.

Now, we will take the coke-drawers (he never refers to the fillers). The price set down by Mr. Reynoldson respecting the price demanded, and the price obtained, I understand, is correct; but this is not the whole truth I contend here. They asked to have a shilling less per fortnight to pay for horses belonging to the company. This was not given with one or two exceptions. The master had taken into consideration, which the men had forgotten, the saving of corn by shoeing the horses, who had houses tenanted not belonging to the company and they offered to give half of the aforesaid one shilling per week. "I and mine," we," says my informant, "balanced that against the id. per week, we think it was the honour of the same. We have known my informant for many years, and I don't think he wanted to dispute the deceive Mr. Reynoldson access to the company's books, or else I could soon settle the thing that way; but I have taken the pains to ask some of the drawers if my statement was correct, and they said they were. If I find out that I am wrong I will inform you. No such occurrence in the Union, there was about six or seven previous to that time.

I still go down the pit with my *unionists*, although I am no longer the fewer who belong to the Union, I will be with the Body which has found its way into our midst, and as Mr. Reynoldson is calling upon all men to bless the Union for the increased benefits that has come to him and others, it is but just to attribute the advance of wages given and received to the grievances we have had to deal, a demand I may say, unprecedented. It appears from what Mr. Reynoldson has about to say, that he is super fortaight (that I am asked to contribute to enable me to be seen at the Union meetings, and take part in their deliberations) that it will be a paper ball in this sky *Reynard*-son has his eye on, he may turn away his nose, they are your, at whose feet he has. I could say plenty (that is true) about Mr. Reynoldson and myself about buying and paying, but I will be brief, so, thanking you for the interest you have taken in my complaints and placing them before an intelligent and discerning public, so that my position might be known. I am glad, sir, we have the press, and certainly

"The lustre for truth are triumphant indeed,
The red of the tyrant is sunguine indeed,"

by its power and influence.

I am yours respectfully,
JOHN TAYLOR.

Greencroft Cottages, Dec. 26, 1871.

More than 1,000,000 tons of coal are annually required in London for gas-working purposes alone. This is fully one-sixth of all that is imported by land and water.

BREAKFAST. — 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 our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Vide Service Gazette*. Made simply with boiling water or milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Also Manufacturers of Epps's Milky Cocoa (Cocoa and Condensed Milk).

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Dec. 28th.—Before M. KEARNEY
G. H. TALMADGE, and JOHN
EWCETT, Esqrs.

DRUNKENNESS.

George Sudden was charged by Sergeant Cook with the above offence at Lanchester on Christmas day.

The evidence it appeared that the defendant had been rather abusive to several young women.—*Fined 5s. and* costs, 12s.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

James Docherty, John McKenna, Bernard Murphy, Charles Mullen, Bridget McKenna, Mary Murphy, and Jane Mullen, were charged with refusing to quit the public-house of John Fenwick, at Dipton, when requested to do so.—P.C. Morland stated that on the night of the 16th inst. he was called into Mr. Fenwick's house to assist in putting the defendants out. The men were fighting "hand over head," and the women were participating in the melee.—From the story of the defendants it transpired that the row had resulted about a song which one of the company wanted to sing, but which another would not make order for.—Ordered to pay a fine of 1s. and costs each.

AN "UNFORTUNATE."

Mary Evans was charged with soliciting prostitution at Consett, on the 26th inst. Sergeant Forster stated that he found the defendant very drunk and in the act of soliciting prostitution.—Committed to prison for fourteen days.

DRUNK AND RIOTOUS.

John Raine, who did not appear, was charged with the above offence by P.C. Forster at Hornhope on the 26th inst. It appeared that the defendant had been drunk and wanted to fight anybody.—Fined 1s. and costs, 9s.

MASTER AND SERVANT.

Robert Frost was charged with refusing to fulfil a contract which he had entered into with Mr. Thomas Pringle to work at Tanfield Moor colliery, as a hewer. Mr. Pringle produced the contract, which specified that the defendant was to commence on the 5th of April, 1871, and end 5th, 1872.—The defendant said he was quite ready to go back to his employment.—The Clerk: You claim £1 compensation, Mr. Pringle. Are you willing to forego that amount if the defendant goes back to his employment?—Mr. Pringle: If he behaves himself properly we will not press for compensation.—The defendant was ordered to go back to his work and pay 12s 6d. costs.

Elizabeth Grey was charged by David Kirkup with a similar offence on the 25th inst. From the evidence it appeared that the defendant had been engaged to work partly as farm and partly as domestic servant, but in consequence of an unpleasantness between her mistress and her she absented herself, but the following day she returned.—The magistrates said Mr. Kirkup had consented the offence by taking the defendant back into his service, and the case was therefore dismissed.

ALMANAC FOR 1872.

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31. WHIT SUNDAY, May 19.

1872.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan.		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			
Feb.					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29		
March						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						
April		1	2	3	4	5	6
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	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30				
May				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	
June							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30						

1872.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			
Aug.					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sept.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					
Oct.			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		
Nov.						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Dec.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—A NOTABLY performed hair dressing called "The Mexican Hair Recovery," now being sold by most Chemists and Perfumers at 3s. 6d. per bottle is fast superseding all "Hair Restorers" in their effects, and is certain to worry every one. It is not in its original colour, by a few applications without discoloring the skin, but also restores it to its original vitality, and makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting a luxuriant growth. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale and Retail, Crosse and Blackwell, Soho square, London, and all retail establishments. Ask for "The Mexican Hair Recovery," prepared by H. C. GALLUP, 493, Oxford Street, London.

Brown's Bronchial Troches, for the cure of Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, or any affection of the throat, are now imported and sold in this country. Let it be borne in mind that the word "lozenge," or its equivalent, is not used in connection with Brown's Bronchial Troches, but the article is sold only in boxes, at 1s. 1½d., and is now used throughout the world. The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher says:—"I have often recommended them to friends who were public speakers, and in many cases they have proved extremely serviceable." Sold by all druggists and dealers in medicines. Brown's Bronchial Troches are on the Government Stamp around each box. Sold by all medicine venders.—London Depôt, 68, Oxford Street.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN.—Should always be used when Children are cutting teeth; it relieves the little sufferer at once, it produces natural quiet by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub wakes "as bright as a button." It is perfectly harmless and very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by thousands of Medicine dealers in all parts of the world. Price 2s. 9d. per bottle, and Millions of Mothers can testify to its virtue.—Manufactory, 493, Oxford Street, London.

A TRAGICAL STORY. — Sometimes very tragical incidents occur out of this terrible food adulteration. One such occurred among the Sisters of Charity of the Cochin Hospital. From that establishment was distributed every day, to all poor persons who called, milk for infants and the sick. One day a woman who was among the usual applicants, called at a late hour, and was informed by the Sisters that by that time very little milk was left, and that they would give her all they could spare. Having been supplied with three-quarters of a jug-full, the woman became extremely angry, and left the place uttering loud threats. She went the next day, and was still in very violent mood. On the third day she sent to ask the house, seized a knife from a table, hid herself in one of the passages, and plunged the weapon into the poor nun, as she came that way. The infuriated woman inflicted three or four days, and then died.—*From "Cassell's Illustrated History of the War"* for November.

THE MUSK DEER.—There is a great speculiarity in the hair of the musk-deer, which needs pointing out. The musk-doer is an inhabitant of the snow regions; it is only occasionally that it leaves the snows for milder climates. It constantly keeps on the surface of the snow, when the temperature is below freezing-point; and it is enabled to do so without being animal heat, or without feeling the numbing influence of its bed, through the kindly provision of Nature, which has supplied it with a coat of very thick hollow hair of the musk-deer, which needs a downy coating of beautifully soft, close, heat-retaining wool. All hairs are hollow—there is nothing peculiar in that—the musk-deer hairs are very thick and the hollow so large that it is plainly visible to the naked eye when broken off; so that when the animal lies down, whether on the snow or elsewhere it rests on a thick coat of tubings, forming a constantly-present air-cushion, under which is the warm woollen jersey, if the expression may be allowed.—*From "Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper."*

LITERARY SELECTIONS.

CONVERSATION is the daughter of reasoning, the mother of knowledge, the breath of the soul, the commerce of hearts, the bond of friendship, the nourishment of content, and the occupation of men of wit.

WHAT is a true friend? A true friend is he who not only shows himself so when the frowns of misfortune fall upon us, but even when we treat him as a foe builds friendship's altar higher and firmer with the very stones cast against him by our folly or perverseness.

THE only kind of sublimity which a painter of imitative sounding strain is pure and lofty and is the cause of life and beauty wherever it flows.

CHILDHOOD is like a mirror, catching and reflecting images all around it. Remember that an impious or profane thought uttered by a parent's lips may operate on a young heart like a careless spray of water thrown upon a polished steel, staining it with rust which no after scouring can efface.

FINDING TIME.—This expression, when translated, means that a person can generally find time for that which he really desires strongly to do. We have scarcely ever known the excuse, "I couldn't find time," much less than a sham, although we believe that the person saying it may often be self-deceived. We have known people not only to find time, but make time, to do things; that is, they would force everything else to stand on one side till that which they wished consummated had been accomplished.

MR. DISRAELI AT TWENTY-FIVE.—In the autumn of that same year (1830) I completed a "Handbook on Wines" for Marsh and Miller, publishers, Oxford street. In visits to their shop I inquired, "who is that young gentleman with a profusion of hair, and whom I often see here?" "That is young Disraeli," was the publisher's reply, "and he will be glad to execute any literary work for a guinea or two." He had recently published a "key to Almack's," and a piece of more piquant satire entitled, "A Geographical and Historical account of all the great world; to which is added, a Voyage to its Several Islands, with a Vocabulary of the Language, and a map;" and shortly after there was announced for publication a periodical to be called the "Star Chamber," to be edited by Mr. D. Disraeli, who was then in his twenty-sixth year.—*Tom Taylor's Recollections, in the "Letters Hour."*

THE HINDOO SUTTEE.—It has been generally believed that by the act of "suttee" Hindoo wives declare their undying attachment to their husbands; but Dr. Chever, in his recent work on "Indian Medical Jurisprudence," brings forward a different story. He has personally examined and invented the law as a means of self-protection against their wives. Before its introduction, wives were in the habit of avenging themselves on husbands for neglect and cruelty by mixing poison with their food, and at last things came to such a height that a wife often sent her husband to sleep in the husband's death. An easier remedy for the evil might have been found in permitting the wife to eat out of the same dish as her husband; but this would have involved too wide departure from the customs of society. Of late years the law of suttee has been occasionally set at defiance, but the widow cannot altogether escape the consequences of her husband's death. His family denounce her, and put her to the most menial duties in the house.

WRITING FOR MONEY.—To write for money was once held to be disgraceful, and Byron, as we know, taunted Scott because his publishers combined "To yield their muse just half a crown a line;" whilst Scott seems half to admit that his conduct required justification, and urges that he sacrificed to literature fair chances in his original profession. Many people might, in the present day, plead the same line of defence. Out cost of English fiction all that which has owed its birth, more or less, to a desire to write money honourably, and to write what would be painfully small. The truth, indeed, seems to be simple. No good work is done when the one impelling motive is that of obtaining a large sum of money; but some of the best work that has ever been done has been indirectly due to the impecuniosity of the labourer. Where a man is empty he makes a very poor job of it in straining colourless trash from his hardbound brains; but when his head is full of ideas, and his heart of love, a mere spur of a moderate craving for cash to induce him to take the decisive plunge.—*Cornhill Magazine.*

EDINBURGH GAY AND GRAVE.—A special correspondent of the "Daily News" visited certain rooms of the old town of Edinburgh on the Saturday night of the week of the meeting of the British Association. The report which he gives is very startling, and may well ruffle the self-complacency of the Scottish capital over respectable people of the "Modern Athens." The philosophers assembled that week were blowing trumpets about all manner of things, and were very respectable people at the ends of the earth. The president was at once speculating about distant suns and systems, from some one of which the great comet, carrying the elements of which the earth is composed to our globe! Within a stone's throw of him was a teeming population, sitting in the close dungeons of the Old Town, with the Christian Science not do a little more for the welfare as well as for the Wealth of nations? A few days after the meeting of the Association of Social Science was held. About that, too, there was much that was forced and unreal, and little that touched the great heart of the people. Edinburgh, for the week, was a far more popular and spontaneous commemoration. Scott is but a name to a large proportion of the present generation of Edinburgh. His historical tales are being supplanted by the sensational novels of the day, and he has most honour out of his own country. But Burns is still held not so much by the people as by the men of the middle rank. In fact, the time of the gathering was anti-climax to the time between the 16th of August, to the 8th, in order that the general guest might get off before the 12th to the moors and the grouse. Commemoration was literary or rhetorical success. Edinburgh was gay and classic and banners. The sublime of the great poet and novelist was whitened; but let the reader now lay to heart the "true life of" some very own romantic town." Can the Municipal Authorities, the learned professions of Law, Physic, and Divinity, and the wealthy merchants of Edinburgh, do no more to save the wretched people of the Old Town, and to remove the disgrace that now lies on the capital of Scotland? The municipal spirit of the ancient streets and wynds has done something for the sanitary improvement of the Old Town. Plentiful supply of pure water would do more. Why should not the waters of St. Mary's Loch be brought to Edinburgh, as those of Loch Katrine have been brought to Glasgow? It would be a noble work, worthy of the Scottish capital. The cost would be trifling. The rates less than those of London or of many great towns in England. In America the thing would be done, because the good of the people is there considered to more than that of the richer ratepayers. In Edinburgh, last year the scenes in the poor parts of the Old Town, from want of sufficient water, were heart-rending. The ratepayers may save themselves, but at what a sacrifice of duty to the poor! The "Scotsman," the chief organ of public opinion in the North, ought to go in for less whisky and more water. If there is a visitation of cholera, the people of Edinburgh may learn what it is meant to be "penny wise, and pound foolish."—*Leisure Hour.*

Youth is fed by poetry and imagination; mature age by realities; as plants draw all their nourishment from the air until they bear fruit, and afterwards from the ground only.

COWARDICE.—Every man capable of doing a secret injustice is a coward. He will shirk, shuffle, and equivocate; but if bold by the fire of passion, or by courage, cannot escape an ignominious exposure.

SENSIBILITY.—To delicate minds, the unfortunate are always objects of respect, as the ancients held sacred those struck by lightning. Envy is scathed by lightning. Thus the feeling heart considers the afflicted as touched by the hands of the Deity himself.

POWER OF INTEGRITY.—Reproaches have no power to afflict the man of unblemished integrity, or the abandoned profligate. It is the middle composed character which is also miserable; the man who, without firmness enough to avoid a dishonourable action, has feeling enough to be ashamed of it.

WEAKNESS OF PASSION.—Does mere passion give strength? No more than a fever. Remember the grave freedom. The strong men of the olden time, who governed and guided the world, were of the self-keeping stock and mould. Passion never, that a single great action, the result of great emotion, standing by itself in the middle of a life of ordinary elevation, is unheard of. Every mountain forms part of a chain.

A YANKEE.—He had been a successful inventor of improvements in medicine, though medicine, not mechanics or engineering, was his own business. He thought that anything by which he could make money was as much an invention as a profession was. He was always talking, and ready to argue on any subject, if unacquainted with it, but made no difference—he still held a right to express his opinion. His favourite idea was that discussion led to knowledge, and that books came after knowledge, and therefore they were not of much value. This dictum he fearlessly applied to everything—to history, to science, and to religion. Therein he was a strong Xenophilist. He believed that the patriarchs and prophets, and the Saviour of the world, were all Yankees, in the Yankee sense. He thought the amount of wealth a man had been able to accumulate was the true measure of a man, because all persons were born equal. Hence he persuit the whole of their power. If a man was idle or stupid, he employed what power was left him, after so much had been cancelled by his idleness or stupidity. And therefore—for this was his conclusion—if he could produce several blockheads, he could produce a man of wealth. Accordingly he went to the Irish labourers in all parts of the world he could, and contrived to get them together, and to induce them to go as far as possible in bringing into notice deserving young men, and in helping those in little, quiet ways. He was a favourite with those who had exerted themselves on behalf of their party, replied the Dutchman. "Hans my boy, go bring mug full." Hans soon returned with a mug brimming full, and handed it to the Dutchman, who drained it to the bottom at one draught; then turning to his astonished visitor, said, "Dere now, if you dosh not dink das good cider, goost you schmell to mug."

During the Irish rebellion of '98, when "Ould Ireland" was fairly up in arms and everybody in the Green Isle was trying to kill everybody else, and having nobody to eat the potatoes, there happened to be one solitary specimen of discretion on record in the person of a brave "Bo-Boy," who thought more of his carcass than he did of his cause; and before advancing against the foe, he advanced to the rear, and "compounded" with a smith for a thick iron plate to buckle over his chest. The blacksmith soon finished one to his mind, and tied it on his back. Pat rushed to the fight; but when the bullets whistled through the air they soon suggested to him the discretion of fighting "another day;" so he took to his heels to make sure of being able to do so; but, fast as he ran, a bullet overtook him and flattened on his plate. Pat paused a moment, and placed his hand upon the spot to assure himself that all was right, and then exclaimed, as he redoubled his speed, "Ah, bedad! but that blacksmith knew where my heart lay to an inch!"

KING THEODORE.—Theodore, the new King of Abyssinia or Ethiopia, was certainly the most remarkable man that has appeared in Africa for some centuries. Great allowances must be made for his ignorance, and for the circumstances which surrounded him. Before we judge him we are bound in fairness to consider how very low he was in the level from which he had to rise. Having led the life of a lawless soldier, and having been accustomed from childhood to witness the perpetration of the most barbarous cruelty and insanity and oppression, it would be unjust to measure his career by any standard but an Abyssinian one. From his earliest youth he is said to have conceived ambitious ideas which stopped at nothing short of the sovereignty over the whole of Ethiopia, including the sea coast, and the establishment of Christianity in every part of that vast dominions. Nor were his views merely selfish, like those of the barbarous chiefs who are surrounded by a superstitious fear, and attached by fanatical religious zeal, and at first by a desire to give prosperity to his subjects. At the date of his accession to the throne of Abyssinia Theodore was thirty-seven years of age, of medium stature, but with a well knit muscular frame capable of enduring any amount of fatigue—a noble bearing and even a majestic walk—and he was the best shot, the best spearsman, the best runner, and the best horseman in Abyssinia. Colonel Plowden heard of his accession at Massowah in March, 1855, and at once proceeded to join the camp of the new sovereign, with the full and cordial approbation of the Foreign-office; and he found that his friend and companion, Mr. Bell, who had long been in the country, and had married an Abyssinian lady of very good family in Bagemder, had already entered the service of the new king. Theodore must have possessed some nobility of character to have acquired the admiration and friendship of such noble officers as Plowden and Bell. Plowden said of him that he was generous to excess, and free from all cupidity, very merciful to his vanquished enemies, and strictly conscientious; subject to violent bursts of anger, and possessed of unyielding pride and fanatical religious zeal. His administrative views at that time, appeared to have been to the advancement of those entertained by any of his countrymen. His first object was to break the power of the turbulent feudal chiefs, and he placed the soldiers of different provinces under the command of his own trusty followers to whom he gave high titles. He abolished the slave trade, and put an end to wreckers transit duties by ordering that they were only to be levied at three places in his dominions, and paid his soldiers in order that they might purchase provisions instead of plundering the people. Consul Plowden thus concludes his report upon Theodore's character and policy :—"Some of his ideas may be imperfect, others impracticable, but a man who, rising from the clouds of Abyssinian ignorance and childishness without assistance and without advice; has done so much, and contemplates such large designs, cannot be regarded as of an ordinary stamp." Abyssinia has indeed found the benefit of the sovereignty of Bell and Plowden, from whose conversation he no doubt acquired much information, and his good genius, the beautiful Tawabeh, was also at hand. At the crisis of his fate he lost all those true friends. His position maddened him, the worst parts of his character were developed, he became a drunken man, abandoned self control, was made drunk by deception and irresponsible power, and was lost. Big in 1855 a picture was drawn of him as a complete tyrant himself.—*Markham's History of the Abyssinian Expedition.*

Lawyers have to invent so many excuses for crime in others, that they sometimes learn to pardon it in themselves.

If men believe they are [illegible] because, it is [illegible] take to prove the contrary.

Nothing what troubles [illegible] is before we have appetite enough for the forbidden fruit to look [illegible] of the apple.

Death [illegible] the great and good, but the [illegible] actions still remain. The [illegible] of the arrow has sped and will do its office.

Mad[illegible] found executed for any American paper [illegible] it, that we [illegible] "Fortifications [illegible] Cloud, [illegible] City and Guardians." [illegible] are several [illegible] the kind [illegible] they say, "It is [illegible] had this [illegible] they trou[illegible] they [illegible] they nice large [illegible]

Amongst the [illegible] for the [illegible] schoolmaster [illegible] Dutchman who [illegible] had taken was an applicant who described himself as an ex-student of the London University. He failed to pass the last examination, but did not know [illegible] French. I passed in all the [illegible] subjects, [illegible] never would degrade my position [illegible] hope, if [illegible] for the junior school would [illegible] little, [illegible] are accepted [illegible] [illegible] testimonial considered as a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] himself as for such an object, and [illegible] before they [illegible] injury if he did not succeed. I [illegible] *carte de visite*, and [illegible] another. I am not married, and I should like very much to get a wife in Sunderland."

Kansas City has a vocal dog, and this is the way he is described by a local reporter :—"It would be utterly impossible to express in words the force, the depth, and variety of this canine's bark. It is executed with all the modulations and inflections of human distress. The plaintive wail of suffering infancy, the groan of the strong man in agony, the moans of the sick and wounded, the stifled cry of the victim under the grasp of the garotter, the shout of defiance, the scream of terror, the yell of despair, the fury, rage, madness, nightmare, delirium tremens, the insanity, disappointed love, delirium tremens, the bummer's bacchanalian shout, toothache, corns, the dummer's bacchanalian shout, toothache, corns, the tootoo, sleeplessness, and all the ills that flesh is heir to are faithfully delineated or vividly suggested by this canine ventriloquist."

THE DUTCHMAN'S CURSE.—In the small village of B——, in the State of Pennsylvania, there lived a Dutchman who was famous for making the best cider in the neighborhood, and was equally famous for keeping it; and as no person but himself and family had been permitted to taste the good stuff. At last one of his near neighbors said he was determined to taste it. Accordingly he went to the Dutchman's house, and entered into conversation with him concerning his crops, &c., and by degrees led him to speak of his cider. He then said to him, "I understand you make very good cider?"—"Hans my boy, go bring me some cider!" replied the Dutchman. "Hans my boy, go bring mug full." Hans soon returned with a mug brimming full, and handed it to the Dutchman, who drained it to the bottom at one draught; then turning to his astonished visitor, said, "Dere now, if you dosh not dink das good cider, goost you schmell to mug."

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