The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 953. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 6TH, 1878. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

JOSEPH OLEY,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
10, WOOD STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE. 228c

ROBERT SCOTT,
BELLMAN AND BILLPOSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 784k

D. DOVER,

RESPECTFULLY intimates to his Friends and the Public that he has Opened a New Shop, near to Dr. Benson's Surgery, Wesley Terrace, Dipton, Jewellery, Watches, and Clocks sold, cleaned, or repaired. Dealer in Hardware, Books, and Stationery. Agent for "Stokes on Memory."

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!!
WEDDING RINGS!!

A PRESENT to each Purchaser of our GUINEA GOLD RING.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 318k

REMARKABLY CHOICE, FUNNY, RARE, and out of the way BOOKS, Twopence, post free.—J. Wirfield, York, Morrill.

JAMES PALLISER,
FAMILY GROCER, AND GENERAL PROVISION MERCHANT,
6, FOUNDRY ROW, BLACKHILL.

Patent Medicines of various kinds on hand.
Dealer in Pianofortes, Harmoniums, Violins, and other Musical Instruments.
Agent for the Royal Life and Fire Assurance Company and the Union Permanent Building Society.

BLACKETT STREET TEA AND GROCERY WAREHOUSE,
91 & 93, BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-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 Drysalters' Goods cheap and of the best quality. Hotels and families supplied at wholesale prices.
TERMS—CASH. 879n

IMPROVED
CONCRETE FLOORING.

JOHN DOVE & CO.,
38, CLOSE, NEWCASTLE.
ESTABLISHED 1854.

BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, and others supplied with any quantity of PORTLAND and other CEMENTS, PLASTER, HAIR, LATHS, LATH TACKS, &c.
CONCRETE FLOORING executed in all its Branches. Cement Hedging.
OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE, 35, CLOSE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

CHARLES D. SCOTT,
PLUMBER AND BRASS FOUNDER,
NEWCASTLE,

HAVING been requested by some of the leading business men of this locality to OPEN A BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT in Consett. He has now much pleasure in stating that he has taken the Shop, 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, Where all orders entrusted to his care will receive his best attention and will be executed by competent workmen. 240k

THE CONSETT, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, AND DISTRICT COMMERCIAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF TRADERS.

For the Collection of Debts due to Members.
For Opposing the Granting of Fraudulent Bankrupts on their Examination.
For Keeping a List of Registered Judgments, Warrants of Attorney, and Cognovits entered up against Traders for the Information and Security of its Members, and for Prosecuting Felons.
Terms of Membership, £1 1s. per annum.
Tradesmen at a distance desirous of enrolling themselves as Members of this Society, are requested to send their names to the Solicitor, Mr. T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Middle Street, Consett. 259k

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that 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 using the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default therefore, upon proof of the same Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Persons will be Prosecuted as the Law directs. The Secretary can be seen daily at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.

By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1870.

WILLIAM MOSLEY,
JOINER AND UNDERTAKER,

RESPECTFULLY intimates to the inhabitants of Dipton and surrounding district that he is now prepared to supply COFFINS a little more than half the usual price paid in the district, viz.:—
Children's Coffins, in Deal, from 2s. 6d.
Adults' do. 7s.
Children's Coffins, covered with Black Cloth, from 6s.
Adults' do. 12s.
Designs on application.
FURNITURE REPAIRED AND REPOLISHED.

Note the Address—
WILLIAM MOSLEY
(Next Door to Mr. J. A. CURRY, Butcher),
HIGH END OF DIPTON. 341k

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER AND IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND CATCHGATE,

HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
FIRE-MAKERS, HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BOBBYS and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 673f

Business Announcements.

B. MOODY,
WATCHMAKER, EBCHESTER.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, without first obtaining the said Company's permission, will be prosecuted according to Law.
By order of the Directors,
August 21st, 1875. M RICHLEY, Secretary.

NOTICE.

WILLIAM KNOX
HAS much pleasure in announcing that he has entered upon his NEW PREMISES, at MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, where he intends carrying on Business as HOUSE CARPENTER, JOINER, &c., and trusts, by strict attention thereto and keeping a staff of good Workmen, to merit a share of Public support.
N.B.—Estimates given for general Repairs, Shop Fronts, &c. 617f

GOOD NEWS
FOR THE
INHABITANTS OF CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

A GREAT WANT SUPPLIED.

OPENING OF A GOOD
FAMILY BOOT AND
SHOE WAREHOUSE
IN MIDDLE STREET,
CONSETT.

R. LONGSTAFF, the PEOPLE'S CHEAP BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER, has OPENED a BRANCH SHOP, in MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, with the Largest and Handsomest Stock in the neighborhood of every description of LADIES', GENTLEMEN'S, and CHILDREN'S Fashionable BOOTS and SHOES.

The Inhabitants of Consett and District will now be able to select from a large and well-assorted Stock, and purchase the best quality of BOOTS and SHOES at lower prices than are usually charged for very inferior Goods.

LONGSTAFF'S
FAMILY SHOE WAREHOUSE,
4, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
Next Door to Mr. W. AYNSLEY, the Tea Dealer;
and at
18, NEWGATE STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND;
22, MARKET PLACE, DURHAM;
CHURCH STREET, CROOK;
And
HIGH STREET, SPENNYMOOR.

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON
TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and SPLITTING MILLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.

Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.
Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.

KAMPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS
(Warehouse, Catchgate),
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.
ESTABLISHED, 1817. 238g

Business Announcements.

THE QUICKEST PASSAGE ON RECORD.

ON May 28th, the celebrated steamers, "Londom Castle" and "Gleneagle," steamed off together with upwards of six million pounds of NEW SEASON'S TEA from the Hankow district. After a desperate race of thirty-eight days, the "London Castle" arrived in the London Docks one day before the "Gleneagle," this being the quickest passage on record. At six in the morning she arrived, at eight her hatches were opened, at ten the teas were offered on the market. The importers expected high prices; the dealers prudently refused to buy except in small lots. While the importers waited, five other steamers arrived with fifteen millions of new teas. Steamer after steamer followed each other, until not less than thirty million pounds of new tea was thrown on the market. This, with the large stock of last season's teas on hand, produced a panic in the market. Down came the old seasons teas to a price unknown in the history of the tea trade. We, the prudent dealers, have been watching the market, and secured large lots at the lowest point, and hasten to offer you a GOOD USEFUL TEA AT 1s. 8D. PER POUND. Don't doubt its quality on account of the price. We recommend it with the greatest of confidence as the most wonderful tea ever sold at the money.

Another word about INDIAN TEAS.—For many years we have directed the attention of our friends to the wonderful power and quality of this new growth of tea. It is a pleasure for us to report that this year the Indian tea planters have far surpassed other years in the perfection of growth. We have to inform you that we have secured, regardless of cost, the early picking of the finest gardens in India. We stake our reputation on our opinion. Finer and more perfect growth of teas have never been offered. You cannot make a mistake if you ask for Indian tea at any of our establishments. WE KEEP ONLY THE FINEST QUALITY! We would like you to test the correctness of our judgment, well knowing you will thank us for our opinion.

WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, THE TEA DEALERS,
33, GRAININGER STREET, AND 52, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

PLANTING SEASON, 1878-9.

THE NEW NURSERY GROUNDS,
NURSERY COTTAGE, NEAR EBCHESTER STATION.

THE Proprietor, in thanking his numerous friends and the public generally for their patronage during the past fifteen years, while respectfully soliciting a continuance of past favours, begs to invite an inspection of his NEW GROUNDS, which contain a Selected Collection of Forest, Fruit, and Ornamental Trees, Evergreen and Deciduous Shrubs, Conifaers, American Plants, Roses, &c., &c. Fruiting Strawberry Plants, all the best varieties. Rhubarb Roots, Stott's Monarch, Prince Albert, &c.,

The Stock of Roses, consisting of above 100 named sorts, include all the best show varieties, fine strong plants in healthy condition. A finer Stock of Glorie de Dijon Roses was perhaps never offered to the public.

The Soil of these Grounds being a Maiden Turfy Loam, is peculiarly adapted to grow all kinds of Nursery Stock with perfect balls of fibry roots.

A healthy Stock of Greenhouse Plants for winter blooming, Flower Pots and Seed Pans at Makers' Prices. Propagating and other Potting Soils Supplied. Estimates given and Plantations undertaken by the Acre.

LANDSCAPE GARDENING.

Gentlemen can be supplied with all the required information to guide them in laying out New Grounds and carrying out improvements with economy and practical skill.

JOHN RICHARDSON, PROPRIETOR.

Seed Warehouse—
Three Minutes from Ebchester Station.

POSTAL ADDRESS—
JOHN RICHARDSON,
NURSERYMAN AND SEEDSMAN,
NURSERY COTTAGE, EBCHESTER, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN. 614m

WINES AND SPIRITS FOR EVERY-DAY USE
Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 200 varieties.

The seals and labels on all WINES and SPIRITS bottled by W & A GILBEY may be accepted as an absolute guarantee of their purity and genuineness. Under the Act of Parliament 18 & 19 Vict., Cap. 63, the purity of any Wine or Spirit can be verified on application to the Local Government Analyst.

The following SELECTED LIST of W & A GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS comprises two descriptions only of each class of Wines and Spirits, the first selected on account of its moderate price, and the second for its fine quality combined with greater age.

AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT

PRICES THE SAME AS AT HEAD ESTABLISHMENTS

WINES	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
PORT Castle 1A *from Portugal* A good bodied well-matured Wine. 4 years old	1/9	21/
PORT Castle B *from Portugal.* A fine fully flavored fruity Wine. 8 years old	2/4	28/
SPANISH PORT Castle 1 *from Spain* A full-bodied fruity Wine. 4 years old	1/3	15/
SPANISH PORT Castle 4 *from Spain* The finest Spanish Port procurable. 10 years old	1/10	22/
SHERRY Castle SPANISH *from Spain* A dry Spanish Sherry. 3 years old	1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle C *Pale from Spain* A good type of nutty Sherry. 6 years old	2/4	28/
MARSALA Castle VP *Pale from Sicily* A delicate dinner Wine. 4 years old	1/4	16/
MARSALA Castle C *Pale from Sicily.* The finest Marsala produced. 7 years old	1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A pure Claret Wine. Upwards of a year in bottle	1/	12/
CLARET Castle C *from France* A fine flavored and well-matured Medoc Wine	1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Seal* A delicate dry Sparkling Wine	Bottles 2/1 / Half-Bots. 1/3	25/ / 14/6
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Seal* A fine old dry Sparkling Wine	Bottles 2/6 / Half-Bots. 1/5	30/ / 17/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 1 A pure Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	Bottles 2/2 / Half-Bots. 1/3	26/ / 15/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 3 A high class delicate Champagne	Bottles 3/6 / Half-Bots. 1/11	42/ / 23/

SPIRITS	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
GIN Castle UP Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's own Distillery. 33 per cent. under proof	2/	24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's own Distillery. Strength, proof	2/10	34/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle UP Distilled from fine Malt. 25 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle DC Finest old Dublin Whiskey. Strength, proof	3/3	39/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle UP Distilled from fine Malt. 25 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle SOF Finest old Scotch Whiskey. Strength, proof	3/3	39/
BRANDY Castle UP Compounded exclusively from Pure Spirits. 25 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Compounded exclusively from Pure Spirits	3/	36/
COGNAC Castle D An excellent Cognac Brandy of fine flavor. 25 under proof	3/	36/
COGNAC Castle Fine Old Cognac Brandy. Strength, proof	4/9	67/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP A well-matured Jamaica Rum. 25 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle JQ The finest old Jamaica Rum. Strength, proof	3/3	39/
HOLLANDS Castle 1 A pure Dutch Spirit *Schiedam Rye Wheat.* 14 per cent. under proof	2/4	28/
HOLLANDS *Silver Cocoanut* A fine old Dutch Spirit, bottled abroad. 14 under proof	2/8	32/

SAMPLES .. .. *Single Bottles of any of W & A Gilbey's 200 varieties of Wines and Spirits can be had as samples*
EXPORTATION .. *W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits, can be obtained free of duty from their Excise Bonded Warehouses.—For Prices see Special Export List*
PAYMENTS .. .. *In order to give every possible advantage to consumers cash payments are absolutely necessary, as all prices are arranged upon that principle*
COMPLETE LIST *A Complete List of W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits, containing full particulars of more than 200 varieties, sent free on application.*

PLUMBING AND GASFITTING.

ELIZABETH SMITH,
PLUMBER AND GASFITTER,
SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform the Public that she intends carrying on the above Business, and hopes by prompt attention to orders, combined with reasonable charges, to merit a share of public patronage and support.
Consett, July, 26th, 1878.

BOTTLED ALE AND PORTER STORES AND LEMONADE AND SODA WATER MANUFACTORY,
DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

THE Trade and Public of Consett and District are informed that the Old Established business, heretofore conducted by GEORGE YOUNG, will, on and after, May 15th, be carried on under the style or firm of YOUNG and ELADON, by whom all Orders will be punctually attended to.
All Jointed Waters will be sent out in Codd's Patent Globe Stoppered Bottles. 21m

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

A REWARD OF FIVE POUNDS will be paid to any Person who shall give information to lead to the Conviction of any Person Liming or Poisoning the waters deputed to the Association, or taking fish therein by any other illegal means. By order of the Committee

CARRIAGES sent in for Sale by Commission:—A light Landau, of recent pattern, for one horse: also a pair-horse Landau; a Clarence Brougham, also a Miniature and Bijou Brougham; a Gentleman's Omnibus, with sittings for eight, and a Waggonette Omnibus, with sittings for four; a pair-horse Waggonette, to carry six at the back, another to carry four, and a light one-horse Waggonette; a Hansom Cab, suitable for a 4-stor; a Back-to-Back Pheeton, also an Albert Turn-Over Phæton, and a fashionable Park Phæton; a Shamrock Dog Cart, a Whitechapel Cart, and a light Gig, also several Pony Carriages; a variety of Harness.—Particulars sent on knowing the kind of Carriage required.—Apply to ATKINSON and PHILIPSON, Carriage and Harness Manufactory, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 549m

Business Announcements.

TELFER'S
SMOKING MIXTURE,
RECOMMENDED for its rich and excellent Flavour. It is prepared and blended, with judicious care and judgment, from the finest Tobaccos the world can produce, making a delicious mixture. Sold only in Packets, 1oz., 2oz., and 4oz., at all Tobacconists, Stores, Shopkeepers, and Innkeepers.

TELFER AND SONS,
TOBACCO AND SNUFF MANUFACTURERS,
NEWCASTLE. 38m

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER,
LEADGATE AND CONSETT.
PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED ON CONTRACTED FOR.

LOOK! LOOK!!—For Washing Machines, Posts, Tubs, Pails, &c., or repairs of every description, go to W. BORROW, Cooper, Front Street, Consett.

ROBERT SEWELL,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
14, HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT.

J. FAIRBURN, MEDICAL BOTANIST, PHRENOLOGIST, LECTURER on PHYSIOGNOMY, and FUNERAL BREAD BAKER, Oakey's Houses, near West Stanley. 530m

NOTICE! NOTICE!!

ANY Person found Trespassing in pursuit of Game, gathering Mushrooms, Brambles, &c., on Middle Heads, Oliverford, Middles, Knitsley Grange, Alle Heads Lyerdees, Rowley, Dane Head, and Healeyfield Farms will be Prosecuted as the Law directs.
July, 1875. 712

E. BROOKS,
59, CLAYTON STREET, and 18, NEW BRIDGE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

LARGE ARRIVAL of STOCK for the present Season.

SPLENDID FELT HATS at 3s. 6d. and 4s. 6d.

A. PHILLIPSON,
AUCTIONEER, FURNITURE DEALER, &c.,
DIPTON.

IS prepared to BUY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., for Cash, or Remove Goods to his Show-rooms, or any other desirable place, to be Sold by Auction.

J. BATES,
HOUSE CARPENTER, JOINER, UNDERTAKER, HARDWAREMAN,
HARVEY STREET, CONSETT. 675k

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

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

McCOURTY,
PRACTICAL WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

HAS on hand a Select Stock of GOLD and SILVER GOODS of the usual Requisites in the Trade to choose from at the Lowest Cash Prices. Goods made to Order, and Repairs in all the various Branches done on the Premises by Practical Workmen. 460k

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

M. TUCKER,
PORK BUTCHER,

RESPECTFULLY intimates to the Public of Consett and Neighbourhood that he has OPENED the Shop next door to Mr. WHITTAKER'S, Middle Street, Consett, with a large supply of Fine Dairy-fed PORK, SAVLOYS, genuine SAUSAGE, POLONIES, colored BRAWNS, and everything else in the Trade. Every Article Guaranteed First-class.
A trial solicited. 244m

NOTICE.

JAMES BROWN,
GENERAL CARRIER,

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public that he has commenced the above-named Business at Consett and Leadgate to Newcastle every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, leaving the White Swan, Cloth Market at Three o'clock, and hopes by paying attention to all Orders entrusted to his care, to merit a share of their patronage and support.
FURNITURE REMOVED. 449m

FARM SEEDS.

NOW ON SALE:
THE NEW SPRING TARES.
FINE POTATO AND TARTARIAN OATS.
FINE MAPLE PEAS, &c.
CLOVERS AND GRASS SEEDS.
G. H.'S CELEBRATED MIXTURES FOR PERMANENT PASTURES.
TURNIP SEEDS.
GARDEN SEEDS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
Ammonia-fied and Phosphe Peruvian Guanos, Turnip and Potato Manures, Crushed and Dissolved Bones and Top Dressings for Field or Garden use, Nitrate of Soda, and Agricultural Salt.

GEORGE HOBSON
HARPERLEY MILLS, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, AND CATCHGATE.
(ESTABLISHED 1817.) 654b

THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT with the AWARDED ROADS, QUARRIES, WELLS, WATERING PLACES, &c., set out by the Commissioners by their Award, dated 13th June, 1871; also a note of the various
CUSTOMS OF THE COPYHOLD OF MANORS OF THE SEE OF DURHAM,
Edited and Compiled by ROBERT JACKSON, for upwards of thirty years Managing Clerk in the Copyhold Office, Durham, and late Bailiff of the Manor.
The whole of the remaining copies of this useful work, which was published at 2s. 6d., having been purchased by ROBERT JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, Consett, he has determined to reduce the price of *Three Shillings* per copy (post free) in order to give a speedy clearance.
Also on hand a few copies (being an exact facsimile) of the *Original* LANCHESTER COMMON ACT, recently published by Mr. JOHN CALVERT, at the reduced price of *Two Shillings* (post free).
☞ Every owner or occupier of property within the boundary of Lanchester Common should possess a copy of either of these editions.
Mr. JACKSON will be glad to forward copies of either of these editions by return of Post. For which Halfpenny Postage Stamps or Post-Office Orders made payable to ROBERT JACKSON, Consett must be received.

THE AFGHAN WAR.

THE FIGHTING IN THE PEIWAR PASS.

The special correspondent of the *Standard* writing from Peiwar Pass on December 1, says:—Fighting took place yesterday at the foot of Peiwar Kotal. After our force had proceeded a considerable distance up the pass, and were preparing their camp for the night, the enemy suddenly opened fire with shell and round shot from a commanding ridge at the top of the pass. Our artillery attempted to shell the enemy out of their position, but as the evening was approaching, General Roberts considered it advisable that the whole of the force should retire to the mouth of the pass, out of range of the enemy's guns. To-morrow forenoon, however, we shall make a fresh advance in greater strength, and although it is certain that the fighting will be severe, since the enemy commands all the principal positions at the top of the pass, not a doubt is entertained that we shall be able to defeat him and drive him back to Shaturgardan, though at that point strong opposition may again be expected. At four o'clock yesterday morning both brigades of the force advanced in a westerly direction along the Khurum Valley, Safeid Kho being on the right and the Khurum river and high hills on the left. Peiwar Kotal was before us. Kotal means the crest of a ridge, and Peiwar, as your readers know, is the name of the pass. The pass itself is more than 700 feet high, and is formed by the northern and southern spurs of the Safeid Kho range. Brigadier-General Cobbe was in command of the left brigade, Brigadier-General Thelwall, C.B., being in command of the right. Each column was preceded by a squadron of the 12th Bengal Cavalry, followed by two mountain guns, the infantry of the briagade, and two guns of the Royal Artillery. General Cobbe's column made a circuitous route to the left, whilst General Thelwall marched straight upon Hubeer Killa, where the military cantonments of the Ameer for the Koorum Valley were situated. The cantonments are at a distance of about 13 miles from the Koorum Fort. The road is intersected by a number of water-courses of considerable depth, and with a strong current. They had fled from the cantonments on Wednesday night. The information, however, received from the Turi villagers concerning the movements of the enemy was of the most contradictory character. Many of us believed the villagers to be acting treacherously, and to be giving us false and misleading reports. The events of yestrday show how dangerous it is to base political or military arrangements upon the word of the Afghans. In consequence of the doubtful nature of the intelligence furnished to us—part of which represented that a portion of the Ameer's troops, with six guns were on the road at the foot of the pass, working their way up, whilst another portion, said to consist of the whole Durani force and guns, was affirmed to have escaped through the other end of the pass, General Cobbe sent the 5th Punjab infantry, under Major Macqueen, Major Pratt, and Captain Hall, into the defiles to the left of the pass, in order to work round about the pass and discover the actual position and strength of the enemy. The 29th Punjaub infantry followed, under Colonel Gordon, Major Channer, V. C., Captains M'Leod, Voyle, and Read, and Lieut. Pinnott. Two guns of the mountain battery joined this reconnoitring force. Shortly afterwards the 8th King's, under Colonel Drew and Major Tanner, skirmished up the hills commanding the mouth of the pass. In a little time General Thelwall's column arrived at the same place. The force took up a position on a tolerably flat plateau forming a kind of limited amphitheatre among the mountains. Hundreds of Turi villagers were clustered on the rocks around. Every one of them seemed to be armed with from two to at least half a dozen weapons. Whilst the 72nd Highlanders, the 5th Ghoorkas, and the 2nd Punjaub Infantry, with the general and staff, were bivouacking here, trying to make themselves comfortable, firing was heard in the valleys around, and the smoke of the shells was seen curling upwards as they burst over the top of the pass. About four o'clock the elephants arrived carrying the guns of the royal artillery on their backs. Everybody was envying the good luck of the 5th and 29th, who were evidently engaging the enemy, when suddenly a round shot came bounding through the camp. I was sitting with Lieutenant Turner, of General Cobbe's brigade, in the camp, when this shot passed within a yard of us to our right. It plunged beneath some horses in front of us, and disappeared down the valley, without injuring either horse or man in its course. The unpleasant discovery was then made that the enemy at the top of the pass had found our exact range, and had established a battery among a clump of firs on the crest of the Peiwar mountain. Shot after shot came whizzing down from the hills, and orders were given for every man to leave the open and take shelter beneath the rocks on our right. Whilst crossing the open ground another round shot bounded through the ranks of the Ghoorkas, but again without touching a man. As it was evident that the elephants were attracting the enemy's fire, they were ordered to be removed. The enemy then opened fire upon us with shell, which came screaming down the pass. Many wonderful escapes took place. Stirling's battery of the royal artillery was placed in a position as soon as possible on the plateau just evacuated by the infantry, and at once began a sharp shell fire upon the enemy's position. The second shell, we saw through our telescopes, dismounted one of the guns in the pass, and went right through the ranks of the enemy. After about a dozen shells had been fired, and one from a mountain gun, which had been planted on an adjoining hillock, it was seen that the enemy's shells were so well directed that it was deemed advisable to order our artillery to retire. A general retirement of our troops to another encampment at the mouth of the pass was then ordered, and several companies of Ghoorkas, Highlanders, and of the 2nd Punjaub infantry were spread out for the purpose of protecting our retreat. The darkness set in before major Macqueen and Colonel Gordon's troops arrived there. It was reported that the 5th Punjaub infantry and the 29th infantry had proceeded in different directions amongst the hills to the left of the pass. Both these regiments encountered the enemy who swarmed on the crags about the head of the pass. There was brisk firing on both sides, but our infantry was unable to turn the enemy's position and having by this time discovered the enemy's strength, they retired. Capt. Reid, of the 29th, was shot through the back and severely wounded. One mountain battery driver was killed, and five men belonging to the 29th, and six of the 5th, were wounded more or less severely. Last night the enemy's fires were visible all round the semicircle formed by the mountains of the pass, showing that they were active, and in considerable force. As the position of our present camp is also commanded by the enemy, the general has ordered its immediate removal further back towards Koorum. The troops are quite exhausted to-day, having marched twenty-four miles yesterday, without food, in their anxiety to come up with the enemy. The second brigade also had only just arrived, after a long march on the previous night. The general has in consequence decided that the enemy cannot be followed up until to-morrow. The camp is now being struck, though reconnaissances of the enemy's positions are being made from the tops of the adjoining hills. At the present moment the enemy can be seen in large numbers on the rocks and above us, both to our immediate right and left.

THE AMEER AND RUSSIA.

According to intelligence received at Orenburg, the Ameer of Afghanistan has held an extraordinary durbar at Cabul, at which he made a speech, declaring that Russia's hospitality to Afghan traders made it his duty to give the Russian Embassy a cordial reception. The declaration elicited loud marks of approval from the assembled chiefs. He then ordered the Keeper of the Seals to read to the Council an account of the power and fame of Russia. The Ameer brought the proceedings to a conclusion by saying, "Return to your posts, and sharpen your swords to meet the enemy of our country." An extraordinary credit has been demanded by the Ameer for the purpose of paying honour to the Embassy.

PUNISHMENT OF THE HILL TRIBES

A correspondent telegraphed from Lahore, Dec. 2.—Major Cavagnari, with a force accompanied by two guns from Sohangai, has with the assistance of the headmen of the Kuki Kheyls punished the men of the tribe who had attacked the British convoys. A portion of the marauders submitted, but others resisted and fired upon the troops. They dispersed, however, on being shelled. The fortified towers have been rased, and the headmen have arranged to post strong guards on the heights in the Shadi Hagia Pass. The combination attempted between the Tirah tribes has collapsed. The road between Handi, Khini, and Dakka had been secured by arrangement with the friendly tribes, thus relieving the military from the work of guarding it.

News from Candahar announces that the Afghan Governor is removing his family to Farah.

The Ameer has ordered two lacs of rupees to be levied upon the revenues of Candahar.

Sir Samuel and Lady Baker have left England for Asia Minor, Cyprus, and the East.

A Reuter's telegram from Constantinople says Suleiman Pasha has been sentenced by court-martial to be degraded and to be confined in a fortress for his conduct in the lat war

Professor Walker Macfarren is strongly opposed to the fusion of the Royal Academy of Music and the Training School of Music advocated by Mr. Henry Leslie.

It is stated that a committee of experts having examined the document kown as "Luther's will," which is in the possession of the Protestant church in Pesth, have declared it to be authentic.

The London Steamboat Company have launched another vessel from their works at Woolwich, and it has been christened the Princess of Wales. The vessel is constructed to carry from 600 to 800 passengers.

Five engineers from Messrs. Greenfield's Harbour Works have left Alexandria, Egypt, for Cyprus, to prepare surveys for railways and plans of a harbour and arsenal at Famagousta, for submission to the Lords of the Admiralty.

A destructive fire broke out in the wool and waste warehouse of Messrs. Parkinson and Co., Batley, Yorkshire, by which the building and its contents were totally destroyed. The damage is estimated at £8,000.

It is said to be the initention of the Admiralty to recall the Black Prince, commanded by the Duke of Edinburgh, to England, to be paid off and put out of commission. His Royal Highness has now been serving afloat since February, 1876.

The German papers state that the investigation as to possible accomplices in Nobling's attempt on the life of the Emperor William continues. A number of foreign documents have been translated, and figure among a large array of papers on the subject.

A destructive boiler explosion occurred at the chemical works of Mr. Pecker, Middleton, near Oldham, by which a large portion of the premises has been destroyed. The damage amounts to many thousands of pounds. Fortunately no lives have been lost.

Two sorts of mitrailleuses are being manufactured for Russia at Whitten, in Prussian Rhineland. The heavy calibre mitrailleuses, to arm torpedo boats, discharge 300 bullets per minute; the small-calibre arm, for field purposes, fires from 800 to 1,400 bullets per minute.

Lord Aberdare, in opening a coffee tavern at Mountain Ash, expressed his belief that the Legislature would not make any alteration in the licensing laws for many years to come, hence it was desirable that indirect means should be adopted for the suppression of drunkenness.

A Malta telegram says that H.M.S. Rupert has arrived at Malta from Artaki Bay. Besides the Rupert, there are now at Malta the flagships Minotaur and Agincourt, the frigate Shannon, and the gunboat Falcon. The Austrian corvette Heligoland is also in the harbour.

One hundred and fifty French operatives employed in the construction of a railway from Thiers to Ambert lately struck on account of Italians being employed at lower wages. The contractor was obliged to discharge the Italians; but the prefect, with some gendarms, arrested the ringleaders of the strike.

The guillotine will probably again raise its ghastly head shortly in the Place de la Roquette, in Paris. Guillot, the grocer of the Rue de l'Ouest, who murdered his little girl by strangling, under circumstances of exceptional barbarity, has been condemned to death at the Assizes of the Seine, without the usual qualification of "extenuating circumstances."

The Penzance Corporation have decided to celebrate Sir Humphry Davy's centenary on the 17th December, by organising an exhibition of scientific apparatus. A public meeting will be held to consider the advisability of devising means to still further commemorate the event in the spring, when several English and foreign savants will be invited to attend.

The Bishop of Rochester's legal advisers are unable, it is said, to place the resignation of the living of St. James's, Hatcham, which the Rev. Arthur Tooth has completed within the past fortnight, before his lordship until they are certified that the salary of £150 has been paid by the Rev. Arthur Tooth to the Rev. Mr. MacColl, in accordance with the terms of the bishop's license.

The action by Sir Rowland Hill and others against the Metropolitan Asylums Board for erecting a small-pox hospital at Hampstead, which raised a most important point affecting the powers of public bodies to cause nuisances or injury to inhabitants, has resulted in a verdict substantially for the plaintiffs, but as it was stated the decision would be appealed against, the judgement was not signed.

The Home Secretary has notified that, having carefully considered the circumstances of the case, he had felt justified in advising her Majesty to commute the sentence in the case of John Davis, an engineer, from Liverpool, sentenced a few weeks since to five years' penal servitude for an alleged robbery in a house of questionable character, to a year's imprisonment, with hard labour.

James Harvey, a Naval Reserve man, has been committed for trial at Bristol, on a charge of forging a warrant or authority for the payment of money with intend to defraud. Prisoner had forged the signature of the second officer in command of the Dædalus training ship to the statement that he had become entitled to 30s., which sum was paid him by the superintendant of mercantile marine for the county.

The narrative of the new "Wanderings of Ulysses," to which the citizens of the United States look forward, will be less comprehensive than was expected, as General Grant has given up his plan of travelling round the world and returing home by way of San Francisco. Mr. Russell Young, who has generally accompanied him, will be entrusted with the arrangement of any particulars which General Grant may desire to publish.—*Athenæum.*

A number of politically and otherwise prominent men in France and in Belgium have of late years become Protestants, declaring that they do not accept the Protestant faith on their own account, but make the change only to save their wives and children from the influence of the Roman Catholic priests. This class of conversions goes now by the name of "changement d'inscription religieuse." The movement has gained recently even in Corsica.

A court-martial, has been held on board the flagship at Portsmouth, on Charles Liney, belonging to the carpenters' crew of the Undaunted, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, and to be dismissed the service, for stealing fifty sovereigns from Captain John D'Arcy, the captain of the ship; and Charles Boulett, ordinary seamen, belonging to the Duke of Wellington, was sent to prison for two years, for using threatening language to the surgeon of his ship.

Correspondence.

Communications intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

LOCAL PREACHERS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—I find myself among hornets. I am on the horns of a dilemma, from which position it will (so your Methodistical correspondents predict) be impossible for me to extricate myself. However, as I find myself in the hands of the Philistines, I shall endeavour to fight my enemies with their own weapons, and, as your readers must be the judges, I shall leave the result in their hands. I find that "High Churchman" has retired from the combat, and I am left to fight the battle single-handed. No, not single-handed, for there is one (and he a follower of the founder of Methodism) who has the manliness to come forward and bear witness to the truth of the remarks that "High Churchman" first made, namely, that a great deal of ignorance prevails among the class of individuals known as "local preachers." This is the main point at issue, and ought not to be lost sight of. It is true, as one of your correspondents triumphantly points out, that my challenge to my opponents was to prove that "locals" were *not* ignorant, rather a difficult task, I admit. However, though it may be impossible to prove a negative, it is a well-known fact that a great many "locals" are exceedingly ignorant. The members of the Methodist chapels feel this; so much so, in fact, that when particular individuals are "planned" to "hold forth" in their chapels many of them are not to be seen in their accustomed places. Is this true or untrue? "A Methodist Local Preacher" is the next on the list. He states that Methodist ministers are superior in intellect and culture to the clergy. I am afraid the experience of "A Methodist Local Preacher" has been very limited indeed—perhaps he has lived all his life in some little pit village which never boasted of anything better than a "meeting house," at which "A Methodist Local Preacher" has been "head man" on Sunday, and he may have got his *beau-ideal* of a minister from the occasional visit of the second or third minister of the circuit. Does "A Methodist Local Preacher" mean to say that the fact of a Methodist minister preaching extempore is an evidence of his superiority over a Church of England clergyman, who reads his sermon? Doubtless, if Methodists, and especially "locals," were to read their sermons, we should have less "wandering." "A Methodist Local Preacher" informs your readers that many of the "locals" could turn me "inside out" in theological matters. That would be rather an interesting process, but its accomplishment will not take place for a long time to come if the theologians be of the "Methodist Local Preacher" stamp. "A Methodist" comes to the front again. He seems to be a capital word-painter, and has grown so enthusiastic on the subject that he puts his words into poetry (save the mark!), which is almost as good as a piece that appeared in your paper some weeks ago from a gentleman who seemed to be proud of the title "A Shotley Bridge Chimney Sweep." However, "A Methodist" so capitally hits off his friends ("these locals"), that I am inclined to pardon him for telling me I "sprang from the dunghill!" I beg to be allowed to inform "Unsectarian" and his friend "Vulcan," that I never wished your readers to believe that "education is the only requisite for the formation of a successful preacher of the Gospel." Education, however, is an essential factor, and those who have the presumption to get into a pulpit without it very often, in their attempts to preach "in demonstration of the spirit and of power," bring ridicule upon themselves and those connected with them. "John Ploughman's" conclusion, "that when a man has a particularly empty head he generally sets up for a great judge, especially in religion," would seem to apply to "Unsectarian" as well as your humble servant. If we had fewer local preachers it would be a sign that there were fewer empty heads. "A *Guardian* Reader" says he has "heard little about repentance and faith" in the Church. There is an old saying about none being so deaf as those who won't hear, and I am afraid "A *Guardian* Reader" has gone to Church with his ears stuffed with wool.—I remain, dear sir, yours very truly,

A CHURCHMAN.

Dec. 4th, 1878.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In perusing the last two or three numbers of your paper, I have noticed much correspondence headed as above. I have thought, with your permission, I might venture a few remarks. In the issue of the 15th ult. you publish a letter, signed "A Methodist." which has special reference to the one written by "High Churchman." Your correspondent says, very truly, that men of intelligence and vital religion are the men who should (by God's blessing) be made the instrument of winning souls for Christ. His challenge to "High Churchman" is fair, and that fact none can deny. I notice in the following issue "High Churchman" has not put in an appearance, but "A Churchman" has, who says he is no Ritualist, if not, he is not far from being one—verging on in that direction. Does "A Churchman" mean to say that local preachers (because they are working men) are not educated men? for if called by God to preach, He who calls will qualify. When we remember He chose not the great men, wise, or educated "gentlemen," but poor, illiterate fishermen to fulfil His great design—turning men from their sins to God. Again, is it because local preachers are working men, and not "gentlemen," that they are such as your correspondent would have your numerous readers imagine them to be? One thing is clear, and none can deny it, not even "A Churchman," that a great many of their feeble efforts (though not as "educated as the 'gentlemen' who occupy pulpits in our churches") are owned and blest by God to the salvation of precious and immortal souls. It is a very easy matter for any man to read a sermon, but it is very seldom you will find a local preacher inflicting a written sermon upon his congregation, for this reason—they are working men, and while their hands are busily employed in daily occupation, their hearts are being prepared and their minds are being trained by Him, who needs not send his men to obtain "their degrees of competency at our universities." For I would remind "A Churchman" that it was not only the blowing of the priests' trumpets, or rams' horns, but the shouts of the children of Israel, which brought the wall of Jericho down. As for "A Churchman" imagining that our ministers are on a lower footing than the "gentlemen" *who occupy the pulpits in our churches*, or that they are not as well educated, is ridiculous in the extreme, and anything but the brotherly feeling which should exist between those who are professing to serve the same great Master. Is this the fulling of the command which was given by our Lord to His disciples, when he said "These things I command you, that ye love one another?" I say, emphatically, no. "It is more like the occasion, of which we read. When the disciples disputed for pre-eminence, did our Lord say it was right, and that it would tend to their spiritual welfare? Oh, no. He said, "If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last, and servant of all." It would have been better for "A Churchman," in my opinion, if he had left his few remarks "dotted on paper," and not rushed into print with a letter, which, from beginning to end, is *uncharitable, sarcastic*, and, above all, *unchristian-like*; equally so is "High Churchman." In conclusion, let me say to "A Churchman" that ignorance no more predominates among "locals," than it is conspicuous amongst churchmen (if this be a sample), and it is preposterous for "A Churchman" to say so.—Hoping you will excuse me for occupying so much of your valuable space, I remain, sir, yours, &c.,

L. E. O. N.

Ashton-under-Lyne, Dec. 2, 1878.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—Being a constant reader of your valuable paper, I have been much interested of late in perusing the controversy which has appeared concerning "local preachers," and, after giving due consideration to all, I think it must be admitted that the letter of "High Churchman" (the cause of the strife) contained statements which the most zealous Methodist has failed to controvert. There are some local preachers in this district who are an honour to the connexion to which they belong, a blessing to the neighbourhood in which they labour, and whose services cannot be too much valued, men who do not fail to see the importance of improving their own minds before commencing to instruct others, and realising the importance of their position as ambassadors, and who do their utmost to prepare their discourses for delivery, in order that they may preach the word in a clear, comprehensive, and successful manner. Their sermons are not a confused mass of words (such as "High Churchman" has had the misfortune of listening to), but expositions of the texts chosen, including not only a paraphrase of the passage discoursed from, a commentary upon its signification, and an exhortation regarding the fulfilment of the duties it enjoins or implies, but also an application of the teaching it involves to the personal circumstances of different classes of hearers, and thus the well-weighed and carefully-tested teachings of men who have garnered and sifted the products of thought in the study, being brought into immediate and intimate relations with the minds of the devout and serious, great things are accomplished. The mind being enlightened by the effective preaching of the truth (accompanied by the influence of the Holy Spirit), the will is subdued, the soul is saved, and the kingdom of our God is established. May the number of those men be increased, men who go forth and preach the gospel, as analysed by their own intellects, felt by their own hearts, realised by their own consciences, coloured by their own imaginations, spoken by their own voices, and who fully exemplify it in their every-day life.

But, sir, at the same time, it must be acknowledged by every unprejudiced mind, that there are those amongst the locals who would shine with more brilliancy, and would be of more service in some other sphere. Their idea of preaching seems to be simply entering the sacred desk, taking a text, and depending altogether upon the spirit giving them utterance, and they being disappointed in their expectation, those present are under the painful necessity of sitting and listening to a lot of talk, which sometimes takes an hour for delivery, the whole of which is neither instructive, edifying, nor calculated to accomplish the great end for which the preaching of the gospel is designed. I shall give an instance. Some time ago, a good brother was holding forth in a place of worship not five miles from South Moor, when, in referring to the Prince of Darkness, he said, "At one time the enemy could be known by his club feet and other peculiarities, but now he had secured a pair of elastic-side boots, and also furnished himself with a pair of kid gloves, and he entered our places of worship with impudence, and did not content himself with taking a seat in the pew, but had the audacity to even enter the sacred desk and commence to hold forth." Now, sir, need it be a matter of astonishment if "High Churchman" and many others complain of having to listen to such ministrations? Nay, especially so, when it is taken into consideration that those men, in many cases, are the most dogmatic, and in some cases even protest against mental culture, not knowing that three of the most eloquent men whom modern times have known, men whose varied and extensive acquirements have done honour to the race, blessed humanity at large, and whose memory will live through the evolutions of time, are distinguished as metaphysicians, and thus people are to let patience have her perfect work while they listen to such superstitious hallucinations. But, sir, if the present agitation shall result in those laymen applying themselves more assiduously to their studies, in order that they may be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, but prove themselves to be workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, then it will not have been in vain. The preacher who wants to gain access to the hearts of his audience, before he can promote their religious and moral improvement, an accurate acquaintance with the powers, and susceptibilities, and workings of the human mind is of the greatest utility, and this can only be acquired by a careful and patient study of those subjects calculated to give the necessary information, and if the effort is put forth success is sure, because no difficulty can long stand in his way who adds to his love of knowledge patience in inquiry and intrepidity in perseverance.

> For slugard's brow the laurel never grows,
> Renown is not the child of indolent repose.

Hoping you will reserve for this a small space in your valuable paper,—I remain, yours, &c.,

A DISSENTER.

Annfield Plain, Dec. 3rd, 1878.

"CIVIS" AND HIS CRITICS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—After the scurrilous attack upon me, in your last issue, your readers will, doubtless, have been led to think that the pen of "Civis" must have fallen from his nervous grasp, and that the "twang of that cow-horn" will echo no more for ever. But "Rip Van Winkle" makes an egregious blunder if he imagines that I am to be silenced by base threats or erroneous accusations.

Since the publication of my letter of the 12th ult., I have fallen into disrepute with a section of the Hallelujah warriors. I say a section, because it would be unfair to charge the whole Regiment with so vindictive propensities. I do not think that there were any expressions in my letter of that date to provoke the wrath of ordinary mortals, to say nothing of so-called saints, who rejoice that they are not as other men. Yet, so it was, for not only was I subjected to taunts and scoffs while in the Town Hall, but also on the following Monday, when one of the braves, solicitous about my welfare, asked me "how the cap fitted"—alluding to the attention accorded to me in the Hall—while another declared that I was blacker than the ———. Threats followed, clenched with choice phrases, which my vocabulary does not contain. It was rather tantalising to be bullied in this manner, and so on the first spare evening, my second letter was written, in which I satarised the whole Regiment, notably those who had graced me with their favours. I admit that the subject was treated too irreverently. I do not regret having caricatured the persons in question. My error lay in associating them with Christianity. On the publication of that letter, I was bluntly informed that war had been declared against me, and was to be conducted by proxy. As the week wore on, further information leaked out, and notwithstanding the secrecy enjoined by "Rip Van Winkle," I was cognizant of the heading and the gist of his letter by the time it went to press.

Before returning to the formidable antagonist which has been brought against me, let me thank your intelligent correspondent, "Nondescript," for his remarks. I esteem legitimate criticism more than flattery, and therefore thank him for his opportune suggestions.

I now make bold to step into the arena, wind a blast upon my "cow-horn," poise my Cossack's spear, and face the redoubtable "Rip Van Winkle." This champion—this modern Samson—has been called in, not to slay his thousands, but to slay "Civis." And lo! he rushes to the front, equipped with the same weapon as his prototype—the jawbone of an ass! This useful, and by no means comley, creature speaks, and in tones hollow and sepulchral, proclaims that the hour has come when I am to be tried at the bar of common-sense. Well, the world must be scarce of men when such a specimen of humanity sets himself up to dispense justice to Her Majesty's subjects.

I appeal against the judgment of this over-grown puppy, and claim the privilege of a better man, and a more impartial judge than "Rip Van Winkle.

It is a pity my enemies could not find a more valiant hero to redress their wrongs, for, although the object of their choice thinks himself vastly my superior, I am sorry that on reading his letter I did not experience

> That kind of pride that warriors feel
> In foemen worthy of their steel.

This invincible critic has over-shot the mark. I do not, sir, set myself before the world as a paragon of perfection, far from it.

> I'm just na better than I should be,
> Nor may be just so good as I could be,

but that I am the debased creature which he depicts is scarcely possible.

"Rip Van Winkle" regards personalities with pious horror, and yet he has the effrontery to proclaim that I reside in the Company Cottages, and pointedly indicates to which side of the Vweed I belong.

Such a locality as the Company's Cottages is, of course, quite good enough for a "literary rushlight," but a full-blown genius like "Rip Van Winkle," must needs bask in a more aristocratic atmosphere—the New Buildings, to wit.

Had my fine critic done no more than touch on personalities, compare my literary effusions to "bubbles," "words without wisdom" "small beer," &c., I should have admired him for his fine sensibilities and acute perception, and predicted that such a prodigy was destined to sleep beneath the dome of St. Paul's. But when he so far forgets himself as to state that my pen is "but rarely employed but to deprecate good work," it is time for me to say "hold, enough." For some time past I have contributed occasionally to this, and other journals, and I call upon "Rip Van Winkle" to cite one instance (excluding, of course, my letter of the 20th ult., and this was not done malevolently, but unthinkingly) in which I have attempted to any such thing. You, sir, are aware that so far as the *Gurrdian* is concerned, this statement is as false as it is misleading.

I am exceedingly gratified by the compliment which "Rip Van Winkle" pays to my personal attractions. The same remarks are equally applicable in his case. This is why he is such a favourite with the ladies.

Altogether, "Rip Van Winkle" is a very remarkable man, He has had the advantage of a college curriculum. Burns, speaking of such men, remarks that some of them

> Gang in stirks and come out asses.

It requires but a very superficial knowledge of human nature to distinguish to which class this gentleman belongs. The fact is, he lacks the ability to shine among his compeers; in their society he cannot command the adoration for which his little heart longs, and so he associates with ignoramuses, who regard him as a kind of demigod. This accounts for the alacrity with which he undertook their filthy work. To get a glimpse at the state of his mind, one has but to read his letter.

I am literally shocked by his allusions to the missing link. He should not speak of monkeys with so much levity, as it seems so mean to talk thus of his poor relations.

> There was a monkey in the days that were earlier,
> Centuries passed and his hair became curlier;
> Centuries passing gave a thumb to his wrist,
> Then he became man and a positvist.

"Rip Van Winkle," with singular magnanimity, dcoms me to drag out a miserable existence among the sewers of Consett. I should certainly be unworthy of carrying a lance did I not vie with my opponent in deeds of valour. A "little mind," such as he credits me with, may find ample scope in the township of Consett. But "Rip Van Winkle" must go hence, and seek a wider field of operations. Say some of our seaport towns, where he will find congenial employment among the underground sewers, snarling and worrying among the huge rats which infest those subterranean retreats.

I almost omitted to allude to the threat which "Rip Van Winkle" throws out at the end of his letter, "There is a rod held in reserve"—a masked battery ready to blow me to atoms should I not skedaddle from the scene of action. Iam not accustomed, nor will I be coerced in this manner. Let them loose the thunderbolt. I lean on my Cossack's spear, not in defiance, but in defence. I *know* my man, so he may come, and the howling fanatics who employed him at his back.

For the latest news of the paper warfare see the *Consett Guardian.*

Among other curiosities may be seen an account of a desperate encounter between a goose gorged with worms and an ass infested with parasites! What, between the cackling of the goose and the braying of the ass, the noise will be terrific. After the combat there will be a search for the missing link.—Yours, in expectancy,

CIVIS.

MR. CARSS AND HIS DETRACTORS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—A letter appeared in the *Guardian* last week signed "Figs," in which the writer attempted to be witty at the expense of Mr. Carss. Though the letter was a piece of sarcasm from beginning to end, it contained a good deal of truth. Mr. Carss is, beyond doubt, "a thorn in the sides of the members of the Benfieldside Local Board," and it is perhaps as well for the ratepayers that he is able to prick them to a sense of duty. I am very glad that Mr. Carss is able to keep the Clerk in his proper place. The Clerk, I see, talks a good deal at the meetings, and perhaps it would be more in keeping with the office he holds if he were to confine his remarks to answering questions when his opinion is asked. Nobody that has ever heard Mr. Carss speak will doubt his hitting capabilities. He does occasionally make use of improper expressions (telling the members of the Lighting Committee they were fit for an asylum was one), but those who read the debates will allow that he receives a good deal of provocation. Most of the members seem to be "down upon" poor Carss, but he appears to be a match for all of them put together. I don't agree with "Figs" that the other members of the Board are "thieves, robbers, brigands, murderers," but if it be true that the lamps are lit when the moon is at her full, he might be pardoned for saying that evidence of insanity existed among the members of the Lighting Committee. Perhaps the moon's changes affect the upper garrets of several of the members. I dare say, but for Mr. Carss, the rates would go up considerably, and that but for Mr. Carss many ancient footpaths in the township would have been blocked up long ago. It was mainly through Mr. Carss' instrumentality that the old footpath through the Benfieldside estate was opened out. If we had a few more like Mr. Carss on our local boards, there would not be so much jobbery. "Figs" says he believes that Benfieldside, Consett, and Leadgate Local Boards are to be united, and that Mr. Carss is to be elevated to the honourable position of member of Parliament, or, at least, chief magistrate. Mr. Carss, I conceive, has as much intelligence as most of the big guns in this district, and would give a good account of himself in the House of Commons. At all events he could speak, and have an opinion of his own, and these are qualifications which the present Tory member for North Durham is deficient of. As for making him a magistrate, I feel confident his decisions would be as fair, and characterised by as much common sense as those given by the magistracy generally. "Figs" implies that Mr. Carss would make short work of the publicans, if he were made a magistrate. So would all justices, if they possessed the power. Our magistrates, many of them estimable gentlemen, are fully alive to the evils of the drink traffic, or they would not year after refuse to increase the number of public-house licenses. Apologising for taking up so much of your space, I remain, yours, &c.,

VINDICATOR.

Dec. 3rd, 1878

EMIGRATION TO TEXAS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,—I have read the letters of S. B. Wright on emigration to Texas, and now write to defend the truth. It seems that S. B. W. is not content with making misrepresentations and telling falsehoods, but now charges Mr. Kingsbury with writing letters over other gentlemen's names. Over twelve months ago I read Mr. Kingsbury's books on Texas, and at once wrote to J. D. Stephenson making many enquiries about Texas, which were duly answered by a neighbour of Mr. Stephenson's, dated Dec. 7, 1877. A gentleman at Hartlepool also wrote to Mr. Stephenson and had a satisfactory letter from him. After reading the two letters, I concluded to go out and see that part of Texas that Mr. Kingsbury represents. I stayed two nights with Mr. Stephenson. He told me his published letter had brought so many letters of enquiry that he was obliged to get his neighbours to help him to fulfil his engagement to answer them.

Then, with regard to the charge of Dr. Kingsbury writing letters over the name of the Rev. T. B. Couch, I was in London a week ago, and was in conversation with that gentleman, and was also at a meeting under his direction, where he displayed photographic views taken in Texas, which gave the looker-on a very fair description of some things in Texas. This gentleman is coming into the North to exhibit those views in some of the large towns, and people wishing to learn something about the natural scenery of Texas cannot do better than attend those meetings. Texas, in my opinion, is one of the finest and perhaps healthiest States in the Union, as the Americans from the wintry north are flocking there in search of health. I have only been in company with Dr. Kingsbury twice, and believe him to be too much of a gentleman to misrepresent anything knowingly, much less to do anything so absolutely unnecessary as to write ficticious letters on Texas, which all travellers (I mean gentlemen competent to judge) say is the finest country in the world. Of course, it is thinly populated, and does not suit everyone. The industrious who can work in land or raise sheep and cattle can soon have an independent home of their own, but clerks, men who follow light employment, shopboys, and, I might say, a man who knows nothing beyond throwing coal on a fire, had better keep away.

I bought land there, and am going to take possession of it, not that I need go out on my own account, but having a large family, all industrious, I judge it a better country for them than England, over-crowded as it is at present by farmers.

In the meantime I invite those who would know the truth to pay me a visit, and not listen to a man who makes charges against a gentleman, which are so barefaced that no one will credit them.

THOMAS ELDERS.

Hart, near Castle Eden, Durham, Dec. 2nd, 1878.

(Continued on page 8.)

HOW TO CURE A COUGH OR COLD.—Take "Budden's Balsam of Horehound and Coltsfoot." One Dose relieves; one Bottle cures. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. Agent for Consett—Mr. D. IMRIE, Chemist, Front Street. 514m

W. J. Mallet, Esq., M.D., of Burlington Street, Manchester, says:—"I have prescribed Todd's Quinine Wine, and consider it in many cases an agreeable and efficacious way of administering quinine." This pleasant and popular medicine is the safest and most certain remedy known in all cases of indigestion, tic or neuralgia, ague, debility, spasms, and all derangements of the stomach. The genuine is manufactured only by Joe Todd, chemist, Carlisle, and bearshis name on the Government stamp.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

Great annoyance is felt at Court at the breakdown of negotiations with the Duke of Cumberland respecting the renunciation of his rights to the Crown of Hanover. He has now definitively declined all compromise, and it is probable that the funds the German Government hold in his name will be sequestrated.

A series of experiments are being conducted at Woolwich to test the adaptability of mules to military work, especially transport service in mountainous regions. For this purpose between one and two hundred Spanish and South American mules have been purchased and brought over to Woolwich.

I hear from New York that the body of A. T. Stewart, the deceased millionaire, has been recovered, and two of ten thieves. There is still, however, a great deal of mystery about the case, the police refusing to give details as to who the thieves are, and where the body now is. It is alleged that the theft was planned by five men who have heretofore not been identified with the criminal classes.

The material support accorded to the Afghan Committee does not, it appears, anything like correspond to the moral support which they have received. The total number of signatures sent in to the petition is about 26,000. Not more than £500 has, however, been subscribed to the funds of the committee—a sum by no means sufficient to pay the expenses incurred up to the present time. This fact is giving the executive a good deal of concern.

I very much fear that Mr. Sergeant Ballantine is much worse than is generally permitted to be known. He has had two similar attacks before, and at his age they are very serious. It must be a terrible disappointment to him to lose his revenge upon Mr. Labouchere, his old foe. It is sad for him, too, that he is thus cut down just as he was returning to practice. Some time ago he thought he could do without the solicitors. The solicitors, on the contrary, thought that they could do without him, and in the ensuing struggle they had the best of it.

In a Hungarian prison has just died a celebrated bandit, Rosza Sandor, otherwise the "robber King." His father and grandfather were robbers by profession, but his own achievements eclipsed those of his family, and he was admired as much as he was feared. The reckless courage with which he attacked the police, and even military escorts on the high road in broad daylight, his generosity to the poor, and gallantry towards women, made him a sort of national hero. Some day, perhaps, he will be honoured by having an opera, of the *Fra Diavolo* school, written about him.

On Monday next, Lord Courtnay, the heir of the house of Devon, once member for Exeter and of the eastern division of his own county, comes up to pass his examination in bankruptcy. His case came on some little time ago. It then appeared that he owed £34,000 and had £400 to pay his debts with. The creditors accepted 1s. in the pound. But a few of them wished first to have the advantage of examining Lord Courtenay. So Monday is fixed for the production of the heir of Powderham Castle. He will especially be called upon to explain what has become of £35,000 of which he became possessed in 1877, and when his father, Earl Devon, repaid him a debt of £12,000, money borrowed within the last two years.

The veteran Arctic explorer, Commander Cheyne, has lectured in the City Hall, Glasgow, on his project of another expedition to the pole. He has received a very warm letter from Mr. H. M. Stanley, who approves of the scheme. The African traveller says:—"I believe with you that the North Pole is not inaccessible. Given a good ship, well stocked with proper supplies; a commander not easily deterred from persevering even though the outlook may be unpromising, a sufficient number of men under proper control and actuated by a due sense of duty to their chief, and I see no reason to doubt the success of such an undertaking as you propose to attempt."

An old Scotch lady having a fortune of £8,000 or £10,000 had £2,000 left her, and intrusted her agent to invest that amount in City of Glasgow Bank shares. For some time she received her dividends, but at last came news of the collapse. She expected poverty, but strange to say she received no notice from the bank people. Investigation proved that her agent had pocketed the £2,000 and had paid her the interest out of the capital. She is now in the singular position of congratulating herself on having been robbed of £2,000 for if that amount had actually been placed to her credit she would have been liable to give up every penny she possessed in payment of "calls."

Mr. John Walter is determined to lecture the clergy. Once a month the Homiletical Society meets in the trophy room of St. Paul's Cathedral. There Dr. Richardson has lectured on teetotalism, and one or two other laymen on sermons. Mr. John Walter has been asked to say a few words as a man who knows how the public is to be approached. The member for Berkshire has chosen for his subjects "Reading and Preaching, from a Layman's Point of View." The clergy are certain to come to hear him. They will crowd to *see* the proprietor of the *Times*. I wonder how many journalists would return the compliment were an ecclesiastic to propose to address them "On Writing Leaders, from a Clerical Point of View." That is one side of the parsonic nature which is interesting. The man who preaches at us does not mind being preached at.

From time to time persons are charged before English magistrates with fortune-telling, and it is evident that a considerable amount of superstition still lingers among us. We may, however, congratulate ourselves that in this respect at least England is not so bad as San Francisco. A newspaper from the other side of the water says that in that western city fortune-telling is carried on to an extent unknown in the east. Some of the women engaged in the business charge from four to ten dollars for an interview, and are visited by credulous stock speculators, who seek to obtain supernatural "points" as to the market. One spiritualistic medium has a reputation for foretelling the discovery of valuable ore beds; another devotes herself to love affairs exclusively. Several are notoriously given to blackmailing, to accomplish which they use information gained from dupes.

A flag at half-mast high waving on the tower of Lambeth Palace tells of the death of the wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, which sad event took place at Edinburgh, on Monday night. Mrs. Tait was a daughter of the Archdeacon of Coventry, and was married to the Primate in 1856. Her late illness—an attack of bilious fever—was of very short duration, and her death was somewhat sudden. It is not three weeks since Mrs. Tait was present at the marriage of her daughter to the Rev. Randall Davidson, at Lambeth. Her loss will be truly and deeply felt by the poor of South London, especially in the low districts lying on the Surrey bank of the river around the palace, where her kindly face was well-known, and her benevolence ever made her welcome. This is only the last of a very long series of troubles which the Archbishop has had to bear. In the spring of last year, the melancholly death of his eldest son, who held, but was forced through illness to resign, the rectory of Notting Hill, was a very heavy bereavement. Many years ago, Dr. Tait suddenly lost three of his daughters, one after the other, who were carried off with scarlet fever.

Cheapside and Ludgate Hill were almost impassable on Monday, and so were all the little thoroughfares in the neighbourhood, The crowd at times in the heart of London became almost a mob. There were hundreds of carriages and as many cabs. Even Paternoster Row, never disturbed except by the countenance of some disappointed bootmaker, was the scene of excitement. The people had gathered together to hear the new carillon. I am no campanologist. Mr. Haweis may be right, or Sir Edmund Beckett may be right. But I hope the crowd were satisfied, for the one thing certain is that they heard—nothing. The roar of the streets drowned the bells, unless they became an undistinguishable crash. They played for nearly four hours. I tried everywhere to hear them. But the only place where I found it possible to do so was at the top of a lofty house nearly a quarter of a mile off. There the tones were borne to me above the multitudinous noise of London. Even there, however, they were not beautiful. They had no sweetness. They seemed to be unutterably intermingled. They are decidedly *not* like Belgian bells.

RUSSIAN PROVERBS.

The wolf asked the goat to dinner, but the goat declined. A fox sleeps, but counts hens in his dreams. The wolf changes his hair every year, but remains a wolf. Dog, why do you bark? To frighten the wolves away. Dog, why do you keep your tail between your legs? I am afraid of the wolf. Love, fire, and a cough, cannot be hid. Make friends with a bear, but keep hold of the axe. Everything is bitter to him who has gall in his mouth. Bread and salt humble a robber. A full stomach is deaf to instruction. If you hunt two hares you will catch neither. You may shut the door on the devil, but he will enter by the window. Praise not the crop until it is stacked. It is not necessary to plough and sow fools; they grow of themselves. Truth is not drowned in water, nor burned in fire. A fool may throw a stone into a pond; it may take seven sages to pull it out. No bones are broken by a mother's fist. Whose bread and whose salt I eat, his praise I sing. Lies march on rotten legs; who lies will steal.

THE SCREW-PROPELLER

A curious chapter in a new history of invention might be written upon the many escapes great discoveries have had of being marred and frustrated in their practical application. When such a chapter is written, one of the most interesting sections in it will be that which tells the story of the screw-propeller, and of the risk of abandonment which, on its first introduction, darkened the hopes of its inventors. It worked well enough on paper, and to some extent also in actual practice. Still it had a defect which, if not remedied, would have proved fatal to its permanent value. The strain of the stern-shaft destroyed the toughest bearings that could be made for it. Engineers were giving up in despair all attempts to construct bearings that would stand against the working of the shaft, and the daring men who had speculated in the invention were grimly contemplating bankruptcy, when John Penn of Greenwich—recently deceased—stepped forward and got them out of their difficulties. He not only showed how "lignum vitæ" bearings would be cheap to make, but proved that they could stand the tear and wear of the stern-shaft without appreciable harm; and in this fashion he rescued the screw-propeller from disuse, and made ocean navigation by steam, such as we know it now, possible.

THE OCEAN FLOOR.

Here is an end of all romance about hidden ocean depths. We can speculate no longer about peris in chambers of perl, or mermaids, or heaped treasures and dead men's bones whitening the coral caves. The whole ocean floor is now mapped out for us. The report of the exploring expedition sent out from London in her Majesty's ship Challenger has recently been published. Nearly four years were given to the examination of the currents and floors of the four great oceans of the world. The Atlantic, we are told, if drained, would be a vast plain, with a mountain ridge in the middle running parallel with the American coast. Another range crosses it from Newfoundland to Ireland, on the top of which lays a submarine cable. The ocean is thus divided into three great basins no longer "unfathomable depths." The tops of these sea-mountains are two miles below a sailing ship, and the basins, according to Reclus, fifteen miles, which is deep enough for drowning, if not for mystery. The mountains are whitened for thousands of miles by a tiny, creamy shell. The depths are red in colour, heaped with volcanic masses. Through the black, motionless water of these abysses move gigantic abnormal creatures, which never rise to the upper currents. There is an old legend coming down to us from the first ages of the world on which these scientific deep-sea soundings throw a curious light. Plato and Solon recorded the tradition, ancient in their days, of a country in the western seas where flourished the first civilization of mankind, which, by volcanic action, was submerged and lost. The same story is told by the Central Americans, who still celebrate in the fast of Izcalli the frightful catastrophe which destroyed this land with its stately cities. De Bourbourg and other archæologists assert that this lost land extended from Mexico beyond the West Indies. The shape of the plateau discovered by the Challenger corresponds with this theory.

EXECUTIONS IN CHINA

Recently occurred the annual execution day in China, when seven prisoners were decapitated. This does not represent the sum total of those who suffer the capital sentence during the year, for all burglars and highwaymen are speedily put out of the way. The ordinary criminals only are reserved for a day especially appointed, shortly before the winter solstice. There are curious customs in connection with these executions. The night before these unhappy men are brought to die, a regular jollification takes place within the gloomy precincts of the prison. The doomed men are loosened from their chains, and have a feast spread before them, with as much wine and meat, &c., as they desire. The feasting goes on all through the night, and it is not until the time of the starting of the procession draws near that the shackles are put on. At the appointed hour each criminal is put into a cart from which the cushions and cloth covering has been removed, so that the unhappy man looks as if he were in a cage on wheels. His appearance shows that however he may have fared during the previous night, his general prison fare has not been over abundant. The road from the Hsing-pu to the execution ground is through the Swenchihmen. Through this gate the Emperor never passes. From the gate to the ground the distance is two-thirds of a mile. About midway there is a wine-shop, which for the last two hundred years has supplied the criminals with as much spirit as they like to drink; so that most of them are in a state of intoxication when the fatal moment arrives. The ground was called "the vegetable market." It is a wide portion of the large east and west street of the Chinese city. One very peculiar system is that all the men conveyed to this place are not executed; three or four out of the ten are taken back to the prison to bear a part in a similar procession the next year. When the men leave the prison not one knows whether he will be beheaded or not. Of those thus reprieved, eight out of the ten will be reprieved the following year, after which the sentence will be commuted into banishment. If the man escapes for one year only, it is thought to be an act of imperial grace. A list of those executed during the year, and of their crimes, is burned by the Emperor on the altar of Heaven at the winter solstice. He is thus supposed to inform Heaven of the manner in which he has used its delegated authority.

TRAVELLING IN THE TYROL.

A red-headed Boor stands there with the carriage. He looks at your luggage; says something utterly inexplicable, and of which you make out only two words—"nein" and "Morgen." A friendly little woman, who knows about one word and a quarter more of English than you do of German, comes to your aid, and, interpreting the rough Tyrolese dialect first into the ordinary language and then into extraordinary English, succeeds in making you understand that the driver refuses to take your boxes, but will bring them up to-morrow. Expostulation is useless. Being speechless, you are helpless; so you get into the carriage and rattle off to the village which lies first on your route. In the middle of the street Redhead stops, gets down, walks off, and leaves you landed. Broad-faced women come to the doors of their houses, and beam German friendliness on you; sedate-looking working men, each with a huge Bavarian pipe in his mouth, trudging home from their day's labour, touch their caps and say "Guten abend" as they pass: a few dogs bark at you inquisitively; your horses play pranks with each other's ears; and finally Redhead emerges from the beery little inn where he had been discussing his pot with gusto. You try to ask, "Why this delay?" and you do say something which may mean, "Why this haste?"—for you are nervous, and not very sure of your words. Redhead looks puzzled; then rolls out a long string of barbaric utterances, which he closes with the inevitable "Ja ja," as usual. For the life of you you can make out nothing save "Vorspanner;" but you remember that "Vorspanner" means a leader, and that you are, therefore, waiting for a third horse. You wait. Time, which is our treasure, is evidently here little better than refuse. At last another Redhead comes, leading a powerful-looking brute with heavy chain harness, and something of a temper to boot. This is your "Vorspanner;" and the two men buckle him to his work with such expedition as they can command, while you sit there in sulky dignity, feeling somehow laughed at and done, and hating yourself and all your pastors and masters who had never taught you German, but endowed you with a smattering of Greek of no use to you here or hereafter, while leaving you ignorant of one of the living forces of the time in which you live.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.

An action in the Common Pleas Division, Chick v. Macaliffe, in which judgment was allowed to go by default, has been heard before Mr. Under-Sheriff Burchell and a jury to assess the amount of damages to be awarded in an action for breach of promise of marriage. The plaintiff stated that her father was formerly in business at Chard, Somerset, and afterwards kept hotels at Southampton, and subsequently came to London, and was a commercial traveller; he died some few years since. In 1872, when she was eighteen years old, she met the defendant in Pall Mall as she was going to meet her mother. He accosted her, but she did not wish to speak to him, but he insisted, and walking on she met her mother, to whom he gave his name; and as her mother was going home to Kensington, the defendant saw her to St. John's Wood, where she was staying with her aunt. She saw him frequently afterwards. He paid his addresses and promised her marriage. He told her his name was "Macauley," that he had £1,500 a year, and was a military officer. She had addressed him in her letters "Captain Macauley," at a club in London. He wrote her letters, and in 1873 he seduced her, and she had a daughter in 1874. (The child was produced in court.) He gave her £5 after the birth of the child; and on speaking to him about marrying her, he said it would not much matter, as the child would still be illegitimate.—Mr. Minnefie, assistant financial secretary, said Michael Macaliffe was deputy commissioner in the Punjab Civil Service, and his income was £1,300 a year. He had lately been in England. He left India in May last, on six months' leave, and applied to return in October last. It was not known if he was married.—A gentleman named Donnett was called, who proved that the plaintiff's family had held a good position at Chard, in Somersetshire.—The jury assessed the damage at £400.

The jubilee of laying the foundation-stone of Seaham harbour, docks, and town fifty years ago has been celebrated by a public holiday and general rejoicings.

The Archbishop of York has declined to sustain the appeal made by the Rev. M. Haslam, late curate of Maryport, against the decision of the Bishop of Carlisle withdrawing his license.

Prince Leopold has contributed £20 towards the maintenance of the Parkes Museum of Hygiene.

In the future the Grand Opera in Paris is to be managed by the State.

The "German Money Lottery" swindle is being tried once more in this country.

Two Roman Catholic priests belonging to a Socialist Club in Foggia, in Italy, have been suspended.

The explosion at the Royal Gun Factory, at Woolwich, has resulted in the destruction of 200 large panes of glass in the boring mills.

A coroner's jury has made a presentment condemning as a public danger the level crossings on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway in Southport.

The Home Secretary declines to accede to the proposal to dissolve the partnership between Salop and Montgomeryshire in the joint lunatic asylum.

Instructions have been received by a firm of auctioneers to sell the furniture belonging to the New Forest Shakers, who are now about to disperse.

A mission, consisting of religious services, has commenced at Liverpool, in all the places of worship connected with the Church of England, and is to be continued for ten days.

A collision has occurred on the Mississippi between two steamers, one of which sank instantly. Twenty persons were drowned, including four passengers.

The electric light in the Avenue de l'Opera, at Paris, is to be continued till the 15th of January, pending a report to the Municipality on the subject.

Information has been received by the naval commander-in-chief on the China station of the murder of the whole of a boat's crew belonging to a merchant vessel that called at Hall's Island, one of the Gilbert group. No cause has been assigned for this murderous outrage.

It is stated that a Dundee merchant of some position left home a few days ago, and has not arrived at the destination to which he stated he was to proceed and is supposed to have gone abroad. His affairs are said to be considerably involved, and to be likely to affect others who have confided in him.

The Parisian correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that the question of the Opera at Paris seems to be practically settled. The committee appointed to enquire into the question is of opinion that it is most advantageous for the interests of art that the Grand Opera be managed directly by the State.

The Chatham and Dover boat express tram on Friday morning ran off the line below Bickley. The upline traffic was completely blocked, and special trains had to be run from the station above Bickley to London. The accident was caused by the wheel of the tender coming off. No serious injuries are reported.

John Noyes, a ganger on the London and South-Western Railway, has been sentenced at Salisbury to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for endangering the lives of passengers on the line, by using a trolley on the line without having a flagman, with detonators, three-quarters of a mile in front of the same.

Sense shines with double lustre when set in humility. An able yet humble man is a jewel worth a kingdom.

Let reason be your rule, conscience your counsellor, and your actions ever contrary to those you find fault with.

A young woman should not forget that when once the door of the heart is opened to a guest, there is no knowing who will come in.

The Parkgate Iron Company, Limited, have paid shareholders an interim dividend of £1 per share. The plate department of the works is in full operation.

The troopship Orontes, bound from Halifax for Bermuda, has lost 14 men by the captizing of a boat which was going to rescue a man who had fallen overboard.

A villa, in course of erection at Hamilton, fell on Tuesday, killing a boy.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY AT RICHMOND.

On Sunday morning, at eight o'clock, Mrs. Augusta Munro, wife of Mr. John James Munro, jun., coal merchant, of Parkshot Cottage, Richmond, murdered her female child, aged four days, by cutting off its head, and then cut her own throat with a razor which she had taken from a dressing-case in her bedroom. An alarm was given, and Miss A Rosewarn, who was in the house, immediately ran to the assistance of the nurse. They succeeded in taking the razor form the unfortunate woman, but not before she had effectually cut her throat, death ensuing in about ten minutes. The child was found in the bath with its head completely severed from its body.

MARVELLOUS ESCAPE.—THREE DAYS AFLOAT ON A CLOTHES CHEST

While the steamer Warrior was off the Duarte Isles, in the West Indies, three weeks ago, a human cry was heard, apparently from the water. There was no land or vessel within several miles, and no boat visible. The engines were however, stopped and a boat was promptly manned. The carpenter declared he had seen a man struggling in the water. The steamer having good headway on when her engines were stopped, she had reached far from the spot where the man had been seen before the boat left the vessel's side. After a long pull in the direction noted, the cry was again heard, and after pulling about for half an hour, a man was discovered and picked up. He proved to be a native of Jamaica, named Alexander Hughes, who had been three days in the water clinging to a clothes chest. He was one of the crew and passengers of the schooner, The Little Minnie, that capsized at sea and sank, while on a passage to Colon. The accident occurred 60 miles from where the man was picked up. He was the only survivor.

AN ACT OF HEROISM.

The Rev. H. C. Sturges sends from Biarritz the following account of an heroic act of bravery on the part of two British sailors, at the burning of a ship in the river Ardour, at Bayonne:—When the French ship Melanie blew up, with 500 barrels of petroleum on board, the captain of the Annabella Clark, lying some 80 yards distant, with an able-bodied seaman named J. M'Intosh, at once put off in a small dingy to the rescue of the French crew; and, although their boat was envelloped in flames and they themselves were all on fire, they hung on to the mainsheet of the blazing vessel till they had succeeded in rescuing the two men left on board. Both are dreadfully burnt, and their deliverer, John M'Intosh, of Ardrossan, is so much injured that he now lies in Bayonne Hospital, and in the surgeon's opinion it is doubtful whether he will ever regain the use of his left hand, by which he held on to the rigging of the blazing vessel. No man who wears the Victoria Cross ever earned it for greater bull-dog pluck.

DISCHARGED PRISONERS AND THE PRISONS ACT.

A conference of representatives of the Discharged Prisoner's Aid Society was held on Tuesday, in London, to consider questions which have arisen since the conference met last year, especially in regard to the new Prisons Act. The Earl of Lichfield presided, and spoke of the operation of the new Prisons Act as affecting prisoners' aid societies, which it was calculated to facilitate. Papers were read by Mr. Allen Scott and the Rev. D. Morris, of Liverpool—the former on "The operation of the Prisons Act, 1877, as affecting discharged prisoners," and the latter on "The system of gratuities to prisoners in local prisons." A discussion afterwards ensued. A resolution was passed to the effect that the mark or stage system failed as a means of aiding discharged prisoners, and that Government should provide some substitute for the former system of grants from visiting justices to discharged prisoners' aid societies, a marked falling off having occurred in the interest and support given to the aid societies. A committee was appointed to confer with the commissioners; and the proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—FOUR LIVES LOST

A very serious railway accident occurred on Tuesday night on the Brecon and Merthyr Tydvil Junction Railway, which is one of the heaviest mineral lines in South Wales. A laden coal train, drawn by three engines, was proceeding towards Brecon, and had arrived at a sharp incline, about six miles from that town, when the train completely left the rails, and tore them up for a long distance. The train, which was still at high speed, then dashed into a massive stone bridge over the parish road, completely, cutting it in two. Two of the engines fell on to the road, followed by the trucks, helter skelter. The destruction was of course enormous. Four persons were killed, all of them being railway officials. Their names were as follows:—Josiah Thomas, engine driver; Thomas Williams, engine driver; Thomas Fury, stoker; and Thomas Pask, stoker. Besides these four, Thomas Mayrick, goods guard, and Joseph Davies, fireman, are not expected to recover from their injuries; and James Davies, engine driver, and Richard Davies, fireman, are also hurt. The accident is attributed to a defect in one of the rails. The work of clearing the line, which is now blocked to all traffic, must occupy several days, and it is not expected that the goods traffic can be resumed under a month.

OPENING OF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.—THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The following is a summary of President Hayes' message received at the opening of the Congress. He says:—"We thank God for the continued bestowal of countless blessings upon our country. We are at peace with all nations, our credit is probably stronger than ever before, we have been blessed with abundant harvests, our industries are reviving and we are promised future prosperity. The President then reviews the episodes of the yellow fever epidemic, and recommends Congress to give the whole subject its early and careful consideration. The message gives due weight to the importance of the permanent pacification of the country, and the absolute exercise of the suffrage without molestation; and recommends Congress, in view of the charges of recent intimidation in the South, to make such an examination as may be necessary to determine the validity of the claims of members to their seats. The President says: "No means within my power will be spared to obtain a full and fair investigation of the alleged crimes, and secure the conviction and just punishment of the guilty. Our relations with other countries continue peaceful, and our neutrality in contests between foreign Powers has been maintained and respected. Congress having appropriated at its last session five and a half million dollars to pay the award of the Joint Commission at Halifax, if, after correspondence with the British Government on the subject of the conformity of the award with the requirements of the treaty, and the terms of the question thereby submitted to the Commission, the President should deem it his duty to make the payment, communications upon these points were addressed to the British Government through the Legation of the United States in London. Failing to obtain the concurrence of the British Government in the views of this Government respecting the award, I have deemed it my duty to tender the sum named within the year named by the treaty, accompanied by notice of the ground of the payment, and a protest against any other construction of the same. The correspondence upon the subject will be laid before you. Since the resumption of diplomatic relations with Mexico, correspondence has been opened and still continues between the two Governments upon questions which at one time seemed to endanger their relations. While no formal agreement had been reached as to the troubles on the border, much has been done to repress and dimnish them. An effective force of United States troops on the Rio Grande, by strict compliance with its instructions, has done much to remove the sources of dispute, and it is now understood, that like force of Mexican troops on the other side of the river is also making energetic movement against the marauding Indian tribes. This Government looks with greatest satisfaction upon every evidence of strength in the national authority in Mexico, and upon every effort put forth to prevent and punish incursions upon our territory. Reluctant to assume any action or attitude in any control of these incursions by military movements across the border not imperatively demanded for the protection of the lives and property of our citizens, I shall take the earliest opportunity, consistent with the proper discharge of this plain duty, to recognise the ability of the Mexican Government to restrain effectively the violations of our territory.

EXPLOSION OF TORPEDOES.

Official intelligence has reached Cronstadt of the explosion at Nuvlaeff of nine torpedoes removed from a Russian man-of-war to a barge alongside the quay in the most densely-populated portion of the town. The explosion was so terrible that all the windows along the quay and neighbouring streets were shattered and some houses near the barge entirely wrecked. A number of seamen, estimated at between twelve and twenty, were blown into the air and killed

A SCENE IN A SESSIONS COURT.

At the Borough Sessions, Liverpool, three members of a dangerous gang of roughs, named O'Brien, Smith, and McNally, have been convicted of a daring robbery of cheese and butter. McNally had been previously convicted. O'Brien, who was only 26, had been 45 times in gaol and had had five years' penal servitude. They were each sentenced to ten years'penal servitude. On hearing the sentence the prisoners became violent, and a desperate struggle ensued in the dock before they could be overpowered.

NOBLE BEQUESTS.

Mr. Henry Thomas Richardson, of Brynhyfryd, Pwllheli, who died last week, was, in conjunction with his father, the inventor of the tubular lifeboat, in which he performed a daring voyage along the English coast, and which is in use at Rhyl and New Brighton, and has been the means of saving many lives. He had been lately engaged at New Brighton in making improvements on the original invention. By his will he bequeaths £10,000 at the death of Mrs. Richardson for the purchase and maintenance of lifeboats at Pwllheli and Deal, and he also gives £2,000 towards Rhosygwalian Church, Bala. His funeral took place at Bala on Monday, and was attended by the myor and corporation of Pwlliheli.

HORRIBLE BRUTALITY

At the Bristol Police Court, on Friday, Walter Hallett, bricklayer, was charged with grievously wounding Louisa Davis, a woman who lived with him as his wife. The case was one of shocking brutality. The prisoner and the woman had been quarrelling for several days, and one evening the man was found standing over her, kicking her. In the night she was heard moaning, and next day it was found that she was cut severely over the head in two places, her arms were bruised and swollen from the shoulders to finger tips, her body was bruised, her lower jaw broken, and her leg so fractured that the broken end of the bone protruded through an open wound. She will probably recover, but will be lame. The case was remanded, an intimation being given that it would be sent for trial.

ATTEMPTED DOUBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE IN CHESHIRE.

A shocking discovery has been made in a lonely road in the district of Wallasey, Cheshire, not far from Birkenhead. The bodies of a man and two children were found lying on the road, and on examination it was found that each had been shot through the head. A six-chambered revolver, of which three chambers had been discharged, was lying on the ground close at hand. There appeared to be no life in any of the bodies, which were accordingly removed to an hospital at Seacombe, where medical attention was provided. It is supposed that the bodies are those of a shipmaster named Munro, and two of his children, aged three and five years, who had been staying at an hotel, in New Brighton; and from a letter found in the pockets of the man it appeared that he had premeditated taking the lives of his children and himself. The condition of all three was extremely precarious, the ball having in each case passed through the head.

A BAPTIST MINISTER CHARGED WITH LIBEL.

At Nottingham Police Court, on Friday, before Sir James Oldknow, William Hugh Stevenson, solicitor, and the Rev. R E. Griffiths, Minister of Stoney Street Baptist Chapel, Nottingham, were charged with having issued a defamatory libel on the Rev. F. Bell, the American singing preacher. Mr. Poland, barrister, prosecuted, and Mr. Buszard, Q.C., and Mr. Rollind, barrister, defended. The court was crowded. The case for the prosecution was to the effect that Mr. Bell came from America in 1877, and travelled about drawing large audiences. He came to Nottingham, where it was alleged that he committed acts of immorality with the servants of his host. It was also said that he had been compelled to resign the ministry in America for immorality. These assertions were made in a circular signed by Mr. Griffiths, assisted by Mr. Stevenson, and four thousand copies were distributed in the town. All these charges Mr. Bell denied most emphatically, and went before a committee of laymen and ministers who, though not finding Mr. Bell guilty, declined to associate with him again.—Mr. Poland admitted that a charge of immorality had been preferred against his client by members of his Brookly congregation, but it was proved to be "trumped up." Mr. Norton, the alleged printer of the libels, Joseph Neil, a machine boy, Charles Douglas, a compositor in Mr. Norton's employ, and George Simpson, a bill poster, declined to answer questions relative to printing and publishing the circulars, on the ground that they might incriminate themselves. The case was adjourned.

ELOPEMENT AND CAPTURE OF THE RUNAWAYS.

The honest folks of Dodworth, says the *Sheffield Telegraph*, have been furnished with a piece of gossip which causes no small amount of interest in the village. It appears that Mr. Robert Carr, a man in well-to-do circumstances, who was some years ago a draper carrying on business in Dodworth Road, Barnsley, retired from business, and took a farm at Dodworth, a few miles from Barnsley. He had in his employ as farm servant a young man named Ryalls, who has thought more about his master's daughter than his work. An attachment seems to have sprung up between them, and early the other morning Miss Annie Carr, a young woman of seventeen or eighteen summers, was missing, as was also the farmer's man. Enquiries were at once made, but nothing could be heard of them; and the facts of the case were then communicated to the police. Police-constable Longley, who is stationed at Dodworth, succeeded in tracing the runaways to Derbyshire. He found the couple at Beeton, near Chesterfield, and ascertained that although they were not married they had obtained a marriage license. Of course there was a scene when the constable told them they would have to return with him to Barnsley. The young lady is now in anything but a happy state of mind, and her unfortunate lover is likely to get into a worse plight than he is in already.

Advice to Little Boys, by a Spinster of Experience.—'If your sister, while engaged in a tender conversation with her sweetheart, asks you to bring a glass of water from and adjoining room, you can start on the errand, but you need not return. You will not be missed, that's certain; we've seen it tried.'

To Lend.

TO LEND, on Private Mortgage, £1,000, £600, or £300.—Apply to T.-W. WELFORD, Jun., Solicitor, Middle Street, Consett. 665k

MONEY TO LEND on Private Mortgage.—Apply to Wm. HALCRO, Solicitor, 2, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 599k

LOANS GRANTED immediately, from £100 to £2,000, at 5 per cent., repayable over Three, Four, or Five Years, on Personal Securities, and Life policy effected with the WEST OF ENGLAND INSURANCE CO. (Established 1807).—Apply to GEORGE HAWDON, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 557m

Contracts.

TO QUARRYMEN AND MASONS.

WANTED, TENDERS for the QUARRYING of STONES, and DIRECTION of a WALL of about 600 yards in length, on Allendale Farm. The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.—Particulars on application to JOHN SMITH, East Farm, Muddleley. 633m

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the Erection of Farm Buildings at Ledgate Farm. Also, the several WORKS required in converting present Farm Buildings into Cottages, for Mr. JOHN THOMPSON.—Drawings, Specifications, &c., may be seen at our Offices, Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on and after Monday, the 9th inst. Tenders are to be delivered to us on or before the 23rd inst. No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH AND SON,
December 5th, 1878. Architects.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the Erection of a VILLA at Snows Green, for R. G. BARCLAY, Esq.—Drawings, Specifications, &c., may be seen at our Offices, Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on and after Wednesday, the 11th inst. Tenders are to be delivered to us on or before the 24th inst. No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH AND SON,
December 5th, 1 78 Architects.

COUNTY OF DURHAM.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

THE Magistrates of the County of Durham are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the ERECTION of a Central POLICE STATION at Durham.

Plans and Specifications may be seen and perused at the Office of WILLIAM CROZIER, Esquire, M.I.C.E., Engineer and Architect for the County of Durham, on and after the 10th day of December instant, and Tenders are to be sent to him, endorsed "Tender for Central Police Station, Durham," not later than the 24th day of December instant.

Forms of Tender (in which only sole Tenders will be received) may be had as above, and Copies of the Quantities for the whole of the Works may also be obtained on a Deposit being made of Two Guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bona-fide* Tender for the Works.

By Order,
RALPH PARK PHILIPSON,
Clerk of the Peace.

Durham, December 2nd, 1878. 629m

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a COLT, rising Four years old, and FOAL. The Colt is quiet in all Gears and a good worker.—Apply to Mr. M. HOYLE, Ledgate. 642m

FOR SALE, a Strong Spring ROLLEY, newly repaired.—Apply to W. LAMB, Cartwright and Joiner, Blackhill. 634m

FOR SALE, New and Second-hand CONVEYANCES of every description.—Apply to Mr. ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Consett, or to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Shotley Bridge. 611k

FOR SALE, 7 Phætons; 2 Whitechapels; Four-wheel Dog-cart; 2 Pony Whitechapels; small Pony Gig; One Cabinet, 240 years old. Also, several Ponies.—Apply to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Tailor and Draper, Shotley Bridge. 610m

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Oley.

Valuable Business Property for Sale at Shotley Bridge.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, honoured with instructions from the Executors of the late JACOB ATCHINSON, deceased, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Temperance Hall, Sh ley Bridge, on Monday, Dec. 23, 1878, at Three o'c ock p.m., subject to such conditions as will be stated at the time of Sale, all that Copyhold or Customary MESSUAGE or DWELLING HOUSE, SHOP, and BACK PREMISES, situate and being at Shotley Bridge in the County of Durham, and now in the occupation of Mr. JOHN BRODIE, as tenant thereof, measuring 12yds. 2ft., 9in., or thereabouts, on the east side, and 3yds. 1ft. 7in., or thereabouts, on the west side, in width from north to south, and 25 yards, or thereabouts, in depth from east to west, together with the Pantry, now occupied therewith on ground occupied by Miss LESLIE, containing 1 square yard and one third not to be built upon.

The Property may be viewed on application to Mr. BRODIE, the present tenant, and further particulars may be had on applying to Messrs. ALLAN and DAVIES, Solicitors, 23, Grainger Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and to the AUCTIONEER, 10, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 646m

JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,

Office—
10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Last Nights but Two.
Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett.

Sale of Superior Drapery, belonging the estate of W. J. STOCKER, of Bolton, in Liquidation.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to state that on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 9th and 10th 1878, are the last Two Nights of Sale, except two, of the Superior and Genuine DRAPERY STOCK, when the whole of the remaining portion will be cleared out without Reserve.

Sale at Seven o'clock each Evening. 638m

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 744h

By Mr. J. Jenkins.

Trafalgar Street Sale-room, Consett.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, Dec. 9th, 1878, a large quantity of Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, belonging to Mr. WILLIAM HARDY, of Stanley, and another, removed to the above Sale-room for convenience of Sale,

Mr. JOHN JENKINS, Auctioneer,

Comprising Mahogany Lobby Drawers; Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase; excellent Press; 2 Half-chest of Drawers; Chiffonier B-desteed; excellent Mahogany Dining Table, 6ft. by 4ft. 6in., nearly new; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; 2 Longettes; Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; Cane and Windsor Chairs; 2 good Armchairs; Kitchen Table; Round Table; Pole Table; 2 Four-poled Bedsteads and Mattresses; 2 French Iron Bedsteads; 2 Tester Iron Bedsteads; Feather Bed; 2 Down Beds; Flock Bed; superior American Eight-day Clock; Eight-day Clock in Oak Case; An assortment of good Pictures; 2 Cornice Poles; 2 Sets of Stair Rods; Parlour and Kitchen Fenders and Fireirons; Pans, Pails, Tubs, and Pots; together with a quantity of other Kitchen Utensils.

Sale to commence at One o'clock. 747m

Business Announcements.

LARGE ARRIVAL OF NEW GOODS.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN

BEG to announce their return from the London Markets with a Choice Selection of all the LATEST NOVELTIES for the Season in every Department, which they will be prepared to offer at remarkably low prices.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS,
CONSETT AND DIPTON. 659m

THE GREAT AND UNRIVALLED SALE OF **READY-MADE CLOTHING** WILL COMMENCE ON SATURDAY.

The most of the undermentioned Goods will, on an average, be sold at a little more than half their original price. Many will wonder why such a reduction can be made. Well, the reason is simply this: that owing to the continued depression in trade, we have been fortunate, both for ourselves and the public in general, to secure, for Cash, several hundred pounds worth of Goods at mere nominal prices, which places us in a position to offer Goods at low prices, and to astonish the oldest inhabitants in the district. We shall be glad of an inspection of any of the under-mentioned Goods, or will forward a few to any address on approbation.

350 Pairs of Men's Fancy Trousers at 4s. 11d. These are not printed, but a thorough good article and well worth 7s. 6d.

750 Men's Tweed Trousers and Vests, in a great variety of patterns and styles, from 9s. 11d. to 25s.; splendid value.

30 Pairs of Men's Worsted Cords, either Lined or Unlined. These will be sold regardless of cost as they are rather soiled.

25 Men's Long Fashionable Nap Overcoats reduced to 21s. The quality is A1, well finished, and cannot be bought elsewhere under 30s.

35 Men's Fancy Tweed Single-breasted Overcoats, very fashionable styles and good patterns. These we will offer all at one price, viz., 26s. 6d. They are equal to bespoke, and we guarantee them to wear well and give every satisfaction.

We have about 100 Brown and Blue Beaver Overcoats which are shorter than what is now worn. These we will offer at half their original price.

150 Men's Pilot Jackets, well Lined, all sizes, from 12s. 6d. to 25s.

220 Men's Black Superfine Coats at 21s. and 25s. 6d. The usual price of these are 28s. and 34s. 6d., but we have a heavy stock and are determined to clear them out.

Several hundreds of Men's Fancy Tweed, Melton, and Diagonal Coats from 10s. 6d. to 24s. 6d.

25 Men's Fancy Tweed Suits, very fashionable and quite new, at 17s. 6d., 25s. 6d., 32s. and 39s. This lot we would strongly recommend an inspection, as they are, without an exception, the cheapest lot ever seen in the neighbourhood.

200 Boys' and Youths' Overcoats, in all the Latest Fashionable Cloths, from 5s. 11d. to 35s.; all sizes and a splendid assortment to select from.

A lot of Men's Drab Moleskin Trousers to be cleared at 6s. 6d.; well worth 9s. 6d., but have got a little soiled, which will not effect the wear in the slightest.

All sizes in Boys' and Youths' Drab and Brown Cord Trousers. Also, Drab and Fancy Printed Moleskin Trousers at reduced prices.

Boys' Black and Brown Velveteen Jackets and Vests.

MISCELLANEOUS CHEAP LOT OF DRAPERY AND FANCY GOODS
Which we will offer in connection with the Clothing Sale—

30 Dozen of Elastic Braces at 6d. per pair, worth 1s.
150 Dozen of Boys' Turkey Red Handkerchiefs, ready Hemmed, at 2d., worth 3½d.
20 Dozen of Men's Ribbed Hose at 4½d. per pair, worth 6d.; splendid value.
10 Dozen of Women's White Merino Ribbed Hose at 4½d., worth 7½d.
Thousands of Wool Scarfs from 1½d. to 15d.
5 Dozen of Gentlemen's Brown Silk Umbrellas, with Paragon Ribs, to be cleared at 5s. 11d. These are a wonderful bargain and are only half their regular price.
2,000 yards of Brown and Grey Wincey, wide width, at 3½d., well worth 6d.
5 Dozen of Union Wool Shirts at 2s. 6d., large sizes and splendid patterns.
A large Stock of Fit Flannels, Shirts, Drawers, Hats, Caps, Braces, Duck Jackets, &c.

SHAW AND ATKINSON,
CHEAP DRAPERY AND CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT, CONSETT. 529m

MARBLE CHIMNEY PIECES. KITCHEN RANGES.
REGISTER, GILL, HALL, AND SHOP STOVES.
GAS COOKERS, HEARTH TILES, &c.

DINNING AND COOKE, HOT WATER ENGINEERS,
91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 689h

CONSETT STEAM PRINTING WORKS.

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER, STATIONER, LITHOGRAPHER, BOOKBINDER,
"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

BOOK PRINTING in all styles—Reports and Pamphlets, Sermons and Lectures, Essays, Poems, Sunday-school Hymns, Friendly Society and other Rules, Catalogues of every description, &c.

PLACARDS, POSTERS, SHOW CARDS, and HANDBILLS of every size and in every colour.

PROGRAMMES—Books of Words, Cards of Admission for Balls, Concerts, Lectures, and Public and Private Entertainments.

POST CARDS, with intimations of all kinds, for summoning Meetings, Announcements from Commercial Travellers, and all other purposes.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING—Trade Circulars, Lists of Goods, Catalogues, Account Headings, Forms, Returns, and Statements, Balance Sheets, Tickets, Cards, Labels, Tallies, Handbills, Circulars, Cheques, and Billheads.

PRINTING OF ALL KINDS, in Black and Coloured Inks, and in any variety of style, Ornamental and Plain, is executed with rapidity, accuracy, punctuality, and at reasonable prices, by

ROBERT JACKSON,
"GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING WORKS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

☞ Persons requiring any kind of Printing in haste can rely with confidence on having it executed at the time promised.

TO THE PUBLIC.

COLLIERLEY DYKES GOOD INTENT LODGE having purchased a NEW HEARSE, Funerals can be attended on moderate terms.—Apply to Mr. JOHN HARDY, Dowlais Cottages, Dipton. 636m

£320 BUYS an improved FARM in Texas. 168 Acres under Fence. Good House, Tools, and Seven Head of Stock. Land to Rent at 3s. per Acre, with Freehold of same after five years tenancy, without further charge. Pamphlet and Coloured Map of the Country free for Three Stamps.—W. G. KINGSBURY, 6, Euston Grove, London, N.W. 620m

MRS. COCKBURN'S
REGISTER OFFICE FOR SERVANTS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 502k

C. MILBURN,
SADDLER, HARNESSMAKER, &c.,
SAWMILL YARD, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to announce that he has succeeded to Mr. H. RITSONS' SADDLERY BUSINESS, and hopes, by strict attention, good material and workmanship, combined with moderate charges, to merit support.

If preferred, Patrons can have Repairs done on their own premises.

Postal Address, 10, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge,

Business Announcements.

THE BEST SHOPS IN THE NORTH
FOR
CHEAP SILKS,
CHEAP DRESSES,
CHEAP SHAWLS'
CHEAP DRAPERIES,
CHEAP BLANKETS,
CHEAP FLANNELS,
And every other Article in the Trade, are

DONALD BAIN'S,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WAREHOUSEMAN,
120, WESTGATE ROAD (OPPOSITE THE TYNE THEATRE), NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
AND AT
COMMERCIAL ROAD, SOUTH SHIELDS.

AUSTIN,
WHOLE-ALE TOBACCONIST, CIGAR DEALER, AND WHOLESALE JEWELLERS' AGENT,
7, TIN MILL PLACE, BLACKHILL.

DEALER in all kinds of Meerschaum, Wood, and Clay Pipes, Pouches, Cigar Cases, Snuff Boxes, Matches, &c. Sole Agent in this District for Messrs. J. and F. ALLEN and Co.'s Pure American Tobaccos and Cigarettes. Agent for ATTWOOD and SON's own Waltham Keyless Patent Levers, Capped, Jewelled, maintaining power, and every improvement. Real Chronometer Balance, compensated to the variations of temperature and positions. Will stand any work possible for a Watch to stand, and cannot vary the slightest with heat or cold. Will go as well as any other Watch at four times the price—only £4 10s. Warranted for five years. Same Watches as supplied to the British Government for the Guards on the Indian State Railways. A very large assortment of English and Foreign Watches, Clocks, &c. Alberts, Guards, and Rings. Silver, Electro-plate, Britannia Metal, and Nickel Silver. Musical Machines, Flutinas, Harmoniums, &c. All guaranteed of first-class quality, and at Wholesale Dealers' Prices. All kinds of Fine Art Photographs, &c., suitable for Scrap Books, Screens, or Framing. Christmas and New Year Cards, &c.

Note the Address—
7, TIN MILL PLACE, BLACKHILL. 608m

Public Notices.

GRAND BALL.

THE Public are respectfully informed that a BALL will be held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, Dec. 7th, under the auspices of the Blackhill Teetotal Brass Band. Refreshments. Admission—Gentlemen, 1s.; Ladies, 6d.; to Gallery only, 6d. Ball to commence at Half-past Six. 615m

COLLIERLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Copy of Proposed BYE-LAWS for the above School Board will be deposited at the House of Mr. MADDISON, Assistant Overseer, Dipton, on the 7th December next, and will remain there for the space of one month for the inspection of the Ratepayers. Copies of the said Bye-laws may be had on application to Mr. MADDISON.

W. W. THOMPSON,
Dated, Nov. 29, 1878. Clerk to the Board.

☞ MR. J. T. BROWN, CONVERTED

CLOWN & SCEPTIC,

Will conduct Revival Services in Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel, commencing on Sunday First, Dec. 8. Time—10 30, 2, and 6. A Lovefeast in the Afternoon. Meeting every Night during the Week. Lecture on Saturday Night. Subject—"Life of a Clown on and off the Stage." See bills. 642m

TOWN HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Mr. CHAS. STEPHENSON has the honour to announce a GRAND EVENING CONCERT on Monday, Dec. 30th, 1878, when MARY ANN SLATYER, R.A.M.; Miss EDITH CLELLAND; Mr. G. H. WELSH, R.A.M.; Mr. J. NUTTON; and Mr. CHARLES SHEPHERD, A.R.A.M.—Prices of Admission:—Reserved and Numbered Seats, 3s.; Second do., 2s.; Third do., 1s. Plan of Hall at Mr. LAX's Shotley Bridge.—Tickets to be had from Mr. LAX, Shotley Bridge; Messrs. SWAINSTON and J. T. CURRY, and Messrs. COCKBURN and OLIVER, Stationers, Consett; and Messrs. S. WALKER and JAS. PALLISER, Blackhill.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

THE SPECIAL MEETING for consideration of Rules is adjourned till Saturday, Dec. 14th, at Half-past Six p.m. The following Rules, which have been adjourned from previous Meetings, will be considered, and the Revised Rules adopted, subject to Registrar's approval. List of adjourned Rules—Nos. 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 21, 22, 26, 28, 29, 45, 74, 75, 76, and 77. Sheets of Rules can be had by application at the Office.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the MILLINERY BUSINESS.—Applicants to meet the Committee on Tuesday Night at Half-past Seven.

RE-OPENING OF ST. IVE'S CHURCH, LEADGATE.

THE RESTORATION SERVICES, together with the OPENING of a NEW ORGAN, will be held in this Church, on Monday, 16th inst., at Two p.m. Preacher, the VEN. ARCHDEACON PREST. Evening Service at Seven p.m. Preacher, the Rev. W. H. SIMONS, LL.D., Vicar of St. Helen's, Gateshead. A Collection will be made after each Service in aid of the Restoration Fund.

A PUBLIC TEA will be provided in the adjoining School-room at Four. Admission, One Shilling.

☞ Conveyances will meet, at Stenfieldside, the Midday Trains from, and the Afternoon and Evening Trains to, Durham and Newcastle. 635m

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1869.

In the County Court of Northumberland, holden at Newcastle. In the matter of an Extraordinary Resolution for Composition with Creditors in the Estate of JOHN WALTON, of Knitsley Mill, Consett, in the County of Durham, Miller and Farmer.

THE Creditors of the above-named THOMAS WALTON, who have not already proved their Debts, are required, on or before the 20th day of December, 1878, to send their Names and Addresses, and the particulars of their Debts or Claims, to me, the undersigned, ADAM BRODIE, of Town Hall, Consett, Public Accountant, the Trustee of the said Estate, and, in default thereof, they will be excluded from the benefit of the dividend proposed to be declared.

Dated this 5th day of December, 1878.
ADAM BRODIE, Trustee.

Mr. T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Middle Street, Consett, is the Solicitor to the proceedings. 631m

To Let.

TO LET, a HOUSE at Blackfine.—Apply to JNO. S. MURRAY, Consett. 619m

TO LET or SELL, a HOUSE, containing Seven Rooms, situate in Harvey Street, Consett.—Apply to J. BATES. 454k

TO LET, in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, a Four-roomed HOUSE.—Apply to Mr. CHAS. TURNBULL, Delves House, Consett. 645m

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, with Two CELLARS, situate at the Corner of Durham Road and Dixon Street, Blackfine.—Apply to JOSEPH RITSINGHAM, Builder, &c., 9, Railway Terrace, Benfieldside.

TO LET, with immediate possession, a Comfortable DWELLING-HOUSE, with Six Rooms, and a HOUSE and SHOP, situate in Victoria Street, Consett. Also, a HOUSE and SHOP, containing Four Rooms, situate in Trafalgar and Victoria Streets, Consett.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer, Blackhill. 628m

Wanted.

WANTED, immediately, for a Single Man, a Middle-aged WOMAN, as Housekeeper.—Apply to WM. THOMPSON, Satley. 630m

LADIES requiring SERVANTS will do well by applying at Mrs. COCKBURN'S Register Office, Front Street, Consett. 503k

YOUNG WOMEN of Good Character, who require situations, should call at Mrs. COCKBURN'S Register Office, Front Street, Consett. 504k

WANTED, OFFERS for Stock in Shotley Bridge Gas Co.; a few £10 Preference Shares; and a few Consett Water Company Shares.—JOSEPH HOWARD, Sharebroker, Consett. 648m

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A PASSER-BY.—The subject has been sufficiently ventilated.

DIPTON and STANLEY.—Read the notice at the head of the correspondence column.

GEORGE ASKEW, Blackfine.—Received.

HIGH CHURCHMAN.—As you did not reply to the criticism your first letter evoked, we cannot allow you to take further part in the discussion.

STRAY ARROWS FROM TOW LAW.—Your letter arrived too late for insertion.

The Consett Guardian,

FRIDAY, DEC. 6th, 1878.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

Political Nonconformity and Political Ritualism have reached a distinguishing pitch. Whatever a man's opinions may be upon politics, he does not want them thrust down his throat from the pulpit. The vituperative power of Dissenting Theology is generally directed against the Devil; but of late the Premier has been substituted as a mark for its arrows. And the Afghan war has been preached down as vehemently as the Crusades were preached up. In extreme High-Church quarters it is much the same, varied by "lectures" on Church History and abuse of the Bishops. The old lines are everywhere departed from, and religion is allying itself to party. Every Independent and Baptist is a Liberal from the very fact of his creed, and the tendency of Methodism, although it is professedly non-political, is in the same direction.

Foggy November has added dismally to the list of this year's victims of the hungry sea. Sixty in the English Channel and some twenty in the Mersey in one day make a melancholy record. It seems amazing that Science, which can add so much to our comfort, succeeds in adding so little to our security. Surely the electric light, which can illuminate our foggy streets, might do something to make our ocean highway less perilous!

The tendency of modern thought in all its branches is towards simplification and unification, a tendency derived, no doubt in great measures, from the Positivist thinker. It is strange to find how nearly modern wisdom approaches to ancient folly. Norman Lockyer is certainly one of the greatest chemists of the day. It is true his theories have been scoffed at by many of his brother *savants*; and yet Tyndall, whose mind is perhaps peculiarly imbued with the prevailing spirit I have adverted to, inclines to favour his views. Lockyer believes that he has discovered that the three primary gases are only forms of hydrogen, the one original material of nature. But his theory has a remarkable corollary; namely, that the metals are transmutable, and that copper can, in fact, be turned into gold. This is nothing else than the old dream of alchemy!

A year or two ago, when Dr. Richardson declared tea-drinking to be much more injurious than smoking, I renounced my Congou and Assam on the understanding with myself that I might indulge, by way of compensation, in two or three extra pipes or cigars per diem. I don't know whether I shall return to the baneful beverage for the sake of replenishing my library. There is springing up a connection between Books and Bohea. Near the Tower there is an enormous tea-warehouse which contains a constantly-replenished library of thousands of volumes. To one of which a purchaser of 3 lbs. of tea is entitled. Such books might be expected to be tedious; but they appear to be fairly well selected. This is *tea* and *teaching* combined, and one might fairly inscribe on the caddies of the purchasers the Hoodian motto, "*Te docceo*" "*Thou tea-chest!*"

Saint Andrew, accompanied by his "Saltire" cross, figures conspicuously on the summit of the South Transept of St. Paul's Cathedral. But the stone effigy must have been a little disturbed by the hour and a half of bell-ringing in the adjacent tower which greeted his festival. If the Cathedral authorities are going to serve all the Apostles alike, red-letter days will be a fearful scourge to the residents in the Churchyard and the surrounding regions. Concerts in the evening devoted to Scotch songs in which the most celebrated artists were engaged drew large Gaelic audiences, particularly St. James's Hall and the Albert Hall.

Mr. Henry Byron must really take a rest. His last effort in the burlesque way is unworthy of him. And, then, did he not write a burlesque on "Fra Diavolo" years ago? and was it not produced at the *Strand* when that bright little house was the home of extravaganza? Surely! In those days Byron was at his wildest and wittiest. Be it known, however, that the *Gaiety* piece could not be better acted than it is, for all the somewhat indifferent quality of the writing. They are making great efforts at the *Princess's* to secure the success of Messrs. Albery and Hatton's—or Hatton and Albery's—new drama, which has been re-christened "No 20; or, the Bastille of Galvados."—The clever but somewhat vulgar comedy-drama "Retiring," by Mr. Williamson, has been produced at the *Folly*. Admirers of Mr. Brough should see him in it. He is so good as to almost make one forgive the idiocy of the plot. "The Wedding March," always a deliriously funny piece, is perhaps funnier than ever as rendered by the *Folly* company. Mr. Hill was never more laughter-provoking.—Mr. Charles Wyndham has arranged to revive "Brighton" on the withdrawal of "The Pink Dominoes." I suppose Mr. Ashley will play Mr. Hill's part, as he remains in the company until March, when he leaves to go the *Adelphi*. *Ou dit* that a certain muscular actor at one of the West End Theatres is in active training for the Marquis of Queensberry's boxing prize.

The rapidly-approaching Session is an uncomfortable surprise to noble Lords and wealthy M.P.'s who are enjoying themselves in distant lands. A score or two of them must just now be far enough beyond the reach of Parliamentary whips. One is exploring the Republics of South America, and he is a lucky man if he comes back at all. Others are at the Pyramids, in the Mediterranean, or in the United States. There will be a good number of vacancies on the benches of St. Stephens on the 5th. Hardworking barristers, who have seats in Parliament are anything but pleased at the prospect of the extra session.

The publication of the Afghan Blue-book has produced a considerable sensation. In particular the hitherto unpublished reply of the Ameer is much commented upon. From all we heard of its contents from the London Press, and inferred rather than heard from Ministers, the impression got abroad that it was insolent, domineering, and provocative. It turns out, after all, to be a comparatively mild and certainly courteous effusion. When Parliament meets the Government will have a difficult task to justify their policy. The utterances of Lord Lawrence, Lord Northbrook, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Childers have stirred up such a storm of opposition as Lord Beaconsfield has never yet had to encounter. Even the Bulgarian atrocity agitation was not so menacing to the existence of Conservative rule. Unfortunately, now, as at that time, what is wanting to secure the success of the Liberals is a clearly-defined alternative policy. I find the opinion which I have several times ventured to broach rapidly gaining ground, that when Conservatism falls it will be replaced by a Whig, not by a Liberal Cabinet. There is no real cohesion as yet among the Liberal ranks. The determination to summon Parliament on the 5th of December has caused an extreme surprise. It was the unexpectedness of the event rather than any definite proof which has caused it to be ascribed to a split in the Cabinet. Within the last day or two rumour has somewhat changed her tone, and it is represented by many that Lord Beaconsfield himself was most forward in desiring a Winter Session, on the ground that the easy victory of Ali Musjid would make matters smooth with the representatives of the people. But there are new difficulties looming in view. Russia will not long remain silent. Already despatches are supposed to be framing which will require from the Court of St. James' an assurance that the independence of Afghanistan shall not be interfered with. How one would like to know the substance of the four hours' conversation between Lord Salisbury and Count Schouvaloff!

Local and District News.

Dr. Renton has been appointed president of the Consett and District Choral Society.

ACCIDENT IN A LEAD MINE.—On Wednesday, a man named Matthew Elliott, of Salter's Gate, was injured by a fall of stone, while working in the Dean Howl Lead Mine.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE PENNY READINGS.—On Saturday evening, a programme of an interesting character was gone through at these penny readings. Mr. J. Egglestone occupied the chair, and addresses were given by Messrs. H. Carss, R. Brown, and J. Telford. The singing of Messrs Redshaw and Munro was enthusiastically encored while the reciting of Miss Mole was the admiration and applause of the audience.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM BRIGNALL, JUN.—The interment of the late Mr. William Brignall, jun., solicitor, Durham, took place at eleven o'clock on Saturday morning, in the burial ground of St. Cuthbert's, Durham. The remains were followed to their last resting place by almost the whole of the profession to which the deceased belonged, and by a large number of his friends. According to the previously expressed wish of the deceased, there were no pall-bearers, and the customary mourning was dispensed with.

BLACKHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHOIR.—On the evening of Tuesday last, this choir, under the leadership of Mr. W. Bain, gave a service of song, entitled, "Luther," in the Presbyterian Church. The Rev. A. Baillie presided, and there was a large audience. The story of Luther's life, in three parts, is singularly interesting, and highly calculated to win the attention of an audience. Part I commences with his birth and parentage, and recounts the young student's early struggles. His singing chorals for a subsistence is exhibited in "The street singer," to a favourite tune by Root, adopted to new words. "The name Jesus only" (Root) is introduced when the reader tells of his nearness to death, and of his seeking salvation through the Virgin Mary. The discovery of the Bible in the library at Erfurt, brings out "Holy Biby, book divine." Under an impulse of terror, inspired by a terrific thunderstorm, Luther determined to become a monk, and the drudgery of his novicate is described in the words "Victims of a priestly man," to a favourite Scottish tune. Justification by faith, the key-note of the reformer's life, is set forth in the anthem "Saved by faith" (Linney). Part II.—He had been by this time ordained as a priest, but the great cardinal truth, justification by faith, had fastened itself on his mind, and he was soon entreated to become a preacher of the newly discerned doctrines. At this point "Salvation, O, the joyful sound," is introduced, the whole company being invited to join. A mission to Rome opened his eyes to the wickedness and insincerity of the priests. This suggests "The only priest (Karl Reden)." The song, "Unavailing works" (Dr. Mason) is called forth by the wretched imposture of "Pilate's Stair." Then comes the story of Letzel and the indulgences, and Luther's bold denunciation of these wicked inventions is applauded in "Stand up, stand up for Jesus." The burning of the Pope's bull of excommunication is the climax of this part of the history, and its closing illustration is Luther's own hymn "Turk and Pope." Part III recounts the progress to the Diet of Worms, and the glorious "*Ein feste burg*" is then sung. It was composed originally on this journey, though not completed for some time afterwards. When before the Diet, Luther is encouraged by the singing of a couple of lines at each trying juncture. The casting off the monk's habit, and the marriage of Luther, the converted monk, and Catherine Von Bora, the escaped nun, bring out the song, "The final protest" (Oakey). An anthem by Linney, ascribing the glory of God, brings the life of Luther to a close. The various pieces were ably rendered by the choir, the audience manifesting their appreciation by frequent outbursts of applause. Mrs. Baillie gracefully presided at the harmonium, and the duties of reader were admirably discharged by Miss Munro, Shotley Bridge. At the close of the story of "Luther," Mr. Inglis delighted the audience with one of his popular recitations, entitled, "Robert, King of Sicily." Hearty votes of thanks were given to the chairman, choir, Mrs. Baillie, and Mr. Inglis. It is expected that, in response to an urgent request, Mr Bain's choir will give the same service of song at Shotley Bridge shortly.—*Correspondent.*

MR. R. L. MARKHAM, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, Surgeon Dentist, attends No. 12, Mount Pleasant, Consett, every Monday from Eleven a.m. to Three p.m. 561m

On Tuesday, a miner named Morgan was seriously injured by a fall of stone while at work in the Tin Mill Drift.

CONSETT POLICE COURT.—At this Court, on Monday, Thomas Turnbull was charged with having been drunk and disorderly. According to the evidence of Sergt. Tranmer, on the night of the 18th November, defendant went into the Salvation Hall in a drunken state and interrupted the meeting. He was fined 5s. and costs.——John Bulman was summoned for a similar offence. P.C. Bottrell said on the 19th ult. defendant was drunk at Shotley Bridge, and annoyed people by pushing them off the footpath.—Defendant said he had had a glass or two, but he was not drunk.—The magistrates, however, thought he had been in the condition stated, and fined him 5s. and costs.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.—The monthly meeting of this board was held in the Office, on Tuesday night. Present—Messrs. D. Thomson (chairman), J. Ridley, W. Ridley, H. Welch, A. Robinson, W. Harrison, and W. R. Teasdale. Minutes of meeting held in November, and also of Gas Works committee, were confirmed. The Inspector's report stated the district generally was in a good state, but scarlatina threatened to become epidemic. In the Surveyor's report, the question of main roads and county rates was mentioned, the subject being adjourned. It was resolved to form a fire brigade. Some cellar-traps were reported as unsatisfactory, and notices were ordered to be given. The workmen's wages on the highways were fixed at 21s. per week. A small increase of gas consumers was reported. A general district rate at 8d. in the pound was sealed for the ensuing half-year.

DISPUTE BETWEEN CONTRACTORS.—Yesterday (Thursday), at Lanchester Petty Sessions, before Mr. Kearney (chairman), Mr. Clavering, and Rev. J. P. De Pledge, John Elliott, of Wilks Hill, contractor, was summoned for threatening to kill Geo. Clark, contractor, Langley Park. Complainant said he was on the road near Quarry House when defendant came up to him and asked him for some money. As soon as complainant told Mr. Elliott he had none for him, he (defendant) picked up a road-rake, and, brandishing it above his head, said "money or death."—Defendant said Mr. Clark owed him £30. On the morning in question he went and asked Mr. Clark for a portion of it, whereupon the latter threatened to strike him with a shovel. It was true that he then picked up the road-rake. Complainant, he said, had a spite towards him because he had refused to take a false oath in a case he was concerned in at Durham.—Complainant, in answer to the Chairman, said he was actually afraid defendant would do him bodily injury, as he had repeatedly used threats towards him.—Defendant was bound over to keep the peace, and ordered to pay costs.

DIPTON READING-ROOM.—The quarterly meeting of the above society was held in the news-room, on Monday evening last, the Rev. R. Tuson presiding. After the report was read by the secretary, and adopted by the meeting, the Rev. R. Tuson resigned the presidentship of the institution, on account of his leaving this parish for the adjoining one of Beamish. He will be greatly missed, having taken an active interest in the society since its commencement, nor will his loss be felt here only, for in every good work Mr. Tuson was ever ready and willing to give a helping hand. The next business was the sale of papers, for which there was keen competition, many selling for within a trifle of cost price, as the following list will show:—"Newcastle Daily Journal," 1s. 5d., Mr. J. A. Curry; "Newcastle Daily Chronicle," 2s., Mr. J. Teasdale; "London Daily Telegraph," 1s. 11d., Mr. J. A. Curry; "Newcastle Weekly Chronicle," 1s. 4d., Mr. H. Prevell; "North of England Advertiser," 1s. 2d., W. Hall; "Consett Guardian," 5d., Mr. T. Pears; "Reynold's Newspaper," 6d., Mr. G. Gibson; "Field," 3s., Mr. W. Smith; "Punch," 1s. 7d., Mr. W. H. Maddison; "Judy," 1s. 4d., Mr. W. H. Maddison; "Fun," 1s., Mr. G. Gibson; "Graphic," 6s. 9d., Mr. J. A. Curry; "Illustrated London News," 5s. 6d., Mr. G. Gibson; "English Mechanic," 2s. 2d., Mr. T. Turner; "Bazaar (one copy weekly)," 1s. 7d., Mr. J. M. Beavan; "Cornhill," 2s. 1d., Mr. T. Turner; "Leisure Hour," 1s. 1d., Rev. R. Tuson.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHOIR.—A concert of sacred music was given in the school-room at Victoria Garesfield, by the members of the above choir, on Saturday evening last. The following is the programme:—

PART I.

Anthem—"Cry out and shout,"............Choir.
Solo—"Beacon light,"............Miss P. Stubbs.
Anthem—"The earth is the Lord's,"............Choir.
Solo—"Echoes,"............Miss A. Dawson.
Sacred Song—"Draw me nearer,"............Choir.
Reading—"The devil in the landlord's cellar," Mr. Cook.
Solo..."Lighted valley,"............Mrs. A. Graham.
Anthem—"Promised land,"............Choir.

PART II.

Anthem—"Vital spark,"............Choir.
Solo—"Eve's lamentation,"............Miss A Dawson.
Reading—"How Billy Armitage got a night's lodgings." Mr. W. Pallister.
Duet—"Onward,"....Master P. Stubbs and Miss Stubbs.
Anthem—"How beautiful upon the mountains,.."Choir.
Solo—"Ah, never, ah no,"............Mrs. A Graham.
Anthem—"Deliverance,"............Choir.

The concert was opened by the company singing the hymn, "My God the spring of all my joys." The Chairman, after a few remarks, called upon the choir, who, under the leadership of Mr. R. Graham, rendered the various pieces in a very pleasing and tasteful manner. Mr. E. Urwin presided at the harmonium, and was assisted by Mr. T. Crick, on the clarionet, Mr. R. Hopwood violin, and J. Harbottle violincello. The readings by Mr. W. Cook and Mr. Pallister were received with much applause. At the close, the Chairman informed the company that the people at Garesfield intended to build a chapel as soon as possible. A hearty votes of thanks was given to the chairman, choir, and musicians, and also to the masters for the loan of the school-room.—*Correspondent.*

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.—The ordinary monthly meeting of the Benfieldside School Board was held in the Board-room, on Friday last. Present—Rev. F. B. Thompson (chairman), Mr. Charles Wilson, Rev. John Welford, Rev. T. Smith, Mr. Priestman, Mr. John Annandale, and Mr. H. Carss. After the reading and signing of the minutes, the Clerk (Mr. Barclay) reported that Mr. Ramsay, of Jarrow, had accepted the office of assistant-master, and was expected to enter on his duties on Monday. The Clerk also reported that the replies relating to ex-pupil teachers were unsatisfactory, and in consequence the Board decided to employ a second assistant-master. It was also unanimously decided to offer Mr. P. Millican, of Constt Church Schools, the situation of third master. A discussion took place on the motion submitted by Mr. Carss last meeting, relative to school fees, it being finally agreed that the fees should remain as fixed at a former meeting, but that no parent was to pay more than one shilling per week. Mr. Carss expressed himself satisfied with that arrangement. Attention was called by Mr. Carss to the destruction of School property by boys attending the Schools, and the filthy habits of some of the lads; and he spoke strongly about the manner in which they conducted themselves. The Board unanimously agreed to adopt repressive measures. It was stated by the Clerk that Miss Ramsay, of Shotley Grove, and Miss Batey, of Consett, and a young lady from Middlesbro', had been received into the School staff as monitors and ex-pupil teachers. The Master reported that the number of boys continued to increase. A committee was appointed to draw up a set of rules for the Schools, and several matters were referred to the Furnishing Committee.

At the Lanchester Petty Sessions, yesterday (Thursday), Bridget Gardner, the wife of the banksman at Bankfoot Colliery, near Annfield Plain, and a most respectable-looking woman, was remanded on bail, charged with stealing a sum of money, consisting of sixpenny and threepenny pieces, from a glass in the bar of Mrs. Catherine Dodds, at Annfield Plain, on the 25th November.

Delays are dangerous; therefore, if you are suffering from a bad Cough or Cold, Difficulty of Breathing, Hoarseness, or any other affection of the Chest and Lungs, delay not, but at once go and get a Bottle of "Budden's Balsam of Horehound and Coltsfoot." One Dose relieves; one bottle generally cures. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. Wholesale—ISMAY. Agent for Consett—Mr. DAVID IMRIE, Chemist, Front Street. 543m

INQUEST AT CONSETT.—Last week, an inquest was held at the Police Station, on the body of Selina Lowe, an infant residing with her parents at East Green Street. The child, which was some three weeks old, had been improperly fed, and at five o'clock in the morning was found dead in bed. During the evidence, it transpired that the child had had "cinder-water" administered to it, and also that it had received solid food. The jury returned a verdict that the child had died from improper feeding.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Old Wounds, Sores, and Ulcers.—Daily experience confirms the fact which has triumphed over opposition for thirty years—viz., that no means are known equal to Holloway's remedies for curing bad legs, sores, wounds, diseases of the skin, erysipelas, abscesses, burns, scalds, and, in truth, all cases where the skin is broken. To cure these infirmities quickly is of primary importance, as the compulsory confinement indoors weakens the general health. The ready means of cure are found in Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which heal the sores and expel their cause. In the very worst cases the Ointment has succeeded in effecting a perfect cure, after every other means has failed of giving any relief. Desperate cases best display its virtues.

STANLEY WESLEYAN METHODIST SOCIETY.—The second of a series of Penny Readings, which are to be held in connection with the above society during the winter months, was held on Saturday evening last, in the Mission Room (the present place of worship), when a goodly number assembled to listen to the amateurs who were expected to take part in the proceedings. The meeting having been opened by singing and prayer, very interesting and instructive readings were given in a creditable manner by Messrs. Morland, Swinhoe, and Harris. Duets were also given by Misses Humble, from Annfield Plain, which were fully appreciated by the audience, while Mr. Shaw very ably occupied the chair. It is evident that if those meetings are continued, many will be influenced to spend their Saturday evenings in the Mission Room, among the people of God, who now make the tavern their rendezvous, and associate with those who pay homage to Bacchus.—*Correspondent.*

CONCERT IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM.—For some time past efforts have been made by the Wesleyans of Consett to raise funds for the erection of day-schools. Various means have been adopted to accomplish this object, and the endeavours put forth by the promoters of the scheme have been so successful that a large sum has been collected, and during the present week workmen have been engaged in preparing foundations for the proposed new buildings. On Tuesday evening, a concert in aid of the school-fund was given in the Assembly Room. There was a good attendance, and the entertainment was in all respects a success. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wilson, of Stanley, and before introducing the singers this gentleman made a few remarks on the importance of education. Children, he said, had a claim on their parents for food and clothing, but the latter had a deeper obligation than this to fulfil, and that was to educate their children. (Hear, hear.) Not only was it necessary to educate them in what was known as the three R's, but he thought it was desirable that they should have a knowledge of music, which had a tendency to refine and elevate the mind. (Hear, hear.) He believed that families who made music a branch of their education, were more companionable, and happier, than those homes where music was not cultivated. The Chairman then introduced the choir of the Wesleyan Chapel, who were down on the programme to sing the fine old part song, "Dawn of Day." Before singing the words, the choir, at the request of the Chairman, sol-faed the piece through, the Chairman, at the close, remarking that the new notation was so simple that a child could read it. He was glad to hear that a Choral Society had recently been instituted, and he hoped that it would be the means of giving the young people of this district a greater taste for music. It was very gratifying to him to learn that the Society was established on a broad basis, and was prepared to receive all classes into its ranks, irrespective of sect. The part song already mentioned was not well rendered, a fact due, no doubt, to the short practice the choir had had of the piece. The "la" (A) in the chorus was beyond the reach of the ladies, and consequently the effect was not particularly sweet. Mr. Chas. Stephenson sang "The Wolf," for which he received an encore—well merited. Mr. Stelling received a similar compliment after he had given his solo on the ocarina, an exceedingly sweet instrument when it has a piano accompaniment. Mr. Jackson, as a reciter, has a pleasant, easy style, and his rendering of the "Charge of the Light Brigade" was pathetic and effective. Messrs. Stephenson, Stelling, and Shimmin received an encore in the catch, "Where is the man?" Mr. Tucker gave what was described as "an accumulation of orations," being the outpourings of a love-sick swain. Nearly every word ended with "tion," and at the close a hearty encore was accorded to Mr. Tucker, who certainly acquitted himself well amid the labyrinth of words. Mr. Tucker, in response to the encore, gave an excellent representation of the "Quack Doctor," and his "cordial," which was said to have worked such wonders, will doubtless be much sought after during the next few weeks by the maimed and crippled. Mr. Tucker also made his *debut* as a singer, the piece allotted to him being "Maid of Athens." Mr. Tucker possesses a fair tenor voice, and promises to become a second Sims Reeves—in this particular song at least. The audience gave him an encore, and Mr. Tucker obligingly returned and gave them "The Hen Convention," which created such a *furore* that its repetition was demanded. The same gentleman, at a later period, gave a nigger's stump oration, in character, which was exceedingly amusing, but there were portions of it which Mr. Tucker will do well in future occasions of a similar nature to leave out. Mr. Tucker excels in comedy, and by attending to the hint we have thrown out would be able to afford genuine amusement to the most fastidious. We may add that Miss Bland, of Chester-le-Street, presided at the piano, and accompanied the pieces with skill and judgment. The programme was as follows:—

PART I.

Pianoforte solo............Miss Bland.
Part song—"Dawn of day,"............The Choir.
Song—"The wolf,"............Mr. Chas. Stephenson.
Ocarina solo............Mr. Stelling.
Recitation—"Charge of the Light Brigade,"...Mr. Jackson.
Catch—"Where is the man?" Messrs. Stephenson, Stelling, and Shimmin.
Recitation—"The Love Letter" (an accumulation of orations) Mr Tucker.
Song—"Blow High, Blow Low,"............Mr. Stelling.

PART II.

Pianoforte duet............Miss Bland and Mr. Stelling.
Song..."Maid of Athens,"............Mr. Tucker.
Reading—"The Newcastle Apothecary,"............Mr. Jackson.
Reading—"The Vision of Belshazzar,"............Mr Shimmin.
Ocarina solo............Mr. Stelling.
Song—"The Village Blacksmith,"............Mr. Stephenson.
Part song—"Laughing Chorus,"............Choir.
Nigger's Stump Oration............Mr. Tucker.
National Anthem.

SERIOUS ENCOUNTER AT BURNOPFIELD.

On Monday morning, Henry Graham, a miner living at Lintz Colliery, was brought before the magistrates at Consett on a charge of assaulting P.C. Turner whilst in the execution of his duty. Prisoner's face was much swollen, both eyes being closed up, and he appeared to be cut about the head, a bandage passing under his chin and across his head being marked with blood. He was evidently in an exceedingly weak state, and had to be accommodated with a seat in the dock. As soon as the charge was read over to Graham, a young man, who was said to be his brother, stepped forward and requested that the case might be put off for a short time, as a solicitor had been instructed in the case, and was expected every minute.—The Chairman (Mr. Town) said perhaps the police had better ask for a remand.—Supt. Oliver said he should offer evidence, and then adopt the course suggested by the Chairman.—From the evidence given it appears that a little after eleven o'clock on Friday night last a man named Stewart was returning home with his wife, and when near the Co-operative Store, at Burnopfield, he met a friend named Hull. While he was speaking to Hull, Graham and two other men came up, and after some words were exchanged, Stewart was knowed down insensible. Stewart's wife shouted "murder," and P.C. Turner being near the spot at the time he hastened in the direction of the Store. On the way he met Graham and the other two men, whom he stopped, remarking, as he turned his lamp on to them, that as they had all evidently been "up to something" he would have to know who they were. When the constable met the men, they appeared to be running away, one of them being without his cap. As soon as Turner spoke to the men, Graham said to his companions, "into the ——; kick the —— guts out." The constable closed with Graham, and while they were struggling together, one of the other men tripped him up and he fell to the ground. The men seem to have kicked the officer, but the latter contrived to get out his baton, with which he struck Graham on the head. After some further struggling two of the men ran off, leaving Graham, who had been knocked down a second time by Turner, on the ground. Graham was then taken into custody and taken to Turner's house, from which place he was subsequently removed to the lock-up.—Prisoner was remanded till next Monday, bail being accepted on his behalf.

CHARGE OF ASSAULTING THE POLICE AT CRAGHEAD.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A POLICEMAN.

At the Lanchester Petty Sessions, yesterday (Thursday), before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), J. Clavering, Esq., and Rev. J. P. De Pledge, Thomas Fielden, a miner, was charged with having been drunk and assaulting Police-constable Gant at Craghead. Mr. Dickinson defended. P.C. Gant stated that at a quarter-past ten o'clock on Saturday night last he was on duty at Craghead, when he saw Fielden and three other men on the road, where they were creating a disturbance. He went up to them and requested them to go away, whereupon defendant said, "what, for a —— like you!" He again told the men to go home, but Fielden seized him by the night-belt and immediately afterwards the other men closed with him and he was thrown down. While on the ground he received several kicks. As soon as he got on to his feet again, three of the men ran away, but not till after they had thrown stones at him. He got hold of defendant, who was drunk, and accompanied him to where he lived. On getting to the door, Fielden became violent, and attempted to throw him down. They struggled, and once or twice defendant fell underneath him.—Cross-examined: He was not drinking that night at a public-house at Craghead.—The following witnesses were called for the defence. Anthony Coullman said defendant and he lodged in the same house. Defendant returned home at twenty minutes past ten and was quite sober.—Job Pearson deposed that at half-past eight o'clock on the night in question he went into Fitzgerald's public-house at Craghead, and saw P.C. Gant, William McKinley, Nicholas Carr, and William Emmerson. The policeman was drinking a half-glass of whiskey, and remained in the house till twenty minutes to ten. Witness, defendant, and two other men left the house together, and while they were standing on the road, P.C. Gant came forward and ordered them off home. Witness and two of the men at once went away, and the fourth man, William Dodds, whose home lay in a contrary direction, was also doing so, when P.C. Gant went up to him and knocked him down. The policeman also followed Fielden, and witness saw him strike him repeatedly with a stick.—By the Bench: They were talking quietly when the constable came up. Not the slightest provocation was given to the policeman by any of the men. He struck Fielden and Dodds without the slightest provocation.—Witness, in answer to P.C. Gant, denied that he threw stones or saw any thrown.—William Dodds said he went into Fitzgerald's public-house with defendant about half-past eight. The constable and the men named by the last witness were sitting drinking together. During the night, Carr became disorderly, and was carried into another room by P.C. Gant, who was under the influence of drink. The witness corroborated Pearson as to what was alleged to have taken place on the road after they left the public-house.—The Chairman said the evidence was very extraordinary. He thought Carr and the other men ought to have been present.—Mr. Dickinson said Carr was in court, but the other men had not been summoned as witnesses.—Nicholas Carr was then put into the witness-box. He said on the night in question he called at Fitzgerald's house and had a glass at the door. He was never inside.—The Chairman: Did you see the constable?—Witness: Yes.—The Chairman: Was he sober?—Witness: He was not drunk.—The Chairman: Was he sober?—Witness: Yes, quite sober.—The Chairman: When I first asked you the question was the policeman sober, you said he was not drunk, which implied that he was not sober. When you saw him, did he appear to have had drink?—Witness: It was dark, you know.—Mr. Dickinson: Where did you see the policeman?—Witness: He came up while I was standing at the door, and looked through the house.—The Chairman said the evidence was so contradictory that the magistrates had decided to adjourn the case for the evidence of the publican and the other men who were said to have been drinking with the policeman.

EPPS'S COCOA.—*John Bull* says—"An idea of the vast extent of the industry may be gained from the fact that one firm alone—that of Messrs. Epps and Co.—now sell some 4,000,000 pounds annually."

EPPS'S COCOA.—*Christian World* says—"If I am to take cocoa," said I, "I must see and judge for myself what are the ingredients of which it is composed; with this view I made my way to the cocoa manufactory of James Epps & Co., in the Euston Road."

EPPS'S COCOA.—*Cassell's Household Guide* says—"We will now give an account of the process adopted by Messrs. James Epps & Co., homœopathic chemists and manufacturers of dietetic articles, at their works in the Euston Road, London."

EPPS'S COCOA.—*Morning Advertiser* says—"Nearly two centuries after, in 1832, the duties, which had hitherto been almost prohibitive, were greatly reduced, and one of the first to take advantage of re-establishing the popularity of cocoa was Messrs. Epps & Co., the homœopathic chemists." 563m

EPPS'S COCOA.—*All the Year Round* says—"Let us stroll to the Euston Road, hard by the Regent's Park, to Epps's Cocoa Manufactory, where may be studied the making of cocoa on a stupendous scale, giving a just idea of the value of these articles, not as luxuries, but as actual food."

STANLEY AND OXHILL COURSING MEETING.

Stewards: Mr. John Wilkinson, Mr. George Hobson, Dr. Grigor, Mr. George Brown, Mr. A. Barrass, and Mr. J. Smith. Field Stewards: Mr. John Errington, and Mr. T. Forster. Flag Steward: Mr. W. Turner. Judge: Mr. Lindsay. Slipper: D. Johnson.

The STANLEY STAKES, for 26 all-aged greyhounds, at £4 each. Winner, £40; second, £16; third and fourth, £8 each; three winners of two courses, £4 each.

I.

Mr. John B. Blackett ns bd w b Miss Martha, by Weardale—Bonny Jean, beat Mr. James Hardy ns bd w d Soft Lad, by Rackham—Fay.

Mr. William Nicholson ns w bd b Wear Witch, by Tyrant—Miss Nichol, beat Mr. George Brown ns be w b Rose of Allendale, by Young Pickle—Daisy.

Mr. James Henderson ns r or f d Royal Charlie, by Remus—Polly, beat Mr. William Barron ns bd w d Master Pat, by Pat McGrath—Fly.

Mr. Joseph Hardy ns bd w b Polly, pedigree unknown, beat Mr. James Lamb ns bk w d Sandy, by Whalton Tom—Seventy-one.

Mr. John Errington ns bk w b Activity, by Bradford—Jess, beat Mr. Matthew Hopper's bd b Diamond Queen, by Wharfinger—Black Diamond.

Mr. Robert Lumley ns f wd Snowfleck, by Scotsman—Kate, beat Mr. Morgan D. Robinson ns r or f b Redwing, by Red Light—Rosenean.

Mr. John Wilkinson ns r w d Ballymena, by Belfast—Maggie Thompson, beat Mr. Wm. Langland ns f w d Spanker, by Waterloo—Polly.

Mr. W. Gladders' f w d Speculation, by Northumbrian—Jess, beat Mr. Robert Patterson ns w bd b Meggie Younger, by Don Antonio—Benny Venture.

Mr. Robert Curry ns f w d Transit, by Jack—Mirella, beat Mr. Joseph Watson ns bl b p Roseanna, by Kennington—Charlotte.

Mr. Thomas Geldard bk w b Harriet Laws, by Black Tommy—Jess, beat Mr. A. Johnson ns bk w d Indian Chief, by Pirate Chief—Fly.

Mr. W. Smith ns bd d John o' Gaunt, by Blackburn—Meg Merrilees, beat Mr. H. Lishman ns r w d Neglected, by Providence—Black Eyed Lady.

Mr. John Bryden ns r w d Nizam, by Day Star—Jenny, beat Mr. William Watson ns bk w d Pat, by Dick Turpin—Nellie.

Mr. H. Tiplady ns bk Lady Fleck, by Waywarden—Titania, beat Mr. James Reed ns Petrarch, by Brother to Solicitor—Ryhope Lass.

II.

Wear Witch bt Miss Martha. Harriet Laws bt Transit.
Royal Charlie bt Polly. John o'Gaunt bt Nizam.
Activity bt Snowfleck. Lady Fleck a bye.
Speculation bt Ballymena.

III.

Wear Witch agst Royal Charlie (1). The stake was divided amongst the seven standers.

Several adverse influences were against this meeting being brought to a successful issue on Saturday. The original date fixed for the meeting being held was Nov. 16, but the heavy snowstorm at that time caused a postponement, and on Saturday the severity of the weather was against it, for at nine o'clock, when the company met at West Stanley, Jack Frost had laid a firm grip upon the ground, and it was not until ten o'clock the first brace of dogs were handed to Johnson. There was an enormous crowd, not of the quietest description, and Superintendent Oliver, with a large staff of officers, had to work hard to maintain order. Doubtless the noise of such a vast concourse interfered with the find of game, which was more than plentiful for even a 32-dog stake in one day; but indifferent beating arrangements, combined with other causes, left the meeting with seven dogs standing at the finish. If a commencement had been made at nine o'clock instead of ten, there would have been little difficulty in running the stake off. The coursing took place over the estate of Mr. Joicey, and it speaks volumes for the good understanding that exists between that highly-respected gentleman and his employees, who, individually and collectively, act as watchers of the game on the estate. Hares stood up well, and some good trials took place. Amongst those that got a couple of courses, and performed with credit, were Wear Witch, Activity, Harriet Laws, and John o' Gaunt, and if we had a preference for anything to supply the winner, it was for Activity, a very handy daughter of Bradford and Jess. Sandy was unlucky, and it is worthy of note that the moderate Lady Fleck got an accidental and a natural bye, and was well beaten in each of them by Spot White, who was out a few times last season. Mr. Lindsay's judging gave every satisfaction, and Davy Johnstone handled his dogs cleverly. Further details:—

STANLEY STAKES.

FIRST ROUND.—Miss Martha got best out of slips, and was clear of Soft Lad in the run up, and the latter was going to draw past when he cannoned, leaving the bitch to score first, both going very wide; Martha, however, scored second, and meeting a very moderate customer in Soft Lad, beat him easily in a good working trial. Wear Witch led Rose of Allendale for first turn, and, although the last-named was busy in the middle of the trial, a strong finish, which included the kill, made Wear Witch a big winner. Royal Charlie went faster than Master Pat, and won well; after which Sandy, after leading Polly to the fence, made a bungle, and lost, unluckily. Activity disposed of Diamond Queen very easily, leading her a long way in the run up, and then Snowfleck had much the best of it with Redwing. Spanker led Ballymena by favour for first, but in a nice working trial, the latter went the faster and cleverer. Maggie Younger was as fast as Speculation, but the latter went more resolutely and steadily at close quarters, and won. Transit led, and beat Roseanna well, and Harriet Laws, after taking the decisive, from Indian Chief, won with all the merit. After a no-course, John o' Gaunt stretched out a long way in front of Neglected, and although he won clumsily off his turn, finished with a lump to spare. Nizam disposed of Pat in good style, and Lady Fleck, in the absence of Petrarch, ran a bye.

FIRST TIES.—Wear Witch went a couple of lengths faster than Miss Martha, turned twice, and put to cover, a one-sided winner. Royal Charlie stretched out a couple of lengths in front of Polly, to the fence, where he got good possession for a brace, but as the hare broke, Polly gave him a clean racing go-bye, and had about squared matters until Royal Charlie wrenched and killed, winning with a slight balance. Activity on a big outside first took from Snowfleck, and never quitting her game in a short, but merry trial, had won all ends up when she made a gallant kill. Speculation went a shade faster than Ballymena, and won a short spin to cover. In a scramble to cover, in which Transit was badly unsighted in the run-up, Harriet Laws got the verdict. Nizam, after leaving slips, was unsighted, and John o' Gaunt, getting away with a long lead, had all the fun to himself. Lady Fleck again ran a bye, with Spot White, and was well beaten in a gruelling trial.

SECOND TIES.—Wear Witch led Royal Charlie three lenghts, turned, and put to the latter, who wrenched weakly and killed, bringing off the hat.

Darkness had now almost set in, and the stake was divided among the seven standers.

TAPEWORM AND STOMACHWORM.—Watson's celebrated "Specific" has effected hundreds of permanent cures of those distressing maladies, where every other remedy has failed. It does not require continuing, a single bottle being sufficient to cure. Its action is mild, but thorough, and the most delicate need not fear taking it. Price 2s. 9d., or safe by post, 36 stamps. Watson's "Specific Powders" for Threadworm are an effectual remedy for the tormentors. No. 1 (adults), No. 2 (children's), price 1s. 1½d., or by post 15 stamps.—Address J. H. WATSON, chemist, Shipley, Yorks, or any chemist will get them for you. Circulars post free. London agents, BARCLAY and SONS. The genuine has my name and address printed on the Government stamps round each package. 641m

WIT AND HUMOUR.

NEVER make your physician your heir.

SOMEBODY says it takes a pickpocket to disperse a crowd.

By putting his eye out, what leaves nothing but a nose?—Noise.

GOOD resolutions don't cost a penny; the trouble is to keep them.

A NAVIGATOR's most dangerous strait is a whisky straight.

BURNS' JUSTICE.—Lighting an editor's fire with rejected contributions.

WHEN you hear of a wine being particularly *racy*, you may set it down as *sloe*.

WHY is a butcher's cart like his boots?—Because he carries his calves there.

'I LIKE a child that cries.'—'Why?'—'Because it is then taken away.'

THE party who gets whipped generally has the olive branch extented to him.

GOLDEN WEDDING.—When the groom is a 'minor' and the bride a little 'vein.'

IT requires less philosophy to take things as they come than to part with things as they go.

EXPERIENCE may be a dear teacher, but she isn't any dearer than a pretty schoolmistress.

YOUNG man's best companion—he who takes him home when he cannot take himself home.

PLANTS.—The nearest definition of 'evergreen' is 'a man who does not learn by experience.'

'I ADMIRE your beautiful *crops* this year,' as the fox said to the poultry, in the hearing of the farmer.

'SHARP FRESH' is a new name for that peculiar state, which is often described as 'neither drunk or sober.'

IF the man who writes anonymous letters has never stolen sheep, it is probably the fault of the sheep.

A MIRTHFUL person observes that, after all, the Indian is not so bad as he is painted when he paints himself.

THERE is something in a name, when the inventor of a new castor describes it as the 'Idrotobolic Hat!'

NOTHING is more dangerous, as far as your general health is concerned, than to overwork your tongue.

'ELEVATE your sole,' as the cobbler said when he wanted to inspect the condition of a customer's battered brogans.

AN intelligent German thus expressed his preference for a quack doctor: 'I vouldn't call him if mine cat was dead.'

THERE are rare occasions when a run on a bank cripples the bank but little. One of them is when a steamboat attempts it.

IN Virginia, when a young lady declines an offer to convey her home, the lover asks permission to sit on a fence and see her go by.

'WHAT'S the next thing to oysters, Tom?' says an urchin to printer's reading boy.—'Why, the shells, stupid!' retorted Tom.

AN INDUCEMENT.—'You should always do what mamma tells you, Sibyl. If you always had, you'd have been in heaven long ago!'

THE old lady who believes every calamity that happens to herself a trial, and every one that happens to her friends a judgment, is not yet dead.

THE *Chicago Journal* knows a thing or two. It says, 'When a man imagines he is a prophet and a philosopher, he takes to long hair and a dirty overcoat.''

THE man who invents a noiseless drum for Christmas gifts for boys, will deserve the benedictions of a grateful people, and make a fortune besides.

'THAT prisoner has a very smooth countenance,' said the judge to the sheriff.—'Yes,' responded the sheriff, 'he was *ironed* just before he was brought in.'

A MISS BROWN preaches at New York in a state of somnambulism. In this country it is generally the reverse; the preacher is wide awake, and the audience asleep.

'I SAY,' said one friend to another on meeting, 'I hear our friend A. has been in speculation heavily; has he made anything?'—Yes,' said Jim, 'he made an assignment.'

A BOOSY fellow was observed the other day driving a 'pig,' holding on to his tail, and when asked what he was doing, replied that he was studying ge-hography.

'I RODE in the carriage with the widower,' said the cook, on her return from the obsequies of a friend; and then added, 'He said the funeral would have been nothing without me.'

'MOLLY! what's that strange noise at the front gate?—'Cats, sir.'—'Cats! Well, when I was young, cats didn't wear chimney-pot hats and smoke cigars.'—'Things are changed, sir.'

A VISITOR, who wanted his boots blacked, said to his host, on retiring, 'I'll put my boots outside the door of my room;' to which the host naively replied, 'All right—nobody'll touch 'em.'

'THE wicked stand in slippery places,' but for a perfect picture of reckless insecurity, you want to look at a frightened woman trying to stand on a camp-stool to keep out of the way of a mouse.

'WHO is that gentleman walking with Miss Flint?' said a wag to his companion, as they sauntered along the fifth avenue. 'Oh,' replied the other, 'that is a spark which she has struck.'

A RECENT traveller stopped at an inn in France. The host had two sorts of wine, which he called 'first table' and 'common table.' 'I tried them both,' says our traveller, and found them lamentable.'

THE latest case of absence of mind is a ship-carpenter who bit off the end of a copper spike, and drove a plug of tobacco into the vessel's bottom. He did not discover his mistake until the vessel spit in his face.

A FOP, leading a dog by a string, lounged up to the ticket-office window of a railroad station and asked, 'Must I—aw—take a ticket for a puppy?'—'No; you can travel as an ordinary passenger,' said the ticket-seller.

DOCTOR (to an hypochondriac patient)—'You eat, drink, and sleep well, don't you?' Patient: 'Yes, but——'' Doctor (interrupting, and handing a prescription): 'Here, have this made up and take it. We'll soon stop all that.'

A WOMAN may change her mind. A lady in Cleveland (U.S.) obtained a divorce from her husband on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment, and now petitions to have the divorce declared void for the reason that she was mistaken.

RIGHTEOUS VENGEANCE.—Someone having urged Tasso to avenge himself upon a man who had done him many injuries, he said, 'I wish to take from him neither his property, nor his life, nor his honour, but only his ill-will towards me.'

AN English nobleman who was in the habit of speaking to soldiers in an affable manner, was much amused lately when a Guardsman said to him in a hearty and genial way, 'I like you, my lord. There's nothing of the gentleman about you!'

A CROSS PETITION.—A man who had filed a petition for a divorce was informed by his counsel that his wife had filed a 'cross petition,' as lawyers call it. 'A cross petition!' exclaimed the husband: 'that's just like her. She never did a *good-natured* thing in her life.'

HE had brought her the very things she wanted from the supper-table to her safe retreat on the stairs, and she was moved to say, half laughingly, 'You are a man after my own heart. Mr. B.!'—'Just what I am after,' he answered,' her quick as a flash, covering her with confusion.

A BEAUTIFUL GIRL said to a wit, 'Why don't you talk smart things to me? You're as dull as a footman when in my company. Don't you know something to say to me?'—'Oh,' he replied, gazing upon her with admiration, 'even a footman can always answer the *belle*.'

MRS HANNAH KING, of Natick, cowhided a policeman recently, and, to the astonishment of the people and the unspeakable amazement of the policeman, the immortal gods looked down upon the unwonted spectacle of a policeman arriving at a scrimmage before it was over.

THE WORST.—His mother was mending his primer, which showed sad evidence of wear and tear. He looked on for a while in a brown study, and then said, 'Ma, why are you like one of them prize opera singers?'—'I'm sure I don't know, my child. Why!'—'Because you're a *primer-darner*.

THE INS AND OUTS OF IT.—A paper, in describing the escape of the boys of a Glasgow reformity school while on their way to church, says, 'A half will probably have returned home, where they will be easily found out.' Indeed! To us it seems more likely that those who don't return home will be found out. At all events, they will all find themselves 'in for it.'

A SCOTCH gentleman plagued by poachers procured a cork leg dressed in a stocking and shoe, and sent it through the neighbouring village by the town crier, who proclaimed that it had been found in a man-trap on the previous night in Mr. Ross's grounds, who desired to return it to the owner. There was no more poaching after that.

STRANGER (in back seats of new hall to architect whom he does not recognise): 'The acoustic principles of this hall must be villainously bad. I cannot hear a word the performers are saying.'—Architect (spitefully): 'What can you expect? They're amateurs.' Stranger: 'I suspect it's the architect who's the amateur.' Architect collapses.

A WITNESS TESTIFIED—'The last time I saw the defendant before to-day, he was sitting on the kerbstone one night about eleven o'clock, waiting, as he said, for his house to come along that way and take him in.'—'Well,' asked the prisoner's counsel 'and what did you infer from that?'—'I inferred that the last place he'd been in wasn't a temperance meeting.'

'IS this the place,' she asked, as she wandered down the barren sands, 'where a young lady—a beautiful young lady—fell into the water last season, and was rescued by a gallant young man, whom she afterwards married?' He looked at her carefully, estimated her at a square forty-seven, with false teeth, and said, emphatically, 'Yes, ma'am, but I don't know how to swim.'—*American Paper*.

A BRIGHT young man being asked by his sweetheart why the continual flow of so many rivers into the sea didn't fill the sea up and make it run over, replied. 'Why, it's the sponges, my dear.'—'What have the sponges got to do with it?' she asked; to which he responded, 'Why, the sea is full of sponges away down at the bottom, and they suck up the water—don't you see?' She thought she did.

A REFLECTION ON THE SEX.—Jones was always complaining of his wife's memory. 'She never can remember anything,' said poor Jones; 'it's awful!'—'My wife was just as bad,' said Brown, 'till I found out a capital recipe.'—'What is it?' said Jones, eagerly.—'Why,' said Brown, 'whenever there's anything particular I want the missus to remember, I write it down on a slip of paper and gum it on the looking-glass. See?' Jones is now a contented man.

SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH invited Dr. Parr to take a drive in his gig. The horse became restive. 'Gently, Jemmy,' said the Doctor—'don't irritate him; always soothe your horse, Jemmy. You'll do better without me. Let me down, Jemmy. Once on *terra firma*, the Doctor's view of the case was changed.—'Now, Jemmy, touch him up. Never let a horse get the better of you. Touch him up, conquer him, don't spare him; and now I'll leave you to manage him. I'll walk back.'

PUZZLING A SCHOOLMISTRESS.—A national schoolmistress in the country was taking down the names and ages of her scholars at the commencement of the term, when, coming in turn to a little white-headed boy, she asked him, 'Well, my lad, how old are you?'—'My name ain't Lad,' said he, sharply; 'it's John.—'Well,' said the schoolmistress, 'what is the rest of your name?'—'Why, that's all the name I've got, just John,' needn't put dad's name down; he isn't comin' to school. He's too big to go to school.—'Well, how old are you?'—'I ain't old at all; I'm young.'

AN ill-tempered and pompous old man said to a noisy urchin, 'What are you whistling and yelling so for when I'm riding by?' To which the boy responed, 'What are you ridin' by for when I'm a whistlin' and a yellin'?'

THE following was heard at a school inspection.—The inspector asked young Nokes what a transparent object was.—'A body you can see through,' was the reply.—'Very well; give me an example.'—'A pane of glass, sir.'—Right. Now, Atkins, you give me another example.'—'A key-hole, sir.'

A YANKEE auctioneer lately indulged in the following little bit of the pathetic—'Gentlemen, if my father and mother stood where you do, and didn't buy these boots—these elegant boots—when they are going for one dollar, I should feel it my duty as a son to tell both of 'em that they were false to themselves and false to their country.'

MUST HAVE BEEN A DESCENDANT OF ANAK.—The following cruel reminiscence of a fashionable seaside resort is given by an American contemporary—'A seaside belle left her bathing-shoes hanging out of her hotel window to dry, and next day the local paper announced that the hotel had put up new awnings of a unique design.'

'DERBY, the door-bell rings, and you must run, light the match, and touch the shavings, and let the coals get on fire in the fireplace, or they will think we don't keep a fire in the sitting-room, and that would not be genteel.'—'Yes'm—there—it is all roaring, and the bell rings again—shall I go now?'—'Yes.'—'Oh, marm, it was only a pedlar.'—'A pedlar! Confound him—take the fire apart, and get ready for another alarm.'—'Yes'm.'

A YANKEE PATENT.—Among American patents is the following:—'To John Allen, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for a method of restoring the fulness or roundness to the cheeks.' The patentee claims, as his invention, and desires to secure by letters patent, restoring hollow cheeks to their natural contour and rotundity by means of metallic bulbs, formed, fitted to, and secured in the mouth by any suitable attachment between the jaw-bones and the cheek.

'MISTER, your sign has fallen down!' cried a temperance man to a grog-shop keeper, before whose door a drunken man was prostrate. We do not know whether this temperance man was the same into whose store a customer reeled, exclaiming, 'Mr.——, do you—keep—anything—good to take here?'—, Yes; we have excellent cold water—the best thing in the world to take.'—'Well, I know it,' was the reply; 'there is no one—thing—that's done so much for—navigation—as that.'

A WITNESS examined in one of the courts of Illinois, upon a trial concerning a horse trade, was asked by the counsel for the defendant how the plaintiff generally rode. 'He pretty generally rides astraddle, sir,' replied the witness. 'How does he ride in company?'—'If he has a good horse he always keeps up.'—'And how does he ride when he is alone?'—'Really, sir, I cannot say, as I never was in his company when he rode by himself.'—'You may stand aside, sir.'

AN American countryman, fresh from magnificent woods and rough clearings, was one day visiting the owner of a beautiful seat at Brooklyn: walking with him through a little grove, out of which all the underbush had been cleared, in which paths had been cut out and gravelled, and the rocks covered with woodbine, he suddenly stopped, and, admiring the beauty of the scene, lifted up his hands, and exclaimed, 'This I like; this is Nature with her hair combed!'

Business Announcements.

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Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH

TRAINS.—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.		1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G P.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·45	9·40	12·30	2·30	5·35
Scotswood	,,	5·52	9·47	12·37	2·37	5·42
Swalwell	,,	5·59	9·54	12·43	2·43	5·49
Rowland's Gill	,,	6·9	10·4	12·53	2·53	5·59
Lintz Green	,,	6·15	10·10	12·59	2·59	6·5
Ebchester	,,	6·28	10·23	1·12	3·12	6·18
Shotley Bridge	,,	6·34	10·29	1·18	3·18	6·24
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.			1·25	3·25	
	dep.	6·42	10·37		4·45	6·35
Knitsley	,,	6·54	10·49		4·57	6·47
Lanchester	,,	7·3	10·58		5·6	6·56
Witton Gilbert	,,	7.14	11·9		5·10	7·7
Durham	arr.	7·25	11.20		5·25	7·20

DOWN TRAINS—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS		1,2,G. A.M.	1,2 G. A.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G P.M.	1,2,G P.M
Durham	dep.	7·25		11·45	3·45	8·0
Witton Gilbert	,,	7·37		11·57	3·57	8·12
Lanchester	,,	7·50		12·10	4·10	8·25
Knitsley	,,	8·2		12·22	4·20	8·37
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.				4·30	
	dep	8·15	9·10	12·35	3·35	8·50
Shotley Bridge	,,	8·20	9·15	12.40	3·40	8·55
Ebchester	,,	8·24	9·19	12·44	3·44	8·59
Lintz Green	,,	8·34	9·29	12·54	3·54	9·9
Rowland's Gill	,,	8·39	9·34	12·59	4·0	9·14
Swalwell	,,	8·47	9·42	1·7	4·7	9·22
Scotswood	,,	8·54	9·49	1·14	4·14	9·29
Newcastle	arr.	9·5	10·0	1·25	4·25	9·40

SUNDAYS.

LEAVE	a.m.	p.m.	LEAVE	a.m.	p.m
Newcastle	7·30	7·15	Benfieldside	8·35	8·20
Scotswood	7·37	7·22	Shotley Bridge	8·40	8·25
Swalwell	7·44	7·29	Ebchester	8·44	8.29
Rowland's Gill	7·54	7·39	Lintz Green	8·54	8·39
Lintz Green	8·0	7·45	Rowland's Gill	8·59	8·4
Ebchester	8·13	7·58	Swalwell	9·8	8·5
Shotley Bridge	8·19	8·4	Scotswood	9·14	8·5
Benfieldside (arr)	8·25	8·10	Newcastle (arr)	9·25	9·1

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

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

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.		P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	7·10	4·5	....	7·30
Scotswood	,,	7·17	4·12	....	7·37
Swalwell	,,	7·24	4·20	....	7·44
Rowland's Gill	,,	7·34	4·30	....	7·54
Lintz Green	,,	7·40	4·36	....	8·0
Ebchester	,,	7·53	4·49	....	8·13
Shotley Bridge	,,	7·59	4·55	....	8·19
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8·5	5·2	....	8·25
	dep.	9·20	....		
Knitsley		9·32	....	....	
Lanchester		9·41	....	....	
Witton Gilbert		9.52	....	....	
Durham	arr.	10·5	....	....	

STATIONS.		A.M.		P.M.
Durham	dep.	7·55	......	....
Witton Gilbert	,,	8·7	......	....
Lanchester	,,	8·20	......	....
Knitsley	,,	8·32	......	....
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8·45	......	....
	dep.	8·50	......	5·30
Shotley Bridge	,,	8·55	......	5·35
Ebchester	,,	8·59	......	5·39
Lintz Green	,,	9·9	......	5·49
Rowland's Gill		9·15	......	5·55
Swalwell	,,	9·22	......	6·2
Scotswood	,,	9·29	......	6·9
Newcastle	arr.	9·40	......	6·20

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY

GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·45	12·30	2·30
Benfieldside	,,	6·50	1·30	4·30
Rowley	,,	7·0	1·40	4·40
Burnhill Junction	,,	7·10	1·50	4·50
Tow Law	,,	7·23	2·3	5·3
Crook	arr.	7·35	2·15	5.15
	dep.	7.38	2·25	5·25
Bishop Auckland	,,	8·7	2·53	5·56
Darlington		8·35	3·20	6·25
Stockton	,,	9·25	4·8	7·18
Middlesbro'	,,	9·38	4·20	7·33
Saltburn	,,	10·16	4·55	8·10

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

Saltburn	dep.	5·45	11·10	4·30
Middlesbro'	,,	6·23	11·45	5·5
Stockton	,,	6·34	11·55	·15
Darlington	,,	7·10	12·30	·50
Bishop Auckland	,,	7·45	1·15	·30
Crook	arr.	8·12	1·40	·55
	dep.	8·15	2·20	7·0
Tow Law	,,	8·27	2·32	7·15
Burnhill Junction	,,	8·42	2·45	7·30
Rowley	,,	8·52	2·55	7·40
Benfieldside	arr.	9·5	3·5	7·50
Newcastle	arr.	10·0	4·25	9·40

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore, in every case, grey or white hair to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," prepared by HENRY C. GALLUP, 493, Oxford Street, London, and sold by chemists and perfumers everywhere, at 3s. 6d. per bottle.

FLORILINE!—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Prepared by HENRY C. GALLUP, 493, Oxford Street, London.

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WOODS' DANDRUFF POMADE.
Never fails, 1s. per pot.
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SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS AND PERFUMERS, &c.

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I consider it invaluable in Phthisis and Spasmodic Cough: the benefit is very marked.
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A JET BLACK MARKING FLUID FOR MARKING LINEN, COTTON, &c.
NO PREPARATION OR HEATING REQUIRED AFTER BEING WRITTEN.
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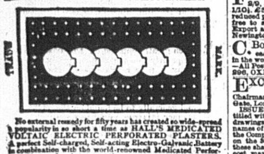
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TODD'S QUININE WINE
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Business Announcements.

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Sold by G. FRENCH, Chemist, 203, High Street, Chatham, and all Chemists, at 2s. 9d. each, or sent on receipt of price by the Manufacturers, HILTON and Co., 9, Lower Belgrave-street, London.

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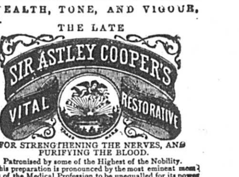
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To Messrs. Ephraim Hilton and Co.,
9, Lower Belgrave-street,
London, S.W.

Correspondence.

(Continued from page 2.)

THE HALLELUJAH LASSES: THEIR SOURCE OF POWER.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—As "A. R." has not answered the question I put to him in my letter of the 22nd ult., I shall, by your permission, make a few more remarks on his letter of the 15th ult. It is titled the same as mine was of the 7th ult., and as this is also. It begins thus—"Such was the heading of a letter in your issue of last week," and after a few lines of exordium, he asks, "From whence, then, have the 'Hallelujah Lasses' their power?" Then, without taking any notice of what I had attributed this source, he proceeds to show the "Lasses" have a power, and then exclaims—"Where, then, has this power its hiding place?" *Source of power and hiding place!* Here we have two terms of very different meaning used as synonyms. The source of a power or force is its origin, as the source, or spring, whence a river arises; discloses itself; its hiding place is that where it hides; withdraws from view. He proceeds—"I answer—First, *In the novelty of the manner of the Band*. . Secondly, *In the enthusiasm of the Band*. . Thirdly, *In the faith of the Band*." That is to say, that the power of the "Hallelujah Lasses" hides itself in these. Of course, this was not what "A. R." meant to say, nor was it what he thought he had said. He undoubtedly meant to say those were the sources of the power, not its "hiding place." This blunder might have been passed over as a mere oversight of the maker of it; but the entire letter is one of the most striking evidences of vagueness of thought, and discursiveness of style, I ever read.

Having, sir, in my previous letters, drawn attention to "A. R.'s" first and second sources, or, more properly speaking, tributaries, to the real source of the power in question, I will, for the present, pass them over and briefly notice the third one, viz., "*In the faith of the Band*," with the view of pointing out the vague way in which he treats it. The whole paragraph is as follows—"Thirdly, *In the faith of the Band*. Faith in the unseen. Here spiritualism, mesmerism, and revivalism join. Each succeeds by faith in the unseen, and, I may add, by faith in self. It is further remarkable that similar conditions and influences are favourable to all these. Singing, or music, is favourable alike to each. The spirits manifest themselves better, mesmerism takes effect sooner; and revivalism, too, has greater potency under, or aided by, music. May these three not be akin? But faith, after all, is the chief factor. Spiritualism implies faith in mediumship and in spirit manifestation. Mesmerism implies faith in an unseen influence and in self. A man cannot mesmerise without faith in himself. Revivalism implies faith in the unseen (call it God), faith in self. A man makes nothing out as a revivalist unless he has faith in himself. But I merely want to be suggestive." "Here," says "A. R." "spiritualism, mesmerism, and revivalism join." Where? "In faith in the unseen?" What in the name of common sense does he mean? I cannot comprehend it. Though I have thoughtfully read the sentence over, at least a dozen times, it remains to me a perfect puzzle. Faith is mighty. It prompts to the working of wonders. Notwithstanding, it, in itself, is not a power, much less a source of power. It is simply a means by which we are led to lay hold of, and to make use of a power. It is a product of knowledge: a conviction that either we have a power and can use it, or a one that we have not, but may possess it if we comply with the necessary conditions, or by so complying we may bring ourselves in the sphere of the immediate operation of a power or force, as, for example, the POWER OF GOD *unto salvation*, and thus be made the happy partakers of our heavenly Father's choicest blessings. The "Hallelujah Lasses" having, they believe, and I have no reason to doubt it, been so blessed, and being fully persuaded that every person may by the grace of God enjoy like happiness by using the proper means, and not only so, but that our heavenly Father desires, and is ever ready, to pardon all who by these means come unto Him. They ("Hallelujah Lasses") have for some time been, and are still, irresistibly pressed to put forth all their might to proclaim the glad tidings, and use every legitimate means to warn sinners of their danger, and to induce them, through repentance and faith, to sue for mercy. The public position they occupy in evangelism does not appear to have been taken as a pursuit to earn a living; but one to which piety, strong conviction, and duty have forced them. Hence arises their success. But it may, and with truth, be said that many ministers are as zealous and self-denying as the "Hallelujah Lasses," yet do not exert so much influence over sinners in bringing them to repentance as they; hence some other qualification than those cited must be possessed by them, which the said ministers have not. This may, or may not be so. The difference may not lie so much in the genuine qualification as in the method of procedure. This I will not presume to decide. The question, however, as I have before said, is a fit one for investigation; for impartial, minute, intelligent, and, may I add, prayerful consideration; and it is to be hoped the Nonconformist bodies will heartily unite for this purpose. Let not jealousy—that deadly canker of the mind—warp the understanding and blunt the affections so as to cause any Christian to become a stumbling-block in the way of the "salvation army." It equally behoves the officers and privates of this army to be careful in their walk and conversation, and general demeanour, lest any of them should, by improper manifestations, become a rock of offence in the sight of GOD, and a snare, or scare-crow in the camp. On Miss Agar and Miss Jackson lies a very great responsibility. They should take the council of good, wise, and experienced Christians regarding the improprieties with which some of their helpers are charged. They should prune the young vines of every excresence to bring their luxuriant foliage within the laws and limits of health, of beauty, and usefulness. After this rather lengthy and apparent digression, I will return to a further consideration of "A. R.'s" letter. He says:—"Here (faith in the unseen) spiritualism, mesmerism, and revivalism join." I could easily perceive wherein the spiritualist, the mesmerist, and the revivalist would unite in faith in the existence and operation of unseen forces; for not those *ists* only, but every other *ist*—every sane person in fact—is compelled by experience to believe in unseen forces, therefore all men could not merely join on this common ground, but in reality are so joined.

With regard to spiritualism in its general acceptation, Christianity is based on it, and every real Christian is a spiritualist. But I apprehend "A. R." uses the term spiritualism in a much more limited sense, that is, to signify that which is called modern spiritualism. However, it is not my intention, at present, to go into this subject, nor that of mesmerism either, for very little is known how far the one or the other may or may not influence religious assemblies.

Why "A. R." has treated of revivalism in the same category as spiritualism and mesmerism I know not. The term, revivalism, is often, in truth, almost always used in a sense quite at variance with its real meaning. It comes from the verb to revive, that is, to revivify, as to rekindle a waning fire into a flame; and, as applied to religious matters, it means to recover professing Christians and members of churches from the state of languor into which they have fallen; to stir them up—fan the dying embers of religious fervour and faithfulness to their Master into a burning zeal for the salvation of sinners. But the term is generally applied to services having for their object the conversion of sinners, which is not a revival, excepting in the case of backsliders, but a beginning, a first lighting, not a rekindling. A true revival must of necessity begin with those who have become languid—cooled down to a state in which it is difficult to trace a ray of warmth, to a state of mere formalism. The fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much; but the prayer of the formalist is of non-avail excepting to cast, as it were, a wet sheet over those who hear it, and to incur the Divine displeasure. Cold, lukewarm, professors of Christianity bestir yourselves. You are in a poor state. The fire is nearly out, and it will go out if it be not renewed. You are not merely in a bad case personally, but are exerting a baneful influence on others. You, by your frigid example, are as drags on the wheel of the Christian coach! The world of sin has its eye on you, and is scared from entering the vineyard of Christ. May the revivifying power of Divine truth take a strong hold of you, and make you zealous and fruitful in good works. Let all the Churches fully realise the fact, that they need reviving before they can be instrumental in inducing sinners to repent, and be born again, through faith and right-living.

It was my intention to criticise the above quoted paragraph in extenso; but to do so would be to trespass too much on your space, hence I confine my remarks to this sentence—"A man cannot mesmerise without faith in himself." This is true, and "A. R." might have truly added, "I cannot write without faith in myself, nor could I, or any man, do his ordinary duties without faith in self." The paragraph in question has many faults. Indeed, nearly every sentence is open to criticism. Yet, I like the author of it for the kind spirit in which he writes, and hope to have the pleasure of reading some more of his compositions.—I am, sir, yours respectfully,

NONDESCRIPT.

Ayr, N.B., Dec. 3rd, 1878.

"GEORDIE SMITH" ON POETRY, THE HALLELUJAH ARMY, &c.

To the Edditor ov the Consitt Gardian.

MISTER EDDITER,—Its a rakognised rool amang men of letters that nee persenalleytes is to be used in kontrebushens to the press. Awm not in the habet of been persenel mesell, but aws sorrey that one of your kontrebuters hes had the bad taste to refer to me in a manner that's likely te injer me seereyesley in the ise of your reeders, and damidj my repetashen as a *litterature*. Aw refer to Mister Tate. Neeboddy, aw think, wad ever suspeckt that "Geordie Smith's" letters were ritten by Mister Tate, so he needent hev been see anksheys to say see. "Him rite 'Geordie Smith,'" says Bob, "why he kudden', if he wes to live till he wes as awd as Methuselem." Aw think Bob's reet. The nekst time Mister Tate kotes potrey, aw hope he winnet miks it up see mutch. He naws nawt abowt the Mewses or he waudent mak the pote Gray talk like a feyul. Gray deed abeyun a hundred yers ago, and diddent knaw awt abowt Blackhill, the Bantlen, and Sedjfeeld. That last line of Mister Tate's abowt the male-mades, which is supposed te hev refference to the Affagans, shud hev been—

> And waste thare musick on the Affagan race,

and then it wad hev applide te hissell as weel as Mister Wiley. Aw wunder what poor Poap wad say if he kud kum back and see how Mister Tate tummels his ritens abowt. Poap nivver rote such words as thees—

> Drink deep, or taste not, of the sakred spring :
> A littel larnen is a dangeress thing.

Mister Tate is fond of koten potrey, but aw'll bet tuppens he dissent ken we is the arther of the two followen lines—

> Sum, for renown, on skraps of larnen dote,
> And think thay grow immortel as thay kete.

Before sayen adew to Mister Tate, aw wad like to say sumthen abowt the three questens he propownds at the bottem of his letter, as aw dinnet suppose onney of your korrespondents will be yabble to furnish you with satisfaktory ansers. His first queery is—"Ware the sparrers that fell to the ground shot by arrers or kattapults?" Awve lookt at Sent Matther, and find that although two sparrers were vallid at a farthen, he dissent say that thay fell to the ground at all, mutch less that thay ware shot with eether arrers or kattapults. So, Mister Edditer, if we hev nee evidense that the sparrers ware killed and fell to the ground, Mister Tate's questen bekomes an *ignes fatters*. Awl lay a penny, Mister Tate kannet anser the questen hissell. His next questen—"were the sueysidel swine hogs or pigs?"—is a reel poser, and as he's the best judj of such things, awl not vensher an oppineyen, but leeve him to anser his awn questen next week. Mebbies he'll also tell us how the swine liked the watter when thay rusht voiolently doon the steep bank into the see. That nekst queery of his is varry eeseley ansered—"given a gote at the prow, anuther at the stern, feycen eech other, which wad be the left side of the ship to lansh the net for the grate draft of fishes?" Awm surprised that a man of Mister Tate's abilleytes shud hev askt such a daft questen as this. It all depended upon the fishermen. If the fishermen ware kuddey-handed, then the left-hand side of the ship wad be the reet-hand side, and *vicer-varser*, as the kase mite be.

Aw's much oblijed to your Tow Law korrespondent for letten me knaw the meenen of "kag-mag."

Awve alreddy telled you that Bob is nee skollar, but he is a reel stunner at makken kunundrums. When aw red "Figgses" letter to him last Setterder neet abowt the Benfeeldside peeple senden Mister Carse to the House of Kommens, he sade, just like them Kristy Minsterls with thare feyces blakt—"Geordie, kan thou tell me what job wed sute him best up thare?" Aw sade aw haddent onney ideer, but aw thawt he wad be likely to fill the post of Speeker varry weel, seen that he wes see gobby at the Bords. Bob, however, sade the anser to the kunundrum was—Privvy Kownseller! Aw telled Bob heed hev getten first prise with that if heed sent it to Professer Morgen, the mesmerisen chep, when he wes down at Shotley Bridge a week or two back.

Awm varry glad you diddent put in my remarks last week abowt the "Hallaluyer Lasses." Me and Bob wes thare on Setterder neet ageyn, and our first impresshens hes getten korreckted a bit be our sekond visset, so that aw hope ye'll put that first bit in the weyst-paper basket. By the deskripshens aw red in the paper abowt the Army, aw thawt it wes meyed of nawt but feyuls and lunerticks eskaped fra Sedjfeeld, but now aw find thare's a good monney Christeyen fokes amang them. Bob's a Ranter, and likes plenty of showten, but aw dinnet, and that wes what gav me a bad impresshen of them a week gone Setterder neet. However, aw see that the Hallaluyer Lasses is deen a power of good amang the drunkerds, not only in Barryedge but all awer, and aws gannen te back them, and they may be sure if thay get me and Bob on thare side neeboddy else dare mak gam of them. A tallyman wes up here on Tuesder, and telled Betty Stubbs that "Geordie Smith" was a reel naler, and wad seyun shut up such skribbelers as "Antey-Humbug" and "Sivers." That "Antey Humbug" seems to think hissell cock-o'-the-midden, but he mite get his wings klipped if he gans on crawen mutch langer. But aws forgetten Setterder neet. Bob and me went before sivven o'klock, and gat a kanny seet reet in the middel of the Theeater. The place was seyun krammed, and the singen kommenst. When thay struck up "Awm a Pilgrem," Bob winked at me and sade the awdeyence new we ware thare, and the him hed been speshelly komposed for him, noen that he was a grate traveller, and had just returned fra a pilgrimmidj in the West Indeys. When the him was awer, a lot of yung fellers kom te the front, and began te tell thare expeeriences with Saten. Sum of them seemed te hev been ressellen with him varry mutch, and thay jumpt rownd the staj and swung thare arms te let us knaw how thay had awerkum him. One balley-heeded awd chep, with a feyce as lang as a poker, skippt up and doon like a two-yer-awd, and sade an awd wommen had wanted him to die his hare with the blakken brush, so that sumboddy at Darwen Cottejes kuddent find falt with his gray heed. Miss Ager seems te be a kanny bit lass, but Bob thinks Miss Jacksen is the best lukken of the two. Bob was sitten at the end of the form, and had a bit crack with her when the prar-meeten kommenst, but she kuddent get te me, as thare was a greet fat womman sitten between me and Bob. Thay hev my best wishes, poor things, and aw's sure if thay ivver leeve Barryedge thay'll karry with them the blessens of many a mutther, and poor wife. Aw muunet forget to say that two or three wemmen besides Miss Ager and Miss Jacksen addrest the meeten. One kame in abowt nine o'klock, and sade a few words, but aw diddent like her stile. Ivvery now and ageyn, she gave a greet yell, like them reed Indeyens that Bob sumtimes immitates. Awd Shotten fra the Plane wes sitten just in front of me and Bob, and meyed a tellen speech, but aw diddent heer the best ont, as the awdeyence was see noisey.

GEORDIE SMITH.

The Bantlen.

THE REDWELL HILLS CROSSING.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In the issue of the *Guardian* of the 29th Nov. there appears a letter signed "Narrow Escape." If the writer had been caught by an engine and train of waggons, the world would not have sustained any loss. After finding fault with the North-Eastern Railway Company for having such a dangerous crossing at Redwell Hills and sending such an insulting letter to the Leadgate Local Board, your correspondent sarcastically comments on the insensibility of the members of the Board to the insult offered by the Company. He proceeds to state, "though there are occasional bickerings among the members of the Board," he believes they (the members) "conscientiously discharge their duties to the ratepayers," and oils the Chairman by giving him credit for his conciliatory conduct. How this extraordinary genius can see that the members of the Board conscientiously discharge their duty to the ratepayers, when the Board has been in existence for about ten years, and the crossing still remains, is a marvel to me. A few days ago, I saw a person who is now a permanent cripple, through receiving an injury at the crossing. I am glad there are exceptions on the Board. Mr. Bland, Mr. Teasey, and one or two more have done their best to have the place made safe, but they have always been outweighted by the Chairman and others on the Board. I am sorry to see the attempt to salve the Chairman and the members of the Board. The Board is a disgrace. If the Board represent the intelligence of the district, then what must the residuum be? The principal business of the Board is to apologise for wealthy companies to do as they like in the district, but if a poor person transgress they are into him tooth and nail. Witness the pitmen getting a little clay from the road side. Mr. Simpson proposed that an example should be made of them; but Mr. Simpson counselled delay when the poor man's house was in a shamefully dilapidated state. The poor pitmen had to be prosecuted forthwith, but Sir Henry Clavering was to be borne with a little longer. Your readers will see that the hand is Esau's, but the voice is Jacob's when lubricating the Chairman. Under the *regime* of the Chairman, the Board has sunk down into the depths of muffishness, until the members have become a proverb as a set of old fogies, Mrs. Grundy being considered a great woman compared with the members of the Leadgate Local Board. I humbly hope that "Narrow Escape" won't escape much longer, but will be caught at the crossing and receive the reward he so richly merits for greasing the Chairman and his compeers on the Leadgate Local Board.—I am, yours, &c.,

ALPHA.

Dec. 3, 1878.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I am become an excellent target for many of your correspondents to pop at. It is well for me that they only carry pop-guns, or I certainly should be slain. *O tempores! O mores!* Dear "Observer," delightful soul complains in the columns of last week's *Guardian* about the unparliamentary language used by me at the last meeting of the Benfieldside Local Board, in relation to the lighting of the lamps in the district at full moon. Mr. Lax is one of the Lighting Committee who did it. Had the Lighting Committee honestly acknowledged they had made a mistake, there might have been a remark passed to be more careful in the future, but when the Committee blamed the lamplighters, who were innocent, then I think they require to be sternly rebuked, and had Mr. Lax possessed the wisdom attributed to him by "Observer," he would have remained silent. Let me ask "Observer," in view of the hard times, when so many are barely obtaining bread, if such scandalous waste of the ratepayers' money should be allowed? When collecting the poor's-rate, the parents have sometimes to resort to the children's thrift box to get me a portion of the rate, and yet "Observer" will act the toady to Mr. Lax, and "exalt him to dignity high in the midst of such a wonderful crew," who will persist in wasting the ratepayers' money in competing with the moon. Mr. Lax may pray heaven to save him from his friends. "Observer" wonders the Chairman did not call me to order. The Chairman knew the Committee were guilty, and prudently held his tongue, and "Observer" should have let his pen alone. One of the nights when the gas was burning, in beautiful clear moonlight, I went to Mr. Wm. Wilson, one of the members of the Lighting Committee, to see if the waste could not be stayed. I could get nothing done. I then went to the house of the Chairman to see if he would order the plague to be stayed. He looked at the moon, then at the gas lamps, but gave no order. Here were the ratepayers being robbed of their cash, but neither priest nor Levite would render help. I then, on my own responsibility, told the lamplighters to extinguish the lamps, which they did. I trust that Mr. Lax and the Lighting Committee will give "Observer" a suitable reward for his servility.

Your correspondent "Robin Hood" acknowledges he does not know much about Local Board matters, yet he meddles with subjects much beyond his depth. If he did not understand such matters why did he write about them? I certainly should deserve a kick if I allowed the Clerk to the Board to catch me asleep. But for the information of your readers, allow me to state that the usual course pursued is to read the minutes passed at the last meeting, then sign them, next to discuss them *seriatim*. The minute referring to the appointment of Mr. Dixon as surveyor simply read "carried," but the names of the dissentients were not entered, which I asked to be added when the minute was under discussion in the usual way. It is not customary to raise a discussion on the minutes, when correct in the main, as any error is always rectified when the particular minute is under discussion, so that I acted constitutionally in asking for the correction. "Robin Hood" is like a great many in the world, who can neither make nor mend, but are talented at finding fault with others. In relation to the Public Health Act, 1875, schedule 1, rule 6, directs that the names of the members present, as well as those voting on each question, shall be recorded in the minutes, and whether my interpretation of the rule or that of the Clerk is correct your readers must be the judges, so that they may give the verdict in favour of the Clerk or myself, as to the question of intelligently understanding the rule.—I am, yours truly,

H. CARSS.

Dec. 2nd, 1878.

A FEVER HOT-BED.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In looking over the columns of the *Guardian* of the 29th ult., I was surprised to see a letter addressed to you from a Dipton tradesman, with the above heading, complaining that a nuisance existed at the high end of the Moor Pit rows. Now, as such nuisance is not in existence, and was not existing at the time this all-wise and self-important individual concocted and sent his cowardly note to you, I think it is greatly to be lamented that trade in Dipton is so dull at present as to give a tradesman time to burden his conscience (if possessed of one) with such a tissue of falsehoods. It would have been much better for him if he had visited the place he complains of before asking you to give place to such a report in your valuable columns. I am sorry, indeed, that he should have made such a sweeping and serious charge against the Sanitary Inspector, knowing, as I do, and as every reasonable ratepayer in the village must know, that Mr. Ground has always endeavoured honestly to perform the duties of his office. I only wish this narrow-minded, bigoted, and egotistical tradesman would either stay at home and mind his own business, or, when he goes to the cobbling council chamber, to report to that august assembly the truth, and not lead a few of our neighbours to grasp at any Quixotical notions that he may put forward for discussion at the gatherings of that noble assembly. Again, he complains of the piggeries, hen-pens, dove-cotes, &c., situate near the property owned by Messrs. Dickinson. I should like to know whether those erections or "Tradesman" are the greatest nuisances in the village. I would also like to ask him if he respects the source from which his bread emanates? No doubt, he and his family can enjoy eggs and bacon, as well as can the family of an honest workman; then, if so, why prohibit the working man (the tradesman's mainstay) from a little luxury? He also says that he will wait with some uneasiness to see if anything can be done towards the removal of this chimera. Now, I would advise him to go at once to Messrs. Cooper and Bell, and they will be able, no doubt, to give him some stimulant that will entirely remove the mania he is at present labouring under. Again, the poor misguided and ignorant "Tradesman" says we have had of late several cases of fever in the village, and if the said sanitary defect is not remedied, we may expect in a short time to have a fever hot-bed in the square. Now, I challenge the great authority to point out more than one fatal case of fever in the Dipton portion of Collierley township during the last twelve months, and I call his attention more especially to that portion of the village of which he so unjustly complains. However, should his prophesies be fulfilled, let us hope that he may be many miles removed from our healthy and peaceful little village, so that his superior stock may be preserved from contamination.

Before closing, I feel in duty bound to let the ratepayers know how the movers of this ungrounded charge can get up such accusations. Some months ago, Mr. Cooper complained to me that a certain drain was filled up by an accumulation of earth, &c., and in consequence not able to convey to its proper destination the sewage which had to pass through it. Well, I went to the imaginary place of grievance and sought for it in vain. Thinking that Mr. Cooper, as a gentleman, would point out the case, I went to his house, but unfortunately found that he was engaged from home on more important business. Then thinking that our Assistant-Overseer (being one of the oldest residents in the village) would be likely to know the courses of the drains I obtained his assistance, but our combined efforts failed to discover Mr. Cooper's grievance. On seeing Mr. Cooper a fortnight afterwards, and telling him the result of the investigation, his answer was this (and I think the same answer will apply to "Tradesman's" case), "Well, sir, if you had visited the place a fortnight later you would have found the drain closed of which I complained." However, should the cowardice of this tradesman allow him to own his name, and he dare to meet me, I shall be glad to accompany him to any place wherein my responsibility as a colliery manager lies, and if he can point out a nuisance I will do my utmost to abate the same.—I am, sir, yours truly,

J. W. HODGSON.

Bradley Lodge, Dipton, Dec. 4th, 1878.

BIBLICAL.—ST. JOHN, ST. HIPPOLYTUS, AND THE SECOND ADVENT OF CHRIST.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

"If I will that he 'tarry' till I come, what is that to thee."—The Christ of John, c. 21-22.

"Their sense (*the above words*) remained dark to the writer (John), who ventured no explanation."—Dean Alford, in his Greek Testament, p. 283.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—In my last communication upon the possible "tarrying" of John until the second advent of Christ, I promised to recur to the question.

In doing so, I may be allowed to give a few opinions concerning the date (?) of St. John's death. In Griesbach's introduction to his Greek Gospel, he states—"The accounts of his later years are *not explicit*. He most probably &c. . . . In 96 A.D. he returned to Ephesus, and there died at the advanced age of 100, in A.D. 101. . . . The date of his Gospel is merely conjectural." In "Semler Hist. Ecclesiastica" John is *believed* to have died (Ivannes *creditur* mortuus) in 99. In the Church Kalendar "He (John) was sent prisoner to Rome, in 95 A.D., and in spite of his venerable age . . thrown into a caldron of boiling oil . . . but the Saint came out the caldron as from a refreshing bath. AFTER this, was banished into Patmos, and was favoured with those visions which are recorded in Revelations." The Gospel and death undated. Renan, in his Life of Jesus, and Strauss, are also quite conjectural upon the matter. But, may-be, your quiet readers will think with me, that an authority who lived a century after the supposed death of John is a somewhat better authority than any of the above great critics and commentators. Exactly so. Very well, then; should any of your scholarly readers look into St. Hippolytus (date, 220 A.D.) in his "Concerning the Twelve Apostles" (the Duodecina apostolis) they will find the following: "John was exiled under DOMITIAN to the Isle of Patmos, where also he *wrote his Gospel*, and saw the Apocalypse (Revelations). Under the Emperor Trajan, he has fallen asleep (*obdormivit*) at Ephesus; when his remains were sought for, they *were not found* (non sunt inventæ)." Now, it is somewhat singular that of *all* the apostles, John and Matthew are the only two of whom Hippolyhus uses the verb "fell asleep" (obdormivit); to all the others, *sepelitur* or sepultus (buried) is used. But, again, and more germane to our immediate subject, there are two books, attributed to Hippolytus, exceedingly curious, and certainly interesting, and manifesting a profound acquaintance with, and study of, the Bible. Those books are, first, "The Antichrist;" second, "The End of the World" (De Consummatione Munds). In the C. Mundi, c. 21, I find the following: "We are taught by the Scriptures of two advents of Christ. The first advent, in the flesh, abject, when he appeared in humility. His second advent is one of glory, for He will come from the heavens with power, and with the angels, and in the glory of the Father. At His first advent, John the Baptist was his forerunner; but when he comes again, in glory, Enoch, Elias, and *John the Divine* (Joannem Theologum) will appear." Again, in the same chapter, "As Daniel has foretold, he will confirm the covenant with many, for a week, and in the middle of the week the sacrifice and the oblation will be taken away, and . . . the two prophets with JOHN will appear to denounce the coming of the Antichrist . . . and they will work signs and miracles." Again, "as Daniel forsees, the beast ascending from the pit (Abysso) to make war upon Enoch, Elias, and *John* . . . because they had not given glory to the devil (diabolo)—See Revelations, 11, 13.

Such was the tradition of many in the early days of the Church. And now, Mr. Editor, as there is a trifle more for me to say, which will include a peculiar notion of the Antichrist being a Jew of the tribe of Dan, and will involve a few remarks upon Dean Alford, and the recent German work, "Das Characterbild Jesu," of Schenkel, anent John, allow me to pause here for the present, and believe me—Yours truly,

JON. C. WYLIE.

Grammar School, Blackhill.

P.S.—It may be necessary to say that my copy of Hippolytus is the Greek-cum-Latin Edition (Folio) of John Ablert Fabricius, Hamburg, 1716.

CAPTAIN WIGGINS AND RUSSIA.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I hope a blush of shame would mantle the cheeks of the Jingoes who heard Captain Wiggins deliver his exceedingly interesting lectures in the Assembly-Room, Consett, last week. For the last four years, the press, as a rule, has never ceased to defame Russia. Nothing has been too absurd, nothing too immoral, for the Editors to employ in order to blacken Russia. Lies, exaggerations and ridiculous stories have been resorted to, to create an ill-feeling in the minds of the people of Great Britain. The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* deserves special mention for its abuse of Russia. Ever since "Joe" and the *Chronicle* went over to the Tories, the Editor has taken great pains to abuse Russia, but after the statement of Captain Wiggins relating to the Russians, their intelligence, hospitality, and kindness to him as an Englishman, we can afford to treat a lying press with the contempt it deserves. A principal cause of regret is that lies travel so fast that the truth seldom overtakes them. We have one exception to this rule in relation to Lord Cranbrook's celebrated lying dispatch anent the correspondence with the Ameer of Affghanistan. The false statements in the dispatch referred to are simply samples of the tricks and dodges resorted to to vilify Russia. I am glad that intelligent Liberals see through the lies and immorality of base politicians, and can estimate Russia at her full value.—Yours respectfully,

READER.

Benfieldside, Dec. 5th, 1878.

CRITICS AND CRITICS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I am a constant reader of your paper, and your correspondence columns and the local board news very generally interest me most, and I presume this is mostly the case with others of your readers. I also have my likes and dislikes, but dread to express them in public print. Indeed, I am almost afraid to sit down and write you a few of my thoughts, because of the severe criticism that any of my remarks may lead to; for, depend upon it, that George Smith, of the Bantling, is a clincher. Long before I saw any of Mr. Smith's remarks, I had often heard others express themselves freely respecting the contributions of Mr. Wylie and Mr. Tait, and not unfrequently handle them very severely. Mr. Smith and his brother Robert are undoubtedly clever, and both appear to possess, as our friend Mr. Tait observes, "master minds." Their letters seldom fail to be suggestive of some useful information, put in a very interesting way. It is surprising that two such interesting and intelligent men, as Messrs. Wylie and Tait both are, should write so much uninteresting matter, as they must know it to be, to a population like ours. There is plenty of good, useful intelligence to write about, if they be anxious to appear in print, without introducing so much foreign bosh, and it will be well if the flagellation they received from Mr. George Smith last week be remembered for good.

Whatever may be the opinion of "Figs," "Observer," and "George Smith," respecting Mr. Henry Carss, I venture to state that Mr. Carss is as useful a member as can be found on any of the three local boards now existing in the district. He is perhaps not always right, nor yet always sufficiently polite. He is a man of failings, like passions with ourselves, but that he is upright, honest, and outspoken, few or none will deny. He dares to stand alone. He is courageous, manly, and truthful, appears to act from conviction—at least I have always been impressed with these ideas in reading your journal. He is no friend of mine, but I admire his pluck and energy, and though often greatly opposed on the boards, he manages frequently to come off victoriously. He has fought many a poor man's battle. He is the working man's friend; deny it who can, he has the spirit of a true-born Englishman. He has not a bit of the sneak about him, always striving to do the right, and generally to be found on the right side. His manner, it is true, might be improved, but he ought to be tolerated occasionally, and forgiven for making some mistakes. Outsiders, above all others, ought not to find much fault with him, because he is a real champion for the common people's rights, and we know some don't consider themselves common. Poor Carss has enough to contend with on the board, and when he errs there are plenty to correct him there. Instance the case of Mr. Lax. Now, I believe both in Mr. Lax's honour and ability, as a member of the Local Board, but he appears to me to lack moral courage in discussing certain subjects.

There has been a great amount of writing, and numerous opinions given, relative to the Hallelujah Meetings and the Lasses. I have frequently been to hear them, and usually they have capital and well-attended meetings. The two young women, Misses Agar and Jackson, appear to be, and I most sincerely believe they are, thoroughly pious, good girls, and though not highly educated, are sensible and amiable minded, sincere and earnest in the work they are engaged in. Miss Agar is a plain, good singer, and a laborious worker in the cause of Christ. Miss Jackson is also a good worker, but she is more delicate and less-enduring in her labours. She is, to my fancy, much the best speaker of the two, being betimes very eloquent in her invitations and exhortations to sinners. Miss Agar can not only hold out longer, but possesses greater tact for managing and directing the forces of the meetings. They have always appeared to me to be two amiable, good, Christian, young women, fully engaged to do their Master's work, and God and His church have stood nobly by them, and a mighty work for good has been accomplished. The glorious work is still going on, no fewer than 42 souls having been reclaimed and brought to Christ on Sunday evening last. It is truly marvellous the immense amount of good that has already resulted from these two plain, simple, honest-hearted girls' labours. May God, in his infinite mercy, continue to bless and prosper them in their noble work, is the sincere desire of—Your humble servant,

WANDERER.

Consett, December 4th, 1878.

Markets.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—At this day's market there was a small supply of both country and coasting wheat, and little from abroad. The trade, however, ruled dull, and sales of both English and foreign progressed slowly at the rates of this day week. Barley for malting extremely flat, and in foreign there was nothing doing; grinding firm. Malt slow. Beans and peas unchanged. Oats and maize rather lower. Flour quiet, but late prices about maintained.

HEXHAM CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—At our market to-day there were only small supplies of all descriptions of grain but quite equal to demand. Barley sold quickly at the rates of this day week, viz., 32s per qr. Oats slow sale at 17s per Hexham boll. Wheat met an average inquiry at late rates.

NEWCASTLE CATTLE MARKET, Tuesday.—The show of stock presented for sale exhibited an increase of beasts, but a decline of 900 sheep as compared with that of last week. Respecting quality there is a slight improvement to note in cattle, while sheep were about an average. The supply of beef comprised 1,554 head. The number of sheep was 3,690. Pigs: 1,190 were shown. Beasts, prime heifers, per stone, 9s 0d to 9s 3d; secondary sorts, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; good oxen, 8s 9d to 9s 0d; middling, 6s 0d to 7s 0d; cows and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; pork, large, 4s 6d to 5s 9d; do. small, 7s 0d to 8s 0d; sheep, good vendable welders, per lb., 9d to 9½d; middling, 7½d to 7¾d; ewes and inferior, 6¼d to 6¾d.

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW, Tuesday.—Old land hay, 65s to 104s; this year's growth, 55s to 80s; new land hay, 80s to 100s; this year's growth, 60s to 85s; wheat straw, 1s 5d to 1s 9d; barley straw, 1s 4d to 1s 7d; oat straw, 1s 5d to 1s 10d per thrave.

DURHAM PROVISION, Saturday.—Oats, 5s 0d to 7s 6d; barley, 7s 0d to 8s 6d; Indian corn, 7s 6d; beans, 10s to 11s 0d; peas, 9s 0d to 10s 0d per boll. Beef, 8d to 10½d; mutton, 8d to 10½d; veal, 9d to 10½d; bacon, 4d to 5½d; hams, 6d to 7d; cheese, 6d to 8d per lb. Chickens, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s 0d each; butter, 1s 5d to 1s 6d per lb.; eggs, 5 to 6 for 1s; pigeons, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per couple. Apples, 1s 3d to 2s 0d; onions, 1s to 2s 0d per stone. Grapes, 10d to 2s 0d per lb.

DURHAM POTATO, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

NEWCASTLE POTATO, Saturday.—Scotch potatoes, 8s 6d to 11s per load.

FITS.—EPILEPTIC FITS OR FALLING SICKNESS.—A certain method of cure has been discovered for this distressing complaint by a physician, who is desirous that all sufferers may benefit from this providential discovery. It is never known to fail, and will cure the most hopeless case after all other means have been tried. Full particulars will be sent by post to any person free of charge.—Address: Mr. WILLIAMS, 10, Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park, London. 307

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

CONSETT—At Green Street, on the 5th inst., the wife of Mr. J. Patterson, of a daughter.

TANFIELD—On the 19th ult., the wife of Mr. J. Dodd, of a son.

On the 1st inst., the wife of Mr. T. Robinson, of a daughter.

BIRTLEY—At Talbot Villa, on the 3rd inst., the wife of Mr. E. A. Tranah, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE—At the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. A. Latimer, Mr. J. Fox to Miss D. Young, both of Shotley Bridge.

LANCHESTER—At the Register Office, on the 30th ult., Mr. T. Hall, Quebec, to Miss M. Hunter, Consett. Same day, Mr. J. Scott, Cutlers' Hall, to Miss M. A. Whitfield, Blackhill.

HEXHAM—At the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on the 30th ult., by the Rev. T. Gill, Barnard Castle, Mr. J. Coates, Allendale Town, to Jane, eldest daughter of F. McKinney, Esq., Thorney Bank, Glasgow.

CHESTER-LE-STREET—At the Parish Church, on the 3rd inst., Mr. R. J. Coxon, Chester-le-Street, to Miss A. E. Sterling, Newcastle.

DARLINGTON—At St. Paul's Church, on the 25th ult., Mr. M. Marshall to Miss C. A. Willis, both of Darlington.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—At 9, Gibson Street, on the 30th ult., aged 73, Mrs. F. Richardson.

DIPTON—On the 1st inst., aged 63, Mrs. Isabella Wilkinson.

BIRTLEY—On the 29th ult., aged 73, Mr. Francis Meunim.

At Bewicke Main, on the 2nd inst., aged 33, Mr. John Rake.

WHICKHAM—On the 3rd inst., aged 3 years, Mary Arkless.

SWALWELL—On the 1st inst., aged 10 years and [illegible] months, Catherine Ann Beveridge.

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