Printed and Published by the Proprietor Robert Jackson, at his General Printing Works, Front Street, Consett, in the County of Durham

February ... Robert Jackson

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

A NEWSPAPER and ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Benfieldside, Blackhill, Consett, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, and District.

No. 375. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} CONSETT, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1868. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Wanted.

AGENTS WANTED (connected with Farmers) to represent COOPER & Co., Castle Folds, Sheffield.—First-class Commission. Send Stamped Address. 130

WANTED, by a Person who is qualified for all kinds of Farm-work, a SITUATION as Farm Bailiff or Head Hind. He could engage either now or at May.—Apply to Mr. R. J. PORTEUS, Printer, Benfieldside. 170

A BONUS OF £100.

WANTED, Active AGENTS for the business of the Annual Sale of Goods, in which every Subscriber receives full value for his money without any risk, besides ten chances of obtaining £100, £300, and £500. The Condition of Sale will be drawn by Counsel, and each Subscriber will have ten lots knocked down to him. The whole is of the value of £50,000, fully guaranteed. A Commissioner of the Court of Chancery will be present during the sale. All the announcements are copyright, and the Deposit Bank, Oxford, holds itself responsible to every Subscriber. Subscriptions, 10s. each.—Address, with directed envelope, Mr. ROBINSON, Manager, 65, Corn Market Street, Oxford. 164

SHOTLEY BRIDGE GAS COMPANY, LIMITED.

COLLECTOR WANTED.

THE DIRECTORS of the Shotley Bridge Gas Company (Limited) are prepared to receive Applications for the office of COLLECTOR of their Accounts.

Intending applicants can know the duties appertaining to the office on applying to the SECRETARY, who will receive applications of Candidates (stating Salary required, accompanied with Testimonials,) up to and including MARCH 2nd, 1868, after which time no application will be received.

Applicants to endorse their applications as follows: "Application for office of Collector."

By Order,
JOHN BELL,
Secretary.

Gas Office, Green Street,
Shotley Bridge, February 6th, 1868. 166

To Let.

TO LET, A HOUSE AND SHOP at Leadgate. Apply to JOHN DIXON, Sherburne Terrace, Consett; or to WILLIAM DIXON, Leadgate. 45

TO LET.

TO LET, and may be Entered upon Immediately, a HOUSE containing Five Rooms, pleasantly situated at Leadgate.—Apply to JOHN MURRAY & SONS, Grocers, Leadgate. 107

TO LET.

TO LET, and may be entered upon immediately, a HOUSE, at Leadgate.—Apply to Mr. GEO. HAWDON, Grocer, Leadgate. 124

TO LET, a DWELLING-HOUSE, situate at Cutlers' Hall, Benfieldside. The House contains Four Rooms with every convenience, and a good KITCHEN GARDEN attached.—Apply to Mr. EDWIN HARRISON, Consett Offices. 144

TO LET,

THE GROCER'S SHOP and HOUSE, at Catchgate, lately in the occupation of Mr. John Urwin, and may be entered upon at the February Term.—Apply to J. JACKSON, Bottle Bank, Gateshead. 152

TO BE LET, WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

ALL that large and convenient HOUSE, situate at Blackhill, lately occupied by Mr. Thos. W. Wright, as a Beerhouse. The House contains Seven excellent Rooms, one of which is 32ft. long, and can be divided if necessary; good Cellar, Stable, and other convenience. One of the Front Rooms has a good Shop Window. The House will be let either for a Shop or Beerhouse.

Apply to Mr. WM. RAW, Auctioneer and Commission Agent, Blackhill. 123

For Sale.

SAND FOR BUILDING PURPOSES

ON SALE at KYO SAND QUARRY, at 1s. 6d. per Load, ready money.—Apply to ROBERT HENDERSON, Blacksmith, on the ground. 40

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

A HOUSE and SHOP, with a Building Site attached, situate near the Library, at Blackhill.

Particulars may be known by applying to Mr. W. RAW, Auctioneer, Blackhill; or to Mr. J. COLLINSON, Consett. 136

HUNTER FOR SALE.

VALENTINE, BLACK-BROWN MARE, remarkably Handsome. Winner of Prizes at the Redcar (19 competitors), Stokesley, Northallerton, Hutton, Catterick, Darlington, Bedale, and other places; has been hunted with Her Majesty's Stag Hounds, and well known with the Hurworth Fox Hounds, and hunted by the present owner.

For Price and to view, apply to Mr. R. JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, Consett; or to Mr. B. WILLIS, *Guardian* Office, 65, Clayton Street, Newcastle. 33

Public Notices.

COPPER, in Five Shillings' Parcels, can be had in exchange for Silver and Gold at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 167

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

A BONA-FIDE MONEY SPECULATION of £12,000,000 sterling, Guaranteed by Government, is to be allotted in various sums upwards to £25,000. Any one, by investing £1, may obtain £25,000 sterling. For Prospectus (which will be sent gratis), apply by letter, addressed Mr. J. A. RINCK, 14, Duke Street, Adelphi, London, W.C. 131

NOTICE PREVIOUS TO SALE.

JOHN BATY,
PAWNBROKER,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to request those Parties who have Goods in Pledge to Redeem the same before his Auction Sale, which will be held shortly.

Consett, Jan. 15, 1868. 120

DERWENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

FINAL MEETING.

A MEETING of the Members of the above Society will be held in the MINERS' ARMS, HIGHGATE, on MONDAY EVENING, February 24th, from 7 to 8 o'clock, when the proceeds of the sale of the Society's Boxes, &c., will be divided amongst the Members.

Any Member failing to make their claim, at the place and time above stated, will be debarred from participating in the dividend.

By Order,
171 WILLIAM WILSON, SECRETARY.

GEORGE MUNRO,
GENERAL CARTMAN,
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

RESPECTFULLY announces that he has commenced Business as above, and hopes by punctual attention to all Orders entrusted to him, together with moderate charges, to merit publi support. 2

Public Notices.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1858.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ACT BY BENFIELDSIDE.

IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

WE, the undersigned, Churchwardens of the Ecclesiastical District or New Parish of Benfieldside, in the County of Durham, as Summoning Officers, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that the Local Government Act, 1858, was adopted within the said Ecclesiastical District or New Parish, on the 21st day of November, 1867, and that the said Act came into force within the said Ecclesiastical District, or New Parish, at the expiration of two months from the date of its adoption as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 3rd day of February, 1868.

JOHN BOOTH, JUN.
150 JOHN THIRLWELL.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT.

CONSETT DISTRICT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Accounts of this Board will be AUDITED on MONDAY, the Seventeenth day of February, 1868, at the OFFICE OF THE BOARD, in the TOWN HALL, in Consett aforesaid, at Half-past Eleven o'clock in the Forenoon.

A copy of the Accounts, together with all Rate-books, and other matters mentioned or referred to in the Accounts, will be deposited in the Office of the Local Board, in the Town Hall, aforesaid, and be open during office hours to the inspection of all persons interested, for seven days before the audit.

By Order,
JOHN ELLIOTT,
Clerk.

Consett, Jan. 24th, 1868. 122

SHOTLEY BRIDGE GAS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE DIRECTORS of this Company are prepared to receive TENDERS for EXCAVATING GROUND for Gas Pipes from SNOWS GREEN to MEDOMSLEY and DERWENT COLLIERIES.

Specifications may be seen on application to the MANAGER of the Works from Ten o'clock a.m. to Four o'clock p.m.

Sealed Tenders must be delivered at the Office of the Company on or before the 17th inst.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order,
JOHN BELL,
Secretary.

Gas Office, Green Street,
Shotley Bridge, February 6th, 1868. 165

WEST OF ENGLAND INSURANCE OFFICE, LEADGATE.

GEORGE HAWDON, AGENT.

MONEY.—LOANS Granted from £100 to £2,000 at 5 per cent., repayable over Three years, on Personal Security and Life Policy effected with the WEST OF ENGLAND INSURANCE COMPANY (Established 1807). Head Office—Exeter; London Office—New Bridge Street. 149

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

FREDERICK HOLLAND, HAIRDRESSER, Middle Street, Consett, in thanking his Friends and the Public for the support tendered to him for the four years he has been in business, begs to inform them that he will REMOVE, on SATURDAY, February 15th, 1868, to more commodious premises in FRONT STREET, next door to Mr. Ross, Tailor. 157

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1858.

CONSETT DISTRICT.

TO BE LET, the FINDING and SETTING of a Portion of KERB-STONE and CHANNEL in the MEDOMSLEY ROAD, Consett.

Specification and Conditions for the above work may be seen on application to the SURVEYOR, (after the 12th inst.,) at his house, Front Street, Consett, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., by whom Tenders will be received up to 12 o'clock at Noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 19th day of February, 1868.

By Order,
JOHN GLEDSTONE,
Surveyor and Inspector.

Consett, February 6th, 1868. 159

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

FIRE AND WATER.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the HOSE and REEL is in the custody of Mr. JOHN GLEDSTONE, Inspector to the Consett Local Board.

By Order,
JOHN ELLIOTT,
Clerk.

Consett Local Board Office,
February 5th, 1868. 155

SHOTLEY BRIDGE GAS COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all or any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry must first obtain the consent of the manager or other Officer of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default thereof, upon proof of the use of the Gas without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Persons will be prosecuted as the law directs.

By Order of the Directors,
JOHN BELL, Secretary.

Shotley Bridge, April 6th, 1867. 47

THOMAS ANDERSON,
BONESETTER,
LOW SPEN, WINLATON,

WILL, on and after February 22nd, attend Fortnightly at Mr. GEO. ROUTLEDGE'S, Commercial Inn, Consett, from Eleven o'clock till Four. T. A. was taught under Mr. ISAAC MILBURN, Bonesetter, upwards of 52 years standing. 24

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

Removed from Trafalgar Street, Consett, to Poplar Cottage, Shotley Bridge. 25

Education.

CLARENDON SCHOOL, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

JONATHAN C. WYLIE, MASTER.

MATHEMATICS, GRAMMAR, CLASSICS. 142

EDUCATION.

MRS. JOSEPH NICHOLSON begs to inform the Public that, in compliance with the request of several Friends, she has opened a SCHOOL at Ledger Terrace, Blackhill, on and trusts, by untiring energy, and a real interest in the welfare of her pupils, to gain a share of patronage.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

MUSIC. 109

Business Announcements.

A FEW PLAIN WORDS ABOUT TEA.

THOMAS CARRICK, TEA DEALER, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, was the first to introduce into this neighbourhood Cheap Tea for Hard Times, to meet the wants of the poor. Since then he has had many imitators, but no rivals: for his TWO SHILLINGS TEA is unrivalled in the district, and many new customers have said that it is as good as that which had cost them 3s. 6d. For those who want a wider range of choice, the following List is supplied:—2s., 2s. 6d., 2s. 8d., 3s., 3s. 4d., 3s. 6d., 3s. 8d., and 4s. per lb.

The FOUR SHILLINGS TEA is certainly the "cream of the bowl:" it is the admiration of all who take it, hence the demand is constantly increasing, proving that the price is nothing when the article is thoroughly good.

The TAEPING TEAS of this Season are confessedly the best imported. T. C. has received a Consignment from London, and they are now on sale.

Agent for THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE.
NOW ON HAND, THE CELEBRATED SHIELDS CURING SALT. 1

BUY your DRAPERIES, READY-MADE CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, &c.,

AT R. W. SHAW'S

DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENTS,

FRONT STREET,

CONSETT AND LEADGATE. 5

THE CHEAPEST DRAPERY GOODS IN THE COUNTY.

RARE heavy CALICOES, 2d. per yard; HARDENS, 3½d.; FLANNELS, 10½d., worth 1s. 2d.; a heavy Stock of WINCIES from 3d. to 2s. 6½d.; a Lot of STAYS, 1s. 11½d., usually sold at 3s.; FURS remarkably Cheap; all the Newest Styles in MANTLES; a large variety of SHAWLS; BLANKETS the best value in the North, from 12s. 6d.

Agents for McCLINTOCK'S PATENT TORALIUM QUILTS.

ROBERT HEDLEY & Co.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS AND OUTFITTERS,
BLACKHILL. 4

NONE XL WHERLEY'S CORNER SHOP, CONSETT, FOR CHEAP DRAPERY.

THE only Firm that buys all from Makers—O I C. The largest Stock of BOOTS in the Trade. 500 pairs of Men's Hand-sewn Boots to be cleared at once at 5s. 6d.; Cheap Leggings; Women's Boots from 2s. 3d.; Children's, from 11½d. 16

WATSON & RICHARDSON,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERS,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

HAVE on hand the Largest and Best assorted Stock of LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERIES in the District. 72

A GOOD INVESTMENT.

FORWARD TWENTY SHILLINGS to STEWARD, the Tea Dealer, and you will receive in return, carriage paid, Ten Pounds of the Cheapest TEA ever sold in England. Our profits will be so small on this Tea that it will not pay us to sell less than Ten Pounds. As a guarantee of the quality, we express our willingness to return the money should the customer not be satisfied. Should the quantity be too much for a small family, we suggest they should join with a friend. We are willing to put it up in such parcels as they may order. Post-office Orders to be made payable to

WILLIAM STEWART,
THE TEA DEALER,
33, GRAINGER STREET, 32, MOSLEY STREET, AND AT THE NEW BRANCH,
33, SANDHILL, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. 31

CONSETT FIRE BRICK WORKS, CONSETT, GATESHEAD

ALWAYS ON HAND, A LARGE STOCK OF

GLAZED PIPES.	TRUSSES.
CHIMNEY TOPS.	FERNERY STANDS.
CHIMNEY VENT LINING.	ORNAMENTAL VASES.
RIDGE TILES, PLAIN & ORNAMENTAL.	GARDEN BORDERS.
GLAZED SINK STONES.	GAS RETORTS.
DO. WATER-CLOSET PANS & TRAPS.	FIRE BRICKS, COMMON BRICKS, QUARLS, &c.

AND EVERY OTHER ARTICLE IN THE TRADE EXECUTED TO ORDER.

R. DICKINSON & CO., PROPRIETORS. 30

JOHN MILLING & Co.

PURCHASE their Goods of the Manufacturers direct, for prompt Cash, and Sell Cheaper than any House in the North of England.

JOHN MILLING & Co.'s All-Wool Flannel at One Shilling per yard is thoroughly stoved, and warranted not to shrink, and is Sold by the Trade at 1s. 4½d. per yard.

JOHN MILLING & Co., Nos. 20, 22, 24, 26, & 28, GRAINGER STREET,
Are the Largest and Best Stocked Drapery Premises within 250 miles of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

JOHN MILLING & Co.'s extensive Drapery Premises contain several Thousand more Feet of Connter Room than any House in the North of England, and can with ease and comfort wait upon One Thousand Five Hundred more Customers per Hour than any other Firm in Newcastle.

JOHN MILLING & Co.'s Stock of Dresses and Manchester Drapery Goods is the Largest, Cheapest and Best in the World.

☞ Note the Address—
JOHN MILLING & PARTNERS, Grainger Street (opposite Nun Street), Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 58

ESTABLISHED NEARLY A CENTURY.

WILSON BROTHERS,
FAMILY TEA AND ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN, PROVISION MERCHANTS, BACON CURERS, &c., &c.,
FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

PURVEYORS OF PRESERVED PROVISIONS,

Consisting of every requisite for the Breakfast, Luncheon, and Supper Tables, and Pic-nic Parties, prepared in the most Superior manner.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PICKLES AND SAUCES.
ITALIAN GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
BRITISH WINES.
THE FINEST DESSERT FRUITS AND BISCUITS IN GREAT VARIETY.

SOLE AGENTS IN THE DISTRICT FOR
PETER MOLLER'S COD LIVER OIL,
Which gained the Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition, against 17 competitors, and is the finest oil extant.
Highly recommended by the faculty. 88

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL STATIONER, LITHOGRAPHER, BOOKBINDER, &c.,
GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

EVERY description of LETTERPRESS PRINTING executed in the first style of typography, with accuracy and despatch, on the most reasonable terms.

SHOW CARDS, BUSINESS CARDS, CONTRIBUTION CARDS, and TICKETS of all kinds.
WEDDING CARDS, FUNERAL CARDS, and MOURNING CARDS.
PAMPHLETS, CLUB RULES, AUCTIONEERS' CATALOGUES, and REPORTS and RULES of Public Institutions and Societies.
PROGRAMMES, BOOKS OF WORDS, and CONCERT BILLS in the most approved styles.
BALANCE SHEETS, INVOICES, and DELIVERY NOTES.
HAND BILLS, POSTING BILLS, PLACARDS, and WINDOW BILLS, of all sizes, in black and coloured inks, executed in a bold and effective style.
CIRCULARS, LETTER HEADINGS, and ORDER NOTES.
SERMONS, LECTURES, and all kinds of BOOK WORK neatly and quickly executed.
CHEQUE BOOKS of all descriptions made to order.
TEA PAPERS, TOBACCO PAPERS, and CLOTH and PARCHMENT TALLIES.
LITHOGRAPHING and ENGRAVING.
BRASS and ZINC WINDOW and DOOR PLATES.
BOOKBINDING in all its Branches.
A large Supply of LEDGERS, DAY BOOKS, MINUTE BOOKS, and every variety of STATIONERY.

THE FOLLOWING ARE KEPT IN STOCK:—
OVERSEERS' COLLECTING AND DEPOSIT BOOKS.
HIGHWAY RATE BOOKS and HIGHWAY RATE RECEIPT BOOKS.
POOR RATE BOOKS and POOR RATE RECEIPT BOOKS. 9

Business Announcements.

GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL FLOUR DEALER, GROCER, DRAPER, & PROVISION MERCHANT,
HARPERLEY STEAM & WATER CORN MILL,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.

FINEST ENGLISH OILCAKE always on hand. 39

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL, near SHOTLEY BRIDGE, VIA GATESHEAD.

VALUATIONS MADE FOR PROBATE AND LEGACY DUTIES.

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

☞ All Orders attended to with care and punctuality.

EMIGRATION AGENT. 27

Business Announcements.

CONSETT PLUMBING AND GASFITTING ESTABLISHMENT.

JOHN R. SMITH,
PLUMBER AND GASFITTER,
SHERBURNE TERRACE, CONSETT,

BEGS to return his sincere thanks to his Friends and the Public generally for the support so liberally accorded to him since commencing Business, and respectfully solicits their future patronage.

Orders promptly attended to, and executed on the most moderate terms. 10

GARDEN SEEDS AND BULBOUS ROOTS.

GEORGE BOWE, GARDENER AND SEEDSMAN, Victoria Street, Consett, respectfully announces that he has just received a Large Supply of GARDEN & FLOWER SEEDS of the Best Quality.

Also, on hand a Stock of EARLY ROUND and KIDNEY POTATOES, EARLY and LATE CABBAGE PLANTS, GLADIOLI ROOTS, &c.

Agent for the Prudential Insurance Company. 163

Public Notices.

NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

TO FARMERS, BUTCHERS, AND ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

A MEETING will be held at the house of Mr. D. BRANNIGAN, Derwent Hotel, Blackhill, on THURSDAY, the 27th instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to take into consideration the best means of forming a FAT STOCK MARKET at Blackhill.

Blackhill, February 11th, 1868. 173

NOTICE.

JOSEPH BARRON

IN returning thanks to the Public for the liberal support he received while Coach Proprietor, begs leave to inform the Tradesmen and the Public generally of Leadgate, Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, and surrounding villages, that he has made arrangements with the North Eastern Railway Company to

CARRY GOODS

Of all kinds to BENFIELDSIDE STATION,

Commencing on TUESDAY February, 11th 1868.

And for the better accommodation of the Public, he will run a trap every TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNING, from Mr. HETHERINGTON'S, Leadgate, at Half-past Seven, calling at Mr. R. MURRAY'S Consett, and Mr. J. BECKWITH'S Blackhill, and arriving at Mrs. BROWN'S, Shotley Bridge, at Half-past Eight, to meet the Nine o'clock Train at Shotley Bridge Station, and will collect Orders and small Parcels on the route, and at the above inns.

Small parcels of importance, marked "special," sent to the Durham House, Cloth Market, Newcastle, will be delivered the same night, and heavy goods the following morning. Heavy Goods to be sent to the Trafalgar Goods Station. According to his arrangements he will be able to deliver goods at a reasonable rate, and trusts to gain liberal support. 161

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Henry Brown.

SALE OF DRAPERIES AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

MR. H. BROWN, AUCTIONEER.

MR. COWEY'S ANNUAL SALE OF DRAPERIES, at ANNFIELD PLAIN, will take place on FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and MONDAY, February 14th, 15th, and 17th, 1868; also, on FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and MONDAY, February 21st, 22nd, and 24th.

Sale to commence each Evening at Six o'clock. 156

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

FOR SALE.

FREEHOLD PUBLIC-HOUSE AT CASTLESIDE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

(By order of the Mortgagee, under a power of Sale,)
At the house of Mrs. BROWN, Wheat Sheaf Inn, Shotley Bridge,
On MONDAY, the 17th day of February, 1868,
At Four o'clock in the Afternoon precisely.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, AUCTIONEER,

A FREEHOLD PUBLIC-HOUSE, known as the "Smelters' Arms," situate at Castleside, with the Land and Outbuildings connected therewith, formerly belonging to, and occupied by, NICHOLAS POTTS, and now in the occupation of Mr. WALTON as tenant thereof.

For further Particulars, apply to Messrs. ALLAN and DAVIES, Solicitors, 23, Grainger Street, Newcastle. 154

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

AT MAIDEN LAW, NEAR LANCHESTER,
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1868,
ALL THE
FARMING STOCK,
FARM IMPLEMENTS, HAY, CORN AND TURNIPS;
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,
DAIRY UTENSILS, BLACKSMITH'S TOOLS, &c.,
(Belonging to Mr. J. MARTIN, who is declining Farming.)

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, AUCTIONEER.

COMPRISING 2 Draught Horses, 1 Milch Cow (near calving), 2 1½ years old Steers, 1 yearling Heifer Stirk, 1 Sow (in Pigs), 1 Fat Pig, 3 Geese and Gander, 3 Ducks, 13 Hens, 1 light Waggon, 1 long Cart, 2 Coup do., 1 pair of Cart Shilvings, 1 Stone Coup, large Wood Roller, Turnip Drill and Roller, 3 Iron Ploughs, Double-Mouldboard Plough and Scuffler, 1 pair of Lap Harrows, 2 pairs of Joint Harrows, 1 Scrubber, Winnowing Machine, 4 Ladders, 3 sets of Cart Harness, 2 do. Plough Gears, Cart and other Ropes, 6 Cow Bands, Aberdeen and other Scythes, a lot of Grapes, Forks, Rakes, Shovels, Hoes, and Hacks, 4 Pig Troughs, Wheelbarrow, a lot of Scantlings, with all the Household Furniture and Dairy Utensils, 1 Stack of well-won old and new land Hay, 1 Stack of Oats. A quantity of Turnips will be sold in lots to suit Purchasers, together with the eatage of the Grass Land upon the Farm.

The BLACKSMITH'S TOOLS include 1 Blacksmith's Bellows and Anvil, a number of Stocks and Dies, Fore and Hand Hammers, Punches, Tongs, &c., &c.; also a lot of old and new Iron.

Sale to commence at One o'clock precisely. 169

By Mr. John Jenkins.

EXTENSIVE SALE OF FREEHOLD PROPERTY.

MR. J. JENKINS

Is instructed by Mr. RICHARDSON THOMPSON to
SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
At the house of Mr. PHILIP BENNISON, Victoria Hotel, Consett,
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1868,
At Four o'clock in the Afternoon, all that
Substantial and Well-built
FREEHOLD PROPERTY
Situate at Mount Pleasant, Consett.

THE PROPERTY consists of FIVE FOUR-ROOMED COTTAGES, one with an Excellent Cellar, suitable for a BEERHOUSE or SHOP, with a Two Stalled Stable, Joiner's Shop, and Other Conveniences.

The Property is worthy of the attention of Speculators, being convenient to the new road between Consett and Blackhill Station, and very recently built. Also, FIVE FREEHOLD COTTAGES situate in Thomas Street, Consett, with Two Rooms each, and other conveniences, now in the occupation of STEPHEN LOCKERN and others, and will be Sold without the Slightest Reserve. The Cottages are in Good Repair and Excellent Tenants.

The Property can be shown on application to Mr. RICHARDSON THOMPSON, Gateshead; or to the AUCTIONEER, Trafalgar Street Sale-room, Consett. 148

By Mr. John James.

SALE OF DRAPERY GOODS.

MR. JOHN JAMES, AUCTIONEER,

WILL offer for SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION, on MONDAY, February 17th, 1868, at his NEW SALE-ROOM, Leadgate, a quantity of DRAPERY GOODS.

Sale to commence at 1·30. 172

Business Announcements.

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINET-MAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to call the attention of Parties furnishing and the Public generally to his Stock of FURNITURE, including Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, Feathers, Flocks, Rabbit Down, Looking-Glasses, &c., together with a general assortment of IRONMONGERY GOODS.

PAPER HANGINGS AT MODERATE PRICES.
FURNITURE DELIVERED FREE OF EXPENSE AT ANY REASONABLE DISTANCE.

LIGHT! LIGHT!! LIGHT!!!
PARAFFIN, OIL AND LAMPS.

The New SUCCESS LAMP is adapted to all household purposes, and will be found useful, and economical. A supply of Oil for the above. 11

MR. E. BURTON,
DEALER IN PIANOFORTES AND HARMONIUMS
PIANOFORTES
Direct from the best London and Parisian Makers.
PIANOFORTES AND HARMONIUMS
To Suit all Classes of Purchasers.
Lists of all Kinds of Brass Band Instruments on application.
PIANOFORTES, &c.,
Tuned, Repaired, or Taken in Exchange.
SHEET MUSIC, Newest at Half-price.
Residence:—POPLAR COTTAGE, SHOTLEY BRIDGE. 26

DAVID IMRIE,
DRUGGIST, GROCER, CONFECTIONER, AND HARDWAREMAN,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

RETURNS his sincere thanks for the liberal patronage he has received since his coming amongst the good people of Consett, and begs to assure his Friends that he shall still endeavour to merit their favour by supplying only Goods of the Best Quality and at Moderate Prices.

LICENSED DEALER IN BRITISH WINES.

⁂ Always on hand a very large Assortment of PAPER-HANGINGS at all Prices.

N.B.—Depot of the British and Foreign Bible Society. 19

NEW CONFECTIONERY ESTABLISHMENT.

T. ROWE & SONS,
CONFECTIONERS,

RESPECTFULLY announce to their Friends and the Public generally that they have opened the Premises

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

(Lately occupied by Mr. T. POTTS,) with a large Assortment of CONFECTIONERY, ORNAMENTAL CAKES, FRUIT LOAF, &c., and hope by strict attention to all Orders entrusted to their care, to merit Public support. 66

V. R.

THE VICTORIA PROTECTION SOCIETY AND DEBT COLLECTING OFFICES,
5, STATION TERRACE, DARLINGTON.
MANAGER—MR. WM. PLACE.

THIS Society has now more than 400 Members, and possesses every facility for causing speedy settlement of the worst Debts. Agents of tested ability are appointed in almost every town. Members are entitled to many advantages besides having their Accounts collected, viz.:—Legal Advice, Loans of Money when in difficulty, their Books Audited, and they can have Composition Deeds, Bills of Sale, Marriage Settlements, &c., prepared at a moderate charge. A Register of doubtful Debtors is filed at the head office. Every month a "Mercantile Gazette" is published giving a list of the Bills of Sale, Judges' Orders, Cognovits Registered each Month, and a leading article upon matters interesting to commercial enterprise. The Society has every facility for obtaining the Addresses of runaway Debtors.

	£	s.	d.
Annual Subscriptions to Debt collecting Department (including facilities)	1	1	0
Monthly Gazette (delivered)	0	7	6

Testimonials, References, and every Information, upon applying to the Manager.

AGENT FOR CONSETT—
MR. GEORGE DAWSON, Stationer, Blackhill.
AGENT FOR WOLSINGHAM AND TOWLAW—
MR. E. F. WALLACE, Schoolmaster, Satley. 86

DOWNIE'S
LIFE PRESERVING PILLS,
UNIVERSAL HEALING OINTMENT,
ITALIAN COUGH BALSAM, and
INFANTS' TEETHING CORDIAL

WILL Purify the Blood, Heal all Sores and Diseases of the Skin, and remove all Complaints of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs. They never fail.—Give them a trial, and prove for yourself.

DOWNIE'S INFANTS' TEETHING CORDIAL
Is the only Medicine fit for Infants—try it!

Prepared only by HENRY DOWNIE & Co., Wholesale Chemists, 43 and 44, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Sold by P. Brown, Druggist, Shotley Bridge; D. Imrie, Druggist, Consett; John Reed, Lanchester; Watson Smith, Leadgate; W. Smith, J. Robinson, and J. Hillary, Grocers, Towlaw; W. Barkas, Blackhill; and of all Chemists, in Boxes, Pots, and Bottles, at 1s. 1½d, 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each.

Extraordinary CURES by DOWNIE'S MEDICINES.

Thomas Brown, smith, Fatfield, was completely cured of a frightfully bad leg of 30 years' standing.—January 14th, 1867.

John Brabban, North Biddick, Washington, was completely cured of a bad leg of 13 years' standing.—January 30th, 1867.

Joseph Armstrong, Gosforth, was cured of a sore lip of two years' duration.—October 13th, 1866.

Mrs. E. Bell, of West Cramlington, was cured of bad legs of 11 years' standing.—April 19th, 1865.

Mr. Robert Dixon, Chester-le-Street, Durham, says Downie's Pills and Balsam completely cured his wife of Asthma and difficulty of Breathing of many years' standing. 34

IMPORTANT TO ALL.

NEW WORK BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE PEOPLE'S GUIDE TO HEALTH," &c.

DR SMITH, who has had TWENTY YEARS' Practical Experience in the Treatment and Cure of NERVOUS and PHYSICAL DEBILITY, LOSS OF APPETITE, PAINS IN THE BACK, INDIGESTION, ERRORS OF YOUTH, SPERMATORRHŒA, &c., has just published a NEW EDITION of 10,000 Copies of the WARNING VOICE, or Private Medical Friend. (138 Pages.)

This Work contains his highly-successful and only safe treatment, and is illustrated with hundreds of cases and testimonials from patients with plain directions for perfect restoration to health. Sent post-free to any address, secure from observation, on receipt of two postage stamps.

Letters, with details of case, promptly answered.

☞ Address, "DR. SMITH, 8 Burton Crescent, London, W.C." 36

INSTANT CURE OF TOOTH-ACHE. Bunter's Nervine gives immediate and permanent relief in ordinary tooth-ache. It also forms a stopping, and saves the tooth, thus rendering extraction unnecessary. It does not injure the other teeth.

From the Medical Testimonials received, the following are selected:—

From J. Hounsell, Esq., Surgeon, Bridport, Dorsetshire.—"I consider BUNTER'S NERVINE a specific for tooth-ache. Very severe cases under my care have found instantaneous and permanent relief. I therefore give my testimony of having used it with invariable success, and recommend its use to the profession and the public as invaluable to all who suffer from tooth-ache.

From E. Smith, Esq., Surgeon, Sherston, near Cirencester.—"I have tried BUNTER'S NERVINE in many cases of severe tooth-ache, and in every instance permanent relief has been obtained; I therefore strongly recommend it to the public."

Ask for "BUNTER'S NERVINE; it may be had of any chemist, at 1s. 1½d. per packet, or post-free for 15 stamps from J. R. COOPER, Chemist, Maidstone. 35

Late Advertisements.

EDUCATION.

MISS KELL

ANNOUNCES to her Friends and the Public that she intends commencing to Teach READING, ARITHMETIC, PLAIN and FANCY NEEDLEWORK, &c., on MONDAY, February 17th, in MELBOURNE STREET, Consett.

Terms can be had on application. 168

SALE OF VALUABLE DRAPERY GOODS, CLOTHS, &c., FOR TWO DAYS ONLY.

MR. WILLIAM RAW will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION on SATURDAY and MONDAY, the 15th and 17th of February, 1868, at the shop adjoining Mr. Moore's, Front Street, Blackhill, a Valuable Consignment of GENERAL DRAPERY GOODS consisting of Blankets, Quilts, Rugs, Sheets, Shirting, Skirting, Ready-Made Shirts, Toweling, Scarfs, Braces, Winceys, Alpacas, &c., &c. Also, a variety of Tweeds and Doeskins.

Sale to commence precisely at Six o'clock on SATURDAY EVENING, and at Two o'clock on MONDAY Afternoon, and Six o'clock in the Evening.

Sale Office Front Street, Blackhill,
Feb. 14, 1868. 174

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.,
(Belonging to Mr. WILLIAM WATT and Others,)
FOR SALE BY AUCTION,
On TUESDAY, the 18th February, 1868,
At Mr. BROWN'S SALE-ROOMS, Market Street, Consett

MR. H. BROWN, AUCTIONEER.

COMPRISING Clocks, Beds, Mattresses, Tables, Chairs, Mirror, 1 Perambulator, Joiner's Tools, 1 Spring Cart (not quite complete), Birds and Cages, Flour, Forms, Stools, Crockery Ware, with a variety of other Articles.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock. 175

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

The SCALE of CHARGES for ADVERTISEMENTS in the *Consett Guardian* is as under:—

1 to 4 lines	1s. 0d.
5 lines	1s. 3d.
6 lines	1s. 6d.

and 3d. per line for every additional line.

Advertisements inserted for *four* consecutive weeks are subject to a deduction of 25 per cent. on the above charges. Advertisements for longer periods specially arranged for.

*** Persons sending Advertisements in manuscript may calculate *seven* words to a line.

While we use our utmost endeavours to insert advertisements on the dates ordered, we cannot guarantee that this will be done. Great care is also used to secure the correct printing of advertisements, but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies, or for any consequences arising therefrom.

Our advertising friends are requested to favour us with their orders not later than Thursday evening.

Owing to the great inconvenience and expense in collecting Advertisement Accounts, Advertisers at a distance are requested to forward payment with their orders according to the above scale of charges. Sums under 10s. may be paid with Postage Stamps; above that sum, by Post-Office Order, payable to ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

NOTICE.

Tickets of admission to the various places of amusement lectures, dinners, and all places open to the members of the press, should be forwarded, if possible, at least two days before the meetings are to take place. All communications in respect thereof to be addressed to the Editor of the *Consett Guardian*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of annonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications, unless called for within fourteen days after our receiving them, or upon application by letter enclosing the necessary number of postage stamps.

Our correspondents, in order to insure the insertion of their communications, are requested to forward them so as to reach this office not later than Thursday morning, and to write on *one side* of the paper only.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

J.M.—On referring to last week's issue you will find the announcement.

"Our Tom" next week.

FAIRPLAY.—Your communication is unavoidably held over till next week.

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1868.

LABOUR—EMIGRATION.

DURING the present century of our country's progress, the question of labour has been, and is the fertile theme, not only of the political economists of the press, but of the orators of every school—from the floor of the House of Commons, to the stages and tubs of stumping adventurers. Yet so far from the question suffering exhaustion from such multitudinous floods of talk, it is yet as lively as a cork in a deluge, and stirs the thought of England at the present day more than at any past period of our political life. No longer limited to the select circle of literary economists, as ADAM SMITH, MALTHUS, GODWIN, OWEN, and JOHN MILL, it is in our day the foremost question with every society of skilled workmen in England. Of its intense interest to our industrial orders, the late "speeches" of our local workmen for the JOSEPH "prize" in Newcastle were a sufficient indication. And although the limitation of these speeches to the question of "strikes and their remedies" to some extent narrowed the expression of distinct economic views, the speeches as a whole, were an index of the tendency of industrial thought towards co-partneries, or co-operation.

In looking over these several addresses, and bearing in mind the depressed condition of industry during the past two years, and its depressed condition at the present, we were somewhat disappointed at the absence of any suggestion for the early or immediate diminution of the surplus labour which floods our markets, and of necessity drags down the value of the labourer. For admitting that co-partneries, or any other forms of co-operation, would remove the proximate causes of strikes, by identifying the interests of employer and employed, we think there is a fallacy in supposing, that consequent upon the removal of strikes the regeneration of labour would follow. If the industries of the empire were co-partneries to-morrow, would such organizations command or guarantee a continuous influx of trade, upon which alone the happiness of the workman depends? Would they command increased orders from the home or foreign consumer, when such orders would not be contemplated under present arrangements? Would they remove that competition in the labour market which ever results in diminished profits, and necessarily in diminished wages?

Where a perennial increase of population is ever pressing upon the means of national existence, and upon the already overstocked labour market, would co-partneries increase the means of existence, and increase the demand for labour, in a ratio to the continued influx of population? We fear not. In fact, although convinced that such organizations of labour and capital, would to a great extent prevent strikes, and their constant calamities, we are unable to see how such organizations would *create* labour, any more than our prerelations of employer and employed. Yet if in this they are powerless, then however much strikes may be diminished, the same keen competition, the same flux and reflux, the same stagnations would ensue, and result as heretofore, in diminished comforts, in a ratio to ebbing trade. We submit that such organizations are a wide step in the direction of the salvation of labour; a step which will ultimately result in the social brotherhood of humanity. But in the meantime, thousands are in the gripe of absolute want, perishing in fact, in the midst of a maximum of production and a minimum of labour.

To meet that continued pressure of unemployed labour, some more immediate outlet is necessary, than theories of co-operation; and we fancy that outlet is not far to seek. In emigration to our colonies, or more readily to America, the surplus labour of Europe has ever found a wide and rich field for its energies. Of all that we have ever known to make the venture with determination, we have known none to fail in carving for themselves smiling fortunes. And however much home-sick sentimentalists, and gew-gaw rhymers may vapour about "native earth," "glorious charters," and "true born Englishman," such vapoury twing-twang is a wretched satisfaction to the cravings of hunger. In the outlet of emigration only, do we see an alluring field for our unemployed labour, and in taking early advantage of that outlet do we see true wisdom on the part of the young generation, whose lives hangs on their industry. Far away yonder on the prairies of the American continent lie smiling summer lands, fair and rich as the Edens of the past. For thousands of miles down the boundless watersheds of the Mississippi, the Hudson, and the Missouri, lie green forests, rich plains and fertile valleys, laden with all the elements of a people's wealth. From the distant Colorado on the Californian west, to the sunny slopes of the eastern Ohio, sleep millions of acres, awaiting the arm of labour to spring up into happy homes for you and your posterity. Thousands have gone before you, and from a life of penury and privation in England, have earned for themselves homes crowned with ancient woods, and encircled with golden corn. Millions have gone, and yet on that wide continent the cry is for millions more. To young, true-hearted Englishmen, whose future is dependent on their labour, we would say—stay not in England, where an ever increasing population is diminishing your chance in the grim struggle for life. Stay not where the shadow of want ever stands upon the threshold. Stay not to discuss dreamy theories of organization, which, however good in themselves, will take years to formulate, and reduce to practice. Linger not in the futile hope that in our day, in England, the condition of labour will be such, as to guarantee the happiness of you and of your children. Look back upon the past quarter of a century, its stagnations, its struggles, its ever recurring penuries and privations, and in doing so, think of past comrades, who during that time have made their homes in America and in the Canadas. Ask yourselves who have thriven the most? which of you are now reaping the sweeter harvest of your labour? you, or they? We pause not for your reply.

On yonder mighty continent, breathing an atmosphere of freedom, lie the happy destinies of labour's future. Go then, in your thousands, there is room for all; go for your own sakes, and for the sakes of those grown grey in the labour market, and whose short future *must be* in England. For the sake of that England which we all love, but at whose table you are surplus guests,—go and fear not. Go where a smiling land, and future comforts, await you; go where the wife of your love's young dream may never have her smile darkened by the fear of poverty; go where in the coming years, your children leavened with the spirit of their fathers, may, beneath vine and fig tree, eat the bread, and wear the crown of labour's independence.

Local and District News.

A CATTLE MARKET FOR BLACKHILL.—We understand that a movement is on foot for the establisment of a fat stock market at Blackhill, and that a public meeting will be held shortly for to take into consideration the best means for establishing the same.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.—A finance committee meeting of the Lanchester Highway Board was held in the Justice-room, Lanchester, on Thursday last, Major Joicey presiding. The balance in the hand of the treasurer amounted to £403 10s. 10d. Pay-bills amounting to £82 0s. 8d. were ordered to be paid, and a cheque for the amount was handed to the surveyor. The following letter from the auditor, James Radford, Esq., was also read:—

Durham and Northumberland Audit District,
Gateshead, January 29th, 1868.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Lanchester Highway Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I have audited the accounts of your Highway Board for the past year, and signed general statement so that the same might receive the chairman's signature and be sent to the Home Secretary as required by law.

The books and accounts were forwarded in fair order, particularly since March last, and there has been a progressive improvement in the surveyor's books. His ledger has been very carefully made up.

I have to report favourably as to the clerk's book, though they are not upon such a scale as he himself approves of. They might, I think, be simplified, and the ledger put more upon the principle of double entry than it is. I shall be glad to consult with Mr. Maynard as to this.

A new bond is in course of preparation for the treasurer in consequence of increase of salary, which is proper. One of the sureties, I understand, is dead, so a new bond will be required for him.

I am, gentlemen,
Very faithfully yours,
JAMES RADFORD.

THE LIZARDS AND BURNHOPE COLLIERIES.—We are glad to learn that Messrs. Dormand and partners have succeeded in getting coal at the depth of a few fathoms from the surface at the Lizards colliery, about half-a-mile from Lanchester. The coal is stated to be of excellent quality, and the seam is, we understand, 4ft. 10in. in thickness, and 1ft. 1in. of splint at the bottom. The works are making rapid progress. At Burnhope colliery, Messrs. Soulsby and Company have, after a determined and energetic struggle with the water, where the skill and talent of Mr. Elsdon (head sinker) and Mr. Lee (the company's head engineer) has been tried to the uttermost in order to beat the heavy flow of water without putting in the pumps, which would have cost the company a large sum of money extra. The busty seam has been reached at a depth of 80 fathoms, measuring in thickness above 6 feet, though a thick band of the present shaft cuts off about 2 feet of the thickness, but still leaving a good workable seam. The present seam is intended for pumping out the water where a powerful engine has been substantially erected by Messrs. Joicey and Company, and the working shaft is under the superintendance of the present viewer (Mr. Gray) at Burnhope Colliery. The outcrop of the Pontop coalfield in the Lanchester valley, and the heavy "vein" or "trouble" running through the village of Lanchester, besides many smaller ones, has made the ventures in this district most hazardous and uncertain, while on the hills south of Lanchester is the in-putting of the Bishop Auckland coalfield. M. Kearney, Esq., of the Ford, is also, we hear, about to make borings to prove the coal on his estate; so let us hope that trade and these speculations will turn out to enrich and give a fair profit to the undertakers.—*Correspondent.*

JOHN BLENKINSOPP Coulson, Esq., of Blenkinsopp Castle, was sworn in, on the 6th inst., as High Sheriff of Northumberland; Mr. Edward Leadbitter, solicitor, of Newcastle, has also taken his oath of office as Under Sheriff.

TAILORS' NEW TIME-LOG.—The master tailors and their workmen in this district have during the past few days met and consulted together on the subject of a new time-log. The result has been so satisfactory that the new rules come into operation on Monday next.

PONTOP CATTLE SALE.—On Wednesday, Messrs. Murray held their monthly cattle sale, when above 50 milch cows were sold at prices ranging from £7 to £16, and about 50 heifers and bullocks at from £3 to £9 a head. There was a large company, the bidding was brisk, and nearly all were sold. The entire proceeds, with the fat stock sale on Monday, amounted to upwards of £1,000.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—PRESENTATION TO THE INCUMBENT.—On Friday night, an influential meeting was held in the Town Hall, Bishop Auckland, which was crowded to inconvenience, the occasion being to present an address and a library of books to the Rev. G. H. Wilkinson, the retiring incumbent, for his new appointment as incumbent of St Peter's, Great Windmill Street, London.

THE ALLEGED ATTEMPTED RAPE UPON A SERVANT GIRL.—On Monday, at the Bishop Auckland Police Court, William Graham, landlord of the Black Boy Inn, Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland, was charged on remand, by Elizabeth Jeff, his servant girl, with indecently assaulting her in his house, on Tuesday morning last. The offence was reduced to that of an assault, and Graham was fined £5 and costs.

A THIEF COMMITTED AT DURHAM.—William Jackson, a ragged-looking young fellow, was brought before the Durham borough magistrates on Monday, charged with stealing a metal pan, the property of Thomas Hull, residing in Hallgarth Street, in that city, on Saturday. He pleaded guilty, and was committed to gaol for two months.

THE HEALTH OF DR. RENTON.—We are glad to be able to contradict the rumour so current in the neighbourhood on Thursday, as to the health of our respected neighbour, Dr. John Renton. We understand that, although Mr. Renton will not be able to cross the threshold of his door until the return of more genial weather, he is somewhat better than in the beginning of the week.

"STAR OF HOPE" DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—A public meeting was held under the above Order on Saturday evening last, in the Temperance Hall, Benfieldside. Addresses were delivered by Bros. George Lowes, P.W.P. (Chairman); Thomas Harvey, C.; and Isaac Unsworth. Melodies were sung by several of the lady visitors. At the close of the meeting four signed the pledge.

SERIOUS ASSAULT ON A WOMAN AT CONSETT.—On Thursday afternoon a person named Peter McKenna, beerhouse-keeper and shoemaker, residing in Middle Street, Consett, committed a most violent assault on his wife, by knocking her down and kicking her savagely. Inspector Thompson was promptly on the spot and apprehended McKenna, who was brought before A. Town, Esq. this morning (Friday), and remanded until Monday.

THE CONSETT IRONWORKS IN FULL OPERATION.—The workmen employed at the Consett Ironworks last week worked *full* time. The works were commenced at half-past twelve o'clock on Sunday night, and continued with but trifling stoppages up to half-past eleven on the following Saturday evening. The object, we understand, was to ascertain how much finished material could be turned out in the time, and, we hear that the trial has fully realised their most sanguine expectations.

FUNERAL SERMON AT CORBRIDGE.—On Sunday an eloquent and most impressive funeral sermon was preached in the Corbridge Church, by the Rev. Dr. Butler, in which he feelingly alluded to the late Mr. John Grey. The rev. gentleman took his text from the fourth chapter of the Epistle of St. James, 14th verse. He first spoke of the instability of human life, but showed that its instability did not prevent the lives of good men being beautiful, noble, and honourable, and spent usefully in the service of God and man.

DARING ROBBERY BY A SERVANT GIRL.—A young woman named Margaret Stewardson, 19 years of age, has been captured by P.C. Harrison at Shildon, charged with having committed a most daring robbery at Spital. It appeared the girl had been living with Mr. Atkinson, at the Spital Hotel, Stainmoor, and on Sunday night, the 2nd inst., about 12 o'clock had gone to her master's bedroom, when he and the mistress were in bed asleep, and had rifled his pocket of £5 10s. She had been missed from her bed by a fellow-servant, who slept with her, and next morning when the master got up he missed his money. Information was given to the police, and the girl was afterwards apprehended at Shildon with the money in her possession. She has been brought before the magistrates at Richmond, and committed for trial at Northallerton. The girl, after being convicted, confessed to her mistress to having taken the money.

APPREHENSION OF A POACHER.—On Monday, a man named Thomas Todd was consigned to Durham Goal to undergo a term of two months' imprisonment, inflicted on him by the Lanchester magistrates in July last. The prisoner, who belongs to South Hylton, and is respectably connected, was apprehended by P.C. Thomas Woodward early on the morning of the 1st June last, while poaching in the river Brownie, in company with another man named Robert Richardson, belonging to Pity Me. The usual proceedings were taken against the men before the Lanchester magistrates, but Todd did not answer the summons. The pair were fined £5 and costs each, and Todd failing to present himself, a warrant was taken out against him, and placed in the hands of P.C. Christon, who apprehended Todd in a public-house in Newcastle, on Saturday night, and placed him in "durance vile" as stated.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT ON THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.—On Saturday evening a serious accident occurred on the Berwick section of the North-Eastern system. A goods guard, named Andrew Martin, aged 25, living at Gateshead, was assisting in bringing an empty passenger train to Newcastle from the North. At Cramlington Station he was seen upon the platform with a lamp in his hand, but upon those at the Central Station entering his van, upon its arrival, he was missing. Search was made, and he was found lying in a state of insensibility upon the top of one of the third-class carriages. His head was very much injured, and he was taken to the Infirmary. It is presumed that he had been walking along the tops of the carriages, to get into one of the first-clas or second-class carriages for warmth, when he was caught by one of the archways which span the railway, and so injured.

A PREACHER AT SEA.—A short time ago, one of those "local" storm-havens, who delight to set "ographics," "ologies," and Lindley Murray equally at defiance, was holding forth at a village not a hundred miles from Wark—and, barring his geography, evidently a good *Warkman*. The subject of his discourse was Jonah in the whale's belly. After describing in the most highly elaborated strains of pity, poetry, and pathos, the miseries endured by the truthful but obstinate prophet in being tumbled and tossed about in the maw of the "great fish" for "three days and three nights," and his being at length "spued out again" upon *terra firma*, with the "hard rock for his couch and the seaweed for his pillow," the whole fabric of his sublime vision was demolished, and the effects of his gushing eloquence destroyed by the following untoward *finale*, and "right glad was the prophet, no doubt, to find himself once more on the blessed, solid shores of old England!"—*Hexham Courant.*

LOCAL BANKRUPT.—At the Newcastle Court on Wednesday, C. Pringle, Jarrow, innkeeper and grease manufacturer, Tanfield, appeared for last examination and discharge. Mr. Boustfield appeared on behalf of the bankrupt, Mr. T. Hoyle for the assignee, and Mr. Brignall for the two creditors. The bankrupt was examined by Mr. Brignall. He said he borrowed £500 in October, 1865, from Thos. Swinney, of Lumley; £66 in September, 1866, from John Swinney; and £30 in January, 1867, from Robert Swinney. He put the money into the grease manufactory and the beerhouse. He had only about £10 of his own money. He purchased a gold watch for about £10, but not with Swinney's money. His wife also had a gold watch. The watches were parted with before November last. His wife got the watches before November, but she did not tell him to whom she sold them, or how much she got for them. He took no knives or forks from the house, or table or bed linen. Mrs. Pringle was next examined, and after some unwillingness on her part, and after being reminded by the Commissioner that he could commit her, she stated that she pawned the two gold watches and guards at Robins', in Pilgrim Street. [She gave up the pawn-tickets for the watches and several other articles.] She took neither table nor bed linen away from the house. Swinney took many things away which were not at the sale. Thomas Swinnay was also examined. He said he lent the bankrupt £500 which he had earned in New Zealand. He got neither knives, forks, nor linen from the bankrupt's house. One night he stayed at the bankrupt's house, and a "clean sweep" was made with some bed linen. An adjournment was granted to enable the bankrupt to amend his statement.

A movement has been set on foot to build a steeple and peal of bells for the parish church at Willington, near Durham.

THE EXPLOSION OF GUNPOWDER AT SCOTSWOOD.—The young man named Edward Parkinson, who was injured by the explosion of gunpowder which took place at the house of Mr. Minto, the Sportsman Inn, Scotswood, died at the residence of his father, near Shiney Row, on Saturday last, from the effects of the injuries received.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COLLIERY.—To-day (Friday) an accident, resulting in the death of a person named William Johnson, residing in Front Street, Consett, occurred at South Medomsley Colliery (High Stables). It appears deceased was engaged in "tipping" clay for the waggons, and by some means he had placed his head between the coup of the waggon and the wheel, the result was that when he had pulled down the coup it came upon his head, and killed him on the spot. Deceased leaves a widow and family to mourn his loss.

ANOTHER FORTUNE TELLER.—On Wednesday, a young woman (a daughter of the man, James Wilson, who was remanded on Monday by the Durham borough magistrates) was charged before the Durham county magistrates with obtaining a shawl from a pitman's wife at Shincliffe, under false pretences. The prosecutrix in this case did not press the charge, and the prisoner had to be discharged. It is apparent, however, that at the latter end of last week the young woman and her father had fleeced the pitmen of Shincliffe of a round sum by telling their fortunes.

EXTRAORDINARY LOW TIDES IN THE TYNE.—One of the lowest tides in the Tyne ever known by the "oldest inhabitant" was experienced at a late hour on Sunday night. As with the floods so with the low tides, never were such known in the recollection of the oldest on either banks of the Tyne. The ground on either side of the river was left bare for nearly twenty yards, and the penny ferry boats were stopped, being unable to get near the landing stage. Higher up the river the water was so shallow that any one might have walked barefooted across the river.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT AT COXHOE COLLIERY.—An accident of a melancholy nature took place on the waggon-way at Coxhoe colliery on Wednesday, by which a man named John Lee came by his death. Lee was employed on the colliery as screenman, and was in the act of pushing a waggon under the screens to be loaded when another waggon came rushing down the incline and crushed the unfortunate man between the buffers. His companions, seeing the accident, liberated him as soon as possible, but life was found to be extinct. The body was removed to where deceased resided. Lee, who was 32 years of age, was unmarried.

A MAN DROWNED IN THE WEAR.—At one o'clock on Tuesday morning, Sergeant Richardson, of the River Wear Police, while in a boat in the neighbourhood of Ayre's Quay, heard cries proceeding from a part of the river just above him, and rowing to Messrs. Burdess's lime kilns, saw a man in a boat, who informed him that a man had just fallen overboard from a keel and was drowned. The police dragged the river for three-quarters of an hour, and ultimately brought up the body of William Bridges, a man 39 years of age, employed by Messrs Burdess, and living at Cornhill, close to the lime Kilns. The body was removed home.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Diseases and casualties incidental to youth may be safely treated by the use of these excellent Medicaments according to the printed directions folded round each pot and box. Nor is this Ointment alone applicable to external ailments; conjointly with the Pills it exercises the most salutary influence in checking inflammations situated in the interior of the body: when rubbed on the back and chest it gives the most sensible relief in asthma, bronchitis, pleurisy, and threatening consumption. Holloway's remedies are especially serviceable in liver and stomach complaints. For the cure of bad legs, all sorts of wounds, sores, and likewise scrufora and scorbutic affections, this Ointment produces a cooling and soothing feeling most acceptable to the sufferer. 50

A LUNATIC AT LARGE.—On Wednesday last, William Watson, who was apprehended by Supt. Beard, on Tuesday night, in the Market Place, Durham, under suspicion that he had recently escaped from some lunatic asylum, was brought before the Durham borough magistrates. While in the court the prisoner deported himself with due decorum, and said he was a cattle salesman, residing at Thorpe, in Weardale. More information than this could not be extracted from him, and it appeared that during the night the poor fellow had been attacked with frequent fits of aberration of mind. The Bench ordered him to be handed over to the parish authorities to be taken care of, until some information should be ascertained with regard to his antecedents and friends.

DISASTROUS FLOOD ON THE TYNE.—Early on Saturday morning, the water in the river Tyne rose to an extraordinary height, in consequence of the vast volumes of water rushing from the upper reaches of the river. Between three and four o'clock the water rose to its highest pitch, and all houses, workshops, shipbuilding yards, and quays contiguous to the river were overflown and submerged for several hours. Serious damage is reported to have occurred to property on both sides of the river. The cause of the flood is assigned to the recent heavy rains we have had, and a sudden rise of the sea in consequence of the prevalence of the north-east winds in the German Ocean. The Wear, Tees, Humber, and Thames have also been flooded.

HEXHAM FARMERS' CLUB.—The monthly meeting of the above club was held on Wednesday, in the Club-room, Town Hall, Hexham—Mr. Chas. G. Grey presiding. There was a full attendance of members. Mr. Jos. Lee, Dilston, moved—"That the members of the Hexham Farmers' Club sincerely regret the death of Mr. Grey, the founder and chief supporter of the club, and also their distinguished president for eighteen years, and that they deeply felt his loss." The motion was seconded by Mr. T. P. Dodds, carried unanimously, and acknowledged by the chairman, who thanked the members for their expression of kind feeling. Mr. C. G. Grey's paper on "Farm Leases," which was taken as read at the annual meeting, was then discussed, the club taking the clauses up *seriatim*. The paper is a very elaborate and able one.

SHOCKING DEATH OF THE WIFE OF A BISHOP AUCKLAND TRADESMAN.—On Sunday morning, Jane, wife of Mr. Robert Cummins, whitesmith and bell-hanger, Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland, was found dead under very lamentable circumstances. Deceased was 48 years of age, and mother of a large family. It appears she was accustomed to take a deal of drink, and had almost entirely given herself up to it for some years past. Lately she had been drinking excessively. On Saturday night she was very drunk, and about eight o'clock went and lay down on the bed, with her face downwards. Her husband did not sleep in the same room, and no more notice was taken of her till Sunday morning, when her son went to call her, and found her lying in the same position, on her face, quite dead. An inquest was held on the body on Monday night, before Mr. W. D. Trotter, coroner. Various reports as to the cause of death were circulated through the neighbourhood. Some attributed her death to the ill-usage of her husband, but the evidence perfectly exonerated him from all blame, and even showed that he had treated her with kindness. The evidence adduced was in accordance with the foregoing facts, and the jury, after about half-an-hour's consultation returned a verdict that "deceased was found dead, but there was no evidence to show that unfair means had been used to cause death.

PLEASANT EVENINGS.—On Monday evening the second of this series was held in the British Schools, Consett, the Rev. F. Steggall in the chair. There was a large and respectable audience, and this evening's entertainment being under the management of the Church choir, something pleasant was expected. Mr. Steggall, on taking the chair, called upon Mr. R. Spencer to play a Fantasia on the pianoforte, which he executed in grand style. A rather humourous piece, "The three advices," was then read by Mr. J. Cross. Miss Caroline Wilkinson was next called upon to give "Annie Lisle," which she sang in good style. A recitation, "Little Jim," was then given by Mr. W. Surtees, with a thrilling effect upon the audience. Mr. W. Cross then sang "Tis thy dear voice my love;" after which an amusing recitation, called "The overcharge," was given by Mr. R. Ord, who was encored, and in answer to which he gave "Hohenlinden." "Come home, Father," was then well rendered by Miss H. Dobbs, and Mr. Steggall followed with a reading, entitled "My account with Her Majesty." "Jessy, the Flower of Dunblane," was next given by Mr. W. Cross in good style, and then Mr. W. Surtees sang "Ever of thee." A reading, "Laugh and grow fat," was given in fair style by Mr. J. Cross, and was followed by Mr. C. Stephenson, who sang "The Vicar of Bray," with good effect. The Church Choir was then called upon to give a chorale, "No shadows yonder," which they sang very sweetly. The National Anthem was then sung by the company, which brought the entertainment to a close. Before leaving, however, Mr. Steggall said he wished to say a few words, and invited any person who would take a part in these entertainments to give their names to Mr. J. Cross or himself, as these readings were on a broad basis and open to all. The company then separated.

PRESENTATION OF VOLUNTEER PRIZES AT DURHAM.—On Monday the challenge cups won at the recent rifle contest in connection with the City of Durham Rifle Volunteers were presented to the successful competitors in the Town Hall, by Mr. J. Henderson, the liberal member for the city. The chair was occupied by the Mayor of Durham. The prizes consisted of a members' plate, value 25 guineas, presented by the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, M.P., and Mr. J. Henderson, M.P.; a challenge vase, given by the ladies of the city of Durham and neighbourhood; and a piece of plate of the value of 40 guineas, given by the Mayor and Corporation.

SHOCKING CASE OF DROWNING IN NORTH TYNE.—On Saturday an inquest was held at Wark, before Mr. L. M. Cockroft, coroner, on view of the body of Jane Jameson, who was found drowned in the North Tyne. Deceased, who was 35 years of age, was unmarried, and resided with her mother in the village of Wark. About two o'clock on Friday afternoon the unfortunate woman left her dwelling and proceeded along the bank in search of wood brought down by the recent flood, to burn or to kindle the fire, and it is supposed she had taken an apoplectic fit, fallen over the bank of the river, and been drowned. Deceased was subject to fits, and had gone into a desponding state of mind through taking them. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally drowned."

PANIC AMONG THE JARROW PUBLICANS.—On Tuesday no little amount of interest was evinced at the South Shields Petty Sessions, in consequence of eighteen beerhouse-keepers and publicans being summoned for having licenses to sell beer, ale, and porter, under the provisions of the 1st Wm. 4th, c. 64, and 4th and 5th Wm. 4th, c. 85, who did not there and then on the 31st of January, or at any time since, cause to be painted in letters, three inches at least in length, in white upon a black ground, or in black upon a white ground, publicly visible and legible, upon a board, placed over the door of their houses and premises, with their christian name and surname, and stating that they were licensed to "retail ale, beer, and cider, to be drunk on the premises." As they all expressed their willingness to comply with the law, only a nominal fine would be imposed, namely, 1s. and costs in each case, which amounted in all to 10s. each.

PRESBYTERY OF THE NORTH OF ENGLAND.—At a meeting of the Presbytery of the North of England, held on Tuesday, at Berwick-on-Tweed, the Rev. Wauchope Paterson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, gave notice of the following overture anent union, to be considered at the next meeting:—"Whereas, the present divided state of the Presbyterian churches in England is a source of weakness and injury to the cause of the Gospel, and an obstacle to the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ throughout the land; and whereas there appears no sufficient reason for the continued separation of these Christian churches, that formerly were undivided: and whereas their union into one ecclesiastical organization would prove a powerful means of good to mankind, and tend to the glory of God. It is humbly overtured by the Presbytery of the North of England to the reverend the Synod of the Church of Scotland in England, to take the premises into consideration, and to devise such steps as may be thought expedient and proper, and be likely to open up the prospect of the eventual union of the aforesaid churches, on a Scriptural basis, and without detriment to ministerial status, or compromise of conscience, or distinctive principles."

THE CLEVELAND IRON TRADE.—The iron trade of the Cleveland district continues steady, with an improving tone and increasing inquiries both on home and Continental account. The returns of makers' stocks at the end of January, and of the production of pig iron in the district for the month of January, have been published. With the exception of eleven furnaces these returns include all the furnaces in the North of England. The make for January, was 83,377 tons as compared with 84,702 tons in December. Makers' stocks were 89,896 tons, January 31st, as compared with 87,599 tons at the end of December. There was thus an increase in stocks equal to 2,297 tons, and a decrease in make of 1,325 tons. The warrant stores at Middlesborough increased in January from 68,826 tons to 70,645 tons. There was a good attendance at the weekly iron market at Middlesborough on Tuesday morning, including representatives from nearly all parts of the district. There was more animation about the trade. Inquiries for rails and plates were reported both on home and continental account. Some orders for local railway companies have recently been given out. The pig makers reported an improved demand, and stated that during the last few days a good deal of iron had changed hands. Messrs. Cochrane and Co., Ormesby Iron Works, are preparing to blow in their two new blast furnaces. No. 1 iron is in considerable demand. No alteration took place in the quotations. These were at the close—No. 1, 46s. 6d.; No. 3, 43s. 6d.; No. 4, 42s. The shipbuilding trade continues steadily to improve, and several additional orders announced. Messrs. Backhouse and Dixon, Middlesborough, launched a fine screw-steamer on Saturday. The Norton Iron Company exhibited specimens of steel make from titanic iron. These seemed of a very superior quality.

APPREHENSION OF A NOTORIOUS FORTUNE TELLER IN DURHAM.—On Monday, a dirty-looking old man, dressed in a blue Guernsey shirt, who stated that he hailed from Nottingham, and gave his name as James Wilson, was brought before the Durham borough magistrates charged with fortune-telling and obtaining a quantity of fancy cotton, the property of James Wilson, a tailor, residing in Gilesgate, under false pretences. It appears that the prisoner entered the prosecutor's house on Saturday, during his absence, and, pretending to be deaf and dumb, intimated to Mrs. Wilson by the usual signs that he would tell her fortune by working a charm. To this proposition the mistress of the house acceded, and the prisoner then intimated that she would have to conform with certain rules before he could enquire into the future. Firstly, it was necessary that she should hand into his keeping a certain number of silver coins, and then she would have to provide him with some wearing apparel and some salt. Mrs. Wilson then placed in the prisoner's hand 3s. 6d. in silver, and having no articles of wearing apparel to give him, she produced six yards of fancy cotton and the requisite quantity of salt. The prisoner then spread the cotton out and formed a heart with the salt. He placed the 3s. 6d. in the latter, and then wrapping them up in cotton, he intimated his intention of carrying the whole away for an hour or two, by which time the charm would have worked, and he would then return, restore the prosecutrix her money, and claim his remuneration. He never returned, and Mrs. Wilson, becoming alarmed for the safety of her property, informed her husband of the transaction, and he at once gave notice to Superintendent Board, who placed the case in the hands of Detective Brown, and that officer succeeded in apprehending the prisoner in a lodging-house on Gilesgate Moor, on Monday morning. On being charged before the magistrates, Wilson seemed to have recovered his speech and hearing in a surprising manner, and asseverated his innocence with great volubility. The prisoner, against whom it was stated there were charges in other districts, was remanded.

A VIOLENT PUBLICAN AT JARROW.—On Tuesday, before the magistrates of the South Shields Petty Sessions, Valentine Stone, beerhouse-keeper, Walter Street, Jarrow, was charged with having, on the 4th inst., assaulted Robert Skipper. Mr. H. T. Duncan defended. The complainant and some others had been in Stone's house on the night in question, and some larking was going on about putting one another up the chimney, in the midst of which Stone came into the room and asked them if they were not going, as they would get him fined. Skipper did not move immediately. Stone—as complainant and his witness said—gave Skipper a kick on the leg, and on being asked what that was for, he said he'd soon let him see, and running behind the bar, brought out a constable's staff, with which he struck Skipper a violent blow on the head, by which he was so much hurt that medical assistance had to be immediately procured. Dr. Edwards, who was called in, found the complainant suffering from two contused wounds, and a contusion on the centre of the head; each of the wounds extended in depth to the bone, and in length about one inch. He lost a quantity of blood. A severe abrasion was also found on the leg over an old fracture. The defence was that when defendant went into the room the parties were all quarrelling, and that, on his attempting to separate them, Skipper began an attack upon him, and in self-defence he went and got the constable's staff, and did, in the heat of the moment, strike a rather severe blow. A fine of £5 was imposed, out of which a doctor's bill of £1 7s. 6d. was ordered to be paid, and £2 was ordered to be paid the complainant as compensation for loss of work. There were other two charges against the defendant—the one for having assaulted Sergeant Averill, for which an apology was tendered, and the other for being drunk and riotous on board one of the Tyne General Ferry Company's steamers, which was withdrawn. The magistrates decided to hear the evidence in the charge of assault on Sergeant Averill. From this it appeared that the parties had been at the court a week ago, and the case was adjourned. On the way home, Stone met Sergeant Averill in the boat, and the latter made the remark, "So you havn't got your case settled to day." This led to Stone putting his fist close to Averill's face, and following that up a little after with a blow on the eye that drew blood. The magistrates said that but for the defendant having been already punished, they would have inflicted a severe penalty; as it was, they would fine him 40s. and costs.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY, Feb. 13.

Their Lordships met at five o'clock for the first time after the Christmas recess. Although there was no business upon the paper, there was a tolerable number of peers present.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE gave notice of his intention to re-introduce his bill of last year, with regard to land tenure in Ireland.

Their Lordships adjourned at 5·15.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY, Feb. 13.

The House re-assembled this afternoon. There was, however, a very scanty attendance of hon. members when the Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

Mr. Lowther took the oaths and his seat for the county of Westmoreland. Mr. Finch took the oaths and his seat for the county of Rutland.

On the motion of Colonel TAYLOR, new writs were moved for Stoke-upon-Trent, for the University of Cambridge, and for Helston.

Mr. HUGHES gave notice that on Tuesday next he should move for leave to bring in a bill to regulate Sunday trading.

Mr. LEFORE gave notice that on Tuesday he should call attention to the failure of the negotiations with the Government of the United States with regard to the case of the Alabama.

Sir THOS. WESERN gave notice of a question with respect to small ratepayers.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. Baxter, said that the Scotch Reform Bill, would be introduced on Monday next.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER in reply to Sir W. Barron, said that the introduction of the Irish Reform Bill would depend on the general progress of business.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the election petitions, and to provide more effectually for the prevention of corrupt practices at Parliamentary elections. The Government had decided to suggest the establishment of a new and original tribunal.

Mr. LOWE deprecated very strongly the proposed tribunal, and trusted the Government would re-consider the matter.

Lord Cranbourne, Sir R. Palmer, and Mr. Bouverie, had the strongest objections to the measure.

Mr. GLADSTONE was prepared to consider the proposal on its merits.

Mr. BRIGHT thought the case might be a very desperate one, before Parliament should abdicate its jurisdiction in the matter.

After some remarks from Mr. Locke and Mr. D. Griffiths, the bill was read a first time.

The House adjourned at 7·35 p.m.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of the members of the Leadgate Local Board was held in the Board-room, Leadgate, on Wednesday afternoon. Present:—Messrs. John Calvert, John Fletcher, Wm. Cheesman, John Davidson, and Rev. F. Kearney.

On the motion of Mr. JOHN CALVERT, the Rev. F. Kearney was elected to preside.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting and of two adjourned meetings having been read over and confirmed, were signed by the Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The CLERK read over a letter which he had just received from a person who complained of the nuisances on his premises being noticed whilst the nuisances which he alleged were lying on other property were allowed to remain.

The INSPECTOR stated that the whole yard was in a most filthy condition. He was instructed to see that those guilty of allowing such nuisances to accumulate were reported, and steps taken to compel them to abate their nuisances.

BALANCE DUE FROM THE HIGHWAY BOARD.

The CLERK reported that he had written to Mr. Crofton Maynard, clerk to the Highway Board, respecting the balance due to the township, to which he had received no reply.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The CLERK read over the surveyor's report from which it appeared that in consequence of the unsettled state of the weather, but little could be done to the roads and that he had prepared additional material for the same. The pay-bills amounted for the townships of—

Medomsley	£34 14 12
Iveston	13 10 10
TOTAL	£48 6 8

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector's report stated that since last meeting he had inspected the greater part of the district. There was great necessity for the completion of the Pont Row sewer. Several nuisances complained of in his last report had been abated, and he had seen others who had promised to remove the nuisances on their premises. He had been compelled to serve notices on some whose nuisances required removal.

In answer to Mr CHEESMAN, the CLERK stated that the Board had in the hands of their bankers £153 9s. 6d. and there would be another £100 in shortly.

Some conversation then took place as to the necessity of completing

THE PONT ROW SEWER,

After which, on the motion of Mr. CALVERT, seconded by Mr. DAVISON, it was decided to complete the same as early as possible.

CARTS IN THE STREETS.

The SURVEYOR was instructed to see that no carts remain in the streets.

"MOVE ON."

Several members of the Board complained of the nuisance arising from persons being allowed to stand on the footpaths of the streets, particularly on Sundays, and the inspector was requested to take measures to prevent the recurrence of such a nuisance.

Bills for £45 5s. 4d. were ordered to be paid, and the Board then adjourned.

A DARLINGTON BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.—The *Church News* contains the following announcement:—"We have heard with regret that the superior and sisters of a branch of a well-known sisterhood have left the communion of the Church of England." The foundation for this paragraph is, we understand, the fact that the mother superior and seven of the sisters of St. Mary's Priory, at Hackney, have gone over to the Roman Church.

SERIOUS CASE OF STABBING ON BOARD A SHIP IN SHIELDS HARBOUR.—On Monday morning about ten o'clock, cries of "Police" were heard from on board the Portuguese brig Avenance, of Lisbon, lying off the River Police Station, North Shields. Inspector Freshwater, of the River Police, hearing the cries, went off at once with his boat's crew to the vessel. On getting on board he found two of the crew, Alexander Noney, a native of Calcutta, and Angelo de Sorie, a native of Genoa, in custody of the mate. From inquiries he found that during the morning some words had ensued between the captain and the two men. The ship was ready for sea, and they wanted to go on shore. The captain refused to allow them, whereupon Angelo de Sorie drew his sheath-knife and stabbed the captain in the right side of the neck, inflicting a severe wound, from which the blood flowed very freely. The other man, Alexander Noney, seized a sharp hatchet, and having placed himself in front of the captain, was about to strike him with it, but was prevented by the mate, who stepped in between the captain and him. The two men were at once conveyed on shore and placed in the lock-up. The captain was also brought on shore, and conveyed to the surgery of Dr. Marr, Clive Street, where his wound were dressed. He now lies at the Northumberland Arms, North Shields, in a very low condition from the quantity of blood he has lost. The men were brought before the magistrates on Tuesday, and remanded.

A DARLINGTON BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.—On Saturday, the Under-Shiriff of the County of Durham, Mr. J. Dodds, held an inquiry at the Black Lion Hotel, Stockton, before a jury, to execute a writ issued from the Court of Exchequer Pleas, to inquire into and assess the damages sustained by one Sarah Petty, through the failure of John Harrison to fulfil a promise he made to marry her. On the 20th of December last, the plaintiff filed a declaration in the above court laying damages at £100, the defendent allowed judgment to go by default, and the court having no evidence before it of the damages sustained by the plaintiff, could not assess them. Hence the issue of the writ upon the present proceedings. The plaintiff, Miss Sarah Petty, resides at Blackwell, near Darlington, was aged 30 years, and the daughter of a market gardener, deceased. The defendant is 40 years of age, and a gardener. The plaintiff's father died in 1861, and her mother got her livelihood by taking in washing, plaintiff assisting her. In January, 1862, plaintiff gave birth to a child by a policeman at Cockerton. In April, 1866, the defendant's wife died, and the following June he began to pay his addresses to the plaintiff. On the 7th June last plaintiff gave birth to a child, and it appeared from the evidence that defendant had lived with plaintiff some months. In October last he was married to another woman. On the Wednesday after he was married he called at plaintiff's house. Plaintiff's mother followed him in and asked him what he was doing there, and spoke strongly about his conduct. Defendent replied that he had come to make matters right with plaintiff, and said he had married a woman with more than £100, and possessed of property besides. He offered to give her £25 to make the matter up. The jury, after an absence of eight minutes, returned, awarding £75 as damages to plaintiff.

IMPORTANT RAT...
AT C...

On Thursday evening, a...
the township of Consett a...
Town Hall, Consett, as p...
signed by the four ov...
There was a good atten...

IMPORTANT RATEPAYERS' MEETING AT CONSETT.

On Thursday evening, a meeting of the ratepayers in the township of Conside and Knitsley was held in the Town Hall, Consett, as previously announced by notice signed by the four overseers and by advertisement. There was a goodly number of ratepayers present.

Mr. R. Jackson moved that the chair be taken by Mr. John Routledge, one of the overseers for the township.

Mr. Henry Brown seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. J. Routledge, on taking the chair, read over the notice convening the meeting, which stated that the object of the meeting was "to consider the propriety of making an application to have the waterworks and the gas works in the township valued, and appealing against the underrating of the Consett waterworks in other townships; also, to transact other business which may come before the meeting." The Chairman then observed that the reason the overseers had called the ratepayers together was to consider whether there should be a valuation or not. The overseers were of opinion that the time had fully arrived that the water and gas works in the township should be valued. They were unequally rated in comparison with other property in the township. When the present overseers came into office they saw that there was great inequality in the rating, especially in the rates of the Consett waterworks; they increased the rates from £100 to £360, but the assessment committee refused to sanction any increase of the rates of the waterworks until they had some basis to go upon. A second time they put them up to £360 on the supplemental valuation list, but the assessment committee again refused to raise their rates on the same plea, and so the matter had rested until the present time. The plant of the waterworks in the township was worth from £6,000 to £7,000, and it was his opinion that the present rate was far from sufficient on such an amount expended.

Mr. A. Little: It appears there is no basis.

The Chairman said that it appeared that the basis was £100. He thought it very hard that the water company should not pay at the same rate as other people, who had to pay according to their profits. The water company only paid rates on £360 for the whole of their works. In Ebchester they paid rates only on £30, and their reservoir, which was in that township, had cost them between £6,000 and £7,000. It was for the meeting to determine whether they would have them valued.

Mr. Jenkins asked how waterworks in other places were rated?

Mr. H. Brown did not know that there was a special law for the rating of waterworks, but he thought they had a right to pay upon the cost of their plant.

Mr. M. McNally was of opinion that when they elected their present overseers they ought to abide by the valuation set by them upon their property.

Mr. H. Brown said that the present meeting had been called for the purpose of obtaining the sanction of the ratepayers to what they were about to do. The assessment committee had twice refused to raise the rate of the waterworks as they said they had no basis to go upon. He was satisfied that £100 was far short of what they ought to pay. If the ratepayers allowed themselves to be taxed to their full value and allow others to escape almost free it was their own blame. They could not prevent them, however, carrying the matter to a higher court. It was high time that the matter was properly looked into.

Mr. R. Jackson said that from the remarks of some of the preceding speakers he was led to imagine that the gentlemen who had addressed them had some doubts about the statement of the assessment committee as to there being no basis on which to rate the works of the water company. He knew that the clerk to the Union had been instructed by the assessment committee to write to various unions for information on this point and that the answers he had received from these places were quite conclusive to his mind that there was no real basis for the rating of waterworks.

Mr. H. Brown: It appears that £100 is the basis. (Laughter.)

Mr. A. Little asked whether the township would guarantee the expenses of valuing the water and gas works? He understood that if a valuation took place, and the rates were not raised above one-sixth of the present rate, the whole expense of the valuation came upon their township; but if the rates were increased beyond a sixth then the expenses would come upon the Union.

Mr H. Brown thought that if they decided to value these works, they would have to bear the expenses.

The Chairman: If they were valued next week, they would raise considerably more in one quarter than would pay the expenses. (Applause.)

Mr. A. Little said that no doubt there had been a great deal of party feeling in the township for years past, and he was of opinion that the best thing would be to have a valuation of the whole township.

Mr. J. Elliott: Perhaps, if I explain what Mr. Hedley said upon the matter it would make the matter plain to the meeting. Mr. Hedley was of opinion that the most correct way of valuing the plant of the waterworks would be to value the works in the whole of the townships, and then to apportion the rates according to the amount received in each township.

The Chairman thought the whole of their plant ought to be valued.

Mr. H. Brown said that perhaps some parties present remembered Mr. Calvert saying that there was going to be a general valuation, which would save them the expense. He thought such was not likely to be the case.

Mr. J. Elliott, in reply, stated that as far as Mr. Calvert was concerned he felt certain that he expected that such a thing would take place. The various assistant overseers had been requested to hold themselves in readiness for a re-valuation. In other Unions a fresh valuation had taken place, and at Weardale they had been considerably raised.

The Chairman said that if the assessment committee had no guide, it was a good occasion to raise the waterworks. The cost of valuing the gas and waterworks would be very trifling. Mr. Hedley had been going through the rateable value of the various townships for the county rate, but they were not obliged to adopt the county valuation unless they liked.

Mr. J. M. Hudson moved that the whole township be valued.

The Chairman said that the notice convening the meeting did not state that, and, therefore they could not well do so. That could afterwards be done if they thought well.

Mr. H. Brown thought it would be well to have the water and gas companies valued in the first place, and he therefore proposed that the water works and gas works be valued as soon as possible.

Mr. M. McNally seconded the motion, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

The Chairman said that the other matter included in the notice calling the meeting was to appeal against the inequality of the rating of the waterworks in other townships. In Ebchester the water company were only rated on £30, while their reservoir alone had cost them between £5,000 and £6,000.

Mr. J. Calvert, who had just entered the meeting, said it was very wrong for the meeting to be led away by the statement just made by the Chairman. The reservoir did not cost £2,000, and it was wrong to state that it had cost between £5,000 and £6,000. Neither himself nor any other shareholder in the water company would object to pay rates upon their proper value.

The Chairman said that his information of the cost of the reservoir was obtained from the chairman of the waterworks.

Mr. Brown, turning to Mr. Calvert, asked if he had brought the bills to prove his statement?

Mr. Calvert: No; but I am sure you can see the bills. The water company did not wish to be rated less than was proper, but there was some difficulty in arriving at a proper basis. The waterworks did not rate themselves; they were rated by the proper parties.

Mr. H. Brown considered it a mere shuffle on the part of the waterworks company. One at least of the overseers at the time the rating was fixed was a shareholder of the water company, and there was no wonder at the rate being so low.

Mr. J. Elliott reminded the meeting that the whole of the other townships in which the water company had property were said to be too low rated. He wished to know whether the overseers of those townships were also connected with the water company. Undoubtedly they were not, and, therefore, it was very wrong to blame their overseer for the rating generally.

No motion having been made as to appealing against the inequality of rating other townships,

The Chairman said that as other business was included in their notice, they had better proceed to the election of a constable, Messrs. James Best, John Dailey, Tuomas Menzies, T. Glendinning, W. Lamb, James Rutherford, George Suddes, William Curry, and George Levett were then nominated.

Mr. J. Calvert moved that as the office of constable was the only paid one in the place, and secured the holder of the office some honour, Mr. William Curry be the person recommended for the office. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. R. Jackson in seconding the motion requested that Mr. Curry's name be placed first on the sheet of persons nominated; which would be the means of securing his appointment to the office if supported by the township. (Applause.)

The motion was then carried, and after a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting separated.

Lord Brougham is described as in admirable health.

The New Lord Justice.—The announcement that Sir Charles Jasper Selwyn, late Solicitor-General to Her Majesty's Government, would take his seat on the judicial bench of the Court of Appeal in Chancery on Monday, drew a large number of the members of the inner and of the outer bar, of solicitors and of the general public, to the Lord Justices' Court, Lincoln's Inn. So great, indeed, was the curiosity manifested to see the new Lord Justice that many were unable to obtain admission. It was at first supposed that Sir Charles would be sworn in public by the Master of the Rolls in the Lord Chancellor's Court. This, however, was not so, and it is understood that, as in the case of the late Lord Justice Rolt, the ceremony was performed in private on Saturday. At eleven o'clock, Lord Justice Cairns and Lord Justice Selwyn entered their own court, and having bowed to the bar, the ordinary business of the day was proceeded with. The contrast in personal appearance between the two judges is most marked; the one, Lord Cairns, has the worn, pale face of a hard student, while the physiognomy of the other is almost that of the hearty country gentleman. It is a coincidence that both Lords Justices were called within the bar at the same time, and were the only two who on that occasion took silk.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, February 12th.—Before M. Kearney, J. Joicey, and E. T. Smith, Esqrs.

BREACHES OF LOCAL BYE-LAWS.

John White, of Consett, whose case was remanded a fortnight ago, was charged by John Gledstone, inspector of nuisances to the Consett Local Board, with obstructing James Robinson while in the act of removing a nuisance from his premises on the 8th of January. Mr. Salkeld appeared for defendant. It appeared that the inspector had given notice to Mr. Scott, agent for the property for the removal of a nuisance lying in the yard where defendant, with other tenants, deposited their refuse, and defendant objected to allow anyone to take away the ashes, &c., as he had land of his own on which he intended to lay it. A person named Robinson who had been instructed to remove the nuisance by complainant was rather summarily dealt with by defendant, who declared that neither Mr. Gledstone nor Mr. Scott would be allowed to remove it. Mr. Salkeld, for defendant, contended that the notice for removal of the nuisance should have been served on the defendant and not on the agent for the property, and besides the ashes could scarcely be considered a nuisance, as defendant intended to remove them to his own land. The magistrates considered that the obstructing of the officer was proved, and fined the defendant 1s. and costs.

Ann Carruthers, of Consett, was charged by John Gledstone with depositing a quantity of ashes at the back and front of the premises occupied by her at Consett. Prosecutor said that in passing by the back of defendant's house he saw a quantity of ashes lying, and saw her put a shovelful of ashes in front of her house. He spoke to her about it when she replied that she had put them in the front to dry up the wet, but there was no wet at that time. He told her to take them up.—Defendant said she took them up immediately.—In answer to the chairman, prosecutor stated that this case was brought to stop such practices. —The defendant said it was very hard if she was not to be allowed to dry up the wet which was coming to the fire place, the prosecutor had never seen any nuisances upon her premises during the 20 years she had resided in the place. Defendant's witness said that he saw her deposit some ashes in a hole to dry up the water in the hole. The magistrates were of opinion that defendant had put the ashes in the hole as stated to dry up the water, and dismissed the case, cautioning her to be careful in the future.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

John Dickinson brick manufacturer, was charged by John Gledstone with causing a nuisance by smoke from his manufactory. Mr. Patrick appeared for the defendant, who said that before this case went any further it would be necessary to ascertain whether Mr. Gledstone had been instructed to prosecute in the present instance. Mr. Gledstone having shown his authority. Mr. Patrick said that according to Act of Parliament, it was requsite that the medical officer's certificate relating to the nuisance should also be produced; had Mr. Gledstone that with him? Prosecutor: I am not prepared with that. Mr. Patrick thought that the medical officer's certificate was indispensable, or that two medical gentlemen, or ten ratepayers should sign such a notice. The chairman thought it was scarcely as Mr. Patrick represented, but if a notice from these parties was handed to the Local Board, they would have to proceed in the case.—Mr. Patrick said that in justice to Mr. Dickinson he must state that he was not going to be a party to carry on a business which would be detrimental to the public health. The last Act bore out the construction put upon the Act by Mr. Dickinson, and he thought that if the fire-places were constructed in such a manner as to do away with the nuisance as much as possible the present case would fail to prove defendant guilty of committing a nuisance. The brickworks had been carried on for the last 30 years, and they had tried as far as practicable to consume their own smoke. This was the first instance in which they had been brought up for such an offence. He might further say that Mr. Dickinson was willing to be at any expense in order to make the place so as to meet the requirements of the Board, and he would be very glad if any of the magistrates would visit the works and judge for themselves as to the nuisance and the best mode of preventing it. The magistrates were of opinion that the members of the Local Board would have some idea of the matter themselves. Mr. Patrick thought that it was infair to take the evidence of the Inspector alone in such a case. The bench adjourned the case for a fortnight, for the purpose of obtaining the medical officer's evidence.

ANOTHER OFFENDER.

Patrick Trodden, of Consett was also charged by John Gledstone, with neglecting to clean out the privy attached to his house on the 25th ult. It appeared that on the day in question the inspector had visited the premises occupied by the defendant, and found the privy in a very filthy condition, and he ordered the same to be cleaned out at once. Defendant who did not appear was represented by his wife who stated that they moved to the house on Saturday, the same day as Mr. Gledstone visited them. He told her to clean the privy which was very dirty, but which had not at that time been used by any of her family. She secured the services of aman who had a horse and cart, who removed two loads on Monday. The magistrates thought that this was rather too hard on the defendant who had done what she could to remove the nuisance, and dismissed the case.

DRUNK AND RIOTOUS.

Anthony Dawson and *James Barlinson*, were charged by M. Oxley, publican, with creating a disturbance in his house at Cragghead on the 9th inst., and were fined 5s. each and costs.

AN AGGRAVATED ASSAULT.

James Sloane, a miner, residing at Collierley Dykes was charged by James Kelly, of Hill Top, with assaulting him, in his house at that place on Sunday last. From the evidence of complainant it appeared that on the morning of the day in question the defendant who was under the influence of drink, entered his house, and began to use threatening language to him, and that when he went to put him out, defendant seized hold of him and not only struck him, but tore the shirt of his back; he afterwards stood about the door and threatned what he would do to the prosecutor. This evidence was corroborated by the wife of the prosecutor, a girl from the place, and Sergeant Brown. The magistrates thought it was a very bad case, and fined defendant 10s. and costs.

POACHING.

John Scott, of Healeyfield, was charged by Joseph Fenwick with poaching on the 26th January, on Dean House Farm, nerr Lanchester. A witness named Hills deposed that on the day in question he heard the report of a gun and saw a covey of partridges rise. One of them was shot, and flew a short distance but soon fell to the ground, and one of the dogs prisoner had with him ran and caught it. He did not see where the dog took it. The adjoining portion of ground was occupied by Mr. Young. He saw Scott with a gun and two dogs with him, and as soon as he shouted Scott ran off. He was about 30 yards off him and coming towards the birds when he shouted. Mr. Patrick appeared for defendant and stated that he could not struggle against the evidence brought to bear against his alient. Scott said he simply went pick up the bird for another party. The magistrates said that they were quite satisfied that he guilty of the offence, and fined him 40s. and costs.

Mr. Tully, the musical composer and conductor is dead.

The outrage perpetrated recently by some Mussulmans upon the convent of Capucines in Canea has been compensated. The cross has been replaced publicly, and the guilty parties are to be severely punished.

The Eastern Question.—"In spite," says the *Debates*, of the protestations of the Russian journals, it is very difficult not to attribute, at least in a great degree, the agitation which exists in some of the provinces of European-Turkey, and which seems likely to end soon in an uprising, to promptings from St. Petersburg. We know that the Western Powers have addressed remonstrances to Belgrade on the subject of the Servian armaments. The very improbable report the Russian Government joined in this remonstrance is denied by the *St. Petersburg Journal* and on the same authority it is stated that Prussia also abstained from taking part in this proceeding. The Western Powers, moreover, recommended Prince Charles of Roumania to stop the formation of Bulgarian bands of insurgents in his territory. According to the *St. Petersburg Journal*, these bands are the pure creation of imagination; but for ourselves we think that this organ pays too high a tribute to the imagination of the Western Powers, who certainly are in a position to be quite as well informed as the Russian journal with regard to what is taking place in the Principalities." The *Nord*, on the other hand wishes to know what can be the meaning of the French press in attributing, so unceasingly, these underhand manœuvres to Russia. "The Government of St. Petersburg," it says, "has but a single aim—the preservation of peace in Europe. It pursues that aim in the East as in the West. It has given such striking proofs of this on several occasions that it is not necessary to insist upon it. It is the unflinchingly pacific attitude of Russia that stirs up the French press against her? Is it to the French press that the article of the *Journal of St. Petersburg* refers when it says "the cordial understanding of two great nations like Russia and Prussia is one of the best securities for the maintenance of the peace of Europe?" Perhaps it is this circumstance that defeats the calculations of certain organs of the foreign press. By these systematic attacks upon Russia and these groundless accusations against her, the officious journals of Paris expose themselves and the Government of which they are supposed to be the organs to grave suspicions—suspicions which may have no foundation, but which these same organs are doing their utmost to make plausible." The *Patrie* of the 11th says:—"The news from Servia keeps Eastern diplomacy in suspension. We believe we may state that very energetic representations have again been transmitted to Belgrade." On the 10th M. Cretzrileses, the Roumain agent in Paris, officially communicated to the Cabinet of the Tuileries a formal denial on the part of his Government of any participation, direct or indirect, in Russian or Servian manœuvres.]

THE FENIANS.

ARRESTS IN CORK.

Cork, Feb. 8.

Captain Mackay, late of the American army, known to be a leader of recent outrages in this city and county, and implicated in the robbery of gun shops and the attack on the Martello Tower was captured last night in a public-house in Market Street after a desperate resistance. He fired a revolver at the police, wounding a constable.

Casey, the owner of the house, Cronin, and two others who were in the place were also arrested.

On removing the prisoners a mob attacked the police, and one of the mob was wounded with a bayonet.

ANOTHER FENIAN OUTRAGE.

Cork, Monday evening.

A Cork telegram of yesterday morning states that Detective Courtney was fired at on the South Wall at eleven o'clock on Sunday night, by two men. Courtney was missed, and the men escaped.

Two men were arrested here this afternoon on the Grand Parade, and have been fully identified as the parties who fired at Detective Courtenay and the two sub-constables last night. They have been committed for trial to the assizes.

Midnight.

There has been much disturbance in the city during the night, large crowds having assembled around the Tuckley Street Police Station. To clear the street the police made several charges, in which some persons were wounded, in two cases the injuries being severe. There is still much excitement, and the streets are patrolled by mounted and foot police.

TWO MORE POLICEMEN SHOT AT.

Cork, Tuesday.

This evening two policemen on duty in the North Main. St. Mare, were fired at by a man with a revolver, who escaped. The policemen were not injured.

THE FENIAN TRIALS IN DUBLIN.

Dublin, Tuesday.

To-day Lennox was placed on trial for treason-felony, and after the examination of Croydon, and other witnesses identifying the prisoner with the Fenian movement, he was found guilty. To-morrow he is to be placed on his trial for shooting Sergeant Kelly, with intent to kill him, on the 12th of October last in Eustace Street.

Dublin, Tuesday night.

Before the rising of the Commission Court to-day the Grand Jury found a true bill against Mr. Sullivan, of the *Weekly News*, for seditious publication in that journal.

Dublin, Wednesday.

The trial of Lennon for shooting at Sergeant Kelly in October occupied the Commission Court all day and had not concluded at the adjournment. The evidence was a repetition of that given when the preliminary inquiry was held before the magistrates.

Dublin, Thursday.

At the Commission Court, to-day, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty, in the case of Lennon, charged with shooting at Sergeant Kelly, last October, on Wellington Quay.

THE MURDER OF SERGEANT BRETT.

Manchester Tuesday.

A young man named Patrick Mullany was charged at the Police Court to-day with taking part in the attack on the prison van and the murder of Sergeant Brett in September last. The prisoner, who has been identified by three witnesses, was remanded for three days.

LOYAL IRISH ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

London, Tuesday.

This afternoon Mr. G. Hardy, Secretary for the Home Department, received a large and influential deputation of Irishmen, who had requested an interview for the purpose of asking him to present on their behalf a loyal address to her Majesty the Queen. Mr. Digby Seymour introduced the deputation, and said that the address was signed by upwards of 22,000 Irishmen, of all classes and opinions, resident in London. Mr. Hardy briefly replied, and expressed his pleasure at hearing the loyal sentiments of the address.

THE FENIAN PROSECUTIONS.

William Desmond, Timothy Desmond, Nicholas English, James O'Neil, John O'Keefe, Jeremiah Allen, Michael Barrett, and Ann Justice, who were understood to have been virtually committed last week on the charge of the wilful murder of the persons killed by the Clerkenwell explosion but were formally remanded for the completion of the reading of the deposition, were brought up for further and as was supposed, final examination, before Sir Thomas Henry, on Tuesday morning. This, however was not carried out, as, upon the application of Mr. Giffard, Q.C., they were remanded till Tuesday next.

FRESH ATTEMPTS TO SHOOT POLICEMEN AT CORK.

Cork, Wednesday morning.

About ten o'clock last night, two policemen stopped and searched a man on the Mulgrave Road, and, finding a revolver in his pocket requested him to give it up. He drew the weapon and discharged one chamber at the constables, without effect. He then attempted to escape, when both policemen fired and wounded him in the nose. He was afterwards arrested.

Cork, Wednesday afternoon.

In addition to the two policemen fired at in the North Main Street last night, two constables stopped two men on suspicion near the Butter Weigh House. One drew a revolver. On being called on to surrender, he fired at them, but without effect. One of the policemen fired his carbine, and shot the man in the face. He is seriously wounded. After being taken away by the people he was re-captured. Two men in the same vicinity were shortly after arrested with arms in their possession.

A little girl, the daughter of Mr. Peter Hillam, Elland, has been killed by swallowing a fourpenny piece and other small coins which were attached to a string with which she was playing.

Heald *v.* the Tyne Shipping Company.—This was an action at the Court of Queen's Bench, on Saturday, before Mr. Justice Lush, and a special jury, to recover a sum of money for commission on the sale of a ship to a firm at Constantinople. The plaintiffs were shipbrokers at Newcastle, and the defendants a company established a few years ago, in the same locality. The defence set up was that the transaction was one entirely between Mr. Rogerson and the plaintiff, and that the company were not responsible for his acts. Several witnesses were called on both sides, and the jury found a verdict for the full amount claimed—£331 2s. 6d.

Highway Robbery at Stockton.—At the Stockton Police Court, on Monday, Peter Lyons, puddler, and Sarah Wilson, a prostitute, were charged with committing a highway robbery on the person of Samuel Wright on the 6th inst. On Thursday evening prosecutor, who is a pipe-maker at Hartlepool, arrived at Stockton with a cart full of pipes to sell. Falling in with the female prisoner at his lodgings, he was accosted as an old acquaintance, and on the strength of this visited several public-houses in her company. When near the "model" lodging-house, she suddenly snatched his purse out of an inside waistcoat pocket, and despite his struggles emptied the contents (about 9s.) She then returned him the empty purse. He called for the police and commenced a struggle, during which the male prisoner came up, seized hold of his arm, and rescued the woman. Both prisoners then disappeared in the "model" lodging-house, where they were seen to divide the money. They were apprehended on the following morning by Sergeant Farbridge on the identification of the prosecutor, and at the police court were committed to the forthcoming Durham Sessions for trial.

The Murder near Annan.—Little (says the *Scotsman* of Tuesday), has transpired during the past few days, in addition to what we have already published, as to the circumstances connected with the murder of the girl Thomasina Scott, near Annan, on the 1st inst., and the attempted murder of Mrs. Crichton, Longfords Cottage, by the man Smith, now in custody. When Smith was arrested, a number of articles of clothing, nearly new, were found on his person, and there is now reason to believe that these were purchased with part of the proceeds of a stable-loft robbery committed by Smith about three weeks ago at the farm of Thwaite, in the parish of Ruthwell, a few miles distant from the scene of his graver crimes. It is a remarkable circumstance that a sister of the murdered girl Scott was employed as a servant at the farm of Thwaite, and it now appears that though the robbery was not reported to the police until after the apprehension of Smith on the charge of murder, the servant girl Scott fell under some degree of suspicion in connection with the theft from the stable-loft—a suspicion which now proves to have been entirely baseless. The woman Crichton, who was so murderously attacked by Smith in the hope of concealing his more atrocious crime, is making favourable recovery, though her nervous system has sustained a severe shock. There is now no doubt that Smith commenced the attack upon her while she was on her knees washing the stone floor of the kitchen by discharging a pistol at her head. Two or three pellets of lead have been extracted from her head, and another has been found on the floor of the cottage. It is supposed that the charge of shot had been insufficiently secured in the pistol, and that the greater portion had fallen out before it was fired, otherwise the wound would have probably proved fatal.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

The Manager of the Blackburn Savings' Bank (Limited) has absconded.

The *Shipping Gazette* says a failure is reported in the home trade. The liabilities are £25,000, a portion of which falls on Manchester.

A great number of Fenians have left Cork since Mackey's arrest. It is supposed they are afraid he will turn informer.

Mr. Authur J. Dumas points out that the Glasgow, Paris, Rotterdam, and Hamburg underwriters—and not the Americans—shared the losses incidental to the Alabama captures.

The Ballot.—The *Times* says:—We are prepared to say of the Ballot, as we should say of assassination, that no better means could be devised for creating a nation of cowards."

The *Times* comments, in a leader, on the wholesale adulterations of cotton goods, and the injury which is thus occasioned in India.

A Centenarian.—A poor woman resides in Spalding, named Mary Sharman, who is above 100 years of age. She has had three husbands, but has only two children living. Her faculties are sound, and she can see to sew. She will attain her 101st year in April.—*Stamford Mercury.*

The United States Debt.—The *Times* says:—It appears that notwithstanding the redemption of the 6 per cent. loan of between £2,000,000 and £3,000,000 contracted in 1847 for twenty years, the United States debt during the past month experienced an increase of £1,800,000.

The Ironworks at Parkgate.—Acting on the advice recently given by Mr. Kane, president of the Ironworkers' Association, the ironworkers at Parkgate have resolved to establish a union for the relief of its members when in distress, and the advancement of their interests generally.

A Death-bed Disclosure.—There died in Coventry, a few days since, an elderly unmarried man named Palmer. Just before his death, being unable to speak, he wrote down the strange information that in an old coat, up the chimney, would be found £550 in sovereigns. The relatives to whom this disclosure was made at once went to the chimney indicated, and there found a coat, and in the pocket the cash as described.

We understand that the Duke of Marlborough is prepared with an Educational Bill, which will develope the existing system rather than a new one. It will not, we hear, substitute local for imperial taxation, but aid will probably be given to the poorer parishes now debarred from the grant, and uncertificated schoolmasters will, under certain conditions, be aided. Miss Burdett Coutt's plan for grouping parishes may not improbably be tried.—*John Bull.*

There has been a singular exodus of Irish labourers from the Black Country. Last week no fewer than three hundred Irishmen, women and children left the town of Wednesbury, *en route* for Brazil. There were fewer manifestations of grief at their departure than usual, owing to the fact that in most instances the families emigrating were unbroken. It appears that the Brazilian Government pay their passage-money, and on their arrival either sell them one hundred acres of land, at two shillings per acre, or, if they are too poor to buy, secure them employment.

Triple Births.—On Sunday morning a woman named Susan Kelly, a pauper in Liskeard Union, was delivered of three children at birth. They are all girls, and are living and doing well.—*Western Daily Mercury.*—On Friday evening the wife of John Reed, jobbing gardener, of Springfield, was delivered of three children, girls, one of whom survived her birth only a few hours. The two others, with their mother, are doing "as well as can be expected," but unfortunately the husband is not, having been out of work for some time past.—*Clemsford Chronicle.*

Death of Sir David Brewster.—This distinguished philosopher died on Monday night at his residence near Melrose. Sir David was born at Jedburgh in December, 1781. He was one of the originators of the British Association, the inventor of the kaleidoscope, and laid claim with Professor Wheatstone to the discovery of the stereoscope. He was a member of the academies of Prussia, Austria, Russia, Sweden, and Denmark, and received honours and decorations from almost all parts of the world. His writings on scientific subjects were voluminous.

A Rifleman Attempting to Shoot his Sweetheart.—A young man named Henry Thomas Torr was brought up before a magistrate at Rotherham on Saturday, charged with attempting to shoot Caroline Pitt, a young woman with whom he has been keeping company for nearly two years. The prisoner and his lady-love had had a quarrel, and when the former paid his usual visit to the damsel at her father's house (which is somewhat lonely, situated on the outskirts of Rotherham) on Friday evening, he showed her a pistol, which he said was intended for "the women who tell tales," adding that he had "something in a paper" for himself. When the time for his departure arrived he asked his sweetheart to accompany him to the door, a request with which she at once complied. During the interview which followed the prisoner asked the girl if she intended to go with him any longer; on her replying she would "ask her father" and tell him the next day, he said he would put an end to that state of things, and he drew the pistol from his breast pocket. The young woman, in her alarm, and after giving a loud scream, seized her lover by the wrist. The noise had the effect of bringing the girl's father and brother to the rescue, and the foolish young fellow was relieved of the pistol, which was loaded with powder only. He was subsequently apprehended in his bedroom by Sergt. Pilkington. The prisoner who is a member of the local Volunteer Rifle Corps, was remanded.

The Wages Question in South Wales.—It has been already announced that the majority of the colliers of Glamorganshire, after several meetings of delegates, have accepted the reduction of 15 per cent., and they have been at work for several days past. In the Rhondda valley, where thee quarters of a million tons annually are raised, the hands at first objected to see so large a reduction as 3s. in the pound, and they contended that the circumstances of the trade did not warrant such a heavy drop, which would bring wages down to a lower point than had been ever known in the district. Upon reconsideration, however, they have determined to submit on condition that when any advance takes place in the price of coal a proportionate rise should be made in wages. In Monmouthshire matters have not been arranged in so satisfactory a manner, and the majority of the collieries have been at a stand-still since the termination of the notice. The resolution of the house coal men not to accept the masters' terms has been so far adhered to, but it is not believed that their opposition will last many days longer, for there are hundreds of colliers from other districts who would only be too glad to take their places. Unanimity does not seem to prevail among the steam coal hands, for at Risca and Tredegar they are at work, while at Abercarne and Abertillery they have declined to go in. What is termed stationary hands, such as firemen and enginemen, have also struck at the two last-named collieries, and employers have been obliged to bring workmen from other localities to keep the machinery and pits in order. This has created some ill-feeling, and increased precautions have been taken by the police authorities so as to prevent any breach of the peace.

Meeting at Manchester on the Irish Church Question.—A meeting of the inhabitants of Manchester, was held in the Town Hall, King Street, on Monday morning, and was very fully attended. The Mayor presided, and, in commencing the proceedings said, recents events had given great prominence and importance to Irish affairs; some of the leading men of the country had been discussing the question; and it might be of use to the Legislature if it knew the exact opinion of Manchester, and assist them in settling the question.—The Rev. G. W. Conder moved the following resolutions: "That in view of the gross injustice involved in the establishment—(loud cries of 'Oh, oh,' and disapprobation)—of the Church of England in Ireland, and of the lamentable disaffection, this meeting is of opinion that it is the duty of Parliament to give its immediate attention to the subject of the Irish Church." (Disapprobation.) He contended that it was discreditable to the statemanship of this country that the Irish Church should have been left to be dealt with, when they had a state of things in Ireland which necessitated that something must immediately be done—Mr. Ald. Rumney supported the resolution—Dr. Garrett, who was received with cheers, opposed the resolution and proposed:—"That this meeting declines to pronounce an opinion in favour of destroying the Established Church in Ireland, because it has no evidence before it to justify such a proceeding; and also because this meeting has no desire to excite the angry passions of controversy throughout the country."—Mr. W. Touchstone seconded the amendment.—Mr. Jacob Bright, M. P., who was received with groans and cheers, supported the resolution. He said if the majority of the people of the United Kingdom had their will, the Church of Ireland would cease to be a political institution. (Cheers and groans.)—Mr. Ambrose supported the amendment, after which it was put to the meeting and carried by a very considerable majority.

The Queen has presented Mrs. Martin (Helen Faucit) with a magnificent ruby diamond bracelet, as a souvenir of her visits to Her Majesty's marine residence.

The Rev. Morley Punshon.—It is now arranged that the Rev. Mr. Punshon will leave Liverpool for the tour of the United States on Saturday, the 11th of April. The rev. gentleman has already engaged berths on board the Scotia.

The Hammersmith Murder.—The sentence upon the prisoner William Thomson, who was convicted of the murder of a man at Hammersmith, at the January session of the Central Criminal Court, and left for execution, has been commuted by the clemency of the Crown to penal servitude for life.

The National Conservative Union.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer has fixed on Tuesday, the 25th inst., for receiving deputations from the country associations in connection with the National Conservative and Constitutional Union, together with the Council of the Union.

The Law of Libel in Ireland.—A meeting of newspaper proprietors has been held in Dublin when resolutions were adopted urging that the law of libel in Ireland should be assimilated to that of England. A petition to the Lord-Lieutenant embodying the views of the meeting was unanimously agreed to.

The Hercules.—The new war ironclad, the Hercules, was safely floated out of dock on Monday afternoon. Her armaments will exceed in weight those of the largest iron ship yet constructed for the British navy. She will carry 18 ton, or 450-pounders, a class of gun which has not yet been used afloat except experimental. In addition to these she will be armed with 12-ton guns on the main deck four 61-ton guns on the upper deck. She is coated with solid iron plating 9 inches thick.

The new Time-Log.—A new time-log for the provincial tailors has come into operation. The chief point of this new log is the increase of prices for first-class work, such as frock and dress coats, the pay being raised from 4½d. per hour to 5d. As a counterpoise, there is a trifling reduction on articles made from the soft materials, such as tweeds and cheviots, which will enable the first-class masters to compete on more favourable terms with those who pay only "slop" wages for all descriptions of work.

The Cork correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes: "A vast number of warrants have arrived from Dublin—it is said 150 authorising the arrest of the other leading members of the organisation here. Four other men have been arrested within the past hour, whose names or the charge against whom I have not yet heard. It is evident, in short, that a crisis in the existence of Fenianism amongst us has arrived; and that a short and desperate struggle will probably soon make the authorities complete masters of the situation."

The Rumoured Resignation of Lord Derby.—The *Globe* of Wednesday night, in prominent type, says:—There is nothing like a good sensational heading to a newspaper article. Lord Derby's "rumoured resignation" is unquestionably an alliterative attraction of the first order; and we should be sorry to spoil its effect by inquiring too closely into the foundation on which it rests.—The Premier has unhappily been laid on his couch by the gout, and on the shelf by the *Times*. This is enough to set the Clubs and the penny-a-liners on the alert; and, if it were not that the same thing has happened before, as it probably will happen again, the next time Lord Derby chances to be indisposed, we should feel some uneasiness at the coincidence. As it is, our minds are at rest. Lord Derby has a rather lengthened attack of gout, and it has not been thought prudent for him to come down to town at present—and that is the account of the whole mystery

Declaration on taken Degrees at Oxford.—All deans and censors, principals and vice-principals of colleges and halls are, by notice from the Vice-Chancellor, requested to observe, that on and after the 16th inst. degrees will be conferred in accordance with the statutes as amended by convocation, in the form apended to this notice.—Declaratio Assenus: "I. A. B., do solemnly make the following declaration:—I assent to the Thirty-nine Articles of religion and to the Book of Common Prayer, and of the ordering of bishops, priests, and deacons; and I believe the doctrine of the united Church of England and Ireland, as therein set forth to be agreeable to the word of God."

The Birmingham Murder.—At the Public-office, Birmingham, on Tuesday, Thomas Marlow (*alias* Beesley), Joseph Beesley, William Beesley, Charles Grayson, and Elizabeth Grayson, were brought up on remand, charged with being concerned in the murder of Miss Mary Millbourne on the 21st ult. All the facts have been published; on this occasion several witnesses were called by Mr. Elers, of the Midland Circuit (who appeared for the prosecution); all they proved was that two of the prisoners, Thomas and William Beesley, had been seen in the street in which the murdered woman resided on the afternoon and at about the time the crime was committed; Thomas Beesley and other men were also seen at Joseph Beesley's house in the course of the same evening. So far the evidence is very slight. The prisoners were all of them again remanded until Tuesday next.

The "Times" Suggesting a Coalition.—The *Times*, refering to the state of Lord Derby's health, says that no party has a right to expect from its leader such devotion as is involved in the continued discharge by Lord Derby of the duties of his office. When his lordship resumed office in 1866, he did so under the conviction that there was no other person in his party to undertake it, and he said he would have welcomed any combination that could have been formed under other leadership. The question arises whether what was impossible in July, 1866, continues to be impossible in February, 1868. Much has happened during the interval. It may be believed that time has made combinations possible which were once thought incapable of realisation. If this be true, and if it be conceded that reasons personal and national recommend the relief that the leader of the Government declares would be grateful to him, it may be asked whether it is not wiser that a reconstruction already foreseen as soon inevitable should be perfected before the actual labour of Parliament begins, rather than be left to be devised in the mid stream of the session.

Reporters and Magistrates in Ireland.—Mr. Tracy, a reporter connected with the *Cork Herald*, has obtained a verdict in the Court of the Exchequer for £150 damages against Mr. Cruise, resident magistrate at Killarney, for false arrest and imprisonment. Mr. Tracy was acting as correspondent of the *Cork Herald* during the first outbreak of Fenianism in the country of Kerry, and was arrested and committed to prison for having attempted to send a telegram to that journal stating that there was rumours of disaffection among the troops then stationed in Killarney. The telegraph clerk did not forward the message but sent it to some of the local magistrates. Mr. Tracy was brought before several of those gentlemen at the Railway Hotel, and having refused to state the name of the person who gave him the false information, was committed to prison under a warrant signed by Mr. Cruse. He was realesed on bail a few days afterwards. It appeared on the trial of the action here, which concluded on Friday evening, that Mr. Tracy had obtained the information about the alleged disaffection among the troops from a Roman Catholic clergyman, and that it was a common rumour in the town. The correspondents of two other Cork papers forwarded similar messages, which were published. The defence was that Mr. Tracy had laid himself open to suspicion by refusing to disclose the name of his informant, and that Mr. Cruise had acted *bona fide* in the discharge of his duty. Sir A. Horsford, who commanded the troops in Kerry in the occasion in question, was examined, and swore that there was no foundation for the rumours of disaffection among the soldiery.

Archdeacon Denison's Education Scheme.—On Wednesday afternoon the long-talked of meeting to discuss Archdeacon Dennison's scheme for settling the education question was held at Willis's Rooms. The Archdeacon read a paper, in which he said that the turning point of the whole scheme was that the civil power should confine itself in respect of conditions annexed to its grants to the national and secular parts of education, leaving religious teachings in the schools to the several religious bodies, and all manner of regulations connected with it unconditionally free to the managers of each school. The second proposition was that those who prefer a purely secular school shall be entitled to the same assistance from the civil power as those who prefer a school of religious education. Nothing, he observed, was more unphilosophical than to go about to meet the momentous difficulties by discarding the differences, or treating them as deserving only the pity and contempt of the educated mind. The mistake of a partnership between the Church and the civil power was a natural one, but after twenty years' reflection he was convinced that it was a mistake. He did not ask the State to assist religious or secular schools as such; but to assist all citizens alike. He did not, however, understand by a secular school one where the children were to ridicule or deny the truth of religion, and which is avowedly hostile to all religion. In places were local resources fall very short, he should not be sorry to see the State undertaken the greater part, or even all, the original outlay in building and starting a school, and then placing it in the hands of either the Church or some sect.

Mr. Train at Youghal.—At one of his exhibitions at Youghal, in country Cork, the other day, Mr. George Francis Train read the answer which he had received from the Foreign office in regard to his claim of £100,000 damages for illegal arrest. The letter, to which Mr. Train seems to have referred with satisfaction, and to have appreciated as a piece of homage to his importance as an American citizen, ran thus:—"Sir, I am directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ult. enclosing a printed paper—I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant, S. Hammond." After this rebuff, we have perhaps heard the last of the monster damages—unless, indeed, as a telling element in Mr. Train's perorations. On the same occasion he took a wide survey of Irish politics, and the grand novelty that he brought to light was that, while the 105 representatives of Ireland made at most one speech a-year, he had delivered *four* speeches in Cork within a few days, and had filled fourteen columns of the local newspapers. The rest of the lecture was of the usual stamp—wild references to the American war the *Times* newspaper, tenant-right, to Protestant domination, Irish emigration, Mr. Train's poetical epistles, and to Mr. Train himself.

Markets.

CORN MARKETS.

Newcastle, Saturday.—At our market this morning we had a moderate supply of wheat from growers, which met a brisk sale at 1s per qr. reduction on last week; south country and foreign samples ruled firm, and a fair business was done at the average rates of Tuesday. Barley, oats, beans, and peas firm at late prices.

Newcastle Corn Market, Tuesday.—At our market to-day there was a good supply of wheat from the growers, and a fair quantity from abroad, and also from the coast. The trade was not so brisk as on Saturday, and only a moderate business was done, and prices were about the same as on this day week for both English and foreign. Barley was the turn dearer, but a slow sale. Malt, beans, and peas unchanged. Oats brought fully late prices. Flour held rather more firmly.

	s. d.		s. d.
Wheat, English red, new per qr.	76 0	..	78 0
—— Scotch, red and white	70 0	to	80 0
—— Danzig and Kinigsberg	76 0	..	81 0
—— Stettin, red	75 0	..	78 0
—— " Uckermarks	76 0	..	78 0
—— " Polish, mixed and white	76 0	..	81 0
—— Silesian, red	76 0	..	78 0
—— Pommeranean and Rostock, red	77 0	..	80 0
—— Hamburg and Bremen, runs of red	75 0	..	79 0
—— Danish & East Coast of Holstein	75 0	..	77 0
Barley, English malting, new, per qr.	46 0	..	48 0
—— Danish, Holstein, Baltic, malting	43 0	..	44 0
—— Grinding & Distilling, stout (56lb.)	40 0	..	40 0
" " thin	38 0	..	39 0
Rye, Danish, Prussian, Mecklenburg, per qr	49 0	..	50 0
Oats, Danish, Baltic, Friesland (56lb.) new	29 0	..	32 0
—— Scotch, (42lb.) new	30 0	..	32 0
Peas, Danish, Hamburg, Baltic, boilers (qr)	51 0	..	52 0
—— feeders	50 0	..	51 0
Beans, Hamburg, Hanover, Friesland, large, per qr.	49 0	..	50 0
—— " " small	50 0	..	51 0
Malt	62 0	..	64 0
Flour, English, per sack	51 0	..	53 0

Hexham, Tuesday.—At our market to-day there was an average supply of wheat, which was sold at 1s per qr. below last week's rates. Barley was in poor supply and met a good demand at 2s per qr. advance. Very fair show of oats, which were in good request at 1s to 2s per qr. advance.

GENERAL CORN AVERAGES.

The following were the averages for the week ending Saturday last:—

	Qrs.	s. d.
Wheat	53,631	at 73 4
Barley	58,950	at 42 7
Oats	10,985	at 26 0

CATTLE MARKETS.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 132 head of cattle from Aberdeen and the counties of the north-east coast of Scotland, — beast from Glasgow, and 48 beasts and 260 pigs from Ireland.

The supply of beef comprised 1,000 head. The numbers being considerably on the increase, and the beef trade was in a very fair state and all breeds remained stataionary at the prices of this day se'nnight, and buyers being numerous, a good clearance effected.

The number of sheep was 4,710. The mutton trade ruled active, and an increase of ½d. per lb. on the rates of this day week, with a poor finish.

Pigs.—822 were shown. The pork trade was more active than on Tuesday last, and prices receded none; a middling finish.

NUMBERS SHOWN.

Beasts, 1,000; sheep, 4,710; pigs, 822; store cattle, 12.

PRICES, SINKING OFFAL.

	s. d.		s. d.
Beasts, prime heifer, per stone	8 3	to	8 6
Secondary sorts	6 0	..	7 9
Inferior sorts	5 9	..	6 9
First-class oxen	8 0	..	8 3
Middling	6 9	..	7 6
Cows	5 9	..	6 9
Pork	4 6	..	6 9
Small dairy-fed do.	7 0	..	7 9
Sheep, good vendable wedders, per lb.	0 7½	..	0 7½
Large fat	0 0	..	0 0
Middling	0 6½	..	0 7
Tups, ewes, and inferior	0 6	..	0 6½

NUMBER AND PRICES OF THE CORRESPONDING WEEKS IN THE LAST THREE YEARS.

	Cattle, per st.	s. d.		s. d.
1865	1,370	5 9	..	9 0
1866	2,000	5 6	..	8 3
1867	860	5 6	..	9 0
	Sheep, per lb.			
1865	3,049	0 6½	..	0 9½
1866	4,800	0 7½	..	0 10
1867	3,440	0 6½	..	0 8½

MISCELLANEOUS MARKETS.

Newcastle Hay and Straw Market, Tuesday.—There were 194 carts of hay and 47 carts of straw in the market.

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Old land Hay,	per Ton	3 0 0	to	6 0 0
" This year's growth		0 0 0	..	0 0 0
New land Hay,		3 0 0	..	5 12 0
" This year's growth		0 0 0	..	0 0 0
Clover Hay,		3 10 0	..	3 10 0
Wheat Straw,	per Thrave	0 1 2	..	0 2 0
Barley Straw,		0 1 2	..	1 4 0
Oat Straw,		0 1 3	..	0 1 9

Cumberland Hay & Straw Markets.—A small supply.

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Meadow Hay,	per Ton	2 15 0	..	4 7 6
Clover,		3 10 0	..	5 [illegible] 6
Straw,		1 10 0	..	1 1[illegible] 0

GLASGOW PIG IRON MARKET.—Tuesday.

	s. d.
Sellers	52 4
Buyers	52 3

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

Consett—On the 13th inst., the wife of Mr. George Carey, Co-Operative store, of a daughter.

At 309, Puddlers' Row, on the 7th inst., Mrs. Jones, of a son.

At Consett Terrace, on the 13th inst., Mrs. Richards, of a daughter.

Blackhill—On the 1st inst., the wife of Mr. George Burkitt, of a son.

On the 1st inst., Mrs. Curry, of a daughter.

Benfieldside—On the 3rd inst., Mrs. Surtees, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Gateshead—At the Registrar's Office, on the 8th inst., Mr. Matthew Davison, to Miss Sarah Smith, both of Stanley.

Corbridge—At the Parish Church, on the 12th inst., Mr. John R. Robson, of Hexham, to Miss Elizabeth Cowperthwaite, of Corbridge, second daughter of the late John James Cowperthwaite, Esq., shipowner, of Perth.

DEATHS.

Consett—At Sunderland Street, on the 9th inst, aged 3 weeks, the infant son of Owen Matthews.

At Sherburn Terrace, on the 11th inst., aged 25 years, Sarah Gee.

At Sunderland Street, on the 13th inst., aged 37 years, Bridget Mark.

At William Street, on the 13th inst., aged 1 year, Peter Hall.

Blackhill—On the 11th inst., aged 37 years, John Dobson.

Iveston—On the 1st inst., aged 3 months, Thomasin, daughter of Mr. Jasper Cockburn.

On the 2nd inst., aged 1 year and 5 months, Albert Edward, son of Mr. Thomas Hall.

Great Whittington—On the 6th inst., aged 83 years, Mr. John Amos.

Rochester—Reedwater, on the 6th inst., aged 2 years, Jane, only daughter of Mr. William Jackson, South Shields.

Poetry: Original and Select.

THE BRITISH ARMY AT THE BATTLE OF THE ALMA.

Gently rolls the night away,
Softly ope' the gates of day,
Fair Aurora's mein is gay,
And pours a lum'nous flood;
Phœbus, from his azure throne,
Smiles the bloodless field upon,
But before the day is done
He'll drink a draught of blood.

Alma's heights the Russians crown,
From the steens the cannon frown,
Limpid rills are murmuring down
To Alma moving slow;
Foes-of-tyrants deck the plain,
Hearts of oak are on the main,
Freedom draws her sword again
To lay the despot low.

Hark! "To arms!" the bugles say:
Now they form in dread array,
To the hills they bend their way—
Their watchword, "Victory!"
To arrest the tyrant foe,
To prevent the world's woe,
Lo! the friends of freedom go—
Their ensign, "Liberty!"

See the dauntless heroes now,
Courage stamp'd upon each brow—
Vengeance! vengeance! all avow
Upon the barb'rous foe.
Hark! they raise Brittannia's cheer,
Now they turn the listening ear,
Straining all the word to hear—
The signal word to go.

Hark! 'tis spoke—off! off! they surge,
Now they reach the river's verge,
'Mong the tangling vines they merge
Like lions at the prey:—
Loud the thund'ring cannon roar,
Down the steep the death-shafts shower,
Through the iron storm they pour,
And track their fiery way.

Hear the cannon's whizzing ball
And the rifles' rattling roll;
See! they join the *melee* all—
A flaming holocaust.
Placid streams all chafing turn,
Frigid hills with fire burn,
Craters wide insatiate yearn
To gorge the coming host.

See that gallant Highland band!
'Mid sulphureous waves they stand,
Heart to heart, and hand to hand,
And bound to victory all.
See! they pour the fiery flood;
See! they steep their steel in blood;
Braver men than these ne'er stood
On fam'd Bellona's roll,

Now, ye regal guardians, go,—
Ye whose hearts with ardour glow,—
Strike the last decisive blow,
And plant your standard high.
See the dauntless heroes toil!
See! the yielding foe they foil,
And their boasted legions spoil—
They conquer if they die!

Now they reach the fiery steep:
Forming—charging—on they sweep;
Palms and laurels now they reap,
A plenteous harvest they:—
See the trembling Cossacks! see
How they run—they fall—they flee!
Heroes! shout the victory,
And take the glorious day!

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Local Literature.

[Under this head we purpose inserting short essays by gentlemen in the district, which, we trust, will prove interesting to our readers. We are not, however, responsible for the opinions expressed by our contributors.]

AN ESSAY ON "STRIKES: THEIR EVILS AND REMEDIES."

By John Parker, Consett.

REMEDIAL MEASURES SUGGESTED.

That great and glaring evils exist in the present relations of master and servant, none will attempt to deny. The desire to dominate is conspicuous on the side of both labour and capital, and is now carried out with nearly as much determination as it was in the middle ages. The disputes between labour and capital, in many instances, are of great magnitude, and extend over large fields of labour; and, although they may be managed with greater moderation than formerly, their results are as pernicious as ever. Both France and England have adopted measures to prevent the frequency of disastrous disputes between capital and labour, but the history of the times since these measures came into operation, sufficiently proves that something more powerful than conciliation councils and courts of arbitration is required to conciliate the contending interests of both. In France conciliation councils have existed during the last sixty years, and although they have tended to diminish the number of trade disputes, and to mitigate the evils arising from them, yet it cannot be denied that serious differences frequently arise between masters and workmen in France. In England in the time of George III., courts of arbitration were established by law, and since that time both Mr. Mackiman in the House of Commons, and Lord St. Leanords, in the House of Lords, have strongly advocated their utility. The functions of conciliation councils and courts of arbitration extend to all disputes arising between master and servant, except those relating to nominal wages, which are still left an open question to be settled either by lock-outs or strikes. Such like institutions cannot possibly go to the root of the evil; at best they are but palliatives. In many instances they bring masters and workmen into friendly conference, adjust differences of minor importance, but signally fail in laying down a basis broad enough for the peace and prosperity of the future. It is only during the last seven years that the courts of arbitration have been called into active operation in England. Few trades in England have suffered more from strikes and lock-outs than the hosiery and glove trades of Nottingham. For a century past strikes have been frequent and protracted, and in some instances have led to disastrous and fatal consequences. It was among the operatives of these trades that Luddison took its rise. The frame-work knitters believed that improved machinery reduced wages, nor could they be prevented from making onslaughts on machinery until some of the unhappy leaders suffered the punishment of death. Throughout the present century, down to the year 1860, in which the board of arbitration and conciliation was established, strikes and lock-outs were of frequent occurrence, and in years of brisk demand, the trade was constantly subjected to loss and embarrassment consequent thereon. Both masters and workmen had serious difficulties to contend against. The system of employing middlemen, which has long been a custom in the trade, is liable to great abuse, and was frequently the cause of much irritation to the workmen. On the other hand the master has always to maintain a sharp competition with the foreigner, especially against the cheap labour of Saxony; and, however unreasonable the demands of the workmen may occasionally have been, their grievances have been many, and often calculated to embitter their minds against employers and their agents. When such were the relations of capitalist and workmen in these trades, we need not marvel at the stern measures adopted for the protection of the interests of each. As early as 1780 trades' unions were formed in the various branches of the trade. Strikes were the most common weapons of warfare. From these dissentions both the masters and workmen have been frequent sufferers. Frame-breaking and burning in effigy were among the worst consequences in the first quarter of the present century; and in modern times they have been embittered by gross personalities and inflammatory placards. The year 1860 was a memorable year for strikes in the trade; no less than three had taken place that year, and the fourth was about to be entered into by the wide-frame branch workmen, who demanded an advance of wages, which the masters could not afford to give. In the autumn of the same year these workmen struck, and as the masters were more than satisfied with those feats of gladiatorship by the power of capital on one side, and by the stolid endurance and starvation on the other, they resolved to try conciliatory measures. They invited the workmen to a conference, who cheerfully responded to the invitation, and a deputation of the employers met the men in the Committee-room of the Chamber of Commerce and, after a lengthy discussion of several days, all difficulties were adjusted, upon the express condition that a board of arbitration and conciliation should be formed to prevent such calamitous disputes in the future. The board was accordingly constituted, and met for the first time on December 3rd, 1860. Nine masters and nine men constituted the board. The workmen nominate one of the masters as president, and the masters nominate one of the workmen as vice-president. The question of wages, the manner in which certain classes of work should be performed, and the rate at which new classes should be paid, constantly occupy the attention of the board. When the board was first founded it was generally considered a doubtful experiment. Several of the masters were openly or covertly hostile to it; some regarded it as utopian and impracticable; others feared that it would divulge too many secrets of the trade, whilst some concluded that it was derogatory to their position and independence. These surmisings, however, have been gradually set aside, and the resolutions of the board have been generally responded to by both masters and workmen. Whenever any branch of economic law has been suggested outside the board, the operative delegates have always been the first to denounce it. The voice of reason and humanity have invariably had due weight with the delegates of both sections; and, although both masters and workmen are accustomed to express their opinion of each other's individual and collective acts without the slightest reserve, no manufacturer or workman has been known to suffer from the free and honest expression of his views. The most prominent benefits arising from this interchange of thought and opinion, is that workmen become more conversant with the laws that govern trade and commerce, with the influence of foreign competition, and with all that tends to augment or diminish the profits of capital. The masters also feel themselves to be in different relations with their workmen; they can now appreciate the difficulties of the labourer, and sympathise more with his trials and struggles to maintain and improve his condition. Although the board has done much to reconcile the conflicting interests of both the masters and workmen, yet its success is more attributable to its preventive than its curative character. Nine-tenths of the disputes arising in the trade are never brought before the board but are arranged by the timely interposition of a committee of enquiry, who, by taking prompt action, and by exercising a spirit of justice and conciliation, succeed generally in arriving at a satisfactory result; if unable to do so, a reference is then made to the board. In 1863 and 1864 the trade suffered severely from the effects of the American war: the masters sustained heavy losses, and the workmen suffered much from want of employment, nevertheless the committee of enquiry continued its duties, and as soon as trade revived the wages of labour were raised to a level corresponding with the increasing profits of the masters. During the seven years the board has existed no strike or lock-out has taken place, no personal attacks have been made, and no threatening handbills circulated. Never in the history of the trade has there existed so much good feeling between employers and employed as at the present time. And although the competition of labour has been great during the last three years, and much agitation on the question of wages has been prevalent throughout England during the same time, yet the manufacturers in this branch of industry have been able to accept contracts without apprehension, and execute them without delay. Advantages have also accrued to the workmen: when strikes were being carried out the trades' unionists were forced to pay heavy contributions to sustain them. Eighteen pence a week was no uncommon contribution for workmen to pay out of their scanty wages; moreover, it frequently occurred that both clothing and furniture of a great number of families disappeared during a prolonged strike. At present the contributions to their unions during some years do not exceed that of a single week under the old system. And the masters have ceased to look upon trades' unionists with displeasure and distrust.

From what has been stated of these courts of arbitration, it appears that their power to reconcile the diverging interests of capital and labour is of a limited nature, and though useful as far as it goes, yet a broader platform is required for the free exercise of those moral and economic habits of the labourer on which alone the success and prosperity of industrial pursuits depend. Differences of minor importance may be settled by their efficacy, but true motives to industry, economy, and self-restraint, will always be feebly developed in the conduct of the workman as long as he has no higher motives to action than those with which hired labour inspire him. What then, it may be asked, are those relations of capital and labour that guarantee the success of industrial operations and make the interests of both identical? Co-operation is the only fruitful soil on which such relations can take root and flourish. It breathes a moral fragrance hitherto unknown to all other social institutions. It engenders economical and sober habits in the workman, gives him a desire for intelligence on all matters appertaining to trade and commerce; it accomplishes in practice what economical science has failed to define in theory—that is, it solves the perplexing problem of labour and wages—it not only gives a stimulus to production, but materially diminishes the cost, thereby increasing both the profits of capital and the wages of labour. Yea, it even accomplishes more than this, for it lays down a broader platform for the practical working of christianity than is to be found in any other forms of social life adopted by mankind. As soon as this principle is adopted as the fraternal bond of capital and labour, and made the basis of their future relations, then will strikes and trades' unions cease to influence the mind of the operative: they will become as things of the past, disappearing

> "Like the baseless fabric of a vision,
> Leaving not a wreck behind."

There will then be no need of a protective policy adopted by masters and workmen to guard the interests of each, for both the profits of capital and the wages of labour will stand upon common grounds, and will rise and fall together; in short, their interests are identical. Neither masters or workmen can control the market price of a commodity that is partly regulated by the demand of foreign nations; yet one thing is certain, they can, by adopting the principle involved in industrial co-parturies, materially augment the fund that constitutes the profits of capital and wages of labour. Here is an example. The Messrs. Henry Briggs & Sons, of the Whitwood and Methley collieries, have adopted the policy advocated in this essay, and its success in establishing peace and prosperity at these collieries is well known to all readers of co-operative news. During several years the average annual profits at these collieries were only 7 per cent., and in 1865, the last year they worked on the old plan, profits had fallen to 4 per cent. The Messrs. Briggs claim 10 per cent. as their profit on capital; the excess is equally divided between capital and labour. It is now upwards of two years since the co-operative plan was brought to bear on the working of these collieries, and the average annual increase of the profits of capital show that the produce of labour has increased upwards of 13 per cent. There has been no higgling about wages, no strikes, and very few accidents; and what is better still, the men go to work with cheerful countenance, and attend it with more regularity.

Perhaps we may be told that the co-operative principle, as applied to the working of collieries has better chance of success, inasmuch as this branch of industry has been prosperous during many years. There is some plausibility in such remarks; but when we look at the balance-sheets of other societies engaged in other branches of industry, we find that the successful working of the principle still holds good. In the last six months of the year 1866, the average profits of eight societies, employed in differend kinds of labour, amounted to 24 per cent. Let capitalists seriously ponder over these facts, and decide on the merits of the old relations of capital and labour, and on those inaugurated by the genuine principle of industrial co-operation.

It is not only in England that partnerships of industry are taking deep root in the public mind; we find them assuming gigantic proportions in France, Germany, and America. In Paris alone there are upwards of 60 labour associations, engaged in almost every branch of industry, whose working capital has principally been supplied from the savings of the associates. America presents us with similar examples. In that "land of the brave and the free," where political liberty sits enthroned in the midst of her triumphs, labour and capital are joining hand in hand and gradually working out their emancipation on the principle of industrial partnerships. The power of this principle on the moral and social condition of the people who have been brought within its influence, is known to all conversant with its history. The "poor colonies of Holland" conducted on the communistic principles of Robert Owen, the Ralahine estate of Mr. Vandeleur, in Ireland, and the socialistic communities of America, so faithfully pourtrayed by Miss Martineau in her "Society in America," are all healthy examples of what the co-operative scheme can accomplish in increasing not only the productive powers of the labourer, but the wages fund of a nation.

The division of profits between capital and labour in these industrial co-parturies is not carried out on the same line of policy. The associated masons of Paris, and the carpet manufacturing firm of the Messrs. Crossley, Halifax, in England, give no bonus on the earnings of the non-shareholding portion of their workmen. Several societies, after giving 10 per cent on capital, make an equal division of the remaining profits between capital and labour; whilst others that are principally constituted of working capitalists divide profits equally between capital and labour.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Let English capitalists calmly ponder over the facts and principles enunciated in this essay; let them compare the old order of things with the new, and decide on the policy that has to determine the future relations of capital and labour. On that policy hangs the weal or the woe of England's future. If England has to maintain her industrial supremacy, it will only be accomplished by altering the relations of capital and labour on the plan proposed. Continental Europe, and America in particular, have mineral sources equal to England, and the manufacturing industry of these nations has made rapid progress during the last ten years. England herself has assisted in making them formidable rivals; she has not only supplied them with machinery, but she has caused the *elite* of British workmen to swell the ranks of labour in these nations, and caused them to compete against the interests of capital and labour in England. Let England now look to herself: let her be wise in time. The impolicy of her legislators and the selfishness of her capitalists are formidable obstacles in her path of progress. England can only maintain her ground against foreign competition by putting the advantages and rights of her people on a par with those of other nations. Let the surplus labour of our manufactories have free access to those large tracts of unreclaimed land in Great Britain, let her mineral resources be laid open to the free operation of capital and labour, let the purchasing power of the workman's wages be increased by the introduction of measures that tend to cheapen his food, clothing, and shelter, then, and not till then, will England ride secure on life's tempestuous sea, leaving far behind in her onward course, the wrecks of competitory nations and the ruins of internal strife.

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

Our advices were as under—from the West Riding of Yorkshire: "The growing crop of wheat is tolerably well spoken of; but the most trying time is to come. We had very high floods on Saturday in Yorkshire, which gave us notice to clear our lower floors." From the East Riding "The low lands are flooded, and but little progress has been made with out-door labour." From Northumberland and Norfolk boisterous weather was reported. On the light soils ploughing would go on favourably, but nothing could yet be done with heavy land, and there is a fear of spring tillage being procrastinated from the very wet state of many soils, and farmers are becoming anxious on this point. From the West coasts of Scotland, it was remarked: "The weather is wet and stormy." The weather has certainly not been very suitable for thrashing any grain, still somewhat better than previously; and the deliveries of wheat have increased: the amount returned this week 53,614 qrs. at 72s. 6d. against 49,584 qrs. at 62s. 4d. of the previous week; while the corresponding one of the past year was 60,512 qrs. at 62s. 6d. The deliveries of barley, on the contrary, have fallen off; the amount returned this week was 63,638 qrs. at 41s. 4d., against 67,060 qrs. at 42s. 6d. the previous week; the corresponding one of the past year was 48,209 qrs. at 45s. 2d. The price which wheat has attained, being the highest for many years, must be satisfactory to growers, and will compensate them for the short yield. The condition of the samples has been much affected by the weather, greatly checking the sale; in many instances three pounds per bushel have been lost, and this is a great deterioration in quality, that will make the price low in proportion. Thursday was a finer day, and ploughing was going on more generally in all the early countries, with some progress made. On Friday slight showers were experienced in the morning, but the day held up, with, however, heavy rain at night. Our advices from Lincolnshire on that day ran thus: "Owing to the boisterous state of the weather late thrashing could not be carried on, and small supplies are the consequence; but the amount of wheat and barley in stack is thought to be much less than usual. The growing wheat looks, on the whole, well, though in some low-lying districts the appearance is not satisfactory. Turnips are very plentiful and remarkably sound, and the number of sheep in the country at this time is unprecedented. There is a little stir in the wool trade, and sales are being made at 34s. per tod."—*Mark Lane Express.*

MISSING PEOPLE.

The mysterious disappearance of the Rev. Mr. Speke continues to bring to the surface the names of other missing gentlemen. The *Western Daily Press* says:—While the mysterious disappearance of the Rev. Mr. Speke is being discussed with great interest by the London press, and by numerous correspondents, it may not be amiss to call attention to a similar case, in which a man of some means vanished from amongst us so completely that not a trace of him was ever afterwards discovered. We allude to Mr. Charles Jones, of Bristol. Mr. Jones was an old man of eighty years of age—a thin, light man, of active habits. He resided at Stanley House, Upper Easton, and on the 7th December, 1866, he left his house about eleven in the morning, for the purpose of visiting a man named Nathaniel Ramsden, who kept a beer-shop known as the Railway Tavern, in Bristol, for the purpose of obtaining payment of the sum of £330, which was due to him from Mr. Ramsden. Mr. Jones was seen to enter Ramsden's house about three in the afternoon. He was afterwards seen in the yard adjoining the beer-house about a quarter to five in the afternoon, but from that time to this he has been searched for in vain. The police searched the adjoining premises (where there were a limekiln and furnaces used for melting fat, &c.), a Government reward was offered, the river was dragged, but not the slightest evidence could be obtained to show what had become of the missing man. Two days after Mr. Jones disappeared the landlord of the tavern, Mr. Ramsden, called on Mr. Ashmead, surveyor, who had on some occasions acted as agent to Mr. Jones, and said he had an appointment to meet Mr. Jones at Mr. Ashmead's office. He then stated that he had paid Mr. Jones the money he owed him (£330), and had made a mistake and paid him £340 being £10 too much, and he was to have this £10 back again. At the same time Ramsden produced a slip of paper purporting to be a receipt for the £330. Mr. Jones never called at Mr. Ashmead's office, and, as we have stated, he has never been seen since. We reproduce these facts simply to show that it is possible for a man to disappear without leaving a trace to indicate what has become of him. This week a local solicitor, Mr. Atchley, moved, by counsel, the Court of Probate to make a granted administration in the estate of Mr. Jones. Some very extraordinary affidavits were submitted, and the Court, regarding Mr. Jones as dead, granted the powers sought. This case is, perhaps, more singular than that of the Rev. B. Speke. The latter gentleman was lost in the world of London, and the nearest indication of the locality was found in the wide word "Westminster." But Mr. Jones was traced to a particular house where he was said to have large money transactions. The police made a most active investigation, but they were completely baffled, and Jones' case is likely for ever to remain, what it is now, a mystery not to be explained. We see, therefore, that a man may leave his house well in the morning in this well-guarded country, and be completely lost the same day. This was Jones' case; it is also the Rev. B. Speke's case. Such disappearances are suggestive, and they are anything but pleasant to contemplate. They show that there are dangers under the surface of ordinary events which are at once bewildering and inscrutable. Where is Mr. Jones, or his body, at this moment? The same question may be asked in respect to Mr. Speke, and what possible answer can be given?

The *Manchester Guardian's* London correspondent writes:—"I hear it said that Major Campbell, whose disappearance, without notice or ostensible cause, some short time ago created as much astonishment and caused as much pain to his friends as lately that of the Rev. Mr. Speke has done, was next but one in remainder to the title and estates of Breadalbane."

Lieut.-Colonel Sandys, on the Bengal Retired list, writing from Menai Bridge, observes:—The case of the mysterious disappearance of the Rev. Mr. Speke so closely resembles that of my nephew, Lieut. Robt. Mecredy, of the Bombay army, that a brief sketch of the circumstances may interest the public at the present juncture, and might possibly lead to serve elucidation. Lieut. Mecredy left his lodgings, No. 6, Bury Street, St. James's, on the 4th February, 1864, in a cab, with the avowed intention of going to Dublin to visit his relations (and possibly myself *en route*), but from that day to this has never been heard of, although every imaginable step was taken at the time to trace him. Sir Richard Mayne was applied to, advertisements issued, detectives employed, and rewards offered, &c.; but all in vain.

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* asks whether this is the first time Mr. Speke has been lost; whether he did not, about six or eight years ago, after the breaking off of an intended marriage, go from home suddenly, leaving no trace, and whether he was found two or three weeks after at Paris.

The distress in the mining districts of Cornwall is unabated.

An advance of 1s. per week in the wages of farm labourers in Norfolk is becoming general.

An Old Servant of Royalty.—Mrs. Sarah Randall, who died on the 5th inst., aged 77, had been for forty years in the Royal household, attached to the service of George III., George IV., and William IV., and after the last monarch's death she was wardrobe woman to the Dowager Queen Adelaide, with whom she remained till her Majesty's demise. She then retired on a pension from the Crown. Mrs. Randell had so devotedly acted while in attendance on William IV. during his last illness, that the Fitzclarence family, as a testimonial, presented her with a piece of plate bearing a handsome inscription.

A number of leading trades' unionists, as a deputation from several societies, had an interview with Mr. T. Bazley, M.P., and Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., at Manchester, on Saturday last, for the purpose of discussing the proposed Act of Parliament relating to combinations and trades' societies, which is promoted by trades' unions. Both the hon. members entered into a courteous discussion with the deputation, and, without giving a distinct pledge to support the proposed bill, they appeared to admit the force of its general principles, and expressed a hope that before long the disputes between masters and workmen would be settled without strikes.

Spirit of the Press.

MR. BRIGHT'S CONSERVATISM.

The *Spectator* remarks—While advocating the secularisation of the property of the Irish Court, Mr. Bright would reserve about three millions out of the supposed 13 millions which it possesses to break the fall of the established faiths, Anglicanism and Presbyterianism, from endowment to self-support; and in order not to commit an injustice, he would give to the Catholic Church for like purposes a little bit of globe in every parish, if possible—a fair proportion of this reserved three millions. We should have no objection to this Conservative caution of Mr. Bright's. But if the Catholics would not accept such a gift, even though it were understood that the bulk of the Church property is to be devoted to secular purposes, we do not see how we could offer it to the other churches about to be disendowed. If we admit the principle that—vested interests being reserved—the property of the Irish Church belongs to the whole nation, we cannot break the fall of the establishments without persuading the Catholics to accept their share of such a gift—which may prove a difficult business. If the Catholics were but willing, we should see no objection to the fair distribution even of the whole property in this way. But they are not, and we anticipate not much less objection to the acceptance of a gift of part than a gift to all such purposes. In fact, Mr. Bright's proposal on this head seems to us to have more importance in relation to the moral impression of caution and sobriety which it will produce as coming from him, than in relation to any other probable result. We doubt if either of Mr. Bright's conservatism which leads him to propose some little break of the fall of the established religions—or the conservatism which leads him to propose confining his dealings with the Irish land to the case of *voluntary* sales—will be ultimately advisable. But anyhow, they are not conservatisms which in the least disguise his thoroughly earnest desire to govern Ireland on principles which will make Ireland content and loyal, rather than on principles which we only think *ought* to do so because they make England content and loyal. With Mr. Bright as Secretary for Ireland, we should feel some hope of at length winning over the Irish to a *bona fide* belief that the easiest way of getting "Ireland for the Irish" in the truest sense, is *not* by the very painful, difficult, and circuitous route of the repeal of the Union.

THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

The *Post* is by no means sanguine with regard to the Abyssinian expedition. Our contemporary does not desire to re-open the question of policy; but when it calls to mind that the justification offered by the Government for the precipitation with which they acted, and for having gone so far without the sanction of Parliament as to render it impossible for the House of Commons, however averse it might be from paying the cost of a war in Abyssinia, to refuse the necessary supplies, the question may be fairly asked how far that justification has been vindicated by facts. We were told that if the Government had not acted with promptitude there would have been no probability of concluding the war before the month of April next—a period at which it was agreed upon all hands the climate of Abyssinia would necessitate a suspension of hostilities. In a word, the Ministry saw a chance of overpowering the Emperor Theodore by a *coup de main*; and however desirous they might have been of ascertaining the wishes of Parliament, they could not, without exposing themselves to just censure, allow the golden opportunity to slip. And accordingly war was resolved upon, a commander-in-chief of the expiditionary force appointed, transports chartered, contracts for the supply of a large commissariat concluded, baggage animals, from elephants down to mules, brought up in considerable numbers, and even a staff of officers sent to reconnoitre the approaches to the country which we were about to invade. Everything to effect the success of the intended *coup de main* was done; but somehow or another, everything leads us to believe that after all it will be nothing more than a *coup de force*.

The *Herald* has a word to say about the defective organisation in some departments of the Abyssinian expedition. This has nowhere been more visible than in the transport service, on which the success of the expedition depended. Special correspondents have told us how animals have been allowed to die of hunger and thirst, how the transport train itself is composed of officers at discord among themselves, and how they have not provided veterinary or other surgeons for either men or beast. It was not in the expectation of such grave defects of organisation as these that the country consented so willingly to the long delay and the heavy cost entailed by the slow advance of so large a force, instead of urging the rapid advance of a flying column to do or die in the attempt. But we have not called attention to these lamentable shortcomings in the transport department of the army merely to find fault with what there is blame in this particular instance. Our object is to show the absolute necessity for preparation, if success is ever to be obtained at a reasonable cost; not the preparation which begins when the troops ought already to be moving, but that which keeps every part of an army always ready to move. Can there be a more melancholy contrast than the months of delay, with their subsequent result, in shipping this small force to Abyssinia, and the hasty shipment the other day of the French force for Rome? We spend a huge annual income on our army at home and abroad, but, shortsighted in our policy, we stop short of making our army mobile; and doing this we spoil all. Soldiers with weapons in their hands, but without proper transport organisation, are like a trunk and arms without legs. The Abyssinian campaign will not be an unmixed evil if it enforces this lesson at any cost.

THE FRENCH PRESS BILL.

The rejection by the Corps Legislatif of the amendment proposed by the Opposition, submitting press offences to the adjudication of a jury, will render, remarks the *Post*, the new law for the regulation of the press as delusory as its bitter opponents have stigmatised it as being. There was just one means of rendering this measure what it pretends to be, namely, one of enfranchisement, and that means has, after an animated debate, been rejected by an overwhelming majority. If a vote decided by a majority of 199 against a minority of 35 fairly represented the conscientious opinion of the French Chamber of Deputies, we should have nothing to say, because their vote might then be accepted as indicative of the national will, and we are not so fondly wedded to our own notions on the subject—nor, for that matter, has the union been of so old date as to justify us in presuming that we must necessarily be in the right, and that the majority of the Corps Legislatif are in the wrong. But it would be mere affectation to pretend that, whatever may have been the merits of the question in dispute, the vote of the Chamber, constituted as it is, could have been otherwise. The "Government candidates," as they are not incorrectly termed by the authorities at the parliamentary elections in France when returned, invariably do their duty to those who secure their election, and it would be just as likely that they would vote according their conscientious opinions on the merits of any measure submitted by the Government, as it would be far for an English "whip" to give his support to the opponents of the party to which he belonged.

THE DEATH OF SIR DAVID BREWSTER.

Speaking of the death of Sir David Brewster, the *Standard* says: Rich in honours, he descends to a tomb which seems radiant with the splendour of a marvellous intellect. The learned societies of the whole civilised world have showered their dignities on the Scottish philosopher. Kings and emperors have recognised his worth, and the annals of science will make him famous for all time. The lesson which such a life teaches to mankind at large may not be lost. It shews how certainly in the search for truth those who seek shall find. It was not by dreaming and speculating that the venerable Principal of the University of Edinburgh rose to his high position as a successful student of nature. Patient and intelligent industry was the secret of it all. It was here a little and there a little—a stone laid upon a stone—which reared the structure of his fame. Such men need no monuments at the hands of the sculptor or the architect. They build their own monuments, and leave imperishable records on the page of human thought. Neither does anyone of these stand by himself. They are the advanced guard of human progress, the pioners of intellect, piercing many a dark forest, bridging many a gulf, levelling one difficulty after another, that those who follow may find the way plainer, smoother, brighter, and better than it was before.

The Liverpool Cab Strike.—This strike concluded on Saturday, having lasted just a week. Both sides have made concessions.

Ultimatum of President Johnson on the Alabama Claims.—The Washington correspondent of the *Evening Standard* has official authority for saying that President Johnson, rejecting all offers of arbitration and the diplomatic efforts of his Secretary of State, has determined to bring the Alabama question to a crisis. He will present, as the ultimatum of the United States, the settlement of the claims upon the basis insisted on by his Government, or suspension of diplomatic relations between the two countries. This is said to be a bid by Mr. Johnson for popularity and for re-election to the Presidency.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The report that Garibaldian recruits are now being enlisted at Genoa is contradicted.

Accouchment of the Crown Princess of Prussia.—Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Prussia, gave birth to a Prince at three o'clock on Monday morning.

Capital Punishment in Sweden.—The Committee of the First Swedish Chamber has just decided, by eight votes to seven, in favour of the abolition of capital punishment.

Great Fires in Paris.—A telegram dated Wednesday evening states that the printing establishment of the *Ibbe Moane* has been burnt down. The damages are estimated at six million francs.

The *Italie* learns from Rome that "amongst the Cardinals and high functionaries of the State great anxiety prevails, attributable to the nature—less amicable than is generally believed—of the existing relations between Rome and Paris.

A Vienna telegram says it is officially stated that there is no foundation for the rumour that a Russian fleet under the command of the Grand Duke Constantine, was to proceed to Athens. It is said that a conference has been proposed in view of eventualities in Bulgaria and Servia.

A Priest Burnt to Death.—The Abbe Renard, the venerable cure of Sabencourt, France, has just been burnt to death. His body was found almost carbonised by the side of a stove at which he had been warming himself. The deceased had for some time past been blind and helpless.

The Abyssinian Expedition.—Advices received at Alexandria on the 9th inst., from Annesley Bay to the 29th ult. announce that Sir Robert Napier had arrived at Senafe. The Punjaubees landed on the 8th. It was reported that a skirmish had taken place between Abyssinian freebooters and a British reconnoitering party in the direction of Antalo.

The ex-King of Naples is so elated with the prospects of the reactionary party in Italy that he has reappointed his entire cabinet, dismissed, it will be remembered, on the cession of Venice to Victor Emmanuel. Though the King ever since evacuating Naples has resided at Rome, the Pope, true to his legitimist doctrine, never recalled his nuncio from "The Court of the Two Sicilies."

We read in the *Independance Belge*:—"A telegram from Paris addressed to the *Cologne Gazette* announces that the refractory Hanoverians will be invited by the French Government to quit the territory of France; they will not be admitted to the Foreign Legion. The telegram adds that in this affair the French Government have acted with great loyalty and promptitude, without waiting for Prussia to make the smallest movement in the matter."

Austria and Rome.—The *France* of the 11th says the negotiations of Austria and Rome for the revision of the concordat encounter serious difficulties. Baron von Beust has demanded the complete abolition of the present concordat as a preliminray step; but the Pope wishes that it should serve as the basis for the modifications proposed.

The French Press Bill.—At the sitting of the Legislative body on the 11th, the debate upon the Press Bill was continued. After speeches from MM. Pickard, Jules Favre, Rouher, and Ollivier, the identical amendments of MM. Guerait and Beauverger, proposing that the penalty of imprisonment should be maintained in cases of defamation of character, were rejected by 170 votes to 59.

Sad End of a Miser.—A man named Lerouge, living at Roubaix, and possessed of a competency, but known to be of extremely miserly habits, was lately missed by his neighbours. His house was at last entered by the authorities, and his corpse was found in the midst of indescribable filth, partially devoured by rats. A medical examination proved that he had died of inanition.

The *Sanfrancisco Monitor* tells the following story:—A German family, owning a rancho about three miles below Dublin, Almeda county, had on several occasions been robbed of joints of fresh meat left by the butcher in a box at their door on his early morning rounds. Determined to punish the offender, they poisoned a quantity of meat with arsenic and placed in a box. The next day the meat was gone, and a Spanish family named Alviro, ten in number, who lived hard by, were taken violently ill. Two died, and the lives of the others were despaired of; but the Germans had the satisfaction of knowing who stole their beef. Such is the value attached to human life in California.

Falling off in the Trade of the United States.—The *Times* says the commercial accounts from America continue to show an extraordinary falling off in the trade with this and other countries the value of the goods imported at New York in January having been only about £1,910,000 against £2,990,000 in the same month of last year, and £3,600,000 in 1866. The exportation of gold, however, has been £1,420,000 against £500,000 in each January of the two preceding years. At the same time the import trade is threatened with a serious blow by the bill introduced into the House of Representatives, to abolish the bonded warehousing system. The debt and currency questions continue to be urgently discussed by all the journals, and a good of pamphlets with regard to them seems to be issued daily.

America.—The House of Representatives has passed a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the truth of a report that a Judge of the Supreme Court had in private conversation denounced the Reconstruction Act as unconstitutional, and declared that the Supreme Court would so decide. The committee is instructed to report whether the offence demands impeachment. At a democratic mass meeting, that took place at New York on Thursday evening, the 30th ult., resolutions were adopted denouncing the course of Congress as revolutionary and partizan, and endorsing the acts of President Johnson. The prominent speakers were in favour of Mr. Johnson as a candidate for the Presidency. The *New York Herald* publishes intelligence from Canada stating that a strong movement had been inaugurated in Nova Scotia for the repeal of the Confederation Act.

Russia and War.—The organ of the War Office at St. Petersburg, the *Invalide Russe*, publishes a curious article, in which, while making strong professions of peace, it argues that circumstances render a European war inevitable. "It must be admitted," it says, "that of the 210,000,000 people who inhabit the south and west of Europe, hardly 50,000,000 are satisfied with their political position, the rest being compelled by the force of things either to think of giving stability to their conquests or retrieving their losses. Neither Prussia, who has not yet completed her political structure; nor France, limited in her supremacy; nor Austria, distracted by the irreconcilable aspirations of Germans, Slavs, and Magyars, nor Italy, stopped before the walls of Rome by the Chassepot rifle; nor Denmark, which is still waiting for the promised restoration of part of her territory; nor Greece, which wants Epirus, Thesaly, and Crete; nor the populations of the peninsula of the Balkan, suffering under the barbarous yoke of Turkey—can accept the present *status quo* and not desire, or at least hope for a change. When dissatisfaction is so prevalent, it is difficult to prevent a European convulsion.

The Disaster at Naples.—The Naples correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 2nd inst., says:—I passed some time this morning in Santa Ducia, which is still the great point of attraction. As I explained yesterday, two tunnels have been bored; one by the city engineers under the street from the sea to the cellar of the wine shop, the other on the surface of the street and under the ruins from the entrance of the Castel Uovo to the door of the wine shop. This has been formed by Signor Zampari, who for seventy hours worked incessantly. In the cellar, which lies under the whole of the tavern, a cat, alive, and glasses and bottles were found. At the time I was there the borings above and beneath had arrived at the spot—that is to say, the engineers above and those below could correspond with each other faintly. The stairs from the cellar into the compartment, on the right towards Santa Lucia, as also the compartment itself, were filled with *debris*, so that efforts were being made to force an entrance into the left compartment of the house in the direction of Chiatomona. The door of the shop, however, was found broken down and the shop itself full of rubbish, so that the sole hope remained of finding some one in a bed-room beyond hollowed out in the back of the mountain. The engineers had little expectation of rescuing any one; the natural impulse of the unfortunate sufferers would be to rush into the street, and the probability is that their bodies will be found some time hence under the ruins. At present it is impossible to remove all, as it serves to shore up masses of stone work, each weighing at least half a stone, and fragments of the cliff and of houses. Large buttresses of stone work are being erected in Santa Lucia to support the base of the mountain, and guarantee the well-known lodging-houses, Nos. 28 and 30, against a disaster; for the entire cliff all round to the church is of the same formation. On the summit of the mountain the officers' quarters of the barracks are now nearly removed, the shell alone remaining. Half way down hang large blocks of mason work and of sandstone, which heavy rains or a slight shock would inevitably bring down. In fact, the danger can be removed only by cutting away the tufa, so as to form a greater incline.

Railway Time Tables.

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

CONSETT BRANCH.

UP TRAINS.—WEEK DAYS.

Stations.		1, 2, G. A.M.	1 & 2. A.M.	1, 2, G. P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	6·10	10·20	5·10
Scotswood	„	6·17	10·26	5·17
Rowland's Gill	„	6·31	10·39	5·31
Lintz Green	„	6·37	10·44	5·37
Ebchester	„	6·50	10·56	5·50
Shotley Bridge	„	6·55	10·59	5·56
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	„	7·1	11·3	6·1
Knitsley	„	7·11	11·12	6·11
Lanchester	„	7·20	11·22	6·20
Witton Gilbert	„	7·30	11·32	6·30
Durham	arr.	7·40	11·42	6·40

DOWN TRAINS.—WEEK DAYS.

Stations.		1, 2, G. A.M.	1 & 2. P.M.	1, 2, G. P.M.
Durham	dep.	8·15	12·10	7·55
Witton Gilbert	„	8·26	12·21	8·6
Lanchester	„	8·37	12·32	8·17
Knitsley	„	8·47	12·42	8·27
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	„	8·58	12·53	8·38
Shotley Bridge	„	9·3	12·58	8·43
Ebchester	„	9·6	1·1	8·46
Lintz Green	„	9·15	1·10	8·55
Rowland's Gill	„	9·20	1·15	9·0
Scotswood	„	9·35	1·30	9·15
Newcastle	arr.	9·45	1·40	9·25

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

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

UP TRAINS.

Stations.		Go. A.M.	Return. P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	8·0	3.50
Scotswood	„	8·7	3·57
Rowland's Gill	„	8·21	4·11
Lintz Green	„	8·27	4·17
Ebchester	„	8·40	4·30
Shotley Bridge	„	8·45	4·35
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8·55	4·45
	dep.	9·0	5·10
Knitsley	„	9·11	5·21
Lanchester	„	9·24	5·34
Witton Gilbert	„	9.36	5·46
Durham	arr.	9·50	6·0

DOWN TRAINS.

Stations.		Go. A.M.	Return. P.M.
Durham	dep.	7·50	4·0
Witton Gilbert	„	8·3	4·13
Lanchester	„	8·15	4·25
Knitsley	„	8·28	4.38
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8·40	4·50
	dep.	9·30	6·16
Shotley Bridge	„	9·35	6·21
Ebchester	„	9·40	6·26
Lintz Green	„	9·49	6·35
Rowland's Gill	„	9·56	6·42
Scotswood	„	10·13	6·59
Newcastle	arr.	10·25	7·11

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY.

GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

Stations.		A.M. 1, 2, 3.	P.M. 1, 2, 4.
Carrhouse	dep.	6·20	3·30
Cold Rowley	„	6·30	3·40
Burnhill Junction	„	6·40	3·50
Tow Law	„	6·55	4·5
Crook	arr.	7·20	4.30
	dep.	7·30	5·20
Bishop Auckland	„	7·55	5·50
Darlington	„	8·33	6·18
Stockton	„	9·35	7·28
Middlesbro'	„	9·50	7·30

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

Stations.		A.M. 1, 2, 4.	P.M. 1 & 2.
Middlesbro'	dep.	6·23	2·10
Stockton	„	6·35	2.22
Darlington	„	7·30	3·10
Bishop Auckland	„	8·0	3·40
Crook	arr.	8·30	4·10
	dep.	8·35	4·35
Tow Law	„	9·5	5·0
Burnhill Junction	„	9·20	5·15
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