ROBERT JACKSON'S
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
16, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK, SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.
AGENT FOR STANLEY:—Mr. M. G. ARMSTRONG Newsagent, Havanna Post Office.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

DOWSON'S
SALE
NOW PROCEEDING.
BLACKHILL.

No. 1,694 REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, February 17th, 1893. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

W. T. FOXALL, 4, Northumberland Street, Newcastle, and 1, Station Street, Middlesbrough, makes private ADVANCES from £5 upwards at shortest notice on personal security. Reasonable interest charged to respectable persons. Information as to terms free on application personally or by letter at either of above Offices. Newcastle Office hours, 11 to 6; Saturdays, 10 to 1. 637

ALLIANCE ADVANCE BANK

THIS BANK IS PREPARED TO MAKE CASH ADVANCES ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE TO CLERGYMEN, PROFESSIONAL GENTLEMEN, FARMERS, COWKEEPERS, and HOUSEHOLDERS generally (male or female) in sums of £10 to £5,000, on borrowers' written promise to pay.

Applicants may rely upon the strictest privacy being observed in all communications and transactions, which is so essential to persons requiring accommodation; a guarantee to this effect can easily be obtained.

REVERSIONS PURCHASED. NO FEES. PROSPECTUS GRATIS. Apply in strict confidence, to

J. MORGAN, MANAGER,
10, NEVILLE STREET (OPPOSITE STATION),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
HOURS, 10 TO 4. 929h

MONEY!
IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.
THE
SUNDERLAND COMMERCIAL ADVANCE BANK,
29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND.

Are prepared to ADVANCE daily from £10 to £1000, To Clergymen, Gentlemen, Farmers, Cowkeepers, and Householders generally (male or female) simply ON THEIR OWN PROMISSORY NOTE, at the most reasonable rates of interest.

NO PUBLICATION. NO BILLS OF SALE.
NO SURETIES REQUIRED.
STRICTEST SECRECY GUARANTEED.

No connection with Loan Offices or anonymous advertisers. Prospectus free. Apply at once before going elsewhere, as you will find special advantages in dealing with this Bank.

ALEXANDER WOLFE,
94j Manager.

THE NORTHERN FURNISHING CO., LTD.

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Sums of £1 and upwards are received on Deposit on the following terms:—
£4 per cent. per annum
(Withdrawable on demand.)
£5 per cent. per annum
(Subject to One Month's notice of withdrawal.)
£6 per cent. per annum
(Subject to Three Months' notice of withdrawal.)

Sums of not less than 1s. are also received at 5 per cent. per annum interest, and can be withdrawn at 14 days' notice.

Prospectus, etc., sent free on application to the General Manager, Mr ROBERT IONS, 277 and 279, Westgate Road, Newcastle; or Mr GEO. LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate, Lintz Green.

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH INSTITUTE, STANLEY, R.S.O., Co. DURHAM.

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION of the above.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender obtained at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders to be delivered at the above Office, on or before Four p.m., on Wednesday, March 1st, 1893.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
Feb. 8th, 1893. 445k

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE above Society are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the ERECTION of 4 HOUSES, Out-offices, Stable, &c., at Catchgate. (Walls Brick).

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender obtained, at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders to be delivered at the above Office, on or before 4 p.m., on Friday, February 24th, 1893.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
Feb. 8th, 1893. 444k

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are invited for the several WORKS (Excavator, Mason, and Bricklayer's Works—Labour only) required in BUILDING THREE HOUSES, SHOP, OUT-BUILDINGS, &c., at Consett, for Mrs M. DAGLISH.

Plans, Specification, and Conditions of Contract, may be seen on and after Saturday, February 18th, at 40, Roger Street, Blackhill, Co. Durham, between the hours of 9 a.m and 5 p.m.

Tenders, Sealed and Endorsed, to be delivered to the undersigned, at the above address, on or before Tuesday, February 28th, 1893

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

WILLIAM S. SHELL, M.S.A.,
Blackhill, Feb. 16th, 1893. Architect, &c.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for the TEAM WORK required for one year.

Conditions and Specifications may be seen at the Board-room, on and after Monday, the 20th Feb.

A Form of Tender will be supplied on application, and no Tender will be considered except those on the prescribed form.

Tenders, addressed to the Consett Local Board, will be received up to Five o'clock p.m., on Tuesday, 28th February.

The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

A bond will be required for the due performance of the Contract.

By Order of the Board,
THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Clerk.
16th February, 1893. 519k

STANLEY LOCAL BOARD.

TENDERS are invited for the CONSTRUCTION of about 700 YDS. of 12IN. STONE WARE PIPE SEWER, with Manholes and Lampholes, &c.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Local Board Offices, Front Street, Stanley, on and after the 21st inst.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Townley Estate Sewerage," to be sent to Mr JOHN GEORGE RIDLEY, Clerk to the Board, on or before the 28th day of February.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.
Stanley, Feb. 15th, 1893. 497k

Found.

FOUND, a Black and Tan CUR BITCH. If not claimed in three days will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply, B. SHELDON, 8, Nelson Street, Consett. 505k

FOUND, a SILVER WATCH. Owner can have same on giving description and paying expenses.—Apply at TYLER'S BOOT SHOP, Middle Street, Consett. 510k

Wanted.

WANTED, SERVANT GIRL, age 17 or 18.—Apply to R. TEASDALE, Park Hotel, Consett.

AGENTS WANTED to push first-class Machinery Oils. Liberal Commission.—Box 31, Post Office, Liverpool. 218k

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

Wanted.

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT good washer and early riser.—Apply, 106, Durham Road, Blackhill. 485k

WANTED, Strong Young GIRL, chiefly to look after children.—Apply to *Guardian* Office, Consett. 531k

WANTED, for Young Man, in Consett, a BED and SITTING-ROOM combined.—Apply, by letter to Box B, *Guardian* Office. 529k

WANTED, BED-ROOM and SITTING-ROOM at Consett, for Single Gentleman; permanent; state terms.—Address, "Alpha," *Guardian* Office, Consett. 516k

EXPERIENCED GENERAL SERVANT WANTED, at once; fond of children.—Apply, MARLEY HILL VICARAGE, any Forenoon, or by letter. 484k

WANTED, by the WEST STANLEY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, a CARETAKER, duties on application to the Secretary.—To apply to the Committee, on Monday Evening, Feb. 27th, 1893, at 7.30. To state wage required; confined to Members of the Society. 492k

WANTED, by the ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, for the Langley Park Branch, a YOUNG WOMAN, with five years' experience, to buy and take charge of a Millinery Sales and Trimming Business about to be opened; must not be under 20 years of age; Wage 16s per week.—Applications, with two recent Testimonials, to be made to the Committee, Annfield Plain, on Monday Night first, at Seven o'clock.

To Let.

TO LET, on the 13th of May, HOUSE and SHOP in Front Street, Shotley Bridge.—Apply, Mrs MOSLEY, Church Bank, Shotley Bridge. 406k

HOUSE TO LET, at Hole House Farm, near Allansford.—Apply to ROBERT ANDERSON, Mosswood. 496k

FINE FARM, nea Frosterley, TO LET, and entered on the 13th day of May, containing 80 Acres or thereabouts of Grass Land, with an unlimited right on Wolsingham South Common.—For particulars apply to G. DOWSON, Fine, near Frosterley, who will receive Offers up till the 1st March. 435k

For Sale.

FOR SALE, cheap OLD LAND HAY.—Apply, G. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer, Catchgate. 522k

FOR SALE, a HARRISON (New Patent) KNITTING MACHINE, no worse than new. Apply to T. KIDD, Railway Street, Leadgate. 487k

FOR SALE, 2 WHITECHAPELS, strong and good.—Apply, T. GATISS, Earl Grey Inn, West Kyo. 521k

FOR SALE, a Good Singer's SEWING MACHINE, no worse than new, cost £7 7s., will take £4.—Apply, 33, South Medomsley Cottages, Dipton. 533k

FOR SALE, a BARGAIN, good Second-hand PALACE ORGAN, 11 stops, couplers, and two knee swells; £13 cash, or 8s 10d per month. Call and see it at ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S, Town Hall Buildings, Consett. 467k

FOR SALE, a 2 years old THOROUGH-BRED BROWN FILLY, big, strong, well-made, by Claremont, out of an Albert Victor Mare, would make racer, hunter, or carriage horse. No engagements.—Apply, W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 474k

HAY, STRAW, and MOSS LITTER, Oil and Cotton Cakes of the best make, whole or broken. Feeding Stuffs of every description. Noted Horse Feed. Also, Best Flour, at lowest market prices, at WHITEHEAD'S, Miller, Consett. 925j

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

UNREDEEMED PLEDGES.—MEN'S, WOMEN'S, and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, Bed and Table Linen, Blankets, Bed Rugs and Quilts, very cheap, at HEPTON'S, Pawnbrokers, Blackhill. Weekly payments taken. Money Lent. 954j

HAY CROPS may be greatly increased, and HERBAGE enriched with Clovers at small cost. Clovers, Meadows, and Pastures will yield profitable returns if Manured with Thomas' Phosphate Powder, or Albert's Basic Phosphate Powder. The more nutritious Herbage results in larger yields of richer Milk, Beef, Mutton, and Wool cheaply produced. Save cost of liming, a great economy, better results.

SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS for Messrs Albert for four Northern Counties of England and Scottish Borders:— LANGDALE BROTHERS,
46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Machines for sowing on hire or sale. 136j

T. OWEN,
WHOLESALE SADDLER,
AND SADDLERS' IRONMONGER,
73, & 77, SIDE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HAVING moved into his NEW and more EXTENSIVE PREMISES, near his Old Establishment (which has had to give way to Railway Extensions), begs to thank the many Customers who have patronised him so well during the last 12 Years, and to inform them that he is still SELLING at the Cheapest Rate, and Lower than his usual Prices, a large Stock of Harness and Saddlery of every Description:—

HORSE CLOTHING, RUGS, STABLE SHEETS, WATERPROOF CART & WAGGON COVERS, LOIN COVERS, GIG APRONS, GIG LAMPS, CLIPPING MACHINES, and all kinds of Stable Requisites.

T. OWEN also wishes to intimate that, owing to the extensive Premises he has acquired, and which are now undergoing important alterations, he will be able to execute any Order, large or small, by which he may be favoured, with great despatch.

Business Announcements.

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

GAS COKE FOR SALE AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE GAS WORKS.

GAS COKE will be SOLD daily to the general Public at the above Works, at 4d per cwt. on and after the 19th inst.

M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, Dec. 16th, 1892. 110k

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

T. A. MOFFITT & Co.
125, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD.
WHOLESALE IRONMONGERS, PLUMBERS, AND GASFITTERS,
MANUFACTURERS OF STREET AND HOTEL LAMPS.
Estimates supplied for Girders, Columns, Iron Work, Stable Fittings, Stoves, Kitchen Ranges, Chimney Pieces, and General Hardware.
Contractors for the Street Lighting at West Stanley and Annfield Plain.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA the Finest Tea in the World. Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
25, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH!
FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.,
CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 3 TO 6 P.M.,
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13 AND 14, FRONT STREET.
(SIDE DOOR).

FEBRUARY, 1893.
GEORGE RICHARDSON & SONS,
DRAPERS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
Beg to announce their
ANNUAL STOCK-TAKING AND CLEARANCE SALE
Of Surplus and Winter Stock will commence on SATURDAY, FEB 11th, and continue for 14 Days.
The Stock has been re-marked at Prices to effect a speedy clearance.

G. R. & Sons are enabled to offer several clearing lots at specially low prices, including a STOCK OF BLACK FRENCH MERINOS, from 1s. 4½d., worth 1s. 11d., and Better Qualities equally cheap.

BLACK AND COLOURED CASHMERES, SERGES, AND MELTONS will be cleared regardless of cost.

The STOCK OF FLANNELS, BLANKETS, WOOL SHIRTINGS, & FLANNELETTES at lowest prices.

MEN'S and BOYS' READY-MADE CLOTHING will be offered at Great Reductions to clear.
Remainder of Millinery and Straw Hats at Fabulous Prices.
REMNANTS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS AT HALF-PRICE.
439h All Goods bought during Sale must be Paid for at time of Purchase.

ROBERT GREER & CO.,
STRAWBERRY STABLES, NEWCASTLE.
BREAK HORSES TO SINGLE AND DOUBLE HARNESS AND TO RIDE.
LADIES' HACKS FOR SALE OR ON HIRE.
RELIABLE JOB HORSES.
HORSES SOLD ON COMMISSION.
TERMS STRICTLY MODERATE. 252k

THOMAS ELSDON,

HAVING Passed Examinations for Pianoforte Playing and Theory in the National Society of Professional Musicians, International College of Music; and having also Passed Advanced Senior, with Honours, in the London College of Music, is PREPARED TO GIVE LESSONS ON PIANOFORTE, ORGAN, and MUSICAL THEORY.

TERMS: MODERATE.
ADDRESS: DELVES LANE, CONSETT. 240j

MESSRS. T. D. DRYDEN & CO.
GROCERS AND WINE MERCHANTS,

Wish to thank their Customers and Patrons for their large amount of patronage this year. We have one of the Largest and
BEST STOCKS OF WINES AND SPIRITS IN THE COUNTY.
Our New Price Lists are now ready, and we trust by prompt attention to merit a still larger share of your orders.

Our Own Blend Glenfyne Whiskeys	3s and 3s 6d per Bottle.
Mitchell's Irish	2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d ,,
The Gordon Blend	2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d ,,

GIN, RUM, BRANDIES, AND WINES AT SPECIAL PRICES.
SEND YOUR ORDERS SOON.
OUR STOCK OF GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, and FANCY XMAS GOODS is Large and Varied, and for Quality and Cheapness cannot be beaten.
FRONT STREET, CONSETT (NEXT DOOR TO NORTH-EASTERN BANK.)

JOHN HUME & SON,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.
TRY THEIR ORIGINAL
OPTIMUS HORSE MIXTURE,
Which is perfectly cleaned by special machinery. Do not be led away by other and cheaper Mixtures claiming to be the same. Also, their
GERM MEAL,
Pronounced by competent judges the BEST and CHEAPEST FEED in the Kingdom for COWS, PIGS, &c.
Genuine LINSEED and COTTON CAKES, whole and nutted.
Nothing but the Finest Brands of HUNGARIAN, AMERICAN, and ENGLISH FLOURS always in stock at the lowest possible prices.
Every Variety of FEEDING STUFFS of the Finest Quality.
LACTINA FOR CALVES.
OUSEBURN MILLS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

ESTABLISHED 1817.
GEORGE HOBSON
MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.
HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NOTED
FOR THE BEST AND CLEANEST HORSE FEED.
WHOLE OATS, CRUSHED OATS, SPLIT BEANS, PEAS, AND MAIZE, MIXED WITH OATS AS REQUIRED, OR SOLD SEPARATE. ALL THOROUGHLY CLEANED BY NEW & IMPROVED MACHINERY.
G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF FINES, SUPERFINES, EXTRA SUPERFINES AND HUNGARIAN.
TRY G. H.'S PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL, MANUFACTURED BY HIMSELF, AND CANNOT BE SURPASSED.
LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE AND BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c.
Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all Kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices.
G. H.'S CALF MEAL IS NOW WELL KNOWN—REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

Dealer in Agricultural Implements of all Kinds, including the Special Mower and Reaper, Sole Agent of the North for the McCormick Self-Binding Reapers and Steel Mowers, the Bullard Tedder, Tiger Horse Rake, &c. The best and lightest Draught Machines in the Market. Broadcast Hand Seed Sowers, &c.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,
AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett, Stanley, and surrounding Districts that he visits as usual at MRS. JONES', 10, Mount Pleasant, Consett, every MONDAY, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, Stanley, every FRIDAY from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

Made with all the Latest Improvements, at the Lowest Possible Price that Good Teeth can be made for with the Best Materials. Old Sets Re-made and Repaired on his own system, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new.

All Teeth Extracted Painlessly by his recent discovery, which is perfectly harmless, thus avoiding the danger of the old system by the use of Cocaine.

W. T. SMITH thoroughly guarantees all his work for 5 years, and a written guarantee will be given when required, and as he has now been practising in Newcastle and District for 15 years, it will be seen that he has a permanent Address at 19, Eldon Square, where he can always be found, as guarantees are of no value from others who have no permanent place, but simply visit the district for a time, and leave no address. Train Fare will be allowed to all Patients desiring to come to Newcastle, where they can, at all times, consult me personally.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESSES—
MRS. JONES'S, 10, Mount Pleasant, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 to 5.
AND AT
MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, STANLEY, EVERY FRIDAY, from 11 to 5.

PHOTOS.
VENICE DUNN,
PHOTOGRAPHER,
HAS REMOVED TO HIS NEW PREMISES
7, AND 8, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

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

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
("THE OLDEST AND LARGEST.")
HAS SINCE 1849 PAID FOR
ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS
£3,200,000.
ESTABLISHED, 1849.
Rt. Hon. EVELYN ASHLEY Chairman.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.
W. D. MASSY, A. VIAN, Secretaries.
Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
S. H. HORSEY,
105, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASLE-ON-TYNE,

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of CONSETT, STANLEY and DISTRICT, that, having left the service of Mr W. T. Smith, he now attends at the house of Mr BROWN, 8, Newmarket Street, Consett, every Saturday, from 11 till 5, also at Mr THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, Front Street, Stanley, every Monday from 11 till 5, and is prepared to supply the finest English and American Mineral Teeth at the most Reasonable Charges, consistent with perfect workmanship.

A Single Tooth from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Complete Upper or Lower Set from One to Five Guineas.

These Teeth can be adjusted without pain or the removal of stumps or loose teeth. Patients attended at their own residences if desired. Old sets re-modelled or new teeth added. Successful treatment guaranteed and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or a new set made.

NOTE THE ADDRESSES:—
ATTENDANCE AT MR. BROWN'S, 8, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT
(Opposite Co-operative Stores), every Saturday, from 11 till 5. Also,
ATTENDANCE AT MR. THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, FRONT STREET, STANLEY,
Every Monday from 11 till 5. 415g

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

PIANOS!!! ORGANS!!!
WADDINGTON & SONS, 15, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

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

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

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

PIANOS	From 10s. per Month.
AMERICAN ORGANS	From 7s. per Month

Second-hand Pianos from £10.

Write or send for Price Lists and Designs.

WADDINGTON & SONS, MANUFACTORY, YORK, & AT 15, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
Manager - JAS. EMERSON 956g

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,
6, 63, AND 64, FRONT STREET,
WORKSHOPS—BACK PALMERSTON STREET, CONSETT,
AND
LONDON HOUSE, FRONT STREET, STANLEY.
COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS AND IRONMONGERS,

SPECIALITIES IN
IRON BEDSTEADS,
SPRING MATTRESSES,
HAIR MATTRESSES,
FLOCK MATTRESSES,
DOWN BEDS,
FLOCK BEDS,
FEATHER BEDS,
DRAWERS,
PRESSES,
BOOKCASES,
DESKBEDS,
DINING ROOM,
DRAWING ROOM,
BEDROOM,
FURNITURE
IN GREAT VARIETY.
FLOORCLOTHS, LINOLEUMS, CARPETS, AND COCOA MATTING, WRINGING AND MANGLING MACHINES.

DEALERS IN GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, LAMPS, OILS, PAINTS, VARNISHES, BRUSHES

BLASTING AND SPORTING POWDER. DYNAMITE AND FUSE.
MANUFACTURERS OF CABINET FURNITURE FOR THE HOME MARKET.
Agents—London Assurance Fire Corporation.

MR. ALLAN M. CARSWELL,
SURGEON DENTIST,

BEGS to intimate to the Inhabitants of the Counties of Northumberland and Durham that he has commenced the practice of his Profession at

1, BELLEGROVE PLACE, SPITAL TONGUES, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Mr. CARSWELL takes this opportunity of stating that he has had 15 years' experience in Dentistry and for the last 7 years has been partner with Dr. SQUIRE ALLEN (the celebrated American Dentist, of Edinburgh). He has thus thoroughly acquired the experience necessary for the skilful performance of all Classes of Dental Work.

All persons employing Mr. CARSWELL may confidently rely on receiving First-Class Workmanship and careful personal attention.

TEETH PAINLESSLY EXTRACTED. ARTIFICIAL TEETH AND STOPPING. CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.
AT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY FROM 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (At Mrs. WHEELAN'S Park Road.)
AT STANLEY EVERY TUESDAY FROM 11 a.m. TO 5 p.m. At Mr WHITFIELD Furniture Dealer, Front Street, Stanley).
Also, EVERY PAY THURSDAY, at Mrs Fairless, Colnwood House, High Spen.

Correspondence.

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

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

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

£5 GIVEN AWAY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—A great commotion has been caused in our village by your correspondent "Watchman," in his "Notes from the Spen District," making some very serious remarks against our local football club, viz.:—"That he was sorry to see, in some matches, the home team go on the field in a very drunken state." Then he goes on to say that the referee is not very often sober. Now, sir, a great number of the members of the Spen Albion A.F.C. take the *Consett Guardian*, mostly to read your football news, but when they saw the *Guardian* on February 3rd, and saw the notes of "Watchman," falsely accusing them of the above-mentioned offence, they called a meeting, to publicly deny these accusations, and also passed a resolution to this effect:—"That the Spen Albion A.F.C. will give £5 to any temperance movement in the district if "Watchman" can prove what he has said, and giving the name of the visiting club, and the date of the match in which the offence was committed. If "Watchman" refuses this grand offer, I think the public will come to the conclusion that he has been dreaming, or that since he ran against the clothes-line at Victoria Garesfield he has been "winking the other eye."—Yours, etc.,

Look Straight.

PUBLIC SECURITY IN BUILDING SOCIETIES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Considering the many advantages enjoyed by the thrifty classes from Building Societies in the past, is it not a great pity that public confidence should have received so severe a shock throughout the length and breadth of the land, by the dishonesty of officers connected therewith? In most cases the lamentable consequences can, I think, be traceable to general lethargy, exercised by those placed in positions of management, who should have been vigilant and *en courant* with the facts of the Society, but who have neither used that power for the benefit of the public, nor seen that others were appointed who would do so. Can nothing be done to "take time by the forelock," and see "that the stable-door is locked before the horse is gone." Could any of your many readers, conversant with Building Societies, suggest a proper check on the accounts kept by these Societies' officers, which would commend itself to the members? They would be conferring a great boon "pro bono publico."—I am, sir,

A Looker-on.

TITHES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Your correspondent, "Pro Bono Publico," seems to think it a waste of time to thrice slay the slain by replying to the recent letters in your widely-circulated paper. There is, however, one statement which may require an answer, namely, the alleged division into more than one part of the parochial tithes. No such division was ever enforced in England, and the whole of the tithe belonged to the parish priest when not absorbed by a monastery or lay-rector. Mr Nye in his able work, "The Church and her story," cites the testimony of the two ablest English historians of this century, and I might add of any century, Stubbs and Freeman, the latter a layman and a Gladstonian—that the whole of the parochial tithe was for the support of the parish clergyman. The Liberation Society, however, circulates a most dishonest tract, entitled "Tithes and the poor," from which I imagine your correspondent derived his information. Mr Thomas Moore, who has made a special study of the question, has published a tract bearing the same title, on sale by the "Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge," in which he completely demolishes the miserable Liberationist tract. "Tithes in England," he writes, "were never in their one-fourth or one-third part by law assigned to the support of the poor. Ordinary parochial tithes, that is tithes arising in the parish, and wholly payable to the clergyman of the parish, were never mentioned in any Act of Parliament as in any way legally chargeable to the poor at all." The Liberation Society says that "Nobody seems to know exactly how or when the poor lost their legal claim to a share of the tithes." Our reply is: For a very good reason, and that is, that the poor never had a legal claim to ordinary parochial tithes at all. Acts of Parliament are never lost. Let the Liberation Society produce the Act of Parliament setting forth the "legal claim." After exposing several vain attempts of the Liberation Society to do this, by misquoting and mangling Acts of Parliament which have nothing whatever to do with the matter, Mr Moore asks: "How came it to pass that in the Act of Parliament in the twelfth year of King Richard the Second, setting forth regulations as to the poor who were in need of relief, there is no mention of a portion of the tithes of their parishes being chargeable to their relief?" He asks the same question with regard to Acts of Parliament during the reigns of Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, and Queen Elizabeth, in which it must have been noted if there was any such charge. Your correspondent, I regret to say, when speaking of the Poor Law, never mentions the change brought about by the suppression of the monasteries and the confiscation of their income by King Henry the Eighth, who bestowed it upon laymen. Bishop Latimer—afterwards a martyr—pleaded earnestly for the preservation of these revenues for charitable purposes, but in vain. The monasteries had been obliged, by Acts of Parliament passed before the Reformation, to contribute to the relief of the poor, but the laymen who took possession of them were not always willing to do this. In time a Poor Law was passed, and not only the holders of monastic estates, but all land and householders were obliged to pay a rate agreed upon by the rector, churchwardens, and parishoners, and for the first time clerical tithes were also rated for the relief of the poor. So far from the statement of your correspondent being true, I maintain on the contrary, that the parish clergy contribute proportionately more than any other persons to the support of the poor. If you want to be sure of this go to the person who keeps your parish rate-book, and you will find that your rector or vicar, if he draws any income from tithes, is rated upon every pound of that income for the support of the poor. In addition to the misrepresentations about tithes which have been pointed out, all manner of untrue statements are being held out to the working classes, the agricultural labourers, and the poor, to influence them to vote for the disestablishment and disendowment of their Church. They are led to believe that the whole of the tithes belong to the Church. A Radical candidate is reported to have said that while landlords reduced thir rents, tithes are not reduced; while he ought to have known the tithes are always reduced in bad times, and that an owner of an hundred pounds of tithes last year only received seventy-five pounds, and had in addition to pay poor rates. No wonder a London paper had an article upon this mistake headed "Deplorable ignorance." Another Radical M.P., about seven years ago, was forced to admit that he would vote for the confiscation of a few pounds of tithes belonging to a parish clergyman, but would not vote for the confiscation of a thousand pounds of tithes annually paid to a well-known Radical member of Parliament. The rector in question, I may add, spent more than the whole of his clerical income upon his parish, while the Radical M.P. did not reside in the district! Nor do these Radical surpporters of disendowment always tell their constituents that not only the vested interests of the clergy will have to be respected, but that the lay patrons will have also to be compensated. In Ireland there were very few lay patrons, but in England and Wales the number is very large. No living Englishman is likely to gain much by the disendowment of the Church, except he be either a clergyman or a lay patron. In a money point of view the present clergy would be great gainers, and it is much to their credit that although any scheme of disendowment would enrich them they are opposed to it. The working classes would gain nothing, and the agitation in England does not come from them. The return lately obtained by the Duke of Westminster shows us that the churchmen have contributed in the last eighteen years over twenty millions of money for building new churches and restoring old ones. This return does not include any churches restored at a less cost than five hundred pounds. Had the Church been robbed of her property eighteen years ago, the masons, the joiners, plasterers, slaters, and other workmen in England and Wales would have been the poorer by more than twenty millions. One great man advised Churchmen not to spend money on bricks and mortar in these troublous times, but with the faith of Christians in their Church and her Lord, we believed that the walls of our Jerusalem would not be broken down by our Liberationist enemies. My reason for opposing disendowment arises from a horror of robbery, and of the worst form of robbery. "The Church of England," to quote the well-known words of Dr Rigg, president of the Wesleyan Conference, "does not derive a farthing of revenue from public taxation." I pay tithes myself to two lay tithe owners, but do not look upon it as a tax. About three thousand five hundred rectories and vicarages are so poorly endowed that they have little to lose, but as a matter of principle, I trust, no Churchman will be tempted to consent to the robbery of funds for which we are only trustees, although he might take joyfully if need be the spoiling of his own goods, as thousands of the clergy did during the usurpation of Oliver Cromwell. A national sin like this must bring with it a national punishment. The plunder of the Monasteries brought a curse upon those who took part in it and upon their children.

> "They tell us that the Lord of Hosts will not
> avenge His own;
> They tell us that He careth not for temples overthrown;
> Go look through England's thousand vales, and
> shew me, he that may,
> The Abbey lands that have not wrought their
> owner's swift decay."

—I remain, sir, yours obediently, G.H.R.L.

February 10th, 1893.

IS SPIRITUALISM TRUE?

AGNOSTICISM AND MORAL RESTRAINT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—If "Loranus" will be kind enough to point out to me where he ever found "moral restraint" living or thriving without religion or religious influence, I shall be infinitely obliged to him. Agnosticism and Secularism blow a loud trumpet, I am aware, but where are their practical works, to which they lay claim, but naturally have no claim whatever? I appeal to any man of common sense and experience, to any student of history, to any man with his eyes open, and ask if he can, by any process of argument, or system of logic, for one moment deny the incontrovertible fact that all our noble, benevolent, and practical institutions (without exception) organised and maintained for the amelioration, help, or rescue of suffering humanity, have been instituted, and are now kept up by Christian men, and not Agnosticism or Secularism. Now, sir, I need not point to these numerous institutions, spread over the world wherever civilization exists. Their name is legion, and their noble founders have all been Christian men, and their supporters are now actuated by the same principle. For the physical, moral, social, and religious improvement, happiness, and blessing of mankind do they exist. Where then, oh where, has Agnosticism or Secularism, in any part of the world, an institution, a house, a home, a shelter, an hospital, a school, a church or chapel, a founder, a leader, or teacher, standing offering help or aid to the needy? Do let us have practical facts, and not the empty blast of a trumpet. The beautiful lines, and sublime sentiments in your last issue, by Burns and Tennyson, were never breathed or inspired by Agnosticism or Secularism—perfect nonsense and untruth. Natural laws give no uncertain indication, bitter is not sweet, and heat is not cold; and unless you pervert the English language, and the impressions given to us through the medium of our senses, and you harmonise fiction with fact, then I say the grand institutions of the world, being the glory of civilization, will stand forth as witnesses and monuments, being as they are, decidedly and emphatically, Christian in origin and character, to which *no other ism* has any right to lay claim.—Yours, etc.

Order.

WHAT IS SPIRIT?

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

"Philosophy, wisdom, and liberty support each other; he who will not reason is a bigot; he who cannot is a fool; and he who dare not is a slave."

Sir,—The only condition I laid down in inviting an exchange of ideas between "Light *v.* Darkness" and myself was, that it was his duty to commence the discussion; and I am not a little surprised at his arguing otherwise. All precedents are on my side. To speak of it as a condition, as I have done above, is perhaps a little misleading. Accurately speaking, it was only an intimation to act according to the ordinary rules of debate; thereby preserving order and regularity. All debates, without exception, are conducted under this rule, and I would earnestly invite my opponent to name any debate where the person who led in the debate negatived the proposition at issue. When my friend says that "no subject was agreed upon," he is only partially correct. For throughout the discussion upon "Is Spiritualism true?" my opponent was upholding the existence of spirits, and at the same time condemning Spiritualism and exposing its many absurd fallacies. This was the very cause which led to my interrogation. I therefore submit that the subject for discussion between us was "What is Spirit?" but as my friend has objected to lead, I waive my right in the case, and gladly do so myself; only observing that his refusal to state his case on the clear issue is virtually giving up the whole argument as to the possible proof of the existence of spirit. He leaves me his letter to reply to. I fear that this will only lead to confusion, and benefit nobody. If the issue had been simply "What is spirit?" we would have had a definite point to debate, but my opponent in his letter invites me to reply to questions on matter, motion, intelligence, design, instinct, mind, life, etc., in order, as he says, to state my position. I would say that the subjects are too many. Each of the above is itself a subject for separate discussion, and when one cannot write at length to fully state his points, an unscrupulous antagonist might make use of points never raised, and reply to arguments which space precluded the writer from using. I am not speaking in any personal sense here, to my friend.

I will, as briefly as possible, reply to the most important questions raised by my friend, only again observing that the correctness or incorrectness of my answers do not in the least affect the point concerning spirit; as my ignorance on any question of physics is no excuse for any dogmatism on his part.

Taking his points in proper logical sequence, the first one is:—"Is it (matter) a necessity or a contingent. It must be one or the other, if the latter it might or might not have been. Under what circumstances, and why does it exist at all? If the former, how, when, and where arose the necessity." My opponent is evidently not afraid of piling on questions, as the reader will see. "Light *v.* Darkness," in the above, is referring to chance, and I at once say that I do not believe in such a cause as chance. Chance is contingency, and contingency is ignorance, so therefore nothing. Chance indicates a condition of our minds, and not an operation of nature. But, before you assume anything concerning matter, it is your place to give some proof for your assumption. You assume in the above that matter *came* from somewhere. But you must first prove that matter ever *came*, and then it will be time to discuss how, why, or where it came from. Mere assumption proves nothing, if not supported by facts. Opinion is worthless unless based upon reason and evidence. My position on this point is the same as every other Atheist. I know that matter exists; this needs no proof. I also as strongly assert, on the highest scientific authorities, that not one atom of matter can be either created or destroyed—this, I may say, is unquestionable. Therefore, it logically follows that either the beginning or ceasing of matter to exist are alike inconceivable, and, consequently, my position is the absolutely true one. This question of the origin of matter reminds me of the old catch question "When did you leave off picking pockets?" (The reader will observe the insinuation of the question, half inferring the addressed person to be guilty.) But the proper answer is, "When did I begin to pick pockets?"

I will here put the issue between us clearly, in the words of that noble and glorious Atheist, Charles Bradlaugh:—"I, as a Monist, affirm only one existence, and that is matter. This matter, or nature, to me means the totality of all phenomena, and of all that has been, is, or may be necessary for the happening of each and every phenomenon." So that matter to me is self-existent, eternal, and infinite. I know of no other existence, and it is clearly my opponent's duty, if he possess another existence, to produce his evidence to prove his assertion.

"Light *v.* Darkness's next query is "How do I account for motion? Did matter set itself going?" I would here like to remind my friend and I think he will see the justice of the remark, that I do not vainly consider myself a Solomon. I am but a young student of these mighty questions, only probing as far as my poor ability permits me. Everyone knows that the merest child can put questions to puzzle the deepest thinker, and I would like to observe that, from his mode of asking, the reader might infer that the questioner knows all concerning motion. I hope that "Light *v.* Darkness" does not mean to convey this impression. First, I consider the question rather vague. Motion of what, I ask? I know of no motion apart from matter. If my questioner means *where* did motion come from? I invite him to first prove that motion ever came at all. That is the point of the question. I contend that motion, as everyone knows, is universal and continuous. I find motion existing, and I infer that it has always existed, and will exist for ever. At least I cannot conceive of its cessation. I repeat that motion is never seen apart from matter, and if "Light *v.* Darkness contends for the contrary, he has to prove the existence of motion *per se*, a task given up by all thinkers.

My friend's next reads as follows, "Is there not evidence of design in every particle of matter, great or small? If so, who was the designer?" This is the old, old question of Paley's again. Designer indeed! Suppose your contention for a designer to be true, for the sake of argument, then I ask further—who was the designer of the designer of the universe? and further again, who was the designer who designed this earth of ours? and so on *ad infinitum*. Proving a designer also proves a first cause, and any person who has at all thought, knows this is an impossibility. Chemical science and common sense gave this argument its death-blow, the former by asserting that no one chemical force in nature can operate till it comes in contact with another, and the latter by proving it a self-contradiction, because a first cause implies that the first cause was causeless, and a causeless cause is absurd nonsense. My opponent's assertion places him in this position. He asks me do I believe in a square triangle, and I at once deny its existence, so he can try to prove his position, which to my mind is as impossibility as every mathematician knows. I have a beautiful quotation from John Stuart Mill on design, but space forbids its insertion.

"Light v Darkness" writes that "matter does not possess thought, reason, or intelligence," and this argument plays an important part in his letter. I give a flat denial to this statement, and I ask him, wherever did he see thought, reason, or intelligence, but as modes of matter. I maintain, as a stronghold of my position as a Materialist, that intelligence is a direct result of certain combinations of matter, and of it alone. Let "Light v Darkness" prove that intelligence exists *per se*, that is, of itself, and then my position is gone. Is my intelligence something hovering about my head, guiding my every movement and every thought. Is my intelligence outside of myself, if so where is it? I know of no intelligence outside of myself, and I fail to comprehend any such idea. Intelligence is only a high class of knowledge, and knowledge, my friend, must exist in the brain, and what is brain but matter. Mind is only a result of certain modes of material. When mind is spoken of I mean "the sum of the remembered perceptions of any person or animal, and its, his, or her's thinkings upon such perceptions." Prof. Max Muller writes "All consciousness begins with sensuous perception with what we feel, hear, and see. Thinking consists merely in the addition and substraction of percepts and concepts." If mind and spirit are one, then I maintain that I can destroy mind—thereby destroying soul which at once does away with man's supposed immortality. My opponent's next question is one of vital importance. He asks "What about life—from what source did it proceed, and where does it go? That it is an indestructable thing apart from and independent of matter there can be no question. When did matter ever produce it? What is it then?" The one serious fault that I find with my opponent is that he is continually assuming too, too much. That it (life) is an indestructible thing my friend writes. Indeed, I reply. To test this point. please allow some friend to pop a bullet (a lead one) through your head, and judge if life is indestructable then. I am afraid my friend will not try the above kind of experiment. What then is life? Life to me is "The state of an organised body in which the organs perform their separate and collective duties." "Life is the total organic functional activity of each animal," (Bradlaugh). Herbert Spencer says that "Life is the continuous adjustment of internal relations to external relations." So my friend must see that life is only the name we give to certain combinations of matter, and when such combinations cease to exist, the life also ceases. Man can destroy this collocation of matter and cause death, so my opponent is again in this dilemma, if he says that life is spirit, he admits that man can destroy another man's spirit or soul. Life is not an entity but a condition of matter, and its supposed coming from anywhere is therefore nonsense. I must now conclude. I hope "Light v. Darkness" will seriously study this my answer, and let us have a pleasing and profitable public chat, remembering the words of my favourite poet, Byron:—

> "Yet let us ponder boldly—'tis a base
> Abandonment of reason to resign
> Our right of thought—our last and only place
> Of refuge: this, at least, shall still be mine:
> Though from our birth the faculty divine
> Is chained and tortured—cabined, cribbed,
> confined
> And bred in darkness, lest the truth should
> shine
> Too brightly on the unprepared mind
> The beam pours in, for time and skill will
> couch the blind."

White-le-Head. Hall Nicholson.

Feb., 1893.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I have read the letter of your correspondent "Orion," in the *Guardian* of Feb. 3rd, with great interest, and will attempt with your permission, to suggest a few answers to the questions he raises. Both Spiritualism and Orthodox Christianity appear signally to fail in offering a rational solution of the mystery of life. But there is a Spiritual science which, by combining the transcendental features of both, without their limitations, is able to present as fair a solution of the difficulties as can be found in any system of human thought. I refer to Theosophy, with its central doctrines of Reincarnation and Karma. This theory postulates the existence of an immortal divine Ego in man, who dips through a succession of earth-lives into matter and learns from it. At the present stage of human evolution he is fitted with an inadequate brain-machine through which to manifest in all his fulness. He has therefore to project, as it were a ray of himself—a small bit of his divine nature—which function, through the brain, becomes "I," and forms the channel through which the experiences of earth-life can pass to the greater self beyond. The Ego therefore, becomes, when incarnated, a duality, which we will term, for convenience, the higher and lower self, or the soul and the personality—the part that does not incarnate, and the part that does. We there learn that the frail, limited thing we call the daily self, the personality, is not the whole of us. Contaminated by contact with matter, trammelled by the inadequacy of the instrument through which it has to function, the personal self forgets, when on earth, its divine source, and tends continually towards the lower animal nature. At death, the limitations of matter being removed, the divided Ego becomes once more united, and passes for a time, into a subjective condition named by Theosophists, Devachan, in which he assimilates and reviews the experiences which have been collected for him during the past life, by his lower aspect, the personality. Now the object of mundane existence is the building up of the Ego, and the Devachanic condition is one of the most important means to that end. But so long as there are any fresh experiences to be gathered from earth-life—so long as there remain resources in the human condition yet inexhausted—so long as there exists the smallest affinity, engendered by the personality, to things of earth, the Ego must return from its free subjective state, to the necessary restrictions of its school-house, human life. Now, Theosophy asserts that although to all appearances the "accident of birth" is beyond human control, a man can regulate by his conduct in one life, the conditions under which he is next re-born. For with every throb of life, humanity is creating forces which shall powerfully re-act in after lives, in the direction either of good or evil, in accordance with Karma, or the law of cause and effect. Therefore, as in the first case mentioned by "Orion," a personality who deliberately cuts himself off from the influence of his higher nature, and lives, while on earth, the life of an animal, is likely in his next life to have a very imperfect vehicle through which to function. He has wasted a stage on his journey, and will find himself, in consequence, handicapped in the next, by an idiot brain, or an environment bereft of opportunities. In the second case mentioned, it is possible that the higher Ego may have cut off all connection, for that life, with its lower part, retiring with the accumulated experiences of the first part of the life, to the spiritual regions, and leaving the deserted personality a slowly-dying wreck. What had been already learnt, however, is not lost, the cream of every event, in the long chain of past lives, remaining with the higher self, whose education has temporarily to suffer through the partial failure of its personality. Such is an outline of the Theosophical theory—brief even to the verge of incomprehensibility. The limits of a newspaper letter will not permit the fuller exposition of a doctrine which can stand the test of a minute and searching examination, and still remain invulnerable. I shall, however, be happy to answer, to the best of my ability, any questions on the subject which may be sent to the undermentioned address.—Yours faithfully, F.T.S.

The Beeches, Newnham, Gloucestershire.

VACCINATION: USELESS AND DANGEROUS.

THE LATE MR SUMMERS, M.P., AND VACCINATION.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—More noticeable than either the death of Mr Summers, late M.P. for Huddersfield, or his loss to the Liberal party in the House of Commons, as a politician of no mean pretensions, is the capital which has been and is being made out of the statement that it was his fate to fall a victim to the fell disease of malignant small-pox in India, and was unvaccinated and also that he was an ardent opponent of vaccination. The statement is erroneous. True, he fell a victim, and died of small-pox. True, it is not that he was unvaccinated, and was an ardent opponent of vaccination. Mr Summers, when in Parliament, made himself useful to the anti-vaccinators. This we don't deny, for on many occasions he rendered slight but valuable service to the anti-vaccination cause, but, I believe, only as an opponent of compulsion. He made himself master of a few particulars regarding compulsory vaccination, which, he saw, was driving to despair the people, and he noticed also the tyrannical disposition of its enforcers. This is the sum and substance of Mr Summers' anti-vaccination policy, and here, with him, the matter dropped. He was never, in the ordinary sense of the word, an anti-vaccinator, and was, when engaged on any enquiry, always most cautious and reserved. Despite these plain facts, however, every effort is being made to make people believe that he was a "fanatical opponent" of vaccination. The *British Medical Journal* (of January 14th) forsooth, in a very coyish and insinuating manner, *a la manner*, to wit, that perhaps he was not even vaccinated in his childhood, says he "had not been re-vaccinated even if he were vaccinated in his childhood." Regarding the re-vaccination of Mr Summers, there is, however, not a little doubt—a point on which evidence will shortly be forthcoming, and of his vaccination in infancy, the fact is proved, for the official copy of the certificate is now lying at the offices of the London Anti-Vaccination Society, as certified by one Dr Thomson that he had successfully, on January 19, 1854, put William Summers, son of John Summers, nail manufacturer, born at Robinson Street, Dukinfield, on November 4, 1853, through an operation which the "great and noble benefactor" Jenner said was to leave him "for ever after secure from the infection of small-pox," and which according to the declaration of Sir John Simon left him "unable to betray any remnant of susceptibility to infection." We live in an era of rapid changes and we are not at all surprised at unexpected changes, not even occasionally, but when an injustice is done to the dead, we as conscientious men, resent it. The paucity, however, of men is astonishing, considering the number of them. "Say nothing but is good of the dead," is a familiar Latin maxim. Would that it were a little oftener practised! I am, yours, &c.,

Joseph Collinson.

Front Street, Wolsingham.
February 5th, 1893.

SALE OF THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—In last week's *Guardian* there is a paragraph on the above subject which I cannot allow to remain unnoticed. About two months ago, having been informed that the Wesleyan Chapel was on sale privately, I offered, on my own responsibility, £800 for its purchase. A meeting of the Trustees was called, my offer considered, and most politely declined. Other offers followed, and as much as £950 was bidden by a Mr J. W. Laws, of Gateshead. The Trustees, however, decided to advertise in the public papers that they were prepared to receive tenders for the purchase of the chapel, to be sent in not later than Feb. 7th. In reply to enquiries which I made, I was informed, that in the sale of Wesleyan Church property, the uses to which it might be put when sold were to be taken into careful consideration, and it was left to the discretion of Trustees, in the interests of Methodism, financially or otherwise, to accept or decline the highest offer. On the 31st of last month, I made, on behalf of Mr Thomas Spencer, of the Grove, Ryton, an offer of £1,000 for the purchase of the old chapel. Mr Spencer also guaranteed to me £150 to make certain alterations deemed necessary. The uses to which the chapel, if bought, was to be put are contained in these words:—"I will buy it, and hand it over to Trustees, for a parish hall or Institute somewhat on the lines which you describe in your letter." My "lines," as I explained to some of the Trustees before their meeting on Feb. 3rd, were to provide a lecture-hall with raised seats for scientific purposes, a centre for the promotion of temperance work for Consett and district, a centre also for the union of different choral societies in Consett and neighbourhood in one large association, a large room below for mission and other useful purposes, on a broad scale, &c. I ventured also to remind the Trustees that Mr Spencer was already a donor of £50, that his brother had given £20, and that the relationship sought to be established between the Wesleyan Trustees and Mr Spencer, as vendors and purchaser, might be advantageous in the future; but especially, that the building for which the general public had a great regard would be secured to them permanently for useful purposes. It only remains to explain how the decision of the trustees to sell the chapel for the highest offer was arrived at. Three offers were received: The Freemasons', Mr Spencer's (the amounts of these being already known), and Mr Laws'. A second letter accompanied Mr Laws' letter containing his offer, which, through the courtesy of one of the trustees, has been shown to me. In this letter, to be opened first, Mr Laws requested that, unless the trustees decided, before they opened the tenders, that they would accept the highest offer, the letter containing his offer should be returned to him unopened. After much deliberation, this condition of Mr Laws' was agreed to, regardless of every other condition; and I received a note from the chairman of the Board of Trustees, stating that at their meeting they decided, before the tenders were opened, "to accept the highest offer sent in, and this proved to be one from Mr John W. Laws, of Gateshead, for £1,055." To the great surprise of nearly all the trustees, Mr J. W. Laws proved to be Mr Thos. Swainston, of Consett. I have only to add that having found out who was the real purchaser, I called upon him, and asked whether he really wanted the chapel for commercial purposes. The result of my interview was not satisfactory, and Mr Spencer's generous offer, which might have been supplemented by £100, has been declined, and cannot, as far as I am concerned, be renewed. Personally, I shall have little cause to regret my failure to purchase the old chapel, and to secure it, unaltered in its outward appearance, for the good of the town; but I am sorry to think that the kindly religious feeling which appeared to exist amongst all classes last year when the foundation stones of the new chapel were laid should have been disturbed, and that, at the opening of the new Wesleyan Chapel in the summer, a less harmonious feeling should prevail.—Yours, &c.,

Fred. Steggall.

Feb. 14th, 1893.

DURHAM MINERS' POLITICAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

We quote the following from the address just issued to the members of this association:—"The Gladstonian Government have reduced the qualification as low as the law will allow them. Now, every man who is rated at five pounds, is eligible for election as a Guardian. Here, then, arises our increased responsibilities and our duty. We must seek out fit and proper persons. The area of choice is largely widened. Our complaints have been loud and continuous. We are bound, if we have been sincere in complaining, to be prompt and earnest in our action. Surely when we complained of the character of our local authorities, when we said there was really no opportunity to get men whose sympathies were with the people, and when we demanded the removal of the property qualification, we were in earnest, and not merely vapouring. This, then, is the *testing time*. The sincerity of our demand must be proved by our effort and use of the power when placed in our hands."

"Don't Die in the House."—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers 7½d. and 1s boxes at Chemists.

Skinny Men.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervousweakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.

"How to Behave," price sixpence.—To be had for Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

"How to Debate."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of sixpence, may be had of Robt. Jackson's bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

Beatty's Pianos and Organs.—Hon. Daniel F. Beatty, the great Organ and Piano manufacturer, is building and shipping more Organs and Pianos than ever. In 1870 Mr Beatty left home a penniless plough boy, and by his indomitable will he has worked his way up so as to sell so far, nearly 100,000 of Beatty's Organs and Pianos since 1870. Nothing seems to dishearten him; obstacles laid in his way, that would have wrecked any ordinary man forever, he turns to an advertisement and comes out of it brighter than ever. His instruments, as is well-known, are very popular and are to be found in all parts of the world. We are informed that during the next ten years he intends to sell 200,000 more of his make, that means a business of $20,000,000 if we average them at $100 each. It is already the largest business of the kind inexistence—Send to Daniel F. Beatty, Washington, New Jersey, for Catalogue. 301h

DEATH FROM EXCESSIVE DRINKING AT LANCHESTER.

An inquest was held at the Board-room of the Lanchester Workhouse, on Monday afternoon, by Mr J. Graham, coroner, on the body of an unknown man, aged about 44 years, who met with his death under somewhat singular circumstances.—It appeared from the evidence adduced that the deceased was employed as a labourer at the new coke-ovens now in course of construction at the Malton Colliery, near Lanchester. He had finished his day's work on Saturday, and was seen in Lanchester about six p.m. the worse for liquor. Shortly before nine o'clock the same night, he was in a public-house at Lanchester, and was served with whiskey. It is alleged that the landlord requested a man called Nathan Reece to assist the man to his lodgings, which were about 80 yards distant. He did so; and both the keeper of the lodging-house and his deputy swore that deceased was helplessly intoxicated when brought there. He was not put to bed, but was allowed to lie on the floor all night. Early on the following morning he was found lying dead.—After a full investigation, the jury returned a verdict that the man had "died from the effects of the excessive drinking of alcohol."

CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held on Monday, in the Primitive Methodist Schools, which are now occupied by the Board. Members present—The Chairman (Mr Oliver), Messrs Tucker, Richardson, and the Clerk (Mr Criddle.)

ELECTION OF A NEW MEMBER.

The first business of the Board was to elect a new member in place of Mr Franks, resigned. Two gentlemen were nominated for the seat—Mr Gilchrist, of Beda Lodge, and Mr Robert Dobson, of Ramsey's Cottages, Spen. Mr Richardson nominated Mr Gilchrist, and Mr Tucker nominated Mr Dobson. Messrs Oliver and Richardson voted for Mr Gilchrist, and Mr Tucker voted for Mr Dobson. Mr Gilchrist was therefore elected.

MORTGAGE AND CONTRACT.

A mortgage to the Public Works Loan Commissioners for the sum of £7,765, for the building of new schools at the Spen, was signed, as was also the contract for schools and conveyance of land from the Consett Iron Company to the Board. The schools are to be roofed in September next, and finished on Feb. 1st, 1894.

SCHOOL FEES.

The question of school fees then came before the Board.

Mr Richardson moved that one penny per week be charged for all scholars except infants.

Mr Tucker proposed that all schooling and books be free in the Board's schools.

Two voted for the fees being paid, and Mr Tucker for his own motion, which was therefore lost.

THE ATTENDANCE.

After the School Board officer—Mr W. Hunter, of Chopwell—had given his report, which stated that the attendance was pretty satisfactory, except in one or two instances which the Board dealt with, the meeting came to an end.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

Consett Rovers 2nd v Pittington.—This match will be played on the Rovers' ground at Blackfine, when a good game should be witnessed. The Rovers will be represented as follows:—Full back, H. Murray; three-quarter backs, R. Mitchenson, B. Laverton, Watson, and W. Leybourne; half-backs, G. Bell and J. Brannighan; forwards, T. Lumley (capt.), D. Aitken, W. Smith, J. Dawson, J. Carr, J. R. Morgan, E. Gibson, and Broadbent. Reserves, Kays and Lamb. Kick-off at 3 30 prompt. Referee, Mr M. Hobday.

Consett Fell v Lintzford.—These teams will meet on the Fell ground to play their return fixture. The Fell will be represented as follows:—Goal, J. Winter; backs, T. Skelton (capt.) and Jas. Aitken; half-backs, R. Wake, J. Carruthers, and T. Madgin; forwards, T. Dunn and W. Bell, right wing; J. Haggerstone, centre; R. Harkness and M. Eustace, left wing. Reserves, E. Carlill and T. Gray. The Lintzford team will be—Goal, Wm. Richardson; backs, J. W. Andrews and J. Weedy; half-backs, J. Andrews, E. Stobbs, and Thos. Smith; forwards, J. E. Taylor and M. Swinburne, right wing; R. Abbott (capt.), centre; P. Newton and Wm. Cant (or J. Seath), left wing. Reserves, W. Nixon and G. Burton. Linesman, G. Smith.

Consett Fell 2nd v Kyo Gems.—To be played on the latter's ground. The Fell team will be as follows:—Goal, N. L. Jenkins; backs, Geo. Eustace and J. Anderson; half-backs, J. Pescod, F. Arlott, and J. Allison; forwards, B. Bell and J. Turley, right wing; B. McKie (capt.), centre; R. Barron and A. Angel, left wing. Reserves, T. Winter, J. Adams, and J. Welch.

Consett Y.M.C.A. v Cornsay Rovers.—To be played on the latter's ground, when the following will represent the Y.M.C.A.:—Goal, J. Skelton; backs, C. Cooke and T. Carr; half-backs, R. Sanderson, J. Barron, and G. Siddle; forwards, W. Todd, J. Aynsley, T. Shaw, W. Hagon, and J. Jones. Reserve, J. Smith.

Blackhill Park v Allendale Park.—To be played on the former's ground. The following will be the Blackhill team:—Goal, F. Kempster; backs, A. Atkinson and T. Robinson; half-backs, J. Butler, R. Evans, and T. Sheldon; forwards, A. Lindsay and R. Chatt (capt.), right wing; P. Smith, centre; H. Tiedle and J. Dempsey, left wing. Reserves, J. Walton and J. Maughan.

Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's v Kip Hill.—To be played at Kip Hill. The "Saints" team will be—Goal, T. Grant; backs, D. McGhan and J. Robbs; half-backs, J. Ringer, J. Croft, and E. Cullen; forwards, P. Cullen (capt.), P. McDermott, H. Prinn, D. McDermott, and W. Douglass. Kick-off at 3.

Crookhall Wanderers v Hamilton Albions.—The above game will be played at Hamilton. The following will be the Crookhall team:—Goal, J. Wren; backs, C. Pescod and J. McKie; half-backs, T. Collins (capt.), E. Sisterson, and P. Loughran; forwards, G. Finlay and W. McNally, right wing; S. Russell, centre; R. Loughran and J. Rafferty, left wing. Reserves, Nimmons, Cooper, and J. Finlay.

BLACKHILL ROVERS v. STARGATE.

This match will take place on the latter's ground. The following will do duty for the Rovers:—Full back, T. Elliott; three-quarter backs, E. Robson, J. K. Annandale, J. Brown (capt.), and E. McElrue; half-backs, G. Smailes and J. Anderson; forwards, J. Askew, G. Sayers, W. Brown, A. Taylor, G. Aitken, G. Davison, G. Hewitson, and R. Stobbs. Reserve, J. Dawson.

DURHAM SENIOR CUP.

SEMI-FINALS.

LEADGATE EXILES v. DARLINGTON.

By the offer of a big guarantee, the Exiles have induced Darlington to forego the choice of ground, and the tie will consequently be brought off at Leadgate. The game is sure to be a good one, and we trust that the Exiles will be rewarded with a "bumper" gate for their plucky action in bringing the above strong professional team to North-West Durham. Both clubs will be represented by their strongest teams, and will probably line up as follows:—

Leadgate Exiles.—Goal, J. O'Neil; backs, J. Haggan and A. N. Other; half-backs, Peter Hughes (capt.), T. McGrachan, and J. Monaghan; forwards, P. Rafferty and P. McKie, right wing; Wm. McKie, centre; J. McGee and H. Callaghan, left wing.

Darlington.—Goal, J. Auld (or Barker); backs, McDonald and Jones (late Preston North End); half-backs, McCrimmond, T. Waites, and D. Campbell; forwards, McPherson, McLean, Keay, Hutchinson, and Fleming.

Referee, Mr A. Grundy, Whitburn.

DIPTON WANDERERS v. BISHOP AUCKLAND.

In the second semi-final, the Wanderers travel to Auckland to meet the holders of the cup, and intend to make a good show and die hard. The Dipton men are in splendid condition, and Auckland will discover that they are by no means going to be allowed a "walk over." The following team will represent

Dipton Wanderers.—Goal, Robt. Potts; backs, A. Tison and T. Rowell; half-backs, T. Turpin, E. Buck, and J. Coates; forwards, C. Templeton and I. Gilliard, right wing; J. Leadbitter (capt.), centre; T. Walker and H. Smith, left wing. Reserves, D. Crozier and Jos. Jordan.

Referee, Mr C. L. Glover, Darlington.

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

LOKILL NOTES.

[By "Blackhill."]

To the Edditor of the Consett Gardeein.

Mistor Edditor, Deeor Ser,—Thor appears to be a gud deel ov speckilashion amoenst the N.E. Railway Company meykin a compleet change in the runnin' ov the passenger trains on the Consett Branch; awa shure aw'll welcum the change, if it only cums up te maw expectashion, which is the runnin ov a train te leeve Newcassel at or aboot nine o'clock at neet, ivvory neet i' the week, as aw think that we in this porshun ov North-West Durham owt not te be shut oot (or shut in) from a large center like Newcassel; and aw think they might with greet advantage change the time on the train leaving Newcassel on the Sunday mornin'. Newcassel fokes say they hev te sit up arl neet te be abil te get the 7·15 train, which aw maintain leaves the toon two hoors ower syne.

THE RAILWAY STASHUN AT WESTWOOD.

Aw's reely in simpathy wi' the inhabitants ov Westwood, Allendale Cottages, Milkwell Burn, and Blackhall Mill. Aw wad advise them te keep on aggitatin' until they gain thor ends. Let them stick te the dorectors, and divvent take "no" for an answor. Aw weel remember the aggitashun we in this district had befor we gat the Sunday train; but get it we did, and aw knaw for sortin thit the varry ones thit wis see much ageyenst the runnin' ov a train on a Sunday war the varry forst te myek use on't.

THE ASHPIT KWESTIN.

Wen, O wen will the Lokill Bord undortyek the cleanin' oot ov the ashpits in the districk? Aw know one ashpit in oor district thit tyeks aboot three punds a yeer te keep cleen, and the tennents hev te pay that three punds in addishun te thor rent, which cums varry hevvy theas bad times. And aw'm informed the hevvy charge is on accoont of the refuse hevvin' te be led see far, as the Consett Bord divvent provide oney plase te tip such refuse in this pairt ov thor district. Aw wish they wad torn us ower te the Benfeeldside Bord, is aw think we wad be varry much bettor lyuked eftor.

COFFINS AT LOW PRICES.

Coffins at harf-a-croon a-peece! Aw confess it dis seem a varry low figor for a thing ov that diskripshun. But eftor aw myed inkwiaries amang fokes this was in a posishun te giv' is oney informashun, aw've cum te the concloochun thit it is varry gud pay at the abuv price, as it leeves a good profit, and this aw may say is frae an individuall whe owt te knaw arl aboot it.

A CONSETT MISHONARRY IN AFFRICKA.

Thor's nowt gis me mair plishor then te reed the intorestin lettors thit appeeor in yor jornill frev a Consett mishonarry in Affricka. Aw wundor hoo monney ov us at hyem, wen toastin' oor toes ower a brite fior, ivvor lit oor thouts carry us away that far. Aw say thor's a greet amoont of self-denial in a vokashun that myeks a man leeve feythor, mothor, sistor, and bruthor, and travill thoosands ov miles tiv a wild heethin country, in ordor thit he mite fulfil the beheats ov the Maister, wen He sed: "Go ye out into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." But he is a worthy son of a worthy sire, and a son wor vikkor owt te be proud on.

ACTION AGAINST THE CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD.

In the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice on Tuesday week—before the Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Cave, sitting as a divisional court—Mr Scott Fox appeared in the case of Bernstone v Chopwell School Board and others in support of an appeal by the defendants against the decision of the County Court judge, who decided in favour of the plaintiff.—The learned counsel said the plaintiff was a money lender, who had discounted two cheques—one for £32 10s, and the other for £12 10s—for a person named Wilson, who was clerk to the School Board. The £12 10s cheque had been subsequently redeemed by Wilson, and it was only on the £32 10s cheque that action was brought. The circumstances appeared to be that Wilson, having got these two cheques from the Board on the 2nd June last, took them to Bernstone on the 6th of the same month and asked him to give him cash for them, but to hold them over for a month before presenting them to the bank, there being at that time no money in the bank to meet them, as owing to the strike and other difficulties the collector had been unable to collect the rate. Bernstone, according to his own evidence, agreed to oblige Wilson, and gave him £44 for the cheques, retaining only £1 commission for the accommodation. Of course that was only Bernstone's version of the story, and he (Mr Fox) could say something on that matter if necessary.

Mr Justice Cave: Bernstone swore to the version, and that is enough for us.

Mr Scott Fox went on to say that neither of the cheques were presented within a month, and in fact had not been presented on the 7th of August, when the solicitor to the School Board gave notice to the Bank that they were not to be paid, it having been discovered that Wilson had cheated the Board. Two days afterwards Bernstone presented the £32 10s cheque, which was dishonoured, and it subsequently appeared that Wilson had taken up the other cheque.

Mr Justice Cave: Why did not Wilson take these cheques to the bank.

Mr Scott Fox: They ought to have been taken there: I don't know why they were not.

Mr Strachan (who appeared for plaintiff): I can tell you—because the bank had not got the money, The account was £16 overdrawn.

Mr Scott Fox: The account was overdrawn when the cheques were drawn on the 2nd June, but on the 6th, when they were taken to the plaintiff, there was £83 odd in the bank to the credit of the Board, £100 having been paid on the 4th. Besides, if they had been taken to the bank on the 2nd they would have been honoured, as was shown by the evidence of one of the partners, who was treasurer of the School Board.

Mr Justice Cave: There does not appear to have been any arrangement with the bank to pay cheques on an overdrawn account, and I do not see what Wilson did that was dishonest. He appears to have told the plaintiff the truth. What did Wilson do with the money?

Mr Scott Fox: Put it into his own pocket.

Mr Justice Cave: I don't see how that affects the plaintiff, who is the holder of the cheques for value, and appears to have accepted a small sum for his services.

Mr Scott Fox submitted that the plaintiff was a fraudulent possessor of the cheque because he had notice of a defect in title. A cheque was a bill payable on demand, but he had notice that this was not payable on demand.

After some further argument,

The Lord Chief Justice, without calling upon Mr Strachan, said the County Court judge held that there was no fraud or a shadow of fraud upon the part of the plaintiff, and his Lordship was of opinion that the County Court judge was right. The appeal would therefore be dismissed with costs.

Justice Cave concurred.

Appeal dismissed with costs accordingly.

Holloway's Pills.—The Hour of Danger.—Disease commonly comes on, with slight symptoms, which, when neglected, increase in extent, and gradually grow dangerous—a condition which betrays the greatest remissness—when these Pills, taken in accordance with their accompanying directions, would not only have checked, but conquered the incipient disorder. Patients daily forward details of the most remarkable and instructive cases in which timely attention to Holloway's advice has undoubtedly saved them from severe illness. These Pills act primarily on the digestive organs, which they stimulate when slow and imperfect; and, secondly, upon the blood, which is thoroughly purified by them, whence is derived the general tone they impart, and their power of subjugating hypochondriacism, dyspepsia, and nervous complaints.

Towle's Pennyroyal & Steel Pills for Females, quickly correct all irregularities, removes all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes, 1s 1½d. and 2s 9d of all chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps by the Maker, E. T. Towle, Chemist, Nottingham. Beware of Imitations.

Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour. It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, removing dandruff rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female, young and old Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. 875

Hymns for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c. printed on the shortest notice, and at the cheapest rates by Robert Jackson, Consett

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Feb. 9th.—Before J. W. WALTON-WILSON, Esq. (presiding), W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq. Rev F. W. GLYN, and C. D. W. BALLENY, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

At the instance of Mr J. E. Parker, the Inspector to the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority, the Bench issued orders upon *Frederick Simmison* and *John McCluskey*, both of Flint Hill, Dipton, to abate nuisances caused by the defective condition of their ashpits, privies, etc., in 14 days.

THREATENING AN OLD WOMAN.

Agnes Gardner, a married woman, was charged with threatening the life of Elizabeth Cody, an elderly woman, at Holmside, on Jan. 25th.—Complainant said that there was a row going on at the bottom of the yard, where her husband was "carrying on" with a pick. Cody's husband went down to see what was the matter, when defendant came out and called the complainant very offensive names, and threatened her life. Mrs Gardner also threw bricks and stones at her, as she was retreating into the house. The missiles caught the door stencil, and some of the stones broke the windows. Two or three days afterwards, her door was smashed in. Complainant declared that she was afraid of her life, and appealed to the law for protection.—Mrs Carter, a neighbour, also spoke to hearing the threats. She added that a fortnight that day, when Mrs Cody had all her clean clothes hanging over the line, defendant threw a quantity of ashes over the things, and complainant had to wash her clothes afresh.—Defendant asserted that complainant and her husband were continually annoying them.—*George Gardner*, the husband, was also accused of causing damage to the amount of 1d to Mrs Cody's door, by smashing it, on the same date.—In the first case, Mrs Gardner was bound over to keep the peace, and ordered to pay the costs. In the second case, her husband was fined 5s, 1d damage, and costs.

CHARGE OF TAKING COALS.

Roger Robinson, a coal-hewer, was summoned by P.C. Vitty for stealing a bag of large coal from the fire-holes at South Moor Colliery, on Jan. 20th, the value being assessed at 6d.—Mr W. Holmes (Durham) appeared to prosecute, and it was agreed to accept the charge as one of wilful damage.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and said that he had been out of work several weeks, and had no coals in the house.—Defendant was fined 10s and costs.

STORING GUNPOWDER IN A COAL-MINE.

Henry Dryden, a stoneman, employed at Messrs Hedley Brothers' Morrison Pit, Annfield Plain, was charged with a breach of the General rule No. 12, by storing a quantity of gunpowder in the mine.—Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) appeared to prosecute, and called Edward Herron, the under-manager, who stated that defendant left some compressed cartridges, containing about 2¼lbs of gunpowder, in the mine.—Defendant stated that the cartridges had been inadvertently left there, and it would have caused considerable inconvenience to have returned for the powder.—Defendant was fined £1 and costs.

CHARGE OF GAME TRESPASS.

George Armstrong was summoned for trespassing after game and conies, on land at Hall Hill, Satley, belonging to Mr Walter Greenwell. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Peter Hardy, a gamewatcher, spoke to seeing defendant, on Jan. 28th, on the Gallow Banks, amongst the rabbit-holes, setting nets, and using a ferret. Mr P. Kirkup, colliery manager, Cornsay, had the shooting rights over that land.—Defendant declared that he had two cottages adjoining the land, taken, as well as the land, from Mr Fleming, agent to Mr Greenwell.—Mr Kirkup produced his agreement, showing that he had the shooting rights over this particular ground, defendant merely having the eatage thereof for the space of six months.—Defendant averred that he had occupied the land and cottages for nine years. He refused to take the houses without the adjoining land.—Mr Kirkup affirmed that he had the right to the game. The Gladdon woodlands consisted of about 23 acres.—Mr Granger (clerk to the Court) said that Mr Kirkup might have an agreement showing his right to shoot the game on the Woodlands, but the question was how far this affected the defendant's rights as tenant to the ground game. If defendant was absolutely the tenant, he had a perfect right to the ground game.—Defendant said he had received notice to quit the house in April next. The Bench adjourned the case for a fortnight, for Mr Kirkup to bring forward further evidence.—Defendant produced a receipt, however, for rent, which indicated that he only had the eatage of the land.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, February 13th.—Before Coun. JAMES ANNANDALE (chairman), J. W. WALTON-WILSON, W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, F. PRIESTMAN, J. T. POTTS, and E. W. R. BALLENY, Esqs.

PROSECUTION OF A CONSETT INN-KEEPER:

HOUSE OPEN DURING PROHIBITED HOURS.

Wm. Quinn, landlord of the Grey Horse Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, was summoned for having his licensed premises open during prohibited hours on Sunday morning, February 5th. He pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr Thos. W. Welford (Consett), whilst Mr Patrick (Durham) represented the owners of the property.

Inspector Mabon attested that about ten minutes to twelve on this particular morning he was on duty near to defendant's house. Within a short distance, he noticed a boy come out of the back street and look up the main thoroughfare. When the boy saw the Inspector, he ran into the back street again. He accordingly gave chase, and when the boy got into the back-yard, he shouted, "Here he come," twice. The Inspector then saw defendant go from the kitchen to the bar. On entering the house, he found a man sitting at the end of the kitchen-table. In the bar a girl was washing some glasses. There were three glasses standing on the counter, the girl had one in her hand, and there was another in a dish of water. He enquired of the man what he had to do there, and Mrs Quinn, coming in, replied, in an excited state, "This man has had no drink." He saw upon the table two wet marks, as if a glass had been standing, and appeared to be beer. The man had the same partly covered over with his arm. He might also state that a month ago——

Mr Welford: I object to that. Confine yourself to the present case.

The Inspector (continuing): Very well. He took the name of the man as Peter Ward, of 24, Puddlers' Row, who stated that he came to see the son that had been ill.

The Clerk (Mr Grainger): This house ought to have been closed at 11 o'clock.

The Inspector: It ought never to have been open. It was Sunday morning.

The Clerk: Oh! I see.

Mr Welford: The son was ill.

The Inspector: That I can't say.

Mr Welford: Is this the first time that you have been in the house?—The Inspector: Yes.

Mr Welford: If you can't say that the boy was ill, I will put in a doctor's certificate, which stated that the boy had been ill for 12 weeks.

In answer to Mr Welford, the Inspector said that he could not remember saying that if the boy had not come he would have caught them. He did not see any drink. Mrs Quinn told him that Ward had come to see the son, and that was the excuse given. The man did not say that he thought there would be no harm in coming to see the son.

By the Chairman: He never charged Mrs Quinn with anything.

Mr Welford inquired of the Bench if there was any case to answer.

After a short consultation, the Chairman informed Mr Welford that he had better proceed with the same.

Mr Welford, for the defence, argued that there was no case to answer. There was not a particle of evidence that went to prove that drink was supplied, and he thought, after their Worships had heard the evidence that he had to tender, they would be justified in dismissing the case.

Mrs Quinn averred that on February 5th she was in the kitchen about 11.30, when Peter Ward came in. This man came to see her son, who had been ill for twelve weeks, and had repeatedly been to the house. She told him to come into the kitchen, and her son would be down stairs presently. While they were in the kitchen talking, the boy came running in and said, "Here's the police," and presently the Inspector made his appearance. The Inspector saluted with a "Good morning," and then spoke to Ward. Witness told him that he had come to see her son, and Ward rejoined by saying that he thought there was no harm in doing so. The Inspector replied, "providing there is no drink," and then went into the bar. After seeing there was nothing there, he then told Ward that if it had not been for the boy he would have caught him. Ward said that he would have done nothing of the sort.

In answer to the Chairman, witness said the counter was full of glasses. Ward was a relation—a cousin of hers.

Mr Potts: Was your back-door open?—Witness: Yes.

By the Inspector: The boy that ran to the house was not a relation, and they had not him employed to do that sort of business. The gate to the yard was not often shut.

The Magistrates, at this stage, decided to dismiss the case.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

Michael Atthey, mason, Iveston, was proceeded against by his wife, Sarah Atthey, of Consett, for maintenance. Mr Welford prosecuted, whilst Mr J. McCartan (Consett) defended.

Complainant attested that on New Year's Eve, 1891, she was married to defendant, and she went to live with him at Iveston. After this they came to reside in Steel Street, and furnished rooms. In June of last year she proceeded against her husband at Lanchester for an assault, and he was fined 5s and costs. After this she went back to her home, but he never came near hand, and he took the furniture away. Since she had been confined she had written to him twice, and he never answered the same. Her mother had kept her ever since.

In answer to Mr McCartan, complainant said she dare not live with defendant, as he had threatened her life. It was on the 23rd May when the furniture was removed. That day he asked her to go to Iveston with him, but she refused. She was not bound to follow defendant when he was ill-treating her.

By the Chairman: Defendant many a time did not give her 10s in the fortnight. During the winter he worked in the mines, and followed his occupation as a mason in the summer.

Mrs Richardson, complainant's mother, corroborated.

Mr McCartan said that a woman had to live where her husband pleased. When they married they went to live at Iveston. To please complainant and her friends he removed to rooms in Steel Street, Consett; but complainant got into company that defendant did not approve of, and he had a right to say that he was going back to Iveston, and was not going to live at Consett any longer. The result of this was that complainant would not go with defendant, preferring to live at Consett. When defendant removed the furniture he asked complainant to go with him. After the proceedings at Lanchester defendant kept the house at Iveston furnished for six weeks with the expectation that complainant would come. After failing to get her back, he took the furniture back to the furniture dealer, and went to live with his mother. If the magistrates at Lanchester had thought for one moment that her life was in danger they would have granted a separation order. Seeing they did not do so, he maintained that it was complainant's duty to go back to her husband.

Defendant corroborated, and stated when working he always gave his wife a good part of his earnings. When at Consett they were always interfered with by complainant's mother.

By Mr Welford: Defendant stated that his wages was 9d an hour.

The Chairman: Is your client, Mr McCartan, willing to pay towards the maintenance of the child?—Mr McCartan: I agree to pay 5s per week to the child only.

The Clerk: You can't make an order for the child; it must be for the mother.

Mr McCartan: I am perfectly willing for this agreement to be drawn up between Mr Welford and myself for the payment of this sum.

Mr Welford: I will have an order from the court.

The Chairman: Very well.

Richard Walker, cartman, Consett, spoke to removing the furniture, and hearing the defendant ask complainant to go and live with him.

The magistrates made an order for 7s 6d per week and costs.

TRAVELLING ON THE RAILWAY WITHOUT A TICKET.

A BISHOP AUCKLAND YOUNG WOMAN CONVICTED.

The adjourned case against Rossetta Golightly, a respectable single woman, hailing from 3, Wear Chare, Bishop Auckland, was again gone into at the instance of the North-Eastern Railway Company, that on the 10th day of Dec., 1892, at Rowley Station, in the parish of Lanchester, she unlawfully did travel in a certain carriage then being in and upon a certain railway, belonging to the North-Eastern Railway Company, without first having previously paid her fare, and with intent to avoid the payment thereof, contrary to the Statute 52 and 53, Vict., Cap. 57, Sub-section 3. Mr R. F. Dunnell, York, prosecuted on behalf of the North-Eastern Railway Company, whilst Mr C. M. Dix, Newcastle, defended. Supt. Geo. Darrell, of the North-Eastern Railway Police, Newcastle, was present, and the court was crowded.

The Clerk explained that the case was adjourned to allow defendant to bring other witnesses for the defence; but he understood that the North-Eastern Railway Company were going to bring forward further evidence.

It was agreed that the two magistrates—Messrs W. B. Van Haansbergen and J. T. Potts—who heard the first part of the case should hear the remainder of the evidence and give their decision.

Mr Dunnell: It is our intention to call two independent witnesses to prove the identity of the defendant.

Jane Greener adduced that she was the wife of James Greener, innkeeper, of Dan's Castle, Tow Law. On the 10th Dec. she was a passenger by the 2·49 train from Tow Law to Consett. There was another party—a James Vickers—who got into the same compartment. Defendant was in the compartment when she got in. On the journey to Consett, defendant commenced conversation. Defendant told her that she heard there was a vacant place at the Theatre Royal, Consett, and she was going to apply for the same, as she was a theatrical. (Laughter.) She said that she came from Darlington, and expected to meet a friend at Rowley. When the train approached this station, Mr Vickers told defendant that it was Rowley. As the train was coming to the platform, defendant looked out of the window. When the train stopped a lady and three children came up to the compartment and got in. She did not see a ticket handed to the defendant. The station-master collected the tickets, and inquired of the defendant where her ticket was for the distance she had just travelled. Defendant replied that she had just got into the train. The lady who got into the compartment said the same thing. After this the train stopped near to a signal-box, and she heard the remark passed that the defendant thought they had stopped the train to take her for not having a ticket. Defendant further said that she had a ticket from Darlington to Bishop Auckland, but tore the same up.

By the Chairman: Witness had no doubt about the identity of the defendant.

Cross-examined by Mr Dix: Witness said that defendant gave her name as Miss Clarke. It was the detective of the North-Eastern Railway Company who came to see her about the case on Tuesday, the 7th inst. That was the first time it had been mentioned to her. The interview took place in the kitchen. The detective asked if she was the person who travelled with Jas. Vickers in the train from Tow Law on the 10th Dec. The man had a book, and he took her name and address. With the exception of James Vickers, all the other passengers in the compartment were strangers. There was only the defendant in the compartment when she entered the same. The train left Tow Law about ten minutes to three. The lady was dressed in a close fitting hat trimmed with green. The hat was black, but she could not say what the material was. (Laughter.) The defendant said she was a theatrical, and she believed her. She had never seen the defendant since till that morning, when she met her again at Tow Law Station, but she was dressed different on this occasion. The hat the defendant wore now was a French one. The interview with the dectective did not last more than ten minutes. She had never been asked to identify anyone. It was not possible for her to be mistaken in the identity of the defendant, whom she said was dressed different on two occasions. She had never seen Miss Bradley.

[This party, along with her mother, was brought into court, but the witness declared that Miss Bradley was not the party whom Mrs Bradley met at Rowley Station, and whom she travelled with from Tow Law to Consett.]

In answer to further questions by Mr Dix, witness said that Mrs Bradley was the party that got into the train at Rowley with the children. Miss Bradley never got into the train. She was present when the station-master collected the tickets, and heard it said that defendant had just got into the train. Mrs Bradley and the defendant appealed to the passengers in the compartment, but they never spoke. The station-master did appeal to her if it was a fact that defendant had just got into the train at Rowley, and she replied, "I was talking to this gentleman, and I am sure I don't know." In the face of this statement she would pledge her oath that defendant was the lady who travelled in the train with her. The station-master never apologised to the defendant, and then left the compartment.

By Mr Dunnell: Witness stated that she had no idea at the time that there was a charge made against the defendant for travelling without a ticket. She had not spoken to the defendant since the 10th of December.

James Vickers said that he was a checkweighman, residing at Dan's Castle, Tow Law, and was president of the Tow Law Co-operative Society. On the 10th Dec. he was travelling to Consett for the purpose of attending a meeting at Shotley Bridge in connection with the Derwent Flour Mill. At the Tow Law Station he thought he got into the compartment first, and there was a lady in the same. The defendant was the lady, and she was not hard to identify. The defendant inquired how far it was to Rowley, and said that she expected to meet a friend at this particular station. Defendant then entered into conversation with Mrs Greener. On the train drawing near to Rowley Station he acquainted defendant of the fact, and she then put her head out of the window and beckoned to someone on the platform. At this station a woman with three children got into the compartment, and gave defendant a ticket. Shortly after the station-master followed to collect the tickets. There was an argument about a ticket for the distance that defendant had travelled. After the train left the station defendant said that she had a ticket, but was not going to give it up to him. At the end of the bridge the train stopped, and the defendant became excited, and thought they were going to send someone after her. He was perfectly sure defendant was the person.

In answer to Mr Dix, witness said he was a married man. They were perfect strangers in the carriage, except Mrs Greener. He was reading *Pearson's Weekly* when in the train, and had frequently travelled on the same line. He noticed that defendant seemed anxious about meeting this friend at Rowley. Witness noticed that the lady was good-looking, and wore a close-fitting hat, and had some green about it. Mrs Greener had mentioned nothing to him. The hat was dark. He identified the lady by her face, and she was the possessor of a peculiar nose. (Laughter.) He knew that she had a well-shaped nose. (Roars of laughter.)

Miss Bradley was called into court, and Mr Dix remarked that he would show witness another lady who had a well-shaped nose. (Laughter.) He asked witness if he had ever seen that lady before.

Witness stated that he had never seen Miss Bradley till that day, and she was not the lady that got into the train at Rowley. Mrs Bradley and her three children got into the train. Miss Bradley was never present.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr Dix said he suffered a little disadvantage in not being present on the first occasion, when the case was brought before their worships; but he was glad to find how well his friend, Mr Welford, had taken up the case for him. Of his long experience of the North-Eastern Railway Company and his connection with Supt. Darrell, he would say that if there had been the least doubt in their minds as to the innocence of the defendant, he did not conscientiously believe they would have insisted upon the prosecution in the present case. The decision their Worships had to arrive at on that occasion was of enormous interest, because they had to say whether this young lady was guilty of the offence with which she was charged with or not. He could safely say that it would not influence their minds in the least by being opposed by such a company as the one that had instigated the present proceedings. It was far better that 99 guilty persons should escape than one innocent girl should be committed for an offence that she was not guilty of. From the information that he had before him he had found that he would only be doing his duty in having the case defended to the very hilt, and in calling evidence to prove that the young lady was innocent. He (counsel) then commenced to review the evidence for the prosecution, and said that it was possible for persons to make mistakes. Mrs Greener's story might be true, every word of it, but yet she might be mistaken in her identification of the lady who travelled in the same compartment with her. They had been told that day that the lady in the train was a theatrical. This might be true; but he could tell their Worships that his client was not a theatrical. The defendant had a comfortable home, living with her father and mother, and had not the slightest desire to leave the same. They had been told that the hat worn was a close-fitting one. It was black, trimmed with green. The defendant had not, and never had, a hat of this description. She had only once, so he was informed, worn a black hat, and that was whilst attending a funeral. She had always been known to wear such a hat as she possessed on the present occasion. She did not wear such a hat as spoken of by Mrs Greener and the other witness. Who was the lady that Mrs Greener was talking to in the train? Was it Miss Golightley? No. They were told that it was a Miss Clarke. She was not here. Why? Simply because the Railway Company had fixed upon this lady, and some people imagined that they were right. They had heard what Mrs Greener told the station-master when appealed to, if the lady had only got into the train. Let us look at it. Mrs Greener said, "I was talking to this gentleman, and don't know." He would not say that she did not tell the truth; but before her evidence that day could be worth anything she would have to tell their Worships that she did tell the station-master a lie on the 10th Dec. The defendant had been put to considerable expense in going to be investigated. This, he thought, was rather an unusual thing for a company like the present one to do. The other witness they found was a very studious man, because he read his papers like many another good man did when travelling, and therefore they could take it for granted that he would not take a great deal of notice who the stranger was that was in the compartment. After they had heard his evidence, he thought their Worships would be led to see that if ever there was any individual who cheated the company it certainly was not his client.

Elizabeth Bradley said she was the wife of Wm. Bradley, and resided at Blackhill. The defendant was her sister, and she wrote asking her to come and spend a few days with her. This would be on the 8th Dec. The letter was sent to Bishop Auckland; but she got no reply, and she assumed that defendant was coming. On the 10th Dec., she went to Blackhill Station and saw Mr Harker about some business, and enquired when the next train for Rowley departed, and was informed that there was one just on the point of leaving. She got the tickets and entered the train. Her daughter Ada in the meantime walked to Rowley to meet defendant. On getting to Rowley she saw the station-master, who told her that she would have to cross the line, to the other side of the platform to meet the Tow Law train. In the waiting-room she found her daughter present. Witness asked if she had got a ticket, and she replied no. She then got 2½ tickets for Blackhill, one of the same being for her daughter. On the arrival of the train her daughter took the children and got into one of the compartments, and she walked along the platform to see if Miss Golightley was present. Her daughter stood at the window to let her know where she was. They had scarcely got seated in the train before the station-master came for the tickets. Her daughter gave her one, and she returned a ticket-and-a-half. There was a man and a woman in the compartment. Miss Golightley was never present. When her daughter gave in the ticket the station-master inquired about the two tickets-and-a-half that were issued. Witness told him that her daughter had got one. They appealed to the company if it was not a fact that her daughter had just got into the train, and the lady replied, "I don't know; I was talking to the gentleman. The station-master begged pardon, and shut the door. They never saw defendant that day, and she never got her letter until a week later.

In answer to Mr Dunnell, witness said that it was strange that two witnesses should come forward, and say that the defendant was the lady that travelled in the train. It was the station-master that made the mistake. She had seen one of the Company's officials about the matter on the 21st, but never told him that she expected her sister coming from Darlington on that date. She explained to him what really had transpired. She never said that the woman who travelled in the train had left the district. Her husband never said it would be better to have the matter put right. She did not want to pay the fine, because there was no need to do so. The defendant was not present when the Inspector called.

By Mr Dix: The lady who was with her was her own daughter.

The Chairman: Did you not give the name of Miss Lee as the party?—I never mentioned such a name.

In answer to Mr Dunnell, witness said there was nothing mentioned in the train about the party not having sufficient money to pay her fare for the whole of the journey. The train stopped between Rowley and Consett, and the party did not become excited, and think they were sending a policeman after her.

By Mr Dix: Witness said she was annoyed about the matter, because her daughter procured a ticket.

Ada Bradley corroborated, and deposed that on the 10th Dec. they were expecting Miss Golightly to visit them. It was agreed that she should meet her at Rowley Station. On arriving at this place, she was surprised to see her mother and the children. Her mother procured a ticket for her, and she took charge of the children when the train arrived. Witness got into a compartment, and stood before the window whilst her mother went to look for the defendant. Presently her mother joined her. There was a man and woman in the compartment. The station-master came in and asked for the tickets. Witness gave him a ticket, and her mother returned a ticket-and-a-half. The station-master then asked her for a ticket for the journey up to Rowley, and she told him that she had only got into the train. Witness was the girl who had the conversation, and the defendant was not present, and did not arrive till December 17th.

Cross-examined by Mr Dunnell: Witness said her mother found her in the waiting-room. When the train stopped, she never made any remarks about being afraid that they were after her for not having a ticket. She was never at Bishop Auckland, and had never given a statement to anyone.

By Mr Potts: Witness said she walked to Rowley, because it was a fine day.

In answer to the Chairman, witness said she left Blackhill about 12 o'clock.

William Nearey, bricklayer, Darlington, averred that on the 10th Dec. he saw the defendant in Bondgate Street, Darlington, about 4·0 p.m. He remembered this date, because it was the performance of *Pink Dominoes* at the theatre, and defendant was present.

By Mr Dunnell: Witness was quite sure about the date.

Mary Chapman corroborated the statement of the last witness.

Mr Dix: Was defendant wearing the same hat then as she is now?—Yes.

After a short consultation, the Bench decided to convict, and imposed a fine of £2 and £1 11s 5d costs.

Defendant: I shall not pay the money, as I never travelled by the train.

Mr Dix asked if the Bench would impose a term of imprisonment in lieu of fine. If they would do that he had power to appeal.

Mr Dunnell: I object to such a thing being done.

The Bench declined to grant the application, but gave the defendant time to pay the money.

A SAD CASE AT HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY

A STEP-MOTHER AND HER CHILDREN.

Joseph Anderson, brakesman, Hamsterley Colliery, was summoned by his wife, Mary Anderson, for maintenance under the Married Women's Maintenance Act. Mr Dix (Newcastle) prosecuted, and Mr Parson (Newcastle) defended.

Mr Parson said that after carefully going into the case, it had been agreed that each party should go their own way, and it was now only a question of how much the complainant should receive.

After hearing the evidence, the Bench made an order for 7s 6d per week, and £1 3s 6d costs.

Mary Anderson was next accused, at the instance of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, for ill-treating a step-son, on Jan. 17th, at Hamsterley Colliery. Mr Parson prosecuted. Defendant pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr Dix.

Mr Parson said defendant was Joseph Anderson's second wife, and it had come to his knowledge that his boy Thomas had been ill-used repeatedly. On Jan. 17th, defendant boxed the boy's ears, knocked him down, and then got upon him, with the result that he was severely ill-used. When the father was upstairs, the defendant again attacked the boy, and this time he was kicked. Their Worships would be told in the evidence that when this occurred, defendant was under the influence of liquor. The boy had been examined, and he was found to be black and blue. When defendant had been in these fits, she had also attacked the little girl.

Joseph Anderson corroborated the counsel's story.

Mr Dix pointed out that the defendant was not the guardian of these children, with the result that they had no jurisdiction over the case. This ill-treatment had taken place in the presence of the father of the children, who was really responsible.

Mr Parson said any party could be charged under this Act for ill-treatment.

The Chairman: We will, Mr Dix, take a note of your objection.

Mr Dix: Very well.

Cross-examined by Mr Dix: Anderson stated that he brought the boy into the house. Defendant requested the boy to get up off a stool, and then struck at him. Defendant fell on the floor when he got hold of her by the waist, and he did not black her eye. This was caused by her coming in contact with the foot of the machine in the struggle.

By Mr Parson: All he did was to separate the defendant from the boy.

Dr Marshall deposed to examining the boy, and found bruises on both hips. They were bruises which could have been caused by being kicked as described by Mr Anderson.

By Mr Dix: Witness said that there were only two bruises.

Mrs Anderson and Joseph Anderson spoke to seeing the boy's body all black and blue.

Mr Dix, for the defence, informed the Bench that it was only right that they should know that Anderson had used a series of threats and used her badly, until at last he had pushed her out of the house. He had a motive in view in having this case prosecuted, so as to justify his conduct towards his wife. Mr Dix then related what actually did take place, and stated that Mrs Anderson was knocked down, her eye was blackened, and she was otherwise ill-used. Through Anderson being proceeded against by his wife for maintenance, he had retaliated by accusing defendant of ill-treating the children. The independent evidence from the doctor only went to show that the boy had got two bruises. This was not very serious, and besides, Anderson was unsupported in his evidence as to what really take place in the house. He contended that the best thing the Bench could do was to dismiss the case, and allow each party to go their respective ways.

Defendant, having been sworn, corroborated, and stated that she never ill-used the boy, and was not under the influence of liquor.

The Chairman: Did your husband give you a black eye?—Defendant: Yes.

The Chairman: If we do not proceed to a conviction, will your client pay the costs?

Mr Dix, having consulted his client, said he would agree to that course, seeing that each party were going their separate ways.

The Chairman: We will not allow the costs of the Doctor.

The other case was accordingly withdrawn.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

Thomas Hunter and *Calib Dobson* were summoned by P.C. Dixon, and bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for six months and pay 7s 6d costs, for fighting at Blackhall Mill, on the 4th inst.

Joseph McNastrie and *Thomas Mason* were dealt with in a similar manner for the same offence at Blackhall Mill, on 28th ult. P.C. Hadwin proved the case.

EDUCATION ACT.

The following persons were convicted:—*George Collins*, 5s; *Stephen Maddison*, 5s; *Patrick Bond*, 5s; and *John Stokoe*, 5s.

LARCENY AT CONSETT.

Nicholas Ruddy and *John Mulhearn*, labourers, were each fined 10s, including costs, for stealing 9½d from the till of the Shakespeare Hotel, Consett, on the 9th inst.—Sergt. Tones proved the case.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Charles Grant and *Peter Grant* were proceeded against by P.C. Carruthers for committing an assault upon him at Consett, on Saturday afternoon.—Defendants were committed to gaol for a month each, without the option of a fine.

ALLEGED THEFT OF BACON.

The charge against *William Potts*, of West Stanley, for stealing 9lbs of bacon from the establishment of Mr Wm. Aynsley, grocer, &c., Front Street, West Stanley, on the 11th inst., was dismissed, as the Magistrates came to the conclusion that there was no evidence to prove that there was any felonious intent on the part of defendant to steal the same.

The Court did not rise till shortly after 5·30, and several cases were adjourned till the next Court day.

SAD DEATH OF A FARMER NEAR TANFIELD.

An inquest was held at Mrs Cawthorn's Hobson Hotel, on Thursday se'nnight, before Mr J. Graham, coroner, touching the death of Thomas Foster, aged 70 years. He expired from injuries received at 7·30 on Feb. 6th.—It seems that Mr Foster, who is a farmer well-known throughout the neighbourhood, was the occupant of the Town Head Farm, near Tanfield. On the 6th inst, about eight o'clock at night, he was busy attending to his cattle. Whilst descending the granary steps, he inadvertently slipped his foot and fell to the bottom, sustaining severe injuries to his head and body. He lingered for about forty hours, being professionally attended by Dr. Benson, of Stanley.—The jury recorded a verdict that Mr Foster died from injuries accidentally received.

THRIFT.—A penny bank is connected with the Barrington Schools at Stanhope, for the encouragement of thrift among the young, under the patronage of the Bishop of Richmond. It is an interesting fact that on the first Monday in the new year, the deposits amounted to £4.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists London."

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by Buchupaiba. At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

DR BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For eradicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed in effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.—Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 6½d and 1s. boxes.

A CONSETT MISSIONARY IN EAST AFRICA.

Church Missionary Station,
Taveta, East Africa,
December 5th, 1892.

DEAR——,—I received letters from home last night with the illustrated papers you kindly sent. Thanks for them all. We are having a very busy time here just now. Eight workmen have arrived from the coast, and have begun the buildings. They need constant attention. The first erection was completed to-day—it will eventually be our school-room. It measures 24 feet by 12 feet. At one end are two small Gothic windows, which improve the appearance considerably. Besides the various buildings we have undertaken a great work in making an irrigation canal from one of the upper reaches of the river Luni to a part of the land which we purpose cultivating. About twenty years ago Yohana's late father began the work, but it was too much for him, and a slight depression in the ground is all that remains to show where the canal did once reach. The fall of the river is very slight, and the banks are fairly high so the digging has to be considerable. The depression in the land which we have now made will cause the water to flow well when once we get it there. The distance is about 200 yards, and the depth at the beginning nearly five feet. Oh! how thankful we should have been had we possessed some more little picks like the one you sent me! However, the greater part of this work is finished, there remains now the task of building a dam across the river at the entrance of the canal, and this will be the hardest work of all. Just at this part the river flows over a bed of lava, so that we are unable to drive in stakes, and make a wooden dam, it must be made of stone, and loose stones are things to be looked for in Taveta, which is all alluvial deposit. However, we do not intend to be beaten by these difficulties, and sooner or later hope to see the work done, but if we had only a hand-cart or two, or even wheelbarrows, or but one of either what help it would be, and how much quicker the canal would be finished. The land we are going to occupy is just outside Taveta for some on the north. The whole of the buildings will be situated in various parts of an oblong piece of open land, having the forest on the West and South, the river on the East, and the North end open to Kilimanjaro. The area is about twelve acres. We hope to cultivate about half our land during February and March. The place is a favourite resort of black monkeys, grey monkeys, and huge apes, who will probably damage our first crops before they learn to fear a gun. Various antelopes and rhinoceroses wander thither from time to time, but will make themselves very scarce when we begin to live there. I have seen their footprints as they walk about at night and in the twilight.

Yohana went up to Mochi last month to see Ndenulio. He says that all our buildings there have been demolished, and the people are feeding their goats in what was our banana plantation and garden. This is the more unfortunate as I heard by this mail that the Church Missionary Society agreed to hand over the buildings to the Liepsic Missionary Society. However, it is perfectly certain that no German Missionary would have been admitted into Mochi unless he were able to conceal his nationality.

December 31st.—I have received your parcel containing the useful jacket, soap, almanacks, &c., for which accept many thanks. The tenth of this month was an important one with us, in the development of our new settlement, for on that day the water reached the end of our irrigation canal; that is to say, it was so near the surface that we can now conduct it where we like on the lower levels by scratching a little channel with a hoe. It is now rapidly altering the aspect of our land, which was little better than a parched desert, but is now looking in places like an English meadow. The day following this glad event, I spent several hours in rough surveying, and in putting up boundary marks round the land which the Church Missionary Society is acquiring from the British East Africa Company. It comprises about 100 acres. On the 17th, the Company's agent went all round it with me, and three Taveta witnesses with us. About one-third is open land, one-third scrub, and one-third forest, with fine trees. We decided to make our Christmas feast on Saturday, the 24th. The boys had their dinner at noon, consisting of bananas, a curried goat, and tea. They ate it partly in European style, that is, they *sat at table*, and were provided with plates and spoons, instead of eating in the way they usually do, half-a-dozen at one bowl. We three Europeans, Mr McGregor, Mr Hamilton (the Company's agent), and myself, dined at half-past five. We had roast goat, etc., and a plum pudding, without plums or suet. It was made of lard, flour, ground ginger, sugar, and dried apples, but it was not a success, for it was underdone. Next day it tasted better, being fried in slices. I should have told you that on the morning of the 24th we had an opening ceremony connected with the new Church Missionary Estate. We formed a procession thus:—We three Europeans, all the Mission boys, some of the natives, and a party of the Company's soldiers. All marched out in order to the end of the forest, and we held a short service. When this was ended, we moved on, singing "Onward, Christian soldiers," and reaching a suitable spot, Mr Hamilton planted and watered our first banana tree, and made a short speech, wishing us success on behalf of the Company. Then we sang "God save the Queen," and the soldiers fired a salute of thirty-six guns, with which the proceedings terminated. On the 19th, I went up to the German Fort to try to get leave to visit Mochi, but the officer in charge was away, and I could not do so. However, I went on to Kilema, and several of the Mochi people came to see me there. Two boys came back with me to Taveta, Samuel and another. I intend asking leave again shortly (which will be refused). It is not, however, for the sake of seeing Meli, but some of the old scholars, who may like to spend a week or two with us here. During the past week we have been busy planting bananas, and we hope next week to complete the first 500, when we may wait for a month, and then plant 500 more. After that it will be time to sow maize, millet, and other seeds, for the main crop of the year. Now I must make a request. Can someone get me about a dozen or more old swords or cutlasses? They are not for warfare, but for clearing away bush, etc. They are sometimes sold in Mombasa and Zanzibar, but I hear they are not to be had now. I cannot write more for this post, but wish you and all friends a happy 1893.—Your affectionate——

ALBERT R. STEGGALL.

Trade Notes.

THE COAL TRADE IN NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

The Harvey seam at Hamsteels Colliery, may now be said to be finally closed, owing to the depressed state of trade. Likewise the workmen employed in what is known as the Busty seam or New Pit belonging to the same company, whose notices have now fully expired, brought their gear to bank on Friday. Arrangements for drawing the pit ponies were duly carried out on Saturday. A few of the men will it is understand be drafted into the other seams, while the bulk of the old hands are idle.

Esh and Waterhouses collieries, belonging Messrs Pease and Partners, have resumed the usual mode of work of five days in the past week, the dispute at Barrow being understood as finally settled.

COLLIERY DEVELOPMENTS AT SOUTH MOOR.

It is pleasant in the present depressed state of the coal trade to find some places which are employing more workmen instead of following the general rule and giving notices. Perhaps there is no place better situated at present in this respect than South Moor Colliery, near Annfield Plain. Under the able direction of Mr James Fairley, the general manager, its history during the past three or four years has been one of continual development, and as the coal is of first-rate quality for gas-making purposes, the pits have hitherto worked with great regularity. The erection of new plant, and mechanical appliances adapted for the work of opening out the extensive royalty, is being gradually accomplished, and in a few year South Moor Colliery premises to be one of the most extensive undertakings in the county. The pits are rapidly becoming equipped with the most modern mechanical appliances. The haulage of the coal underground is all done by the endless rope system, which is also adopted on a surface tramway conveying the coals from one of the pits to the screens. The signalling is done by electricity, and recently two of the pits have been illuminated by means of the same useful medium. In company with the development of the pits, the accommodation for workmen has also shown vast strides, as over two hundred workmen's cottages of the most convenient type have been erected, and it does not seem at all likely that the building will cease at an early date. There are at present four pits drawing coals, producing over 2,000 tons per day, whilst another pit is being fitted up in the most modern style for winding purposes, and this is expected in a short time to further augment the quantity. On Thursday, a further important step in the development of the royalty, was marked by the commencement of a new sinking. The shaft, which is to be 16 feet in diameter, is intended to ventilate the whole of the workings in the royalty, and for this purpose a Waddle Fan, 45 feet in diameter, is in course of erection. The importance of the occasion was evidenced by the large gathering of workmen and officials assembled round the site of the new pit. After Mr Fairley, with the assistance of his son (Mr Joseph Fairley), had set out the pit and cut and deposited the first sod in the sinking kibble, he said that the occasion on which they were gathered together was no ordinary one, as it marked the beginning of one of the largest undertakings yet entered into by the South Moor Colliery Company. The shaft which was that day commenced would be the ventilating shaft for the whole royalty, and probably would be in use 170 years after this, even if the present output was doubled, so that they would see that they were connected with a royalty second to none in importance in the county of Durham. It was customary to celebrate such events as the present with the help of intoxicating liquors, but he had dispensed with that part of the programme as a matter of principle, believing that drink was the cause of many accidents, as well as of a vast amount of evil. However, on condition that it was not employed for that purpose, he would have much pleasure in making a present to the sinkers of money double the usual value, which he hoped they would devote to useful objects. He trusted that the progress of the work would not be marred by any accident.

NOTES FROM STANLEY DISTRICT.

[BY "AMBIO."]

CRAPE.

I met one of the gentlemen who is on the committee for the Dipton Wanderers A.F.C. the other day. I am not a great lover of the game, but he is; and our conversation naturally drifted into that subject. Having related with some pride the rapid rise of the club, and talked hopefully of its future prospects, he added with evident feeling, "But we have sustained a big loss by the death of poor Jim Walker. He was the best kick that ever I saw in the field, a really good player, and a canny lad." His was one of the largest funerals, I was informed, that Dipton has witnessed. I was glad to learn that fact. For, to me, it was not only a manifestation of the respect in which the deceased was held; but it would tend also, I thought, to break the force of the blow that has fallen so calamitously on the stricken household. Poor Walker! He has kicked his last goal and retired with honours. Is that not pretty nearly as much as the best of men can do? I think so. The greatest of us can only do his best in the sphere he is working in. Walker, young as he was, knew that, and did it. The Dipton people honoured him for it. So do I. In that spirit I take my first and last leave of him. May his long slumbers be sweet and untroubled in that little "God's acre" where his sorrowing comrades and stricken friends so gently laid him down.

HURRY UP.

I expected to have found Dipton like Stanley and Annfield Plain, luxuriating in the possession of street lamps. I need not tell the residents in that part of the globe that I could not find any. I did find, however, that the said lamps are lying at Annfield Plain, that the Lanchester Highway Board will, as soon as they have cleared matters for that purpose, give the word of command, and that Messrs T. A. Moffitt & Co., of High Street, Gateshead, will undertake the fixing of them. In the meantime the people of Dipton are without lights in the streets, and, like "One crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way for the new project." I, yes I, would call on all parties concerned to hurry up. Wire in! Success!

NEW CHAPEL FOR SOUTH MOOR.

I gladly record the fact that the Primitive Methodists at South Moor are now in possession of the deed that makes them owners of the piece of ground on which they intend to build their new chapel. This was generously granted them by the Owners of the South Moor Collieries, together with a promise of further help. That is what I would call a splendid start. And now, seeing that the trust deed is signed, and the plans of the building drawn, would it be too much to expect that everybody will, in his own way, and according to his power, do the little he can do willingly and cheerfully to speed the scheme so nobly seconded by the owners? The chapel will stand on the roadside, about a hundred yards or so below the post-office kept by Mr Smith.

CUTTING THE SOD.

The initiatory steps towards the sinking of the new shaft at the "Charlie," near Annfield Plain, were taken on Thursday morning last. Mr Fairley, manager for the South Moor Coal Company, cut the sod. This is another indication of the large mineral possessions of this Company. Let us all cry "Success to the new venture." Let us all hope that the sinking may be done in harmony and without accident until, preparing to light up the last shot, the "chargeman" and the "waiter-on" call out for the last time: "Is thoo ready?" "There's ready," "Bend away!"

THE STORE HALL.

I dropped into this splendid building on Sunday night again. I had been informed there was a special treat in store for those who went, and so, being a great lover of "special treats," I very naturally bent my way thither. I was not disappointed, neither was the great audience, judging from the interest manifested. On several occasions I found that the rendition of charming little pieces of work would have been replied to, and rewarded by, a right, good, sound, hearty clap, had not the Chairman's "Hush! hush!" prevented that very laudable and not particularly *unholy* mode of expressing one's appreciation of what is worthy. I don't blame the Chairman for thus calling to order those he deems out of place. The clapping was done, perhaps, by those who had forgot for the moment the religious nature of the service, or by those whom a pardonable enthusiasm had carried away. But, really, I cannot see any great harm in a thing like that. A good clap is just another way of saying "Well done!" and that, in very many cases, is a great help to the individual on the platform. Then again, the audience feels relieved after giving expression to a pent up feeling. I ought, however, to say that to introduce clapping might bring rowdyism along with it, and this would mean serious things to the great import of the meetings. I can do with a hearty clap, but—rowdyism!—steer clear of that by all means. Hence I, for one, rather lean to the Chairman. The Chairman on this occasion was Mr Thos. Chalders, who opened the meeting in the usual way, and then introduced Mr Joseph Dixon and party, who opened fire with the late Cardinal Newman's beautiful hymn "Lead kindly Light." A piano solo by Master Robson; a quartette, "Then live each day," by Misses Martin and Dixon, and Messrs Collins and Dixon; a recitation by Mr A. Pearson, called "The Model Church"; an anthem, "By the rivers of Babylon," by the company; a duet, "Beautiful Home," by the Misses Bell; and a solo and chorus, "How lovely is Zion," by Miss Martin and company, were all done in capital style. The unuttered "Well done!" of the audience referred to above, was in true keeping with the pleasing efforts of the different artistes. The speaker was Dr Wands, of Stanley, who first won the attention of the young people by telling the story of Daniel's captivity, and then made a few well-chosen and instructive remarks on the words, "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank." Daniel, i, 8. The doctor, who was heard with great attention, noticed the two points implied in the words. (1) Daniel purposed to do something; and (2) the thing which he purposed to do. The great danger of young people, he said, lay in the fact that they had not a purpose. They were too apt to copy those around them who could crack a better joke or swear a little louder than themselves. That, he said, was mere imitation—the trick of the monkey; while manliness consisted in breaking away from such habits, in having a purpose of one's own and sticking to it. Under the second head he said: In eastern countries wine was considered an adjunct of food, and did not contain the same amount of alcohol as that which is consumed here. He objected to drink not only because of the actual injury it does a man, but also because it hampers him in his purpose of life. The doctor was listened to with great attention; and at the close of his remarks, Mr Dixon's party sung "Dare to be a Daniel." A solo, "Come ye disconsolate," by Miss Carr, and an anthem, "Strike the lyre," by the company brought the meeting to a close. I ought to add that Messrs Settrey, Johnson, and Collins rendered very efficient service.

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Pupils Trained for Practical and Theoretical Examinations. Fees on application.
ADDRESS:—6, LEDGER TERRACE, BLACKHILL

R. WILSON & CO.,
BIRTLEY GRANGE BRICK WORKS,
BIRTLEY.

Prices given for Common Bricks, Flooring Squares, House Tiles, Draining Pipes, &c. Our Siding is connected with Railway direct to Consett and West District. Goods packed into Trucks at Kilns. 801z

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WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER & VALUER, Land, House, Insurance, and Emigration Agent, Share Broker, &c. Intending Emigrants can be Booked in the finest Ships to America and all our Colonies. Valuations and Auction Sales of Agricultural Stock, Contractors' Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by
WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

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FOR
DRESS SUITS.
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET,
285k BLACKHILL.

MUSIC EMPORIUM.

T. JONES is now prepared to supply direct from the Manufacturers, PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS at the Lowest Possible Prices.

A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.
BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.
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Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.

PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

Note the Address:—
T. JONES,
CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office),
CONSETT. 902a

Public Notices.

22 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Drilling Machine drawn for at Leadgate.

36 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Silver Watch raffled for at Bradley Cottages, Feb. 14th, in aid of MICHAEL MCAVOY. 508k

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A GRAND BAZAAR will be held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allendale Cottages, on Saturday and Monday, February 25th, and 27th, 1893, to be Opened each Day at 2·30 p.m.

JEFFREY'S CELEBRATED EYE CURE, at 2s6d Per Bottle, Cures Weak or Inflamed Eyes, and for Impaired Vision it is unequalled, and perfectly Harmless.—Address: JEFFREY, Castleside, near Post Office.

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

IN connection with the above, a MUSICAL SERVICE will be held in the Co-operative Hall, on Sunday Night, February 19th, to commence at Eight o'clock. Pledges taken, &c. Collection at the close. 818j

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DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Derwent Angling Association will be held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, February 25th, at Seven o'clock p.m.
502k D. ORMEROD, Hon Sec.

NOTICE TO CONSETT.

I, JOHN HENRY BROWN, do hereby certify that I will not be answerable for any Debt or Debts contracted by my Wife, ELIZABETH BROWN, after this date.

(Signed) JOHN H. BROWN.
Craghead, near Chester-le-Street, Feb. 17th, 1893.

MRS. A. SHIPLEY.
47, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
WILL SHOW A NEW STOCK OF FANCY GOODS, BABY LINEN, UNDERCLOTHING,
ON SATURDAY FIRST,
WOOLS IN GREAT VARIETY. 426k

NOTICE, a MEETING of the Catchgate and District Cow Club will be held at Mr MILES HANDY'S, Catchgate, on Monday, February 20th, 1893. Persons desirous of forming an Insurance against the loss of Cows are particularly requested to attend. GEO. R. HOBSON, Sec.

UNITARIANISM.

ON SUNDAY, February 19th, 1893, the usual SERVICES will be held in the Smaller Hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, in the Morning at 11, and Evening at Six o'clock. 493k

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CONSETT INDUSTRIAL & PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL MEETING of Members will be held in the Co-operative Hall, on February 18th, 1893. Chair to be taken at 6·30 p.m. The Business will be to Confirm or Reject the General Rules of the Society as amended by the Committee, and submitted to a Special Meeting of Members, held on the 14th January, and to an Adjourned Meeting, held on January 21st, 1893. 452k

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LOOK HERE.—FOR
STATIONERY, FANCY, and other USEFUL ARTICLES in immense variety.
BOOKS TO BIND, PICTURES FRAMED
TRY
J. COCKBURN.
STATIONER, CONFECTIONER, &c.,
13 and 14, FRONT STREET CONSETT.
☞ Spectacles for all Sights.
Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST NEW CHURCH & SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

ON MONDAY FIRST, Feb. 20th, 1893, a SEWING MEETING TEA will be given in aid of the above, by Mrs LOWES, 1, Medomsley Road, Consett, in Nelson Street School-room. Tea at Four; Supper at 6·30 to 10 p.m. Tickets, Lady and Gentlemen, Tea and Supper, 1s; Single Tickets, 6d each. Mrs Lowes will be glad to see a large Gathering at both Tea and Supper. 513k

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LOOK HERE, the REV W. GOODERIDGE, of Newcastle, will PREACH on Wednesday, February 22nd, 1893, in the SHOTLEY BRIDGE WESLEYAN CHAPEL, in the Afternoon at Three p.m. In the Evening, Mr GOODERIDGE will Deliver his Popular LECTURE, on "Men of Moral Might." Chair to be taken at Seven p.m. prompt, by GEO. RICHARDSON, Esq. Tickets 6d each; Reserved Seats, 1s; which may be had of Mr G. RICHARDSON, Mr JOSHUA LAX, Mr J. NIXON (Sec.), or any of the Teachers. Proceeds in aid of Sunday-School Fund. 494k

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NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

FOOTBALL MATCH AT BISHOP AUCKLAND.

DIPTON v. BISHOP AUCKLAND.

ON SATURDAY, the 18th of February, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Consett & Blackhill at 12·35 p.m. (with Bookings from Knitsley, Lanchester, Witton Gilbert, and Aldin Grange), for BISHOP AUCKLAND.

For further particulars see Bills, copies of which may be obtained at the District Passenger Superintendent's Office, Central Station, Newcastle.

GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.
York, Feb., 1893. 486k

THEATRE ROYAL.
CONSETT.

LESSEE AND MANAGER ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
ACTING MANAGER - - - MARK LINDON.

Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, February 20th, 21st, 24th, and 25th.—
"A MAN IN A THOUSAND."

Wednesday, February 22nd—
"JUDGE NOT."

Thursday, February 23rd—
"THE WORKMAN." 520k

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

CANON TALBOT'S LECTURES.

SIX Illustrated LECTURES on the HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH, will be Delivered by the REV CANON TALBOT, M.A. (Lecturer for the Dioceses of Durham, Ripon, and Newcastle), in St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill. The Lectures will commence on Monday, February 20th, 1893, and will be continued on the Five following Mondays, at 7·30 p.m., each Evening. Syllabus of Subjects:—

I.—The Establishment of the Church.
II.—The Church in the Middle Ages.
III.—The Reformation of the Church.
IV.—Secessions from the Church.
V.—The Revival of Personal Religion in the XVIII Century.
VI.—The Revival of Church Life in the XIX Century.

Each Lecture will be Illustrated by a Powerful Lime-light Lantern. All Seats Free. Collection at the close. The Public are very cordially invited to attend these Lectures. 509k

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DURHAM BISHOPRIC ESTATES.

ALL those from whom small Freehold and Copyhold Rents, and Rents for the Allotments, upon the Division of Commons, are due to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, are hereby informed that the COMMISSIONERS' AUDITS will be held at our OFFICES, 81, Bondgate, Darlington, on Monday, the 6th day of February; at the VANE ARMS HOTEL, Stockton-on-Tees, on WEDNESDAY, the 8th; at the TALBOT HOTEL, Bishop Auckland, on THURSDAY, the 9th; at the PACK HORSE INN, Stanhope, on FRIDAY, the 10th; at the KING'S ARMS, St. John's Chapel, on SATURDAY, the 11th; at the BLACK BULL INN, Wolsingham, on TUESDAY, the 14th; at the CROSS KEYS INN, Hamsterley, on WEDNESDAY, the 15th; at the DROVERS' INN, Evenwood, and the FAREGE HOTEL, West Auckland, on FRIDAY, the 17th; at the BLACK HORSE INN, West Boldon, on MONDAY, the 20th; at the QUEEN'S HEAD INN, Lanchester, on TUESDAY, the 21st; at BURNS' LAMBTON ARMS, in Chester-le-Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd; at the CROSS INN, Ryton, on THURSDAY, the 23rd; and at the EXCHEQUER OFFICE, in Durham, on SATURDAY, the 25th of February, 1893, for the purpose of receiving the same; and it is particularly requested that all such Rents be paid on the day named for the respective districts.

SMITHS, GORE, & CO.,
Receivers to the said Commissioners,
16, Whitehall Place, London,
81, Bondgate, Darlington.

Public Notices.

W. T. DAGLISH, Organist of St. John's Church, Dipton, is prepared to receive a limited number of PUPILS for thorough instruction on Harmonium, Organ, or in Theory.—Address, 60, South Medomsley, Dipton. 407k

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NOTICE.—All Persons wishing to join the LEEK SHOW to be held at J. MINTO'S, Miners' Arms, Medomsley, are requested to attend the Meeting, on Saturday Evening, February 18th, to commence at Seven o'clock. 504k

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ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

THE REV J. M. WILSON, of Hexham will Deliver a LECTURE in the above Church, on Monday Evening, 27th February, 1893, Entitled "A VISIT TO ROME, Illustrated with Limelight Views by Mr Crichton. Chair to be taken by the Rev A. BAILLIE, Pastor of the Church, at 7·30 o'clock. Admission 6d 323k

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CONSETT BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

PLEASE to Notice that on Monday, February 20th, a PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, at 3p.m.—for Ladies only—when Mrs. EYNON, of London, Organising Secretary, will attend as Deputation. At Night, a Large PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the same Hall, to be Addressed by Mrs. EYNON, of London, Deputation; and the Revs. A. BAILLIE, Blackhill; and T. DURANT, Consett. Chair to be taken at 7·30, by the Rev. F. STEGGALL, Vicar of Consett. An Excellent Musical Programme will be supplied by Members of Mr. J. SURTEES' Glee Party. Accompanist, Mr. G. S. STEPHENSON, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. All are cordially invited. Pledges taken. Collection at each Service towards the Funds of the Association.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Monday First.—Short Notice.—Distraint for Rent.—Brought to the Sale-Rooms, 6, 13, 23, and 25, Victoria Street, Consett. Removed for Convenience of Sale.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL on Monday first, Feb. 20th, a lot of valuable FURNITURE, including Mahogany Drawers, Tables Chairs, Brass mounted Beds, Scales, Weights, and a lot of Fancy Sweets.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.

Notice.—Unredeemed Pledged Goods.
John Crawford's Sale-rooms, 6, 13, 23, and 25 Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above Rooms, on Monday First, February 27th, 1893, a Splendid Lot of Mahogany and other FURNITURE, and UNREDEEMED PLEDGED GOODS, &c., comprising Splendid Mahogany Drawers, Brass-mounted Bedsteads, &c., Gentlemen's and Boys' Suits, Ladies' Dresses, &c.
Sale to commence at One o'clock, and re-commence in the Evening at Seven o'clock.
The above must be cleared out.
Anyone disposing of their Furniture can have it sold at any time. 471k

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE and LAND AGENT, is prepared to execute all orders for AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE SALES on reasonable terms, prompt settlement. Appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell, to levy distress for Rent under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Furniture bought for Cash.
Sale Office: 25, Victoria Street, Consett 542

By Messrs. Elsdon & Wylam.

To Capitalists, Merchants, &c.
MESSRS ELSDON & WYLAM are instructed to OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Freemasons' Arms, Front Street, Consett, on Wednesday, 22nd February, 1893, at 7·30 p.m., all that Valuable Commodious and most Pleasantly situated DWELLING-HOUSE and PREMISES, situate No. 24, Park Road, Consett, as now in the occupation of Mrs John Elliott.
For further particulars apply to
T. W. WELFORD, Solicitor, Consett; or the AUCTIONEERS, Delves Lane, Consett.
Also, £200 APPROPRIATION, with £78 paid up.
Also, 14 Fully-paid up SHARES in the Consett Water Company.

By Mr John S. Murray.

SALES BY AUCTION by Mr J. S. Murray:—
Monday, February 20th—Royal Auction Mart—Fat and Store Stock, &c.
Wednesday, Feb. 22nd—Front Street Consett—Salvage Furniture.
Friday, Feb. 24th—At the White Hart, Hexham. Plantations at Slaley.
Monday, Feb. 27th—Auction Mart—Fat and Store Stock.
Wednesday, March 1st—Farm Stock, Implements, and Hay, at Margery Flatts, Lanchester.
Wednesday, March 8th—Cows, Hay, Furniture, Dairy Utensils, &c., Broomhill.
Date not Fixed—Farm Stock and Furniture, Leadmill.
Others Indefinite. 510k

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 1893.
13 Fat Cattle.
100 Fat Sheep.
Pork, and Store Pigs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
Dairy Cows and Heifers, Calved and to Calve.
Hay, Turnips, Poultry, &c.
1 Excellent strong Phæton, with brake, &c., complete, and in good order.
Sale at One o'clock sharp.
J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.
Royal Auction Mart, Benfieldside. 462k

Salvage! Salvage!!—Sale of Furniture.
MR JOHN S. MURRAY is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at One o'clock, on Wednesday, Feb. 22nd, 1893, on the Premises of Mr C. WEAVER, Front Street, Consett, for the benefit of whom it may concern, the whole of the FURNITURE, &c., Damaged by the recent Explosion of Gas, consisting of Persian and French Iron Bedsteads, Spring, Wool and Straw Mattresses, Rabbit Down and Flock Beds, Mahogany Extending Dining Tables, Mahogany Loo Tables, Hardwood Dining Tables, Round Tables, Tea Tables, Dressing Chests and Tables, Washstands, Cheffioneer Bedsteads, Sideboards, Mahogany Hair-seated and other Sofas and Couches, Longsettles, Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs, Leather-covered Spring Chairs, Rocking and Arm Chairs, Windsor and Bed-room Chairs, Mahogany Tallboys, Chests, Presses, Mantel Mirror, Bed-room and Kitchen Fenders, Tidies, Cornice Poles, Set of Bed Hangings, Tapestry, and Cloth Hearthrugs, Mahogany Office Desk, all more or less damaged.
Also, a large Quantity of Debris, suitable for Firewood.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 512k

Reaston's Plantations, Slaley.
FOR SALE BY AUCTION, on Friday, Feb. 24th, 1893, at the White Hart, Hexham, the above PLANTATIONS, containing 37 a. 3 rd. 27 p., comprising Oak, Scotch Fir, and Larch.
Particulars and conditions at time of sale.
Mr Joseph Lamb, Slaley, will show them to intending Purchasers.
Sale to commence at Two o'clock.
J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.
Mart, Benfieldside. 464k

Margery Flatts, Lanchester.
MR JOHN S. MURRAY, favoured with instructions from Mr JOSEPH LEYBOURN, will SELL on Wednesday, March 1st, the whole of his FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, Stack well-won Old Land Hay, Dairy Utensils, and part Household Furniture, &c.
Particulars in future issue and Posters.
JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.
Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 460k

Broomhill, Ebchester.—Wednesday, March 8th, 1893.
MR J. S. MURRAY, favoured with instructions from the Representative of the late Mr JOS. IRVING, will SELL BY AUCTION, the whole of the COWS, PIGS, POULTRY, HAY, DAIRY UTENSILS, Household FURNITURE, &c.
Particulars in future issue and Posters. 465k

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

Sales by Auction.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Wesley Cottage, for Sale by Auction.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, instructed by the Trustees of the above, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday, March 15th, 1893, all that Substantially-built

FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE,

Called Wesley Cottage, situate in Green Street, Shotley Bridge, containing 6 Rooms, viz.: on the Ground Floor, Kitchen, with Large Pantry and Coal Cellar; on Second Floor, Two Sitting-Rooms; and on the Third Floor, Three Bed-Rooms; also a Self-contained Yard, W.C., and Stable.

Conditions will be stated at the time of Sale.

Applicants may view the Property on applying to Mr. John Bell, the present Tenant; and further information may be obtained on application to the Auctioneer, 68, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge.

Sale to commence at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon.

JOSEPH OLEY
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
10, WOOD STREET SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, February 20th, 1893.—40 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 22 Fat Cattle, 150 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 9 Store Cattle; 7 Finger Calves.

Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10·30 a.m.

Large SPECIAL SALE for STORE CATTLE on Thursday, March 2nd. Particulars next week. Early entries invited.

535k J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

Satley, near Tow Law.

MR JOSEPH VICKERS, instructed by the Executors of the late Mrs HEDLEY, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Saturday, February 25th, 1893, the following HORSES, CARTS, WOOD WAGGONS, HARNESS, TIMBER, Household FURNITURE, &c., viz:—

Lot 1—Black Mare, aged, 16 h.h.
,, 2—Grey Mare Pony, 14 h.h., in Foal to "Worcester Sauce."
(Both quiet and good workers.)
,, 3—Very Stylish Grey Colt, 2 y.o., by "Claremont," dam lot 2.

Wood Waggon, in good condition, Long Cart, 2 Coup Carts, 2 Sets Cart Harness; 2 Sets Trace Chains, and Quarter Straps, 2 Corn Bins, Gripes, Shovels, Forks, and all Stable Requisites.

A large quantity of Larch Posts and Rails for Fencing, a number of New Larch Field Gates, also a large quantity of Cartwright's New Timber, Corn Drill in good order.

FURNITURE, &c.—Mahogany Cheffioneer, Whatnot, 2 Chest of Drawers, Mahogany Small Chest of Drawers, Tudor Bedstead and Hangings, Iron Bedstead, Washstand and Dressing Table, Down Bed and Pillows, Side Tables, 2 cases Stuffed Birds, Stuffed Fox, Stuffed Fowl, Couch, Rocking Chair, 10 Kitchen Chairs, 5 Odd Chairs, 3 Tables, Folding Chair, Mirror, Clock, Pictures, Bird Cage, Carpet, Oil-cloths, Cocoa Matting, Hearthrugs, Tea and Coffee Services, Table, Dessert, and Teaspoons, Ornaments, Baskets, Trays, Lamps, Smoothing Irons, Candlesticks, Dinner Ware, Crockery, Glasses, Knives and Forks, Fenders, Fireirons, Tidies, Poss Tub and Staff, Pans, Tins, Brushes, Pair Gig Lamps, 2 Mangles, and other Sundry Articles.

A number of Barn-door Fowls.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

Grove Villa, Tow Law. 524k

By Mr. T. D. Dryden.

On Tuesday and Wednesday next, February 21st and 22nd, at the New Town Hall, Consett.—The "Brooks" Collection of Choice and Valuable Artists' Proof Etchings and Engravings.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN is instructed by Messrs BROOKS and SONS, of 171, Strand, London, the well-known old-established Art Publishers (Established 1750), to SELL BY AUCTION, on Tuesday and Wednesday next, at the New Town Hall, Consett, a Grand Assemblage of

PROOF ETCHINGS AND ENGRAVINGS,

Comprising examples of Vical Cole, R.A.; Sir E. Landseer, R.A.; Alma Tadema, R.A.; Samuel Cousins, R.A.; Rosa Bonheur; Birket Foster; Briton Riviere, R.A.; J. S. Noble; Geo. A. Holmes; Sir J. E. Millais, R.A.; J. Lennel, sen., R.A.; Marcus Stone, R.A.; J. M. W. Turner, R.A.; Luke Fildes, A.R.A.; James Hardy; Heywood Hardy; Thos. Blinks; C. Burton Barber; and other eminent Artists, selected with great taste and judgment from the original pictures exhibited in the Royal Academy, Salon de Paris, Grosvenor Gallery, and other Fine Art Exhibitions, the whole of which (with few exceptions) are in the

FIRST PROOF STATE,

and signed by the respective artistes and etchers, thus being in all their pristine beauty and brilliancy. Most of the newest and choicest publications will be included in the sale.

The Auctioneer, in recommending this important sale to all connoisseurs and lovers of Art, begs to state that such an IMPORTANT COLLECTION can only be offered by Messrs BROOKS, whose reputation and position in the Art World requires no comment.

The whole will be ON VIEW on the above-named days, and catalogues (which are now ready) may be had on application to the AUCTIONEER; or at the New Town Hall.

Sale at 2 and 7 o'clock each day.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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

NORTH-WEST DURHAM EMIGRATION AGENCY.

PARK ROAD SALE ROOMS, CONSETT.

JOHN WILLIAM BERRY, AUCTIONEER LICENSED VALUER, &c. Sales by Auction held every PAY-MONDAY, in the above Rooms, at One o'clock. Consignments of any class of Goods are invited, or will be bought outright for Cash on the shortest Notice. 310k

T. SWAINSTON,
12, MIDDLE STREET. CONSETT,
AUCTIONEER AND COMMISSION AGENT
Business promptly attended to.

Business Announcements.

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF & MALT WINE

Composed of Liebig's Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract, and old Port Wine. It is therefore a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength

PRICE: 3s. 9d. PER BOTTLE; 2s. PER HALF-BOTTLE.

Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, Newcastle.

LOCAL AGENTS:—

CONSETT.—RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. T. D. DRYDEN & Co., FRONT STREET. THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST.
WITTON GILBERT.—J. HODGSON, STATION HOTEL.
MEDOMSLEY.—R. M. RUTHERFORD, ROYAL OAK HOTEL.
DIPTON.—ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT.
STANLEY.—WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL.
ANNFIELD PLAIN.—WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL.
BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES, BURTON HOUSE.
TANFIELD.—JOHN IRWIN, PACK HORSE INN.
BLACKHALL MILL.—T. ARMSTRONG, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT.
SOUTH MOOR.—R. DIXON, THE OAK INN.
TOW LAW.—J. MOSES, POST OFFICE, HIGH STREET.
LEADGATE.—JOHN SNAITH, QUEEN'S HEAD HOTEL. 333k

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
W. ATNSLEY, Esq.
JAMES OLIVER, Esq. } Trustees.
HEDLEY NICHOLSON, Esq.

The next MEETING for receiving Subscriptions and Loans will be held in the Small Hall of the NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, between 7 and 8 o'clock on MONDAY, 27th Feb., and every Fortnight afterwards at the same time and place. LOANS received at 4 Per Cent. Interest.

BLINDS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION MADE TO ORDER.

VENETIAN BLINDS MADE TO ORDER. OLD BLINDS CLEANED, MADE EQUAL TO NEW.
ALL SUNDRIES KEPT IN STOCK.
ESTIMATES GIVEN. PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION
STUDDY AND ALEXANDER,
BLIND MANUFACTURERS,
4, PICTON PLACE, OPPOSITE BLYTH AND TYNE STATION,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 731

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Cutlery, Gems &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
(THREE DOORS BELOW BLACKETT ST)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
CHEAP WATCHES.
GENUINE ENGLISH LEVERS £2
SILVER GENEVAS 15s
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW 789

WEATHER CHART FOR FEBRUARY.

Mr B. G. Jenkins, F.R.A.S., London, gives the following as the probable weather for February:—Mild and wet, with gales and snowstorms, especially in the north and west. Opens with a low barometer. About 8th a high pressure period, which, although unsteady, lasts for 12 days. Cyclonic period round 19th, with rain, snow, and lightning; high barometer for five or six days; much fog. About 25th a gradual fall.

TEMPERATURE.—Above the average. Rather cold weather for the first 12 days. Mild round the 15th. Very cold round the 20th. Very mild at the close.

RAIN.—About two-and-a-half inches; over average. Chiefly during the first week, round the 19th, and at the close. Heavy in the western area, especially round 3rd and 19th. Average rainfall: London, 1·6in; Glasgow, 8·4in: British Isles, 8·4in.

PREVAILING WINDS.—S.W., N.E., Southerly winds greatly predominate.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1893.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY

[BY "INCEDO."]

NO ROSE WITHOUT THE THORN.

It is the old, old story, which, in the words of the poet, is briefly set forth in the lines—

"Joy and happiness, pleasure and pain,
Are mingled together like sunshine and rain."

Such seems to be the position of the promoters of the Consett United Temperance Sunday evening entertainments. They derive pleasure from meeting together for a common and very laudable object; but the effect is marred by the presence of the proverbial thorn, which in this instance takes the form of undesirable expressions of disapproval on the part of the juvenile and thoughtless section of the audience. The blame is laid apparently at the door of the Sunday School scholars, but my readers will join me, I doubt not, in the opinion that the charge is rather a vague one. There are few children in the town of Consett who are not connected with either one Sunday School or another, and if they err on the lines indicated, it must be because they are conscious—as indeed their elders are—that too much of one thing is good for nobody. If good Christians attend the Church twice, and the Sunday School once, within the compass of a single day, it is not to be supposed that they would have very much relish for a fourth course of intellectual or spiritual viands. Writing weeks, if not months ago, on this subject, I pointed out that Saturday evening entertainments, held under the auspices of temperance organisations, were in other districts conducted with much success, financially and otherwise. But the temperance school of thinkers at Consett are in nowise dependent on suggestions from without, believing presumably that no good thing can come out of Nazareth.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT TRADES COUNCIL.

My readers will peradventure remember that some time ago I joined issues with the members of the Consett and District Trades Council in their efforts to awaken the district authorities to the desirability of doing something in the way of providing work for the the unemployed. I was under the impression that the members of the organisation meant well, however far short they might fall in carrying out the details of a scheme which, to do them justice, they evidently had very much at heart. Events prove, however, that they were in error, and that the cry of wolf was raised when there was no wolves discernable by the naked eye. But I am going to call the members of the Council to order on that score. They did not err intentionally, nor had they anything to gain by playing the *role* of alarmists. It is enough that the investigation committee has reported that there was not that distress in their midst which at first anticipated. Let the error pass. "To err," says the sages, "is human, to forgive divine." But the public will not, I fancy, wink at, nor pass over so very lightly the statement made at the last meeting of the Council, to the effect that the committee had not as yet, succeeded in securing *bona-fide* working men candidates for the forthcoming Local Board elections in connection with the Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside districts. Such a confession is enough, as Macaulay says:—

"To have made Quintillian stare and gasp."

Really now, if the members of the Council care for the good opinion of their neighbours, and the respect of the public generally, they will at once rein up the wayward pegasus which one or more of them has bestridden, otherwise they will become the laughing stock of the reading public all over the north country and even further afield. That two or three young men, whose opinions nobody values, should meet in conclave and set themselves the pleasing task of dictating to the public who shall, and who shall not compose the constitution of our local authorities, is too much of a joke to be taken seriously. It is written that the d—l was cast out of heaven because of his pride; and, as conceit is closely allied to the sin named, the members of the Council will do well to content themselves with smaller fry than seeking posts of honour on our district Local Boards.

A QUEER ASSOCIATION.

The number of organisations in this country may well be said to be legion, the Tramps' Mission, as far as my reading goes, being the latest comer, and in point of title the most novel. It appears from the last meeting of the Lanchester Board of Guardians that one or more kind ladies expressed their willingness to supply tramp literature for the Workhouse, conditionally that the Guardians fell in with the offer. But the gentlemen named did not see eye to eye with the ladies whose good intentions prompted them to approach the Guardians on the subject. I have good grounds for coming to the conclusion that the decision arrived at will meet with the approbation of the public. A tramp is pretty well served if he gets bed, supper, and breakfast for all he gives in return. Food and shelter form integral parts of the circle of necessaries which go to make up the ever-varying round of human life, while literature and the pleasure and profit derived from its possession forms one of the most estimable luxuries of modern civilisation. Besides, I understand that tramps are sent to bed when they are admitted into the House, and should they go to sleep before supper at nine o'clock in the evening, they are aroused by the clanging of a bell, and on sitting up in their narrow cribs are served with a substantial repast. Such men care nothing for literature. If they did they would mend their manners and lead honest lives.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—On Sunday, the annual services in behalf of the Home Mission funds, were preached in the above church at Consett, by Rev. F. R. Rees, of Berwick. The usual public meeting was held on Monday evening.

"JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN."—On Saturday evening, the above sacred drama was again performed by the members of St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, in the New Town Hall, Consett. There was a fair company present. A full dress rehearsal was given in the afternoon to school children. The scenery was again kindly lent by Mr Jefferson, of the Theatre Royal, Consett.

THEATRE ROYAL.—After an absence of nearly seven years, Mr Frank Fuller and Mr Harry Richardson, with an excellent company are paying a return visit here this week, and up to the time of writing have had a fair amount of success. We regret we have not space this week to particularise, but we are glad to learn that the various performers have acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of the audiences.

UNITARIANISM.—On Sunday last, Mr A. Rowe conducted the usual services held in the New Town Hall. In the morning, Mr Rowe spoke upon the question—"Is the world God's or the devil's?" and in the evening he followed on with his subject, "The seat of authority in religion." In the afternoon, at 2·30, a new departure was began, which will be carried on in future at that time, to which all persons of whatever persuasion are earnestly invited, as it is for free discussion of all subjects appertaining to religion, and the only rule is that all persons give the same right of opinion upon religious points to others as they would ask for themselves. Mr Hill, of Consett, spoke upon "Miracles, are they true?" which was followed by lively discussion. On Sunday next, Mr E. Westhorpe, of Leadgate, speaks upon "The power of impression." There were fair attendances at all services.

CONSETT Y.M.C.A.—The football club in connection with this institution held a grand evening concert on Thursday week, in the art room of the National Schools, Consett. The room was crowded in every part. Some talented artistes had been specially secured for the occasion. Mr G. Hyden, vice-president of the club, was in the chair, and in the course of his remarks he urged upon the members the desirability of unity, and so by sticking closely together they would stand a much better chance of being victorious on the football field. The programme was now proceeded with, in the absence through indisposition of Mr Geo. Stephenson, who was down on the programme as the accompanist &c., the chairman announced amidst applause that Mrs Kirkhouse, Miss Douglas, and Miss Thompson had kindly volunteered their services. The artistes were Miss Douglas, Miss Elliott, Mr G. Dawson, Mr A. Wilson, Miss Evans, (Beech Grove); and Mr Cooke, (captain of the club). After the usual votes of thanks had been passed, a most successful concert was brought to a termination. A supper being provided downstairs most of the audience proceeded thither and partook of the good things provided. Some of the members of the club acted as waiters, which caused some fun.

IMPORTANT SALE OF ETCHINGS IN CONSETT.—Never before in the history of our town has so important an assemblage of Works of Art been brought to public competition as that which comes under the hammer of our townsman, Mr T. D. Dryden, on Tuesday and Wednesday next, at the New Town Hall. The "Brooke's Collection" of rare etchings, comprising nearly three hundred of the choicest publications of the present century is justly celebrated throughout the art world and the sale of a selected portion of their unique collection is an event which will be hailed with pleasure by a large proportion of our art-loving residents. It will be seen that the collection will be on public view on Tuesday and Wednesday up to the hour of sale and will doubtless attract a large attendance of the lovers of the beautiful in art.

BLACKHILL.

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES.—The services conducted by Miss Wilson, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Blackhill, have proved so successful that she has been asked to prolong her visit.

WEST STANLEY.

THE NEW POLICE STATION.—Mr J. Shepherd, of Durham, has secured the contract from the Durham County Council for the erection of a new police station &c., at West Stanley. Building operations will be commenced next week.

WEARDALE.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST JUBILEE.—In connection with the Primitive Methodist mission jubilee thanksgiving fund, the president, Rev. J. Travis, and the vice-president, Mr Hartley, of Liverpool, visited Westgate-in-Weardale, on Friday. The Rev. J. Travis preached in the afternoon to a large audience. In the evening, a public meeting was held presided over by Mr Thos. Philipson, of Stanhope. The speakers were the Rev. J. Travis, Mr Hartley, Rev. F. Watson, and the Rev. G. Chunn. The meeting was an enthusiastic one throughout. The chapel was full long before the time announced for the commencement of the services. Miss Temperley, Stanhope, presided at the organ. Some 3 or 4 choirs from different parts of the dale were present and took part in the singing. Mr Greeman, schoolmaster, Westgate, conducted. Owing to the depressed state of trade and the labour market in the dale, the amount realised towards the jubilee fund was much below what it otherwise would have been. About £100 was promised, and it is fully anticipated that when the circuit is canvassed upwards of £300 will be realised.

STANHOPE.

LARGE FUNERAL.—On Friday, the remains of Mr Thomas Wilson, farmer, Bushey Flat, Stanhope, were interred in the old churchyard at that place. The funeral was a very large one, deceased being well and widely known, and much respected.

MEETING OF QUARRYMEN.—Mr Toyne addressed a meeting of the Stanhope quarrymen in the High Street Chapel, on Wednesday evening, on the wages question, and kindred subjects. Mr E. Cregg, presided.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN VISITOR.—Mrs Alex. Eccles, of Oak Hill, Roby, near Liverpool, a well-known and much-respected visitor at Stanhope for years, died on the 26th ult. The Eccles family have come to Stanhope now for a number of years during the grouse-shooting season. The death of the deceased lady is much lamented.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Wednesday next, Rev W. Gooderidge, of Newcastle, is to preach in this chapel. In the evening, Mr Gooderidge will deliver his popular and instructive lecture on "Men of moral might." Mr Gooderidge is very popular in Newcastle, and the services will prove both interesting and instructive.

ST. CUTHBERT'S BENFIELDSIDE.—A most successful entertainment was held in the Temperance Hall, on Monday evening, in which the drum and fife band, choir boys of St. Cuthbert's, and the following ladies and gentlemen took part:—Mrs Brutton, Miss Walton-Wilson, Miss Wilson, (Cauldwell); Miss Richley, and Messrs Heymer, Lax, Marshall, Richley, and Symington. Mr E. Hayward, acted as accompanist. There was also a Court Minstrel performance given by Messrs F. and J. Barron, R. T. Davey, T. Dobson, J. Glendinning, W. Gornall, J. Hope, H. Lishman, T. Lynn, J. Proud, and H. Surtees, which was thoroughly appreciated by the large audience who had assembled; notwithstanding that it was the third entertainment in the same place, in less than a week.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

BALL.—A grand assembly ball was held in the Temperance Hall, Cornsay Colliery, on Friday last, under the auspices of the assembly committee, when upwards of 40 couples were present. The music was supplied by the leading members of the Cornsay Choral Society.

LEADGATE

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Monday and Tuesday evenings, the members of the above place held a social evening, under the name of an "At home." The schoolroom was tastefully decorated. Songs, recitations, and readings were rendered at intervals by Misses Harwood, Lennox, and Egglestone, Consett, and Mr Harbottle, Derwent Cottages. Mr W. Whitfield acted as accompanist, and the piano was kindly lent by Messrs Waddington and Sons. There was also a splendid assortment of views, lent by Mr A. Ramsey, Leadgate, which caused great amusement. Refreshment were provided on twelve tables, which were provided over by 24 young women. The chair was occupied by Mr T. G. Egglestone, of Consett. The proceeds were devoted to trust funds.

CONCERT.—On Monday evening, a concert, concluding with a laughable comediette, called "Cheselling," was given in the Redwell Hills New School room, Leadgate, Rev T. Varley, vicar, presiding. Rev W. Ellis, Medomsley, gave recitals on the piano, and also acted the part of accompanist, together with Miss M. Blench, and Miss E. Foreman. Among the singers were Rev R. S. Hay, Mr T. D. Dales, Mr S. Blench, and Miss S. L. Innes. The various characters in the comediette were taken by Mr John E. Parker, Mr C. Foreman, Mr Young, Miss Innes and Miss Nicholson. The various persons discharged their duties most efficiently, and greatly delighted the audience.

DIPTON.

FORMATION OF A MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.—At the invitation of Mr A. E. Hayes, the new head master of the Collierley Board Schools, a very large company, assembled on Tuesday week, in the Free Methodist Church, Dipton, to consider the advisability of forming a Mutual Improvement Society for the village. Mr Hayes opened the proceedings, and in the course of a few introductory remarks, appealed to his audience to acquit him of being prompted in the action he had taken in calling that meeting by any other motive than a desire to serve, as far as lay in his power, the highest and best interests of the village. He then called upon the meeting to elect a chairman for the evening. On the motion of Mr J. W. Taylor, Mr Aitken was voted to the chair.—A letter was then read from Rev R. Tuson regretting his inability to be present, and cordially wishing the project every success.—Mr Hayes then rose to propose the following resolution:—"That this meeting approves of the formation of a Mutual Improvement Society for Dipton, and that such a society be hereby formed."—In support of this resolution, Mr Hayes said that from the first day of his residence amongst them he had felt most keenly the need of some central institution which should concentrate the intellectual and social life of the place; some common ground of intercourse upon which all who lived in the village, of every age and condition, every shade of religious or political belief could meet, and spend together at least one evening a week in mutual pleasure and profit. The speaker then proceeded to sketch the institute which he invited his audiences to form.—Mr J. W. Taylor seconded the resolution in an able and vigorous speech, and on the motion being put to the meeting it was carried without a dissentient.—The following officers were then elected:—President: Mr A. E. Hayes; vice-president: Mr J. W. Taylor; treasurer: Mr Aitken; secretary: Mr G. Murray, jun.; committee: Rev Rd. Tuson, Messrs Biggs and R. Forster, Misses Kennedy, Bottoms, and Clark.—It was resolved that the entrance fee should be 3d, and the weekly subscriptions 1d.—A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

FROSTERLEY.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS.—On Thursday se'nnight, in connection with this class, a debate took place on "Cremation v Earth Burial." Mr Hall defended cremation, and Mr Hogarth defended earth burial. The debate was presided over by Mr J. T. Gardner, Frosterley. An interesting discussion took place afterwards.

IVESTON.

CONCERT.—A very attractive and interesting entertainment was given on Monday evening at Iveston, by the following ladies and gentlemen. The Misses Foreman, Hussey, Weaver, Richards, and Thompson; and Messrs Stokoe, Rogerson, Day, and Stratford.

AGRICULTURAL LECTURE AT IVESTON.—Wednesday was the occasion of the fifth of a series of lectures upon "Soils and manures." delivered in the school-room, Iveston, by Prof. F. O. Solomon, F.R.A.S., F.C.S. The first four lectures were devoted to the consideration of plant food, nitrate of soda, and sulphate of ammonia as manures for farm crops. The relative commercial and agricultural values of these two fertilisers were discussed. The lecturer demonstrated to the audience various practical methods which they themselves could adopt to ascertain the presence of the commonest impurities or adulterants. Reference was made to the various practical details respecting the best times and modes for application, and the quantities required per acre.

WASKERLEY.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday, Mr W. W. Graham, who has removed from Waskerley to Fylands, Bishop Auckland, on account of his employment, was presented with a purse and money for his services as harmoniumist and leader of choir at Waskerley. Mr T. T. Potts made the presentation, and Mr Graham suitably responded.

BEAMISH.

TENNIS CLUB BALL.—A grand full and fancy dress ball, under the auspices of the Beamish Lawn Tennis Club, was held in the West Pelton School-room, on Monday night. Mr J. W. Rider, hon. sec., had charge of the arrangements, assisted by the following stewards:—Messrs G. Nicholson, H. Richards, W. Storey, and R. J. English. Messrs Rider and T. Kay were efficient M.C.'s, while Mr Ed. H. Lowther's band gave entire satisfaction. Excellent refreshments were provided by the Misses Cunningham, West Stanley.

BURNOPFIELD.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES: EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT—DRAMATIC RECITALS.—On Saturday evening last, an entertainment, promoted by the Educational Committee of the above Stores, was given in the large hall of the Society, the committee having engaged Mrs J. W. Boughton, from London, to give dramatic and other recitals. After an excellent entertainment, in which all the performers were highly successful, the principol piece of the evening was introduced. This was the recital by Mrs Boughton dressed as Portia in the well-known scene in the *Merchant of Venice*, where Portia succeeds in rescuing Antonio from the designs of Shylock. Mrs Boughton, who represented in herself the whole of the characters in the act, held the audience completely spell-bound by the way in which she delineated at one time the character of the Jew money-lender and in the next moment that of the wise and judicious Portia. The contrast which she portrayed between Shylock in his relentless determination to exact the utmost limits of the power given him by the bond, and the abject terror of the beggared usurer was a treat that should not have been missed by anyone who had the opportunity of seeing and hearing it. The way in which Mrs Boughton recited the well-known passage, "The quality of mercy is not strained, &c.," was alone worth all the money paid for the admission. Promoters of intellectual treats should not miss the opportunity of securing the services of Mrs Boughton and her talented daughter while she is in the north. Miss Boughton recited a humorous piece called "Mind your own business," and Mr Allen brought the enjoyable proceedings to a close by playing the National Anthem.

MEDOMSLEY.

THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.—On Monday evening, a magic-lantern entertainment, illustrative of the work done by the N.S. of P.C.C., was given in the National Schools, Medomsley, by Rev T. Stenhouse, of Stocksfield (sec. of the Newcastle Aid Committee). Rev W. Cockin, vicar of the parish, was in the chair, and considering the roughness of the weather there was a good audience. Mr Wm. Eales, local secretary, was present on behalf of the Consett Branch of the Society. The lantern was lent by Mr Thompson.—On the motion of Mr Walton, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Stenhouse for his interesting address. A collection was taken at the close.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

BY "STANHOPE."]

The Weardale Primitives had a special treat at Westgate last week, in having the president and vice-president of the Conference in their midst—the Rev James Travis and Mr Hartley, the well-known jam manufacturer. Mr Travis's sermon on Friday afternoon, was an intellectual treat. The public meeting in the evening in the large chapel was packed.

The organ in the Westgate Primitive Chapel is a toy of a thing, and resembles a good tin whistle. It seems a pity that in such a splendid building they should have so poor an instrument, but Miss Temperley brought all out of it there was in it, and her high-class performance was thoroughly appreciated by the vast audience who gave her a hearty round of applause. On a better instrument Miss Temperley performs to advantage as few dale's musicians can do. Her playing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" and "The heavens are telling" was splendid. On an organ like that in the High House Wesleyan Chapel, or those of the Stanhope Primitives and Wesleyans, her excellence as a player is heard to perfection. The five accompaniments she put in to the music she rendered were pronounced by some very competent music critics present as splendid. Mr Freeman had the choirs well in hand, and managed his part thoroughly. The combined efforts of the choirs also had a grand effect. Mr Philipson makes a splendid chairman.

The deputation, Messrs Hartley and Travis seemed thoroughly disappointed at the financial results of so great a meeting, and expected raising that night in promises and cash, £250 or £300. But Westgate is not Stockton or Bishop Auckland, nor is Weardale London. Coming as they did from similar gatherings in the City Temple, London, that week to a poverty-stricken, trade-depressed place like Weardale, it could not reasonably be expected that Weardale could come up to these places. There is hardly any labour in Upper Weardale. Lead-winning is but a spectre of the past, iron-stone work is nil, and consequently money is scarce.

I think the Westgate Circuit did well, all things considered, to raise about £100 for the jubilee thanksgiving fund. It takes the station all it can do to meet its own requirements just now. In the past the Weardale people have always responded right loyally to the cry for help from the mission field and for all other good objects, and have raised and sent out of the dale a weight of money in the past. Besides the manner of promising in a public meeting sums of money is something new to which the Weardale people are not used. It took them by surprise. We are not quite up to London yet in the dales. Before the five years elapse the Westgate Primitives will contribute their share to the jubilee fund—only give them time. Mr Hartley, although he gives one-twentieth of his income annually to good causes, has enough and to spare, and can afford to give by the thousand at a time; whereas the Weardale people more represent the poor widow of whom the Galilean teacher said: "She hath done what she could." Messrs Hartley and Travis somehow had got a wrong conception of the state of the dale. The Weardale people were always good givers and are so still.

The late Mr Wilson, of Newlandside, was born at Bushby Flat, lived there all his life and died in the house in which he was born. That cannot be said of very many. He was much respected, as was evinced by the large number who followed him to his grave—many of them unasked. He was one of the oldest workmen at Newlandside quarry, having worked there from the commencement of the quarry till the very day of his death. His sudden death is much lamented.

The death of George Wallace, of Bollihope, is also much regretted. As a mine agent he was respected by both masters and men. As a local preacher he was highly appreciated right through the Westgate Primitive Circuit. Always lively he was always acceptable, and was a general favourite in the circuit. He was my Sunday-school teacher, and as such I liked him and held him in high estimation ever after. He was a man in the best sense of the word.

The Rev A. Dickenson, Wesleyan Minister, Stanhope, seems to get more popular as the time nears for his leaving the district. He is now making his mark as a lecturer of no mean order both in his new station and others adjoining it.

There are some good givers among the young ladies who attend Stanhope Church. In fact they give from principle and even deny themselves in order to do so.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "ANNFIELDITE."]

THE COAL TRADE

Is in a very bad condition at present. All the collieries—excepting Messrs Dickinson's—are very slack, and several are only working about half-time. Matters look little better at present, as some have worked but one day, while others have not started for the week yet. It is to be hoped this condition of trade will soon alter for the better, as many families are already feeling it severely.

BAD CONDUCT.

Since the lighting of the district with gas, great satisfaction has been expressed by pedestrians, who enjoy the change from darkness to light exceedingly. Some mischievous hands are at work, who turn on the gas taps during the day, and so waste the gas. Such mischief will probably be punished ere long.

MISSIONARY SERVICES.

The annual missionary service was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain, on Monday night, when the Rev T. Wood and Rev J. Elliott attended as a deputation. The attendance was very moderate, owing, probably, to the bad weather. The financial results are a little over last year. The deputation was well received. Mr C. Graham, who was chairman, did his work in a happy method.

WESLEYAN HOME MISSIONS.

On Tuesday evening, the Wesleyan Methodists held their usual home missions public meeting, when the Rev C. W. Barber and Rev J. Crawshaw, with local help, carried out the meeting successfully. Mr Crawshaw is an earnest minister, who attends diligently to his work, and is much appreciated by his congregation. On Sunday last, he occupied the pulpit morning and evening, preaching two excellent sermons.

HOBSON'S SALE ROOM, CATCHGATE.

Mr G. Hobson, jun., of Catchgate, has gained a name as an auctioneer. On Saturday night last, he held a sale in his room at Catchgate, which was well filled. The good humour of Mr Hobson, and his anxiety to secure the best bids, are proverbial. It is to be hoped his weekly sales will continue.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The public lectures on "The chemistry of common things," by Mr F. C. Garrett, M.Sc., continue to be much appreciated. His lectures are both profitable and instructive.

A LOCAL COMMITTEE.

There is, I understand, to be a local committee appointed to look after the affairs of this district. I hope the right things will be hit upon, and may success attend the effort.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "CASTLESIDEITE."]

The people of this country for months past, have been anxious to know what the Hon. W. E. Gladstone's "secret envelope" contained. Even lords and princes were curious to see the seal broken, and hear what it contained. If I read aright, it contained a scheme for the better government of Ireland, by which peace, prosperity, and contentment may again be the lot of that unhappy country. Some of my readers may have realised, since the opening of the envelope, that Home Rule is not dead, as they predicted.

A band of hope meeting was held in the Primitive Methodist Sunday-school, on Saturday se'nnight. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Ripley, and a very appropriate and thoughtful address was given by Mr Thomas Williams, of Blackhill. Songs, solos, and recitations were rendered by local artistes, the lion's share of the applause falling to Master and Miss Egglestone, of Consett, for their songs, etc.

As has been the custom since the olden times, a ploughing day was given Mr Joseph Robson, of Horsleyhope, who is succeeding Mr A. Baitey, of The Middles, near Waskerley, by the neighbouring farmers, on Tuesday se'nnight. There was a fine show of horses, which were beautifully dressed with ribbons, etc., each ploughman trying to exceed his neighbour in decoration. The premier honours fell to the team of Mr Joseph Angus, Healeyfield, and the team of Mr J. Newton, Horsleyhope, secured second.

The lecture on "Agriculture," given by Prof. F. O. Solomon, in the Board Schools, on Saturday, was well attended, and continues to be both interesting and instructive. Many chemical experiments were shown by the lecturer, which were quite new to most of the students. The subject was "Sulphate of Ammonia."

On Sunday, the Wesleyan choir anniversary services were held. In the afternoon, a service of song was given by the choir, entitled "True as steel." The connective readings were given by Mr T. G. Golightly, in a very effective manner. The choir, under the leadership of Mr T. Duckworth, rendered their parts efficiently. Mr T. C. Elliott preached at night to a large congregation.

On Monday night, the villagers had an opportunity of attending a highly interesting lecture, but I am sorry to learn that they did not avail themselves of the offer in large numbers. The subject was "The life history of coal." which was handled by that master hand, Rev A. Watts, F.G.S., F.R.G.S., rector of Witton Gilbert, and late Vice-Principal and Science Lecturer of St. Bede College, Durham. I hope there will be a better audience when next we are favoured with a visit from so able a lecturer as Mr Watts. The chair was occupied by the vicar, Rev J. Wallis, who no doubt felt disappointed in his first attempt to interest and instruct his parishioners.

An old lady, not exactly a native of the village, but who has for a few months been staying with her son (Mr H. Thompson), has died here, at the ripe age of 87 years. She was interred at Tanfield Lea, on Wednesday. A large number of friends followed her remains to their last resting-place.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL RECITALS AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

An entertainment of an exceptionally high-class description was provided for the delectation of the fashionable folks of Shotley Bridge on Friday night, when Miss Ada Palmer, of the Polytechnic School of Elocution, and Neville's Dramatic Studio, London (a lady not altogether unknown in this district), and her husband, Mr Leslie Kenyon (gold medallist) gave a series of dramatic, humorous, and musical recitals and sketches. As both the artistes are talented and well-known members of the theatrical profession, the Temperance Hall, where the entertainment was held, was very well patronised by the lady and gentlemen residents of the village. Mr R. G. Barclay was mainly instrumental in providing this delightful morceaux for the edification of the residents, and he was very ably assisted in his endeavours by the following stewards:—Messrs J. Booth, T. R. Willis, J. Lax, F. B. Richardson, J. W. Forster, and W. B. Thirlwell. The programme, which was of the most interesting and varied character, was compiled in such a way as to suit all tastes and creeds. Mr Kenyon took the initiative by singing "Oh! hear the wild winds blow," and proved himself to be not only a most capable dramatist but a highly accomplished musician as well. Miss Palmer next appeared on the platform and favoured with a recital, called "The singing of the magnificat," clearly demonstrating to her listeners that her histrionic powers were especially good. Mr Kenyon was afterwards engaged for some considerable time in the reproduction of a humorous sketch, entitled "My experiences at an elocutionary competition." There were clever and faithful impersonations of bashful reciters, the nervous competitor, the man with the "trick" arm (which was very amusing), and the inebriated reciter (which was realistic and life-like, and fairly "brought down the house"). This excellent performance provoked unstinted and prolonged applause. Miss Palmer followed with the recitation of Clement Scott's sketch, "The women of Mumbles Head," with sympathetic pathos and striking effect, the outburst of cheering at the finish culminating in an *encore*, and the wishes of the audience were gracefully complied with. The next part allotted to Mr Kenyon was a laughable sketch of "People I have heard at concerts," the catalogue including "The love song," "The lady vocalist," "*La sifleur*," "Eccentric instrumentalists," and in response to a re-call he pourtrayed "The comic man." His imitation of farm-yard vocalism was utterly irresistible. A clever dog was introduced in this scene, and went through some very amusing antics. Miss Palmer thoroughly eclipsed her previous efforts in her recital of Poe's charming piece "The Bells," and won the warmest encomiums for the brilliant triumph she achieved.

Part II, which was pretty much similar to the preceding portion of the programme, opened with a musical and terpsicholean sketch, styled "Partners I have danced with," which was productive of a good deal of laughter. Miss Palmer subsequently recited "Fezziwig's ball" (Dickens). Mr Kenyon sang "Beauty's eye." while Miss Palmer next contributed the humorous recital, "The children of Kensington Gardens." Mr Kenyon caused endless fun and merriment. He possesses a fund of wit and humour, and his remarks interspersed between the various sketches were given in an easy conversational style, which charmed his hearers. The *piece de resistance* of the evening, however, was the representation of the "Quarrel scene" from the *School for Scandal*, Miss Palmer sustaining the part of Lady Teazle, and Mr Kenyon acting Sir Peter Teazle. The piece was received with much enthusiasm. Miss Palmer also played the necessary pianoforte accompaniments. It only remains to remark that the entertainment was a meritorious performance in every particular, and those who refrained from patronising it missed a treat rarely provided in the Derwent Valley.

WEST PELTON.

"THE BACHELORIES."—In spite of the many counter-attractions, there was a good company at this popular assembly on Tuesday night. Dancing commenced at seven o'clock, and concluded at 10 15 p.m.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday evening, a musical service entitled "Northern Primitive Methodism" (in story and song,) was given in this place of worship to a good company. On Sunday, Mr P. Reay, of Annfield Plain, preached—afternoon and evening—to good congregations. Collections were taken in aid of the trust fund.

OLD CORNSAY.

BALL AND SCHOOL TREAT.—On Monday evening fortnight, a private ball was held in the Almshouses School, Old Cornsay, when a numerous party of ladies and gentlemen went through a long and varied programme. As the proceeds were to be devoted to the Cornsay harmonium fund, a large number of friends were most generous in their contributions of viands, etc., for the supper, others gave efficient help during the evening.—Sufficient edibles were left to provide, at the suggestion of one of the committee, a free supper for the school children and inmates. This came off, in the presence of a number of friends, on Thursday, Feb 2nd. Games and songs enlivened the evening, and the little ones enjoyed themselves as heartily as their elders had done on the previous Monday. The net proceeds amounted to £3 19s 9d.

Football.

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

ASSOCIATION.

Spen Albion 2nd beat Greenside, at the Spen, by two goals to nil.

Stanhope and Tow Law 2nd played a draw of two goals each, at Stanhope.

Burnhope Rovers and Annfield Plain Albions met on the latter's ground, the game resulting in a draw of one goal each.

Benfieldside Church Choir beat Shotley Bridge Rovers 2nd, on the latter's ground, by three goals to one.

SPEN ALBION v BRANDLING VILLA.—Played on the latter's ground, and resulted in a win for the Villa by two goals to nil.

STANLEY RED STARS 2ND v KYO RASCALS.—Played at Kyo, and after an exciting game the visitors were victorious by four goals to three.

BLACKHILL PARK v SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS.—Played at Shotley Spa and resulted in a win for the Park by five goals to nil.

WHITE-LE-HEAD RANGERS v HAMSTERLEY WANDERERS.—Played on the former's ground, and after a pleasant and exciting game ended in a victory for the home team by two goals to one.

CROOKHALL WANDERERS v. SOUTH MEDOMSLEY HEROES.—Played on the former's ground, and after a very exciting game resulted in a victory for the Wanderers by one goal to nil.

GREENCROFT BLACK WATCH 2ND v EAST CASTLE ROVERS.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a good game resulted in a draw of two goals each.

TANFIELD LEA STIFF-'UNS v DIPTON WANDERERS JUNIORS.—Played on the former's ground, and after a hard game resulted in a victory for the Wanderers by three goals to one.

LEADGATE WEST END 2ND v CROOKHALL WANDERERS 2ND.—This return match was played at Crookhall, and after a rough game the visitors won by two goals to one.

KYO GEMS 2ND v LEADGATE ST. IVES.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a well-contested game resulted in a victory for the Gems by two goals to one.

MARLEY HILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v SOUTH MOOR VIOLETS.—Played on the former's ground, when both clubs were poorly represented. A quiet game ended in a win for the "Saints" by one goal to nil.

CONSETT RISING STARS v CONSETT ROVERS.—Played on the former's ground, the home team winning by three goals to nil. The visitors went off the field at half-time. E. McArdle, John and James Finlay, and McLeer played well for the Stars.

FLINT HILL ALBION v LINTZ ROVERS JUNIORS.—Played on the former's ground, and resulted in a win for the home team by two goals to one. A. Henderson and J. Osborne played a splendid game for Flint Hill.

DIPTON STRANGERS v BURNOPFIELD TEMPERANCE.—Played on the Temperance ground, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by two goals to nothing. W. Rooney, G. Temple, and T. Sanderson played well for the winners. W. Wears and W. Donald scored the goals.

CONSETT SHAMROCKS v TOW LAW LEAGUE.—Played on the former's ground. The first half was very much in favour of Tow Law, who were leading at the interval by four goals to one. The second period found the Shamrocks holding the upper hand, they scoring no less than seven times, and finally winning by eight goals to four.

WESTWOOD WANDERERS v SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Played on the former's ground, the Wanderers being victorious by five goals to three. The winners' team was as follows:—Goal, H. Stewart; backs, H. Bell and R. Bewick; half-backs, G. Dodds, G. Armstrong, and G. Bell (capt.); forwards, J. Thompson and W. Stewart, right wing; Wm. Seymour, centre; James Thompson and J. Hunter, left wing.

SOUTH MOOR ROVERS v KIP HILL.—This return match was played on the Rovers' ground before a large attendance. The visitors won the toss, Brydon kicking off for the home team against the wind. The visitors forced a corner, which proved fruitless, and the Rovers' forwards broke away with some neat passing, Brydon just missing the goal, while shortly after Mason shot a little wide. Kip Hill got well down and put in a good shot, which was saved, and then Brydon scored for the home team after a nice run by the forwards. The visitors pressed, but the defence was too strong for them, and the Rovers were quickly at the other end, where Coxon missed a chance of scoring. Both teams came near getting through before the interval, when the score was—

Rovers ....One goal
Kip Hill ....Nil

On resuming, the home team had the wind in their favour, and the visitors' backs were soon called upon to defend, which they did in grand style, but eventually Mason got possession and sent in a beauty, which was capitally saved. The Rovers now played up determinedly, and Brydon scored No. 2. The Rovers' forwards rushed away from the centre kick, gaining a corner, which was well placed, but the Kip Hill custodian saved grandly. Although the visitors strove hard to score, they could not beat the Rovers' halves. Further goals for the home team were added by Brydon, Coxon, and Bolam, and the final result was as follows—

South Moor ....Five goals
Kip Hill ....Nil

CONSETT FELL 2ND v WATERHOUSES WANDERERS.—Played on the Wanderers' ground in the presence of a good assemblage. The home team, who won the toss, elected to kick with the aid of the wind. Play for a while ruled in midfield, but the Wanderers, who received great assistance from the wind, got the upper hand, and had it not been for the grand defence of the visitors, would have quickly scored. At length the home left got away, and from a splendid pass by Potts, John Maycock (the home centre) headed through. The Waterhouses forwards completely bombarded the Fell goal, but the custodian was in grand form. Potts on the left scored two goals with terrific shots. Half-time score—

Wanderers ....Three goals
Fell ....Nil

On re-starting, the visitors at once began to press, but the home team strengthened their defence, and repelled all attacks. Potts and Jas. Maycock put in some nice short passing, and took the leather well up the field, the latter making a grand shot. The goalkeeper fisted out, but Potts ran up, caught the globe on the rebound, and scored a well-earned goal amid cheers from the spectators. Not to be denied, the Consett forwards broke away, and scored with a good shot which gave the home custodian no chance. The Wanderers pressed again, and from a bully in the Fell goal, John Maycock rushed up and scored. White soon followed with another, and then the visitors' forwards began a heavy siege upon the home fortress, Allison (their clever left winger) putting in a dashing run. From a scrimmage, they notched their second goal, and the result was—

Wanderers..............................Six goals
Fell ....Two goals

Wanderers' team—Goal, T. Maycock (capt.); backs, Wm. Richardson and R. Parkinson; half-backs, E. Bates, R. White, and S. Newton; forwards, James Maycock, W. Potts, John Maycock, R. McLane, and M. Burnham. Referee, Mr E. Quinn.

LINTZFORD v GATESHEAD N.E.R. RESERVE.—These teams opposed each other for the first time at Lintzford. Abbott (the home captain) won the toss, and decided to play with the wind at his men's backs. The visitors soon made tracks for the home goal, but Stobbs tackled Minns and sent over to the left, where Smith sent in a demon shot, Hindmarsh effecting a wonderful save. The visitors, showing splendid combination, worked well up the field, but Young shot wide. Severe pressure on the visitors' fortress ended in Hindmarsh conceding a corner, and Taylor placed right in the goal-mouth, Newton doing the needful amidst loud cheers. The N.E. strove hard to break through the home defence, but found Abbott and Weedy all there. Gateshead were awarded a fruitless corner, and the globe was soon at the other end, but the home men could not break through again. Half-time found the score standing—

Lintzford ....One goal
N.E.R. ....Nil

The visitors expected to run up a heavy score now they had got the wind, but from the kick-off Cant ran up and sent into the hands of the custodian, who threw out. The homesters kept up the pressure for some time, having very hard lines. Minns and Young at length raised the siege, the former shooting hard, but Richardson fisted out in grand style, and Meakin sent over the bar. From the goal kick, Reay ran down and centred grandly, Brown equalising without difficulty. Lintzford now bombarded the Gateshead goal, Cant grazing the cross-bar, but the goalkeeper cleared repeatedly. Play at times became somewhat rough, Newton and Taylor both being fouled while in the act of shooting, close into goal. The N.E. made a few spasmodic dashes, but Abbott and Moon kept them well in check. The home team continued to press severely till the finish. Result—

Lintzford ....One goal
N.E.R. ....One goal

The Lintzford team was—Goal, Wm. Richardson; backs, R. Abbott (capt.) and J. Weedy; half-backs, E. Stobbs, G. Moon, and T. Smith; forwards, J. E. Taylor and W. Nixon, right wing; P. Newson, centre; Jas. Andrews and W. Cant, left wing. N.E.R.—Goal, Hindmarsh; backs, Gladstone and Spraggon; half-backs, Meakin, Wilson, and Nixon; forwards, Reay, Alexander, Brown, Young, Minns. Referee, Mr Wm. Smith.

CONSETT Y.M.C.A. v OAKEY'S LILYWHITES (Stanley.)—Played on the ground of the former in two thirties. The Y.M. kicked off, and for the first fifteen minutes play ruled fairly even. The home forwards then pressed, some smart passing being displayed by Jones and Hagon on the left, whilst Aynsley on the right put in some useful work, which quickly told, and from a clever pass by Jones, Gambles had little difficulty in shooting through. The visitors pressed, but Cooke and Symington (the home backs) were all there, and the rush was fruitless. The ball was taken to the opposite end, and passed and re-passed in front of the Stanley goal, Barrow being in fine form, feeding his forwards with excellent judgment, but nothing further resulted, the visitors' custodian saving marvellously several times. Oakey's now had a look in, and scored from a high shot from the extreme right. Half-time score—

Consett ....One goal
Stanley ....One goal

Immediately the ball was re-started, the game became very fast, the leather travelling rapidly from end to end, until the visitor's right secured, and getting well down, scored with a low shot, another being notched soon after by the centre forward. This appeared to spur on the home team, and they had some hard luck, Hagon hitting the posts, while Jones sent just over the bar. Close on time the Lilywhites scored again, despite the smart tackling of Barrow, and the clever defence of Cooke. Result—

Stanley ....Four goals
Consett ....One goal

WALDRIDGE MEDAL COMPETITION.

WALDRIDGE WHITE STAR v OUSTON INSTITUTE 2ND.—This tie in the Waldridge Medal Competition was played at Waldridge. A good game ended in a draw of one goal each.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES JUNIORS v BIRTLEY RED ROSE.—This was another tie in the above competition, and resulted as follows:—Birtley, three goals; Allendale, nil.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

LEADGATE EXILES RESERVE v. CONSETT FELL.

This re-played tie came off on the Exiles' ground. The visitors won the toss, and elected to play with a strong wind in their favour. During the first period, play was chiefly confined to the home quarters, but a stubborn defence was kept up, all attempts to score proving fruitless. The Exiles got well up the field, and one of the visitors' backs miskicking, McGuckin got possession, and after a splendid run finished up with a beautiful shot which fairly beat the custodian. The home team led by one goal to nil at the interval, and having much the best of the game in the second half, were ultimately victorious as under—

Exiles ....Three goals
Fell ....Nil

SECOND ROUND.

DIPTON WANDERERS RESERVE v. ESH TRUE BLUES.

Played on the Wanderers' ground before a fairly good attendance. The home team had the benefit of a boisterous wind in the first "45," and pressed continually, leading at half-time by five goals to nothing. The Blues tried hard to get on even terms with the Wanderers, but could only manage four goals. Final result—

Wanderers ....Five goals
Esh ....Four goals

Referee, Mr J. Ross, jun., Medomsley.

WOLSINGHAM v. TOW LAW.

Played at Wolsingham before a large crowd. Tow Law won the toss, and played with the wind (which was blowing a perfect hurricane straight down the field) in their favour, and immediately began to press the home defence, but their final efforts were generally wide of the mark, either going over the top of the bar, or being cleared by some of the stalwart defenders on the home side. The Wolsingham forwards tried to break away during this half, but the wind being so strong, their efforts were never in any way dangerous to the visitors' goal. Tow Law had innumerable shots at goal, but Burke was on the alert, and cleared everything that came his way. The spectators were highly strung with excitement at this point, the grand defence of the home team against the combined attacks of the wind and the Tow Law forwards being loudly cheered, and was something to be remembered. Half-time score—

Wolsingham ....Nil
Tow Law ....Nil

On the resumption, Wolsingham attacked, but Temperley cleared, and the leather was passed on to the home left, Hardy putting in a good shot which was rushed through by the right wing, making the first score amidst a perfect howl of applause, three minutes from the start. From the centre kick, Charlesworth gave to his right wing, who passed down the field, Watson shot, and Charlesworth rushed both Hildreth and the ball through. Wolsingham pressed continually up to time, and scored other six goals. Final score—

Wolsingham.......................Eight goals
Tow Law ....Nil

Tow Law were represented by the following:—Goal, J. H. Hildreth; backs, J. W. Temperley and Wm. Waites; half-backs, W. Simpson, Fred Blair, and R. Wilson; forwards, J. Coulson, F. McIntosh, T. Hobson, T. Conroy, and T. Potts (capt.) Wolsingham—Goal, Burke; backs, Brown and Lunson; half-backs, Bell, Lunson, and Turp; forwards, Williams, Watson, Charlesworth, Etherington, Hardy. Referee, Mr Bland, Witton Park.

HOBSON WANDERERS v. TANFIELD LEA.

Played at the Hobson, before 600 spectators. A gale of wind blew down the field towards the village, and it was seen that the team winning the toss would monopolise play during the first period. The Wanderers were the lucky ones, and Holmes started for Tanfield, who ran up, but W. Henderson dispossessing them, dribbled down, and scored for the Hobson with a long shot. The homesters pressed severely, gaining innumerable corners, from one of which the Wanderers notched a second point, but it was claimed and allowed that the ball was through before being played. Bell, however, headed a fine goal from a nice corner by McNeil, the same player adding a third from a scrimmage shortly after. E. Henderson shot a fourth, and at half-time the score was—

Wanderers.........................Four goals
Tanfield.......................................Nil

After a short interval, play was resumed, and Tanfield pressed, but they were met by a sterling defence. At length they scored, and then the Wanderers broke the monotony with a few spirited breaks away, but Tanfield were not to be denied, and returning, added two more. The game now terminated amidst a scene of excitement and enthusiasm unparalleled on the home ground. Result—

Wanderers.........................Four goals
Tanfield.........................Three goals

Wanderers' team—Goal, G. Tortoise; backs, W. and E. Henderson (capt.); half-backs, M. J. Smith, J. Leadbitter, and J. McNeil; forwards, J. T. Bell, W. Hindhaugh, T. Young, J. Beck, and J. Maddison. Referee, Mr A. Little, Leadgate.

RUGBY.

BLACKHILL ROVERS v. HAMSTEELS.

Played at Blackfine in two "35's." The visitors won the toss, and the Rovers kicked off against the wind, play settling in the Hamsteels "25." From a scrummage, Anderson received and passed to Annandale, who made a good run, Johnston grassing him. Brown got hold and passed to Sayers, who fumbled, and Dodds cleared with a kick to half-way. Annandale got away, and again reached the visitors' "25," where some tough scrummages took place. Blackhill keeping up the pressure, forced Hamsteels to touch down. Brown returned the drop out, Dodds sending into touch. The visitors got well away, but Elliott prevented any danger. From some loose play, the Hamsteels forwards again got off, Elliott saving well. The drop out was not returned, and play was waged in midfield for some time, until Askew kicked nicely into touch in the visitors' "25." Hamsteels defended well, and the backs carrying play to the home territory, were awarded a free kick for off-side, but it came to nothing. Score at half-time—

Rovers ....One minor
Hamsteels.....................................Nil

On resuming, the homesters played up vigourously. Brown returned the kick-off, and play became very fast and open. Annandale raced away from a scrummage, and was looking dangerous when the visitors' back fetched him down. The Rovers forwards broke away, and Aitken scored, Brown landing the goal. The home team were soon at it again, and good passing by the backs forced Hamsteels to touch down on two occasions. Brown received and made a capital dodgy run, punting well down the field, and Anderson following up, secured and ran in under the posts, Brown again converting. From the kick-off, Lumley got off, carrying play to the visitors' "25," but was brought down. Aitken next got away and scored, Brown registering a goal. Smailes and Annandale put the visitors on the defence once more, and Anderson receiving, made a good run and planted the oval behind the posts, Brown kicking his fourth goal, and the result was—

Rovers ....Four goals (20 points)
Hamsteels....................................Nil

Referee, Mr M. Hobday.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[BY "OFF-SIDE."]

THE JUNIOR CUP.

WOLSINGHAM V TOW LAW.

Undoubtedly the greatest surprise in the second round of the Junior Cup was the defeat of Tow Law by their near neighbours of Wolsingham by eight goals to nil. Prodigious! The most sanguine supporters of Wolsingham never dreamt that their team could inflict such a crushing reverse on the lads from Tow Law. That the latter were severely beaten on the day's play, no one can deny, but under more favourable meteorological conditions a closer game would doubtless result. It was gratifying to see that each team had abandoned a lot of horse-play—a prominent feature generally when these clubs meet—thanks in a measure to the referee, who promptly stopped the game when any roughness was indulged in. The visitors made poor use of their opportunities in the first half—quite a contrast to that of their opponents when the latter had the advantage of the elements.

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The only redeeming feature of a weak display on the part of Tow Law was the play of Coulson, who tried hard to stem the current of defeat, but he was badly supported by the other members of the team. All the winners played a really fine game, and I shall not attempt to particularise any one of them. Their defence in the initial "45" against the wind was worthy of all praise, and will not be soon forgotten by those who had the pleasure of witnessing it. I understand that a protest has been lodged against two of the Wolsingham players, and it is confidently expected in Tow Law that the teams will have to meet again.

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DIPTON WANDERERS RESERVE V ESH TRUE BLUES.

Detailed criticism on the above tie is quite unnecessary, as owing to the terrific hurricane which prevailed on the Wanderers' ground, good football was entirely out of the question. Play ruled at one end—the entrance goal—almost throughout the game, the other goal being visited only about half-a-dozen times altogether. There was nothing to choose between the two teams, except that the Wanderers put in more dangerous shots than the Blues, and this no doubt gained them the victory. Tuson was the best man on the winning side, Freek shaping very moderately in goal, otherwise he should have saved the second and third points scored by the visitors. The Esh men did not by any means maintain the splendid form they exhibited at Leadgate, Forster, Jackson, and Fletcher being the best of a mediocre team.

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HOBSON WANDERERS V TANFIELD LEA.

That great local interest was centred in this match at the Hobson on Saturday was manifest by the large number of spectators who attended. The teams had met on three previous occasions, each side winning once, the other being left drawn. The home custodian cleared two or three good shots, but the brothers Henderson at back were in capital form, their general defensive tactics being much admired, and they accomplished rather a phenomenal feat in both scoring goals. The halves excelled themselves, playing a fine game, McNeil being again conspicuous for his clever corner kicks. The forwards played untiringly and worked with a will, although old Boreas prevented any display of accuracy or science. In fact, the whole team was much quicker on the ball than their physically superior opponents.

—o—

The visitors' goalkeeper had more work to perform than the home custodian, while the backs and halves played without flinching the whole ninety minutes. The forwards during the second period played with great determination, although the home halves generally managed to upset their calculations. Tanfield appeared to be considerably surprised at being defeated.

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CONSETT FELL 2ND V WATERHOUSES WANDERERS.

The Fell second string paid their first visit to Waterhouses on Saturday to antagonise the Wanderers of that place, and created a very favourable impression. Both teams were considerably weakened, and had to draw upon their reserves. The visitors' back division played a capital game. They got any amount of work to do in the first half, and did it exceedingly well, their defence being clean and good. They have a custodian of ability, and he saved some grand shots in clever style. Allison was no doubt the best of the forwards, his dashing runs creating quite a sensation. The two goals scored by the Fell were awkward ones to stop, being obtained from scrimmages in the goal-mouth.

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Turning to the home team, their forwards have never played a better game. James Maycock and Potts, the clever left-wingers, performed wonders. They dodged, passed, and shot with precision, the latter scoring three goals in succession. McLane and Burnham are a grand pair on the right, and did some good hard work. During the greater part of the second half, the Wanderers played without their clever left-half (S. Newton), who received a nasty kick on the face, and had to retire for the rest of the game. It was a pure accident, and no blame can be attached to his opponent who was the cause of it. The full-backs never seemed to get into their usual swing, and the custodian was rather off, but could not be blamed for the shots that passed him.

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LINTZFORD V GATESHEAD N.E.R. RESERVE.

The strong Reserve of Gateshead North-Eastern were the visitors to Lintzford on Saturday, and the home team did a good performance in effecting a draw. Moreover, the result of the match does not represent the merits of the respective teams, as the homesters had fully three-fourths of the game. In the dressing-room, prior to the game, a "little bird" whispered to me that the N.E.R. were going to put on a record score; but they were sadly disappointed, and were lucky—very lucky—in getting off with a draw. For the visitors, Hindmarsh in goal was the saviour of his side, clearing splendidly. Spraggon—an old Whitburn man, by the way—gave a good display at back, although somewhat marred by foul play. His partner also did very fairly. Meakin was the best of three moderate halves, while Minns (the old Birtley man) and Reay were the pick of the forwards.

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The back division of Lintzford were in brilliant form, Abbott especially so, Weedy running him very close. Richardson only touched the ball twice. The halves were also good, Smith (ex-goalkeeper) playing very well, although he ought to have stuck more to Reay, and stopped him from centreing when Brown equalised. Stobbs and Moon likewise got through a lot of effective work. Cant and Newton were the pick of the forwards, Taylor also putting in some capital runs. Nixon showed up very creditably, but is rather slow, while Andrews was very nervous, which may probably be accounted for by his youth. After the game, the visitors, as invariably is the case at Lintzford, were entertained to a splendid tea, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

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BLACKHILL ROVERS V HAMSTEELS.

The Rovers gave us a taste of their true form on Saturday, when they sent Hamsteels home with a decisive beating of 20 points to nil. Although the visitors were so badly beaten, the game was by no means an uninteresting one. The home backs, especially Brown and Annandale, got in several splendid runs, while the former kicked four goals from the same number of tries. Anderson and Aitken were the try-getters—each being credited with two—three of them being from clear runs in. The Rovers were undoubtedly the cleverer team, although lighter than their opponents. The Hamsteels back was a failure, and the three-quarters got very little chance of shining, but were good on the defence, Johnston being about the pick. The halves were outclassed by the home pair at all points. The forwards were the best part of the team, and screwed the scrummages well, but always found Anderson on the alert. Nevertheless, they had the best of the home pack in the "scrums," but were beaten in the loose.

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On the Rovers' side, Elliott at full back had scarcely anything to do, but what work fell to his share he did neatly, always getting in his kicks, and he was far ahead of his adversary in the same position, although certainly not much pressed. Annandale and Brown got through a great amount of hard work at three-quarters, and were the pick of the back division, Sayers and Askew not getting much to do, but they were always there when wanted. Smailes and Anderson were in good form at half, and easily outwitted the opposing couple. Anderson was very tricky in stopping the screwing by the visitor's pack, and got in some nice passes. The forwards played vigorously all through, and although slightly beaten in the packs, were miles in front of the Hamsteels men in the open.

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SOUTH MOOR ROVERS V KIP HILL.

On their own ground at Stanley, the Rovers signally reversed the result of the first encounter between these teams, running out easy winners by a majority of five goals. The Kip Hill backs (Wallace and Cockburn) defended capitally, and undoubtedly saved their team from a most severe defeat. Jacques was most prominent at half, but the forwards were far too weak for the home halves, who broke up all attempts at combination in easy fashion.

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The Rovers were without their usual custodian (Davison), but this did not make much difference, as his substitute (T. Shield) had only to handle twice during the afternoon. Errington was the shining light at back, his kicking being magnificent. The halves all did well, particularly Charlton and Harrison. The forwards have seldom played better, their passing being much too good for the visitors. Brydon was ever to the fore, feeding his wings admirably, and shooting in deadly style.

—o—

THE SEMI-FINALS.

Chief interest to-morrow will be centred in the semi-finals for the Senior Cup. Although our two local clubs left in—the Exiles and Wanderers—can hardly hope to cope successfully with the strong professional organisations they will have to face, I consider that North-West Durham have every reason to be proud at supplying two teams for the semi-finals. If such a thing had been suggested three or four years since as likely to happen in so short a time, it would have been scouted as ridiculous. But football has made rapid strides in our locality, and although we may not land the cup this year, or even next, we are bound to do so before very long. I confidently look forward to our teams making a good show to-morrow.

—o—

MEMS.

The Y.M.C.A. hon. sec. (Mr A. Wilson) expresses surprise at seeing a complaint from Kyo Gems about the non-fulfilment of a fixture. Mr Wilson denies that he ever arranged fixtures with the Gems.

Teams having fixtures with Westwood Wanderers 2nd are requested to cancel them, as they cannot raise a team.

The trip which the N.E.R. are running to Bishop Auckland to-morrow seems likely to be well supported, so that the Wanderers should have plenty to shout for them.

It is very unfortunate for the Exiles that McGee has been suspended, as he will be much missed against Darlington.

As far as I can hear, McGee was more sinned against than sinning, only the referee did not happen to notice the beginning of the *fracas*.

After their memorable performance on Saturday, Wolsingham should take some shaking off for the Junior Cup.

I notice that the holders (Darlington Athletic) have already got marching orders at the hands—and feet—of Darlington St. Hilda's. A good thing too. Monopoly is a bad thing.

Clubs having dates with Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's 2nd are requested to cancel them, as they cannot raise a team.

—o—

MATCHES WANTED.

Consett Rising Stars would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 10 to 13. Address: Ed. McArdle, No. 45, King Street, Consett.

Consett Shamrocks have several dates vacant. Apply to M. Page, 20, Dixon Street, Blackfine.

Leadgate Young Exiles would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 12 to 14. Apply to J. Costello, 217, Bottle Bank, Leadgate.

Lintzford Juniors would like to arrange matches with junior teams in the district. Apply to C. T. Dixon, Lintford, Lintz Green.

Sporting Items.

QUOIT MATCH AT LEADGATE.—In the ground connected with the hostelry of Mr Jackson, Coach and Horses Inn, Leadgate, a quoit match was played on Saturday afternoon, between Bart Johnson, of Leadgate, and J Wigham, of Westwood, for £40, 71 points being game. Johnson won a very exciting game by a couple of chalks, the final score being:—Johnson, 71; Wigham, 69.

PIGEON SHOOTING NEAR EBCHESTER.—On Saturday afternoon, a pigeon shooting handicap, which was promoted by Mr T Mason, of Allendale Cottages, who gave £2 to an entrance fee of 3s a lot, took place in a field close to the house of Mr Temperley, the Raven Inn, Broomhill, near Ebchester. Scores:—Jos Medici, 22, 1 0; Jester, 20, 0; Raven Inn, 20, 1 1 1 1 1; Dan, 19, 0; 2nd lot, 0; Clifton, 21, 1 0; High Burn, 19, 1 1 1 1 1; Allendale Lad, 21, 0; Barney Jim, 19, 1 1 1 1 0; Consett, 18, 1 0; Ghost, 19, 1 0; Old Towler, 18, 1 1 1 1 1; W Charlton, 18, 0; Simonian, 1 1 1 1 1; T Johnson, 18, 0; Nowt, 20, 0; Something, 20, 0; Leadgate, 20, 1 1 1 1 1; Old Calabar, 19, 0; J Medici, 2nd lot, 1 1 1 1 1; Bowe, 19, 1 0; Walton, 19, 1 1 1 1 1; Consett, 2nd lot, 1 0; J Robinson, 20, 1 1 1 1 0; J Medici, 3rd lot, 1 1 1 1 1. Stakes divided. A small sweepstake followed, at 2s 6d a lot. Scores:—Jos Medici, 20, 0; Leadgate, 20, 1 0; Raven Inn, 20, 1 0; Simonian, 20, 1 0; Barney Jim, 19, 1 1; Jos Medici, 2nd lot, 1 0; Bowe, 19, 0; Jos Medici, 3rd lot, 1 1. Stakes divided. T Mason was referee and handicapper, while J Hornsby was trapper.

BLACKHALL MILL GUN CLUB.—The first annual shooting in connection with the above club (confined to members) took place in a field near the Ship Inn, in the presence of a fair number of spectators. Results:—Riverside, 21, 1 1 0; High Burn, 21, 1 0 1; R Butterwell, 20, 1 0 0; Blackhall Mill, 21, 0 1 1; Black Syke, 20, 1 1 0; W Stonehouse, 20, 1 1 1; W Mackenzie, 22, 1 0 0; J Charlton, 18, 1 1 1; W Moore, 18, 0 1 1; Robert Herdman, 19, 1 0 1; T Simpson, 20, 1 0 0; W Robinson, 21, 1 0 1; R Leybourne, 22, 1 0 0; Joe Stubbs, 19, 0 0 0; Joe Allan, 20, 0 1 1; Joe Nelson, 19, 1 1 1; George West, 20, 0 1 1; W Rumley, 20, 1 1 0; J Whitfield, 18, 1 0 1; John Anderson, 10, 1 0 1; J Cawthorne, 18, 1 0 1; W Parker, 18, 1 0 1. The company subsequently repaired to the Ship Inn, where an excellent repast was provided by Mr and Mrs Stonehouse. After the removal of the cloth Mr J Cawthorne was voted to the chair, while Mr W Robinson filled the vice-chair. The loyal and patriotic toasts were duly honoured, besides "Success to the Gun Club" and "The Host and Hostess." The speeches were interspersed with various songs, a pleasant evening being spent.

RABBIT COURSING AT MEDOMSLEY.—On Saturday afternoon, about 500 spectators assembled in a field contiguous to the hostelry of Mr John Minto, Miners' Arms, Medomsley, to witness a match at rabbits for £30, between Walton's Butterfly and Bell's Old Woman, the best of 13 courses. Betting was brisk, and ruled at evens. Old woman had an easy task, beating her opponent by seven to two.—A small sweep followed, for which £2 was added to 24 entries at 3s 6d per lot. Results:—First round—Williamson's Polly beat Fairlamb's Tip the Button, Foster's Warm Fireside beat Bright's Little Shoeblack, Warm Fireside (2nd lot) beat Little Shoeblack (2nd lot). Burdon's Kate beat Tip the Button (2nd lot), Curry's Lost Again beat Lynn's Red Flag, Lambert's Fancy beat Fenwick's Money or Die, Money or Die (2nd lot) beat Batey's Die or Money, Ward's Po Head beat Kate (2nd lot), Robinson's Young Boy beat Polly (2nd lot), Fancy (2nd lot) beat Chamber's Pat Hardy, Danny Oh beat Lost Again (2nd lot) Little Shoeblack (3rd lot) beat Blacklock's Fancy. Second round—Warm Fireside beat Polly, Kate beat Warm Fireside, Fancy beat Lost Again, Money or Die beat Po Head, Young Boy beat Danny Oh, Fancy beat Little Shoeblack. The owners of the six dogs left in agreed to divide. D Foster was judge, E Rule pistoller, and R Reay scorekeeper.—Ten shilling a-side has been deposited in the hands of Charles Stubbs (Medomsley), to bind a match between Curry's Tittle Tattle and Moss's Steam Navy, to be decided at the above house in a month's time.

RUPTURES.—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSSES is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell IMITATIONS of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have notany Agents.

THE LADY KILDARE;

OR,

THE RIVAL CLAIMANTS.

BY MRS. HARRIETT LEWIS,

Author of "The Sundered Hearts," "The Bailiff's Scheme," "The Double Life," "Darkwood," &c.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE INAUGURATION OF WAR.

The utter consternation of the Lady Nora's guardian and suitor at her unexpected appearance, and at the revelation that she had been a listener to their confidential interview, can be more easily imagined than described.

Lord Kildare uttered an oath.

The lawyer became deathly pale, and leaned, trembling and appalled, against the closed door. A strange look came over his face—a look of terror, anguish, and awful dread. His small, slight figure seemed to shrink within itself, and to contract into smaller space. His thin hands worked nervously together.

"You—you have been in the alcove all the time, Nora?" he asked, in a quivering voice.

"I have," the young girl answered drearily.

"You have heard all we have said?"

"All, Michael! I know that you have intercepted my letters to Lord O'Neil, and his to me. I know that you have opened those letters and read them. I know now that you are without honour, that you are false and cruel and treacherous. And I loved you so, Michael! I gave you a daughter's reverence and affection. I thought your gentle ways, your meek and quiet manner, the expression of a refined soul. And I find them the cloak of a bold and scheming nature. Oh, Michael! Michael!"

The big brown eyes were hidden now with tears. The sweet young face, pale and grave, was convulsed with anguish. The scarlet mouth quivered with infinite pain.

The false guardian reeled under her words as if she had struck him a deadly blow.

"I know now," said Nora, "that I ought to have contested this man's claims to Point Kildare. Sir Russel and Mr. Wedburn have been misled by you, Michael. But my error is not irreparable. Sir Russel is in England. I shall start for England to-night, within the hour, and tell him all I have overheard. I shall go back to Kildare Castle as its mistress. The tenants you, Redmond Kildare, have ill treated will defend me in my occupation of the castle until the law proclaims my rights. Justice shall be done. My father's inheritance shall not go to one who has no right to it."

She spoke proudly and firmly, but with a stern sadness that looked terrible on a face so young and lovely, so formed for joyous expressions.

"By heaven! she will ruin us!" cried Redmond Kildare, in wild alarm.

These words were like a trumpet call to the old lawyer. He lifted his anguished face and drooping figure, and strove to command himself.

"Spare me, Nora," he pleaded. "What good can it do you to expose me? You can never prove the truth of your assertions. I shall deny them. You will lose by accusing me. There's not a man in Dublin has a better reputation for probity than I. No one will believe you—"

"Sir Russel will. But I shall seek not to expose your treachery, but to regain my rights," said the Lady Nora, half contemptuously. "I intend to submit this question to a jury—who shall be owner of Kildare?"

Redmond uttered an ejaculation of alarm.

The lawyer succeeded in gaining his self-command. He locked the door quietly and put the key in his pocket. A desperate look gleamed from his eyes. His face grew stern and rigid in its expression, losing all its softness, meekness and gentleness.

"You throw down the gauntlet, Nora," he said. "You mean war."

"I mean to recover my inheritance," said the Lady Nora firmly. "Stand aside, Michael Kildare. I desire to leave this room."

"That you cannot do," declared her guardian. "You cannot go out from here until we have come to some settlement of this business. Seeing that matters have been forced to an issue, you will have to give me your word of honour that you will marry Redmond Kildare—"

"If I am kept a prisoner here till I make such a promise, I shall die here," said Nora, with passionate emphasis. "I will arouse the household."

She made a swift movement toward the bell-pull. Redmond Kildare, in obedience to a sign from the lawyer, was ahead of her, and quickly knotted the rope beyond her reach.

Nora ran to the windows.

They were shuttered and fastened. Before her slender fingers could unlatch the iron fastenings, Redmond Kildare was at her elbow.

The fact was evident enough. She was a prisoner, without a chance of escape.

Realising the fact, the young girl was wise enough to cease her resistance. She pushed a chair toward the fire and sat down quietly, looking at her two enemies, her brown eyes burning with defiant fire.

"I am your prisoner, Mr. Michael Kildare," she said, nodding her little spirited head. "I yield to superior strength. And now, having achieved your brilliant victory, what do you intend to do?"

The lawyer had cast aside all his weakness and indecision. He seemed to feel that great interests were at stake, and that he must rise in villainy to the needs of the occasion.

Redmond Kildare began to feel he was in safe hands.

"I intend," said the lawyer quietly, to obtain your promise to marry Redmond."

"You ought to know me better than this, Michael," said the young girl gravely. "I am not afraid of you or your ally. And I am no coward to yield to fear and importunities what I cannot give of my own free will."

And thus it proved. The guardian argued, coaxed, and threatened. All in vain. His ward smiled wearily, scornfully, or contemptuously, by turns, but she was not to be driven or coerced.

More than an hour passed thus.

Redmond Kildare began to suffer all the agonies of dread and terror. The lawyer began to harden. Opposition always angered him.

"Well, what are we to do?" cried Redmond, at last, impatiently. "She won't give in. We shall have to let her go to Sir Russel with her cock-and-bull story—"

"You don't know Sir Russel Ryan," returned the lawyer. "Once let the girl go to him with the story of what she has overheard, and he'll move heaven and earth to find out how much truth there is in it. I have no fears of a jury. The facts will decide the case. And the facts, as you well know, are all on our side. But what I do dread is, that Sir Russel, in his strict ideas of justice and his hatred of oppression, will remove Nora beyond our reach, and so forever prevent your union with her. That, in my opinion and from my point of view, would be nearly as bad as to see you turned adrift, Redmond."

"I can't see what is to be done," said Lord Kildare. "She won't promise."

"No," said the young Lady Nora composedly, "she certainly won't promise what you want."

"Then," said the lawyer desperately, "we must hold you a prisoner until you will. Sir Russel Ryan is in England. You have few acquaintances in Dublin. No one will miss you. It will be easy to say, if you are inquired for, that you have gone down into Wicklow to visit the Lady Kathleen. And, meanwhile, you will be shut up in your upper chamber, my Lady Nora, until your proud spirit bends."

The young girl smiled.

"How long do you suppose I should be a prisoner with those three windows in my room?" she demanded coolly.

"True. A back room—"

"How long should I be shut up in any room against my will, when my faithful Alleen remains here? And you may rest assured, Michael, that Alleen will accept no dismissal that does not come from my lips. She would never leave me without bidding me good-bye. You had better open that door and permit me to walk out quietly, thus saving yourself the discredit of a scandal."

"Affairs have gone too far for that," declared the lawyer. "I shall prevent the scandal, but not by giving you your freedom. Redmond, be kind enough to pull that bell. Three times, please, that is my signal for my housekeeper."

Lord Kildare rang the bell.

Presently steps were heard without. The lawyer unlocked the door admitting his housekeeper. He then locked it again, restoring the key to his pocket.

Mrs. Liffey surveyed the group with wide open eyes. It was evident, at a glance, that an unusual scene was in progress. She regarded Redmond Kildare curiously, even anxiously.

"A moment's interview with you, Mrs. Liffey, if you please," said Michael Kildare, leading the way to the alcove.

The prim, severe-faced, elderly housekeeper followed him without demur.

They entered the dim alcove and dropped the curtains.

"What's the matter, Michael?" Mrs. Liffey then asked uneasily. "Who is that young man?"

"Redmond, Lord Kildare.

Mrs. Liffey uttered an exclamation, and betrayed great agitation.

"Is it possible?" she whispered. "How handsome he is! And that is Redmond!"

She peeped out between the curtains with eager hungry eyes that seemed to devour his every feature.

"Listen to me, Margaret," said the lawyer. "I need your help."

With this preface, he narrated the particulars of his interview with Lord Kildare, and the one that followed it with Nora.

"I need a woman's aid,' he said in conclusion. "You know as well as I do that Lord Kildare and Lady Nora must marry each other."

"Yes, I know," said Mrs. Liffey.

"Help me to bring about this marriage, Margaret," said the lawyer, in an impressive whisper, "and on the selfsame day that they are married I will make you my wife. You have pleaded with me for years to do you this justice. I will do it as a reward for your successful aid now."

The woman's eyes sparkled. She caught up the lawyer's hand, pressing it to her lips in her delight.

"I will bring about this marriage," she asserted, full of self-confidence. "And you will make me you wife, Michael? And I shall give parties, and wear diamonds, and visit at Kildare Castle? You may depend on me! I would rather be Mrs. Michael Kildare than Queen of England!"

"Then come out and give me your advice."

"One moment. Does he know?"

"Redmond! The secret, you mean? No; he does not know, and he must never know. Be guarded."

He lifted the curtains, and they re-entered the library.

The Lady Nora was still sitting by the hearth. Lord Kildare stood near her, pleading his suit in low, earnest, anxious tones. The girl did not seem to hear him, but she turned her bright eyes toward the lawyer and his housekeeper as they emerged from the alcove.

But neither of the couple was looking at her now. Mrs. Liffey had fixed her gaze in a strange intensity of expression upon Lord Kildare, and approached him with an agitated face.

"Lord Kildare" said the lawyer hastily, "this lady is Mrs. Liffey, a reduced gentlewoman, who is serving at present as my housekeeper. She is a most estimable and accomplished person, and will be a great help to us in this business."

Mrs. Liffey extended her hand to Lord Kildare, who took it coldly, and with some surprise. To his increased surprise, she grasped his hand warmly, and he could feel her large bony hand actually tremble in his.

Before he could comment on this singular incident if he had wished to, Mrs. Liffey turned away and faced the Lady Nora, with a grim and austere countenance, from which all traces of agitation had vanished.

"You still refuse to obey your guardian, my lady?" she said questioningly.

The young girl did not reply.

"I think, Mr. Kildare," said the housekeeper grimly, "that this young lady's spirit needs to be taken down. She ought to be shut up until she can act with proper submission. As you cannot shut her up in this house, we must take her elsewhere!"

"Yes; but where?"

"There's the house my husband left me, out of town a good bit," said Mrs. Liffey. "It chances to be empty just now, owing to the late tenant running away and its being a bad season to relet, and I have let my sister occupy it. It is partly furnished, and is that lonely that people have taking to calling it haunted. We can take Lady Nora there, and my sister will take charge of her—"

"It's just the place!" cried the lawyer. "I remember it. I wonder I didn't think of it before. But how are we to take Lady Nora there?"

"Leave that to me. We must have a cab at the door at half past eleven. It will be thought that that's to catch the late train. I will send Alleen, her ladyship's maid, to bed, and also the housemaid."

She went out at once to execute these commissions. She was absent a long time, returning, at last, fully equipped for a journey.

"The maids have retired," she announced, "and I have ordered a cab. I have also packed her ladyship's box with necessary changes, and carried it down to door. It is nearly time. Are you ready, Lady Nora?"

The young girl was still attired in street costume, and her hat hung on her arm. She arose, with a defiant look, exclaiming:

"Yes; I am ready. I am glad this farce is so near its end. I shall be glad to get into the street. You do not comprehend the difficulty of this task you have undertaken. Your cabman has but to hear my appeal, and he will befriend me—"

"But he won't hear it," said Mrs. Liffey. "I am on my guard, my lady. You think a great deal of your word, no doubt, and you've got to promise me not to say a word to the cabby, and not to cry out for help, or I shall put this gag in your mouth before we leave this room."

She displayed a formidable wooden gag, and advanced a few steps nearer Nora. The young girl's face flushed indignantly. She looked from the lawyer to Redmond Kildare, but both were pitiless and merciless.

To save herself the indignity and pain, therefore, of this alternative, the Lady Nora promised to keep silent.

"The cab is come," said Mrs. Liffey, listening. "Hasten."

She went swiftly down the stairs to the front door. Michael Kildare and the new Earl followed, bearing the slight form of the Lady Nora between them.

(To be continued.)

"BUCHU-PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. A Chemists. F. NEWBERY and SONS, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pill, will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

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

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LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

On Wednesday se'nnight, the usual meeting of this body was held in the Public Offices, Front Street, Leadgate—Mr Geo. Nicholson (chairman) presiding. The other members present were—Messrs Wm. Keenleyside, L. Nicholson, J. Davison, Thos. Keenleyside, John Smith, J. Parker, Ed. Todd, M. D. Greener; the Clerk (Mr J. H. Coupland), and the Surveyor (Mr Thos. Longstaff.)

THE RECENT AUDIT.

The Clerk read the following letter:—

66, Jesmond Road,
Newcastle-on-Tyne,
28th Jan., 1893.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to inform you that I completed the audit of your accounts for the year ending Lady-day last, on the 19th inst. I am pleased to inform you that the accounts are carefully kept, and show considerable improvement since the last audit.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
E. G. EASTON,
Assistant district auditor.

The Chairman and the members considered this very satisfactory, and remarked that it reflected great credit upon the Clerk for the manner in which the accounts had been kept.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Medical Officer (Dr Geo. Renton) reported as under:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the last month, two cases of zymotic disease were reported to me—viz., one of scarlet fever and one of enteric fever.

As small-pox has appeared in places so near your district as Chester-le-Street and Durham, I think it expedient to draw your attention to the possibility of an outbreak here, and also to the best means of preventing an attack and the spread of the infection, should a case arise. As a protection against the disease, *efficient vaccination* is without doubt the most reliable method, and I would advise the circulation of hand-bills recommending vaccination of infants, and re-vaccination of adults. As immediate isolation is essential to the prevention of the spread of the infection, notification should at once be made to me on the occurrence of a case. For the purposes of isolation, I am retaining both wards of the hospital free in view of an outbreak. Disinfection of clothing, &c., can be efficiently effected in the hot-air chamber at the hospital.

May I once again draw your attention to the fact that the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act has not yet been adopted by your Board.

I am gentlemen, your obedient servant,
GEO. RENTON, M.D.,
Medical Officer.

Blackhill, Feb., 1893.

The report was adopted.

THE OUTBREAK OF SMALL-POX.

The Clerk was instructed to write the Medical Officer, requesting him to furnish matter for the hand-bill that was required; and it was resolved that several hundreds of the same should be printed and distributed throughout the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT.

Mr NICHOLSON gave notice of motion that he would move at the next meeting that the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act be adopted, and put into operation.

THE UNEMPLOYED QUESTION:

DISTRESS IN THE DISTRICT.

The following letter was read:—

Consett and District Trades Council.
42, Puddlers' Row, Consett,
Jan. 17th, 1893.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose you some names of those who are out of work in your district, and who have sought for work all over, but cannot procure the same. They are in great distress, and something ought to be done. I believe there are many more who would be glad to get work of any kind.

Trusting you will be able to give out test labour of some kind—I remain, yours faithfully,
JOHN WILDSMITH, secretary.

Mr Coupland, Clerk,
Leadgate Local Board.

(Here followed the names of six persons.)

It was resolved that the Clerk should acknowledge the receipt of letter, and state that the whole question had been referred to the Surveyor, and if stone-breaking was required, the unemployed of the district should have the first offer.

CHEQUES.

On the motion of Mr PARKER, seconded by Mr TODD, cheques for the sum of £27 were signed.

BALANCE IN HAND.

It was reported that the balance in hand amounted to £154.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour of submitting my monthly report to you for the month of January. The following works have been done, and the accounts for the same will be laid before you to-day for payment for the first two weeks of the month:—Your day workmen were breaking slag, and I had it carted and laid on to Durham Road, and then part scraping was done, and carted off both Durham and St. Ives Roads. Slag carted and laid on Stockerley and Iveston Roads. Slag put on by barrow on to Pont, Brooms, and Burn House Lanes.

Your mason has had about a couple of weeks repairing the flagging in St. Ives Road since the fresh weather came in.

Annexed are the monthly pay-bills:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Durham Main Road—						
Manual labour	4	16	0			
Team do.	1	12	0			
				6	8	0
Other Roads—						
Manual labour	5	12	0			
Team do.	2	16	0			
				8	8	0
Public improvements				4	10	9
Total				£19	6	9

I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. LONGSTAFF.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—Since your last monthly meeting, I have inspected your district several times, and found the same in an average state of cleanliness. The ashpits and privies belonging to the Consett Iron Company are a great deal better cleaned out than those belonging to private property owners, and I would like to see the latter take the hint, and have this matter remedied.

The gas and Iveston oil lamps burnt well during the month. Gas burnt in January, 230 hours.

Plans will be laid before you for two dwelling-houses for Mr Wm. Westhorpe and Mr Jos. Walker, to be built at the west of the new Co-operative Stores. Also a plan for new outbuildings in Gate Square for Consett Iron Company, and one for the same company with reference to the Crookhall sewerage; and one for three four-roomed houses for Mr John Shield in Park Terrace, Leadgate.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. LONGSTAFF.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The Collector (Mr T. Longstaff) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I have collected and paid over to the treasurer the sum of £90 1s 6d on account of district rate.

A few rates remain to be collected, and those that do not pay the same before the 1st of March, proceedings will have to be taken against them.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. S. LONGSTAFF.

The reports were adopted.

PLANS.

The whole of the plans were referred to the Building Committee for consideration.

This was all the business.

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

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

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

On Wednesday se'nnight, the monthly meeting of this body was held in the Board Room of the Benfieldside Edge Road Schools, Mr Wm. Telford (chairman) presiding. The other members present were: Revs G. H. Ross-Lewin and E. W. Jenkins, Messrs J. Sloane, Hy. Carss, W. Ramsay, and the Clerk (Mr R. G. Barclay).

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Cheques are required to-day for the following amounts:—

	£	s	d
Benfieldside School—			
Boys' department: Teachers' salaries	31	17	6
Girls' department: Teachers' salaries	22	1	3
Infants' department: Teachers' salaries	7	10	0
Derwent Street School	9	8	4
Salary of officer	6	10	0
Accounts	72	7	0
Total	£149	14	6

Mr RAMSAY moved the adoption of the report, and that the cheques should be signed by Rev E. W. Jenkins and Mr Sloane.

This was seconded by Rev G. H. ROSS-LEWIN. Carried.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside School Board.

GENTLEMEN,—You will find from the school returns for the month of January that the percentage of attendance is a little lower compared with the month of December. I have taken out two summonses against parents, embracing four children, the same as entered in the Book of Proceedings, along with nine other cases to be dealt with to-day.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
A. MCKEAN.

School Returns for the month of January, 1893.

Inspected Schools.	No. on books	Average Attendance	Admitted.	Left.	Sick.
Board Schools—Boys	276	240	—	—	5
" —Girls	264	216	2	2	14
" —Infants	84	62	—	—	9
Derwent St.— "	88	62	5	1	6
Shotley Grove	89	66	2	1	13
St. Mary's Roman Catholic—	185	157	1	2	10
" —Infants	57	47	1	—	8
Total	1043	850	11	6	65
Dec., 1892	1011	835	—	—	—
Increase	32	15	—	—	—
Decrease	66	—	—	—	—

The CHAIRMAN: I must say that the attendance has increased considerably during the past two months, and we are doing remarkably well.

The report was adopted.

THE MID-SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

The School Committee further recommended that Board to make early arrangements about the mid-summer holidays, owing to the employment by the Board of the cookery teacher from the Consett British and National Schools. A change in the present time for holding the holidays was necessary.

Mr SLOANE: What does that mean?

The CHAIRMAN: We are desirous that the whole of the schools should have the mid-summer holidays at the same time.

Mr SLOANE: So it should be the case. All the schools should close at the same time.

The CHAIRMAN: The best thing we can do is to get the date when the schools at Consett break-up for their holidays.

Eventually, Mr RAMSAY proposed that the Clerk communicate with the managers of the Shotley Grove Schools, informing them that owing to the Board having engaged a cookery teacher, it would be necessary to change the date for closing the schools for the mid-summer holidays.

This was seconded by Mr CARSS, and carried.

It was further resolved, on the motion of Rev E. W. JENKINS, seconded by Mr CARSS, that the Clerk should communicate with the managers of the Consett Schools generally, with a view of ascertaining the date when they closed their schools for the mid-summer holidays.

APPOINTMENT OF A VISITING COMMITTEE.

The School Committee recommended that a committee of five ladies should be appointed to visit the Girls' and Infants' Schools, and also suggested the following names:—Miss Ross-Lewin, Mrs T. Richardson, Mrs Baillie, Mrs James Annandale, and Mrs Park.

Mr SLOANE stated that five names suggested were quite sufficient for a committee.

Rev E. W. JENKINS: I move that the names read out be appointed a committee to carry out the important function of visiting the two schools.

Mr SLOANE seconded.

Mr CARSS explained that he thought Miss Gibson's name should be added to the list, as she was a lady that took a great deal of interest in education.

The CHAIRMAN: If any member thinks that the committee should consist of more than five, they can make a motion. Mr Carss can move Miss Gibson's name if he choses.

Mr CARSS: I will move that Miss Gibson's name be added to the Committee.

This did not receive a seconder, and consequently the motion was carried.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Attendance Officer's report was read. Cases of irregular attendance were dealt with as entered in the Record of Proceedings.

The Committee reported that Mr Teare had so far recovered as to be able to superintend the school; but he still retains the services of the teacher (Miss Hall) he had engaged.

The Committee recommend that this arrangement be sanctioned by the Board.

The CHAIRMAN: You will be aware that Miss Hall was appointed a teacher till Mr Teare had recovered from his illness.

Rev E. W. JENKINS: She is a good teacher.

The CHAIRMAN: I suppose so; and seems to be getting on well.

Mr RAMSAY: Mr Teare is highly satisfied with her.

The report was adopted.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE DERWENT STREET SCHOOL.

The Clerk reported that Mr Houliston, of Shotley Bridge, was pushing on with the work in connection with the gallery for the Derwent Street School.

ALTERATION TO THE TIME-TABLE.

The Clerk stated that Her Majesty's Inspector of the Educational Department had made a slight alteration in the new time-table for the working of the boys' department, and also made it compulsory for the same to be closed at 4·15 p.m.

Mr CARSS: What time did you say?

The Clerk: The school has to be closed at 4·15 p.m. Perhaps the members would like to see the time-table.

The CHAIRMAN: I should think so.

After the members had examined the time-table, it was considered to be satisfactory.

AN INVALIDED BOY.

A letter was read from the superintendent of Earl's House County School, stating that the boy Connelly, who was sent by that Board from Shotley Bridge to the institution, was properly treated when he complained of being ill.

TAKING LIBERTIES IN THE DERWENT STREET SCHOOL.

Miss Henderson reported that the smoking-nuisance in Derwent Street School had now ceased.

THE BURSTING OF A WATER-PIPE.

The Caretaker (Mr McKean) reported that since the last meeting the water-pipe burst in three places; the repairs were done by Mr Strachan.

A letter was read from the Consett Water Company refusing to tender for the purpose of keeping the water-pipes and taps in connection with the schools in repair at so much per annum, owing to them finding that there long lengths of piping leading from the mains were lead, and which they considered ought to be re-placed by metal pipes, as the lead pipes are very injurious to health.

A similar letter was read from Mr Wm. Strachan, plumber, &c., Blackhill, who also recommended that metal pipes should be laid in place of the lead ones. If the pipes and taps were put in order to start with he would be perfectly willing to keep them in repair at so much per annum.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the repairing of the pipes and taps should be one as in the past, and that the work be divided between the plumbers in the district.

Mr ROSS-LEWIN drew attention to the fact that they must not loose sight of the gist of the letters that lead-piping was very injurious to health. They must not forget this, and he thought the Board ought to take into consideration the question of having metal pipes laid to the schools.

The matter dropped.

APPLICATION FOR AN ADVANCE OF SALARY.

An application was read from the Attendance Officer (Mr Alex. McKean) for an advance of salary owing to increased work.

Rev E. W. JENKINS moved that the application stand over for a month for consideration.

This was seconded by Mr SLOANE.

Mr CARSS proposed, as an amendment, that the Attendance Officer's salary be increased £5 per annum.

Mr RAMSAY seconded.

The motion was eventually carried.

CLOSING THE DOOR OF ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

Mr SLOANE: At your meeting yesterday had you any complaint

The CHAIRMAN: We had a complaint about St. Mary's School, but the committee did not entertain the same. We told the parents it was our duty to see the children to school.

Mr SLOANE: I am glad to hear it. That is not the question. Was there not something said about these people being summoned before you?

The CHAIRMAN: The parents were brought before us owing to their children being absent from school. They were entered as absentees and returned to us as such.

Mr SLOANE said he would have said more about the thing if it had come before the committee as he expected it would have done.

Mr ROSS-LEWIN said the reason given by the parents for their children being absent was owing to the school doors being closed at ten minutes to nine, and the children went home for fear of being flogged.

Mr RAMSAY: Yes, and the statement was corroborated by several parents.

Mr SLOANE: I don't know anything about it. It is not my wish that this should occur. But why were these people brought here when the Attendance Officer knew the reason of their children being absent?

The CHAIRMAN: These children were entered as absentees.

Mr SLOANE: I maintain that the officer had no reason to bring these parents here when he knew the reason. I heard about this some time ago.

Mr RAMSAY did not agree with Mr Sloane on this point, as it was for the committee to see that the children attended school.

The CHAIRMAN: If the doors were closed, and such a thing did occur, it was a great pity, because he thought the teachers ought to make some allowance during stormy weather.

Mr RAMSAY: The committee considered it was a matter for the managers of the school to deal with.

Mr CARSS: We are expected to get the children to school. If the managers or teachers put some hinderance in the way, it is very hard for this Board to have to do the dirty work to get the children to attend school.

The CHAIRMAN: We told the parents to see the managers about the matter, and see if some arrangement could not be come to.

Mr CARSS: If the managers insist upon closing the doors of the school at nine o'clock, it is for the Board to protest against it.

It was decided to let the matter stand over for a month.

This was all the business.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday, 47 dairy cows and heifers, 25 fat cattle, 14 store cattle, 9 calves, 114 fat sheep and hoggs. Cows, made up to £18; fat cattle, to £17 5s; store cattle, to £7 10s; fat sheep, to 55s 6d; fat half-bred shearlings, to 46s 6d; fat hoggs, to 33s; fat black-faced wethers, to 29s 6d.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr Murray had forward on Monday, a rather small entry of stock, and quality was considerably below the average. 13 fat cattle, mostly cows, made £8 17 6d to £16 15s each. 89 fat sheep, to 45s; hoggs, to 47s. 4 calves, to 38s. Pigs, to 46s. Cows, to £12 16s. A quantity of harness, poultry, hay, &c., was also disposed of. A good company was present, and trade was good for all classes of stock with any quality.

Cricket.

Witton Gilbert Cricket Club would like to arrange matches with moderate 1st or good 2nd teams. All dates vacant. Address—R. Gott, Witton Gilbert, Durham.

West Pelton Violets Cricket Club are open to make engagements for the ensuing season. Good ground. Secretaries will greatly oblige by forwarding dates to James Lee, 36, Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street.

MEDOMSLEY CRICKET CLUB.

A social evening was held by the members and friends of the above club on Saturday, in the National Schools, Medomsley—kindly granted by the managers—when about 250 people sat down to an excellent repast, provided and given gratuitously by the following ladies in the village:—No. 1 table—Mrs Cockin and Mrs Hedley; No. 2—Mrs Charles, Mrs Morris, and Mrs Jamieson; No. 3—Mrs G. E. Milburn, Mrs Walker, Miss Charlton, and Miss Calvert; No. 4—Mrs Bell, Mrs Jacob Walton, Mrs Moffitt, and Mrs J. F. Thompson. After the tables had been cleared, a concert was held, Rev W. Cockin, M.A. (president) occupying the chair. The rev gentleman, in some interesting opening remarks, explained the object of the gathering, after which the programme was opened with a pianoforte solo by Mrs W. H. Hedley. Then followed contributions to the harmony of the evening by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mrs J. H. Morris, Mrs Charles, Miss Charles (Glasgow), Miss Watson (Consett), Rev W. M. Ellis, Messrs Armytage (Ryton), T. D. Dales, J. W. Daniels, J. Mathieson (Blackhill), and S. Mace, jun. At the conclusion of the programme, the secretary of the club (Mr W. G. Thompson), on behalf of the members, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had provided the tea and entertainment, which was carried with acclamation. The rest of the evening was spent in dancing—Messrs J. R. Wood (Consett) and S. Mace, jun., kindly providing the music, while Mr R. Moffitt was an efficient M.C. A thoroughly enjoyable evening terminated shortly after 11 o'clock. It is expected that the funds of the club will be augmented to the extent of about £12 as the result of the undertaking.

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CONSETT AND DISTRICT TRADES' COUNCIL.

VISIT OF MR KEIR HARDIE, M.P.

SPEECH ON LABOUR TOPICS.

On Saturday, the members of the Consett and District Trades and Labour Council held a conference and demonstration in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. The afternoon conference was presided over by Mr John Summerbell (president), Delves Lane, and was called for the purpose of allowing the members of trades unions an opportunity of criticising the actions of the council during the past year, and throwing out suggestions for the better working of the council.

The Secretary (Mr Wildsmith) read the annual report (which has been published in our columns). The report dealt with the work done by the council during the year, and stated that a great deal of apathy existed in the district, as many of the workmen have not yet joined the various societies which represent their department.

The Chairman said they were disappointed in not seeing a large company present, because they wanted to have their work for the year criticised. He was of opinion that if they could raise a little more enthusiasm amongst the workmen of Consett, it would be a good thing. One scarcely thought that they had any unemployed in their midst, or anything else, simply because they could not get their fellow-workmen to take an interest in things appertaining to their welfare. If men would not awake to a sense of their duty, the social changes they were anticipating would be a long time in working themselves round. They had arranged the conference so as to give the workmen a chance of criticising their actions during the past year. They invited discussion, and suggestions as to what lines the council should go on in the future. It was the desire of the council that all workmen should be drawn together, so that unity might prevail, and enable them to accomplish much good. With reference to the question of apathy existing amongst workmen, he might state that since the report had been drawn up, this had subsided considerably, and there were now two societies who, he expected, would in a short time connect themselves with the council, and this would materially strengthen their ranks.

The Secretary said the council was perfectly justified in making the assertion about the apathy that existed in their ranks. He could safely say that 2,000 men were employed by the Consett Iron Company. Of that number, there were not quite 50 per cent. organised. If such had not been the case, why should they not have had fully 500 workmen present to investigate into their work for the past year, and throw out suggestions as to what they should do in the future. All he could say was to ask those present to use their influence and bring pressure to bear on their fellow-workmen, so as to get them to take an interest in things which were to their advantage, and induce them to join their respective societies connected with trades unionism. (Applause.) If they looked back 25 or 30 years, they would see a great change had been brought about by trades unionism. One thing the present council had succeeded in doing, and that was the bringing of the various societies more closely together. Three years ago they had a strike in their midst, all through some grievances between two unions, and the same caused considerable suffering. Now, then, through the establishment of the present council, it would be almost impossible for such things to occur, as they believed in having all disputes immediately arranged. (Cheers.)

Mr Wm. McIvor said they heard a great deal of talk about securing *bona-fide* working men for their various parochial bodies; but he wished to know where the money was going to come from to defray the necessary expenses which would be incurred? It was no use going to war without ammunition, and he maintained that it was no use talking about having *bona fide* candidates without they had money to sustain them. They could not expect any working man to defray his own expenses in order to secure a seat upon any of the Boards in the district. (Applause.) His contention was that there would be no difficulty in finding men to come forward as candidates, if the ways and means were forthcoming.

The Chairman remarked that if the workmen of the three districts desired to have labour members on their Boards, they would have to "pay the piper."

Mr Geo. Lowes (Templetown), president of the Consett Mechanics' Association, said he was at a disadvantage in not knowing really what form the conference would take. The secretary had just told them that 500 workmen should have been present that afternoon. If there had been, it would have been a mistake. He maintained that there ought to have been a proper agenda provided, setting forth what was to be discussed, and thus enabling them to come fully prepared, and argue the various questions with intelligence. (Cheers.) He never thought for one moment that they were going to discuss the report and balance-sheet, or else he could have looked up the same. Nevertheless, he now ascertained that they were going through the report *seriatim*, and they were now discussing the question of having labour members representing them on the various parochial bodies. He was of opinion that if they wanted to be thoroughly represented, it should be by those connected with their own class. (Applause.)

Mr Ed. Whittaker (Consett) said that he was one of the committee that had gone carefully into this matter, and they had seen several gentlemen, but they had not the necessary qualification. He was of the opinion that they ought to endeavour to secure labour members seats on their public bodies. (Applause.)

The Secretary replied to Mr Lowes, and declared that there was sufficient food in the report for them to discuss. The delegates were deputed to let their members know that the same would be the main topic of discussion. If it had been for nothing else than organisation, the building ought to have been crowded, and he was quite sure it would have been a very enthusiastic gathering.

A Member said they talked about their labour members, but he knew for a fact that if any such did not hold the same opinions as the other members, they were sure to be "boycotted."

The Chairman remarked that he did not altogether agree with that statement. If their labour members went to the various bodies with the expectation of receiving the right-hand of fellowship, they would be mistaken.

A Member: Have we not seen instances of this fact—that when we have sent labour members to Parliament, we have found them to be sold? The same thing occurs on our public bodies.

Mr Lowes mentioned that if they sent labour members to represent them on their public bodies, who could discuss the various subjects with intelligence, they would receive the right-hand of fellowship from the other members.

Further discussion on the question took place, after which votes of thanks concluded the conference.

MONSTRE DEMONSTRATION.

In the evening, a public demonstration was held in the same building. There was a large and enthusiastic company present. The chair was occupied by Mr John Summerbell, who was supported by Mr John Keir Hardie (M.P. for the West Ham Division), and several well-known delegates connected with the council.

The Chairman said they were all highly delighted in having the hon. member for West Ham with them on that occasion, especially after being newly introduced in the House of Commons, and well criticised. (Cheers.) It was not his intention to make a speech when they had such an able gentleman on the platform. He hoped all present would give Mr Hardie a patient hearing, and after the address he would allow questions to be asked, and he had no hesitation in saying they would be answered to their satisfaction. (Cheers.)

Mr J. G Cooke (Blackhill) moved:—

"That this combined meeting of workmen hereby declares that they are of opinion that the time has now arrived when all toilers should join the societies representing their respective trades or occupations; also, that all trades unions in the district should affiliate themselves to the Consett and District Trades and Labour Council, and further pledges itself to do all in its power to bring this about."

—He claimed that the first part of the resolution was necessary, and if the trade—their fellow-workmen—followed, it was worth protecting. (Applause.) Indeed, individual effort was useless, and it was for all workmen to connect themselves with their respective trade societies, so that unionism might be strengthened. (Cheers.)

Mr Wm. McIvor seconded, and gave various weighty reasons why unionism was absolutely necessary.

Mr Keir Hardie, who was well received, said he had much pleasure in supporting the resolution. There was very little difference of opinion between some time-honoured leaders of Trades Unionism and himself concerning matters of policy, but no difference whatever in their desire that organisation amongst the working classes of this country was absolutely indispensible. All progress which had been made was the result of combined effort on the part of the workers. With proper combinations, and efficient guides directing their operations and actions, the most extreme amongst them wished that whatever was possible should become practicable. He would say that those men who were outside Trades Unions, not only were they injuring others, and being untrue to their own best interests by remaining outside, but they were also traitors to the class to which they belonged. (Applause.) The progress of the working classes during this last 50 years had been entirely due to Trades organisations. Things which at one time seemed impossible had been attained, and if progress was to be continued, it must be as the result of the same set of causes. (Applause.) He knew of many men who were not alive to the importance of trade combination, especially if they happened themselves to be in a fairly comfortable situation. There were two classes usually found outside their Trades Unions. The first was the "awfully respectable man," who deemed it beneath his dignity to associate himself with his fellows. These people held some responsible position in connection with his work—that was good enough for him, and he selfishly stands aloof from his fellow-men. The other man who kept apart from Trades Unions was the one of degraded, drunken, and demoralising habits. He had not sufficient intelligence and moral courage to associate with his fellows, for the general good of the working classes. The most despicable, however, was the respectable selfish man. There might be something said for the drunken fellow, but nothing can be urged when pure selfishness was the cause of a man keeping outside their organisations. (Applause.) Men should combine because the conditions of life and labour were not fairly protected. So long as one wrong continued to be imposed on the body of workers, there was need for active opposition to overthrow that wrong—active efforts to abolish injustice. (Applause.) It was no use any man supposing that any class outside of his own would come to their aid and relief, if they were inert. He would go further and say that no class outside the working class could help the working class, until the working class attempted to help itself. It was contrary to all natural laws. Parliament might pass Acts for the benefit of the people, but unless there was public opinion behind those Acts to enforce and ensure their observance, they would be so many old and useless laws on the statute book, and would not do one particle of good. So long as the workers themselves were apathetic and indifferent to their own interests, so long was it impossible for any section of men, however well their intentions might be, to be of real service to them. What could be done by trades combination? What were the grievances of which they were complaining? He would tell them that the progress made in the country during the past three-quarters-of-a-century had been such as has probably never been experienced in any previous period of the world's history. (Applause.) The development of their trade and commerce, the accumulation of national wealth, the discoveries of science, and the expansion of men's minds through the channels of learning and art, were something remarkable. With all this, however, he submitted, as an unanswerable fact that the position of over 50 per cent. of the working classes to-day was more deplorable than it had ever been in any former period of industrial history. (Hear.) He knew that sections of workers had improved their conditions immensely so far as greater wages and shorter hours of labour were concerned, but it was possible that the increase of wages and the shortening of hours had not made the recipients thereof happier than their grandfathers were years ago. There were still the uneducated people whose lives were steeped in misery and degradation. The struggle for existence by a considerable number of individuals became a burden to the more intelligent portion of the community. The wealth of the country was going into the hands of small minorities, whose sole aim in life was the accumulation of further riches. At the bottom end of the social scale, they had another section of the community vainly endeavouring to eke out a bare subsistence, and could not provide themselves and their families with the common necessaries of life. Between these two extremes—great wealth on the one hand, and harrowing poverty on the other—there was an intermediate population—the great bulk of the population—struggling all their lives to get the necessaries of life. The Law Courts gave them glimpses of how life was spent by the upper circles. It was not good for people to have all their own energies concentrated in the acquisition of wealth, or of obtaining the means of getting bread. They now recognised that "man shall not live by bread alone." There was a higher something—call it by what name they liked—in this animal frame of theirs, unless it was fed, nourished, and sustained, it withered and died, and the man became an animal, with the image of God defaced from his being. There must therefore be, in the interest of the whole community—not one section of it—some realisation of the struggle for existence which was characteristic of the common people that day. Matters were slowly, but surely developing on the lines of humanity in a rational way, and they were striving to create a better system out of the imperfect conditions which at present existed. It was pleasant to dream of the future, and to imagine that misery and want should be abolished, as far as human aid could do so. As a Scotchman, he (Mr Hardie) believed that the present time was only a reality, and whilst it was good to dream of the future, it was much better to work in the present for the realisation of part of the ideal which every good and true man held sacred. (Applause.) What had men done up to the present generation? It looked, as matters stood that day, as if they were approaching a crisis. The miners of Durham made a magnificent struggle a few months ago to maintain a wage which, even at its best, was not sufficient to support a healthy man in a civilised state that now existed. They were now threatened with another reduction in wages. The employers told them that they could not help themselves. They were forced by competition, they said, to lower the price of coal in the market, and this naturally meant a reduction of wages. Unfettered competition, so long as there was an abundance of the article produced, tended to lower wages. It was the price at which the article was sold which necessarily led to the reduction of the rate of wages of the men engaged in producing the article. The miners of the counties of Northumberland and Durham had often had their wages reduced, but the miners of the other districts, who were affiliated with the National Miners' Federation, had not suffered any reduction in wages. Were not the workmen in the Federation under the same laws as the workmen of Durham and Northumberland? They had to compete in the home market. The operations of supply and demand, they were told, were untouched. Why, then, should they accept a lower rate of wages than is being paid elsewhere? In other districts, where an employer goes into the market to sell coals, he finds that if he disposes of the article below the price that enables him to pay the standard rate of wages, he alone must suffer, and the employer cannot reduce the workmen's wages to repair his loss. Surely what could be done in the coal industry could be done in every other trade and occupation. They wanted all workmen to become members of Trades Councils, and these should be federated, as far as possible, under one separate head for each industry, and let the employers see that they were prepared to stand shoulder to shoulder, and to let it be known that the old-time policy of isolation is done with, and then if the rate of wages in any particular district is tampered with, it will be the common cause of all workmen to stand up for their own interests. Trades Councils could not regulate the rate of wages absolutely, but trades organisations could fix a minimum rate of wages below which members would not be allowed to work. Surely if a man was called upon to risk his life by producing an article which provides for the well-being and comfort of the community, he had a right to demand from the community, in exchange, the necessaries, and some few of the luxuries, of civilised life. Very much of their produce was hampered by competition with foreign countries, and they were told that unless they in England could produce an article much cheaper than could be manufactured abroad, then trade would leave them. If foreign parts were to be kept up by the mental and moral degradation of their working classes, then he was prepared to see their foreign markets go, rather than that the British race should suffer as it was doing. (Applause.) He did not see any necessity to be frightened of any risk they were supposed to run in this connection. British labour, he maintained, would hold its own against the whole world, if it had a fair chance. (Renewed applause.) He noticed from the balance-sheet of the Midland Railway Company, issued that day, that the total income during the past year was £5,000,000. The Company had paid 45 39 per cent. in wages, making new railways, and mending old railways, etc. Thus the money went into the shareholder's pockets was within 5 per cent. off the half of the total income, or something like £2,331,054. Every penny of that was a burden upon the trade and commerce of the land. Were the railways owned by the State, every penny of that profit would be saved, and trade and commerce would benefit to that extent. The total income of the whole of their railways last year was £70,000,000, and the shareholders pocketed £34,000,000, in the form of interest on the capital invested. Take the mining royalties. Eight millions a year was the sum which went to the landlords, because they were graciously pleased to give miners leave to risk their lives in extracting coal underneath their land. (Laughter.) There were 500,000 miners in the country, and if this £8,000,000 paid to the landlords was divided equally amongst the men and lads employed in pits, it would give £16 a year to every person who worked all his life under the surface of the earth. Was a landlord worth £16 a year to any miner in Durham—whether a man or a lad? (Laughter.) They could not abolish coal royalties, but they could nationalise them. They could not expect the shareholders to agitate for the nationalisation of railways, nor a landholder to advocate the nationalisation of royalties. Unless the workers themselves were properly organised these burdens and impositions would continue, and wages must go lower and lower to enable the commercial classes to maintain their places in the markets of the world. It was the bounden duty of every worker to organise for the protection, not only of himself, but of his country. The men who failed to do this was injuring his fellow-men, and ought to be treated in the same way (he said this advisedly) as the red-coated foreigner who came to their shores to destroy the peace of their hearth and home. (Applause.) He did not rail against the landlords, because if he had happened to be one himself his opinion might be considerably modified in relation to these matters. (Laughter.) The system which enabled the capitalist to extract one-half of the wealth produced by the workers was a wrong one, and ought to be remedied without loss of time. (Applause.) He did not mean to say that Trades' Unionism could accomplish many of these objects. No man had a greater admiration for the splendid work done by trades' organisation during the past 50 years than him. The time had come to organise labour for political purposes. They had amongst the workers both Liberals and Tories, and at election times these two sections of workers quarrelled and argued and worked hard in political contests to decide whether a shareholder in railways or royalties, or a landed proprietor should represent them in the House of Commons. As if it made much difference which of the two was elected! (Laughter.) He had found out that the Liberal landlord exacted his rents with as much regularity and punctuality as the Tory, and a Liberal shareholder in a concern was as anxious for a big dividend as a Tory. There was nothing to chose between a Liberal employer and a Tory employer. No higher wages were paid to, or shorter hours worked by the employers of either party, and yet they found working men squabbling and battling amongst themselves at election times as to which was the fittest person to represent them in Parliament—the rich Liberal or the rich Tory. He (Mr Hardie) recognised only two parties—the party of humanity on the one hand—the workers and those who sympathised with them and wanted to help them to realise a better life; and the party of monopoly and privilege and injustice—they also desired to uphold the present state of things. A good many men who posed as representatives of the people at the present time ought not to find a seat in the House of Commons. He was not referring to any M.P. in particular, and he believed that if the members of the House of Commons were as good as the gentleman representing that constituency (Mr Atherley-Jones)—(loud applause)—his work would be at an end. To carry the principles of Trades' Unionism to its logical conclusion, the workers should return men to Parliment from their own ranks. (Applause.) They did not send a rich employer to represent them at the Trades' Congress and other workmen's bodies, but men out of their own workshops and factory. Surely it was of more consequence that they should elect working men to go to the National Council, which made laws to improve their surroundings, or the reverse. They did not find the middle classes selecting working men to represent them in the House, but they picked someone from their own ranks. It would not be agreeable to them to elect some horny-handed son of toil, who smoked a black clay pipe, got drunk occasionally, and used strong English language. (Laughter.) Working men should act in the same way. They wanted the members of Trades' Councils to sink party politics, and to decline to support either Liberals or Conservatives. Trades' Councils ought to see that they got Labour Members of Parliament, and working men representatives on their Local Boards, Vestries, County Councils, Town Councils, School Boards, and other public bodies where there was administrative or legislative work to be done. (Applause.) They might argue this was impossible till they got the payment of members. He did not see that it was impossible. The working men electors in the smallest constituency in Great Britain could pay a halfpenny per week into a political fund, which would be sufficient to keep a member to go to the House of Commons. It was not the want of money, but the lack of intelligence on the part of the workers themselves. If they had payment of members, and payment of election expenses, one man one vote, and every man a vote, and all the other reforms which go to make up the Radical programme, they would not be one single step nearer labour representation till they recognised the need for it; therefore he urgently entreated them to support their Trades' Council. (Applause.) Trades' Unions could not do away with the sweaters or do away with the unemployed. There were 3,000,000 people in this country on the borders of starvation, not because they were lazy, drunken or improvident, but because men did not receive that profit for their labour which they were justly entitled to. It was a shame and a disgrace to a civilised and Christian country to allow these people to starve for the lack of the necessaries of life. It was to the advantage (he said this advisedly) to the employers of this country that there should always be a large number of men unemployed, so that they could have a lever for reducing the wages and increasing the hours of labour. These men who were at work were practically at the mercy of the their employers, and it was the duty of the working men to compel any Government that was in power to provide honest work for the honest unemployed. If there is to be a worker's party it must be absolutely independent of either the Liberal or the Tory cliques. That was what he strongly insisted upon. If they allied themselves to one side of politics, they were simply retarding the aims they had in view. Conservative and Liberal working men should go hand-in-hand for the furtherence of the cause of labour. He believed that labour could be organised on political lines. Refering to the debate in the Commons on the previous Tuesday night, Mr Keir Hardie pointed out that if the Government had known that 12 votes (which meant 24 on a division) would have gone against them, because they declined to insert a clause regarding the claims of the unemployed in the Queen's speech, the question would have been attended to. He objected to the labour party trailing at the heels of either political party, no matter what their performances in the past or their promises in the future might be. Labour ought to be ready to punish the wrong-doer, no matter what he called himself, and should not attach itself to one political section simply because it possessed a popular name. He believed that they were approaching a serious crisis in their industrial history. The trade depression would be a severe one, and its effects would not be eradicated during the present generation. He wanted the workers to be prepared for the times that were coming; to have their forces ready drilled and trained, and prepared to act when required. There were men sitting on both sides of the House of Commons who were prepared to help as far as lay in their power in improving the conditions of the masses, only they needed educating a little. Politicians who turned a deaf ear to all entreaties were apt and willing scholars at election times when votes were in question. In conclusion, he urged the workers to look after interests, not only in their own behalf, but for the benefit of future generations, and to bind themselves together for the good of their country and the advantage of their fellow creatures. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman invited questions.

The first was submitted by Mr T. Carr, who asked if they had to understand that the miners connected with the National Federation Board had never suffered a reduction?

Mr Hardie: Outside of Cumberland they have not. (Cheers.)

In answer to other questions, Mr Hardie said he was not aware that he had ever opposed free trade either in the House of Commons or out of it. (Applause.) The method he could suggest to them for the abolishment of the House of Lords was to give 356 members of the working classes, all of the same opinion, in the next House of Commons, and he questioned very much whether they would allow the House of Lords to exist. (Cheers.) In the past the Liberal party had not been more favourable to the working class than the Conservatives. The latter had passed more working class measures than the Liberal party, and these measures had not been snatched from the Liberal programme and submitted by the opposite party. The Liberals were as bad as the Conservatives, and each party only went as far as the people pushed them. The Liberals had the reputation of passing many Acts which they had nothing to do with.

Mr Hardie caused considerable commotion by his answering the question as to who gave the people the franchise, in which he gave the Chartists the credit for introducing the same, but he said the Liberals had always been good enough to claim the credit.

[At this juncture a man at the back of the hall stood upon his feet and shouted at the top of his voice "Lord Beaconsfield gave us the franchise." This he repeated several times, and caused considerable commotion. Party feeling began to show signs, and the man who had caused the disturbance began to be severely "heckled." For fully five minutes one could hear nothing but the stamping of feet and cheering, interrupted with booing and shouts, such as "Put him out," "Sit down," "What do you know about it," &c. During this, the Chairman was on his feet appealing for order, whilst several kept shouting "Chair! chair!" The man still kept telling those around him "That it was Lord Beaconsfield, and when the Tory party was in office there was always prosperity, and no necessity for the establishment of soup kitchens.)"

In the midst of the din, Mr Keir Hardie shouted that if Lord Beaconsfield had been present he would have been ashamed of his follower. (Roars of laughter.)

Whilst the Chairman was on his feet, Mr Cooke said that they were drifting away to politics, and he thought the motion ought to be put.

Mr Geo. Lowes: You are not the Chairman, Mr Cooke.

After order had been restored, Mr Hardie continued to answer further questions. He stated that he was in favour of an Eight Hours' Bill being put into force by Act of Parliament. He considered this was a very moderate claim to begin with, and he preferred an eight hours per day rather than the nine. For why? Because at the present they were not making a single penny more than they would do in the eight hours. It was one hour in each day lost. Until they got all workmen connected with trades unionism he would much rather have this eight hours' question put into force by Act of Parliament. (Cheers.) If this was accomplished the next step to be taken was to compel Parliament to pass an Eight Shillings Per Day Bill. (Laughter and cheers.) He did not think any one present would object to such.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.*

On the motion of Mr Hodgson, seconded by Mr Topham, Mr Hardie was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address.

Mr Hardie, in acknowledging the same, stated that it required no such vote to bring him back again. (Cheers.) He always liked to meet with men who held their opinions—(applause)—and if he was the means of converting them he felt sure they would make good labour men. (Cheers.)

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the successful meeting.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

Those who are afflicted with Consumption, Tumours, Lupus, Cancer, Influenza, should lose no time in going to Handyside's Carriages or Rooms, and hear and see for themselves the marvellous cures his Consumption Cure is effecting. Thousands of people come when their lungs are eaten away, and would give all they possess to be restored to health. This medicine may ease the cough and prolong life, but it cannot put new lungs in, but if taken in time no one need ever die of Consumption. Neither will it cure Cancer, unless taken at an early stage, but it is the Best Medicine known to relieve the pain.

Everyone should go and see what the Blood Food prepared by G. H. does for Looseness and Costiveness of the Bowels, Change of Life, Overgrowth of Youth, Fevers, Smallpox, Fits, Weak Heart, Sleeplessness, Indigestion, General Weakness, Asthma, Bronchitis, Skin Diseases, Lowness of Spirts, Poorness of Blood, Languidness, Piles, &c. It is a marvellous thing for Influenza and Cholera. All my assistants will publicly take it, and it will be seen that they will never be attacked with Cholera or Influenza.

But prevention is better than cure. If the Pills prepared by G. H. were taken when Indigestion or Costiveness sets in nearly all diseases would be prevented. All delicate constitutions should never be without them. Ladies who are delicate from their nature, and made more delicate from their sedentary employment, will find them a grand Pill for promoting digestion, and producing a gentle motion of the bowels. A great number of the people who take them expect them to purge like ordinary purging medicine, but they do not purge and break up the constitution like common pills. Nearly all old people are troubled with Indigestion and Costiveness. These Pills will be sent carriage paid, free, to all aged people, who are unable to buy them. They will tend to make them cheerful and happy in the evening of life. The large box is a grand Pill for Piles and Change of life.

Ten thousand people have been publicly rubbed for Sciatica and Rheumatism with Handyside's Rheumatic Cure, and in every case the pain has been taken away. If anyone fails to cure themselves they must not have got rubbed according to the directions on the bottles, or the pain would have been taken away. In simple cases the Liniment will cure them, but for bad cases the Blood Food should be taken.

The Nerve Tonic prepared by G. H. will, only take away the desire for drink, but it will not disgust them against it, therefore it is no use one person buying it for another.

These Preparations are given away daily at 41, Dean Street, Newcastle, from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. All who are unable to pay can have the Medicines free. G. Handyside will be there every Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. Fetch the worst cases and see the result.

Lecture.—The Rev. A. Dickenson, Wesleyan Minister, Stanhope, delivered a lecture on "Spurgeon" on Thursday evening, in the Wesleyan schoolroom, Wolsingham, under the auspices of the Wesleyan Bible Class. It was listened to with enrapt attention, and the lecture throughout was very interesting.

NOTES FROM THE SPEN DISTRICT

[By "Watchman."]

SERVICE OF SONG.

Another treat was given at Victoria Garesfield, in the Primitive Chapel, on Saturday last, in the shape of a service of song, entitled "Northern Primitive Methodism." Mr R. Errington, of Lintzford, was the reader, and read it in such a manner that made us almost feel that we were at the meeting. The musical part was given by the choir of the above place, under the leadership of Mr W. Pearson, of Allendale Cottages, and Miss A. D. Errington (harmoniumist), Lintzford. We may congratulate these two leaders for bringing the choir to such perfection as they were on this occasion. There was not a very large company present through other special attractions, but those who were present thoroughly enjoyed the service.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

Has been licensed for the celebration of marriages for the portion of the parish, comprising the districts of Chopwell, Spen, Victoria Garesfield, Blackhall Mill, Rowland's Gill, and Thornley. On Saturday morning last, a couple from Victoria Garesfield entered the United States. As this is the first marriage at this place it is expected they will become the recipients of a handsome bible.

MISUNDERSTANDING.

I hear that some of our district football players have taken to themselves what was said in my notes, of the 4th inst., respecting drinking. The note was not meant for them, and had they read the note a little closer they would have discovered it. However, "If the cap fits, let them put it on."

SERMONS.

On Sunday last, Mr P. Reay, of Annfield Plain, preached two excellent sermons in the Garesfield Primitive Methodist Chapel to large congregations.

ALLEGED INACCURACIES.

If the party who complained so loudly of the inaccuracy of the statements in these notes a few days ago is able to prove that they are incorrect I will immediately apologise for the same.

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

A very attractive programme of music was rendered at the above association's weekly service in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. The opening hymn was No. 1 (Sankey's). The Mission Brass Band performed "Ora pro nobis" in first-class style. The next was a solo, "The children's home," which was very capably rendered by Miss Jessie Elliott. The duet, "The anchor hold," by Messrs R. Bainbridge and D. Pearse proved a most acceptable contribution. Mr Wm. McClusky was down for a recitation, "What's in the cup," which afforded general satisfaction to the large audience. The last item was the duet, "Star of the twilight," by Miss Jessie and Christine Elliott, both artistes acquitting themselves in good style.

The principal speaker was Mr J. Walton, of Blackhill, who said he was glad to see so many present, especially young people. It did not need words of scientific men to prove to them the curse of this terrible traffic. Solomon said: "Look not on the wine when it is red in the cup," &c. How many around them had proved the words of Solomon true, and realised it to the very letter? He had in his mind's eye a young man, promising to look upon, trained in a Methodist home and a Methodist school, and grew up under Methodist preaching. He had a vain foolish mother, who wanted him to be manly, &c., and allowed him to sit at the dinner-table and sip wine. He was in a good social position, and went on in this line till he entered the state of matrimony, and a drunkard before he married. His friends said: "Now he's got married, he will now settle down and become more sober and happy." Alas! before many years passed over, the untold misery and sorrow that poor wife had to undergo was terrible. That young man had sown his wild oats, and at his death-bed scene in his 30th year—though previously he had every prospect—lying there under the influence of drink and off his balance, a friend called to see him, and he had just aroused from his semi-conscious state to a state of consciousness. He said, "I am glad to see you. Do you know where I will find Jesus?" The man asked "Must I send for a clergyman?" "No; bring out that brandy decanter"; and with the glass in his hand he exclaimed, "I love it, though it has blasted my life, my happiness, and brought about my ruin, and I would like to find Jesus." Yes; he had heard that name in the Sabbath School, in the chapel, and daily heard it, but had not followed its warnings, and now on his death-bed wanted to find Jesus. With such awful warnings as these before them, he besought them to come over on the side of temperance. He also warned young people, especially young women, not to accept the hand of any young man for life until she knew that he was a total abstainer, as there was no other safe way.

Rev F. R. Rees, of Berwick, also gave a short, pithy address.

A collection was taken while hymn No. 25 (Sankey's) was sung. Miss Cornforth proved herself an excellent accompanist.

At the previous week's entertainment, Miss A. Granger sang "The good shepherd" and "Welcome, wanderer"; Mr J. H. Swainston recited "The costermonger's dog"; Mr H. Milburn played concertina selections, "At anchor laid" and "Jerusalem, my happy home"; Mr J. Walton (Newbiggen) gave as recitations, "Jacob's dream" and "The doctor's mistake." Mr Thos. Jones acted as accompanist. Every piece was given with much skill and ability, and the programme was one of the best rendered at these popular Sabbath evening's gatherings.

THE LANCHESTER LIGHTING RATE.

ANOTHER SKIRMISH.

At the close of the business at the Lanchester Petty Sessions, on Thursday week, Mr Henry Oliver, of Hurbuck, who was accompanied by a large number of farmers, said that as representing the agriculturalists in the outlying districts, they were present to oppose the rate proposed to be levied for lighting the village of Lanchester. They considered that it was an unjust and unfair rate. It was a well-known fact that the farmers had quite sufficient rates to pay, and they did not want any further burdens imposed upon them during these times of depression. Although only a few of the farmers were present, all the people in the outlying districts were quite ready to oppose and protest strenuously against the levying of such a rate.—Mr Van Haansbergen, J.P., said that, personally, he sympathised very much with the applicants, inasmuch as farmers had sufficient burdens to bear. But they were opposing a myth, because the rate had not been signed, and they had no such application before the Court.—Mr Oliver explained that they were simply there to let the Magistrates know that the rate was not agreeable to the people in the outlying districts.—Mr Haansbergen: Are you aware if the notice convening the first vestry meeting was generally known throughout the district?—Mr Oliver: Certainly not. Not one of these gentlemen knew about it.—The Chairman: Did you get proper notice of any of the meetings?—Mr Oliver: Yes, the notice of the second meeting was given out in the chancel of the church by the Vicar (Rev F. W. Glyn). That was the only time that outside people knew about any meeting.—Mr Haansbergen: The second meeting was abandoned, as being informal.—The Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): Had you known about the first meeting, would you have gone and opposed the levying of this rate?—Mr Oliver and the others: Yes. Most certainly we would. Mr Oliver added that the third meeting was packed.—The Chairman stated that there was nothing before the Bench that day concerning the rate. He hoped that the matter would be settled in an amicable manner.—Mr Haansbergen pointed out that at the Police Court at Consett, the Magistrates were threatened with a *mandamus*, and some vain remarks were made. They quite expected the *mandamus* to have been applied for before now.—The farmers said that that was the very reason they had come to oppose the rate, seeing that the newspapers announced that a *mandamus* would be applied for to compel the Justices to sign the rate,

FOOTBALL.

DIPTON WANDERERS v. BISHOP AUCKLAND.

A telegram announcing the result of the above semi-final tie of the Durham Senior Cup, at Bishop Auckland, to-morrow, will be published in the window of the *Guardian* Office soon after the game is concluded.

THE BURNING FATALITY AT STANHOPE.

An inquest was held at Stanhope Workhouse, on Monday, by Coroner Proud, touching the death of Margaret Eda Gowland, daughter of Ralph Gowland, who died on Saturday last, at the Workhouse hospital, from injuries received on Sunday, 29th ult., by falling into the fire. From the evidence adduced, it appears that deceased's father went out about six o'clock in the evening to go to chapel, leaving her in the house by herself. He expected her elder sister in every minute. After he had gone out, deceased had got the poker to stir up the fire, and being paralysed on one side, she fell upon the blazing coals, and set fire to her clothing, burning her arms, hands, throat, breast, and legs very severely. She had rolled off the fire on to the floor, and Mr Harrison Walton and Mr Joseph Tweddle passing at the time, rushed into the house, and groped about among the smoke until they found the unfortunate girl. They brought her out, and extinguished the flames, and conveyed her into a neighbour's house. Medical aid was then sought, and her father sent for. Her clothes were burnt, and the house was full of smoke. She was taken to the Workhouse hospital, where she died from her injuries.—The father and sister were questioned, and evidence was given by the Workhouse matron and Mr Joseph Tweddle.—The Coroner remarked that the girl should never have been left in the house by herself. The more helpless the child was the greater was the father's responsibility.—A verdict of "Death from accidental burning" was returned.

BRADLEY COTTAGES.

Tea and Supper.—On Tuesday last, a tea and supper was provided in the Bradley Cottages Primitive Methodist Chapel, by Mrs George Forster, of Leadgate. A large number partook of the good things provided, and the proceeds, which amounted to over £3 10s, were in aid of the new chapel fund.

LOW WESTWOOD.

On Sunday, Miss Ada Palmer, of London, delivered, under the auspices of the Secular Society, three lectures in the Co-operative Hall, Low Westwood.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Lanchester—8th inst., the wife of Wm. Cumming, of a son.

Ryton—Rose Villa, 7th inst., the wife of J. Keen, of a daughter.

Greenside House, 14th inst., the wife of Thomas Atkinson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Newburn Church—11th inst., by Rev C. E. Blackett Ord, M.A., William Elliott, Burnopfield Colliery, to Sarah Bolman, Walbottle Farm.

South Shields—Register Office, January 21st, Fred. Jones, Consett, to M. J. Oates, South Shields.

Tanfield—St. Margaret's, 11th inst., by Rev T. H. Archdall, M.A., John George Clark, to Sophia Hodgson, of East Tanfield.

DEATHS.

Consett—Forster Street, 12th inst., aged 3 years and 3 months, Joseph Chilton, second son of Joseph and Mary Jane Chilton. 517k

Castleside—11th inst., aged 87, Isabella Braban.

East Castle—On the 29th January, aged 11 years, Sarah, daughter of James and Elizabeth Armstrong. Deeply regretted. 503k

On the 13th inst., aged 1 year, Hilda, the beloved daughter of Thomas and Isabella Stobbs. Deeply regretted.

"What though in lonely grief we sigh,
For one beloved no longer nigh;
Submissive still we will reply,
'Thy will be done'." 507k

Tanfield Lea—Allan's Square, 14th inst., aged 1 year, Gabriel Ridley, beloved son of Stephenson and Alice Gibson. 500k

Pelton—13th inst., aged 12 years, Hunter, son of William and Elizabeth Selkirk.

Winlaton—Rectory Lane, 12th inst., aged 42, Mary Robson.

Blaydon—33, St. Thomas's Terrace, 13th inst., in his 16th year, Arthur Carr.

Lanchester—Howdon Cottage, 13th inst., aged 22, Mary Ann, wife of Michael Rippon, butcher.

Birtley—Foreman's Row, 9th inst., aged 14, Edward Wayman, son of Henry Milbanke.

Chester-le-Street—5, John Street, Mary, relict of the late James Thompson.

Frosterley—12th inst., aged 65, George Wallace.

Stanhope—7th inst., aged 54, Thomas Wilson.

Wolsingham—7th inst., Isaac Burns.

In loving memory of Mary Mainland Cross, who died at Consett, February 12th, 1891. 488k

In loving memory of our dear mother, the beloved wife of Thomas Wilson, who died February 16th, 1889.

"Gone from sight, but still to memory dear."
Tom.

In loving memory of my dear brothers, Thomas Milburn, who died at Ramshaw, on February 17th, 1870; also, Henry, who died at Delves Lane, February 18th, 1876, son of the late John and Hannah Milburn, Leadgate.

"Ever remembered." Lizzie.

In loving memory of our dear brother, William Brown, formerly of Prospect House, Leadgate, who died 16th February, 1890. "In life beloved; in death lamented." 514k

In loving memory of Thomas Oliver Moir, the beloved husband of Catherine Moir, of Consett, who died February 19th, 1891, aged 44 years.

"We miss thee when the morning shines,
We miss thee when the night returns,
We miss thee here, we miss thee there.
Dear father, we miss thee everywhere." 490k

In loving memory of our dear nephew, Thomas Leadbitter, the only child of James and Maggie Harrison, Flint Hill, who died February 17th, 1892.

"Dear nephew, thou art one year gone,
And we have missed you sore;
But we hope to meet thee in that land,
And clasp thee in our arms."
M. A. and S. S. Leadbitter.

In loving memory of Isabella, beloved wife of John Palliser, of Blackhill, who died February 20th, 1892, aged 52 years.

"A loving mother, true and kind,
She was to us in heart and mind;
A careful wife, too, as well,
When she on earth with us did dwell." 530k

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