NORTH-WEST DURHAM EMIGRATION AGENCY.

PERSONS wishing to EMIGRATE can be Booked by the Best Lines to America, Australia, and all Parts of the World, at the Lowest Rates, on application to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, the only Authorised Agent for the Queensland Government in this District; or to Mr. JOHN CHAYTOR, Grocer, West Stanley.

TO PARTIES REMOVING OR LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND OTHERS.

ADAM BRODIE, assisted by his Son, ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, undertakes the SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION of Household Furniture, Farming Stock, House Property, and other Effects in the most approved manner, and on reasonable terms. Instructions by Post punctually attended to.

Note the Address:—Town Hall, Consett.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,333. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, February 19th, 1886. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

ADAM BRODIE,
SHARE AND INSURANCE BROKER
TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
LOCAL GAS, WATER, AND OTHER SHARES BOUGHT AND SOLD.
DEALER IN STEAMSHIP SHARES.

FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE AGENCY.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurances of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt settlement of Claims.

Note.—The Oldest Insurance Agency and the only Share Broker in the District.

ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

Contracts.

SANITARY PIPES.—TENDERS given for SANITARY PIPES, BRICKS, and FIRE CLAY GOODS of all kinds.—Apply to R. Curry & Co., Delves Lane, Consett.

Money.

SPECIAL BRANCH.—M. L. ROSENBERG, 54 Westgate Road, Newcastle, advances MONEY on Reversionary Interest or Legacies under Wills, on Life Policies for £100 and upwards, on Building Society or other Shares, on Household Furniture without removal, and on deposit of Silver Plate, Jewellery, or any goods at a reasonable rate of interest, and on terms of repayment, all as arranged.—Established 1860. 739v

Lost.

LOST, a Valuable STONE SEAL, Set in Gold. —Finder will be rewarded on returning it to R. Fawell, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 739v

LOST, on the 3rd February, THREE SCOTCH EWES, marked O.C. on near side.—Finder will be rewarded on applying to Henry Oliver, Hurbuck. 741v

STRAYED, from Rare Dean Farm, on Christmas Week, EIGHT HORNED EWES. — Any person finding the same and giving information to Mr. Nelson, Rare Dean Farm, Old Cornsay, will be rewarded. 710v

LOST, since the 22nd December, a Rough Haired Blue-grey COLLIE BITCH, with leather strap around neck; answers to the name of "Mop." Supposed to be in the Lanchester district.—Any one bringing the same to G. Errington, High Spen, Lintz Green, will be rewarded.—Detention will incur prosecution. 753v

Wanted.

PLOUGHMAN WANTED.—Apply to Messrs. Fewster, Newlands. 723v

WANTED, a Young Man to go with a Pair of Horses.—Apply to T. Laws, Hall Hill Farm Satley. 724v

WANTED, APPRENTICES to the Dress-making.—Apply to Miss Gill, Iveston Road, Leadgate. 728v

WANTED, a HOUSE with Two or Three Rooms and Garden, if possible, situated at Shotley Bridge or Cutlers' Hall.—Apply Box Y, *Guardian* Office. 713v

WANTED, LADIES and YOUNG MEN, to take pleasant WORK at their Own Homes. 2s. to 5s. a-day easily made. Work sent by Parcels Post. No canvassing.—The Albertype Co., 448, Edgware Road, London, W. 689v

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. Quigley, 5, Front Street, Consett. 396v

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.

LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations.—Apply to Miss Cockburn, at the S. R. O., 13, Front Street, Consett. 828s

To Let.

TO LET, a BUTCHER'S SHOP, at Kyo.—Apply to William Wilkinson, Ironmonger, Catchgate. 368v

TO LET, at once, HOUSE and SHOP, lately occupied by Mr. John Usher, Wesley Terrace, Dipton.—For all particulars apply to A. Phillipson, Auctioneer, Dipton. 720v

TO LET, at May Term, TWO SHOPS at present occupied by Mr. R. Willey, and situate in the New Town Hall, Consett.—Apply to T. W. Welford, Jun., Solicitor, Consett. 680v

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, No. 15, Front Street, Shotley Bridge.—For rent and particulars apply to Hodgkin, Barnett, & Co., Bankers, Shotley Bridge. 353v

TO LET, a TWO-ROOMED HOUSE, situate in Watling Street, Leadgate. Rent, 2s. 9d. a-week, including everything.—Apply, M. Robson, Builder, Leadgate. 556v

TO LET, or FOR SALE by Private Contract, a Five-roomed HOUSE, with Washhouse and other Offices in Large Yard; also, a large GARDEN with good Greenhouse, situated in Ledger Terrace, Blackhill.—Apply to Joseph Eltringham, Railway Terrace, Blackhill. 668v

TO LET, at Shotley Bridge, ONE-HALF OF A Semi-Detached COTTAGE RESIDENCE, containing Six Rooms and Kitchen, good Pantry, W.C., and necessary Conveniences, also a small Garden or Lawn on the South Side, with access from the Terrace.—Apply, T. B. Sawbridge Guildhall Chambers, Newcastle. 54v

TO LET, at Catchgate, a HOUSE and SHOP, lately in the occupation of Mr. J. W. Davison, Furniture Broker. These Premises were originally built for a first-class Butcher's Shop, having an excellent Slaughter House, fine dry Cellar (cemented, well-aired, and adapted to keep meat in warm weather. There is also a good Two-Stalled STABLE and all necessary Conveniences. The Shop is well situated, and suitable for any business. A Capital opening for a Pawnbroker or Auction Mart.—Apply to George Hobson, Harperley Mills, Lintz Green.

For Sale.

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, at 1d. per lb.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

INCALVING HEIFERS FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. Bulman, Woodlands, Consett. 404v

TURNIPS FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. Bulman, Woodlands, Consett.

BULL CALVES, by Pedigree Bull, FOR SALE. —Apply to Mr. Bulman, Woodlands, Consett.

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. Bowman, Hole House, Lanchester. 195v

FOR SALE, a STACK OF WELL-WON OLD LAND HAY.—Apply to J. Green, Lanchester. 696v

FOR SALE, a Roan Cow, at profit; good milker. —Apply to Robert Wood, Farmer, Ousterley West House, between Stanley and Craghead. 718v

FOR SALE, an Excellent COW, with fifth calf; due in about a fortnight; capital milker.—Apply to A. Phillipson, Auctioneer, Dipton. 719v

FOR SALE, a WRINGING AND MANGLING MACHINE, 20in. Rollers, new, never been used, best make; list price, 45s.; will take 32s. for it. —Apply to W. Anderson, Tow Law. 743v

HOUSE FOR SALE or TO LET, with immediate possession, situate at Iveston Bank.—For particulars apply to John J. Hetherington, 26, Market Place, Durham. 346v

TO INNKEEPER.—SPIRIT STOCK BOOKS. One Shilling each, may be obtained at the "Guardian" Office, Consett; or sent by Post on receipt of 13 Postage Stamps.

TO BE SOLD, by Private Contract, the ADELPHA FARM, containing nearly 150 Acres, well watered and sheltered with plantations all around the boundaries, mid-way between Satley and Tow Law.—Offers will be received by Mr. Thomas Pallister, Lanchester, Durham. 684v

FOR SALE, by Private Contract, a Small FREEHOLD COTTAGE of One Room and Pantry, adjoining Mrs. Wilkinson's Houses, near Mr. E. Wilkinson's, Butcher, Dipton.—Mrs. Mary Ann Wilkinson will show the Cottage, and all particulars of the Sale of the said Cottage can be had by applying to Mr. A. Phillipson, Auctioneer, Dipton. 664v

AN IMPORTANT FACT.

£10 AND UPWARDS CAREFULLY INVESTED in Options on Stocks and Shares is the safest and most popular way of rapidly making money on the Stock Exchange, by the non-liability system. Explanatory Book (5th edition), giving full details, *Gratis and Post Free*.—Address, George Evans & Co., Stockbrokers, Gresham House, London, E.C. 308v

For Sale.

FOR SALE, One WAGGONETTE, for single or double harness; One WHITECHAPEL DOG CART; One SPRING CART, suitable for Grocer or Wine Merchant. The above are all built by Messrs. Angus & Co., Newcastle, and are all in good condition. Also, DOUBLE and SINGLE SETS of HARNESS.—Apply to William Turner, Whitehall Lodge, Blackhill. 590v

Business Announcements.

ESTABLISHED 40 YEARS.

MESSRS. G. T. TINN & SONS,
SURGEON DENTISTS,
42, NEW BRIDGE STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

MINERAL TEETH FROM 5s. PER TOOTH.

UPPER OR LOWER SETS FROM £2 10s.

PIANOS. ORGANS. HARMONIUMS.

MESSRS. DAWSON & CO.,
142, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
(Late Saville Row).

Pianos from 15 Guineas. Violins, Guitars, Banjos Strings, &c.

Pianos Tuned and Repaired in all parts of Northumberland and Durham. 665v

MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

OWING to the great increase of Business, the Proprietor has been compelled to REMOVE from Raglan Street, to Larger and more Commodious Premises at NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

Sole Agent for the Magic Washing Fluid.

MRS. CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL,
WEAR TERRACE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

MANY PUPILS from this School have passed in Honours the Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham Local Examinations, Trinity College of Music, &c. Masters for Arithmetic, Drawing, and Painting; a French Governess Diplomee; Music—by a Pupil of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett. 4v

JOHN FREEK,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.

HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.

N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 384o

OLD ESTABLISHED CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT.

J. COCKBURN,
Newsagent, Printer, Bookbinder, Fancy Stationer, & Confectioner,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Desk and Pocket Diaries, 1886. Account Books, Birthday Cards. Fancy and General Stationery in great variety.

A few Xmas *Graphics* and *Illustrated London News* to be sold cheap.

London and other Papers delivered to order. Books not in Stock, to be had on a short notice.

WILLIAM RAW.
AUCTIONEER.
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.

All business properly and carefully attended to.

YOU ARE INVITED TO
BUY YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES AT
JOHN GIBSON'S NEW SHOP
CORNER OF
FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET,
BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station),

As they are unsurpassed for Fitting and Durability.

A Well-selected Stock always on hand.

All Goods marked in plain figures, at Lowest Ready-money Prices.

BOOTS MADE TO MEASURE, AND REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS DONE AS USUAL. 539u

HUGHES & CO.'S
PHARMACY,
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL,

CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

CURRY'S TOOTHACHE DROPS.

HUGHES' Cough, Rheumatic, and Neuralgic Pills. The IXL Blood Purifying Mixture and Pills. Rheumatic and Gout Mixture, Hop, Dandelion, and Mandrake Bitters. Concentrated Sweet Essence of Senna. Compound Decoction of the finest Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla. Tonga, the new Specific for Neuralgia. Raspberry Beer Powder.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCES.

AGENTS FOR THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OPTICAL ASSOCIATION.

SPECTACLES IN GREAT VARIETY.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

ALTERATIVE POWDER FOR HORSES

SHEEP DIPS—COOPER'S, BELL & RIDDLE'S McDOUGALL'S, AND OTHER KINDS.

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

ORDER NESTLE'S SWISS MILK AND YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH IT.

TRADE MARK 556v

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWARD 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,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

W. T. SMITH,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 22, NEW BRIDGE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

WILL VISIT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY from 11 a.m. to 5·30 p.m., at No. 3, MOUNT PLEASANT, where he will be happy to see his old and new patients.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted from 3s. 6d. per Tooth, with all the Latest and Best English and American Improvements.

No Charge until a perfect fit is made, and entire satisfaction given.

Mr. Smith will, with pleasure, call at the Residence of Patients to suit their convenience.

REMEMBER THE HOUSE:—
No. 3, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 390v

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(Over 80 Set-up to Select from),
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

BRICKS! SANITARY PIPES!

FIRE BRICKS, 2½in. and 3in., QUARLS, various sizes, GROUND FIRE CLAY, COMMON RED BRICKS, RIDGE TILES, FIRE BACKS for Glendinning Ovens, FLUE BRICKS, CHIMNEY TOPS, KITCHEN SINKS, GULLIES, JUNCTIONS, BENDS, ELBOWS, TAPERS, GARDEN EDGING, CEMENT, PLASTER, LATHS, HAIR, LIME, TACKS, SAND, COALS COKE, &c., &c., can be Supplied in Large or Small Quantities by applying to

R. CURRY AND CO.,
DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

STOCK OF BRICKS, PIPES, &c., AT DELVES LANE DEPOT.

824t CEMENT, PLASTER, &c., AT WAREHOUSE, GIBSON STREET.

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9, 9A, AND 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

For the CHEAPEST DRESSES, go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.
For the CHEAPEST MILLINERY go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.
For the CHEAPEST DRAPERY go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.
For the CHEAPEST FURNISHING GOODS go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS
For the CHEAPEST SUITS for Men, Youths, or Boys, go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.
For the LARGEST AND BEST VARIETY OF MERCERY go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.
HATS and CAPS, and MEN'S MERCERY go to THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW, SHOULD USE THE

"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.

IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.

PREPARED ONLY BY
JOHN HUME AND SONS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
BRANCH—MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 583v

HALL'S for OIL CAKE and COTTON CAKE.
HALL'S for HORSE FEED.
HALL'S for CATTLE SPICE.
HALL'S for FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST CALIFORNIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW PROCESS FLOUR.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the BEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST TEAS.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW SEASON TEA.
HALL'S for BEST ASSAM TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST DARJIELING TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST BUTTER.
HALL'S for BEST LARD.
HALL'S for MANNA CAKE.

HALL'S is the RIGHT SHOP for all who want a good Article combined with Cheapness.

STARCHES, BLUES, PATENT MEDICINES, and all PACKETED GOODS 10 to 50 per cent. Cheaper than the usual Price.

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE GROCER.
ANNFIELD PLAIN 289t

Business Announcements.

MORE REDUCTIONS, NOT IN WAGES,
BUT IN THE PRICE OF
HATS, SHIRTS, WOOL PANTS, CAPS, SCARFS, WOOL VESTS,
&c., AT
THE 2 W.'S GREAT SALE,
COMMENCING TO-DAY (FRIDAY). 726v

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, VIA LINTZ GREEN.

GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE
MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, FIELD SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF
PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.
INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.
OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED,
Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

HOBSON'S AROMATIC CALF FOOD, REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for Milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save Calves from that Inflammatory Fever commonly called Quarter-ill or Black Leg.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF
PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-eight years.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 427t

SOUTH BIRTLEY STEAM BRICK & TILE WORKS, CO. DURHAM.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

J. F. SWINBURN, PROPRIETOR.

AGRICULTURAL DRAIN PIPES of all sizes, one of the very best quality, delivered to any Railway Station at very low rates. Also, BRICKS, FLOWER POTS, and everything in the Trade.

SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR LARGE QUANTITIES.

Price Lists on Application. 517v

THOUSANDS OF SUFFERERS
Have been effectually
CURED
BY LAMONT'S SELF-CURATIVE
MAGNETIC BELTS

For Lumbago, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Liver Complaints, &c.
INVIGORATORS for all Bronchial and Lung Complaints.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, &c.
KNEE CAPS for Sore and Weak Knees.
SOLES for Cold Feet.
SPINE BANDS, WRISTLETS, ANKLETS, GLOVES, &c.

THESE UNRIVALLED MAGNETIC APPLIANCES are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour. They need no attention, give no shocks, are as comfortable to wear as an ordinary garment, and as they last for several years, and are RE-MAGNETISED FREE EVERY YEAR, they are without exception the most economical, effective, and pleasant remedy extant.

COLDS.—ALL PERSONS who are subject to COLDS BRONCHIAL, and LUNG COMPLAINTS should wear one of LAMONT'S MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATORS.

They are now worn by thousands of persons in all parts of the country, and the testimony on all hands is that they are "WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD AS A PROTECTION FROM COLD and Bronchial Attacks during the winter season."

MR. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following Testimonials, recently received. Further particulars will be found in Descriptive Pamphlet, Post Free.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

31, Weardale Street, Mount Pleasant,
Spennymoor, November 7th, 1885.

Dear Sir,—It is now five months since I sent for one of your Magnetic Invigorators for my little girl. She was very ill with bronchitis, and we applied the Invigorator as soon as it came. I am glad to inform you the effect was marvellous. We had lost all hopes of her recovery, but thanks to your Magnetic Appliances, she is now as fine and as healthy a child as you could wish to see.

You will remember that I got one for our son, and he also is now quite strong. You can refer any one to me who disputes anything I have said. You can make what use you like of this, for we bless the day that we got the Magnetic Appliances for our children.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN JEFFERSON.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

Board School, Arthurs Hill,
Newcastle-on-Tyne, July 2nd, 1885.

Dear Sir,—I can heartily recommend your Magnetic Lung Invigorators, my daughter having used one for the last six months. She has been subject to severe attacks of Bronchitis for the last 10 years, and I tried all sorts of remedies to relieve her before she began to use your Invigorator. It has removed all pain and suffering, and she has not had a cold since she began to wear it. I am in every way satisfied with it.—Yours truly,

Mr D. Lamont. GEORGE PRINGLE.

"IT HAS COMPLETELY CURED ME."

65, Eleanor Street, Cullercoats,
March 9th, 1885.

Dear Sir,—It is with the greatest pleasure I write to inform you of the effect the Magnetic Invigorator I purchased from you has had upon me. Prior to purchasing it I was troubled with a weakness in my chest, also with indigestion, the accompanying evils of which I need not mention.

Now, I am not one to fly to any new remedy that may present itself to me, as some do, and aggravate the complaint. With my own conception of the value of magnetism as a curative, I resolved to try a Magnetic Appliance, which I have worn for twelve months, and the best proof I can give of its efficacy is by saying that it has *completely cured me*, and more than that, it has had a most wonderful effect upon the whole of my system. It is comfortable to wear and effectual in its operations. It causes no unpleasant sensation and can be "cast" with safety.—I am, yours &c.,

Mr D. Lamont. C. W. MASON.

THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 21s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., continue to give unbounded satisfaction. Sent Post Free on receipt of 21s.

CALL OR WRITE FOR PAMPHLET. Gratis and Post Free.

D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT,
(PERMANENT AND ONLY ADDRESS),
44 BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Agent for Consett:—Mr. Thomas Milner, Chemist.

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

Pupils attended at their own Homes.

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Shortest and Best Route to the West.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, via Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. Anderson & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law. 85u

GREAT BARGAINS!
AT
C. F. COOKE'S,
NOTED CHEAP SHOP,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

ARRIVAL OF SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF NEW GOODS FOR THE SEASON.

NEW DESIGNS IN MEN'S SUITS, FROM 14s. 6d., 30s., and 39s. 6d.

BLACK WORSTED SUITS, FROM 24s. 6d.

BOYS' SUITS, FROM 2s. 6d.

GRAND LOT OF MEN'S FELT HATS and CAPS IN ALL THE LEADING SHAPES, ALL AT LOW PRICES.

C. F. COOKE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT.

THE
"CONSETT GUARDIAN"
AFTER ATTAINING
A LARGE AND INCREASING CIRCULATION
HAS BEEN
CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED
AND MAINTAINS ITS POSITION AS
THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Full and Impartial Reports of all Meetings in the District (by its own Reporters). The General News is carefully condensed, and special attention is given to Local News by Agents of known ability and character.

TO ADVERTISERS.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

Has now been established upwards of twenty-six years, and has gained a most extensive circulation in Consett, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Lanchester, Annfield Plain, Medomsley, Ebchester, Castleside, Tow Law, Burnopfield, Lintz Green, Rowland's Gill, Iveston, Dipton, Burnhope, South Moor, Stanley, Tanfield, Tanfield Lea, Tantobie, White-le-Head, Hobson, Clough Dene, Swalwell, and the adjacent locality.

The large and increasing circulation of the *Consett Guardian* renders it invaluable as an advertising medium, and current Advertisements are inserted in its columns at moderate charges. Advertisements for lengthened periods are subject to considerable reduction.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT 59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

Where Advertisements are received up to Nine o'clock on that morning.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 1886.

THE LONDON RIOTS COMMITTEE.

THE Committee appointed by Mr Childers to inquire into the causes of the London riots of the 8th inst., and into the conduct of the police authorities with respect to these disturbances, seems to be rather an anomalous affair. It is not a Parliamentary Committee; for, although most of its members are members of the House of Commons, and one is a member of the Upper House, it has not been appointed by Parliament, and therefore has neither the authority nor the responsibility which would be conferred by such appointment. It is not a Ministerial Committee; for most of its members lack even a secondary Ministerial position. It is not a Departmental Committee, as it is mainly composed of persons not connected with the Home Office. The most eminent personage upon the Committee is Lord Wolseley, no doubt an able and successful military commander, though it is difficult to see what are his special qualifications for investigating a matter of a purely civilian character. If the police authorities had acted energetically with regard to the riots, and had applied for the aid of the soldiery without being able to obtain it, it would be apparent that Lord Wolseley should be connected with an investigation, though even then his place should have been rather that of a witness than that of a judge. But the police did not act themselves, much less apply for assistance to the military. As for the other members of the committee, they are respectable politicians, but not of such rank in public life that their names will carry any great authority. The Committee is too ponderous and formal to be set to work merely for the information of Government, but not weighty and authoritative enough to conduct an inquisition for the satisfaction of Parliament and the public. But besides the defects in its mode of appointment and its composition, there is another in the subject matter referred to it for inquiry. What the public want to know is where the blame rests for the inactivity of the police—whether with the disciplinary heads of that force, or with their superior at the Home Office. If it was the conduct of any other British police force that was in question, the Home Office might fitly conduct an inquiry; but with regard to the Metripolitan Police that department really exercises the functions of a police or watch committee of provincial magistrates. Any inquiry, therefore, into the alleged shortcomings of the Metropolitan Police on an important occasion must be regarded as possibly involving the Home Secretary. Mr Childers may be entirely blameless as regards the lack of police energy in London on the 8th inst., and being conscious of his blamelessness, he may be sincerely anxious to find out where the fault lay. He may even have acted laudably, in giving judicious instructions which were not carried out. But in any case it would be more fitting that he should be absolved or commended by a tribunal quite independent of himself. That there was a grevious deficiency somewhere became obvious to everybody, and the public will look to Parliamentary proceedings, not to Mr Childers's Committee, for the elucidation of what is at present a mystery. Not only for the sake of the extensive damage done, but because of the deplorable example of immunity set to other mobs in London and elsewhere, the rioting of the 8th was a matter of grave public importance. Occurring in the capital, and in defiance of a police force directly controlled by the National Executive, it has disgraced the country in the eyes of the world. Therefore we believe that Parliament will not and ought not to pass this matter over without discussion and inquiry.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY EVENING.

We were told the other day with all protestations of good faith from Vienna that peace was at last assured between Servia and Bulgaria. But the triangular duel still goes on. As soon as Servia professes herself satisfied with the terms, Greece stands out for compensation, and when the Powers turn on Greece and warn her of the danger of a naval demonstration in the Piræus, the Russian agents are ready to begin the game of intrigue over again in Servia, and offer her extravagant terms if she will only break with Austria, depose King Milan, and cast in her lot with Russia. So the game goes on, and will continue until the final dismemberment of Turkey.

For boldness in changing front in face of the enemy, no tactician has ever shown greater courage—some would call it foolhardiness—than Lord Randolph Churchill. He was suspected, and with good reason, of an arrangement with Mr Parnell, which lasted up to the eve of the assembling of Parliament. Now he has declared for the Orangemen, and is going over to Belfast to beat the big drum of "No surrender." This is carrying versatility too far, and the threat which he flung into Mr Parnell's face that in no case should the Nationalists expect anything from the Conservative party looks like counsels of despair.

I do not know whether it is the result of the recent elections and the general surfeit of politics, but it is certain that the imitation Parliaments are rapidly falling off in popularity. Even at the best of them attendances are but meagre and spiritless now-a-days, and probably they will ere long go out of fashion altogether. And yet they have not been unsuccessful in training real M.P's. Many of the newly elect have been conspicuous members of the local houses.

The Queen's donation of £500 towards the relief of the distress in London has quickened the pulse of public feeling. Large sums are daily pouring in, and the question now before the Committee is how to lay it out to the greatest advantage. If it melts away as it probably will in doles for the relief of temporary distress, it will be like water poured on the sand, if on the other hand it were spent in getting off able-bodied men to the Colonies, it would help to lessen the pressure of London poverty, which is already too great a strain on the labour market.

Public works in London, which is the short cut out of our present difficulties, will, if we are not on our guard, actually aggravate the malady and pour oil on a fire. There are too many unemployed in London already, and are we sure that in finding them employment we shall not attract more agricultural waifs and strays up to London. The Dick Whittingtons of our day should turn again, not back to town, but back to the country!

It is carrying free trade in London gossip rather too far when some of the Conservative country press dress up the case against Sir Charles Dilke in this way. We are told that the judge, Mr Justice Butt, is a Radical, that Mr Inderwick, Mr Lockwood, and Mr Crawford, all concerned in the case as principal and counsel, were all personal friends of Sir Charles Dilke. This is likely enough, but what it has to do with the law of the case I fail to see.

As to the reason for Sir Charles Dilke not having gone into the witness-box, they are at once disposed of by the fact that the Prince of Wales insisted some sixteen years ago, when under a similar reproach, on taking the only course open to him by purging himself on oath in open court. When Sergeant Ballantine declined to cross-examine him publicly, the Prince insisted upon his doing so in the presence of the judge and the parties interested, and so came out of the Mordaunt divorce case with flying colours. Sir Charles Dilke, declining to do so, leaves him open to reflections which even his best friends now admit must exclude him from office.

The death of *Desbarolles*, the discoverer, it may almost be said, of the "Art" of Palmistry, has been noticed in most of the London papers, but the Paris *Figaro* publishes an odd testimony to the occasional correctness of his guesses, which might excusably pass for a miracle among believers in the occult sciences. A young Creole lady went to consult the then famous prophet of events to come, and enquired what her husband would be like. "A man whom everyone will envy," replied Desbarolles, but in spite of pressing questions, he refused to divulge whether the bridegroom would be a Prince or a millionaire. Within three years the lady married M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, a fact which rendered Desbarolles more sought after than ever. The fact that he existed on this doubtful profession for nearly 70 years proves that credulity is not altogether extinct even in sceptical France.

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY LOCK-OUT.

The men of Washington Colliery are contributing one penny per man for the South Medomsley men who are now locked-out.

The South Medomsley Lock-out Committee have received the following subscriptions:—East Tanfield, £4; Sherburn Hill, £1; Stargate, 13s 5d; Harton Colliery, £1 4s; Addison, £1 8s 8d; Chop Hill, £2; Spen, £1 14s; Brancepeth No. 1, £1; Washington, 18s; Ravensworth, £2 6s 4d; Wingate, £1; Elvet, 4s 4d; Framwellgate Moor, £1; Chopwell, 17s 6d; Felling, 16s 6d; Waterhouses, 10s; Marsden Colliery, £2; Lambton, £1; Browney, £3; Rough Lea, £1; Houghton-le-Spring, £3 0s; New Herrington, £1; Meadowfield, £1; Stanley Drift, £2; Sleetburn, 10; Monkwearmouth, £3; Ouston, £2; Bewick Main, £1 2s; New Shildon, £1; Witton, Lodge, £1 6s 11d; East Stanley, £2; Black Prince, £1; Page Bank, 14s; Chester Moor, £1; Handon Hold, 5s; West Pelton, 10s; Elemore, £1 10s; Iveston, 18s 10d; South Pontop, 6s 8d; Auckland Park, £1; Brancepeth No. 2, £1; Sunnybrow, £2 3s 8d; Leitch, £1 8s; Pelton Fell, £2; Seaham, £1; Thrislington, £1; St. Helens, £1; Page Bank Enginemen, £1; Castle Eden, £3 12; Quarrymen, Windy Nook, £1; Murton, £3; Binchester, £2; East Pontop, £1 10s; South Derwent Willy, £1 19s 9d; Leasingtou, £2; East Hetton, £1; Tradesmen and Others, Dipton District, £4 10s 7d.

A "BLACKLEG" WOUNDED BY A UNIONIST.

At the latter part of last week, Inspector Webster, of Durham, was despatched to South Medomsley, to take charge of the immediate neighbourhood, and he has eleven special constables under him. In consequence of the hostile demonstrations manifested by the populace every night, as the "blacklegs" are being escorted from their employment at five o'clock, the force is strengthened each evening by a number of policemen from Consett. On Monday morning, about a dozen of the inferior sort of "blacklegs" who came from Yorkshire last week ceased work, and left the district. Their places, however, are filled up by fresh arrivals almost daily. Nothing of importance transpired until Tuesday morning, save the usual crowds congregated every night howling and shouting at the workmen, varied with the pelting of stones occasionally.

As the "blacklegs" were being guarded from the pit to their homes, about eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning, a crowd of about 200 or 300 people howled and hissed at them. At length, P.C. Johnson, the colliery owners' special officer, saw a man named Samuel Bloomfield, a Unionist, pick up a large stone, and deliberately throw it at one of the workmen, John Turner. The missile struck the latter with great violence upon the forehead, inflicting a wound 2½ inches in length. Johnson immediately arrested the man, who likewise made a confession that it was he who threw the stone. The prisoner was conveyed to the Consett lock-up in the course of the afternoon. On Tuesday night, the place was exceedingly quiet.

On Wednesday morning, at the Shotley Bridge Occasional Court, the prisoner *Bloomfield* was brought up before James Annandale, Esq., J.P., on a charge of assaulting and wounding John Turner, at South Medomsley, on the preceding day.—P.C. Johnson gave evidence in corroboration of the facts mentioned above.—Dr Brown, of Dipton, who has been attending the injured man, and has dressed and stitched his wound, certified that Turner was confined to his bed and could not possible leave the house.—Prisoner was accordingly remanded for a week.—As the complainant was considered to be dangerously ill, an application for bail was refused.

THE LOCAL DISTRESS.

CONSETT.

The Consett and District Relief Committee opened their soup kitchen, in suitable premises in Nelson Street, on Monday morning, and every day since the movement has been in full operation. On the first day, over 800 relief tickets were distributed at the Local Board Offices, and the number has varied from 850 to 1,000 per diem. The Committee hope that pecuniary aid will be forthcoming, as up to the present subscriptions are coming in but slowly, and had it not been for the generosity exhibited by the Consett Iron Company they would not have progressed thus far with the kitchen.

WEARDALE.

Mr J. Rogerson, Croxdale Hall, having failed to make arrangements for the transit of coals for the poor, is distributing provisions instead. The thaw has given way to frost again, and the weather is very severe in the dales.

CROOK DILTRICT.

The Thristleflat Colliery, which we reported last week as flooded with water, laying idle over 100 hands, has now been hopelessly laid in. By the sedulous efforts of the Relief Committee and a little support from the Miners Union the distress is being partially stemmed. This week arrangements have been made for giving about 250 free dinners daily, which only provides relief for each alternate day to the applicants on the list. The distribution of clogs and underclothing for the children is continued with increased liberality by the committee. Notwithstanding the heavy depression, severely felt by the tradesmen, they are continuing teeir donations most liberally. Among the most recent subscriptions are Mrs Douglas, West Lodge, Peases West, £5; and Mr T. Douglas, £6.

TOWLE PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, 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.

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

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

HOW MINERS' UNIONS ARE MANAGED.

(BY A COAL HEWER.)

The miners in the counties of Durham and Northumberland are at present, as for a number of years past, working for ridiculously small wages. In a vast number of cases the earnings are, to use the miners' expressive phrase, at "starvation point," and many thoughtful unionists are losing their faith in their Union leaders, and in their Union itself—as it is at present constituted. It is an undoubted fact that a very great deal of the usefulness and power of Miners' Unions depend upon the personal fitness and fidelity of Union leaders. It may not be amiss, therefore, to discuss the present system of choosing the Union officials. Let us deal with local collieries first. It requires a staff of about a dozen men to carry on the work of a single lodge. Salaries, varying in amount, are paid to each official every three months, and the officials are elected quarterly. At collieries where there is a strong "local fund" there is no difficulty in getting officers to do the work of the lodge. It is natural to think, therefore, that the ablest and truest Union men would be always found at the "head of affairs." But is this the case? In nine collieries out of ten it certainly is not. I have been at a few collieries in Durham and Northumberland, and I always found that the most capable men are never elected into office. With quarterly elections, does this not seem strange? If the members of the Union had only the prosperity of the society in view at the time of election, the best men would always be found in the "Cabinet," but there are selfish motives manifested at these meetings which are corrupting and taking away the power of the Miners' Union. Officials seldom merit their position in the society. If they can manage a little caucussing, and by that means rake together about a dozen friends and companions to go to the quarterly meeting prepared to vote for them, it is impossible for them to be "unseated."

At collieries where there are 300 members in the Union, I have known often for 20 (!) to be considered an average attendance at the ordinary quarterly meeting. I have been at other collieries with 400 members, and it was a very common thing for none but the officers themselves to be at the meetings and transact all the business. A very large number of these local officers have no other interest in the Union beyond that of the "Local Fund." If they can keep the fund strong enough to pay them their salaries every time they draw on it, then they rest satisfied with the result of their official tact and energy. It is a very rare thing to see special means used to get large meetings, because the officers don't like them. On such occasions they have often to answer questions which they would much rather had never been asked. Many upright unionists are predicting the ultimate downfall of the Union through the Caucus meetings, but these gentlemen have no opportunity of laying their views before the full colliery of Union man, and the only reward that they get for their anxiety and trouble is to be set down by the Caucus officers as "troublesome," aspiring with an unholy ambition for their places. The miners' agents are elected annually, and generally without opposition. This is a matter of great surprise to a large number of miners, who begrudge to keep them, and who are continually expressing dissatisfaction with their actions. It is common to hear them designated as "old women" and men who are only anxious to "feather their own nest." I verily believe that if the true opinion of the miners of the counties of Northumberland and Durham was taken, that there would be some of our agents displaced for much better men. Generally about one-fifth of the members re-elect these agents every year. This system of election is considered by many to have pernicious effects on our organisation, and, therefore, it is everyone's duty to inquire into it, and, if possible, adopt some better plan.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

SUNDAY SKATING AT CROOK.

The subjoined correspondence has passed anent the skating on Sunday afternoon, at Crook, in aid of the relief fund. The Rector writes the first letter as follows:—

Your account of what happened here on Sunday afternoon, in the above connection, is singularly inaccurate—in fact, it is erroneous in almost every statement and detail. In reply to my application some two months ago, the use of a pond, when it was fit for skating, was secured, on the understanding that a charge of admission should be made, and the proceeds devoted to the soup kitchen. When the subject was first brought up in committee, the question was asked about using the pond on Sundays, whereupon almost every member present expressed himself against the adoption of such a course. As no one, except the gentleman who made the inquiry, spoke a word in favour of Sunday skating, it was expected that no action would be taken contrary to the express wishes of the committee, and yet, without further consultation or permission, and in spite of the reiterated disapproval both of the treasurer and secretary on Saturday night, arrangements were made for using the pond, and making the usual charge on Sunday afternoon. At the conclusion of a children's service I heard what was going on, and proceeded at once to the pond (there were no churchwardens with me, as you allege) and told the man, who has hitherto managed for us on week days, that collecting money on behalf of the soup kitchen on Sundays was a distinct violation of the understanding at which the committee had arrived, and that, under the circumstances, he must return the money to those who had taken tickets, and so relieve us of all responsibility with regard to the matter. All you say about beating a hasty retreat amid groans and yells, &c., is pure fiction.—Yours faithfully, J. KING,

Chairman of the Relief Committee.

Crook, February 9th, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—In yesterday's issue, I observed Rector King's letter respecting the paragraph which appeared in the previous day's paper. Not being one of the coterie of the soup kitchen management, I'm unable to deal with the Rector's statement anent the non-Sunday skating arrangement; but, as regards the actual facts of last Sunday's affair, I beg to submit the following:—Your correspondent probably understood that Mr Helmesley, who accompanied his "reverence," was churchwarden; hence your mistake. Mr Joel, relieving officer, another henchman, says he did not want to go to the pond, and was pressed into the service by Mr Lester. This quartette visited the pond. If the statement about the groans, &c., is fiction, as the Rector asserts, let him call a public meeting of those who were on the pond, and if they say there were no groans, your reporter will certify the fact.—Yours, OBSERVER.

DEAR SIR,—I seldom notice anonymous correspondence, even when my name is introduced, but I feel that some statement of this case is now due from me. When the subject was discussed by the Soup Kitchen Committee, I expressed myself clearly against Sunday skating, but observed that as some were likely in any case to make use of the pond, perhaps it would be as well to take money from them on behalf of the soup kitchen. Of course this was my own personal view, but as a majority of the meeting was evidently of a contrary opinion, I was in favour of their wish being carried out. Although I might not have gone to the pond of my own accord to stop the collection of fees, I have never said that I "was pressed into the service of Mr Lister." That gentleman did ask me to accompany him and Mr King (whom we happened to meet), and I did so, and am therefore, with them, equally responsible for the action that was taken. What is here said with regard to Mr Helmesley is also a mistake. He did not accompany any of us either to or from the pond, and took no part in the affair whatever. I beg to corroborate Mr King's statement with respect to 'groans, &c." Certainly no such sounds reached our ears.—Yours faithfully, J. JOEL.

Crook, Feb. 13th, 1886.

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rate, by ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

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

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional, Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, BARCLAY AND SONS, London, and all the Wholesale Houses.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM AND THE WHITE CROSS ARMY.

The Right Rev Dr Lightfoot, Lord Bishop of Durham, spoke at Bishop Auckland at the first meeting of a series to be held in the North in furtherance of the White Cross movement. His Lordship said it was not his intention to detain them with many words. They had heard him again and again on this and kindred subjects; but he was particularly anxious to be present that evening for two reasons—first, that he wanted to introduce two friends who had been kind enough to come a great distance. Secondly, because that day was, they might say, the birthday of the White Cross Army movement. It was just three years ago since the movement was inaugurated in that very room. (Applause.) In Australia, in America, wherever the English language was spoken, and in places where the English language was not spoken—(applause)—this movement had thrown out its branches. But they would not have to rest satisfied with this. They were only just at the beginning of their work; for far more remained to be done than had been done. Even in the county of Durham, where the movement originated, large regions were still untouched. He wanted them to remember that they, as members of that branch, occupied a peculiar position. To all of them it should be a matter for thankfulness that God had placed them in the position—that three years ago they were the first to raise the standard of the White Cross. (Applause.) That was a magnificent position; it was a position of glory; but it was also one of responsibility. They preached to others; but what if they should be found castaways! They led the van; it would never do, therefore, to show craven hearts or nerveless hands. (Applause.) The addition to the army signified an increase of strength, and so they bade their new recruits a hearty welcome to work shoulder to shoulder in the great and glorious cause. If they would only look to themselves they would see how all important this must be. The building up of character was everything; and he would have them reflect what part this movement must have in building up character. With regard to the character of a man in this crusade against sin and Satan, it was the key to the position. This virtue, and its counterpart vice, lay at the very citadel of the heart and conscience. Impurity was the fatal mother of a hateful progeny, amongst which were disease and death. Impurity was fatal to truth, honour, and self-respect, and of respect for others; and no nation could survive widespread profligacy. He appealed to them not only as reasonable men, but before all things as Christians and as patrotic Englishmen. (Applause.) As Christians let them remember that every man and woman was the son and daughter of God, and in every man and woman the personality of God's image was stamped, and it was their most holy duty to respect that image in themselves and others, and not be guilty of sacrilege in marring that image of God in any respects. As patriotic Englishmen, let them note that licentiousness must work the ruin of every country. This huge wrong, as again and again demonstrated in the pages of history, eat like a cancer on the national heart. (Applause.) No nation would survive a widespread profligacy, for purity was all-essential to the vigour of the national life; but there could not be purity in the nation without purity in the nation's homes, and there could not be purity in the nation's homes without purity in the hearts of the individual members of those homes. Thus they came back to the original text, "Take heed to thyself, keep thyself pure." (Applause.)

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Rheumatic gout are the most dreaded of all diseases, because their victims know that they are safe at no season, and at no age secure. Holloway's Ointment, after fomentation of the painful parts gives greater relief than any other application; but it must be diligently used to obtain this desirable result. It has been highly commended by rheumatic subjects of all ages and of both sexes, for rendering their attacks less frequent and less vigorous, and for repressing the sour prespirations and soothing the nerves. In many cases, Holloway's Ointment and Pills have proved the greatest blessings in removing rheumatism and rheumatic gout which has assailed persons previously and at the prime of life.

RETURNS OF PAUPERISM.—On Saturday, the comparative statement of pauperism for 1885 was issued by the Local Government Board, and is of special interest at this time, in view of the present condition of the unemployed. A comparison of the total number of paupers in receipt of relief at the end of 1883, 1884, and 1885 respectively, shows that the number of paupers had increased in 1885, as compared with 1884, by 19,807, or 2·7 per cent., and as compared with 1883 by 28,774, or 4·0 per cent. The number in England and Wales at the end of 1885 was 743,478. The very large increase in the pauperism of the Northern Division (comprising Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmoreland) has now somewhat abated, there being at the end of the Christmas quarter, 1885, 3,052 fewer paupers than there were at the end of the same quarter in 1884. Comparing, however, the number of persons in receipt of relief in this division at the end of the Christmas quarter, 1885, with the corresponding period of 1883, there was an increase of 6,332, or 17·3 per cent. As to the paupers in the metropolis in receipt of relief, it appears that the number was higher at the end of 1885 than in 1884 by 861, or 0·9 per cent., and higher than in 1883 by 2,866, or 3·1 per cent.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & CO., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent." While Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease.'

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

HEXHAM DIVISION LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—The first annual meeting of the above association was held in the Town Hall, Hexham, on Saturday, Mr Thos. Taylor, of Chipchase Castle, presiding. There were between twenty and thirty persons present, including Mr M. MacInnes, M.P.—Mr R. Stainthorpe, secretary *pro tem*, read his report, which referred to the need of more polling districts.—The Chairman moved the adoption of the report, and spoke of the gratitude they owed to Mr MacInnes for coming forward to contest this division.—Mr T. P. Dods (Hexham) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.—Mr Taylor was re-elected president, and the following vice-presidents were elected:—Sir C. E. Trevelyan, Lord Northbourne, Sir Edward W. Blackett, Mr W. B. Beaumont, Col. F. Beaumont, Mr Wentworth C. B. Beaumont, Mr G. O. Trevelyan, M.P., Mr John Rogerson, Mr J. C. Stevenson, M.P., Mr G. A. Fenwick, Mr O. C. Wallis, Mr J. Joicey, M.P., Mr J. W. Pease, Mr T. J. Bewick, Mr W. W. Parker, Hon W. H. James, M.P., Mr W. Robb, Mr M. MacInnes, M.P., Mr J. Armstrong, and Mr C. Riddell.—Mr S. Pattison seconded the motion, and was carried *nem. dis.*—Mr J. W. Pease was appointed hon. treasurer, and Mr R. Stainthorpe was elected secretary; the Chairman being appointed to confer with the chairman and officials of the Tyneside Association as to the question of combining in the matter of the secretary's salary, to see what each association could afford to give and to arrange how the salary was to be divided.—It was decided that the executive council should be formed on the basis of one representative for every 500 electors, each polling district being entitled to send one or more representatives to the council according to the number of its electors.—On the motion of Mr Dods, it was resolved that, as soon as the council was elected, they should set to work to ascertain what funds they could raise.—In reply to Mr J. Lisle, Hexham, it was stated by the Chairman that there was some £39 to be placed to the credit of the associotion, which had been handed over to this division as its proportion from the balance remaining over from the sum that was raised to pay the election expenses of Mr Clay, when he contested North Northumberland.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

Football.

FIXTURES.

Feb. 20.—Medomsley v. Jarrow Swifts, at Jarrow.
" 20.—South Moor v. Cornsay, at Cornsay.
" 20.—Dipton Rovers v. Shotley Bridge, at Dipton.
" 20.—Elswick Ordnance 1st and 2nd v. Tanfield Lea 1st and 2nd, at Tanfield Lea.
" 27.—Consett v. Henderson's Wanderers, at Blackhill.
" 27.—Tantobie v. West End, at West End.
" 27.—Medomsley v. Middlesbrough Swifts, at Middlesbrough.
" 27.—South Moor v. Edmondsley, at Edmondsley.
" 27.—Beamish v. Gateshead Association, at West Pelton.
" 27.—Crookgate Rovers v. Catchgate Red Stars, at Catchgate.
" 27.—Tanfield Lea 1st and 2nd v. S.S. Mary and James 1st and 2nd, at Tanfield Lea.
Mar. 6.—Tanfield Lea 1st v. Beamish and District 1st, at Tanfield Lea.
" 6.—Tanfield Lea Juniors v. Greencroft Juniors, at Tanfield Lea.
" 6.—Medomsley 2nd v. Tanfield 2nd, at Tanfield Lea.
" 13.—Tanfield Lea 1st v. Prudhoe Rovers 1st, at Tanfield Lea.

WYLAM v. CATHEDRAL.—Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, when the home team won a pleasant game by 2 goals to one.

CHESTER-LE-STREET v. CHESTER MOOR (A.).—Played on the ground of the former on Wednesday afternoon, and resulted in a victory for the home team by five goals to one. The home team played with five substitutes.

PELTON FELL HARRIERS 2ND v. WALDRIDGE WHITE STAR 1ST TEAM.—These clubs tried conclusions on the ground of the latter on Saturday, before a good number of spectators. A pleasant game resulted in a win for the visitors by two goals to one.

PRUDHOE ROVERS (JUNIORS) v. CHEVIOTS.—Played on the ground of the former, in the third round of the junior cup competition, and resulted in each team obtaining a goal. The Cheviots objected to the Rovers obtaining their goal on the plea of "off side." The referee's decision was one goal each.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—We hear that the forthcoming football match between the "Upstreeters" and "Downstreeters" at Chester-le-Street on Shrove Tuesday is this year likely to be one of the most popular ever played in the locality. Through the exertions of Mr Joseph Murray, several first-class players intend taking part.

CROOKGATE ROVERS *v.* SOUTH MOOR BAD PLAYERS.—Crookgate journeyed to South Moor on Saturday to play their return match with the Bad Players. The visitors' winning the toss elected to play down-hill. The home team kicking off, the visitors soon got possession of the ball, and scored their goal by James Harrison four minutes from the start, and before half-time had been called the rovers had scored two more goals—Dewyer (capt.) and "Mousie" one each. Ends being changed, the visitors soon scored their last goal by "Mousie." South Moor now scored a goal, and later on scored again. Time being called shortly afterwards, the visitors were hailed victors by four goals to two. It is only fair to state that the Rovers were assisted by four juniors, but were able to hold their own against their bigger and rougher opponents, who were taught a lesson.

HEXHAM ROVERS v. CONSETT 2ND.—The return match between these clubs was played at Hexham on Saturday, on the Seal, in two periods of 35 minutes each. Consett played with the wind in their favour during the first thirty minutes, but so even was the game that at the change of ends neither side had scored anything. The Rovers won a stoutly-contested game by two ties to one touch down for Consett. Teams:—Hexham Rovers: E. Kearney, back; J. J. McIntyre, J. Maughan, and R. Brown, three-quarter backs; A. Black and R. Banks, half backs; Isaac Baty (captain), J. Robinson, W. Coulson, W. Jewitt, T. G. Robson, R. Bainbridge, T. Scott, W. Allcroft, and M. Green, forwards. Consett: F. Moss, back; R. Howells, J. R. Richards, and J. Struthers, three-quarter backs; W. Gibson and J. Askew (captain), half backs; J. Jackson, A. Struthers, J. Fittis, A. Wilson, T. Richley, H. Davis, C. Dibley, L. Taggart, and J. Kempster, forwards. Umpires: Consett, Mr C. Routledge; Rovers, Mr T. J. White, Tynedale Football Club. Referee, Mr W. Farthing.

A SUGGESTION FOR CRICKETERS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Seeing that cricket is taking such root in the district, why not select a team from the surrounding clubs—viz., Medomsley, Consett, Tanfield, &c.—from which a strong team might be selected, and then arrange for good matches, which would serve as an incentive to all who love the game? We have cricketers in the district quite capable of competing against some clubs of renown. A committee from these clubs might be formed in order that they may arrange for a team. Hoping you will publish this in your next issue.—I am, &c., A CRICKETER.

Sporting Items.

LOCAL HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.—Braes of Derwent Foxhounds—Sat., Feb. 20, Shotley Bridge—10·30. North Durham Foxhounds—Fri., Feb. 19, Byers Garth; Mon., 22, Lanchester; Wed., 24, Cocken; Fri., 26, South Hetton—10·45.

SPARROW SHOOTING AT CONSETT.—On Saturday afternoon, the sparrow shooting sweep promoted by Mr John Morgan, Number One Grounds, Consett, was commenced, with the following result:—John Carnon, 1 0 0; J. M., 1 1 0; J. M., 0; C. Carr, 1 0 0; J. M. (second lot), 1 0. The sweep is left open.

WRESTLING NEAR PRUDHOE.—The fourth competition for a silver cup for 9st men (given by Mr Tulip), was brought off at Half-way House, Prudhoe, on Saturday evening. In the final falls, T. Cameron, Prudhoe, threw J. Hurst, Prudhoe, twice and won.—The youths' wrestling was won by P. Carruthy, Prudhoe; J. Carr, of Prudhoe, being second. Umpires, Messrs J. Frazer and C. Robson.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT THE SPEN.—G. Hewison's handicap was resumed on Saturday, in a field adjoining R. Browell's, Miners' Arms, Spen Colliery, with 47 entries. Owing to darkness setting in, at the end of the seventh round those left standing agreed to divide. A. Spears and G. Hewison acted as trapper and scorekeeper, and J. Robson as referee.—£2 was deposited in the hands of R. Browell to bind a match between Bryce Lockey, Winlaton Mill, and T. Leybourn, Spen, to shoot a match at pigeons, on March 13th, at Eslington Park, for £20 a-side. A further deposit is to be made on the 27th, at the Miners' Arms, Spen Colliery.

RABBIT COURSING AT TOW LAW.—A rabbit coursing sweep, promoted by Jos. Carrick, took place near J. Maddison's, Miners' Arms, Tow Law, on Saturday, and notwithstanding that snow is lying to a considerable depth, there was a fair attendance, but the coursing was in consequence far from satisfactory. Results:—Anderson's Plunger, 17½, beat Kirkup's Shy Boy, 17½; Moore's Pet Lamb, 16, beat Kirkup's Shy Boy, second lot; Burdess's Busy Bee, 16½, beat Anderson's Plunger, second lot; Moore's Pet Lamb, second lot, beat Thompson's Miss Banks, 17½. Second round—Pet Lamb beat Plunger, Busy Bee beat Pet Lamb. Final—Pet Lamb beat Bury Bee. J. Carrick was judge, H. J. Dixon pistol-firer.—A match, one course, at a rabbit afterwards took place, in which Plunger decisively beat Shy Boy.

LINTZ GROUNDS.—There was a numerous attendance at these grounds on Saturday, to witness the preliminary heats of Messrs Turnbull and Cawthorn's 110 yards £7 10s handicap. The following runners won their heats:—Hugh Magee, Leadgate, 18½; G. Wilson, Durham, 10; J. Farrage, Spen, 18; T. Brown, Dipton, 17½; T. Young, Blaydon, 11½; W. Baldwin, Leeds, 9; G. Glendinning, Leazes, 16½; H. McClean, Dunston, 15½; R. Sherwood, Blaydon, 13½; Eadington, Gateshead, 15; H. Oliver, Winlaton, 13; J. Haggerstone, Leadgate, 17½; J. Snaith, Leadgate, 17; J. Robinson, Hedworth, 14; A. Bell, Stanley, 14½; G. Cummings, Newcastle, 12½. The following is the result of the draw for the finals, to be run on Saturday first:—Heat 1—Hugh Morgan, T. Brown, T. Young, G. Glendinning. Heat 2—J. Haggesstone, Eadington, H. McClean, A. Bell. Heat 3—W. Baldwin, J. Robinson, R. Sherwood. J. Snaith. Heat 4—J. Wilson, J. Farrage, G. Cummings, H. Oliver.

SATLEY COURSING MEETING.

Judge, Mr Richardson; slipper, N. Smailes.

This meeting was held over the Broomshields land on Wednesday, by the kind permission of Mr John Greenwell, the owner of the estate, who, however, is at present absent from England. Few gatherings have had to encounter greater difficulties than the meeting under notice sustained. The hard weather and the covering of snow on the land, which intensely surprised all those who had journeyed up from the valleys, where every vestige of the wintry element had long since disappeared, had driven both hares, rabbits, and feathered game down into the sheltered regions. The meet was at the Punch Bowl Inn, at Satley, and a commencement was made in dull weather at nine o'clock, the company present being decidedly "select." For three hours the fields were tramped, and then when at length the two dogs were sent on their journey the slip was such a long one, and the hare was such a demon to travel that the poor benumbed greyhounds never got near her, and Mr Richardson gave a no course. Back to slips at once went the dogs, and fortunately a hare turned up quickly and saved the company from a further trial being put upon their temper. The courses came slowly, however, and at length once down the first stake was reported. Three courses in the second stake had been secured when Witty Boy and Quicksilver II were put in, and these two unfortunates, having been close upon two hours in the slips, darkness set in, and they were taken out. The running requires no comment. Mr Richardson rode and judged exceedingly well under trying circumstances. Results:—

HALL HILL STAKES, for eight greyhounds, at £2 10s each. Winner, £11; second, £3.

Mr Morris's Envy, by Freeman's Hope—Rosy Cross, beat Mr Oliver's nomination.
Mr Brownless's bk w b Bonny Bell, by Birtley—Little Wonder, beat Mr Hamilton's bk b Toft Hill Mountain, by Young Whorlton—Dorothy.
Mr Kitchen's bk wb Border Home (late Heckle), by Pathfinder—Hush, beat Mr Nicholson's nomination.
Mr Mosey's bd d Daylight, by Hanlan—Violet, beat Mr Elliott's ns bk w b Bedtick II, by Lord Oddy—Miss Kate.

SATLEY STAKES, for ten greyhounds at £1 5s each. First dog, £6 10s; second, £3 10s.

Mr Athey's f d King Dick, by Manor House Boy—Tantobie Lass, beat Mr Irvine's w d Gunner, by Birtley—Sister of Mercy.
Mr Duffy's w f d p Orphan Boy, by Coburg—Bessie Brown, beat Mr Marley ns f w d p Frog Eater, by Young Frenchman—Let Her Get There.
Mr Morris's Pandora Bird, by Ptarmigan—dam by Bothal Park, beat Mr Cusson's w be d Cousin Roger, by Sir Roger—British Dale.

Mr Wear's r w d Witty Boy, by Dublin Deeds—Dolly Varden, agst Mr Smith's w bd b Quicksilver II—pedigree unknown.
Mr Wilkinson's f w b Whin Blossom II, by Durham Ox—Lill, agst Mr Allison's bk w b p College Girl, by Arkwright—Polly.

Stakes divided.

THE CONSETT PUBLIC PARK SCHEME.

Last Friday afternoon, a joint meeting (as briefly announced in the second edition of this journal) of the members of the Consett and Benfieldside Local Boards took place at the Public Buildings, Parliament Street, Consett, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P., Chairman of the Consett Local Board. The meeting was specially convened for the consideration of the Blue Mountains Public Park and Recreation Ground question. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs J. Collinson, T. Siddell, Richard Murray, J. W. Davison, Wm. Aynsley, T. Dunne, A. E. Turner, J. Eltringham, J. Dowson, J. Palliser, H. Carss, Rev F. Steggall, J. Booth (Clerk to the Bnnfieldside Board), and T. W. Welford (Clerk to the Consett Board).

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr RICHARD MURRAY, seconded by Mr W. AYNSLEY:—

"That the agreement for the lease of the proposed Park and Recreation Ground having been satisfactory settled between the Consett Iron Company and the Consett and Benfieldside Boards, and that the two Local Boards take steps to have the same sealed and completed as soon as practicable."

The CHAIRMAN undertook, on behalf of the Consett Iron Company, when the agreement was settled by the two Boards, that the Company would take steps to give actual possession as soon as the existing tenancies could be determined.

Accordingly, on the motion of Mr CARSS, seconded by Mr TURNER, the foregoing announcement was ordered to be entered on the minute book.

Mr R. MURRAY proposed, and Mr T. SIDDELL seconded:—

"That this meeting recommends each Board, at its next meeting, to appoint four members to act as Park Committee, the Chairman of each Board to be *ex officio* member, for the pupose of preparing a code of regulations to be enforced in the Recreation Ground, a copy of such bye-laws to be submitted to the Boards for approval; also the Committee were authorised to make all such other arrangements as may be deemed necessary."

It was furthermore agreed, on the proposal of Mr MURRAY, seconded by Mr COLLINSON:—

"That a hearty vote of thanks be given to the Consett Iron Company for tneir handsome offer of 22 acres of land for a Park for Consett and Blackhill."

Afterwards, Mr DAVISON moved, and Mr AYNSLEY seconded:—

"That a copy of the minutes of this meeting be sent to the Directors of the Consett Iron Company.

After a protracted meeting, the members dispersed after according a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Jenkins for his services.

The *Newcastle Chronicle* says:—"It may be taken that the question of a public park for Consett has been settled. At a meeting held yesterday (Friday), a resolution was adopted accepting the terms of the agreement upon which the Consett Iron Company expressed willingness to dispose of the ground and two roads required. The rest, chiefly a matter of detail, will no doubt be brought to as satisfactory a termination. The inhabitants of Consett may, therefore, be congratulated in anticipation upon their proper spirit of enterprise, resulting in the possession of a pleasant and healthy resort, to be, no doubt, appreciated by them with the same keen sense of relish, as similar recreation grounds have been elsewhere."

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.

FLORILINE!—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke, "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicate to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, 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 Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills 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 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road London.

Original Poetry.

THE WILLOW BESIDE THE STREAM.

Cut in the willow beside the stream
Many a long, long year ago;
Carved in the noon of a golden dream
Dreamed and dispelled in a transient throe.
One little word that was sweet to my ears;
One simple name often written in tears,
Cut in the bark and distorted with years,
On the willow beside the stream.

Oft by the willow at eve we stood;
Ah! how the years have dawned and flown;—
Gone like the flowers that sailed on the flood
Out of her hand to its bosom thrown.
What of the vows that she gave to me there?
What of the hope that was once so fair?
Are they not hovering yet in the air,
'Neath the willow beside the stream?

Deep in the willow I carved her name;
Ah! it is twisted and blurred to-day.
Never again to the stream we came;
Far o'er the ocean I sailed away.
Joy has beguiled me with magic wand;
Sorrow has touched me with marble hand;
Wrinkled and grey and alone I stand
By the willow beside the stream.

Ah! can it be that, a youth, I stood,
Carving her name in that year gone by,
While her hand scattered the flowers on the flood,
Far down the valley to ride and die.
Ah! my last sleep would be calm and blest
If in this nook that my heart loves best—
I might be laid to my endless rest,
Near the willow beside the stream.

JOHN ROWELL-WALLER.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

On Wednesday night, the monthly meeting was held at the Bank Buildings at Shotley Bridge, under the chairmanship of Mr James Annandale, J.P. The following were the members in attendance:—Messrs A. E. Turner, W. Wilson, J. Lax, J. Dowson, J. Eltringham, H. Carss, the deputy-clerk (Mr J. G. Murray), and the surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

THE CONSETT PARK.

The minutes of the proceedings of the joint meetings of the Consett and Benfieldside Local Boards having been read, the agreement entered into between the two Boards and the Consett Iron Company, relative to the lease of 23 acres of ground abutting Pasture Drift Road for recreative purposes, which has received the sanction of the two Boards, was formally submitted, and on the proposition of Mr CARSS, seconded by Mr TURNER, was ordered to be sealed by that Board.

Regarding the suggested appointment of four gentlemen to act as Park Committee, Mr DOWSON understood that something was said at the Consett meeting that the Local Board elections should be over before the formation of such a Committee.

Mr ELTRINGHAM affirmed that it was unnecessary to wait till then, as the Committee would have to be re-appointed at the proper time, when the rest of the Committees were chosen.

Mr CARSS suggested that the members should be in the Blackhill district, as they were mostly interested in the park scheme; but Mr ELTRINGHAM thought it only right, as the Shotley Bridge people would have to bear a portion of the expense, that they should have a voice in the matter by having representatives on the Committee.

Ultimately, Mr DOWSON proposed that the Park Committee consist of the following gentlemen, viz:—Messrs Eltringham, Turner, Wilson, and Murray, with the Chairman as *ex-officio* member.

Mr LAX seconded, the motion was carried.

MORE LIGHT.

As the lighting season is practically drawing to a close, the Surveyor was informed that he need not hurry on with the erection of the lamp at the corner of Dixon Street, Blackfine.

Mr LAX suggested that an additional lamp should be placed along Snow's Green Road, nearly opposite to the residence of Mr Booth; and Mr CARSS and Mr ELTRINGHAM thought that the whole question of re-arranging the lamps should be considered before the next winter. The latter gentleman expressed an opinion in favour of the erection of a Bray's lamp at the corner of the Rose and Crown Inn, Derwent Street, Blackhill, if they could only come to an understanding with the Consett Board. As such a boon would dispense with two lamps in the Consett district and one in the Benfieldside district, the Consett Board would, of course, have to bear two-thirds of the cost.

Mr CARSS said that the Consett Board would probably accept such a proposal; and Mr Carss was authorised to notify to the Consett Board, when the question again cropped up, that the Benfieldside Board were favourable to the idea.

THE BRIDGE NEAR THE SLONKS.

In reply to the Clerk's letter of the 22nd ult., making an offer of that Board to repair and maintain the portion of the highroad crossing the bridge at Shotley at the same rate per yard as was charged for the rest of the main roads in the Local Board's district, Mr Crozier, the county surveyor, wrote that he had engaged for the Lanchester Highway Board to give up the contract, and he would report the same to his Committee, and have their approval of the transfer of the contract to that Board. The present contract would expire on the 13th May next.

The Clerk was instructed to remind Mr Crozier of his promise before that date.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Appended is the Surveyor's (Mr Dixon) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month, I have not been able to get any limestone laid on to your roads, on account of the hard weather. We have had the snow-plough out, and part snow-cutting has been done in several parts of your district. Also, a portion of the roads have been scraped when the weather would allow.

I have seen the Gas Company's agent with regard to erecting an extra lamp in Dixon Street, Blackfine. He has promised to carry out the Committee's report on this matter as soon as the weather will allow.

During the month, the drinking fountain at Blackhill has been broken, the cause, no doubt, being the very severe frost we have had lately.

Several times during the month I have had to lay ashes on your main roads and footpaths, on account of them being covered with ice.

The new trough placed at the Bridge Hill watering place has been broken by some evil disposed person or persons throwing stones at it, the marks of the stones being quite visible. I have failed to gather any information about this damage.

I have collected and paid to treasurer during the month the following sum:—General district rate, £59 11s 0d.

I have prepared an estimate for the next half-year's rate, which has been duly laid before your Finance Committee. They will report on this matter.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, JOHN DIXON.

Shotley Bridge, Feb. 17th, 1886.

The Surveyor believed that a new top would be required for the drinking trough.

Accordingly, the Board empowered him to have the drinking trough repaired, and to ascertain, if possible, the miscreant who had done the damage.

THE NUISANCE AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE: A SLIGHT SKIRMISH.

The Surveyor stated that the notice he served on Mr Brown expired on the 15th inst., but the weather had hardly been favourable for carrying out the requisite alterations.

The analysis of the sample of water submitted to Mr Stock by Mr Dixon, on the 22nd ult., was received from the County Analyst, who gave a digest of the composition of the liquid, which contained 572½ grains of solid matter per gallon. It was, in his opinion, simply raw sewerage—(laughter)—more or less diluted with sewer water, probably less; but he could find no other name to apply to it than "raw sewerage."

The CHAIRMAN: The analyst speaks to the point.

Mr CARSS: We have not yet found out where the sewage comes from.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Nay, nay; we have already settled where the stuff came from.

Mr CARSS (to Mr Eltringham): *You* did.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Yes; and the Committee were perfectly satisfied as to the cause of the nuisance, and it is high time it was stopped. This state of things has existed for years and years. There has twice been fever in Mr Coulson's house, and no doubt this stench was the origin of it.

The CHAIRMAN (to the Surveyor): Was this sample taken from the same place as the previous one?

The Surveyor: Yes, sir.

A suggestion was made that the minute be carried forward, as the notice would remain in force for six months; but Mr ELTRINGHAM urged that the Surveyor should be empowered to see that the work was carried out as speedily as possible. It might not be the proper time for cementing, but the excavating could be done now, and the clay put in as soon as convenient. That would prevent the nuisance from entering Mr Coulson's premises.

The Surveyor explained that Mr Brown was removing his water-closet from the main building, and erecting it further this way.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: We ought not to be satisfied with the removal of the water-closet. We want the improvements completed so that the nuisance will not occur again. The Sanitary Committee recommended certain works to be carried out, and we ought to see that this is done according to instructions, and to the satisfaction of our Surveyor. If Mr Brown does not execute the alterations, we must do the work ourselves, and charge him with the expense.

Mr CARSS (sarcastically): There is one redeeming feature, if this latter course is resorted to. Before the Board can take these proceedings, Mr Brown will obtain a fair hearing before the magistrates, and then we shall get a little common sense thrown upon the question.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I think there has been plenty of common sense talked already, as well as a great deal of nonsense. You told us distinctly that this stuff was pure water; but the analyst's report does not show it to be quite so pure as you imagined.

Mr CARSS: This is not the same sample as went astray.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: It's taken from the same place.

The Surveyor in answer to the Chairman, stated that Mr Brown was not carrying out the instructions embodied in his notice, but he considered the present alterations would effect an improvement.

Mr CARSS observed that Mr Brown was wishful to do all he could to carry out the recommendations of the Board to abate the nuisance.

Mr ELTRINGHAM was perfectly satisfied that Mr Brown was not particularly anxious to do away with the nuisance, else it would not have existed for so long. He (Mr Eltringham) was quite sure that if he had occupied the premises, he would not have allowed this state of things to have existed without devising some remedy. As a member of the Sanitary Committee, he did not wish to go to that place again amid such an abominable stench. They must have the nuisance remedied once and for all. It was a waste of labour calling meetings together time after time.

Mr CARSS stated that the notice would run on for six months.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Yes; but I think we must not allow it to go on in this way for another six months.

Mr CARSS: I don't think Mr Eltringham will be satisfied until he gets the water-closet carved and gilded. (Laughter.)

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I think Mr Carss has no right to talk about carving and gilding. The Medical Officer, the Inspector, and the Sanitary Committee were satisfied that a nuisance existed, and they were just as capable as Mr Carss of ascertaining the source of the nuisance and discussing the question. Mr Carss came and told us at the last meeting that the sewage was pure water. I object to it on principle——

Mr CARSS (interrupting): Mr Chairman, I certainly object to Mr Eltringham fathering such an assertion upon me—putting words into my mouth.

Mr ELTRINGHAM (warmly): You said in the presence of witnesses that it was pure water. Your own common sense——

Mr CARSS: I don't want you to dictate to me about common sense, as I think I have got quite as much as you.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said it was no good for Mr Carss to bounce about common sense when he talked about "raw sewage" being nothing but pure water.

At this juncture the CHAIRMAN interposed by saying that the members had wandered away from the subject under review—(Mr LAX: Hear, hear.) Mr Brown was carrying out certain alterations, and the Surveyor must see that the instructions of the Board were adhered to.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month, I have inspected your district several times. I find several ashpits full. Owing to the severe snowstorm, the people have not been able to get the refuse carted away. I hope to be able to get them all cleaned up shortly.

The Consett Iron Company are progressing with the erection of spouts at their property. Mr Raw has promised to have his put up by May next.

Mr Surtees's plan has been stamped and returned to him. Mr Jolliffe's plans have been returned to him with a copy of the Committee's report respecting them.

As instructed by the Board at last meeting, I served a notice on Mr W. Brown, of Front Street, Shotley Bridge. I consulted with Mr Booth with regard to this notice. I filled it in according to his instructions, stating what alteration the Board required to be done to abate this nuisance. Mr Brown has commenced to make some alterations to his premises. He intends to remove his water-closet from the place it now stands in, and place it in a portion of his garden.

I took a sample of liquid from Mr Coulson's house, in the presence of a respectable witness, on the 2nd February, 1886, and sent it to Mr Stock, the county analyst. His report is now laid before you.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, JOHN DIXON.

Shotley Bridge, Feb. 17th, 1886.

The report was adopted.

FINANCIAL.

The Finance Committee recommended the payment of Surveyor's monthly pay-bill, amounting to £86 14s 11d; the Gas Company's account, £109 1s; and a small account, the whole representing a total of £198 17s 5d.

This was agreed to, and cheques ordered to be signed.

THE HALF-YEAR'S ESTIMATE.

The Finance Committee also reported as below:—

The following estimate supplied by the Surveyor was examined, and the Committee having approved of it, recommend the Board to pass the same, and to order a rate of 1s in the pound for the ensuing six months. The estimated cost of roads, &c., was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Establishment charges	125	0	0
Roads, footpaths, and other expenses	659	17	6
Total	£784	17	6
Full rateable value on houses, £8,286 10s, will realise	414	16	6
One-fourth on land, £643 10s	32	3	6
Three-fourths on houses, £3,699	184	19	0
Half-cost of main roads	165	0	0
Total	£796	9	0

The Committee further recommended that the Board, at its rising, adjourn for 14 days, when a special meeting will be held for the purpose of sealing the rate.

Mr CARSS proposed, and Mr WILSON seconded, that a general district rate of 1s in the pound be levied to meet the expenditure during the forthcoming half-year.

Agreed to.

THE COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION.

The CHAIRMAN read the circular from Mr P. Cunliffe-Owen (already published in the *Guardian*) relative to the forthcoming Colonial and Indian Exhibition of Industries to be held in London this next summer, and likewise the report of a public meeting held at Wells in explanation of the object.

Mr CARSS thought it was a matter for the public to take up rather than the Board.

Mr LAX considered the subject hardly within the province of that Board.

Mr ELTRINGHAM pointed out that as the object was really to benefit the public, and as the secretary considered the Board the proper authority to inaugurate proceedings, it was the duty of that Board to call a public meeting of those interested.

The CHAIRMAN said the Prince of Wales was taking a great deal of trouble in the matter. He (the Chairman) would be happy to place his services at the disposal of the Board.

Mr CARSS promised, as a member of the School Board, to try and obtain the use of the schools at Benfieldside Edge free for the purpose of holding a public meeting.

It was decided to leave the subject in the hands of the Chairman and the Clerk.

PLAN.

A plan for a wooden cart-shed for Mr W. Wilson, grocer, of Shotley Bridge, was, on the motion of Mr LAX, approved by the Board.

THE CRICKETERS AND THE NEW PARK.

A communication was read from Mr W. Ramsay, secretary to the Consett and District Cricket Club, wherein he enumerated several reasons why the Board should assist the club in retaining the use of the field at Blackhill for the purposes of playing cricket thereon.

Mr CARSS said the Board ought to be in possession of the ground before they could decide any such question as this.

The CHAIRMAN and Mr ELTRINGHAM suggested that the matter be referred to the Park Committee.

This was carried.

PREPARING FOR THE ELECTION.

It was announced that the four members retiring by rotation this year were the Chairman, and Messrs Eltringham, Lax, and Wheatley.

The CHAIRMAN declining to act as Returning Officer, Mr Booth (clerk) was appointed in his stead, and was authorised to carry out the election, revise the registers, and procure the necessary assistance.

Mr DOWSON thought it would be a wise plan if a contest could be avoided this year.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I should just think so.

Mr LAX: It will save the ratepayers £20.

Mr DOWSON (jocularly): I think we had better pass a resolution electing the four old members. (Laughter.)

Mr ELTRINGHAM (humorously): If you can manage that it will save us a lot of bother. (More laughter.)

Mr CARSS: This will probably be the last election. I expect the County Government Scheme will do away with all this trouble every year.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Will you get better men in our places? (Laughter.)

Mr CARSS said they should adopt the School Board plan, and elect the members every three years. It cost as much to conduct an election for four members every year as it would do to elect the whole Board once in three years.

Mr LAX: If you pass the motion, Mr Dowson, it will save no end of trouble.

CARTING THE ROAD MATERIAL.

Mr CARSS proposed that the Surveyor be instructed to advertise for two weeks in the *Guardian* for tenders for carting the road material required by the Board from different parts of the district, the contracts to be submitted and opened at the next meening of the Board. He remarked that the Road's Committee had neglected this duty for some time past, and it would be to the public advantage to have fresh tenders.

Mr LAX and the rest of the members thought it would be best for the Committee to tabulate the various tenders and to lay them before the next ordinary meeting to determine which should be accepted.

Mr CARSS acquiesced, and the motion was adopted.

The Surveyor said the existing contract expired next March.

After transacting one or two unimportant items, the Board adjourned till that day fortnight.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

A monthly meeting was held at Lanchester Union Workhouse on Thursday afternoon in last week, and was presided over by Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. Present: Messrs T. Taylor Smith, W. H. Hedley, Wm. Logan, G. Hobson, J. Buckham, R. W. Shaw, J. Lax, T. J. Muse, J. Collinson, J. A. Curry, W. Cumming, the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), and the sanitary inspector (Mr J. W. Rounthwaite).

ALLEGED POLLUTION OF A STREAM.

The Local Government Board forwarded a copy of a lengthy memorial which had been addressed to them, signed by the leading residents of Lanchester and immediate neighbourhood, complaining of the pollution of the Smallhope Burn, which runs through the village, and asking why the Sanitary Authority had not taken measures to prevent the contamination. The petition described the water in the stream as being unfit for domestic purposes; the pollution destroyed the fish therein, and cattle refused to drink the water.

The CHAIRMAN said the Authority had considered this subject on many occasions.

Mr COLLINSON understood that the last time this question was discussed by the Authority, it was decided that the matter ought to be settled between the Consett Iron Company and the riparian owners.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, and the riparian owners have sent this memorial to the Local Government Board, who ask us why we haven't taken any measures to prevent this alleged pollution. The Chairman proceeded to say that wherever water had been dammed up for a long period, and was suddenly allowed to flow into the stream, it was bound to pollute the water.

Mr LOGAN pointed out that the Authority had no direct information that water which had been dammed up found its way into the Smallhope Burn.

The CHAIRMAN said they must give some reply to the Local Government Board as to why the Authority had not taken action in the matter.

Mr LAX stated they were all agreed that the stream was polluted.

The CHAIRMAN remembered Mr Rounthwaite once reporting to the Authority that the water in the river was detrimental to health.

The Inspector did not think he reported that the water was detrimental to the health of the public; what he stated (he believed) was that it was unfit for washing and cooking purposes.

Mr LAX: Then it is really detrimental to health.

Mr LOGAN read reports which were presented to the Authority a year ago by their Sanitary Inspector, indicating the sources of the alleged pollution—viz., the water from some old drifts in the vicinity of East Castle and Iveston—and winding up by affirming that the rubbish and refuse thrown into the river by the residents of Lanchester also contributed in a great measure to the contamination of the stream itself. He moved that copies of the foregoing reports be sent to the Local Government Board, as the reason the Authority had done nothing in the matter; and also pointing out that the 5th section of the Rivers Pollution Act alone prevented the Authority from taking any proceedings.

The CHAIRMAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

THE JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD AND THE AUTHORITY.

The recommendations of the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board—which were fully published in our columns last week—were laid before the meeting. The Hospital Board resolved to recommend to the Rural Sanitary Authority that a married couple, without encumberance, and not exceeding 45 years of age, be engaged as caretakers of the Hospital, near Leadgate; the man to be under the control of the Rural Sanitary Authority, who should be asked to pay him 20s per week.

Mr COLLINSON objected to the question being considered that day, without due notice being given to every member of the Authority.

After considerable discussion, it was resolved to hold a special meeting that day fortnight to discuss the point, the Clerk being directed to notify each Guardian of the purport of the recommendations.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Rounthwaite) submitted the following report:—

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The contractor made a commencement with the branch sewer at Lanchester on the 2nd inst., but after completing a portion of it was obliged to desist, on the 5th inst., owing to the severe frost prevailing at the time.

No work has been done either at Burnopfield or Catchgate Quarry from the same cause.

The small-pox at West Stanley has not spread beyond the house in which it began. On the 10th inst., there was only one case; there has been one death. The premises in which the disease exists are new—there is plenty of open space round about, and the drains and conveniences are in good order. Disinfectants have been liberally used, though not supplied by this Authority.

Notice (979) was ordered to be served on James Urwin, 8th June last, to provide proper privy and ashpit to houses at Hill Top, Dipton. On the application of Urwin three months' delay was granted, at the expiration of which further correspondence ensued, but nothing has been done to comply with the original notice. The property is practically without conveniences, there being no ashpit, and only a miserably dilapidated wooden privy.

Plans and specification are submitted herewith for the sewerage of Esh (section No. 1)—that is to say, for everything requisite, except the laying-out of the ground at the outlet. This can be taken in hand while the pipe-laying is in progress.

Copy of plan of Dipton outlet tanks supplied herewith, in accordance with your instructions.

No meeting of your Committee has yet been held at Hamsterley Colliery, owing to the unsuitable state of the weather for such visit.

Nuisance notices served during the month	2
Letters written with respect to nuisances, &c.	40
Plan approval notices sent out	—
Plans received and examined	2
Habitation certificates issued	1
Villages and hamlets inspected	10

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE.

Lanchester, February 11th, 1886.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

11th February, 1886.

Your Committee recommend that the plan submitted by the Blaydon District Industrial and Provident Society for three houses, &c., at Burnopfield, be approved; and that the consideration of the plan submitted by Miss Alice Clark for house and shop at Annfield Plain be adjourned until further particulars have been obtained.

NUISANCE NOTICES.

Notice to build privy and ashpit to houses at Hill Top, Dipton, was ordered to be served on James Urwin, the owner.

Notice to re-build five privies and ashpit on the improved model to Eltringham's Houses, Collierley Dykes, Dipton, was ordered to be served on Messrs Eltringham, the owners.

THE ESH SEWERAGE SCHEME.

Plans and specification for Esh sewerage were approved, and tenders ordered to be obtained by next meeting.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The Medical Officers submitted the following reports:—

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.
Eastern District.

GENTLEMEN,—The number of cases of zymotic diseases notified to me during the month amounts to 45, made up as follows, viz:—Scarlatina, 12; whooping cough, 26; measles, 5; small-pox, 2.

Scarlatina is confined to the villages of Tanfield, Dipton, and White-le-Head, and the cases are fairly well isolated.

After a short period of almost complete cessation, whooping cough started afresh about three weeks ago. The majority of the cases occurred in the neighbourhood of Stanley.

The epidemic of measles is practically at an end.

Small-pox was imported into the village of Havanna from Birtley. As well as the surrounding circumstances will permit, every possible care is being taken to prevent the spread of infection.

The mortality is much above the usual average. 37 deaths were registered, being equal to an annual ratio of 26 per 1,000. Only 2 deaths were due to zymotic diseases—viz., small-pox, 1; scarlatina, 1.

I have inspected the out-offices in connection with Eltringham's Houses, Dipton. They are in a dilapidated state, and ought to be attended to at once. I would suggest that they be re-built on the improved model now enforced in the district. Their original construction being faulty, no amount of patching up will put them into a satisfactory sanitary condition.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. BENSON, Medical Officer.

February 11th, 1886.

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.
Medomsley District.

GENTLEMEN,—Mumps and feverish colds are very prevalent; also several cases of measles have come under my notice during the month. Otherwise, the district is very healthy, considering the rough weather we have had lately.

The sanitary condition of the district is very good.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
W. T. BOLTON.

Ebchester Hill, February 10th, 1886.

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.
Lanchester District.

MR CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report, there have been 15 fresh cases of scarlet fever at Esh Winning; 1 at Hedley Hill; 2 cases of whooping cough at Langley Park; and 1 at Ushaw Moor.—I am, Mr Chairman and gentlemen, your obedient servant.
JOHN WILSON.

February 11th, 1886.

The reports were received and adopted, the Authority particularly instructing Dr Benson to use his utmost endeavours to eradicate the small-pox epidemic at West Stanley.

There was no further business.

"RUPTURES."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS 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), Picadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

CLAIM FOR WAGES.—At the Hexham Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, Mary Smith, farm servant, sued W. Robt. Pearson, farmer, Widehaugh, near Hexham, for £2 6s 8d, being two months' wages due to her. Mr T. W. Welford appeared on behalf of the complainant, and Mr L. C. Lockhart defended.—From the evidence, it appeared that the complainant was engaged at Hexham hirings, on the 11th November last, by the defendant, for a term of six months, ending the 13th May next, the sum agreed upon being £7. About the middle of December, however, some disagreement took place between Mrs Pearson and the girl, in consequence of which the girl determined to leave without notice, but being prevented from doing so by her mistress, who pleaded incapability to do the work herself, she gave notice that she would quit the service at the expiration of three months from that time. This she did, and the defendant refused to pay the wages claimed, submitting that the contract was for a period of six months.—The Bench made an order for the payment of the total amount claimed.

"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. 5d. and 1s. boxes.

A SILLY LARK.—*Robert Wilkinson* was charged on remand at the Gateshead County Police Court on Tuesday, before Lord Ravensworth and Mr Jas. Hall, with having stolen some money from Thomas Carr, on the 13th inst., at Blaydon. The prosecutor did not appear, and Mr T. J. Forster, who was instructed for the defence, stated that the money, which had been taken from Carr while he was asleep, had only been taken as a lark, and had been restored.—The case was dismissed.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—The triennial election of seven members to serve on the Stanhope School Board is fixed for the 27th inst. The present members are Dr Livingston, and Messrs Thomas Crawhall, J. Featherston, I. V. Walton, O. Monkhouse, W. Vickers, and George Race. The closing day for nominations was Tuesday, the result being 22 nominations for seven seats. The following have been nominated:—Dr Livingston, Rev J. P. Sheppard, vicar of Rookhope; Messrs T. Pentland, Ireshope Burn; R. Chapman, Leaside; G. Stephenson, Rose Hill; T. Pesdon, Side Head; G. Race, jun., G. Stephenson, Glenwhelt; Mr Ridley, Peakfield; O. Monkhouse, T. Fairless, Lane Head; J. T. Carr, Cowshill; H. Featherstone, Middle Rigg; J. Featherstone, Wearhead; Thos. Philipson, Stanhope; J. V. Walton, Witton-le-Wear; J. Harrison, Wearhead; W. Watson, White Home; Wm. Vickers, Howl John; T. Sanderson, Snowfield; D. McCallum, Stanhope; R. Gibson, Frosterley. Part of Wolsingham being in the School Board district, this parish has two seats on the Board. Mr G. R. Wooler, the present member, has been nominated; and Mr G. Curry has been nominated in place of the late Mr Bainbridge.

On Wednesday morning the body of Adam Bolton, a young man of Blaydon, was found in the Tyne beside Messrs. Cowen and Co.'s jetty. Life had been extinct some time when deceased was found.

ACCIDENT NEAR DURHAM.—On Sunday, a young man, named James Soulsby, a joiner in the employ of the North-Eastern Railway Company, and residing at Bishop Auckland, was removed to the Durham County Hospital suffering from injuries received whilst working that day at a foot-bridge which crosses the railway near Newton Hall, a short distance from Durham. The accident was caused by the breaking of a crank, but Soulsby's injuries were fortunately not severe, and he was able to be removed home the same evening.

EXPERIENCE BY A CONSETTONIAN IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Very few people, except those who have really passed through it, know what is meant by "ice travelling" in semi-artic countries. Its toils and perils can only be fully known when experience has taught the lesson.

The old year had just died out; the new came in calm and cold. Not a breath of wind was felt, but the frost was keen and biting. Silently, but quickly, it spread its icy mantle over the waters that lay quite motionless in the deep fiords and open bays. Towards morning the snow fell fast and thick, covering both land and ice, and making them look very much alike.

In the district of which we write, the only mode of getting from place to place is, in summer, by boat, and in winter by travelling on the ice. As soon as the first ice has made its appearance, the boats are of very little service; and unless the ice is broken up again by a storm, they are quite useless until the spring returns.

It was at such a time, and under such circumstances, that a party of travellers started off from their own little settlement, which had a coast line of about three miles, to a settlement some nine miles distant. The party consisted of five. Three of them were native fishermen, the other two were foreign "fishers of men." During the night the frost had been so intense that, by eight o'clock in the morning they deemed the ice quite safe to walk upon. Each one carried a stock of provisions in a wallet strapped to his back, and in his hand a pole about seven feet long, having at one end both a spear and a hook. This useful implement is called a "gaff."

One of the number, a man of extensive experience in this dangerous work, was chosen as guide, and all being in readiness they began the perilous journey.

After clambering down the slippery rocks, the guide gave several strong thrusts at the ice with his gaff, and failing to break it through, stepped carefully on to it; and then thrust at it as far as he could reach round about him. Finding it proof, both against his weight and his strength, he pronounced it safe to walk upon, and started off, the others following him in single file, and each one keeping about five paces behind the other. Not more than two hundred paces from where they "took the ice," there was a place where the strong current kept the water from freezing over as quickly as at other places. Here great care was needed, for the covering of snow made all the ice have the same appearance, and thus the dangers were hidden. The wary guide told his companions to move along slowly while he went on to try the ice. Finding it bearable they walked on, and passed the place without mishap. This gave them more confidence, and, perhaps, in the inexperienced begat a little carelessness. For about a quarter of a mile all went well; and, as the ice seemed firm enough, they drew up a little closer to each other and began to enter into conversation. This, however, was soon brought to an abrupt close. The second man felt the ice give way under his heel, and was just in the act of turning to warn those who followed, of the place, when crash! went the ice, and down went the guide, till all but his head was under water.

For some time the others stood still, expecting every minute to find themselves in the same uncomfortable position; for so thin was the ice that it moved up and down with the motion of the water caused by the struggling of the guide. With the quick forethought characteristic of the natives, the foreigners were ordered to walk back a little distance over the track that had been left, while they laid down and stretched themselves out upon the ice. Each one placed his gaff crosswise under his chest, and in this manner crawled along until he reached the edge of the hole made by his struggling companion. The nearest one reached him his gaff and began to pull him out, but so weak was the ice, that his efforts to clamber up only broke it in the more, and made the hole around him the greater. His only chance was to hook the gaff into his clothes, and thus allow both hands to be at liberty to break away the ice, until he found it strong enough to bear him; and as he moved forward the man holding the other end of the gaff crawled backward, thus giving him support all the time. After many unsuccessful efforts, he at last got out of his dangerous position, and, fortunately, was little worse for his cold bath. How to proceed was now very difficult to decide. The plucky guide at once suggested that the others should make across for the nearest island, and wait in some house till he returned home to change his clothes. In half-an-hour's time he joined them again, and they resumed their journey. This time, however, they decided to walk across the island on which they had landed, and "take the ice" again on the other side of it, where it was separated from another island by a very narrow channel. On arriving here they found that the heavy sea which was breaking through the channel had kept it from freezing over; and there were doubts entertained and expressed as to whether it were possible to cross the surf in a boat. This was their only alternative, and they determined to make the venture. So, borrowing a boat from a man who lived near by, they launched forth; only to find that it was impossible to row across the surf and reach the land on the other side. They then turned and ran before the sea, till they came to the edge of the ice again. But here a new difficulty met them. The motion of the sea had ground the ice up for quite a distance, making it like a thick layer of wet snow. Into this they rowed the boat; but, as they pushed through, it soon beame too dense to yield to their strength. The next move was, to take all the seats out of the boat and lay them round on the ice; then they stepped out on to them, and laying hold of the boat jerked it forward; then, shifting their standing boards, jerked again. By these means they got the boat along till they came to ice that seemed strong enough to bear them. It was now thought advisable to pull the boat up on the ice, and slide it along till they reached the other island. To do this they surrounded the boat, and, each one taking hold of the gunwale, they kept it upright, so that it would slip along easily upon its keep. "Now, boys, heave ahoy! and let every man look out for himself," cried the guide. Then off they started at a brisk trot, breaking in the ice at every few steps; but having the boat to hold to, they managed to keep from going down. However, one of the foreigners (W. T. D. D.) lost his hold, and with it lost his footing, and soon found himself nearly up to the neck in water. He was easily recovered with the help of the seats and the oars, which were laid around for him to crawl out upon. A little of this kind of work soon tired them, and it was found necessary to abandon the boat. For some distance they walked on without much difficulty; but on nearing the beach upon which they wanted to land, they found the ice very unsafe again. A few steps further, and the guide fell through; fortunately, however, the water here was only knee deep, and by dint of plunging and floundering he at last reached the shore. Nothing remained for the others but to "follow their leader," and get ashore as he did.

Wet and weary they gladly sat down upon the snow to rest themselves awhile, though with but very little comfort. They were ashore, it is true; but where? Behind them towered an almost precipitous cliff of quite two hundred feet high. Its crags and ledges were covered with deep snow, which made climbing a very dangerous experiment. But the experiment must be made, for, to go back now, is just as difficult and dangerous as to go forward; so they began to climb. Ledge after ledge, crag after crag, was scaled, and slowly they neared the top; not, however, without some very ugly falls. Twice one of the company slipped off the ledge over which he was climbing, and fell headlong into the snow-banks that lodged on the ledge below him. From one of these falls it tested both the strength and ingenuity of the whole company to recover him. The snow stuck fast to their wet clothes, and it was only by constant exertion they kept themselves from freezing.

When the summit was reached their difficulties were not very much lessened. For nearly a mile they had to get along as best they could, by climbing over the rocky peaks, or crawling over the snow where it was too deep to wade through. After a desperate struggle they reached the open water on the other side.

Three miles of water and ice still lay between them and the island they wanted to reach. A boat was easily found, and once more they "launched forth." The sea was running very high, but, being expert boatmen, they had no difficulty in getting across. Along the opposite shore a line of this soft ground-up ice, of about a quarter-of-a-mile broad, lay out from the land. On reaching this they found it too soft to walk upon, and too dense to get the boat through. They then cruised along the edge of it, until they came opposite a small creek, into which the breakers were rolling furiously, thus keeping the ice from forming; and here they determined to risk a landing. Great care was needed to get the boat into a right position, and to keep it so; and very correct judgment was also needed to select the right wave upon which to run ashore, for on this selection their lives depended. For a few moments they sat quite still, each one holding his oar in readiness for the word of the guide. As soon as he saw his chance he gave the signal, "Now boys!" and the boat dashed forward like a thing of life, through the hissing, roaring surge, until its stem touched the shore; then the receding wave left it "high and dry." No sooner had it touched than the men sprang out, and before the next wave came seething up the beach they had the boat far out of reach of it.

Here their perils ended. They were now upon *terra firma*, and felt no small degree of thankfulness for their great deliverance. Very quickly they made their way to the nearest house along the shore, where they were entertained with the hospitality characteristic of Newfoundlanders.

Having rested and refreshed themselves, they proceeded to complete their day's journey. A five mile tramp over wild, bleak marshes, that were frozen hard as the solid ground, brought them to their destination, just as the sun was dipping behind the white horizon, far away to the northward.

W. T. D. DUNN.

FOR THE LITTLE FOLKS.

How would you like to have an elephant for a nurse? A strange nurse, you will think, doubtless, an elephant would make, so large and strong and clumsy. But though the elephant is such a big animal, when kindly treated it is very docile and very gentle. Out in India some of the mahouts, or elephant drivers, bring up their children from earliest infancy on terms of intimacy and fondness with the huge beast, which earns the living of the family. Buckland, who wrote a great deal about animals, says he has seen a baby placed by its mother systematically under the elephant's care, and within reach of his trunk, while the mother went to fetch water, or to get wood or materials to cook the family dinner. No jackal or wolf would be likely to pick up and carry off a baby who was thus confided to the care of an elephant; but most people who have lived a life in the jungles know how very possible it is for a jackal or a wolf to carry off a baby when lying in a hut, when the mother's back is turned. The children thus brought up in the companionship of an elephant become ridiculously familiar with him, and take all kinds of liberties with him, which the elephant seems to endure on the principle that it does not hurt him while it amuses the child. You see a little naked black child, about two feet high, standing on the elephant's bare back, and taking it down to the water to bathe, vociferating all the time in the most unbecoming terms of native abusive language. On arriving at the water, the elephant, ostensibly in obience to the child's command, lies down and enjoys himself, just leaving a part of his body, like a small island, above water, on which the small child stands and shouts, and shouts all the more if he has several companions of his own age, also in charge of their elephants, all wallowing in the water around him. If the child slips off his island, the elephant's trunk promptly replaces him in safety. These little urchins, as they grow up, become first mates to mahouts, and eventually arrive at the dignity of being mahouts.

AND NOW I WANT YOU TO READ A SHORT STORY CALLED THE HONEST PORTER.

Not long ago, in one of the most bustling streets of Berlin, a poor stranger was seized with an epileptic fit. A group of idle, inquisitive persons, soon gathered around the sufferer, who lay on the ground trembling, struggling, and beating about with his hands; but no one seemed to think of lifting him up out of the cold, muddy street, and taking him beneath the shelter of a roof. Suddenly a stout, well-dressed gentleman came up, gazed at the unfortunate man, and said, in a tone as if he were used to command half the world, "Come, take the poor man up into a neighbouring house! You are doing no good by standing gaping at him there! Be quick!" "That shall be done at once, my fine gentleman," replied a street porter, who had just come up; "but not unless you stay here yourself." "What has that to do with it?" asked the grand gentleman, indignantly. "That will I explain to you, great sir," continued the porter. "The likes of us has no right to go into a strange house; but if such a grand gentleman as you is present, who knows so well how to issue his commands to common people as to what they are to do from pure mercy, it will perhaps be all right." "Well, then, don't stand any longer thinking about it," said the gentleman, "and set to work." The porter now carefully took up the suffering man and carried him into a house close by. At the gentleman's request the proprietor not only permitted this, but brought several things to help the poor man, who soon recovered. Upon this the gentleman was about to depart. "Stop, if you please!" cried the porter. "Great sir, our people live on their earnings. Be so good as to give me what you owe me for my services. You have ordered, and I have obeyed." The gentleman scanned the porter with a proud look, and said: "Why should I have to pay you for an act which in the end you would have had to perform without anybody's orders? What is the poor strange man to me?" "Indeed!" exclaimed the porter, laughing; "I thought the sick man was closely connected with you as you took so much interest in him. But look at the plate on my arm. I am No. 70, and I have promised the police authorities always to perform services which anyone told me to do. So, great sir, it won't do. You must pay me five groschen, which is right according to my tariff." The already large crowd of bystanders was increasing; they now burst into a loud laugh at the comic appearance and strange words of the porter. So the stout gentleman thought to himself it is best to cut the matter short, and give the rogue the money. He took out a heavy purse and handed him ten groschen. "That is generous!" said the porter; "generous, indeed, your honour! I thank you humbly!" But when he remarked that the gentleman was about to go away, he seized him by the arm and said: "No, no, great sir! it won't do yet! Now you have paid me, you must wait one moment longer, till the affair is at an end." Then he bent down to the sick man, handed him the ten groschen, and said: "See, poor brother, this a poor porter gives you, who has seven little ones at home! Now let's see what the others will do for you!" All who were present stood amazed; but a moment after they burst out into loud expressions of praise at the poor porter's generous action. Animated by this good example, each gave the poor sufferer what he could afford. The stout gentleman put his hand into his purse, and did not count what he put into the sick man's hand. The porter's deed had touched his heart. He wished to give him something, too, for his "seven little ones;" but when he looked round for him he was nowhere to be seen.

THE Scarabæus beetle, of which there are many species, are great scavengers, and remove much animal refuse from the surface of the ground. That lover of all things living, great and small, the Rev. J. G. Wood, whose many books about birds, beasts, fishes, and insects you should read carefully through, says of these beetles with such a hard name that they do not eat the refuse themselves, but it constitutes the food of their young. They gather a sufficient quantity together, and work it into a roughly spherical ball, in the centre of which the egg is placed. The beetle then finds a soft piece of ground, and with her enormously powerful forelegs, digs a deep hole, large enough to receive the ball easily. Then she returns to the ball, turning her back upon it. Rearing her body in the air, and resting on the first and second pair of legs, she places the claws of the hind legs upon it, and so pushes it backwards to the pit where she has dug. In so doing she rolls the ball over and over, so that the outside becomes thickly coated with dust, and soon becomes nearly smooth, and hard in the sun, thus forming a further protection to the egg. Having reached the pit, she tumbles the ball into it, and then goes off to make another. Thus, not only are noxious substances removed from the surface of the earth, where they can do no good, but they are buried below the surface, and serve as fertilisers. I trust you will be careful not to kill any of these useful little workers in your walks abroad.

UNCLE WILLIAM.

Business Announcements.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 a.m., to 3 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

FRATER'S MAHOGANY VARNISH.

Moses! bring me a Bottle of Frater's Mahogany Varnish. We are going to CLEAN THE FURNITURE, and there is no other any use. For quantity, quality, and popularity, there is nothing like it in the Market.

GEORGE FRATER,
PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

J. W. DAVISON,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

HAS ON SALE, CHEAP,

SEVERAL

THREE AND FOUR-LEAF SCREENS.

THOMAS HODGSON'S

GREAT

CLEARANCE SALE IS NOW GOING ON PREVIOUS TO STOCK-TAKING.

ALL CLASSES OF GOODS WILL BE SOLD AT GREAT REDUCTION.

☞ We ask no more than the kind Inspection of Buyers to see how Desperately Cheap we can Sell in all Departments.

THOMAS HODGSON,
DRAPER AND STOCKING MANUFACTURER,
DERWENT STREET AND DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL. 650v

RE-DONALD BAIN'S STOCK,

AMOUNTING TO £436 19s. 8d.,

PURCHASED FOR CASH, BY

T. A. POTTS,

THE

NEWCASTLE CASH DRAPER.

☞ ON FRIDAY FIRST, THE ABOVE STOCK,

ALONG WITH

SEVERAL TONS OF GOODS FROM OUR CLAYTON STREET SHOPS, WILL BE OFFERED FOR ABSOLUTE AND DETERMINED SALE.

☞ This will be a great chance for the thrifty Housewives of Consett, Blackhill, and District, for the GOODS will all be SOLD at the PRICES MARKED, and no one will be stinted as to quantity as long as they last. 694v

INDIA RUBBER STAMPS,

FOR Endorsing Envelopes, Cheques, and Postal Cards, Heading Notepaper, Marking Linen and Pigeons, Stamping Monograms, Crests, and facsimiles of Signature.

POCKET AND DATING STAMPS,
Price and Pattern Sheets Free on application.
WILLIAM COLDICOTT,
BRIDGEMAN STREET, WALSALL. 783s

ROBERT JACKSON'S

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY

ESTABLISHMENTS,

59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET

STREET, CONSETT.

☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

THOMAS MILNER,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,

☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT

MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

A Consett Gentleman says:—I have found your New Season's Cod Liver Oil to be most beneficial in preventing hoarseness and relieving the strain on the chest, consequent on prolonged speaking in the open air, whilst the administration of it is not accompanied by the nausea resulting from many oils I have tried, and I can confidently recommend it."

1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES

For the speedy production of a Delicious Temperance Cordial. Ginger, Pine Apple, &c. 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLIN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

The excellent qualities of these Pills are too well known to be enumerated here, while the increasing demand under the Popular Name of Milner's Own Pills, is the best Proof of their efficacy. In Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

An excellent Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c., and all Diseases of the Chest and Stomach. 1s. per Bottle.

HAIR RESTORERS PERFUMES, POMADES.

TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr Lamont's Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c., &c.

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS

T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the

TAR ELIXIR PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP

Prepared by Messrs Ness & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.

PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for Bell & Riddle's, McDougall's, Little & Co.'s, Jeye's, Cooper's, and Wilson and Kitchen's Sheep Dips.

ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS AND PURGING BALLS FOR HORSES.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MILNER, CHEMIST,
OPPOSITE THE POST-OFFICE CONSETT. 721v

VIOLIN.

WANTED PUPILS (Young Ladies preferred). Terms moderate.—Apply, Miss Nixon, Old Police Station, Consett, late of Newcastle. 632v

JAMES NIXON, CARRIAGE PAINTER.

WANTED, CONVEYANCES TO PAINT. Best work guaranteed. Terms moderate.—Address, Old Police Station, Consett. 633v

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE PRIOR TO STOCKTAKING, OF LAMPS, CHANDELIERS, GAS-FITTINGS, AND GENERAL HARDWARE, AT

SANDS AND DOYLE'S
(Late with J. C. Halliday),
3, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE.
PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS. 581v

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 920

YE QUEEN MARY

BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD RECEIPES,

Containing Fifty Ancient and Valuable Receipes of our Ancestors (over Three Hundred Years old). Every Housekeeper in the United Kingdom should have a copy who believes in the good old Remedies of our ancestors. Post Free One Shilling, direct from the Publisher and Proprietor, J. Maguire, St. John's Cottage Partridge Green, Sussex. 560v

H. GUTTERIDGE,

SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER,

BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.

REPAIRS DONE ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

NOTE ADDRESS:—33, WESTGATE ROAD (near Central Railway Station), NEWCASTLE. 450v

SPECIAL NOTICE

EVERY kind of SEWING MACHINE REPAIRED, or taken in PART EXCHANGE for our own. Post Card from any part of the district will receive prompt attention by

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING CO.
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS,
CONSETT, AND
JAMES STREET, WEST STANLEY, R.S.O.

Head Office in the District:—16, GRAINGER ST. WEST, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The only Manufacturers of Singers' Celebrated Sewing Machines. 622v

QUEENSLAND.

This young and promising Colony offers Special Advantages to all classes, and the QUEENSLAND ROYAL MAIL LINE convey Passengers

☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

MAIL or other Steamers will be despatched from LONDON or PLYMOUTH fortnightly, by which ASSISTED PASSAGES will be granted to eligible Persons, such as Engineers, Farmers, Fitters, Engine Drivers, Railway Carriage Builders, Blacksmiths, Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Sawyers, Carpenters, Wheelwrights, Shoemakers, Tailors, Shipwrights, Farm Labourers, Domestic Servants, Gardeners, Vine Dressers, Road Makers, Miners, Quarrymen, Navvies, at the following rates:—

SECOND CABIN...£21 10s. | THIRD CLASS...£7.

Children under 12 years, half-price. Infants under 12 months, free. Persons not eligible for assisted passages will be taken at the following rates:—Second Cabin, £31 10s.; Third Class, £17.

For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to William J. Johnson, Queensland Emigration Office, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; or to the Local Agent,

ADAM BRODIE,
529v Town Hall, Consett.

Public Notices.

MUSIC LESSONS given. Pianos, Harmoniums, and American Organs Tuned and Repaired. Dealer in Harmoniums, &c.—T. Jones, 4, Gibson Street, near Co-operative Store, Consett. 742v

NOTICE.—I, JOHN MITCHELL, will not be answerable for any Debt or Debts my Wife, Rachael Mitchell, may contract after this date.
(Signed), JOHN MITCHELL,
18th February, 1886. 5, Annfield Place.

ON hand, at Mrs. A. SHIPLEY'S, 5, Front Street, Consett, a good Stock of Stamped Goods For Crewelling Patterns; Silks and Wools in great variety; with a New Stock of Macrame Twine, Print Patches, Aprons, Pinafores, Collars, Silk and Wool Squares. Also, a Splendid Choice of Frillings. 645v

31st APPROPRIATION BY BALLOT.

THE Members of the FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370th STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY will hold the above on Monday, the 8th of March, in the Office, Blackhill. All clear on the books will participate. No further announcement.—By order,
732v M. NOBLE, Chairman.

MISS E. A. SLOANE
(Organist of St. Mary's, Blackhill),

HAVING recently finished Musical Studies under W. REA, Esq., R.A.M., Newcastle-on-Tyne, is now prepared to give LESSONS IN HARMONY, also on the PIANO, HARMONIUM, and ORGAN.

ADDRESS:—
POST OFFICE, BLACKHILL. 485v

MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON.

THE LOCAL EXAMINATION in THEORETICAL MUSIC will be held on Monday May 31st, 1886.

Names of intending Candidates should be sent in on or before Monday, May 17th, to the Local Secretary, from whom all particulars may be had.
JOHN SURTEES, Hon. Sec.
712v 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill.

16th THOUSAND. 6d., BY POST 7 STAMPS.

DR. ELLIS'S POPULAR LECTURE, "THE EAR AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE THROAT."

"As Medical Officer to the Throat and Ear Hospital in Newcastle his familiar knowledge of, and interest in this branch of Surgical art has now a wide and useful field, his capacity for working in which seems to be thoroughly vindicated in the lecture before us."—*Newcastle Journal.*

London: Walter Scott, Paternoster Row; Newcastle: W. E. Franklin, 42, Mosley Street; or from the Author, 100, Rye Hill, Newcastle. 709v

SHOTLEY BRIDGE

FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

☞ SATURDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1886.

Schedules ready shortly.
W. RAMSAY, Secretary.
St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside. 727v

SUN FIRE AND LIFE OFFICES, LONDON.

FIRE.—*Established* 1710.
The oldest purely Fire Office in the world. Home and Foreign Insurances against loss by Fire and Lightning at moderate rates. Losses settled with promptness and liberality.

LIFE.—*Established* 1810.
Profits divided every five years. Large Bonuses, Tontine Bonus Policies granted. Very low premiums without participation in profits. No partnership liability. Simple Proposal Forms.

For further information apply to Mr Thomas W. Welford, jun., Agent (Fire only) for Consett, or to any of the Local Agents of the Society. 707v

IMPORTANT DRAPERY SALE AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE LARGEST & BEST-ASSORTED STOCK IN THIS DISTRICT, AT

G. RICHARDSON'S

Wholesale and Retail
DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE SALE WILL COMMENCE ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20th,

And will be continued for 14 Days, when the whole of the Stock will be Sold at very Large Reductions.

200 GOOD STRAW BONNETS AND HATS
Will be cleared at 1d. and 1½d.

Prices not so much an object as a Ready Clearance.

All Goods Bought at this Sale must be Paid for at time of Purchase.

N.B.—The Shop will not be closed on Wednesday Afternoons during the Sale. 731v

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

PERSONS desiring to join this Association may do so on application to the Secretary of any of the Polling Districts as follows:—

Benfieldside—Mr. Joseph Eltringham, Blackhill.
Burnopfield—Mr. B. Mason, The Hobson.
Castleside—Mr. Thomas Duckworth, Castleside.
Catchgate—Mr. R. Tindale, South Pontop.
Consett—Mr. C. Routledge, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.
Cornsay—Mr. Edward Handy, Cornsay Colliery, or Mr. J. W. Cook, East Hedleyhope.
Dipton—Mr. J. W. Taylor, Wesley Terrace, Dipton,
Edmondbyers—Mr. Henry Bell, Edmondbyers, or Mr. Wm. Pears, Jeffrie's Rake.
Stanley and Holmside—Mr. Wm. Indian, West Stanley.
Lanchester—Mr. Henry Dixon, Lanchester.
Langley Park—Mr. John Clark, Esh Road, Langley Park.
Leadgate—Mr. Thomas Hall, East Castle Colliery, or Mr. Thomas Barron, Leadgate.
Medomsley—Mr. Wilson Clayton, Allendale Cottages.
Ushaw and Quebec—Mr. Ernest Foster, Esh Winning.
Satley—Mr. Robert Hedley, Satley Villa.
Tanfield.—Mr. William Bulmer, Tanfield Lea.
West Kyo—Mr. J. W. Mackay, Catchgate.
White-le-Head—Mr. William Hardy, White-le-Head, or to

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Town Hall, Consett, Secretary and Registration Agent. 676v

20,000 MAGNIFICENT PRESENTS TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

NO CHARGE WHATEVER.

MOST IMPORTANT TO THE READERS OF THIS PAPER.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH JEWELLERY COMPANY, in order to introduce their business before the public, have, at enormous expense, resolved to PRESENT to every person applying for the same, a

FRENCH POCKET TIMEPIECE INDICATOR (PATENTED),

This admirable little article is the size and shape of an ordinary watch; has strong metal cases (gold colour), steel works, balanced action, enamelled dial, crystal glass dome, patent adjusting swivel ring for attaching to watchguards; each denotes solar correct time, and in fact no one, either male or female, should want for a watch when such an opportunity as this offers—a chance will never occur again. The time indicator is warranted for five years. To secure one of these little articles the sum of 1s. 6d. must be forwarded either by Postal Order or 19 Stamps, or two will be sent for 2s. 8d., with the full name and address filled in the form below, and enclosed to the ANGLO-FRENCH JEWELLERY COMPANY, Matlock House, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

Read our grand offer, to every purchaser, for this week only:—To every gentleman purchaser we will Present a handsome Cyprus Gold Fetter-Link Albert Chain. One hundred different patterns. These are very massive and heavy, and in wear, appearance, and pattern are equal to 18c gold chain costing £20. To every lady we will present a superb suite of rich Cyprus Gold Brooch and Earrings of the newest design. These being intended as a free gift to our customers, we were determined to present something new that will delight all.

NONE SOLD WITHOUT THIS COUPON.

CONSETT GUARDIAN.

This Coupon entitles sender to Pocket Timepiece, with handsome Present, on receipt of 1s 6d; or two for 2s 8d, 3 for 4s, or 4 for 5s.

Name ....
Address..
Town..

Please note our only Address—Anglo-French Jewellery Company, Matlock House, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

The demand for our Timepieces from all parts of the Kingdom being very great, customers will oblige by sending in their orders at once. Orders received after these are sold out will be returned. 730v

Public Notices.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

FOR TWO NIGHTS ONLY. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26th and 27th.

GRAND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

MUSIC! FUN!! AND FROLIC!!!

MAJOR CRACKLES,
The acknowledged favourite, from the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MISS EDITH OLIVER,
Mr. J. C. PIDDOCK,
Of D'Oyley Carte's Opera Companies,
MR. BAILEY,
From the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

☞ Two hours' genuine fun, and incessant laughter.

PRICES—2s., 1s., and 6d.

Two nights only—Friday and Saturday, February 26th and 27th. 716v

CONSETT AND DISTRICT
741st STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY

OFFICE:—NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of this most successful Building Society will be held in the Small Hall, New Town Hall, Consett on Thursday, March 11th, 1886.

Chair to be taken at 7·30 p.m.

After the Members' Meeting, the

FOURTH APPROPRIATION
Will take place.

All Members should see they are clear on the Books.

Any joining the Society on or before Monday, March 8th, and Paying Four Weeks' Subscriptions will participate in the Ballot.

Shares 6d. per Week for each £100.

Subscriptions taken every Monday night in the Office, New Town Hall, from 7·30 to 9.

Any further information can be obtained from Mr. W. Shell, Chairman; or,
722v Mr. W. ELLIOTT, Secretary.

CONSETT CHORAL SOCIETY.

"MESSIAH!"

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
ON
☞ TUESDAY, MARCH 11th, 1886.

VOCALISTS,
MADAME EMELIE CLARKE,
From Crystal Palace and other London Concerts.
MADAME HALL-ATKIN,
The Eminent Contralto.
MR. D. S. MACDONALD,
Tenor, Durham Cathedral.
MR CHAS. GOODHEAD,
Bass, Durham Cathedral.
AND
CHORUS OF 150 VOICES,
ALSO,
FULL ORCHESTRAL BAND, made up by Artistes selected from Newcastle, Sunderland, Sheffield, &c.

CONDUCTOR, - MR CHAS. STEPHENSON.

Plan of hall at Messrs Hodgkin, Barnett, and Cos. Bank, Consett, where seats can be selected and secured.

Reserved Seats, 2s., Second Seats, 1s., Third Seats, 6d.

PLEASE NOTE ALTERATION OF DATE.

CONSETT RELIEF FUND.

THE SOUP KITCHEN in connection with the above Fund was opened on Monday last, the 15th inst., and about 1,000 Tickets are given out daily.

The following Subscriptions have been received and promised:—

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. the Consett Iron Company, Limited, £10 per Week during the continuance of the Soup Kitchen	10	0	0
Messrs. Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, Spence, and Company, Bankers, Consett	5	0	0
James Annandale, Esq., J.P., The Briary	5	0	0
Francis Harvey, Esq., London	5	0	0
George Peile, Esq., Greenwood	3	0	0
G. R. Hedley, Esq., Elswick Grange	2	2	0
Rev. F. Steggall, The Vicarage, Consett	1	1	0
Rev. Mr. Power St. Mary's Church, Bl'khill	1	1	0
Mr. William Aynsley, Middle Street, Consett	1	1	0
" J. W. Davison, Front Street, do.	1	1	0
" John Collinson, Middle Street, do.	1	1	0
" C. P. Douglass, Parliament Street, do.	1	1	0
" T. L. Gledstone, Front Street, do.	1	0	0
" G. D. Powell, Warburton House, Gateshead	1	0	0
" P. Coyle, Newmarket Street, Consett	1	0	0
" W. Thompson, Gibson Street, do.	0	10	0
" J. McCartan, Solicitor, do.	0	10	0
" W. Elliott, Mount Pleasant do.	0	10	0
Rev. Henry Yooll, Mount Pleasant, do.	0	10	0
Mr. James Scott, East Parade, do.	0	10	0
" T. Milner, Shakespeare Street, do.	0	10	0
" W. Whittaker, Middle Street, do.	0	10	0
" George Wade, Front Street, do.	0	10	0
" T. H. Batchelor, Middle Street, do.	0	10	0
" Joseph Milburn, Middle Street, do.	0	10	0
" T. W. Welford, Solicitor,	0	10	0
" Jos. Whitehead, Gibson Street, do.	0	7	6
Rev. C. S. Wilson, Harvey Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. G. H. Harrison, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. M. McGurk, Victoria Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. M. McNally, Bath Hotel, Consett	0	5	0
Mrs. Whitehead, Church Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. Simon Rowe, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	5	0
London and Newcastle Tea Company, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas McCourty, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. John Routledge, Cemetery Lane, Blackhill	0	5	0
Mr. Wm. Rippon, Mount Pleasant, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. M. Matthews, Green Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mr. H. Nicholson, Middle Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mrs. Shipley, Front Street, Consett	0	5	0
Mrs. Coyle, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	3	0
The Two W. W.'s, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. James Hanlon	0	2	6
Mr. Jos. Wood, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. Kelly, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. Matthew Clarke, Newmarket Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. Rodgers, Victoria Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. John C. Kidd, Mount Pleasant, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. W. S. Davies, Mount Pleasant, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. Geo. Brown, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. J. Goodfellow, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. E. Lockey, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. E. Wylam, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. H. Longstaff, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. E. Telford, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. E. Mayor, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. Geo. Carey, Front Street, Consett	0	2	6
Messrs. Hughes and Company, Front Street, Consett	0	2	6
Messrs. Foster Bros., Front Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. James Quigley, Front Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. C. Weaver, Middle Street, Consett	0	2	6
"Cheviot"	0	2	6
Mrs. Aynsley, Shakespeare Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. E. Taylor, Shakespeare Street, Consett	0	2	6
Mr. R. Fraser, Shakespeare Street, Consett	0	2	6
Sums under 2s 6d	1	16	0
Balance from the 1885 Fund and Christmas Dinner Fund	13	2	1
	£56	1	7
Mr. Joseph Postle, Newmarket Street, Consett, Goods	1	0	0
" Joseph Murray, Middle Street, Consett, Goods	0	10	0
" T. D. Dryden, Front Street, Consett, Goods	0	10	0
Mrs. Mary Almond, Front Street, Consett, Goods	0	10	0

Mr, Thomas Swainston, Middle Street, Consett, 20 Stones of Potatoes.
" Thomas Patterson, Shakespeare Street, Consett, quantity of Meat.
" George Nicholson, Leadgate, Load of Turnips.
" Walter Willson, Middle Street, Consett, 14lbs. Beef, and 14lbs. Peas.
" John Towns, Shakespeare Street, Consett, quantity of Meat.
" R. Willey, Middle Street, Consett, 5 Stones of Potatoes.

The Distress being very great, and further assistance urgently required, Subscriptions in Goods or Kind will be thankfully received by

Rev. F. STEGGALL,
Vicar of Consett, Chairman,
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A.,
736v Town Hall, Consett, Secretary,

Public Notices.

COUNTY PALATINE OF DURHAM.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ANIMALS ACT,

THE TEMPORARY SWINE FEVER DISTRICTS ORDER OF FEBRUARY, 1886 (No. 3369).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that no Public or Private Sale of Swine, Fat or Store, can be lawfully held in the District of the Local Authority of this County after the 31st January inst., except as expressly authorised by the above-named Order.

Licenses for holding Public Sales of Fat Swine may be obtained on application at the Offices of the undersigned, at the Exchequer Buildings, Durham.

Public or Private Sales of Fat or Store Swine may be held without License in places free from disease, if the Swine be themselves also free from disease, and if each Animal has been for 28 days on the Farm or Premises where it is offered for Sale.

Dated this 28th January, 1886.
RALPH SIMEY,
651v Clerk of the Peace.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Monday, February 22nd, 1886.—Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett.—Sale of Household Furniture and Stock-in-Trade of a Linen and Woollen Draper, who is leaving the District.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett, on Monday, February 22nd, 1886, the Superior Household FURNITURE, and EFFECTS, together with the STOCK-IN-TRADE of a Linen and Woollen Draper, who is leaving the District, including—

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.—Excellent Desk Bedstead; Painted Chest and Frame, with Press Top; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair; Leather Couch; 6 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Easy Chair, in Hair; 6 Kitchen Chairs; 6 Cane Chairs; Round Table; Small Oak Table; Brass-mounted Bedstead; Washstand and Dressing Table; Home Washer; Feather Bed, Bolster, and Pillows; Rabbit Down Bed; Brussels and Kidderminster Carpets; Hearthrugs; Fender and Fireirons; Swing Glass; 8 Pictures; Beautiful Vienna Regulator; Chamber Ware; Poss Tub and Staff; Form, and Kitchen Requisites, and Miscellaneous Effects.

STOCK-IN-TRADE.—Woollen Cloths of all kinds, including Worsted Coatings; Irish and Scotch Tweeds; Wool and Oxford Shirtings; Black and Coloured Cashmeres; Fancy Dress Goods; Linens and Hollands; Cotton Sheets and Sheetings; Scarfs, Ties, and Mufflers; together with the usual assortment of Sundry Goods connected with a Draper's Stock.

ORDER OF SALE.—Furniture and a portion of the Drapery Stock at One o'clock in the Afternoon; and the remainder of the Drapery at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

☞ Special attention is directed to this Sale as the Goods, especially the Woollen Cloths and Drapery, are of Excellent Quality, and as the Owner is leaving the District, there is absolutely no Reserve. 744v

Middle Street, Consett.—Sale of Fixtures belonging the Estate of Messrs. D. Bain & Co.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by J. M. Winter, Esq., the Trustee in the above Estate, to COUNTERMAND THE SALE OF THE ABOVE FIXTURES, as Advertised, the same having been disposed of privately. 740v

ADAM BRODIE & ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, Consett, undertake the Sale by Public Auction or otherwise, of Houses and Land, Farming Stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, or other Effects, on reasonable terms. Valuations for Probate Dissolution of Partnership, and Settlement of Claims under Fire Insurances, or in disputes. Fire, Life, and Accident Assurances arranged without delay. Shares of every description Bought and Sold on Commission. The Victoria Sale-Rooms are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale.

Postal address—Adam Brodie & Robert John Brodie, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 1886.
Present Entries—
20 Dairy Cows and Heifers.
13 Prime Fat Cattle.
110 Fat Sheep and Hoggs.
A number of Geld Cows and Store Stirks.
1½ Tons of Old-land Hay.
2 Tons of Wheat Straw.
New Sheep Rack.
Shovels, Gripes, &c.
1 Set of Silver-mounted Harness.
Riding Saddle, 4 Bridles, Night Collars, &c.,
Entries to day of Sale.
Sale at 12·30.
Trucks at Station.

N.B.—A SPECIAL SALE for STORE CATTLE will be held on Saturday, February 27th. Early Entries invited.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 717v

By Mr. William Raw.

Annfield Plain.

MR. WM. RAW, having been instructed by the Executors of the late Mr. William Lumley, Butcher, Annfield Plain, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of the Valuable Household FURNITURE, belonging to the late Mr. Lumley, on the Premises, on Monday, February 22nd, 1886, comprising—Mahogany Sofa in Leather; Mahogany Centre Table; Double Chest of Mahogany Drawers; Mahogany Folding Dining Table; 6 Mahogany Chairs; 1 do. Arm Chair; Polished Press; Polished Desk Bed; Mantle Mirror; Couch in Leather; 8 Days' Clock in Oak Case; Alarum Clock; Kitchen Table; 2 Arm Chairs; 4 Kitchen Chairs; 5 Bed-room Chairs; Night Commode; Washstand and Dressing Table; Mahogany Swing Dressing Glass; Four-Poled Bedstead, with Good Hangings; 2 Iron Bedsteads; Small Drawers; Kitchen Press; Kitchen Fender and Fireirons; 2 Room Fenders, and 2 Sets of Fireirons; Brass Pan; Brass Candlesticks; 2 Feather Beds; 3 Sets of Feather Bolsters and Pillows; Hair Mattress; 2 Straw Mattresses; 10 Bed Quilts; 3 Pairs of Blankets; 4 Pairs of Window Shades; 3 Full Sets of China; good; 2 Decanters, Cut Glass; Glass Bowls and Glasses; Tea and Coffee Pots; 2 Dozen Knives and Forks; Table and Tea Spoons; Large Dishes and Plates; Mugs; Wringing and Mangling Machine; Table; Pans; Kettle; Pails; Poss and Washing Tubs; Chamber Ware; Sitting-room Carpet; Harmonium; Pictures; Ornaments, &c., &c.

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EDITORIAL NOTICES.

"A South Medomsley Man" sends us a letter which is not only libellous and exposes us to serious costs, but asks tradesmen to refuse to supply goods to the "blacklegs!"

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 1886.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

The members of the Derwent Angling Association will meet at the favourite rendezvous to-morrow (Saturday) evening. Their number is not legion; but what they lack in that respect is more than balanced by the enterprise and good sense of individual members. Everything in connection with the Association is well managed. The terms of membership are easy; and everything is done that science and experience can devise to maintain a good stock of high-bred fishes. The reader may smile at the term, but it is appropriate enough, for the members of the Derwent Angling Association do not practice the scriptural injunction: "Take no thought for the morrow." They look a long way before them, and having exhausted the supply of speckled game, they set about rearing another generation of fishes as regularly, and as methodi-

cally as the farmer sows his seed. One would think it required a good stock of patience to wait for a crop of fishes, for one cannot go every alternate morning and report progress as a fellow might do with a porker. However, the imported fishes do grow all the same, until their existence is cut short by the wily sportsmen who gave them a "local habitation."

Apropos to the above note is a feature in connection with the management of the Derwent Angling Association, which members of associations generally would do well to make a note of. A reporter is invited to the annual sitting of the members, and a pretty detailed report of the proceedings is usually published; but where the Derwent Angling Association differs from other associations is, that each member is supplied with a printed copy, neatly done up in a fancy border! Shotley Bridge is not so far behind the age as some people imagine. The thing is managed in this wise: The reporter knows what is wanted, and after the issue of the paper, and previous to the distribution of the type, the editor has the special copies thrown off, according to order. They look well; and I don't suppose they cost much, seeing that the labour of setting up has been already gone through. Secretaries of district associations are likely to favour this plan, from the fact that it transfer the duty of note-taking to the more skilled reporter, leaving nothing to the former but to paste the report on the obscure pages of his minute-book. Some people are easily pleased with respect to reporting, others are difficult to satisfy on that score. An intelligent man will nod approval of a succinct, well-handled report; whilst a clown, who has seen a reporter sit for hours at a meeting, and finding the report dished up in a column or so, gapes his mouth and exclaims in astonishment; "Wey! he hasen't put it all in."

The above subject recalls an incident, which transpired in connection with the formation of a certain association, which shall here be nameless. There were broad-souled men in those days—very. The district could not with truth have been denominated a "quiet neighbourhood," for it was of a semi-rural, semi-industrial character; and in addition to divers lights and shadows, it was illuminated by periodical flames from a local and district press. The Editor of the journal had gone out of his way to accommodate the guiding spirits in the projected association, and the sense of gratitude was so strong upon them that they went past his door with the little business they had, not not even asking him to quote prices. They turned up subsequently when they were anxious to see their speeches in print, for they seem to have dreamed that the Editor subsisted on the wind, and that those who followed his behests did so for the undivided honour of printing the speeches of the honourable; but by no means considerate, members of this particular association. They were wroth, of course, but it is not uncommon for people to display animus when served with the same select sauce they have doled out to others.

When the people in this district are so badly off, what must the depth and intensity of the distress be in districts where there is virtually no employment to be had at all? I have passed through streets recently where not one inhabitant had employment; and where the respective incomes of the tenants had been stopped for weeks. Many respectable-looking children are sent abroad after nightfall to beg. They usually go in twos; and tap timidly at the door. I often regard them with mournful interest as they plod along the street carrying a bag with little in it. Children whose lines have fallen in more pleasant places, have a strange proneness to fall out and make their little lives about as miserable as they well could be; but these poor things, whom the force of circumstances has driven into the cold street, cling to one another, the strong supporting the weak.

There are two or three practical methods of mitigating the suffering occasioned by the current distress, neither of which have, as far as I am aware, been introduced into this district. Voluntary contributions from those who can afford to be generous are a good thing as far as they go, but systematic and organised giving by working men themselves is more stable; and the supplies drawn from that source are more to be relied upon, as a matter of course. Advantage is taken of this trustworthy aid in almost every centre of industry where the pinch of poverty is felt. The plan is simple. The workmen convene a meeting in the dinner hour, and pass a resolution to the effect that they are willing that a small thing be deducted from their weekly earnings for the benefit of their less fortunate fellowmen. The amount usually subscribed is twopence per man weekly for those earning under one pound, and threepence for those whose earnings exceed that sum. That is not much certainly, indeed, it is comparatively nothing; but as the proverb says: "Many littles make a muckle," and if this system of practical giving could be put in operation in the local industry at Consett, the pot at the Consett and Blackhill soup kitchens would never boil dry.

Another channel of relief to which I referred, is the aid given by Co-operative Societies in some districts to their poorer members. This is managed by distributing soup gratis two or three times a week. Have our Consett friends no hungry to feed?

A settlement of the dispute in the shipbuilding yards look more hopeful to-day (Thursday), than it has done at any period since the men came out. Some of the men still evince a spirit of determination not to submit to any reduction whatever; but the impression is now pretty general that the meeting to-day will conduce to bring about a settlement for the time being. I know that the masters expect that such will be the case—I am in a position to know that—but whether they mean to "cave" in themselves, or whether they expect the men to do so is quite another matter. I have been against a reduction from the first, simply because I did not think it would give an impetus to the trade; but I have wished latterly that the men would give a little now, for the sake of suffering humanity. and have their innings when "the clouds rolls by."

ROUNDABOUT NOTES.

[By "Rambler."]

Consett is going ahead. It has been decided that the forthcoming yearly exhibition in connection with the flourishing Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society should be held in this town in August next. The idea was only broached on Monday last by a few leading tradesmen, who took the matter up so earnestly that they sought an interview with Mr Wm. Jenkins on Tuesday afternoon, and obtained that gentleman's consent to the use of the field near the Vicarage for the purpose of holding the show. Eventually, at the Society's annual meeting on Wednesday night, it was unanimously resolved that the exhibition should take place in Consett. All this has been accomplished in the brief space of three days. This incident illustrates how much can be achieved by two or three enterprising and energetic gentlemen. The warmest thanks of the inhabitants are due to Mr Jenkins and the Consett Iron Company for so generously placing the field at the disposal of the Society; and I sincerely trust that the Consettonians will work together with diligence and perseverance, and endeavour to make the next show *the* most successful ever held in this district. This will be the first time that Consett has been selected as the *locale* of this annual show, but I think it will not be the last. According to the usual routine, Lanchester was the place that should have been favoured with a visit from this Society.

* *

I am not divulging a secret when I inform your readers that Mr and Mrs Walter Brotherhood, the respected Master and Matron of the Lanchester Union Workhouse, have just secured a similar appointment at Croydon. The residents of Lanchester and its surroundings—in fact, the public generally in North-West Durham who are acquainted with the genial Mr Brotherhood and his estimable wife—will be still more interested to learn, however, that that gentleman has decided to retain his situation at Lanchester, and to sojourn for some time longer amongst his numerous friends living in all parts of the district. The fact that Mr Brotherhood had received the fresh appointment oozed out by some means or other, and expressions of sincere regret at his imminent departure flowed in from all quarters—indeed, the younger inmates of the Workhouse heard the news and began to exhibit signs of sorrow at the prospect of separating from one who had always befriended them even as a parent does his own offspring. I believe that some of them shed tears. Under such affecting circumstances, Mr Brotherhood, who is gifted with a kindly and affectionate disposition, could not suffer himself to part with his *proteges*, to say nothing of severing his connection with this locality, and has wisely determined to stay at Lanchester rather than accept a more remunerative engagement elsewhere.

* *

I was in hopes that we had seen the last of the snow for this season; but my expectations have been shattered. Yesterday (Thursday) several showers of snow descended, and the general aspect of the weather is not at all favourable.

* *

Last week, the workmen in the neighbourhood of West Stanley presented several testimonials to Mr William Johnson, a colliery manager, recently employed by Mr J. H. Burn, on the occasion of the former leaving the neighbourhood. A little bird whispers to me that the pitmen at South Medomsley Colliery would subscribe even a bigger presentation in order to get Mr Tyzack, their manager, shipped off to the backwoods of America or some distant clime, so that they would never see his countenance more. Verily, these are striking commentaries.

* *

Mr John Proud, the Vaccination Officer, seems to entertain a singular notion as to the value of the time of the members of the Lanchester Guardians. I regret to say that he appears not to manifest the best feeling towards his colleague, Mr J. J. Thompson, and he delights in washing his dirty linen in the Board Room. Every time the Vaccination Officer presents his quarterly reports, he generally manages to work in a string of complaints against Mr Thompson. Some of his allegations are of such a frivolous character that I often wonder how the Guardians could waste their time in listening to such rubbish. If every public official was to bring all his slight grievances before his superiors, we should see a faithful representation of a happy family. Why cannot Messrs Proud and Thompson work together in harmony, and not the one be continually snarling at the other? Their present relationship is neither pleasing nor satisfactory.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Miss Baskin, a well-known elocutionist, was announced to give one of her entertainments in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Tuesday evening, but a telegram was received on Saturday stating that she could not come on that day, accordingly the entertainment was postponed.

The Choral Society's Concert.—Our friends the Choral Society, we learn, have had—so as to secure eminent vocalists and instrumentalists—to change the date of their performance of the "Messiah" from March 9th to March 11th. Perhaps our readers will note this and consult our advertising columns.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—Special sermons were preached in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Consett, on Sunday last, by the Rev John Ryan, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church of America (who is at present staying at Shotley Bridge). At both the afternoon and evening services there were large congregations.—On Monday night, Mr Ryan delivered a lecture in the New School-room, Templetown Road—the subject being "Belchazzar's Feast." The proceeds were in aid of the Chapel trust fund.

Wesleyan Band of Hope.—This society held a good meeting on Saturday night, in the Nelson Street School-room, Consett, ably presided over by Mr A. Carr. As usual, an interesting programme was gone through. The Band of Hope choir was in attendance, and rendered glees in good style. Mr N. Fawell gave a capital reading upon the evil effects of smoking. Recitations were given by Masters J. Colling and L. Grainger, and a dialogue by Masters J. and G. Farnsworth. A solo was rendered by Miss H. Smith, and a song by Mr Lewis (conductor of the Baptist Church choir), both of which were well received. Mr J. G. Cooke, Blackhill, gave an excellent address on "The evils of drinking intoxicating liquors." An enjoyable evening was spent.

Lecture on "Bells."—Last (Thursday) night, a highly instructive and entertaining lecture was delivered in the National Schools, Parliament Street, Consett, by the Rev A. Blair, curate of Hetton-le-Hole (formerly a ringer at Canterbury Cathedral), on the subject of "Bells." There was a fairly good attendance, and had the weather been more favourable, there would probably have been a much larger audience. The vicar (Rev Frederic Steggall) presided, and briefly introduced Mr Blair. The address was divided into five parts, the observations of the rev. gentleman being frequently applauded. The lecture was interspersed with readings and vocal selections. The programme was as under:—Part I.—The history and antiquity of bells. Song and chorus, "Ring the bell, watchman," Mr Hyden and Church choir; reading, "Lift it gently to the steeple," Mrs Blair. Part II.—Bell-founders, and bell-founding. Round, "Five bells of Osney," Church choir; reading, "The bells of Motherland," Mrs Blair. Part III.—Campanology and campanologists. Song, "Chime again," Rev F. Steggall; reading, "Church bells," Mrs Blair. Part IV.—Bells—old and new—English and foreign. Round, "Hark, the bonny Christ Church bells," Church choir; reading, "Rules for bell-ringers," Mrs Blair. Part V.—"Thou shalt not steal"—the Consett bells. Glee, "The belfry tower," Church choir. The choir, under the efficient direction of Mr Hyden, executed their pieces in admirable style, and the readings by Mrs Blair were fully appreciated. Mr J. Surtees acted as accompanist. The peal of bells were rung prior to the lecture. The proceeds were in aid of the Christ Church Bells Fund.

Annual Meeting of the Consett New Town Hall Company.—The annual meeting of this Company was held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday evening, Mr C. P. Douglass in the chair. After the notice convening the meeting had been read by the secretary, the Chairman read over the report, which was adopted. The retiring directors, Messrs Ainsworth, Aynsley, and Davison, were re-elected, and Mr Adam Brodie was also re-elected auditor. After the usual business had been satisfactorily completed, Mr Jackson thought it was a favourable opportunity for ventilating the question of excessive charges, which it was alleged had been made on the late parliamentary candidates, and asked the Chairman if it was correct that the Directors had charged excessively for the use of the large hall during the late election. He had also heard that one of the candidates had been charged for some damage which had been done at one of the meetings. If so, it was scarcely fair to charge double as much for a political meeting as an ordinary public meeting. There was also a report going of one candidate being charged more than the other. This he could not credit. It was, probably, a difficult matter to define what was a political meeting, and he had heard of a meeting being held, quite as much of a political character as either Conservative or Liberal, at which the ordinary charge was made. He hoped that the Directors had some well-defined basis on which to make a difference in the charge.—The Chairman, in reply, said it was well the subject had been mentioned, so that the matter could be put straight. There had been no difference made in the charges for the use of the large hall to the candidates. Both parties paid the same rent, and he thought the charge reasonable.—Mr Ainsworth thought there was no difficulty in defining a political meeting, for which they charged more than an ordinary meeting; the meetings which were so charged were meetings at which political candidates expressed their views to both parties—Conservative or Liberal. He did not think the price unreasonable considering the extra wear and tear to the premises which generally took place at such meetings. It was incorrect that any damage had been charged to either of the candidates; although the candidates were no doubt responsible for such damage. After affixing the seal to the list of shareholders, and a vote of thanks to the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

BLACKHILL.

St. Aidan's Church.—Sunday morning and evening, special sermons were preached in St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, on behalf of the Church Missionary Society, by the Rev Mr Glanvylle, who has laboured for a long period in Ceylon as a missionary. The congregations were large, the edifice being crowded to excess at night.

Benfieldside Stock Auction Mart.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray had a large supply of fat cattle and sheep, dairy cows and store cattle, &c., at this mart on Monday. Trade all through was of a slow, dull turn, and prices had a downward tendency from last week. 29 fat cattle sold at prices varying from £8 15s to £23 10s; 97 sheep, 19s to 63s; geld cows, £6 to £9 5s; stirks, 40s to £5 10s; cows, £9 to £16 10s; hay, £4 10s per ton; swede turnips, 25s 6d; hams, 5d per lb.; chickens, 1s 8d each; beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Floral and Horticultural Society.—The committee of this society have decided to add an Industrial Exhibition to their usual floral soow, and the first competition will be confined to ladies, and boys and girls attending school within a radius of seven miles. We trust that the first exhibition will be sufficiently successful to warrant them at subsequent exhibitions to include the whole of the area of the Lanchester Union.

Shotley Bridge and District Gas Company.—The report of the Directors of this Company for the half-year ending Dec. 31st, 1885, to be submitted at the annual general meeting of the proprietors, on Tuesday, March 2nd, states: "The receipts from the sale of gas and residual products amount to £3,472 17s 3d; and the expenditure is £2,139 11s 8d, leaving a balance of £1,333 5s 7d to meet the dividend for the half-year, which your Directors recommend to be paid as follows:—5 per cent. on consolidated stock; 5 per cent. on capital A; 3½ per cent. on capital B. The consumption of gas has slightly increased, and it is to be hoped the increase may be continued. The only subject which calls for special remark is the extraordinary fall in the price of residual products, which will considerably affect the revenue of the future, unless a substantial improvement takes place in the chemical market. The Directors retiring by rotation are Messrs W. Ritson, Wm. Aynsley, W. R. Taylor, who are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly; the retiring auditor is Mr R. G. Barclay.—(Signed), George Peile, Chairman."

LEADGATE.

David Dale, Esq., J.P., has contributed 10s towards the formation of a branch of the White Cross Army at Leadgate.

KNITSLEY.

Presentation. — On Tuesday evening, the Knitsley Primitive Methodist Choir presented Miss L. Turnbull with a beautiful album, on the occasion of her leaving the above place *en route* to Australlia to join her brother.

CROOK.

On Tuesday, a lad named Joseph Galley (13), Bowden Close, died suddenly from an epileptic fit at the Crook Board School playground.

Vestry Meeting.—A meeting of the rated inhabitants of Crook and Billy Row was held on Tuesday evening, in the Board School, Crook, when the Rector (Rev J. King) presided.—The specific business was to take into consideration the new basis of the county frate.—The Clerk explained that the real present value of the township, according to the Assessment Committee, was £34,269 5s. thus showed them to be charged on £13,000 above what ought to be the case.—It was proposed and seconded "That the vestry, having considered the new basis for fair and equal county rates prepared by the County Rate Committee for the County of Durham, bearing date 31st January, 1886 considers the said basis or standard to be unjust and unequal, and that this township of Crook and Billy Row is aggrieved by such basis or standard on account of the property in this said township liable to be assessed to the county rate, being rated on a sum beyond its full and fair annual value, and that the overseers of this said township be, and they hereby are instructed and authorised to object to the said basis or standard, and for that purpose to take all such steps as they may think necessary."—The resolution was carried unanimously.

WINLATON

Longevity.—Mr. T. T. Bennet writes:—We have in the village of Winlaton eight persons, whose united ages amount to 670 years, viz.:—Jas. Prudhoe, 89 years; Wm. Marshall, 82; Geo. Currie, 82; Wm. Anderson, 83; Michael Atkinson, 85; Jos. Prudhoe, 81; J. Bagnall, 80; M. Allison, 88: total, 670 years. These, I may say, have lived in the village all their lives, and are now in perfect health.

HEDLEY HILL.

Concert.—An evening concert was given in the Wesleyan Chapel, Hedley Hill Terrace, on Saturday. The programme was an interesting one, and was rendered in a very efficient manner by:—Miss Dixon, East Hedleyhope: Miss Moore, Esh; Mr and Mrs Hamilton, Mr and Mrs Smith, Mr T. Wilkinson, pianist, Crook; Mr Makepeace, Pease's West; and Mr Davison, Hedley Hill. Mr J. C. Allison, Hedley Hill, presided. Votes of thanks brought a pleasant evening to a close.

WOLSINGHAM.

The Polytechnic Exhibition.—This exhibition, which has had a successful run for five weeks in the Town Hall, Wolsingham, was opened for the last time on Saturday. On Saturday night, a concert was given, after which Mr Shaw, on behalf of the committee, thanked those who had lent the miscellaneous articles which had made the exhibition a success. They were specially indebted to Mr Ware, of Stanner's Close Steel Works, for giving them the use of the electric light. He strongly advised the young men of the town, now that the institute committee were in a good financial position, to enrol themselves as members. The total sum realised is close upon £160.

TANFIELD LEA.

Stanley Circuit Primitive Methodist Sunday School Union.—On Saturday, the yearly committee and teachers' council was held at Tanfield Lea, the Rev John Waite (circuit minister) in the chair. The visitors' reports were received, and considered satisfactory. The following schools were represented:—Stanley, West Pelton, Annfield Plain, Oxhill, Burnhope, Craghead, and Tanfield Lea. The officers were elected for the year as follows:—Chairman, Rev J. Waite; secretary, Mr P. Reay; treasurer, Mr G. Bainbridge; together with a committee with representatives from each school according to their number of scholars. The secretary then read a circular from the general committee, bearing on the appointment of a children's evangelist for the connexion, but after some discussion it was voted against, the general feeling being that each district should be allowed to make its own arrangements for such work. The secretary was nominated for the District Sunday-school Committee. The secretary submitted the yearly reports of the schools in the circuit, which showed marked improvement in each department. Tea was provided and served to the representatives by the teachers of the Tanfield Lea school, after which a public temperance meeting was held. The Rev John Waite occupied the chair, and made a few appropriate remarks for the occasion. The following programme was ably rendered: — Recitation by Miss M. Bassham, "Only a flower;" solo by Miss Clementson, "Father, come home;" recitation by Miss H. Rockett, "As he won't;" recitation by Miss Ruddick, "Faith and prayer;" solo by Mr J. Young, "Dare to do right;" recitation by Miss S. Bassham, "Where does the blame lie?"; duet by Miss Clementson and Mr J. Young, "Yeo ho;" recitation by Miss M. J. Clementson, "The drunken husband;" recitation by Miss H. Rockett, "The living waters;" solo by Miss Clementson, "Who is a brave man who;" recitation by Miss M. Bassham, "Lady Clare;" solo by Mr J. Hall (Craghead), "The old brandy bottle;" recitation by Mr J. Hall, "The lifeboat" (*encore*). An address on Bands of Hope and temperance societies in connection with the schools and congregations was given by Mr P. Reay. The speaker described the working of such means, and the good reaped from them to the church of Christ.—Votes of thanks brought the gathering to a close.

WEST STANLEY.

Stanley Conservative Association.—On Tuesday evening a meeting of Conservatives was held at Mr J. Clarkson's, Commercial Inn, West Stanley, for the purpose of forming a branch of the Central Association for North-West Durham.—Dr Mantle occupied the chair, and ably introduced Mr J. Lyons, of the Central Association, London, who gave an address on organisation, illustrating its effects on the rise and fall of party power—his remarks being frequently applauded. On the conclusion of the address the election of officers took place, and the meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to the lecturer and chairman.

C.E.T.S.—(*Beamish Branch.*)—Monday evening saw the Stanley School-room well filled with an intelligent and appreciative audience, assembled to listen to a programme which—in suggestive parlance—may be said to have dealt intemperance a heavy and stinging slap in the face. This many-sided question was viewed from varied standpoints, under diverse aspects, by persons of heterogeneous stations and occupations. The physical, the mental, the moral, and the spiritual aspects all in turn came under review; the personal, family, social, national, commercial, and scientific bearings of this comprehensive problem were successively laid under contribution to minister to the insatiable longings of the genus "Homo," and to supply a suitable pabulum for the healthy development of his auricular functions, his psychical aptitudes, and his unspoken moral yearnings. After the usual opening with hymn and prayer, Mr J. Robson read "Pat's moleskin trousers," which had the singular effect of broadening many faces, widening many mouths, and narrowing many eyes. Then followed a song, "On thy brother's blood is crying," which was well rendered by Mr R. Grundy's clear voice. Next came a reading by Mr S. Thompson, called "Negro lecture on astrology," giving his ideas of the sun, moon, and stars, which he calls father, mother, and children. Then came a duet, "Flow on thou shining river," by Miss M. Ramshaw and Master J. Ramshaw, which showed off with splendid effect the performers' vocal talents. This was followed by an interesting and scientific lecture by the Rev L. M. Chesters, on "Alcohols and their rises," after which the choir gave a melody, entitled, "Hope for the fallen." Mr Thos. Robson next appeared with a recitation, "Cat and dog life," showing the good effect which temperance has on animals. The next was an address by the Rev E. J. Day, who, although not a total abstainer, spoke very highly in favour of temperance, after which our old friend, Mr J. Gilchrist, of Marley Hill, spoke a few encouraging words. Next came a duet, "Huntingtower," which was well sung, and caused much merriment and prolonged applause. Miss Brewis next favoured the audience with a recitation, entitled "Billy's nose," a very touching story, which was rendered so as to do honour to the performer. Mr J. Liley then brought the programme to a close by a song, entitled "Pull hard against the stream." After the meeting had been closed by prayer, eight new members were initiated, after which the visiting committee gave in the first report, which was very satisfactory.

BLAYDON.

Derwent Rifle Club.—On Saturday, the usual fortnightly handicap competition took place at the club range, Blaydon. The weather was fair, with a bad, dull light, and a slight wind. Highest scores:—Col.-Sergt. Marley, Felling, 64; Sergt. A. Forsyth, Felling, 60; Pte. T. S. Magnay, 3rd V.B.N.F., 59; Sergt.-Major J. Symons, Gateshead E.V., 59; Sapper S. Dodds, Gateshead E.V., 55; Pte. R. Robinson, Corbridge, 55; Col.-Sergt. Rumford, 3rd V.B.N.F., 55.

Primitive Methodism.—In connection with the special evangelistic services now being held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Blaydon, a public tea was provided on Saturday by the members of the church, after which Mrs Fletcher, of Coatham, Redcar, who is conducting the special services, gave the second of her popular lectures, subject, "The Twistings and Twinings of Timothy Turnabout."

Sad Drowning Case.—Yesterday (Thursday), Mr John Graham, coroner, held an inquest at the house of Mr William Vallans, Station Hotel, Blaydon, into the cause of the death of Adam Shield (37), whose body was found in the River Tyne at Blaydon, on Wednesday morning.—Jane Richardson, residing in Bridge Street, knew the deceased, who resided with his step-grandmother, Frances Bolton. Deceased was a labourer, and had principally been employed at chemical works. She last saw him alive about ten o'clock on Tuesday evening. During the earlier part of the evening he had taken some medicine which he had got from Dr Brown, and when she let the house he seemed inclined to sleep.—In reply to the Coroner, witness said the deceased was somewhat intemperate in his habits, and when under the influence of drink he was given to wandering. Deceased was a few years ago an inmate of Sedgefield Lunatic Asylum, but he was only confined there a few months.—William Dodd, butcher, Blaydon, said about midnight on the 16th inst., he spoke to deceased outside the Blaydon Police Station. He told witness that he wanted to see Sergt. Benzies, and that he had knocked several times at the door, but could not get anyone to hear.—Nicholas Black said about half-past seven o'clock on Wednesday morning he was taking a walk along by Messrs Cowen's Quay at Blaydon, when he saw the dead body of the deceased lying on the foreshore, between the Quay and a wherry moored there. He at once gave information of the occurrence to the police.—Sergt. Benzies went with the last witness to the Quay, and had the body conveyed home. There were no marks of violence upon the body, and death, he thought, was due to drowning.—In reply to the Coroner, the sergeant said deceased was given to wandering when under the influence of drink, and when in that state he seemed to labour under the impression that his friends were going to send him back to Sedgefield again.—The jury returned a verdict "That deceased was found drowned in the river Tyne, but there was no evidence to show how he got into the water."

DURHAM.

A case of swine fever was reported on Saturday, near Neville's Cross, Durham.

Political Banquet.—A number of the Conservatives of Durham attended a banquet held in the Town Hall on Wednesday night to celebrate the return of their member, Mr T. Milvain, M.P. The chair was occupied by Mr John Lloyd Wharton, J.P., with Colonel Rowlandson as vice. About 230 sat down, and the usual patriotic and complimentary toasts were proposed and responded to.

Putting the Bailiff out.—Before the Durham City Justices yesterday (Thursday), *John* and *Geo. Robinson*, father and son, residing at 30, Sutton Street, were charged with assaulting Jos. Scarth, on the 10th inst.—Scarth stated that he was sent to the house to distrain for rent. On getting there he showed his authority to the elder defendant, who took the authority and went out with it. He afterwards returned. The defendants then got hold of him and put him out of the house.—Defendant called a witness to deny all this, but the Bench fined them £1 and costs each, or one months' imprisonment in default.

Novel Reason for Evading Payment.—At Durham County Court on Wednesday—before His Honour Judge Meynell—Richard Jeffery, a miner, living at Race's Terrace, Newbottle, was sued by Asher Friedman, a general dealer of the Hebrew persuasion, living at Sunderland, for £3 12s, which was described in his account as "ballance to goods," the goods being a watch and other articles he had sold the defendant.—The wife of the defendant appeared, and said her husband had purchased the watch whilst he was a "Good Templar," and he shortly afterwards "broke out" again, and resumed his drinking habits. She had repeatedly offered to return the watch, and had been careful not to use it.—His Honour thought the defence was a strange one. It could not be expected that plaintiff would take back goods he had sold just because the purchaser had taken to drink.—Verdict for the plaintiff, with costs.

Board of Guardians.—At the fortnightly meeting of this Board held at Durham on Saturday, a letter was read from the Birmingham Board of Guardians asking the Durham Board to co-operate with them in memorialising the Local Government Board to bring in an Act of Parliament to enable Boards of Guardians to borrow money for a period exceeding 30 years, and thus placing them on the same level as School Boards and Local Boards. It was agreed to join with the Birmingham Board.—A letter was read from Colonel Armstrong, the governor of Durham Gaol, requesting an order for the admission into the workhouse of John Gibbon, an invalid suffering from senile debility, who, on his discharge from prison, had no friends able to take charge of him. The clerk was instructed to write to the Home Secretary, asking his opinion as to how far the Board were justified in accepting into their workhouse prisoners released in destitute circumstances who belonged to other unions.

Health Statistics of the Union.—The yearly report of the Medical Officer of Health (Dr W. C. Blackett) for the Durham Rural Sanitary Authority was issued on Saturday. The report estimated the population of the district at 33,839. During the year 1,216 births, representing a rate of 35·9, and 552 deaths, representing a rate of 16·3 per thousand, were registered. Smallpox caused 13 deaths. The district is remarkably free from fevers, continued fevers being less than at any time since 1877. Vaccination and re-vaccination are strongly recommended, Dr Blackett stating that he never knew any one who had been properly vaccinated take smallpox, and "most assuredly no one can have smallpox who has been re-vaccinated." Referring to the recent cholera scare, the report after mentioning that since 1849 each seperate outbreak of cholera has been less virulent, continues: "The sanitary condition of all the villages in the Durham Union has been so much improved since the last invasion of cholera that I do not think it can spread even if it was imported."

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

A woman named McKenry has been found dead in bed at Springwell Colliery.

There is no decrease in the smallpox epidemic at Birtley. At the meeting of the Chester-le-Street Guardians yesterday (Thursday) nine new cases were reported.

The Smallpox at Birtley.—Cases of smallpox still prevail in Birtley, but they are of a much milder type than when the disease first broke out. There are at present ten cases in the hospital provided for those affected. Every attention and care is given to the inmates, and it is hoped that, with the precautions taken the disease will soon be eradicated.

WEARDALE.

The Salvationists have made "an attack" upon St. John's Chapel, Weardale.

Leadmines.—Writing on the 11th inst., Mr Blenkiron (in the *Mining World*) reports:—"Ore dressing stopped at all the company's mines."

Mission Services.—Mr George Malpas, of Hillford, Essex, commenced a series of evangelistic services in High House Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday. Mr Malpas has just finished a similar series at Stanhope. Messrs Cawood and Browell, the Wesleyan district lay evangelists, have also just concluded special services, the former at Rookhope and the latter at Eastgate.

Liberalism.—On Friday evening last, a meeting was held in the Liberal Committee Rooms, Wearhead, for the purpose of forming a Liberal Literary Association. An encouraging letter from Sir Jos. Pease, M.P., was read at the meeting. The following officers were appointed:—President, Mr J. Featherstone; vice-president, Mr J. Hewitson; secretary, Mr J. Coulthard; treasurer, Mr J. Harrison. Suitable rules were framed for carrying on the association, and other preliminaries were satisfactorily arranged.

"Casting out Devils."—An amusing incident is recorded from the hamlet of Rookhope, which shows that the quiet and undemonstrative piety of the dales folks will brook no inroads from the eccentric evangelists of the semi-Salvationist type. One of the latter entered a lead-miner's cottage, and, after the usual introduction, invited prayer. Kneeling down, the dalesman devoutly prayed, to the best of his ability, an example followed by his visitor, who began by saying, "Oh, Lord! help this fellow to pray, he's been trying this last ten minutes and can't." Here the miner sprang to his feet, and opening the door and catching the "divine" in his powerful embrace threw him out, exclaiming, "There, maister, if I cannot pray I can cast o'ot deevils, may be," the guid wife seconding her lord's effort by "landing out" his reverence's hat.

GREENSIDE.

United Methodist Band of Hope.—This Band of Hope held its annual meeting on Saturday night at Greenside, before a fair company. The chair was occupied by Mr T. B. Ord, of Greenside. Solos were given by Misses K. Ord, Todd, and Armitage; a trio by the Misses Armitage and Mr J. Pearson, Greenside; recitations by Messrs T. Watson, Armitage, Charlton, and others; an address by Mr Robert Young, Thorp Cottages, Ryton; and a violin solo by Mr T. Dickinson, of Crawcrook. Harmonium accompanists, Messrs Maughan and Fewster.

LANGLEY PARK.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Saturday night, a free entertainment was given in the above chapel at Langley Park by the choir, when a presentation was made to their respected leader, Mr Henry Hepburn, by Mr G. Peel, on behalf of the choir and friends, of a silver-mounted ivory baton, with suitable inscription. The testimonial was obtained at the establishment of Mr Butler, Haymarket, London. Mr Hepburn has laboured hard to raise a choir, and to improve the singing, and the results show that he has not worked in vain. This choir takes part in the great service of song given in the Town Hall, Newcastle, each year by the Methodist choirs of the two northern counties. We need not offer any words of praise, for their labours speak louder than words. They are often invited to give their services at different places in the district. The chair on the present occasion was occupied by the society's respected and tried friend, Mr J. Dodgson, sen. A most enjoyable meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the doxology.

ALLANSFORD.

On Saturday night, an excellent entertainment was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allansford, by the Band of Hope choir. Mr Jos. Oley, of Shotley Bridge, occupied the chair. There was a numerous attendance.

WEST PELTON.

Grange Villa and West Pelton Primitive Methodist Band of Hope.—On Saturday night, the members of the Ouston Band of Hope gave a grand public entertainment in the Grange Villa chapel. Mr Geo. Horn presided, and Mr Michael Glenwright officiated at the harmonium. The following programme was gone through with great satisfaction:—Solo, Mr W. Lavender; recitation, Miss Hush; recitation, Miss Haddon; solo, Mr A. Stephenson; dialogue, "The snake in the grass," six characters; solo, Mr Glenwright; recitation, Miss Ramsey; recitation, Mr J. Lavender; solo, Mr R. Urwin; recitation, Miss Hutchinson; duet, Misses Longridge and Bates; an address by Mr M. Glenwright; solo, Miss Lavender. All the artistes took their parts in first-class style. There was a good company. After giving a vote of thanks to the chairman and all the performers, the meeting terminated.

LANCHESTER.

Owing to the continued severity of the weather, the fortnightly Petty Sessions were again held in the Workhouse Board-room, at Lanchester, yesterday (Thursday), instead of the Police Court Buildings.

The master and matron of the Lanchester Workhouse (Mr and Mrs Brotherhood) were a few days ago appointed master and matron of the Croydon Union, near London, an honour which they have respectfully declined. Mr Brotherhood, for a number of years, it will be remembered, was the inspector in charge of the mounted police in Newcastle.

Proposed Reading Room.—A meeting of the inhabitants took place at Lanchester on Tuesday evening—Rev F. W. Glyn (vicar) presiding—when a scheme for establishing a reading-room was approved. The Vicar was chosen as president; Mr Burgess, Burnhope, secretary; Mr T. Dunn, treasurer, and a committee of 12 gentlemen were appointed. The proceedings were of a lively and amusing character.

GATESHEAD.

Neglect of Magisterial Duty.—A number of cases under the Education Act were down for trial at the Gateshead County Police Court on Tuesday, and with a view to saving time Lord Ravensworth suggested that one magistrate should take them separately. There was, however, a difficulty, as there were only two magistrates present. His lordship remarked that there was a number of magistrates appointed who did not attend to their duties. He did not hesitate to say publicly that it was a neglect of public duty.

SWALWELL.

Band of Hope.—A meeting in connection with the Swalwell Band of Hope was held in the school on Monday evening, when solos were sung by Miss N. Ord, Newcastle, and Messrs Bates and Armstrong. A dialogue was rendered by a few friends from Scotswood, entitled "Guilty or not guilty," in good style, and a recitation was also given by Mr J. Spoors, of Scotswood. Piano solos were executed by Miss M. Speers and Mr W. Speers, Mr W. R. Lumley being accompanist.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

Political Lecture.—The third of a course of lectures was delivered on Monday evening in the Reading Room, Victoria Garesfield, by Mr Adam Smith, subject: "Ireland from the Conquest to the Union." Mr Jos. Priestman, J.P., presided. A vote of thanks to the lecturer, moved by Mr John Jemison, seconded by Mr J. Parker, and warmly supported by Mr J. Tucker, brought the meeting to a close.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Poaching Cases.—On Tuesday, at the Hexham Petty Sessions, *William Angus*, pitman, Medomsley Edge, was fined £2 and costs, or a month's imprisonment, for having three nets, found in his possession when searched on the highway, under the Poaching Prevention Act, on the 16th May, 1885; and *John Duglion*, labourer, Hexham, was fined £2 and costs for aiding and abetting Angus.

Death from Burns.—An inquest took place, on Friday last, at the Reading-room, Allendale Cottages, by Mr J. Graham, coroner, on the body of Thomassion Harvey Rowe, a girl of six years, who expired on the 9th inst. Deceased was left alone in bed on the 17th January. She struck a match, and set herself on fire. She was seriously scorched, and eventually succumbed to the injuries. She lingered 23 days, and was attended by a medical man.—Verdict, "Accidental death."

BURNOPFIELD.

Concert.—A concert of vocal and instrumental music was given in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield, on Saturday evening, for the benefit of Mr Thomas Brown, miner, Marley Hill, who is disabled by a dislocated back. Mr E. Saunders presided, and, after a few well-chosen and appropriate remarks concerning the benefit for which the concert was given, introduced the following performers:—Mr T. Bewick's voluntary string band, Marley Hill Wesleyan choir (harmoniumist, Mr J. Pyle; conductor, Mr John Douglass), Mr Jefferson gave two vocal solos in good style, Mr Gregory rendered a violin solo for which he received an *encore*. Miss Douglass gave two solos which evoked another *encore*. Miss Robson also rendered two vocal solos which were well received. Miss Jefferson sang two solos with credit. Mr A. Battensby gave a piccolo solo for which he was awarded an *encore*. The programme reflected the utmost credit upon all the performers, who gave their talents free, and the most part paid for admission into the hall. A vote of thanks was proposed by the chairman, and was heartily responded to by the audience. The proceedings were brought to a close by the choir singing the doxology. The proceeds of the concert (after a few local expenses were paid) showed a balance of £15 to hand over to the suffering man, for which he and his wife heartily thank all concerned.

TANFIELD.

C.E.T.S.—A very good magic lantern entertainment was given in the School-room at Tanfield, on Tuesday evening. The room was well filled, and the various views were well seen and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were present—the comic pictures especially producing great amusement. The success of the entertainment quite justified the committee in the change from their usual programme, and the money collected will encourage them to provide other novelties in the future.

ESH COLLIERY.

Dedicatory services at Esh Colliery new Wesleyan Chapel were continued on Sunday, Mr M. Park preaching.

TOW LAW.

At Tow Law, yesterday (Thursday), snow fell nearly the whole of the day, and at night it was falling heavily.

Remains of the Snowstorm.—The recent snowstorm was very severe in the neighbourhood of Tow Law, the snow still lying in the fields to a depth of over a foot, while in the streets it is piled up to a height of four or five feet at the sides of the footpath; and the roads are thick with ice.

Auction Mart.—Mr Vickers's weekly sale was held at Tow Law, on Monday. There were forward and sold 28 cows, £9 to £25 5s; 8 fat cattle, £8 10s to £16; 50 fat sheep, 25s 3d to 60s; store cattle, £4 5s to £9 5s. Hay at £4 16s per ton. Cattle spice, shoulder chains, back bands, &c., were sold. A good company were present, and the rates for fat stock ruled at about late prices. For cows of good kinds there was an improved tone, and second-class sold at late rates.

PELTON.

Police Cases.—At the Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions, last week, *George Nelson* was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Pelton, on January 21st.—P.C. Marshall proved the charge.—Fined 5s and costs.—*Robert Brown*, charged by P.C. Harper with being drunk at the same place, on January 22nd, was fined 5s and costs.—*Joseph Wilson* was fined 5s and costs for the same offence at the same place.—*Thomas Graham* was charged with being drunk at Sunniside, on January 31st, and was fined 7s 6d and costs.—*Thomas Redhead, John Redhead, John McKercher, George Young, Robert Redhead, David Redhead*, and *[illegible] Cooper* were charged with breach of the Highway Act by playing at pitch and toss at Hot Hills, Pelton Fell, on the 24th ult.—P.C. Crabb proved the charge.—Thomas Redhead, who did not appear, was fined 2s 6d and costs; the remainder were fined 1s and costs.

LADIES' COLUMN.

The political world is so closely connected with the social world that changes in one always more or less affect the other. It is safe to go even farther still, and assert that the political revolutions are always begun in drawing-rooms, where people meet together, exchange views, and take measures to give them practical expression. Ideas must originate somewhere, though it is not until after the process of incubation of one is over, and the new bird steps out in its early features, that its existence is admitted to be an accomplished fact. Just at present people are a little puzzled by what term to describe their own political convictions, as on one subject a man finds himself in agreement with Lord Salisbury, and on another with Mr. Gladstone. As to ladies, the great majority make their politics a personal question. They overrate one leader, or one of his followers, more than another, and so take sides in drawing-room arguments. Philosophers may tell us over and over again that Government by party is bad, immoral, and dishonest, and in theory we all agree; but actually we support our own side nevertheless, and our own friends all the time. Some ladies and gentlemen in London, who deplore the ignorance upon great questions of many of their friends, propose a scheme by which opportunities will be afforded thoughtless, ignorant, or prejudiced people of becoming better educated. The beginning has been made of forming a National Political Union, of men and women of all shades of opinion, to hold discussion meetings from time to time, at which the members may enlighten each other on vexed questions. How far such a scheme is workable remains to be seen; but as the Social Science Association on a basis somewhat similar existed until this year, there is no reason why the new society should not live at least to get into its teens. The National Political Union held its first meeting last Saturday in a drawing-room at Ilchester-terrace, Bayswater, and Mrs. Henry Fawcett took the chair. Being only a preliminary meeting, to appoint a committee and pass resolutions making rules, no great question was brought forward. About 150 ladies and gentlemen were present, some professing Liberal, some Conservative, others Independent, opinions, and the new craft was successfully launched. It is intended to have branch societies all over the kingdom in communication with the parent association in London, obtaining assistance in the shape of books, pamphlets, &c., upon important questions. It is hoped then that by letting people hear the proverbial two sides of vexed questions, or, what is becoming more common now every day, hearing three or four sides to many of them, useful reforms may be carried out. Such questions as the poor-law, education, franchise for women, and those unexpected themes that crop up in newspaper columns first, and come before Parliament afterwards, will all be dealt with at the meetings of the National Political Union.

Another new society, intended to include ladies as well as gentlemen, is the Liberty Club. The possibility of carrying this one out is also problematical, but its scheme is interesting as a social experiment which has not yet been tried. "It is proposed to bring together those men and women who wish to enlarge the free action and free judgment of the individual, and to oppose many oppressive interferences by the State. . . . gradually to restrict the services of the State to the defence of country, person, and property." This sounds very much as if the promoters hoped for a millennium, but it is at least a harmless aspiration. The practical outcome of the club is to be the establishment of branches with club-rooms all over London, conducted on simple lines, with plain luncheons, cheap dinners, and, if desired, a table breakfast on one day of the week. Voluntary contributions of books, furniture, &c., to fit up the club rooms are requested from the members. Mr. Herbert Spencer is to be appointed an honorary life member, but the circular issued does not state whether this honour is to be enjoyed for the lifetime of the club, or of Mr. Spencer himself. Some idea may be had of the class of thinkers who have already declared themselves in favour, and become members, of the new club by mentioning Mr. Auberon Herbert, the Earl of Pembroke, Lord Bramwell, Lord Clifton, Mrs. Cranshay, &c. Both these societies are quiet and generally inoffensive. Unless we seek them they will not attack us. Not so cyclist societies, the members of which are beings of a different order. To whom the world belonged of right before the days of bicycles is now lost sight of. To go farther back and ask who owned the footways before the days of perambulators is equally futile. There is no time in the present day for reading ancient history; that which is contemporary, is as much as we can manage, and the future is quite beyond guessing at. Apparently the cyclist believes himself the monarch of all he surveys from his saddle on two wheels, for he deals severely equally with the vestries and the keepers of the public parks because the public roads do not suit his machine. High-street, Kensington, is a fearsome place with the perambulators by day, and the cyclists at night, when the nursemaids cease from troubling us, and the babies all are at rest. At worst, only our shins and our toes suffer at noon; at eve the other enemy is upon us bodily, and cuts us down, if we attempt to cross a street, in the very flower of our respective ages. The Birmingham Town Council have been the first to acknowledge the supremacy of their masters. They have laid down sections of roads as experiments, under the advice of the National Cyclists' Union, and begged the young gentlemen to take their choice of methods. Who would not wish to be a Birmingham ratepayer and contributor?

Next to the cyclist the man of most importance in the society of self and friends is the amateur photographer. He aims at everybody and everything, and brings to the negative both the just and the unjust. The difference between one society of aggressionists and the other is that the photographer adds every day to our scientific knowledge, and the cyclist, unless he takes a camera with him as an apology for his existence, only aims at giving himself pleasure. Again has the photographer been at the planets, setting up his camera against the most retiring of the fixed stars. Neither Mars nor Jupiter need affect concealment of little peculiarities; even Neptune will eventually be secured in spite of his remoteness. The Paris Observatory, or rather the astronomers connected with it, have been photographing a nebula in the *Pleiades*, invisible even to the eye in telescope. The light, it seems, consists almost certainly of the violet rays of the spectrum, or rather, of those ultra-violet rays which are known to lie beyond the violet. Photographs have also been obtained shewing the exact position of the new star which has appeared in the constellation of Orion, and which was only seen for the first time by Mr. J. E. Gore, on December 18th last. This star is now daily waning in brilliancy, and even the most powerful telescope will fail to see it in a few more days.

It has been, however, reserved for the French Academie des Sciences to make the most advanced move of the day. By means of the megaloscope an incandescent lamp is used to explore the stomach and other cavities of the body. By this instrument a lens is brought within the cavity, and a magnified image of the interior projected for the physician's inspection.

Photogravure is likely to revolutionise the engraver's art. The cost of engraving a picture is, in many instances, especially in these very bad times, prohibitive. But even a few years ago, in those halcyon days for artists, when Ironopolis and Cottonopolis contended with London for the privilege of putting down four figures for famous pictures, engraving these gems was not wholly successful. Necessarily the work occupied a long time; and in this age of hurry and ceaseless change two or three years' interval lessened public interest in the reproduction of a picture, its reputation possibly already overshadowed by one newer still. Photogravure facilitates the labour and lessens the cost of the engraver, and it bridges over the gulf of time successfully. The great exponents of the art are at present Messrs. Bouisson, Valadon, and Co., of Bond-street, and up to the present time they have no successful rivals. One of the happiest engravings—to use a portable term—brought out by them this spring is from Mr. George W. Joy's "Nelson and his Grandmother," familiar to the visitors to the Royal Academy in 1883. Nelson's mother was dead before the boy left home, but the grandmother tills her place, and takes leave of the

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY.

As St. Valentine's day comes round, it may occur to many boys and girls to wonder who this particular saint was and what he did that young people should keep his name in remembrance by sending love messages and presents to each other.

The latter part of the question is rather difficult to answer. St. Valentine himself—good man—were he alive now, could not do so, and, indeed, probably no one would be more astonished than he to find what strange doings he is made answerable for. Not very much is known about Valentine, save that he was a brave Christian who lived in Rome in the third century, and who gave his life for the truth. Being told by his judge that he must either recant or suffer a cruel death, he replied that it was easier to die than to give up his religion. Accordingly on the 14th of February, about the year 270, Valentine joined the "noble army of martyrs." He was first beaten with clubs and then beheaded. Years afterwards the Roman Catholic Church added Valentine to the list of their saints. The explanation of how his name came to be associated with the present observances of St. Valentine's Day seems to be this: In ancient Rome certain feasts were held in February in honour of the heathen deities Pan and Juno. Amid a variety of other ceremonies observed at the time the names of young women were put into a box, from which they were drawn by the men as chance directed. The pastors of the early Christian Church feeling how hopeless it was to endeavour to get the people altogether to relinquish their old customs, sought to render them innocent and harmless by altering them and substituting for the heathen gods and goddesses to whom these festivals were dedicated, the names of certain saints. In the present instance having modified the old ceremonies to adapt them to Christian beliefs, they seem to have chosen St. Valentine's Day for their celebration, seeing that it happened to fall on about the same date as that on which the pagan feast used to commence. The manner in which the day is observed, has however altered very much, not merely from what it was in quite ancient times, but from how it was kept in England two centuries ago. Letters containing ridiculous pictures and verses (happily not now so common as they were a few years back) were then quite unknown, and if a letter of any kind was sent by gallant youth to fair maiden it contained only a courteous profession of his attachment and the expression of a hope that his love might be returned. But the true proper ceremony of St. Valentine's Day was the drawing of a kind of lottery, followed by ceremonies not much unlike what we call the game of forfeits. According to the account given by Misson, a learned traveller of the early part of the last century, it was the habit, both in England and Scotland, for an equal number of the young unmarried folks of both sexes to meet together on the eve of St. Valentine's Day and write their true, or, in some cases, feigned names, each on a separate piece of paper. After writing, the papers were rolled up and drawn by way of lots, the ladies taking the gentlemen's papers and the gentlemen the ladies'; so each gentleman would light upon a lady whom he called his valentine, and each of the ladies upon a gentleman she called hers. Of course in this way each had two valentines, which, one would think, would be rather confusing, if it were not for the fact that the man always preferred the valentine that had fallen to him to the one to whom he had fallen. Fortune having thus divided the company into so many couples, the gentlemen gave balls and treats to their respective valentines, and for several days would wear the papers the latter had written upon their bosoms and the sleeves of their coats. Our little readers will agree that it would be a rather risky thing for *them* when they grow to be men and women to choose their partners for life in this manner, and indeed nothing quite so serious as that was meant. Still there were some very funny notions connected with this foolish ceremony. It was a prevalent idea among the common people that St. Valentine's Day was the day on which the birds chose their mates, and they seem to have imagined that there was some peculiar influence in the day which rendered in some degree binding, the lot or chance by which any youth or maid was now led to fix his or her attention on a person of the opposite sex. For instance, it was supposed that the first unmarried person of the other sex whom one met on St. Valentine's morning was a destined wife or husband. Fancy having to keep indoors all the morning, for fear lest if you went out you should meet someone you didn't like!

The nicest and most sensible way of keeping the festival of St. Valentine is that practised in Norwich. It is observed there as a time for general giving and receiving of gifts, and indeed, to some extent takes the place of Christmas in this respect. As soon as it gets dark on St. Valentine's eve, the inmates of the house are roused by a tremendous knock at the front door. On its being opened, a large parcel is seen lying on the step, which is at once picked up and carried in. 'Tis directed in an unrecognisable scrawl, to the eldest girl, and is labelled, perhaps, "with Wallentine's luv"; evidently by someone who does not know how to spell. Wrapper after wrapper is taken off, the table is covered with brown paper and string, and then a little box containing some pretty article of jewellery is reached, which the young lady at once declares she knows is from "father." "Father," who has watched the undoing of the wrappers with as much apparent interest as any one present, and has made during its progress many wondering comments on "what it could possibly be," is of course surprised and shocked at such a suggestion! Meanwhile, another loud bang has come at the front door, and parcel number two is brought in and found to contain a top for Master Tom. Then the knocks come at shorter intervals, and the younger members of the family dance about the room, and become almost delirious with excitement. "Bang, bang," at the front door—and the boys and girls make a wild rush to open it, and snatch the parcel off the doorstep! Hardly has the precious burden been secured when bang, bang goes the door at the back of the house, followed by a rush in that direction. Back door knocker having now taken the matter up does not seem inclined to give in to its more respectable brother of the front, and so, between them, they give the young people for the next hour or so plenty of exercise in rushing from one to the other and back. Out of doors, as you pass along the street in the dusk, you see dark forms moving quietly but rapidly about; bang, bang, bang, go the knockers on each side of the way, and the dark forms aforesaid retreat within the shadows of bay-windows or rush out at the gates and crouch behind walls. Doors fly open, floods of warm light pour out into the road and you hear screams of laughter and excitement from children's voices within. Oh! 'tis rare fun. Sometimes most comical presents are sent. A gentleman made his wife a present of a feather bed, and didn't the big man enjoy the joke as he stood in the shadow outside and watched his little wife trying to tug the great unwieldy thing into the hall! Odd surprises, too, may happen when a person, ignorant of the custom, makes a call on that evening. Such a one, just arrived in the city, on knocking at the house of a friend was startled by the door flying open very suddenly and a young lady bending down and seizing hold of his legs. That must have been an odd and rather embarrassing surprise to both parties.

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—Twelve letters. In my 1, 2, 4, 9 a command; in my 3, 5, 7 a wild state; in my 4, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11 a portion of time; in my 6, 2, 12, 9 a feature; and in my whole a code of laws.

2.—My whole its kind assistance lends
To my last, whenever he intends
To draw my first from weary ends.

3.—GIRLS' BURIED NAMES.—To meet with success you must well endeavour. The choir sang the anthem magnificently. I've no wish to mar your pleasure. Mask a tell-tale causes mischief. The dog, that faithful animal, I certainly admire. I am yearning to see you. 'Twas unquestionably a big race. Bad actions scarcely profit a man. I pur hased things at the mart half-price. Man needs many things in this life. A snug berth acts as a charm. An onion is one of the choicest herbs.

4.—In daily papers I am seen, though never found in *Truth*.
I am the bosom friend of man, but shun the wayward youth.
I'm never in the Commons, yet in Parliament I'm seen.
I take my place with Royalty, altho' I "skip" the Queen.

5.—My first is contained in my second, and is surrounded by my whole.

6.—WORD SQUARES.—An animal; dry; locomotion; paradise.

7.—To gather; a name; an exclamation; gone.

8.—Style; where we like to be; a kind of priest; a coin.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Smart, mart, cart, dart, art. 2. Stone, tone, one. 3. Longfellow. 4. Nile, Scheldt, Seine, Ouse, Wear, Severn. 5. Whist, hist, sit. 6. Car-e, scrap-e, pin-t, rat-e, prim-e, tar-e, cur-b, tin-t. 7. Heartsease.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

Business Announcements.

TO THE WEARY.

"Throw Physic to the dogs,
I'll none of it."—*Shakespeare.*

DO
TRUTH. READ THIS. TRUTH.

No Person Need Despair of

A SPEEDY RESTORATION TO HEALTH AND STRENGTH,

If he or she will carefully peruse the following, and learn that the great

SELF-RESTORER,

OR

DR. BELL'S

PATENT VOLTAIC BELT

IS the safest, grandest, and most certain discovery ever known for the cure of all bodily ailments arising from indiscretion and other causes. To those afflicted with Nervousness, Nervous Debility, Loss of Physical Power, Weakness of Body and Mind, &c., this invention presents a means of cure of so unfailing a character that the greatest sufferers from any of the above distressing complaints may, with confidence, rely upon being quickly restored to a sound state of health and strength. In fact, the many marvellous cures performed by the "Self-Restorer" (UNDENIABLE PROOF OF WHICH CAN BE GIVEN) at once places these extraordinary Instruments far beyond anything of the kind hitherto offered to the public. In order to prove that these Belts are all they claim to be, it would be as well to mention the following circumstance:—

"IN the High Court of Justice (Queen's Bench Division) an injunction was granted on January 24th, 1884, restraining several unprincipled persons from selling any colourable imitations of the 'Self-Restorer' Belt, the Jury giving the proprietor a verdict with costs and damage, for such infringement." The belt was also explained, and its Electrical powers fully tested in open Court, both before Mr. Justice Hawkins and the Jury, upon the same occasion.

CAN *any other Manufacturer of Electric Belt produce evidence of* SO SEVERE A TEST. Surely, after such a proof as this, the most sceptical will believe that it really possesses the great restorative powers ascribed to it.

IT may be as well to mention that the action of the "Self-Restorer" is gentle but exceeding effective. The mild, but beneficial current generated by its use, braces the system, and by its benign influence gradually builds up the frame until the mind begins to get brighter, the natural functions become stronger, the elastic spirit of youth once more apparent, and so the progress towards recovery steadily goes on until the patient ultimately realises the fact that he is *once more young*. In cases of weakness, arising from any of the before-mentioned causes, these Belts are at once the most simple and at the same time the most certain remedy ever invented or discovered. They are entirely self-acting, and NO ACIDS being required, can be worn at any time without any wetting process or inconvenience to the patient, the salt contained in the insensible perspiration being sufficient to keep it in action.

THE Cures performed are not of a fleeting character, but permanent, providing the instructions sent with each instrument are carefully adhered to. It speedily removes the most miserable feeling, "lowness of spirits," so often experienced; and, after being worn a short time, enables a man to look at the future in a more hopeful light, as the certainty of a rapid cure relieve the mind of a great burthen.

HOW many persons who, by living too generously, have become prematurely old, and consequently have these wretched, morbid feelings? They have an idea that nature is decaying, and the pleasures of life have departed. In nine cases out of ten this is far from being the fact. Nature has not decayed: it is simply lying dormant, and needs but a little assistance to once more assert its presence. "The creaking gate requires oil, or it will continue to creak." So it is with the human frame. Assist it where weak, put it in a position to recover itself, and you will find that after all life has its pleasures, and you the restored inclination to partake of them.

THE beneficial action of these truly life-giving Belts upon the human frame has been proved so conclusively, by thousands of unsolicited testimonials, that no shadow of doubt remains as to their extraordinary efficacy. They can be worn by either sex with the greatest ease and comfort, without fear of discovery, and by a delicate arrangement can be adjusted to act directly upon the weakened parts, so that immediately upon contact with the body an electric current is at once produced of a mild, but withal of so efficacious a character, that an almost instantaneous improvement becomes noticeable. The heavy hanging feeling wears off, the eye becomes brighter, the brain clearer, until at last the patient feels in his own mind that he is once more in the possession of the greatest blessing upon earth, viz, HEALTH, STRENGTH, ENERGY, and MANLY VIGOUR.

IN cases of Gout, Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c., there is no cure in the world to be compared to these Belts. Nature requires assistance in all these complaints, and that assistance to be thoroughly effective, must be obtained from Nature herself—thus, by calling into operation Electricity, a natural ally, congenial to all constitutions, is obtained, and the result is, in almost every case, permanent cures are effected. Again in case of Consumption, these belts have been the SOLE MEANS of restoring thousands of both sexes to a healthy and vigorous existence when that fell disease "Consumption" had in the opinion of many eminent medical men, marked them as its victims. These are facts which can be proved to be absolutely true.

TO persons desirous of further information, instructions will be given away, in 130 pp. pamphlet, showing sufferers how they may be restored to Health, Strength, and Manly Vigour, without the *Aid of Medicine*, or will be sent, post free, together with all particulars as to regimen, diet, &c. Address—W. WRIGHT, Esq., Secretary, Volta House, 175, Wardour Street, Oxford Street, London W.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS MAY BE SEEN AT THE ESTABLISHMENT.

The Prices of Dr. BELL'S MEDICO-MAGNETIC or VOLTA BELTS are

£2 2s., £3 3s., AND £5 5s EACH,

According to Power.

The instrument can be sent to any part of the known world, through the Post, securely packed, upon receipt of remittance. P.O.O made payable to Mr W. Wright, at the Charing Cross Post Office, London.

Measurement round the body, just below the hips, must in all cases be sent.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

VOLTA HOUSE,

175, WARDOUR STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Having been asked upon many occasions how it is that our Belts are higher priced than those now being advertised by new firms (with whom we have no connection whatever) we beg to call attention to following:

This Appliance is POSITIVELY WHAT IT PROFESSES TO BE—an "ELECTRIC BELT," which may be proved before purchasing by the Galvanometer, &c. It was explained and fully tested before Mr Justice Hawkins and a Jury in the Court of Queen's Bench, January the 24th, 1884. Moreover, it ENTIRELY DIFFERS from anything of the kind advertised.

A perusal of which will at once show the most dubious that our Belts are without doubt, infinitely superior to anything of a like character extant, and are as beneficial to exhausted nature as represented.

They having stood the test for 30 years, as still further guarantee of their genuineness. 706v

GARDENING GOSSIP.

AMATEUR VEGETABLE GROWING.—Mr. H. S. Easty writes thus genially in the *Journal of Horticulture* on the pleasure and profit of an amateur in vegetable growing. Some ten years ago when, living in the country and fresh from London, with a small garden attached to my house, I felt that it would be healthy amusement to do my own gardening. This was the commencement of my interest in horticulture, and my first potato planting followed. I was soon anxious to see the product of my labour—too anxious, indeed, for I began lifting when the tubers were but the size of marbles. I was thus taught that patience was required, but my heart was in my work, and I soon managed to have a constant supply of fine vegetables in my garden, obtaining thereby credit from my friends and satisfaction to myself. Of course this increased my desire to do better, and the taste grew on me, as it always will on others, so that I began to think of exhibiting. My first attempt was a failure, but I now manage to take my fair share of prizes in the vegetable and fruit classes at the local shows. Year by year I try to produce something better than the year previous. As in my case so is it in others. You begin to take a slight interest and dabble in the garden, and it soon grows into a never-ending pleasure to you. Raising seedling Potatoes, new Melons, or Cucumbers never fails to give satisfaction to the man who loves his garden. Turning to the Brassicas, I believe that there is an open field for amateurs with plenty of time, patience, and perseverance into which many may tread. Peas, Potatoes, and Beans are so good now that we cannot hope for much better; but if Mr. Gilbert can produce not only an entirely new vegetable in the famous Chou, but improvements on existing varieties, such as Victoria Broccoli, Chou de Gilbert, and Universal Savoy, is it not possible that some other vegetables may be produced by careful and persistent experiments? For instance, a Sprout bearing miniature Cauliflowers all up the stalk in the place of miniature Cabbages, as in the Brussels Sprout. Surely it is possible. I find that fine Cauliflowers, of which I may feel proud, do not find acceptance in the kitchen, but hints are thrown out that smaller produce is better for the table, so why cannot we try to produce them small, but in great abundance, on one stalk? I believe there are no bounds to Nature's possibilities when assisted by man's care and patience. How I envy floriculturists. What a boundless field they have. After all this rigmarole you will naturally ask, "What is the profit of an amateur?" As a profitable undertaking in a monetary sense I will not venture to give an opinion in these bad days. The profit I allude to is the employment of your mind in a groove far removed from your every-day business cares and domestic anxieties, combined with physical labour of the healthiest kind, which will go far to give you an enjoyment of your meals, and an elastic feeling of superabundant energy. What other pleasure, what other hobby, what other occupation will pleasurably employ your mind and healthily exercise your body? None, save horticulture. How you can enjoy sowing the seed, watching the crop gradually growing to maturity, and when ready for use do not your own vegetables, which you have yourself tended, taste far better for the interest you have taken in their production?

FAIRY FLOWERS.—The Foxglove, points out a correspondent of the *Gardener's Magazine*, is the special fairy flower; in its spotted bells the good people nestle. It is called in Ireland, Lusmore, or the Great Herb, and also Fairy-cap, a retreat in which the merry little elves are said to hide themselves when a human foot approaches to disturb their dances. The bending of the plant's tall stalks is believed to denote the presence of supernatural beings, to whom the flower is making its obeisance. In the Irish legend of Knockgrafton, the hero, a poor hunchback, reputed to have a great knowledge of herbs and charms, always wears a sprig of the Fairy-cap, or Lusmore, in his little straw hat, and hence is nicknamed Lusmore. The Shefro, or gregarious fairy, is represented as wearing the corolla of the Foxglove on his head. Just as the Foxglove is the favourite flower of the fairies, so is the four-leaved clover their special herb. There is a Cornish fairy tale which well exemplifies this: One evening a maiden set out to milk the cows later than usual; indeed, the stars had begun to shine before she completed her task. "Daisy" (an enchanted cow), was the last to be milked, and the pail was so full that the milk-maid could hardly lift it to her head. To relieve herself, she gathered some handfuls of grass and clover, and spread it on her head in order to carry the milk-pail more easily. But no sooner had the clover touched her head, than suddenly hundreds of little people appeared surrounding Daisy, dipping their tiny hands into the milk, and gathering it with clover-flowers, which they sucked with gusto. Daisy was standing in the long grass and clover, so some of these little creatures climbed up the stalks and held out buttercups, convolvuluses, and foxgloves to catch the milk which dropped from the cow's udder. When the astonished milk-maid, upon reaching home, recounted her wonderful experiences to her mistress, the good wife at once cried out: "Ah! you put a four-leafed clover on your head."

FORGET-ME-NOT.—The Fairies held sway over numerous plants and flowers—the Harebell, the Cowslip, the Mullein, the Oxslip, Pansy, Anemone, and many others were especial favourites; and in Central Germany certain Fairy folk inhabited the interior of hills and inaccessible caverns, which contained stores of gold, silver, and precious stones. The entrance to these was only to be obtained by means of the Primrose, the key-flower (*Schlusselblume*) of the Germans. The goddess Bertha is supposed to entice children into her enchanted halls by offering them a bunch of Primroses. There are, in Germany, many legends also relating to a mystical Luck-flower which possesses the extraordinary power of gaining admittance for its owner into the recesses of a mountain, or hidden cave, or castle, wherein vast treasures lie concealed. The legend generally runs that the fortunate discoverer of the receptacle for wealth is a man who has by chance found a beautiful flower, usually a blue one, which he sticks in his hat. Suddenly the mountain he is ascending opens to admit him; astounded at the sight, he enters the chasm, and a white lady or fairy bids him help himself from the heaps of gold coin he sees lying all around. Dazzled at the sight of so much wealth, he eagerly fills his pockets, and is hastening away when she calls after him, "*Forget not the best!*" He thinks, as he feels his stuffed pockets, that he cannot find room for any more, but as he imagines the white lady wishes to imply that he has not helped himself to enough, he takes his hat and fills that also with the glittering gold. The white lady, however, alluded to the little blue flower which had dropped from his hat whilst he stooped to gather up the gold coins. As he hurries out through the doorway the iron door shuts suddenly behind him with a crash of thunder, and cuts off his right heel. The mountain side instantly resumes its old impenetrable appearance, and the entrance to the treasure hall can never be found again. As for the wonderful flower, that has vanished, but is to this day sought for by the dwellers on the Kyffhaüser, on the Quastenburg, and even on the north side of the Harz. It was from this legend that, according to Grimm, the little blue flower "Forget-me-not" originally received its name, which at first was indicative of its magic virtue, but afterwards acquired a sentimental meaning from the tale of the drowning lover of the Danube and his despairing death cry.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper has been issued containing the documents relating to Sir Henry Drummond Wolff's special mission to Constantinople. They cover a period extending from Aug. 7 to Nov. 10, 1885; include his instructions, despatches showing the details of the negociations with the Porte; and a copy of "the Convention relative to the affairs of Egypt," which was signed on Oct. 24. The substance of that instrument has already been published. The protocols and other matters are included in this brief and business-like series of papers.

A PARIS correspondent states that the weavers' strike at St. Quentin is extending, the strikers now numbering 1400. Disturbances are feared, and troops have been sent to the spot.

A MERCHANT, examining a hogshead of hardware, on comparing it with the invoice, found it all right except a hammer less than the invoice. "Oh, don't be troubled, honey," said the Irish porter, "sure, the man took it out to open the hogshead with."

"WELL, may I hope, then, dear, that at some future time I may have the happiness of making you my wife?" "Yes, I hope so, I'm sure," she replied, "for I'm getting tired of suing fellows for breach of promise."

"PAPA, is it nice to make remarks about people's dress?" "Why, certainly not, darling; what did you ask that for?" "Nothing, papa; only mamma said my dress was awfully shabby, and wondered why papa had not noticed it long ago."

Business Announcements.

GORDON'S EXTRACT

Is as much a Curative for Dyspepsia (Indigestion), Liver Complaint, and Kidney Diseases, as Bread for Hunger, or Water for Thirst.

Cures Coated Tongue, Dizzy Head, Bilious Vomit, Stomach Miseries, Agonies after Food, Accidental Indigestion, Chronic Dyspepsia, and a Hundred other Disagreeable and Painful Symptoms. "Gordon's Extract," Two Shillings, at all Chemists.

"GORDON'S EXTRACT" saved her children from being motherless as well as fatherless.

November 29, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—I write to thank you for the two bottles of "Gordon's Extract" you so kindly gave me, and I am happy to say I am much better. I was suffering from a dreadful form of indigestion. I could not drink a drop of tea or coffee for months, if I did I suffered dreadful with the wind. At times I have been almost choked, continually belching up wind until my throat swelled so much I have had to struggle for my breath. Then I was seized with a dreadful trembling in my inside and all my limbs, with an awful sensation as though I was going out of my mind, and kept bursting into tears. I felt afraid to be left alone. No one but the Lord and myself knows what I have suffered; I also got very irritable. I am happy to say the above symptoms I have described have nearly all disappeared, and I have only taken one bottle and half the second bottle, and I do hope by the time I have finished taking that I shall be quite well, but if I had the means, I should always keep some by me, for this is the second attack I have had, and the second time your valuable medicine, "Gordon's Extract," has saved my life. I can now take a cup of tea and enjoy it without feeling any pain. I have given all your books away, and have and shall continue to recommend it to every one I know. You are quite welcome to make what use you like of this letter, or anyone can come and see me or write to me, and I will tell them that your "Gordon's Extract" has twice saved my life, and my poor children from being left motherless as well as fatherless.

Yours truly grateful,
MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREYS.
3, Briggs Row, Lower Richmond Road, Putney.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A SONG.

When the summer sun was shining
In the lovely azure sky,
And the flowers were blooming brightly,
Then they took me home to die.

Thinking ere the flowers were faded,
Or the summer on the wane,
Quiet and for ever silent
I should be released from pain.

Little knowing "Gordon's Extract"
Would renew my life once more,
And the boy they loved and cherished,
Should be merry as of yore.

Thanking God for every mercy,
And the heaven-sent cure renowned,
Which restored the life fast waning,
Making me both strong and sound.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

What a Ladies' Fashion Journal, of large circulation, says:—

"'Gordon's Extract' has been highly commended to me by a friend who appears to have derived great benefit from it, and who, having arrived at the last hour of despair of ever curing a long course of sick headache, took the 'Extract' without any faith in its efficacy at first. This opinion, however, was speedily changed, as a gradual but steady return to health testified to the genuine good done by a regular course of the medicine. At present my friend cannot speak too highly of the excellence of 'Gordon's Extract' in curing sick headache and biliousness. It also appears to be beneficial for many of the complaints to which flesh is heir, but which are not so serious as to need the doctor's aid. The 'Extract' is sold by all chemists at 2s. per bottle, and is by no means disagreeable to the taste."—*Myra's Journal* (*The Silkworm*), August, 1885.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A CASE.

They said that he was dying.
I watched him day and night.
I fancied every moment
The spirit would take flight.

His life was hanging merely
Upon the faintest breath,
Physicians told me sadly
It was the approach of death.

But a dear friend I cherish
A medicine famed did bring:
He soon began to flourish,
To bloom as flowers in spring.

'Twas "Gordon's splendid Extract,"
Which I now gladly bless,
Restoring life and health to him,
To me true happiness.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

LUMPS AS LARGE AS A MUSSEL-SHELL.

34, King George Street, Greenwich, S.E.
November 11th, 1885.

DEAR SIRS,—May I be allowed to add humble testimony in praise of your valuable "Extract," which by God's blessing did me more good than all the medicine I got from two hospitals and three other doctors. I was suffering from extreme weakness, which brought on skin eruption, and on some parts of my body rose up in lumps as large as a great mussel-shell, that I could not bear myself for irritation. After suffering some months I read of a man who had suffered from a similar complaint. I had not taken half of one bottle before I found great relief. Before I had the "Extract" I was constantly rubbing myself with ointment, but since taking it have not wanted to use it. I have since bought and taken two bottles, and am happy to say I am so far well to be able to work.—I am, dear sirs, Yours respectfully,

CHAS. PARKES.

FIELD AND DAIRY FARMING.

THE ALLOTMENTS QUESTION.—The Earl of Onslow, as hon. secretary of the Land and Glebe Owners' Association for the Voluntary Extension of the Allotments System, writes: Mr. Collings and his friends are continually endeavouring to persuade the public that allotments for labourers are something new, and were almost unknown till the subject was taken up by himself and by the Allotments and Small Holdings Association. The fact is that allotments, provided by voluntary action, are older than the century, as long ago as 1790 they existed on the estates of Lord Winchilsea, now owned by the Hon. Murray Finch-Hatton, M.P. The only new feature in the case is the creation of this association for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent the practice exists, and how far landowners are prepared to meet the alleged demand for its extension. The result of the inquiry which has been prosecuted reveals the fact that in every county in which there has been any demand for allotments the supply is forthcoming. In Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the greater part of Lancashire the high wages, the practice of hiring labourers by the year, and their consequent frequent change of abode renders the occupation of an allotment of little value. In Cheshire, Shropshire, parts of Yorkshire, and other dairy districts the practice of "cow gaits," and the letting of a few acres of grass with each cottage has for years been generally adopted. In Kent large gardens are the rule, a form of "allotment" which from the convenience of situation is far preferable to the field garden system, the latter being usually adopted near towns and villages. In nearly every case the rent is only higher by the amount of the outgoings than other land of equal value let in farms. The replies received show in how many ways, other than allotments, the landlord can and does assist the labourers. In parts of Wales they are encouraged to grow strawberries; in Worcestershire the landlord finds fruit trees, increasing the rent only when the trees are old enough to bear. In parts of Lincolnshire and elsewhere (notably in Chatsworth-park), cows are taken in to pasture by the landlord at a small weekly charge. In many parts of the country the farmer give land prepared for the purpose for the labourers to grow potatoes on. Of the three or four hundred owners of large estates in England who have been applied to all agree in the advantages of the system, and are prepared to meet any demand for its extension, and all but a very small minority agree that this extension should be to all labourers on their estates. The only objections which have been met with are from those who have no suitable land unlet (although tenant farmers have not been found unwilling to give up part of their holding for the purpose) and from some landowners who, after the threat of compulsion which has been made to them, decline to give any undertaking further than that they intend to discharge their duty towards those who live on their estates. On a large number of properties there are more allotments to let than labourers willing to rent them. The conclusion I have come to, and which I believe will be that of every unbiassed person who reads the returns of the association, is that facilities have been given in every district where there is a demand for allotments, and that it is only necessary to call the attention of landlords to any demand which may be found to exist in order to secure to every agricultural labourer that interest in the soil which has only been withheld from him where he has hesitated to make his wishes known to those who have the power of satisfying his requirements.

THE NEW FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE Order which comes into force on the 1st of March makes rules with regard to persons attending upon diseased animals in an infected place as to their dress and disinfection; it provides that local authorities "may, if they think fit," cause to be slaughtered any animal affected with foot-and-mouth disease, or herded with other animals so affected, paying compensation out of the rates. It empowers local authorities to make regulations for the moving of animals, to issue licenses, and to prohibit the holding of sales or fairs within five miles of an infected place.

HE belonged to a church with a steeple,
And prayed in a manner most grand;
He chose his companions from people
Who were ranked as the best in the land;
But with all of his luminous morals,
Vice over him hung black as jet,
And darkened his crown of bright florals—
He played on the fiendish cornet.

"HOLE on dar?" said a coloured man, hailing an acquaintance. "Does yer cross de street ebery time yer sees me ter keep from paying that bill?" "No, I doesn't." "What fur den?" "Ter keep from bein' axed for it."

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Local and District News.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.

Primitive Methodist Bible' Class. — The members of the above class met on Monday evening at Hamsterley Colliery. The meeting was opened by hymn and prayer, after which the chair was taken by Mr Thos. Harbottle (vice-president), who called upon the president (Mr Thomas Dobson) to give an essay on "The Bible," which was listened to by the members with great attention. At the close of essay, a discussion was taken up by several of the members, after which a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Dobson for his instructive essay, and the lessons that he laid down before the class if followed out will be the means, by God's help, of doing much good. The essay was followed by a short lesson on the 2nd chapter of Daniel, which was adjourned until the next sitting. The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the doxology. This Bible class has just been formed. The object this class has in view is to try to get the young men of the society together to read and meditate on the Word of God, and by taking heed thereto they will be enabled to cleanse their way, and be instrumental in God's hands of accomplishing much good in the Christian sphere. The class will meet every alternative Monday evening, when an essay, along with the lesson, will be given if possible. Next sitting, all being well, an essay will be given by Mr Harbottle on the "Preservation of the Bible."

FLINT HILL.

Science and Art Classes.—The mining students of this class at Flint Hill, together with their teacher, Mr Tait, visited the Messrs Dickinson's South Derwent and Willie Collieries, on Wednesday last. The weather was not altogether favourable for the occasion, and somewhat retarded the presence of a number of pupils living at a distance. However, a good muster gathered up, and after visiting and examining the various machinery, fitting-shops, &c., at South Derwent, they proceeded on their way to the Willie Colliery. The main object in view was to descend the mine and examine the endless rope, which is now in successful operation, the working details of which were kindly and clearly explained by Messrs W. Rutherford, manager; W. Eltringham, overman; Thompson, engineer; W. Tait, teacher; R. Rutherford, jun., and F. Hooper to the utmost satisfaction of all present. This system of haulage is not extensively used in these mining districts, and great credit is due to Mr Rutherford and Mr Thompson for the tact, energy, and ingenuity displayed, and for the careful and judicious manner in which this principle of working is carried out. Great praise is also due to Mr Tait for the unaffected zeal and interest which he is showing on behalf of his pupils, for his ability and earnestness as a teacher cannot fail to facilitate their progress. The students are also much indebted to Mr Rutherford for his kindness in allowing them to explore the mine, and for his hospitality they owe a lasting sense of gratitude.

PRUDHOE.

Free Methodist Missions.—On Sunday, the missionary sermons were preached to large congregations in the Methodist Free Church, Prudhoe, by the Rev. F. Raine. On Monday evening the annual missionary meeting was held. Mr J. Wray, Hexham, occupied the chair and there was a large audience. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. C. Hunt, South Shields; Messrs. C. Grey, Wylam, and E. Snowball, Hexham, and the report was given by the Rev. F. Raine. The collections, including a handsome subscription from the chairman, were a hundred per cent. in advance of the previous year.

STANHOPE.

Weardale District Highway Board.—The ordinary monthly meeting was held in the Boardroom, Stanhope, on Friday last.—Mr Chapman in the chair. Cheques were signed for the month's paybill—main roads £163 10s 9d, and district roads £131 0s 2d. Of these sums £243 9s 6d was for snow cutting. It was decided to cut the snow from Grove-rake to Allendale boundary. —Mr Hildyard and the Ecclesiastial Commissioners are to be written to by the Clerk requesting them to erect fences between the road and river west of Horn Hall.

Weardale Guardians and Rural Sanitary Authority.—The fortnightly meeting took place on Friday—Mr Wooler presiding.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners having reduced the rents of their farms, it was agreed, on the suggestion of Mr Morley, rate-collector, to accept the statement, and thereby save such tenants the inconvenience of attending the Assessment Committee for a readjustment of their rates.—Sitting as a Sanitary Authority, the Guardians heard, per letter from the Local Government Board, that the latter declined to advise in the matter of the payment of wages due to men who engaged under a contractor at Frosterley sewerage works. It was pointed out, by the superior Board, that it rests with the Auditor, in the first instance, to decide as to the legality of any payment by the Authority.—The Clerk explained that the Auditor would only have to decide in case the Authority issued a cheque; if surcharged, then the Authority would have right of appeal to the Local Government Board for the remission of the surcharge.—The Surveyor said wages due on this account totalled to £20 16s, which he thought should be paid. Material account raised the total account another £26.—Whilst Mr Watson saw no way out of the difficulty but by signing a cheque, Mr Robinson deprecated any breach of the terms of contract, and submitted that if part of the bill was to be paid the whole should be. He would not sign a cheque, and run the risk of a surcharge.—After this utterance no other member volunteered his signature, and the subject dropped out of discussion.

DIPTON.

A Dipton Sinker Sueing for his Wages.—At the Durham Petty Sessions, on Wednesday, Wm. Thompson, of Hill Top, near Dipton, sinker, sued Robert Holliday, master sinker, Framwellgate Moor, for his wages, amounting to £2 3s. 4d., earned in ten shifts, at 4s. 4d. per shift, the work being done at North Elswick Colliery. The defendant agreed to pay the money in two instalments, together with the Court expenses.

HAMSTEELS.

A report of the Hamsteels Choral Society's successful concert on Monday evening will be published next week. The news reached us too late to be inserted in the current issue.

BEAMISH, PONTOP, AND CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FORTHCOMING SHOW AT CONSETT.

The annual meeting of the members and subscribers of the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society took place at the hostelry of Mr T. Longstaff, Leadgate, on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of Mr Robert Clark, of Lintz Green House. There was a numerous attendance of members.

After transacting some formal business, the Secretaries (Messrs Geo. Ridley and J. Richards) submitted the sixteenth

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the year ending December 30th, 1885, which was as follows:—

The Committee are happy to be able to report a considerable improvement in the finances of the society. Although there is a decrease in the amount of members' subscriptions, the donations to the Special Prize Fund show an increase on several previous years.

The society's receipts for the year amount to £705 5s 9d, and the payments to £594 5s 9d, thus leaving a balance in hand of £111.

The annual show of stock, &c., was held at Chester-le-Street on August 19th, when, owing to the prevalence of swine fever in the district, pigs could not be exhibited, which somewhat detracted from the interest of the show, which, however, was otherwise most successful in every respect. The number of entries, the quality of exhibits, and the attendance of visitors being fully up to the average of former years. The premiums were distributed and competed for as under, viz:—

Description	Class.	Prem. £	s	d	Ent.
Cattle	10	62	17	0	50
Sheep	8	38	14	0	30
Horses for agriculture	13	78	11	0	73
Horses for field and road	10	65	7	0	94
Swine	4	16	19	0	—
Butter and eggs	3	6	7	6	31
Poultry	11	13	15	0	36
Dogs	25	72	16	6	195
Implements	1	7	5	0	16
Totals	85	362	12	0	519

The Committee are greatly indebted to the local committee, local secretaries, and subscribers at Chester-le-Street for their assistance in promoting the success of the show. The best thanks of the Society are also due to the ladies and gentlemen who acted as judges, and to the North-Eastern Railway Company for increased railway facilities on that occasion.

Owing to the difficulty experienced by the members and exhibitors in defining the boundaries of the Society's district, an amendment has been made to the rules whereby the district has been slightly extended on the south and east, the rule now being as follows:—"The district of the Society for local competitions shall be an area bounded on the north by the river Tyne, from Gateshead to Riding Mill; on the west by the Corbridge and West Auckland Turnpike, from Riding Mill to the Dearness Valley; on the south by the Dearness Valley to Waterhouses Station, and the North-Eastern Railway to Durham; and on the east by the North-Eastern Railway via Leamside and Washington to Gateshead." The Committee hope that when the alteration is better known it will bring a large accession of members in the new part of the district.

The Committee suggest that in the method of supplying the dinner at the annual shows some alteration is deserving the attention of the members, and they also suggest that in future the annual report and balance sheet should be published previous to the annual meeting, so as to give the members more time for its consideration.

A meeting was held on the show ground at Chester-le-Street respecting the place for holding the annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society. It will probably devolve on the members in the course of the year to consider whether they will give a donation to that Society in preference to holding a local show in 1887.

The Committee commend the advantages of the Society to the increased support of the agriculturists of the district. Robt. Clark, Chairman.

Leadgate, 17th Feb., 1886.

The report and balance sheet, after a brief consideration, was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be forwarded for publication in the *Guardian*.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

President: Major W. J. Joicey, Urpeth Lodge, Chester-le-Street.

Vice-Presidents: Rev. T. Hewan Archdall, M.A., Tanfield Vicarage; Messrs Wm. M. Annandale, Lintz Ford; Thomas J. Armstrong, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Thomas Bell, Hedley Hall; Nathaniel Clark, Beamish Park; Robert Clark, Lintz Green House; Geo. Heppell, Newfield; Matthew Kearney, J.P., The Ford; John Kirkup, Pelton House; R. Murray, Benfieldside House; Charles Perkins, Birtley Hall; Joseph Pumphrey, Elm Park; Dr George Renton, Viewlands; Messrs Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., Broadwood; Thos. Taylor Smith, Greencroft; John Turnbull, Chester-le-Street; W. B. Van Haansbergen, Woodlands; John Wilkinson, Morrowfield; William Jenkins, J.P., Consett Hall; T. Foreman, Leadgate.

General Committee: Messrs G. Hardy, Knitsley; Geo. Harrison, Consett; Hy. White, Pont Head; Ed. Lockey, Consett; John Hunter, Medomsley Grange; J. Towns, Consett; Thos. Simpon, High Bradley; Hy. Oliver, Hurbuck; T. Longstaff and Geo. Nicholson, Leadgate; Ed. Wilkinson and G. Turnbull, Twizell; R. Telford, Berry Edge; Adom Brodie, Consett; Ed. Wylam, Consett; G. Brown, Consett; J. S. Murray, Benfieldside; Jas. Humble, Lanchester; R. Dixon, Broad Oak, Ebchester; T. Wilson, Medomsley; A. Kirkup, Pelton; and Jas. Turnbull, Chester-le-Street.

Local Committee: Messrs J. S. Murray, T. Foreman, T. Longstaff, Geo. Brown, Ed. Wylam, Geo. Harrison, T. Simpson, A. Brodie, N. Elsdon, John Towns.

Finance and Prize List Committee: Messrs A. Brodie, G. Nicholson, G. Heppell, Geo. Renton, J. Pumphrey, and J. S. Murray.

Auditors: Messrs R. Clark, J. Kirkup, and Jos. Pumphrey.

Secretaries and Treasurers: Messrs J. Richards, Beamish; and G. Ridley, Stanley. The appointment of the local secretaries was deferred.

THE LOCALE OF THE NEXT SHOW.

When this subject came on for consideration, Mr J. S. Murray proposed that the forthcoming show should be held at Consett. He remarked that Mr Wylam and himself, the prime movers in the matter, saw Mr W. Jenkins on the preceding afternoon, to ascertain if they could get a suitable field to hold the exhibition, and that gentleman, on behalf of the Consett Iron Company, offered on objections to them holding it in the field which had hitherto been known as the Recreation Ground. Of course Mr Jenkins left it entirely in the hands of the Company's land agent (their worthy chairman) as to the amount of compensation to be paid for damages. As the Consett Iron Company had offered the Consett and Benfieldside Local Boards the Blue Mountains for the purposes of a Public Park and Recreation Ground, they did not intend to allow this particular field to be thrown open again for the use of the inhabitants; and he could only grant the field conditionally that it was not let to another tenant prior to the date fixed for the ensuing show. Although they styled themselves the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society, the Consett people might perhaps consider themselves somewhat slighted, as the exhibition had never been held in Consett proper, notwithstanding the fact that it had taken place in the surrounding neighbourhood, and had perhaps not been so prosperous as it had been at other places. The reason for this neglect was that the residents of Consett had never invited the show to be held in that town. Probably the weather and other circumstances had militated against the success of the show. He hoped the contributors and members would support his proposal, and he could assure them they would try their utmost to make the forthcoming show one of the most prosperous ever held under the auspices of the Society. (Hear, hear.) It only required a band of able and willing workers and fine weather to make the show a complete success. The speaker then described the railway and other facilities in the district, and pointed out that the field was a large and convenient one, and situate something like 200 yards from the Railway Station.

Mr Kirkup enquired if that was the only field that was offered to them?

Mr Murray replied that it was, so far as he knew.

Mr Edwd. Wylam, in seconding the proposition, cordially endorsed the previous speaker's remarks.

Mr G. Nicholson explained that Mr W. Nicholson was willing to offer the society a field at Lanchester wherein to hold the next show if they so desired.

Mr Geo. Brown: We don't want the show at Lanchester.

Mr Wylam explained that, in the event of the Consett Company's field not being at their service, Mr Oliver had told him that they could have the racecourse field on the Carribees Estate.

Mr Kirkup: That is too far away.

The Chairman believed that 16 years ago, the society's exhibition was held at Benfieldside. He was certainly in favour of the show being held at Consett. They were not going into another district, but certainly it was a fresh locality to hold the show, and he believed they would receive increased assistance, and an accession of new members. There was no reason why the show should not be quite as successful at Consett as it had been elsewhere, and he felt assured that the local committee would raise sufficient funds and endeavour to make the present exhibition excel its predecessors.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

The date of the next show was not definitely fixed, but it will be held either on the second or third Wednesday in August.

It was decided that the first meeting of the Committee should take place that day month, at the house of Mr Geo. Brown, Railway Hotel, Consett, at seven p.m.

The enthusiastic proceedings closed with votes of thanks to the officials of the past season; and a similar expression was accorded to Mr Clark for presiding.

The Weather in West Durham.—Visitors to the western part of Durham report a very striking sign of the severity of the weather that has been experienced on the fells. A great number of grouse and other game birds have been driven from the higher regions down to the slopes. Flocks of birds are found in many covers on the Dearness, Derwent, and Browney valleys, where they are rarely met with. The weather has been so severe that, notwithstanding that many birds have come down to the slopes, there must be a greater number who have perished from the cold in their usual haunts.

"Rough on Corns."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions, 6½d. and 1s. bottles.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

Thursday, February 18th.—Before Matthew Kearney, Esq. (chairman), A. H. Talmadge, Esq., Rev. J. P. De Pledge, Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., Geo. Hedley, Esq., and Lieut.-Col. A. B. Wilbraham.

DRUNKENNESS.

Thomas Day, *William Lamb* (who did not appear), and *Alex. Smith* (represented by his wife), were severally charged by Sergeant Nicholson with being drunk and guilty of disorderly conduct at Quebec, on the night of January 23rd.—Day and Smith were fined 5s each and costs; Lamb, who was reported to have absconded, was mulcted in 10s and expenses.

William Hogarth was summoned at the instance of P.C. Robinson for being intoxicated and wanting to fight at West Stanley on the 23rd ult., and was ordered to pay a penalty of 5s and costs.

Patrick Kelly and *Robert Bickett* pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred against them by P.C. Raine, of being drunk and very disorderly in the vicinity of Esh Colliery and the Stags' Head Inn, Waterhouses, on Saturday night, 30th ult., were fined in the same amount.

Patrick Martin appeared in response to a summons accusing him of having been drunk, and wanting to fight with another man at Quebec, on February 5th.—Sergeant Nicholson stated the facts, and the Bench imposed a fine of 5s, including costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Ralph Williamson and *John Conroy* were charged by Sergt. Nicholson with fighting together at Quebec, on the night of the 23rd ult.—Conroy pleaded guilty, and was bound over to keep the peace for three months, and pay 8s costs.—The other offender failed to appear, and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

ALLEGED ASSAULT AT BURNHOPE.

Miss Isabella Gray, a young person of respectable appearance, was charged with assaulting Mrs Isabella Elliott, an elderly woman, at Burnhope Colliery, on the 9th inst.—From the evidence of the complainant, who is a deaf person, and her daughter had to shout the questions into her ear, she had given away ten or twelve bucketfuls of coals, with which she was supplied from the colliery. On the day in question the parties were returning the coals, when the defendant, who resided next door, came along the passage, pushed the people back, and thrust her (complainant) out of the coal-house into the passage. After a few words had passed between them, Miss Gray struck her on the breast and also on the shoulder.—Mr Hedley declared that the coals belonged to the South Moor Colliery, and as the complainant had no one working there she was not entitled to the coals, let alone giving them away to anybody else. —Complainant replied that there was sombody in her house working at the colliery, and that the coals were left by the colliery carts.—Mr Hedley: He's only a lodger.—Complainant: No, he is not. —Mr Hedley (excitedly): You have no right to the coals.—Complainant's daughter: The coals were left at our door by the carts. We have not stolen them.—A boy named Russell stated that he saw Miss Gray strike Mrs Elliott.—Defendant affirmed that she never molested the complainant or even spoke to her. Complainant was giving coals away out of her coal-house, and she told her that she had no right to do so, as the coals belonged to the colliery. — Mrs Mary Dixon and Mrs Kayle corroborated the statement of the defendant, and asserted that the latter never interfered with Mrs Elliott.—The Chairman said the Bench considered that even if an offence had been committed, it was a most trivial one.—The case was dismissed, the complainant to defray the costs, 4s 6d.

A YOUNG VAGRANT.

Thomas Mooney, a lad of 14 years, was brought up on remand, charged with vagrancy, by sleeping about the Consett Ironworks, on the 28th ult. —P.C. Stoker said the lad had a father, but he allowed him to rove wherever he liked.—The Bench felt reluctant to send the youth to prison, and remanded him to the Workhouse for the Guardians to deal with him.

ALLEGED THEFT OF A PAIR OF BOOTS.

Mary Crane, a married woman, was accused of stealing a pair of boots, valued at 6s 6d, the property of Joseph Holliday, of Scott's Houses, West Sanley, on the 4th inst.—The case was remanded for further evidence, prisoner declaring that she purchased the boots off a woman, whom she intended to call as a witness. She was liberated on bail.

EXTENSIVE THEFT OF BEEF.

Thomas Harrison and *John Lee*, miners, of Lintz Colliery, were brought up charged with stealing three stones of beef, valued at £1 5s 6d, the property of Thomas Spottiswoode, of the Burnopfield Co-operative Stores. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) prosecuted.—It appears that on the Thursday previous, Thomas Oswald, one of the assistants in the butchering department, was going his rounds with the cart. On entering the Hobson Hotel, he met the prisoners coming out, and a witness (the son of the landlady) saw the men go direct to the cart. Oswald subsequently missed three pieces of beef, and gave information to the police.—P.C. Rogerson searched Lee's father's house, where Harrison was also staying, and found the beef secreted in a closet behind the door. Prisoner Harrison replied, on being charged, that Lee and him found the beef beside the Hobson Hotel. —The Magistrates considered this a most impudent theft, and committed the prisoners for two calendar months with hard labour.

ALLEGED INTIMIDATION AT SOUTH MEDOMSLEY.

Application was made by the police against a dozen of the workmen now out on strike at South Medomsley Colliery, whom it was sought to charge with having intimidated the "blacklegs" on their arrival to work at the colliery. The most serious charge was that preferred by P.C. Bain, against an engineman named Robert Batey, one of the strike hands, who, the officer alleged, had done his utmost to frighten the horses in a cart that was bringing the furniture of a blackleg to the colliery. —The Bench granted a summons against Batey as applied for, and made it returnable for Consett Petty Sessions on Monday next. With reference to the other men, they granted summonses against them for breaches of the peace, but declined to entertain the more serious charge.

CONSETT WATERWORKS COMPANY.

The half-yearly ordinary general meeting of the shareholders was held at the Company's Offices, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, on Wednesday afternoon, under the presidency of Mr John Burdon (chairman of the Board of Directors).

The following is the report of the Directors:—

Your Directors herewith submit statement of accounts made up to December 31st, 1885, examined and certified by the auditors, Messrs T. F. Hedley and T. L. Gledstone, and Messrs T. C. Squance and Son, chartered accountants.

The revenue from domestic rentals continues to improve, being £41 12s 9d in excess of last half-year, whilst notwithstanding the depression of trade, the mechanical rents also show an increase of £62 1s 5d in the same period.

After payment of interest on bonds, Income Tax, and management expenses, there remains an undivided profit of £4,827 18s 6d, out of which your Directors recommend payment, on and after 22nd of February next, of a dividend (clear of Income Tax) at the rate of £6 per cent. per annum, at the Bank of Messrs Backhouse and Co., Durham, leaving a balance to be carried to the next half-year's account of £147 18s 6d.

During the past half-year, a constant supply of pure water has been distributed throughout the Company's district, a supply has been given to Old Pelton Colliery Houses, and other small extensions have been made. Your Directors have also entered into an agreement with the Sanitary Authority, for a supply of water to Chester-le-Street and Chester Moor, for which the necessary pipes are now being laid, and the supply will be commenced during the present half-year. In order to render this supply good and constant, the building of a tank, or small reservoir, in the neighbourhood of Stanley will be necessary.

The Company's Engineer reports that, with the exception of the Loud Reservoir, the whole of the Company's works are in good condition.

The suit against Mr U. A. Ritson for damage to the Loud Reservoir is progressing.

(Signed), John Burdon, Chairman.
Wm. Boyd, Vice-Chairman.
William Wiles, Secretary.

Consett, 1st February, 1886.

The report, together with the balance sheet, was adopted, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Dr Boyd.

On the motion of Mr W. Aynsley, seconded by Mr J. W. Davison, the dividend declared in the Directors report was approved of.

The proceedings ended with votes of thanks to the Directors.

THE MOREHAM BALL.

"Have you received tickets for the Moreham ball?"

That was what people were asking one another just about the time that the slender, green, snow-drop leaves were beginning to peep, like tiny lances, above the fresh earth in the garden borders, and the March winds stirred the dead leaves that hid the early violet roots.

Mr. Moreham gave only one ball in the course of the year, but that was of such proportion and brilliancy that people eagerly anticipated invites for weeks beforehand, and those who were fortunate enough to obtain invitations, counted themselves to be in rare good luck. The Moreham house was large and roomy, with great echoing rooms, halls filled with ancient engravings and carved oaken cabinets, and a dining-saloon with a waxed floor, big enough for a hundred people to sit down to dinner, and not find themselves crowded. And Mr Moreham always engaged a band and a supper from London and flowers enough to exhaust the supplies of the neighbouring florists. Was it any wonder that the young people were anxious to get cards for his ball?

The Severns were among the first who received the pearl-gray envelopes containing the enamelled enclosure —and why should they not? Was not Paul Severn engaged to Leona Moreham, the rich man's only niece and heiress? Mrs. Severn had ordered new dresses for herself and her three daughters, greatly to the dismay of Major Severn, whose pecuniary affairs were generally hopelessly behindhand, and had taken particular pains to flaunt her invitations in the face of her friend, Mrs. Cappiton, who had received none.

"Rich people put on such airs," said Mrs. Cappiton, viciously. "But it won't last for ever. Cappiton tells me that there are rumours in the city that old Moreham's business is getting awfully shaky!"

"That's all nonsense," said Mrs. Severn. "Mr. Moreham is as rich as Crœsus."

"Riches have wings," croaked Mrs. Cappiton. "And he had a great deal better spend his money in teaching Leo, telegraphy, or some useful trade, than to lay it out in fan palms for his conservatory and statues for his garden!"

Mrs. Severn feigned to treat her friend's hints with contemptuous disregard, but they had their effect, notwithstanding. Such innuendoes always do have.

"Paul," said she to her son, when he came home from the city that evening, "do you suppose all these rumours are true?"

"What rumours, mother?"

"Why, about old Moreham not being quite so safe in his business as people have always supposed."

"Don't know," answered Paul, indifferently.

"And I don't care! Let's have dinner, mother."

Mrs. Severn said nothing more, but her thoughts were busy all the same. If Paul should have "invested" in this heiress, and be cheated out of his banker's balance, after all!

Miss Decima Severn, on being consulted by her mamma, expressed it as her opinion "that it was all old Mrs. Cappiton's spite, because she wasn't invited—and that mamma had a great deal better spend her time in seeing that the train of her—Miss Decima's—dress was cut right."

Miss Louisa, the second daughter, said, "it was perfectly ridiculous! As if Paul and papa didn't know! And she wished mamma would telegraph to Bond-street for her new cluster of curls which hadn't been sent with the other things."

And Sybilla, the youngest, had no thoughts for anything but her white tarletan, trimmed with sweet-brier leaves! For this was Sybilla's first party, and of proportionate importance in her eyes!

"Girls are so silly," said Mrs. Severn. "But, after all, one can't expect old heads on young shoulders."

So they went to the party at the Moreham mansion.

As it chanced, they were the first arrivals. Mr. Moreham was sitting at his library desk, and Mrs. Severn could not but note the look of half-subdued care that was on his brow as he rose to greet her.

"I hope I find you well Mr. Moreham," said Mrs. Severn. "Excuse me for intruding in your study, but you know we are such old friends, and——"

"Not at all," said Mr. Moreham, courteously. "I am quite well, but I have been a little annoyed by business matters to-day."

"Then it is true?" said Mrs. Severn, quickly.

"What?"

"The—the hints I have lately heard about your business difficulties."

Her colour changed as she spoke. Mr. Moreham looked keenly at her.

"My friend," said he, "suppose it *should* be true?"

Mrs. Severn grew paler than ever.

"We are very old friends," added he. "Our children are destined to be even nearer and dearer to each other than we have been. Nor do I desire to have any secrets from you! You remember my speaking to your husband about those three West-Indian ships that I contemplated buying last fall! They were freighted with expensive cargoes, a few weeks since, and a telegram arrived at Lloyd's this morning, saying that they were lost at sea in the last gale. Unfortunately they were not insured. Three ships are a fortune; their loss is enough to ruin any man."

Mrs. Severn sank down on a sofa and clutched at her smelling-bottle.

"I don't care so much for myself," added Mr. Moreham, with his keen glittering eyes still fixed on her face, "but it would break my heart to leave Leo. unprovided for. However, now that she is engaged to your son——"

"Stop a minute," interrupted Mrs. Severn. "All this takes me so completely by surprise! And there is poor dear Paul's future to be considered! Though, of course, Leo. could never expect him to marry a portionless girl when so much depends on his advance in business matters."

"You think not," said Mr. Moreham.

"Certainly," said Mrs. Severn.

"If Paul had lost a limb or been scarred by the small-pox, Leona would have been true as steel to him," said Mr. Moreham, slowly.

"That's quite a different thing," said Mrs. Severn.

"Perhaps. But now," and Mr. Moreham's voice lost its confidential accents, "we had better go into the ball-room. Our friends are beginning to arrive."

And Mrs. Severn, watching him as he moved to and fro, welcoming his guests with the calmly courteous mien of a high-bred gentleman, thought to herself what an old Spartan he was.

She contrived after a while to make her way to Paul, when at the close of a waltz he yielded up Leona to the cavalier whose name was inscribed for the next dance upon her little pearl tablets.

"Paul," she whispered, as, slipping her arm through his, she led him towards the cool hall-way, "all this must come to an end."

"What must come to an end?" demanded the astonished young man.

"Your engagement! Moreham is ruined!"

"No!" shouted Paul.

"He told me so himself! And Leo., with all her luxurious habits and fine lady ways, will be no better off than a dressmaker's apprentice."

"Mother," said Paul, after a moment or two of silence, "what do you take me for? A villain! Because, upon my word, you speak as if you did!"

"Paul!"

"I love Leo. Moreham. I didn't engage myself to marry her money—but her. If she were a beggar, standing at the crossings with her broom in her hand I should marry her!"

"But, Paul," pleaded his mother, "you will be ruined!"

"I don't believe it, mother. It takes more to ruin a man than all that. At all events, ruin or no ruin, I love Leo., and I shall marry her!"

"Bravo!" cried a voice from behind the folds of ancient silken tapestry that concealed an oriel window beyond, and old Mr. Moreham him*self* parted the curtains with one hand and confronted them. "Paul Severn, you speak like a man! You shall marry Leo. And you shall not marry a beggar, neither! Leo. is as much of an heiress as she ever was!"

"But, Mr. Moreham," gasped Mrs. Severn, who still clung to her son's arm, "you told me——"

"I told you that the three West-Indian ships were wrecked. So they are. I told you that I talked of buying them. But I didn't add that I changed my mind, and put my money into the Duddersley Coal Mines instead, where it has since doubled itself. Paul Severn, it is a great thing to trust one's ewe-lamb to the keeping of a stranger, but I believe now that I can trust fully and entirely in you. You have been weighed in the balance, and *not* found wanting. As for you, Madam, with a Chesterfieldian bow to Mrs. Severn, "I have this night seen you in your true colours. Hereafter I decline the pleasure of your acquaintance."

And Mr. Moreham adhered strictly to his word, obstinately refusing to visit the Severn home, even after Leona was married to Paul.

"Of all things," said Mr. Moreham, "I detest a woman of the world."

Market Reports.

Newcastle Flour, Saturday—Prices:—Hungarian 2s 0d; American, 1s 9d; No. 1 superfines, 1s 8d; superfines, 0s 0d; fines, 1s 6d; households, 1s 4d; seconds, 0s 0d; ryemeal, 1s 6d; wheatmeal, 1s 6d. Oatmeal—English, 2s 2d; Scotch, 2s 0d per stone; 4lb. loaf, 6d.

Newcastle Fruit and Potato, Saturday.—Prices: Scotch potatoes, 6d to 8d; onions, 10d to 1s per stone; figs, 4d to 8d per lb; cauliflowers, 1½d to 2½d each; pears, 2d to 4d per lb; apples, 1s to 1s 8d per stone; green grapes, 6d per lb; cabbages, Roots, and other classes at late rates.

Newcastle Meat and Poultry, Saturday—

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Prime large beef	0	9 to	0	11	Pigeons, pr couple	1	to	0	6
Prime mutton	0	11	1	0	Turkeys, per lb.	1	2	0	0
Small Pork	0	9	0	11	Turkeys, pult	0	0	0	0
Veal	0	8	0	9	Partridge, brace	2	6	3	0
Lamb per lb	0	10	0	11	Pheasants	7	6	8	0
American beef	0	2½	0	6	Geese, per lb	0	10	0	0
" mutton	0	5	0	9	Goslings, each	0	0	0	0
" lamb	0	0	0	0	Hares, each	3	6	4	0
" veal	0	7	0	9½	Leverets	2	6	3	6
" pork	0	8	0	9	Rabbits, couple	2	6	3	6
Hens, each	1	0	1	9	Ptarmigan, couple	0	0	0	0
Ducks, per couple	6	0	7	0	Black Game, brce	5	0	6	0
Ducklings, per cp.	0	0	0	0	English fresh butter, per lb.	1	3	1	6
Chickens	5	6	6	6	Fresh eggs 12 for 1s				
Wild ducks, brace	0	0	0	0					
Quails, per couple	0	0	0	0	Salmon, per lb.	0	0	0	0
Grouse, per couple	0	0	0	0	Do. trout	0	0	0	0

Durham Provision, Saturday.—Beef, 6d to 9d.; mutton, 6½d to 7d; veal, 6½d to 9½d; bacon, 3d to 5d; ham, 5d to 6d; cheese, 6d to 7d; lard, 5d to 6d per lb; Chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s; ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; turkeys, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; guinea fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; hares, 3s 6d to 4s each; pigeons, 1s to 1s 4d per couple; rabbits, 2s 9d to 3s 6d per couple; butter, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; do. salt, 1s to 1s 2d; butterine, 9d to 10d per lb; eggs, 7 to 8 for 1s; grapes, foreign, 4d to 8d; pears, 2d to 0d; tomatoes, 9d to 1s per lb; figs, 4d to 5d; prunes, 4d per lb; pomegranets, 1s 6d to 2s; apples, 2s to 2s 8d; onions, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; potatoes, 6d to 8d per stone.

Hexham Provisions, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; eggs, 9 to 10 for 1s; potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone; lemons, 0d; pears, 2d to 4d per lb; apples, 2s to 0s 0d per st; onions, 1s to 1s 6d per stone; carrots, 8d per stone; oranges, 6d to 1s per dozen; cabbages, 1d each; cucumbers, 8d to 10d each; chickens, 2s 9d to 3s 0d each; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d each; geese, 9d to 10d per lb; rabbits, 2s 8d to 3s per couple; leverets, 3s to 3s 6d; hares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each; partridges, 3s to 3s 3d per brace.

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £4 0s to £5 0s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 0s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s per ton; clover hay, £0 0s to £0; wheat straw, 1s 10d to 2s 3d; barley straw, 1s 8d to 2s 0d; oat straw, 2s 3d to 2s 5d per thrave; carts of hay at market, 94; straw, 56.

Newcastle Corn, Tuesday.—Arrivals into Newcastle, week ending February 8th, 1886:—Coast and rail—Wheat, 9,079; maize, —; barley, 962; oats, 335; beans, 285; peas, 106; flour, 1,745. Foreign —Wheat, —; maize, 5,375; barley, 200; oats, 50; rye, —; flour, 1,448 qrs. The arrivals of wheat from the coast are fair, with nothing from abroad. At this day's market there was very little business doing owing to the holidays, and prices for all description of wheat were unchanged. Maize dull, with prices tending downwards. Scotch oats, with small supplies, were steady; foreign dull. Malting barley with hardly any inquiry. Beans and peas 3d cheaper. Feeding barley firm. Flour 6d per sack lower.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 141 head of cattle and 329 pigs from Aberdeen and the North-East Coast of Scotland, 212 beasts and 140 pigs from Ireland; 1,202 beasts, 38 calves, and 206 sheep from foreign countries.

Respecting quality, that of cattle was middling, while that of sheep was fairly good.

40 head of cattle went south yesterday to Manchester, 20 to Wakefield, and 20 to London.

The supply of beef comprised 2,533 head. The better sorts sold well up, but the middling and inferior were a slow dull trade, with a good demand for the South; at the close of business a few lots were left over.

The number of sheep shown was 4,886. The mutton trade was steady, and late rates were well supported. At the finish all changed hands, a few lots being bought by the South men.

Pigs: 750 were shown. There is no change to note in the pork trade to-day.

PRICES FOR THIS DAY SINKING THE OFFAL.

Beasts, prime heifers, per stone	8s 0d	to	8s 3d
Secondary sorts	7s 6d	...	7s 9d
Good steers	7s 9d	...	8s 0d
Middling Sorts	7s 3d	...	7s 6d
Cows and inferior	6s 0d	...	6s 6d
Pigs	5s 6d	...	8s 6d
Sheep, small, per lb.	0s 7½d	...	0s 8d
Sheep, large fat, per lb.	0s 7½d	...	0s 7½d
Tups and Ewes	0s 5½d	...	0s 6d

Nos. shown:—Cattle, 2,533; sheep, 4,886; pigs, 750

Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH.

Stations.		Week Days. A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE	Dep.	6 10	9 40	11 0	12 20	2 30	5 30	7 30
Scotswood	"	6 17	9 47	11 7	12 27	2 37	5 37	7 37
Swalwell	"	6 24	9 54	11 14	12 34	2 43	5 42	7 41
Rowlands Gill	"	6 34	10 4	11 24	12 44	2 53	5 51	7 54
Lintz Green	"	6 40	10 10	11 30	12 50	2 59	5 57	8 0
Ebchester	"	6 53	10 20	11 40	1 0	3 12	6 6	8 13
Shotley Bridge	"	6 59	10 24	11 44	1 4	3 18	6 10	8 19
CONSETT	Arr.	7 5	10 30	11 50	1 10	3 23	6 15	8 25
CONSETT	Dep.	7 10	10 32	...	1 12	3 25	6 33	...
Knitsley	"	7 21	10 43	...	1 23	3 36	6 44	...
Lanchester	"	7 30	10 53	...	1 32	3 45	6 53	...
Witton Gilbert	"	7 38	11 1	...	1 40	3 53	7 1	...
Aldin Grange	"	7 45	11 9	...	1 47	4 0	7 9	...
DURHAM	Arr.	7 50	11 15	...	1 52	4 5	7 15	...

		A.M.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
DURHAM	Dep.	7 25	...	11 45	2 35	...	5 25	8 10
Aldin Grange	"	7 32	...	11 52	2 41	...	5 32	8 17
Witton Gilbert	"	7 40	...	12 0	2 48	...	5 40	8 25
Lanchester	"	7 50	...	12 10	2 58	...	5 50	8 35
Knitsley	"	8 2	...	12 20	3 8	...	6 0	8 45
CONSETT	Arr.	8 12	...	12 30	3 18	...	6 10	8 55
CONSETT	Dep.	8 15	9 10	12 33	3 25	...	6 15	9 2
Shotley Bridge	"	8 20	9 15	12 38	3 30	...	6 19	9 7
Ebchester	"	8 24	9 19	12 42	3 34	...	6 23	9 12
Lintz Green	"	8 34	9 29	12 50	3 44	...	6 32	9 22
Rowlands Gill	"	8 39	9 34	12 55	3 50	...	6 36	9 28
Swalwell	"	8 47	9 42	1 3	3 57	...	6 41	9 36
Scotswood	"	8 54	9 49	1 9	4 4	...	6 48	9 43
NEWCASTLE	Ar	9 5	10 0	1 20	4 15	...	7 0	9 53

SUNDAYS.

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE	7 30	7 20	CONSETT dep.	8 35	8 20
Scotswood	7 37	7 27	Shotley Bridge	8 40	8 25
Swalwell	7 44	7 34	Ebchester	8 44	8 29
Rowlands Gill	7 54	7 44	Lintz Green	8 54	8 39
Lintz Green	8 0	7 50	Rowlands Gill	8 59	8 44
Ebchester	8 13	8 0	Swalwell	9 8	8 53
Shotley Bridge	8 19	8 4	Scotswood	9 14	8 59
CONSETT arr.	8 25	8 10	NEWCASTLE ar.	9 25	9 10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

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

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.
NEWCASTLE	7 10	4 15	DURHAM dep.	7 55
Scotswood	7 17	4 22	Aldin Grange	8 1
Swalwell	7 24	4 30	Witton Gilbert	8 9
Rowlands Gill	7 34	4 40	Lanchester	8 20
Lintz Green	7 40	4 46	Knitsley	8 32
Ebchester	7 53	4 59	CONSETT and a	8 45
Shotley Bridge	7 59	5 5	BLACKHILL d	8 50
CONSETT and a	8 5	5 12	Shotley Bridge	8 55
BLACKHILL d			Ebchester	8 59
Knitsley	9 32		Lintz Green	9 9
Lanchester	9 41		Rowlands Gill	9 15
Witton Gilbert	9 50		Swalwell	9 22
Aldin Grange	9 59		Scotswood	9 29
DURHAM arr	10 5		NEWCASTLE dp	9 40

SALTBURN, STOCKTON, & DARLINGTON BRANCH

Stations.	Week Days. A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE dep.	...	6 10	...	...	12 20	...	5 30
[illegible]	...	...	...	...	2 0	...	5 20
Rowley	...	8 30	...	...	2 10	...	6 29
Burnhill	...	8 40	...	...	2 20	...	6 38
Tow Law	7 20	8 53	...	12 50	2 33	...	6 51
CROOK arr.	7 32	9	...	1 2	2 45	...	7 3
" dep.	7 35	9 7	11 23	1 5	2 52	5 30	7 8
Bishop Auckland	8 0	9 31	11 43	1 29	3 12	6 3	7 32
Darlington	8 30	10 0	12 10	2 0	3 45	6 45	8 5
Stockton	8 56	10 31	12 40	2 29	4 13	7 18	8 32
Middlesbro'	9 5	10 41	12 50	2 38	4 22	7 31	8 51
SALTBURN	10 10	11 15	1 25	3 12	4 57	8 5	9 24

Stations.	Week Days. A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
SALTBURN dp.	5 50	8 5	9 52	...	1 40	3 45	5 40
Middlesbro'	6 27	8 40	10 25	12 50	2 13	4 18	6 15
Stockton	6 37	8 48	10 32	12 57	2 21	4 26	6 22
Darlington	7 20	9 20	10 55	1 30	3 0	5 5	7 20
Bishop Auckland	7 49	9 46	11 21	1 56	3 26	5 33	7 48
CROOK arr.	8 10	10 6	11 42	2 16	3 47	5 55	8 10
dep.	8 13	...	11 49	2 20	...	6 0	...
Tow Law	8 25	...	12 1	2 32	...	6 15	...
Burnhill	8 40	...	...	2 45	...	6 30	...
Rowley	8 50	...	...	2 55	...	6 40	...
CONSETT arr.	9 0	...	...	3 5	...	6 50	...
N'WCASTLE	10 0	...	...	4 15	...	9 53	...

Throat Affections and Hoarseness.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by John I. Brown & Sons, Boston, U.S. European depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road London.

DEATH OF DR W. C. MORRIS OF CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Last Friday evening, about eight o'clock, Dr W. Cameron Morris, a medical gentleman well-known in Chester-le-Street, died somewhat suddenly from rheumatic fever after a brief illness. The doctor received a severe chill while engaged with his professional duties 6th inst., which brought on acute inflammation of the kidneys and bowels, and although devotedly attended by Drs Drummond, Newcastle, and Wands, Pelton Fell, he lingered but for five days. Dr Morris was a man of unusual ability, and performed serious surgical operations with great success. He was educated at Guy's Hospital and Edinburgh University. He was assistant for about three years with Dr W. Renton, Consett, after which he commenced practice at Blackburn, Lancashire. He came from thence to Chester-le-Street five years ago, as successor to the practice of the late Dr Shiell. He was appointed medical officer to the Chester-le-Street Union at the death of the late Dr Linton. He was likewise surgeon to Lord Durham's collieries, and Pelton Fell Colliery; medical attendant at Lambton Castle, and family doctor for the principal families in the district. His premature demise has caused a painful sensation in Chester-le-Street, few people being aware of his dangerous illness. By his attendance and energetic services Dr Morris endeared himself to the hearts of all round about the place, and great sympathy and sorrow is felt for the young widow and children in their bereavement.

The mortal remains of the deceased gentleman were interred in the cemetery adjoining the old parish church at Chester le-Street, on Monday afternoon. The remains of the deceased were followed to their last resting place by a large number of the tradespeople of the town, as well as the private carriages of many of the surrounding gentry. The service at the grave was read in a most impressive manner by the Rev Canon Blunt, assisted by the Rev W. M. Wadsworth and the Rev H. H. Birley. Amongst those who sent wreaths was Miss Renton, of Shotley Bridge. The deceased leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss.

A false hood covers many a smiling face.

The babes in the wood.—Twins in a cradle.

Stands to reason.—A debater who won't sit down.

The barber's apprentice is usually a strapping fellow.

An exchange says they are called "almighty dollars" because they are all mighty hard to get.

Nature don't often make a fool. She furnishes the raw material and lets it take its own course.

"You look as though you were beside yourself," as a wag said to a fellow who stood beside a donkey.

A poulterer advertises "Spring chickens all the year round." He shews a little too much enterprise.

"Time heals all things," wrote a philosopher. But in a later edition he qualified the assertion by excepting shoes.

A prominent physician once said: "If a child does not thrive on fresh milk, boil it." Boiled children may suit this doctor's taste, but will never become popular on the tables of the wealthy.

Lives of grocery men remind us
They can make their starch half lime,
And with sugar wholly blind us,
Putting sand in all the time.

An erroneous phrenologist once told me that I would shine as a Revivalist, and said that I ought to marry a tall blonde with a nervous, sanguinary temperament. Then he said, "One dollar, please," and I said, "All right, gentle scientist with a tawny mane, I will give you the dollar and marry the tall blonde with a bank account and bilious temperament when you give me a chart shewing me how to dispose of a brown-eyed brunette with a thoughtful cast of countenance, who married me in an unguarded moment two years ago." He looked at me in a reproachful kind of way, struck at me with a chair in an absent-minded manner, and stole away.—*Bill Nye.*

"Yes," sighed Amelia, "before marriage George professed himself willing to die for me, and now he won't even get his life insured in my favour," and the poor girl burst into a fashionable flood of tears.

CONSETT HEARSE & MOURNING ESTABLISHMENT.

T. C. RAWES & Co.

Consett,

In tendering their best thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed upon them since they commenced the Cab and Funeral Business, begs respectfully to inform the Public that they have BOUGHT THE UNDERTAKING AND FUNERAL FURNISHING BUSINESS belonging to the late Robert Jackson, Raglan Street, for the Manufacture of Coffins of every description, in the most approved styles, and at prices suited to meet the requirements of all classes; and at the same time assures them that they have spared neither capital or labour to render every branch of the Establishment in Material and Equipments superior in every respect to any other. Orders received day and night.

Hearses and Mourning Coaches for Hire.

768v

GEORGE AND J. HOPE, MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN MARBLE, STONE, AND GRANITE, CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL, AND BURNOPFIELD.

Inscriptions neatly executed in Town or Country. Special Designs— Estimates on application.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Wylam-on-Tyne.—The Rift, 12th inst., the wife of Thomas Rippon, of a son.

DEATHS.

Consett.—56, King Street, 15th inst., aged 66, Elizabeth Allison.

At Templetown, on the 19th inst., aged 15 years and 11 months, Elizabeth Wheatley. Interment at St. Ives, Leadgate, on Sunday. To lift at Two o'clock. Friends, please accept this, the only intimation. 735v

Knitsley Grange West.—On the 16th inst., aged 87 years, deeply regretted, Matthew Spencer, farmer. Interment at Lanchester, on Saturday, at Four o'clock. Funeral *cortege* to leave Knitsley at Three. Friends, please accept this intimation.

Medomsley Edge.—On the 17th inst., aged 85, John Armstrong, much respected. Interment on Sunday, 21st inst., at Three p.m. Friends, please accept this intimation. 725v

Tow Law.—High Street (at the residence of her father, Joseph Thompson), 9th inst., Martha Ellen, wife of John Bushby, Middlesbrough.

Lintzford.—13th inst., Frederick, son of Geo. and Jane Clements.

14th inst., aged 28, Margaret Ann, wife of Alfred Palliser, and eldest daughter of the late Thomas Armstrong, of Chopwell Woods.

Edmondsley.—11th inst., aged 76, Errington Thomas Dixon.

Byer Moor.—9th inst., aged 21, Margaret A. Bainbridge Harrison, daughter of Joseph and Jane Harrison.

Beamish Forges.—Aged 76, Joshua Stephenson Dixon.

West Pelton.—26, John Street, 18th inst., aged 82, John Bainbridge, late of Gosforth.

Blaydon.—17th inst., aged 37, Adam Shield.

Langley Bridge.—16th inst., aged 77, Isabella, relict of the late John Goodfellow, formerly of Gateshead.

Swalwell.—13th inst., aged 79, Ellen, widow of the late Joseph Armstrong.

Chester-le-Street.—St. Mary's House, 12th inst., aged 35, Walter Cameron Morris, M.B., M.R.C.S.

The Bournes, 16th inst., aged 71, Barbara, widow of the late John Hepple, formerly of Corbridge.

Urpeth.—Aged 48, Ann, wife of Wm. Flowers.

Riding Mill.—Broomhaugh, 13th inst., aged 75, Miss Jane Johnson.

Prudhoe.—Half-Way House, 15th inst., aged 63, Eleanor, wife of Joseph Hart.

Ryton.—Stargate, 10th inst., aged 10 years, Lydia, daughter of John Greener.

Newburn.—Almshouses, 12th inst., in his 83rd year, William Lambert.

Jarrow-on-Tyne.—26th ult., Rachel Burdiss, wife of Edward Burdiss.

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