COAL & STONE MACHINES

BOSTON'S COAL BORING MACHINES, all Steel, from 25s. to 36s.

BOSTON'S RATCHET STONE BORING MACHINES, with 3 Drills complete. 35s.

THOS. BOSTON,

WHOLESALE IRONMONGER & TOOL MANUFACTURER, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

T. BOSTON received the highest award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1882. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 5.b

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

£100 THE PROPRIETOR of this Paper has INSURED in "THE GENERAL ACCIDENT AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED," FOR £100, EVERY PERSON WHO PURCHASES THIS PAPER, AS PER COUPON ON PAGE 8.

No. 1,541. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, February 21st, 1890. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MONEY.

M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 54 Westgate Road, Newcastle, ADVANCES MONEY on Household Furniture, First or Second Mortgages on Property, Interests under Wills, Life Policies, Ordinary and Preference Building Society Shares, and on Goods deposited, &c., at reasonable interest and on easy terms of repayment as arranged. —Applypersonally or by letter. Established 1860.

Contracts.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are requested for the SEVERAL WORKS required in the ERECTION OF TWO COTTAGES, at Tantobie, for Mr. RAMSHAW, Beamish.

Plans, &c., can be seen at the house of Mr. J. ARKLESS, Tantobie, up to Saturday, 1st March, 1890.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in ADDITIONS and ALTERATIONS to PROPERTY in Middle Street, Consett, including House, 2 Shops, Warehouses, Offices, &c., for Mr Joseph Murray.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, on and after Tuesday, the 25th inst., at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge. Forms of Tender will be supplied by the Architects.

Tenders sealed and endorsed will be received at the above Office, on or before 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11th, 1890.

The Proprietor does not pledge himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN SMITH AND SON, Architects.

February 20th, 1890. 798b

Lost.

LOST, on the 17th inst., a Black and Tan DOG, with White Breast.—Anyone returning the same to H. CARTMELL, No. 4, Ritson's Lane, Blackhill, will be rewarded. 762b

Wanted.

WANTED, a Steady CARTMAN.—Apply, T. D. DRYDEN & Co., Grocers, Consett. 914b

WANTED, Two Experienced KNITTERS.—Apply, 66, Derwent Street, Blackhill. 774b

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply at Carribees Farm, Consett. 794b

SITUATION WANTED, as GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 765b

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL, who can milk.—Apply, Black Horse Inn, Beamish Red Row. 771b

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the Dressmaking.—Apply to Miss BROWN, West Victoria Street, Consett. 790b

WANTED, at once, an experienced GENERAL SERVANT. — Apply to Mrs. GEORGE CHRISTOPHER, The Hawthorns, Blackhill. 795b

TO MACHINISTS.—WANTED, at once, practical Tailors' Machinist.—Apply, Mr. BELL, J. T. Potts, Consett. 779b

WANTED, a STRONG LAD for the Grocery Business, and able to deliver Goods.—Apply to JOSEPH MURRAY, Consett. 786b

WANTED, a HOUSEKEEPER, to a working man with small family. Good references required.—Apply at *Guardian* Office, Consett. 777b

WANTED immediately, a GENERAL SERVANT, must be a good milker.—Apply to A. DIXON, Priestfield Farm, Lintz Green. 268b

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT; one who can milk.—Apply to Mrs. T. SWAINSTON, Middle Street, Consett. 783b

WANTED, an active, experienced Girl as GENERAL SERVANT, not under 18.—Apply at Mr. SWALWELL'S, Dipton. 770b

WANTED, a Youth as an APPRENTICE to the Tailoring.—A. E. WERNER, Albion House, Blackhill. 741b

WANTED, Apprentices to the DRESSMAKING. — Apply, 13, Cort Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, Strong GENERAL SERVANT, able to bake and wash, for family near Jarrow. Country girl preferred.—Apply by letter to "Hedworth Villa," *Guardian* Office, Jarrow. 912b

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE, FOR SERVANTS, (Established in 1877) 18, Front Street, Consett.. A call invited, when best attention will be given. 340w

SCOTT'S REGISTRY 182, Northumberland Street. — Managers, Matrons, Housekeepers, Companions, Governesses, Ladies' Maids, Sewingmaids, Nurses, Cooks, Housemaids, Kitchenmaid, Parlourmaids, Chamoermaid, Barmaids, Dairymaids, Laundrymaids, Butlers, Footmen, Grooms, Gardeners, Coachmen, General Servants, WANTED and DISENGAGED. Stamp for replies. 283s

Under Distinguished Patronage.

MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 263w

WANTED it thoroughly known at Consett and the District, that High-class PORTRAITS, artistically finished, MAY BE HAD at very Reasonable Prices at VENICE DUNN'S, PHOTOGRAPHER 15, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

MRS WHELAN'S REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS.—Newmarket Street, Consett. MISTRESSES supplied with SERVANTS of every kind, on the shortest notice, and all information obtained

SERVANTS of all classes suited with situations promptly and without any trouble. Communications by letter or otherwise carefully attended to. 514a

LOWEST FARES to all parts of the World.—America, £3 10s.; Canada, £4; South Africa, £12 12s.; Australia, £14 14s.; New Zealand, £16 16s.; Buenos Ayres, £7 15s. Practical advice given to intending Emigrants. Enquiries by post promptly answered. Maps, Pamphlets, &c., free. — THE NEWCASTLE EMIGRATION CO., 3, Grainger Street West (Corner of Bigg Market), Newcastle. 737b

BENSON'S WATCH CLUBS.—PAY CLERKS, FOREMEN, TIME-KEEPERS and others, wanted to start Watch Clubs for the supply of good, sound, and reliable Timekeepers. LEVER WATCHES from £2 10s cannot be surpassed for durability and strength. Terms liberal. Particulars post free. J. W. BENSON, Originator of the Club System (40 years ago), 62 and 64, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

To Let.

TO LET, SLAUGHTER HOUSE, STABLE, and COW BYRE; also one large ROOM, if required.—Apply, R. ETTY, Dipton. 901b

TO BE LET, with immediate possession, all those good BUSINESS PREMISES, containing large Front Shop, and other Six Rooms, situated on that excellent Site next door to Mr. J. W. Davison, Front Street, Consett.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer and Agent, Blackhill. 778b

FOR SALE, WHITECHAPEL, DOG-CART, and Several Sets of HARNESS.—Apply to J. BRODIE, Shotley Bridge. 573b

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester 196v

FOR SALE, at Mrs. E. ROBSON'S, Derwent Hotel, Blackhill, COAL BLOCKS. One Penny each. 792b

FOR SALE HORSE CLOTHING, STABLE SHEETS, CLIPPING MACHINES, CART WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, COVERS &c. — The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North, THOS. OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 901a

For Sale.

LADIES' BAGS, from 1s. to 15s. each, at the *Guardian* Office. See the Windows.

BRIDE CAKE BOXES, at all prices, at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 50

FOOTBALLS.—EDGELL and CO. are SELLING out their whole Stock of FOOTBALLS at very great reductions, to ensure a speedy clearance. The best Balls in the trade, should be seen early for bargains. HORSE CLIPPERS.—Cheapest and best in town, including CLARK'S PATENT, from 3s 6d per pair. J. J. EDGELL and Co., 10 Newgate Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 413b

Business Announcements.

JOHN BRODIE,

MERCHANT TAILOR,

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

R. WILSON & Co.,

BIRTLEY GRANGE BRICK WORKS, BIRTLEY.

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

SWEEP! SWEEP SWEEP

WITH PATENT APPARATUS no dust can escape; no forks to damage the jambs. Address—WILLIAM BUTCHER, Messenger Street, Shotley Bridge. REASONABLE CHARGES.

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

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

DON'T FORGET!

GEORGE McNEAL,

BILL-POSTER, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Pit Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton, East Castle, &c.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,

M. RICHLEY Secretary

MUSICAL TUITION.

SILVER MEDALLIST OF THE MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON, FOR PIANOFORTE PLAYING.

GEORGE DRYDEN (late pupil of Mr. Hemy) Organist of Medomsley Church, having obtained First-class Honours in Pianoforte Playing, also Certificates in Theory and Harmony, at the Examinations (before Dr. E. M. Lott) in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and in THEORY. Special Preparation for Examinations.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 1, EAST PARADE, CONSETT

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., 19 and 22, 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; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne 217z

AT HOME AND ABROAD

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS

INSURED AGAINST BY THE

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,

64, CORNHILL, LONDON.

HON. EVELYN ASHLEY - - - Chairman.

ANNUAL INCOME £248,000.

COMPENSATION ALREADY PAID, £2,600,000.

Moderate Premiums—Favourable Conditions—New Concessions.

Prompt and Liberal Settlement of Claims.

West End Office:—8, GRAND HOTEL BUILDINGS, W.C.

Head Office:—64, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; and Mr. G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate.

£1 TO £10

MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Parts in time to return same day. RAIL FARE ALLOWED.

SPECIAL FAST TRAINS.

THESE are daily run from and to all Towns, and no Passenger should be without an ANNUAL POLICY against Railway Accidents in THE GENERAL ACCIDENT & EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED

CAPITAL, £100,000.

CHIEF OFFICES: VICTORIA BUILDINGS, PERTH; 4, ABCHURCH YARD, LONDON, E.C.

MANAGER, F. NORIE MILLER.

The small Annual Premium of 5s. will Assure

£500 in case of Death;

£500 for Permanent Total Disablement;

£250 for Permanent Partial Disablement;

£1 10s per week for Temporary Total Disablement.

A Parliamentary return just issued gives the total number of Persons killed and injured on the Railways in the United Kingdom during 1888 as 965 KILLED and 3,826 INJURED.

Do not delay until you are Injured, but send Post Card for Prospectus, with full particulars, to above address, or to

P. J. JACKSON, Resident Secretary, 15, & 17, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,

33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES

(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,

PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

1890.

GEORGE RICHARDSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPER,

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

IS now showing a STOCK of FANCY LACE and CASHMERE APRONS, LACE COLLARETTS, and FRONTLETTS, FUR BOAS, and COLLARETTS.

GLOVES in reliable makes in Kid, Silk, Cashmere, and Astrachan.

FANCY WOOL WRAPS AND LADIES' WARM CLOAKS AND JACKETS, SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS.

In the GENERAL DRAPERY, Blankets, Eider Down Quilts, White and Coloured Flannels and Shirting, of exceptional value.

The DRESS and CLOTH DEPARTMENTS are now replete with Goods suitable for the present Season. Dressmaking and Tailoring on the Premises, under competent management.

1889. CHRISTMAS. 1890.

ROBERT WILLEY,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

"CONSETT TEA HOUSE," MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

BEGS to thank his numerous Friends and Customers for their kind patronage in the past, and wishes to call their special attention to his Large and Carefully-selected

STOCK OF GOODS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.

SNOW, WHITE, PHŒNIX, PEARL, AND OTHER FLOURS, BEST MAKERS.

TEAS COFFEES, COCOAS—Excellent Qualities. A Large Consignment of NEW CURRANTS.

VALENTIA AND SULTANA RAISINS, ALMONDS, FIGS, MUSCATELS, &c.

BACONS, HAMS, TINNED MEATS, TONGUES, &c.

CHEESE, arriving daily, comprising AMERICAN, DERBY, GLO'STER, GOUDA, EDAM, STILTON WENSLEYDALE, ROCHEFORT.

PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, &c., &c., ALL KINDS.

A Large Assortment of FRUIT, SEED, ALMOND, MADEIRA, SULTANA, and other CAKES too numerous to mention, from best makers only.

BISCUITS OF ENDLESS VARIETY KEPT IN STOCK.

Bottler of Bass and Co.'s Pale Ale, and Guinness's Dublin Stout Mild and Bitter Ales on Draught

ORDERS BY POST ATTENDED TO AT ONCE.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ANY PART OF THE DISTRICT ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK.

W. HUTCHINSON & CO.,

DRAPERS,

4, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

WANT 500 SUBSCRIBERS TO THEIR BLANKET CLUB.

FOR PARTICULARS APPLY.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

AT HALF THE PRICE USUALLY CHARGED.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND DENTAL CO.

ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY, FROM ONE TO SIX P.M.

CONSULTATIONS FREE,

13, FRONT STREET,

(OVER J. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER),

CONSETT.

TRY

JOHN HUME & SON'S

CELEBRATED

"GERM MEAL."

SOUTH ACOMB, STOCKSFIELD-ON-TYNE, *June 7th, 1887.*

Messrs. JOHN HUME & SON,

GENTLEMEN,

You may recollect that some time ago I purchased several tons of your Germ Meal, and as I keep an accurate account of the food used by our cows, its cost, quantity used, and the amount of milk produced per week, it may interest you to know the result.

During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7¾ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7½ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16½ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.

I am, yours faithfully,

W. TROTTER.

☞ TO FARMERS.

GEORGE HOBSON,

MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.,

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,

HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT HIS

44th ANNUAL DINNER AND SEED PAY

WILL BE HELD

AT CATCHGATE, ON WEDNESDAY, 26th OF THIS MONTH,

ALL CUSTOMERS, AND INTENDING CUSTOMERS, KINDLY INVITED.

PAY AT ONE O'CLOCK; DINNER AT 2-30. 745b

Business Announcements

BONUS YEAR, 1889.

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

CAPITAL - - - - - - - - -	£6,000,000.
INVESTED FUNDS - - - - - - - -	£3,500,000.

In 1885 a Bonus was added to Policies under the Company's Early Bonus Scheme at the rate of £2 per cent. on the Sum Assured for each year in respect of which each Policy was entitled to rank.

NO. OF ENGLAND BRANCH—21, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE,

J. M. W. CRAY, Res. Sect.

AGENT FOR CONSETT—

W. RAMSAY, 2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,

OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the cause of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or the ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificial Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

FOR SALE

50 TONS OF BRAN, AT £4 10s. PER TON.

ALL FLOURS, MEALS, OATMEALS, BOXINGS,

INDIAN MEAL, HORSE CORN, SCOTCH OATS, MAIZE,

AND

50 TONS OF POTATOES, EQUALLY CHEAP.

W. AYNSLEY,

CONSETT, LEADGATE, AND WEST STANLEY.

JAMES FROSDICK is the only Billposter that has rented Stations within the three Local Board districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 593

8, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

NOTICE TO THE INHABITANTS OF CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

TEETH. COMPLETE SET, £1 1s.

SINGLE TOOTH, 2s. 6d. GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS.

TEETH STOPPED AND SCALED.

Teeth fixed by Atmospheric Suction. No old teeth or stumps need be removed. Any set made by the London and Counties Dental Supply Co. and not giving absolute satisfaction in every detail, will be immediately corrected, or an entire new set made free of charge. Teeth scaled, filled and extracted upon all improved and advertised principles at moderate charges. Teeth also made and mounted on a silver dental alloy, platina, and gold, mineral and sectional gum work. One visit required from country patients.

LONDON AND COUNTIES DENTAL SUPPLY COMPANY.

From ISACC CAMERON, Addison Colliery near Blaydon-on-Tyne.

"To THE LONDON AND COUNTIES DENTAL SUPPLY COMPANY.

105, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"Gentlemen,—I write to say the set of teeth you made me are a complete success. I am bandmaster, and felt the loss of my teeth very much in playing an instrument, but am now happy to say I can play the flute and other instruments equally as well as I formerlly did with my own teeth. I recommend all who want teeth to place themselves under your care. I am willing to show teeth you made me to any one requiring some."—

From HENRY SMITH, Gallowgate Tannery, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

To MR HARRIS,

"Of The London and Counties Dental Supply Co.

"Dear Sir,—I write you this note to acquaint you that the teeth you made me THREE years ago are still good, and give the greatest satisfaction. I have recommended you to all I have come across who wanted teeth. I am a different man altogether now to what I was before I came to you. My sufferings from indigestion are now at an end. I wish you all the success you deserve.—July 1st, 1889.

"N.B.—You can use this letter in any way you think proper."

From J. W. LORRIMAN, Seaton Delavel.

"Dear Sir,—I hereby certify that we are satisfied with the teeth."—6th July, 1889.

From Mr. J. CARTER, Monkwearmouth Brass Band.

"The Dental Supply Co., having supplied me with a complete set of their £1 1s sets of teeth, I can with pleasure recommend the same to musicians who have lost their teeth. I can now play my instrument, and with the greatest ease."

From MRS HARDY, 1, Bridge House, Grangetown, near Sunderland.

"To MR HARRIS,

"Manager of the London and Counties Dental Supply Co.,

"105, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"Gentlemen,—I hereby inform you that the teeth you made for me about twelve months ago are giving me every satisfaction. I recommend all my friends to you."—August 14th, 1889.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS ON APPLICATION.

THE LONDON & COUNTIES DENTAL SUPPLY CO.,

OF 105, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE, and other Towns,

ATTEND EVERY FRIDAY, FROM 2 TO 5 P.M., AT

No. 8, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

EDWARD BRADY.

CHIMNEY SWEEP,

22, HARVEY STREET, CONSETT.

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

JOHNSON HEDLEY,

MANUFACTURING and WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER, DRYSALTER, &c., NORTHUMBERLAND CONFECTIONERY WORKS, ERICK STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Superior Jams and Marmalades.

Biscuits of all kinds. 894

Standard Work, 6d.; by Post 7 Stamps.

DR. ELLIS'S Popular Lecture "The Ear and Throat." "A thorough and succinct account of the causes of noises in the head and deafness," &c.—"Chronicle."—London: WALTER SCOTT, 14, Paternoster Square; FRANKLIN, 42, Mosley Street; or from the Author, 100, Ryehill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS

INMAN & INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP Co., Ltd.

LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every WEDNESDAY.

Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY, 5, North Road, Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; W. J. JOHNSON, 95, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95z

"A MINISTERING ANGEL."

When your liver ceases to discharge its proper functions the whole system goes wrong. Your appetite is bad; you have a bitter taste in the mouth and your tongue is covered with a thick fur. You are troubled with wind, water-brash, heartburn, acidity, headache, giddiness, pains in the shoulders, aching pains in the limbs, and lassitude. These are all symptoms of a disordered Liver, and may result in total prostration. No one need suffer from such distressing ailments if they will but have recourse to the Sovereign Remedy, TODD'S PILLS, which have absolutely no equal in restoring a disordered Liver, and are altogether unrivalled as a safe, sure, and speedy means of curing a bad stomach. The first dose gives immediate relief. Manufactured only by JOE TODD, Chemist, Carlisle. Sold everywhere by Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers in boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d.

Always ask for

TODD'S PILLS.

Correspondence.

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

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

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

IS IT TRUE?

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Would you kindly insert the following in your next issue?

Is it true that at Ramsay's Cottages, Spen, some of the houses are destitute of privies, middens, and drains?

Is it true that the road leading to some of the cottages, also Miners' Hall, and a grocery store, is in such a bad condition that it is dangerous to travel at dark, for fear of falling into the holes in the road, or falling over the heaps of horse manure?

Is it true that on the road leading to the Rowland's Gill station an open sewer exists, the same being dangerous to health, and that this has been the case for three years?

Is it true that the Local Board of Blaydon authorities have been mending the road in front of the new Spen church with the mixture taken from the middens at Victoria Garesfield Colliery?—I am, yours, &c.,

OBSERVER.

Feb. 17th, 1890.

CHECKWEIGHMEN AND LOCAL INSPECTORS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In reply to "Fairplay," I am glad my letter has fallen into the hands of those who hold out a hope that if we make another try to express our opinions they may be able to meet these arguments. I repeat, sir, that the Mines Act of 1871 is, in my opinion, defective as far as this important question is concerned. Respecting checkweighmen being the *only* fit persons to be appointed as local inspectors, I do not hold any such opinion. It is merely assumption on the part of "Fairplay," for which I am not to be held responsible.

Again, "Fairplay" made a miserable attempt indeed to read me, if the results of his observations are so extremely unkind to his fellow-men by ignoring their abilities and suggesting that they are not capable to be local inspectors. I don't ignore the abilities of my fellow-men, but I value them only in proportion, as they are improved by time and opportunities given. I should advise "Fairplay" to read my letter again for the purpose of ascertaining its meaning, as I should like him to understand it fully, and he may then be better able to give a more correct picture of its author, and if he cannot understand it, I promise him my assistance in the matter if he appends his signature.—Yours, &c.,

T. ARMSTRONG.

Hobson, Feb. 12th, 1890.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—There are at times things said that would have been better unsaid, even should they be true. In reply to "Miner," I may say that I don't profess to be a being whose intellect and intelligence can be classed with my more fortunate brethren, and it may be that the condition of my life, socially and mentally, may account for my inability to deal with matter from an intelligent and unbiassed standpoint. It does not require a man with such a large amount of intelligence to form some opinion as to what right and wrong is, but it requires a deep-rooted conviction that the opinions he holds are somewhere near the mark before he dare venture to give expression to the same from an unbiassed standpoint. My remarks on the first were not the outcome of a prejudiced mind. I look at the question from a different standpoint altogether. I have formed my opinions on the matter after due consideration, and I did not allow either prejudice or external motives to help me in doing so. "Miner" repeats what I said, and then asserts "all this may be true;" but is there not a question occurs to the reader of the above quotation that after all what proof is there that checkweighmen would do this work as suggested? I can only say that the best proof you can desire or have is experience—this is the test of a man's ability, both from a practical and theoretical point. Where do you find the best proof of a colliery manager or another class of labour where certificates of competency are required? It is not in the certificate of competency, but in the performing of his daily work. The same law holds good in every case, this one included.

The next point in "Miner's" letter is that there are checkweighmen who never filled any other position than that of hewing coals. Quite true. But there are those who have filled other positions than that of hewing coal, and the Mines Acts of 1887 prevented these men from acting as local inspectors, as well as the other. "Miner" must not attempt to make us believe that because a man has not filled any other position than that of hewing coal, that he is inexperienced in mining matters, and unfit for the position of local inspector. If he attempts such, I am afraid he will fail in his attempt.

Again, "Miner" wants to know upon what basis can it be determined that these men are so pre-eminently fitted above their fellow-men for the position? As this is a question of his own proposing, arising, I suppose, out of an inaccurate conception of the sentiments of my letter of the 1st, and "Miner" desires a solution thereof, I should advise him to adopt the means most likely to bring the desired results. As men differ very much in their modes of reasoning, I am glad to find that "Miner" gives to theory the place it ought to have—a second place when compared to practice. It would be well for the mining community if such recognition was not exceptional, but general. The few following sentences favour my argument, so we pass on to the following quotation from his letter: "Miner" says "it is unfair to these men for a checkweighman to put himself forward as being a better man." Will "Miner" tell us if such has been done in the past, or is such being done at present? The workmen select the man, and appoint him to the position, and not the man himself, and if "Miner" is in possession of information respecting any checkweighman having acted in such a way, perhaps he would give the same through the columns of your paper, because all counterfeits and unrealism ought to be exposed.

Again, "Miner" says our position as to the Act is equally as illogical, that is, respecting the wording of the Act and its meaning, which he judges as weak—viz., the idea he says we seem to possess. If the idea is a weak one, I got it at my first reading of the Act, and I have it yet. It is true, sir, you may show a man his dangers, but that won't remove him from them, or *vice versa*; and, sir, there were many of our leading men who were troubled with this "weak idea," and to the various Miners' Associations it has been as an "unclean spirit," ever on the move. It has troubled magistrates, lawyers, and the members of the Queen's Bench, there to receive its death-blow, as held by some, but only to come forth again in a more admirable and majestic form. It may be, sir, that all who have been troubled with this "weak idea" may have read the Act carefully, marked its clauses very diligently, but they have not been able to inwardly digest the same—hence the result, "weak idea." The idea may not only be expressed in relation to this Act, but to every act, rule, or bye-law. The simple question is often asked, "Does it mean what it says?" If it does, all's well; if not, the sooner the better the whole fabric would fall to the ground, and erect something better in its place. I for one, sir, would be content to have the "words and their meaning" at the one and same time, and not to have the "meaning" of the words when they (the words) are growing old.

Hoping that should "Miner" feel desirous of having correspondence on the subject, he will give his name as his signature.—Yours, &c.,

T. ARMSTRONG.

Hobson, Feb. 12, 1890.

"INCEDO" AND "SECULARISTS."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—If the criticism of the report of the proceedings of the above society had emanated from any other source than from "Incedo" I could have afforded to pass it by with the silent contempt which it deserved. But, as "Incedo" presumes to occupy the office of a public censor, I feel as if I would not be doing my duty to the society of which I am a member, if I did not reply. As the one who forwarded the paragraph to your valuable paper, I will be the one who is most to blame for the slight omission, which has so disturbed "Incedo."

The impression which the article produced on your humble correspondent was the one which Emmerson so pointedly notes, viz:—"There is ever this difference between the wise and the unwise, the latter wonders at what is unusual, the wise man wonders at the usual." Mr Editor, if it had in the least struck the sender of the paragraph that it would have given "Incedo" so much astonishment, he would have given the names of the officers elected without fail. But this comes from "Incedo" with very poor grace. Who is "Incedo"? Where is his name? Why write under this assumed name weekly, and then have the audacity to complain of someone else for not inserting names when hardly needed? A critic, Mr Editor, to be of any use, must ever remember that, "All, all save truth, falls dead-born from the press," and when "Incedo's" criticism is shorn of its false statements there is very little truth remaining. This is reasonably so. Has "Incedo" ever enquired into our affairs to ascertain the truth? Does he know that our meetings are held on the Sunday nights. I am afraid not. Will he kindly direct the society to another and more suitable place. We will be sincerely grateful if he does so. We know and feel most keenly our want in this respect, and are in hopes of overcoming it. "Incedo" apparently does not know that (as the law stands at present secularism cannot own property nor receive a legacy. If a legacy is left it—as was the case of Mr Spencer, of Manchester,—the Christian law sets the legacy aside. After robbing us of our rights, surely it is rather unfair to condemn our meeting-place. The secularists are not alone in meeting in those "dram" shops, beg pardon—taverns. How many friendly societies and benefit lodges also meet in inns, even at Annfield Plain. But why this sneer at all. Is a man defiled by going into a public-house? Then, how many of us are unsullied? Our society was only formed on August 11th, 1889, with only a few enthusiasts. It now numbers fifty financial members, and has also a good balance in hand. We are also forming a good lending library of the best literature. I think we are basking in the sunshine of prosperity, why, I can name some chapels in the vicinity—old chapels—that cannot show such a number of members. "Incedo" again says that it is precious little free-thought has ever done to smooth the path of life. A palpable lack of knowledge of history is shown by writing such a sentence. I have before me as I write J. M. Wheeler's "Biographical Dictionary of Freethinkers" which contains 1,600 names of the noblest of mankind who have laboured, with the labour of love in the noble cause of freethought. To particularise the noble and learned freethinkers who have reformed, enlightened, and instructed the world would cause my already lengthy letter to occupy too much space. In conclusion, I ask "Incedo" to be a little more charitable towards even secularists. We are all mortals, and prone to make little mistakes, so let us not judge too unjustly.—Yours &c.,

HON. SECRETARY OF THE OXHILL SECULAR SOCIETY.
White-le-head.

[Other letters on the same subject have reached us, but the above, which we have somewhat condensed, is a fair sample.—Ed. C.G.]

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD v RIDLEY AND VICKERS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—If you will kindly grant me a space in your next issue I will endeavour to remove a feeling of misrepresentation arising from words used by Mr James Vickers in his article of your last week's issue. He says Mr Ridley complains that several of the tenants become so dirty that they could not bear the effluvia inside their own houses, and asks where Mr Ridley gets his authority from to make such an assertion, and as to whether he has paid a visit to the homes of the miners? Mr Vickers, being apparently from his article the champion of the miners, we would like to know what they, the mining population, have got to do with this question? Mr Vickers distinctly says Mr Ridley complains of several of the tenants being dirty, but we see no reference he makes to miners, and as to Mr Ridley possessing knowledge and authority on these matters, who is there more likely to be versed in them than himself, having been a landlord and having had tenantable property in Tow Law for over 30 years, besides having been Guardian of the Weardale Union, member and chairman of the Tow Law Local Board for years past, where all such cases invariably come under his notice in some form or another. The idea of Mr Vickers introducing himself into this question seems to me a piece of ignorant impertinence. Had Mr Ridley mentioned the miners, he might have had a little more reason for speaking as he has done. Mr Vickers's reference to the word effluvia used by Mr Ridley seems characteristic of his disposition. He admits he did not know the meaning of the word, and had to consult a dictionary to find out. Is a man professing such ignorance a fit person to be the representative of any body of men, whether miners or otherwise? Surely not! And, again, to use this intelligent gentleman's phraseology in his article, he puts it: "In conclusion, I must say I was quite satisfied with the remarks made by the inspector of the Local Board after he read my letter." He said: "I have inspected the principal places in the said street, but fail to find anything unusual." Mr Vickers then adds: "Mark you, he does not say there is no nuisance." What does the man mean? He says he is perfectly satisfied with the inspector's report, yet he would imply a doubt as to that gentleman's veracity. Can Mr Vickers have any regard for what he says, or has he fallen a victim to influenza, and lost control of his senses? Is it possible a man can be perfectly satisfied with any particular object so long as he entertains a doubt? If he really is satisfied, what is he making himself so busy about? In the face of these little matters I cannot possibly entertain anything he has got to say, and my candid opinion is it would be very much more to his credit if he were adhering more closely to his own affairs instead of dabbling senselessly into these things, which neither concern him or the miners, and which he knows nothing about. Trusting I have not trespassed too much upon your valuable space, I am, &c.,

OBSERVER.

February 18th, 1890.

'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 se an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents

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

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

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 or sixty stamps by the Makers, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln

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

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

DRUNKENESS CURED.—A Wealthy American Lady whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression and Exhausted Vitality, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying all knowing remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Anyone suffering or desiring to help others in this worthy cause, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr James Holland, 25. Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this information, free of charge. Mention this paper.

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

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—A public meeting in connection with the "Rising Star" Division was held in the Methodist Free Church School Room, Burnopfield, on Saturday evening, when addresses on temperance and the order were delivered by Messrs Gibson, Newcastle; Davis, Burnopfield; and Forster, Rowland's Gill. The music was supplied by Messrs Oxborrow, Pattison, Lonsdale, and Forster, of the Felling, Mr T. Chapman of Garesfield being chairman.

FASHIONABLE WEDDING AT CONSETT.

On Wednesday afternoon, a marriage, which partook of a fashionable character, was solemnized in Christ Church, Consett, the contracting parties being Mr Wm. Little, of Whitley, only son of Mr John Thomas Little, of Blackfine House, Blackhill, and Miss Annie Aynsley, the eldest daughter of Mr Wm. Aynsley, of Middle Street, Consett. A great deal of interest was centred in the auspicious event, from the fact that the

HEADS OF BOTH FAMILIES

are well known throughout the district, and are regarded in the highest estimation by all classes. Mr Aynsley, in addition to carrying on an extensive business as a grocer and wine and spirit merchant, not only in Consett but in such populous centres as Leadgate and West Stanley, is furthermore a conspicuous figure in public life, being a long-standing member of the Consett Local Board, and an overseer of the poor for the township of Conside and Knitsley, and is a prospective candidate for a seat on the Lanchester Board of Guardians, a member of the Lanchester School Attendance Committee, besides having acted as vicar's churchwarden for a considerable period—over 21 years, we believe. Mr Aynsley is the guiding spirit of a number of public institutions, being a director of the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company, the Consett New Town Hall Company, the Consett and District Building Society, and is a shareholder and conspicuous member of several other bodies, besides being a large landowner. Mr Little, on the other hand, is essentially a private gentleman, and is best known as the house agent for the Consett Iron Company. Both gentlemen have resided in Consett and the immediate district for a lengthened period. No wonder then that the

SPACIOUS CHURCH WAS THRONGED

—notwithstanding that it was Ash Wednesday—by a large assemblage of spectators, the *elite* of the town and neighbourhood being largely in evidence. The principal business places and public buildings in the town were profusely embellished with Union Jacks, flags, &c., and a vast number of people lined Middle Street and the vicinity of the church. The ceremony was performed by Rev F. Steggall, vicar, who was assisted by Rev C. S. Wilson, curate of the parish.

THE WEDDING COSTUMES.

The bride, who was attired in a dress composed of white cashmere, trimmed with white brocaded silk, and white velvet hat to match, was given away by her father. The bridesmaids were Miss Little, Blackfine House (sister of the bridegroom), and Miss Matilda Aynsley, Consett (sister of the bride). The bridesmaids wore dresses of Eau-de-Neil cashmere, with hats of white silk. Their costumes of a pale green tint blended quite harmoniously with the spotless white robes of the bride. Mr G. R. Aynsley (brother of the bride) officiated as "best man." The bridegroom presented the bride with a gold bracelet, set with pearls, and a handsome bouquet, and the bridesmaids with gold brooches, set with pearls, and also with a bouquet.

AFTER THE CEREMONY.

After the nuptials had been performed, the bridal party moved from the sacred precints, the organist (Mr J. Surtees) playing Mendelssohn's favourite "Wedding March" upon the instrument. Merry peals were rung at intervals upon the church bells, while shots were fired as the party drove to and from the church. The company repaired to the residence of the bride's father, where a sumptuous breakfast was partaken of. The following

LIST OF GUESTS

(immediate relatives, and intimate friends of the bride and bridegroom), were in attendance:—Rev. F. Steggall, Consett; Mr and Mrs J. S. Murray, Blackhill; Councillor R. and Mrs Murray and family, Benfieldside House; Mr and Mrs Joseph Murray, Armstrong Villa, Consett; Councillor G. and Mrs Nicholson and family, Leadgate; Mr and Mrs H. Nicholson, Consett; Mr and Mrs Little, Blackfine House; Mr G. Aynsley, Mrs Patterson, Mrs J. Aynsley, Mr and Mrs T. Forster, Consett; Mr & R. Coates, Newcastle; Mr Little, Stocksfield, &c The entire proceedings passed off with the greatest *eclat*. During the course of the afternoon, the newly-married pair left, amidst the congratulations of their extensive circle of friends, *en route* for the Metropolis, to spend the honeymoon. Subjoined is the

LIST OF PRESENTS.

Mr Aynsley—Cheque.
Mrs Aynsley—Piano.
The family—Family bible.
Mr G. R. Aynsley—Sideboard.
Mr and Mrs Nicholson, Leadgate—Silver tea and coffee service.
Miss Nicholson, Leadgate—Tray.
Mr H. Nicholson, Consett—Flower stand.
Mrs Shaw, Villa Real, Leadgate—Sofa rug.
The maids, Jane, Grace, and Liza—Cheese dish.
Mr Simpson, Newcastle—Silver cruet.
Mrs Scott, Consett—Two silver jelly spoons.
Mr Turnbull, Newcastle—Picture.
Assistants in Consett shop—Silver cruet.
Mrs J. Aynsley, Consett—Half-dozen silver tea-spoons.
Mr G. Aynsley, Consett—Half-dozen silver tea-spoons.
The managers and assistants in Leadgate and Stanley shops—White marble clock.
Misses Coupland, Ebchester—Silver cake plate.
Miss Little, Blackhill—Biscuit box.
Misses Bell and Binning, Consett—Silver sugar scuttle.
Mr and Mrs Jos. Murray and family, Consett—Dinner service.
Mr Oubridge, Newcastle—Biscuit box.
Mrs Little, Blackfine House—Quilt.
Mr and Mrs Wm. Davison, Lindon Villa—Tea service.
Rev F. Steggall, Consett—Brass kettle, brass crumb tray and brush.
Mr W. Coupland, Ebchester—Two silver salt cellars.
Mr and Mrs John S. Murray, Blackhill—Two silver jelly dishes.
Mr and Mrs T. Foster, Consett—Silver hot water jug.
Mr and Mrs Bell, Newcastle—Four silver salt cellars.
Miss Thompson, Consett—Toilet set and mats.
Mrs Turner, Consett—Table-cloth.
Mrs Patterson, Consett—Tea cosey.
Mr Knox, Newcastle—Pair of marble ornaments.
Miss Swinburne, Consett—Pair of plush brackets.
Mr Little, Blackfine House—Silver tea urn.
Mrs Swanston, Whitley—Silver toast rack.
Mr Wood, Newcastle—Set of carvers.
Mr R. Routledge—Silver tea urn.
Mr Rippon, Consett—Bible.
Mr T. Jameson, Blackhill—Silver paper-knife.
Miss Styan, Whitley—Jelly dish.
Mr and Mrs S. Little, Mickley—Cruet.
The Misses Lettie and Annie Nicholson, Consett—Picture.
Mrs Thompson, Consett—Cushion.
Mrs G. Patterson, jun., Consett—Toilet set.
Mr J. Davidson and Sons, Newcastle—Case of knives and forks.
Mrs Thirlwell, Shotley Bridge—Set of dinner mats.
Mrs Symington, Consett—Toilet set.
Miss Rose Nicholson, Newcastle—Silver butter knife.
Mrs Harrison, Leadgate—Silver cake basket.
Miss and Mr J. Thirlwell, Shotley Bridge—Set of carvers.
Mrs H. Rawes, Consett—Picture stand and salt cellars.
Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, Consett—Silver teapot and teaspoons.
Mrs Lockey, Consett—Jelly dish.
Mrs Oliver, Consett—Honey dish.
Mrs Cummings, Consett—Set of glasses.
Mrs Westhorpe—Two biscuit boxes.
Mrs Pescod, Consett—Fruit dish.
Mrs James, Consett—Hearthrug.
Mrs C. and Mrs H. Davison, Consett—Jelly dish.
Miss Parker, Leadgate—Pair of hand-painted plates.
Mr James, Consett—Jelly spoon.
Miss James, Consett—Butter knife.
Mr Surtees, Blackhill—Silver photo stand.
Mr and Mrs Dodds, Newcastle—Set of ornaments.
Mr J. T. Routledge, Stockton—Glass biscuit basket.
Miss Longstaff—Handsome ornament.
Miss Ethel Bell, Grange Ville, Newcastle—Picture in crayons.
Mrs G. Ainsworth—Silver toast rack.
Mr Hedley Nicholson—Silver lemon knife.
Mr Coates, Newcastle—Pair of fairy light mirrors.
Mr Morton, Gateshead—Pair of china flower brackets, in plush.
Mr R. C. Foster, Consett—Pair of carver resters.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Board room, on Wednesday evening. Present:—Coun. Jas. Annandale (chairman), Messrs T. Siddell, J. Eltringham, J. Lax, A. E. Turner, W. Wilson, the Clerk (Mr J. Booth), and the Surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT: NEW RATE.

A meeting of the Highway, Lighting, and Finance committee was held in the Board-room on Monday, Feb. 17th. The following accounts are recommended to be paid:—

	£	s	d
Monthly pay sheet	72	9	7
Shotley Bridge Gas Co.	102	8	3
Surveyor's quarter's salary	40	0	0
W. Pearson—whinstone	69	6	0
G. H. Procter		9	0
	£284	12	10

Lighting was arranged for the ensuing month.

The committee recommend a rate of 10d in the £ to be levied on the district for the next six months' expenses.

The estimate for the year ending September, 1890, is as follows:—

	£	s	d
Salaries	100	0	0
Rent	7	10	0
Stationery	10	0	0
Incidentals	20	0	0
Gas and lighting	152	0	0
Medical officer	7	17	6
Highways	300	0	0
Water-cart	20	0	0
Election expenses	20	0	0
Footpaths	200	0	0
Hospital	20	0	0
Fire brigade	5	0	0
	£862	7	6
Full rateable value on houses £8640 10s at 10d—	360	5	0
One-fourth rateable value on land £624 5s at 10d—	26	0	2¼
Three-fourths rateable value on houses £3819 7s 6d at 10d—	159	2	9¼
	545	3	5½
To receive from County Council	350	0	0
	£895	3	5½

The plan and specification for Wesley Street have been before your Committee, and they recommend that notices be served on the proprietors abutting this street for the formation of the same.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district laying on material and scraping. A large amount of the latter being done during the month on account of the soft state of the road. Your stone-breakers are preparing materials for the ensuing season. I have received 200 tons of whinstone (broken) from Mr W. Pearson. This has been laid on to your roads. As requested at last meeting, I have fenced the quarry on the west side of Number One bank by building a stone wall. The Consett Co-operative Society have agreed to fence the quarry on the east side, and also fence in the waste land at an early date. The plan required by the Durham County Council showing the streets and roads at Blackhill has come to hand. As directed at the last meeting, I have prepared plans, specification, and estimate cost for the formation of Wesley Street, Blackhill. These has been laid before your Highway Committee, who will report on the same. Instructions have been given to Mr Snowdon, builder, to lay down a crossing between the two cemeteries and Durham Road. This work will be attended to as soon as the material comes to hand. The footpath on the east side of Lobley Hill road has been bottomed with stone. I expect to have it covered with whin-chippings shortly. I have collected and paid to the treasurer during the month the sum for general district rate. The Northern Telephone Company have erected three poles in Cemetery Road during the month. Several of your roads have been covered with coke during the month. As directed at the last meeting I arranged with the agent of the Gas Company to erect a Bray's lamp at Highgate. This has been done. It has made a considerable improvement to the lighting of this part of your district.—Yours &c.,

JOHN DIXON.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMAN,—During the month I have repeatedly inspected your distict. I find the ashpits well cleaned out, and I consider your district is in a good sanitary condition. A plan belonging to Mr R. W. Dixon has been stamped. Duplicates and surveyor's form having been supplied. I wish to have the instructions of the Board with regard to the drainage of a portion of Blackfine. There are several new properties in the course of erection, and one already occupied. I had instructions last August to continue the main drain across Watson Street. This was done so that the proprietors might connect with it. This is a matter I should like the Board to deal with as soon as possible, as there will very soon be a serious nuisance existing there.—Yours &c.,

JOHN DIXON.

PLANS [illegible]

A meeting of the Building and Sanitary Committee was held in the Board-room, on Wednesday, Feb. 19th.

A plan of two loose boxes intended to be built at Derwent Lodge for Mr Lewis Priestman.—We recommend the same to be passed and stamped when the duplicate is provided.

Plan of house of four rooms intended to be built at Blackfine, on the Durham Road, we recommend to be passed, subject to the following conditions:—The rooms to be the height figured on the form; the roof and floor timbers to be of the sizes of the adjoining property; the ashpit to be covered; and the duplicate to be provided before being stamped.

(Signed), JOS. ELTRINGHAM.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Medical Officer submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to submit the vital statistics of your district for the quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1889. There were 47 births and 23 deaths registered during that period. The birth-rate is 25·06, and the death-rate 12·2—the latter a very satifactory item.

Although four forms of zymotic disease have appeared during the quarter, there has been nothing like an impending epidemic, and the health of the district generally has been fairly good.

Zymotic diseases, in the form of enteric fever, scarlet fever, measles, and diphtheria, have been observed.

Enteric fever—Two cases have occurred having no connection with each other, and one of which proved fatal.

Scarlet fever—Six cases cropped up in the higher part of the district during November, the contagion being probably imported. No deaths have occurred, nor has the disease shown much disposition to spread.

Measles—Also imported, was discovered in a house in Blackfine, six cases occurring without any further extension.

Diphtheria—A simple case arose in Hawthorn Terrace, and proved rapidly fatal, the origin remaining undiscovered.

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

Blackhill, Feb. 18th, 1890.

THE FASHIONABLE COMPLAINT.

Mr SIDDELL observed that the Medical Officer did not report any case of influenza.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: But that report is only up to the end of last year.

Mr SIDDELL: I suppose we are free from it.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: No; it is very bad now.

The CHAIRMAN: We were then clear of it, but we are not now. There are 16 men off from our works through it.

Mr ELTRINGHAM proposed, and Mr TURNER seconded, that the Finance Committee's report be passed.

This was carried.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND MAIN THOROUGHFARES.

The Clerk had drawn up a memorial for the Board to send to the County Council applying to the Council to make several of the roads, main roads, and give the Board's reason for making the application.

To this the Board agreed.

The Board agreed to the making of Wesley Street, the owners to pay their portion.

THE CEMETERY CROSSING.

Mr ELTRINGHAM spoke of the crossing now being laid down between the gates of the two cemeteries at Benfieldside. He thought it was too narrow, and it should be made wider. It was only six feet wide, and that was not wide enough for a hearse.

The Surveyor said he expected that it was for foot passengers only.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: But it is an easy matter to make it wider.

Mr SIDDELL: I agree with the remarks of Mr Eltringham, and think it ought to be made twelve feet wide.

The Surveyor thought the crossings were dangerous to horses when in such a position as the present one if it was made too wide, and considered that the narrower it was the better.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I don't think it will be dangerous.

Mr SIDDELL: I propose it be make twelve feet.

Mr ELTINGHAM: I think it will be a great improvement if it is widened, say two feet at the high side, and two feet at the low side.

Mr LAX: That is ten feet, and that would be an excellent width.

Mr WILSON: Suppose we say ten feet.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I think Mr Dixon will agree with me. It will both look better and be better, for the gates are not opposite each other, so that the crossing is not exactly from gate to gate.

The Surveyor: It would look better; but it is a matter of cost.

Mr TURNER: Unless it is regularly kept clean it will be of little use.

Mr ELTRINGHAM proposed that it be made 10 feet wide.

Mr TURNER seconded, and the motion was carried.

NEW PLANS OF THE DISTRICT

The following letter was read from Mr Smith:—

Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge,
Feb. 11th, 1890.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 7th inst., containing a copy of the Sanitary Committee's report, we beg to state that we will prepare the several plans of portions of the Local Board's district, as per report, for a sum of £25, on the following conditions:—1. That we shall have the use of the plan already prepared, and the use of all building plans deposited with the Board. 2. That your Surveyor shall assist us in tracing out all old drains in connection with property, and ascertain the depths of drains, man-holes, &c., at the several places where required.—Yours, &c.

JOHN SMITH & SON.

Mr ELTRINGHAM proposed, and Mr TURNER seconded, that Messrs John Smith and Son prepare plans for the sum stated, and on the terms of their letter.

This was agreed to.

NEW RATES.

It was proposed by Mr LAX, and seconded by Mr WILSON that a rate of 10d in the £ be levied on houses, and 10½d in the £ on land.

Carried.

THE PLANS.

Mr ELTRINGHAM moved, and Mr WILSON seconded the passing of Mr L. Priestman's and Mr Gallacher's plans, subject to the conditions of the Board being agreed to.

The motion was adopted.

NEW DRAIN.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr ELTRINGHAM, seconded by Mr WILSON, that the Surveyor be instructed to prepare plan and estimate for making and draining the back street behind the property of Messrs Geo. Smith, R. Richardson, T. Gallacher, R. Whitfield, and J. Hetherington.

THE COMING ELECTION.

Mr LAX proposed, and Mr WILSON seconded that, the Chairman declining, the Clerk be returning-officer for the ensuing election, and that he be empowered to procure the usual assistance; and the Chairman declining, the Clerk revise the register of voters.

Agreed to.

The retiring members are:—Councillor R. Murray, Messrs W. Wilson, F. Priestman, and A. E. Turner.

RITSON'S ROAD.

Mr TURNER pointed out the dangerous state of Ritson's Road, Benfieldside. He said that a mass of stones, lime, &c., was lying over the road, and thus obstructing it. He had been requested to ask whether it was the duty of the Board or the proprietor of the building that had blown down to remove the refuse, for it had been lying for some weeks.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: The road is certainly in a dangerous and awkward condition.

Mr WILSON: We should instruct the surveyor to order the removal of the refuse at once.

Mr LAX: Who is the owner?

The Surveyor: Mr Murray.

Mr SIDDELL: Why didn't you apply to him then?

The Surveyor: I thought they were going to cart it all away.

Mr SIDDELL (laughing): I think you have been rather lenient with him. (Laughter.)

The Surveyor: Perhaps I have. (Laughter.)

Mr SIDDELL: If it had been a poor man, Mr Dixon would have been at him like a tiger. (More laughter.)

The Surveyor (laughing): Yes. I am a very severe man, and have taken a lot to Consett in my time. (Laughter.)

THE LOCAL BOARD AND THEIR PAYMENTS.

Mr M. Coupland, clerk to the Leadgate Local Board, wrote to the Clerk to know what the Board intended doing with regard to the claim of the County Council for the maintenance of the main roads from Nov., 1888, to March, 1889.

The Clerk replied that the Board was waiting until the question had been settled by the Law Courts, before which it was at present.

The business now ended.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "CASTLESIDEITE."]

The "magic lantern" exhibition, given in the P.M. Chapel, by Mr W. Pears, Ramshaw, Blanchland, was a financial success, being both interesting and instructive, and enjoyed by the old and young. The proceeds were on behalf of the horse hire fund and realised £2 5s 9d.

The Floral, Horticultural, and Industrial Society's committee met in the Board Schools on Saturday night last, under the presidency of Mr T. J. Muse, for the purpose of furthering the interests of the Society, and determining whether there should be an "Industrial" exhibit this year or not, when it was decided that a committee of ladies be appointed to look after and interest themselves in the Industrial branch, when the following ladies were appointed to act in concert:—Mesdames T. J. Muse, Castleside House, R. Walton, Stanhope House, R. Robson, Woodbine House, R. Walker, the Vicarage, and W. Forster, Rowley Terrace. I hope these ladies will accept the honour conferred on them, and the confidence reposed on them, and prove equal to the work set apart for them.

There is likely to be a great deal of interest and earnestness manifested by those who have gardens and intend exhibiting their produce at the first full show, so much so I am told, some enthusiests are carrying the soil out of the garden into the kitchen in order to keep it warm, or perhaps with a view of killing the larva of the insect kingdom, but I fear the opposite will be the result, the warmth will foster rather than kill.

This has been rather a busy week in the village, one poor fellow has got an addition of two to his quiver, and another young fellow has gone wrong.

The influenza is still making headway in the village. Whole families are being smitten by the complaint, and for a time prostrate under its withering stroke. Mr T. Duckworth, master of the Healeyfield and Rowley Board schools, was unable to carry on the school, on account of the epidemic, and closed for the week on Monday afternoon, with a view to better attendance next week. But unless the weather changes, I fear he will be disappointed, as improvement under the present temperature is slow, but, neither being a scientist nor a doctor, I may scarcely be allowed an opinion on this subject, but I may be allowed to speak from experience, and experience is the best of teachers.

The Graveyard Improvement Committee met in the Infants' class-room of the Board schools on Saturday night — Mr Muse presiding. The business was, "To determine when the annual concert shall be held, and the wisdom of holding a coffee supper after the concert.

On Saturday night, a band of hope entertainment was held in the Primitive Methodist School-room. Mr R. Jewitt occupied the chair. The following took part in the meeting:—The band of hope choir, under the care of Mr T. Raine, Miss Raine, Miss Carruthers, Miss Harker, and Miss Collings; Messrs H. Potts, R. Craigs, J. Bewick, and F. B. Raine. The meeting was addressed by Mr J. Ripley on "The importance of temperance, or total abstince in youth." A collection was taken in behalf of the Primitive Methodist Orphanage, an institution which claims our sympathy and support as churches.

Special services are being conducted by Mr Liddle, Allendale Town, in the Wesleyan school-room, and are fairly well attended, but the cold weather and influenza are against the meetings.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

The prevalent epidemic of influenza has played sad havoc with the last two meetings of this society, and at the time for opening the meeting on the 10th inst. the chairman and officials present had almost decided to postpone it, when some other persons strolled in until those present numbered about sixty. The following programme was then given, and was received with very marked expressions of approval:—Recitation, "The doctor and his apprentice," by Master Alfred Simpson; reading, "Madge and her cheeks," by Miss A. Fawcett; trio, "Sun of my soul," by Misses A. Bell, H. Dixon, and A. Fawcett. Mr Ross then recited "The bashful sweetheart" in a most engaging manner, and as an *encore* gave "Called back." A reading by the chairman, entitled "Left till called for," followed, the interval between the two parts being filled with a melody, "No surrender," by the choir, given with decided spirit. A very enjoyable meeting was brought to a close in the usual way, after Miss Roxby had, by request, recited "The miser and the goose." We have reason to believe that this society continues to influence beneficially the attitude of the public mind towards the drinking practices of this district.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

Where are the men? is a question often asked now-a-days, when the young women are seen in sixes and sevens walking together. Time was when they paired with the men, and walked two and two. But we live in degenerate days. Marriages are less frequent than they used to be considering the increased population, and even some of our local clergy are holding out grand inducements for young folks to marry, by offering to marry them free in their churches.

Euclid still lives. One of his propositions turns up in Butler's village, thus: If supper be provided for 42 and only 21 partake of it, should the one that ordered the supper pay for the lot, or the host stand the loss of the 21 that were provided for but didnt turn up?

Reporters must be queer cards. I got word the other day while engaged in the garden that I was wanted, as a lady desired to see me. Well, I put in my appearance to find three young ladies and a young sprig of divinity with them. I was all dirt with digging in the garden. Two of the young ladies and the gent were strangers and all they wanted was to see what sort of a card I was. One acted the part of Barnum by exhibiting me to the others. They stared at me and I at them. They were certainly smart good-looking ladies.

Miss Moore is a thorough and competent musician, an excellent singer, and always pleases. She is also evidently a capital music teacher. One of her pupils, Master Garthwaite, of Harrow Bank, pleased the audience immensely by giving a selection of Scotch airs on the violin in capital style, and was heartily *encored*. Miss Annie Maughan also performed her part in "Hunting Tower" in capital style. Miss Hogarth and Miss Godsell also took well as they always do. The concert was an unqualified success. There was a full house, and an appreciative audience.

The primrose dames had a pretty successful gathering at Stanhope, on Thursday evening, considering that Stanhope is a radical old place, and Weardale one of the preserves of Liberalism. The entertainment and ball were both grand successes, the chairman jovial, and the speeches by Messrs Rolleys and Mills from a Conservative standpoint, very good. Although the primrose is a modest pretty little flower which luxuriates on the sunny banks and braes of the Wear, still Primrose Dames find their primroses difficult to transplant and grow in Weardale, and difficult to naturalise owing to the adverse chemical nature of the substratum.

Salmon generally go in pairs, especially up the tributarie's to spawn. If you see one there is sure to be another not far off, so it was in Bollihope burn the other day, there were two got out instead of one. A dispute arose as to whether they were salmon or hairy gobs. It was decided they belonged to the latter species, one was a migratory fish and the other a native.

Eastgate is a spirited little place, they can raise some of the best concerts there of any place in Weardale. That on Friday evening was one of the best given in the dale this winter. Three or four local well-known farmers were put on the bills to sing. One was conspicious by his absence. His song was to have been "The Jovial Crew," but they had to be jolly without him. His place was well filled by a brother chip, who sang the praises of a drap o' good beer. A big nephew of the latter sang the praises of an old oaken bedstead; but the surprise of the evening was when the Shittlehope Burn farmer sang the praises of a cork leg, Leeds fair, and the boat that brought him over. He fairly brought down the house every time he appeared upon the boards. Tom Moore and he are undoubtedly two of the best comic singers Weardale possesses, and can entertain an audience thoroughly, while Willie Walker and Jack Bell are two able exponents of song. Their services are in great request on such occasions.

A professional gardener, in Stanhope, the other day, was despatched to drown an old cat belonging the Missus. He thought he'd make sure of Tabby, and not have another Rattler touch. So he provided himself with a long clothes line, which he tied to Tabby's neck, so that if she got out of the river she should not beat him home. Arriving at the river-side not far from Horn Hall, he threw Tabby into the Wear; he thought she would soon be done for as she was an old cat, and had not much go in her. In this he was deceived, Tabby swam out, and ran up a tree. Our hero pulled the rope, but Tabby got around the tree, and so the rope was powerless, pull as he would. Not wishing to be beat by an old cat he climbed the tree. Not being an expert at the climbing business he had some little difficulty in getting up to Tabby: but when he did, Tabby made off further up the tree; but our hero followed and at last overtook her, and was about to sieze the old thing when she ran along a branch. He jerked at the rope and she fell. Having a long drop the sudden stop by the rope pulled out her neck. Just at this juncture "Chappie" put in his appearance. "What now,' shouted he, on seeing this local "Berry" at work, "Hes ta turned hangsman." "Thoo'l get in 't papers." "Aw'v [illegible]n 't auld bitch the lang drop; dinna tell." "Aw will," said Chappie. "Aw'l se'd reporter ti neet." "Awl stand a quart, if thoo'l say nowt," said the one up the tree. "Agreed," said Chappie; still the thing has oozed out.

As usual, a number frae Wardale missed the excursion train at canny Newcastle, on Saturday night, and had the pleasure of a night in the streets in the city, and a ride home on the Sunday morning.

Parrots are long livers. One died last week, in Stanhope, over 50 years old. It belonged to R. Walton, Esq., of Stanhope House, and was a special favourite. It has been handed over to Mr C. Tinkler, taxidermist for preservation.

The reporters who attend the Guardian meetings are not local, as "Old Hand" in a contemporary would have people believe. The local reporters do not attend, so that they are not responsible for the funny stories respecting Bumbledom, which appear from time to time. I see them frequently in "Old Hand's" paper. Where does he get them?

DEATH OF AN INFANT.—On Monday afternoon, a child named Dorothy Pinder, aged 27 hours, died at Old Hamsteels. The mother gave birth to the infant about four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, and on Sunday, at two p.m., the child was working in convulsive fits, when a doctor was sent for, but the baby expired before his arrival.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, HAMSTEELS COLLIERY.—On Monday evening, a miscellaneous concert was held in the above place of worship. Mr Potts (Waterhouses), occupied the chair, while Mr R. Wynn officiated at the harmonium. The Cornsay Colliery String Band under the leadership of Mr W. Turner attended, and a choice selection of music was rendered in a masterley fashion creating much enthusiasm among the large audience. Notwithstanding the great amount of sickness that prevailed in the neighbourhood. Messrs Ward and Harrison, Waterhouses, took prominent part in the programme, while the proceedings were of a most delightful description. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, members of the band, and to the gentleman who had so kindly rendered their assistance.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, Feb. 17th.—Before Councillor JAMES ANNANDALE (in the chair), W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq., WM. GREEN, Esq., and F. PRIESTMAN, Esq.

DAMAGING A POLICE CELL WINDOW.

Frank Finnigan and *Peter Murphy*, navvies, were respectively brought up by P.C. Ogleby and P.C. Tomlinson for having been drunk and creating a disturbance in Front Street, Consett, at three o'clock the previous Friday afternoon. Finnigan was further accused of doing wilful damage to a police cell window, to the extent of 2s. He pleaded guilty, and Inspector Benzies stated that soon after prisoner was put into the cell he heard a crash of glass. On proceeding to the spot, he ascertained that Finnigan had raised himself up and broken a square of glass with his boot. The other man Murphy exclaimed, "For God's sake take me out, or I'll be blamed for it." Witness asked Finnigan the reason he had smashed the window, and he replied "Just for a bit of fun." (Laughter).—Defendants were fined 5s each and costs, or seven days' hard labour, for the drunken offence, the charge of damage being dismissed.

A TOPER IN A SABBATH SCHOOL.

John Wood, hawker, pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly at Leadgate on the previous Sunday afternoon.—Sergeant Nicholson stated that the defendant was very intoxicated. He went into the Wesleyan Sunday-school at Bottle Bank, and would run after the children, and the teachers had to send for the police. The man was quite harmless.—Defendant, who pleaded guilty, expressed his sorrow. He had been teetotal for four years, and had broken out afresh.—He was ordered to pay a penalty of 5s and expenses.

ASSAULT UPON THE POLICE AT CONSETT.

Hugh Burns, a young fellow, employed as a labourer at the Consett Ironworks, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Victoria Street, Consett, shortly after eleven o'clock on Saturday night, and at the same time with assaulting P.C. Smith by kicking him upon the legs while he was escorting the defendant to the lock-up. The officer said he was very severely hurt.—Burns pleaded guilty to being drunk, but said he had no knowledge of the assault.—For both offences the magistrates imposed a fine of 10s and costs (£1 4s 2d in all), or fourteen days' hard labour.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Lyon, labourer, Consett, was charged by P.C. Tomlinson with being drunk and disorderly at Consett, on last Saturday night, and was fined 5s and costs, or seven days' hard labour.—Defendant averred that it was the first time he had been fetched up.

John Hughes, a navvy, having created an uproar in McNally's lodging-house, at Consett, by knocking the other inmates about, was convicted, on the testimony of Sergt. Tones, of drunkenness, on Saturday night, and was similarly dealt with.

Ann Harrison, a fierce-looking woman, was put forward by P.C. Lawson for drunkenness, defendant having been helplessly tipsy in the streets of Consett on the preceding (Sunday) night, with a crowd of young fellows surrounding her.—Defendant was let off with a half-crown fine and costs.

Patrick Quinn was mulcted in a fine of 2s 6d and expenses for drunkenness at Consett, 3rd inst.—Sergt. Minto had the case.

Patrick Ward, was summoned by P.C. Lawson for being guilty of a like offence at Consett, 4th Feb.—Fined 5s and costs.

Thomas King was accused by P.C. Smith for committing the same offence at Consett, on Saturday night, and was fined 10s and costs, or seven days' hard labour.

John Henderson was summoned by P.C. Kettlewell for being tipsy at Castleside, and going about knocking at the front doors of the houses, 9th Feb., and was fined 5s and costs.

Elizabeth Moore failed to appear to answer a charge, made against her by P.C. Wright, of being drunk and causing a disturbance at Blackhill, 27th ult.—The Bench fined her 5s, and the payment of the court fees.

Mary Ellensworth, a regular customer at the court, was prosecuted by Sergt. Nicholson, for being obfuscated at Leadgate, 2nd inst., and was fined 5s and expenses.

Sergt. Thornton proceeded against *Michael Martin* and *Matthew Curtis*, miners, of South Medomsley, for being tipsy, at Dipton, 1st and 2nd Feb.—Each [illegible]r was ordered to pay 5s penalty and costs.

Michael McQuiggan, *John McNamara*, and *Robert Tirby*, also pitman, were convited, upon the evidence of P.C. Sanderson, of being the worse for liquor at Dipton, 2nd inst and were similarly deal with.

"MUCH TO DO ABOUT NOTHING": WHAT WAS THEIR DECISION?

Daniel Conney, of Blackhill, was summoned for having assaulted Hannah Sayers, a married woman at Mount Pleasant, Consett, 1st Feb.—T. W. Welford (Consett), defended.—Complainant deposed that she was coming up the bank to Consett, along with her husband, when they passed Conney and his wife. The latter said "There is Sayers and his wife," defendant exclaimed, "She is not his wife," and then began to apply foul and abominable epithets to her. Sayers walked on about ten yards, where complainant stopped and told Conney that she would bring him up for the indecent remarks he had used towards her. Defendant who was under the influence of liquor, then hit complainant upon the face, delivering the blow across his wife's shoulders.—By Mr Welford: Conney and his wife got past them, the complainant did not return back, and stare into Conney's face, nor did he ask "What are you staring at"? He called her husband disgraceful names as well. — Mr Welford: Is Sayers your husband?—Complainant: Yes, here's my marriage license (handing the certificate to the Bench).—Mr Welford: You have been twice married?—Complainant: Yes, I've been married three times.—Sayers was called, and stated that he did not see any blow struck by defendant when his wife stopped to speak to defendant, he (Sayers) walked away.—Mr Welford, for the defence, utterly denied that defendant ever struck the woman. The latter indulged in oppressive language, and also stared into Conney's face, and he merely requested Sayers to take his wife away.—The Magistrates said they would not convict if defendant would only pay 9s costs. After conferring with their clerk however, the Bench decided to inflict a nominal penalty of 6d.—Mr Welford strongly protested against such a course, on the ground that the magistrates had already acquitted his client on payment of the costs, and now they had changed their minds and wanted to convict him.—The Chairman pointed out that there must be a conviction to carry the costs.—Mr Welford however took objections, and pointed out that it was most unjust and unfair that their worships should change their minds twice or thrice in giving a decission in one particular case.—Mr Van Haansbergen: We'll try the case again if you like. (Laughter). The fine and costs were paid.

SIX OF ONE AND HALF-A-DOZEN OF THE OTHER.

William Bell, a respectable-looking person, was summoned by James Draffin, an ironworker, with committing an assault upon him, at Blackhill, 8th Feb.—Mr Welford appeared for defendant.—Complainant testified that at 5 p.m. he was leaving the water-closet, when defendant (who lives next door but one to him) came out of his house and shouted, "I'm as good a man as you." Bell was standing upon an embankment, and rushing down at Draffin, completely overpowered him, and knocked his head through a pane of glass in the window, shoved his hand through another square, and also told him to bite him when he was down.—By the Bench: There was some ill-feeling between him and defendant.—In answer to Mr Welford, complainant repudiated the allegation that he went to Bell's house on the previous Saturday night (Feb. 1st), and asked him out to fight. Defendant did not tell, on the date of the alleged assault, that he was as good a man as he was, and that they had a proper "set-to" with their fists.—Edward Oliver, an elderly person, spoke to seeing the parties struggling together, but did not see any blows struck.—Mr Welford submitted that there was no case to answer, and called John Cannel, who averred that on the night of the 1st inst. he was in Bell's house, when complainant came and wanted defendant to come out and fight him.—By Complainant: He (Draffin) had to order his (Cannel's) wife out of his house; but witness left of his own accord. The reason they were in Draffin's house was because complainant wanted them to supper.—After hearing further evidence, the Bench called upon the contending parties to pay the fees incurred, equally between them.

AN ARMY DESERTER.

John Gavins, formerly a miner, belonging to Stoney Heap, pleaded guilty to having deserted from the Royal Artillery, stationed at Shorncliffe, in the south of England. On Dec. 14th, he came to Stoney Heap on his furlough, and when his time expired, did not return. P.C. Crisp accordingly arrested him at that village on Monday last.—Prisoner was remanded to Durham gaol to be handed over to a military escort.

A WIFE'S TROUBLES AT BLACKHILL.

Archbold McTaggart was charged by Catherine McTaggart with having assaulted her, at Blackhill, 9th Feb.—Prosecutrix stated that she was married to McTaggart at Shotley Bridge some years ago, but she did not think that it was a legal marriage, inasmuch as defendant was her first husband's brother. (Laughter.) She went on to say that on Monday night, 3rd inst., defendant came home the worse for drink, and struck her on the face, giving her a black eye. She never thought anything more about the matter till the following Sunday night, when he returned home in a drunken condition, and pulling her out of bed, administered a sound thrashing. On the previous Wednesday night, defendant again came home drunk, and began to break the windows. She was obliged to call in P.C. Raine to prevent any further damage being done. Prosecutrix added that she had had her husband summoned on two previous occasions, but the cases had eventually been withdrawn.—Defendant, who did not enter an appearance, was fined 20s and costs, and the Bench advised Mrs McTaggart, in the event of her husband maltreating her in the future, to have him bound over to keep the peace.

LIVELY DOINGS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Charles McCartney, a repulsive-looking fellow, was brought up by P.C. Phillipson on charges of being drunk and riotous and refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr Wm. Taylor, Railway Hotel, Annfield Plain, on Saturday night.—The officer gave evidence to the effect that just before 11 o'clock he heard a terrible uproar in the public-house. Upon going inside he discovered prisoner fighting with another man, and the whole bar was up in arms. He experienced the greatest difficulty in getting McCartney outside; as he resisted with the utmost violence. The man was so turbulent that Phillipson was obliged to take him to Lanchester and have him locked up.—Defendant admitted that he was intoxicated; but denied that he refused to quit the house. The men held him and would not permit him to leave till the policeman came.—Mr Taylor, the landlord, said that prisoner came into the house "tight," and because he would not serve him with any beer, he began to kick up a row in the bar. Witness requested McCartney to leave, but as he positively declined to go, the police were summoned to eject him. Prisoner was so drunk that he did not know where he was, he could not tell anybody where he came from, or where he wanted to go to.—The Justices merged the two cases into one, and fined defendant only 5s and 14s 2d costs; the alternative being seven days in prison.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

John Kelly, miner, Dipton, was proceeded against by Mr David Mole, at the instance of the Collierley School Board, for neglecting to cause his child to attend school.—Defendant was fined 2s 6d, including costs.—The Magistrates informed the Attendance Office that now School Boards had to pay the costs of the prosecution in these cases; but the fines imposed were remitted to the Board and appropriated as part payment of the expenses.—Mr Mole: That is a fresh regulation. Is it expected that the School Attendance Officer pays the fees, or will you send an account to the School Board?—The Magistrates' Clerk(Mr A. W. Granger): A detailed account will be periodically furnished to every School Board.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Thomas Milner, chemist, of Shakespeare Street, Consett, was summoned for selling to Superintendent Oliver, on the 17th ult., a quantity of tincture of opium which was deficient in proof spirits to the extent of 43 per cent; and not according to the demand of the purchaser.—Supt. Oliver, who is inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, spoke to buying a quantity of tincture of opium at the defendant's shop, and submitted a sample of the article to Mr W. F. K. Stock, of Darlington, county analyst, who certified that the tincture of opium ought to have contained 95 per cent. of proof spirits, and was therefore deficient 43 per cent.—Defendant confessed that he was guilty, and in answer to the Court, explained that by being kept, the tincture of opium was apt to lose its strength to a certain degree, but not to the same extent as the sample analysed by Mr Stock. It ought not to have been so weak as that. It would simply diminish in quantity from being kept for any length of time, and the water would evaperate. He sold the liquid precisely as he received it from a good firm, and had not examined it before. He had had a quart bottle about three months, and one-third of the quantity had been used. He had not examined the article before. He kept the article in a corked, and not a glass-stoppered bottle.—Mr Oliver stated that he procured five other samples of drugs from Mr Milner's establishment, and these were perfectly genuine.—The Bench: If the tincture of opium has to contain 95 per cent. of proof spirits, what is the other five per cent. composed of?—Defendant: Solids and mixtures. There were different standards of tincture of opium, according to tables recently formulated. — Having been sworn, Mr Milner declared that he had not mixed water with the tincture of opium, nor had it been tampered with to his knowledge. He did not receive a guarantee with the article, but simply sold it as received from the wholesale dealer. There was a card inside the package requesting that any damaged goods might be immediately returned.—The magistrates, after a long consultation, said it was Mr Milner's duty to see that this article was genuine. They did not assume that he had put water into the tincture of opium, but he was equally liable in the matter, and would have to pay a fine of 20s and costs, as this was the first offence of this description before them. In future, the Bench counselled defendant to have a written guarantee from the wholesale dealers as to the purity of the article he sold.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL JOTTINGS.

Llewllyn Kay, son of Thomas Kay, Beamish, Chester-le-Street, has successfully passed the preliminary Pharmaceutical examination held in Newcastle on the 14th ult.

—:o:—

Messrs Bolckow Vaughan & Co., have forwarded a donation of £1 to the Stanhope Saxhorn Band.

—:o:—

Mr Valentine Arthur Rippen, of Rogerley Hall, Frosterley, was appointed a magistrate for the county, at Durham Quarter Sessions held last week. The appointment has given great satisfaction in Weardale, as the young squire was well known, and another was much needed, especially a resident magistrate.

VALE OF DERWENT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

A meeting of the members of this society was held in the Temperance Hall, Burnopfield, on Wednesday se'nnight, when the following papers were read:—"Swallows, their habits, modes of feeding, places of nesting, time of arrival in this country, their migration to another climate in winter, and other personal observations on the swallow tribe," by Mr W. Cook, of Whickham. The next paper was by Mr J. F. Robinson, of Burnopfield, on "A geological explanation of the migratory habits of birds"—the explanation being that the birds which had been located in the northern parts of the globe, at the time when a tropical climate extended much farther towards the pole, were driven southwards by the advance of the great ice age, but when this age passed away, the natural homing instincts of the birds induced them to pass again to their former homes, and that this habit has continued with them to the present time. This paper was followed by the reading of an original poem by Mr A. Barras, the talented author of "The Derwent Valley, and other poems," entitled "The pitman's dream," shewing how the pitman dreamt that the roof of his board was coming down upon him with a great crash, while all the time it was only his "marrow" making a noise downstairs to waken him. Following this was a paper by the Rev W. Featherstonhaugh, of Edmundbyers, being "A descriptive account of the parish, more particularly in respect to its interesting geological features." Next, and last, was "Natural history notes for January," by Mr J. W. Fawcett, of Satley, late of Queenstown, Australia. Mr Fawcett seems a very close observer of nature, and his notes for January were full of interest, and shewed how many very pleasing observations may be made by anyone who will make proper use of his or her observing powers. Another very interesting feature of the meeting was the exhibition, by Mr Fawcett, of two of the actual messages, or letters, if they may be termed such, by which the Australian aborigines communicate with each other. These are two pieces of stick, about four or five inches long, and about half-an-inch in diameter, having various marks cut upon them, which marks are only understood by the chiefs of the tribes, or by any one to whom these chiefs may communicate the secret. Mr Fawcett is fortunate in being able to interpret one of these messages, which means, "An enemy is approaching the camp by tortuous paths," in their language. After the usual votes of thanks to the writers of the papers, the meeting separated, having spent a very pleasant and instructive evening. It may be mentioned that a very complete list of the birds found in the Vale of Derwent has been drawn up by two members of the society, chiefly from the observations of a naturalist who has noted their habits for about half-a-century.

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

DEATH OF MR WM. BROWN, OF LEADGATE.

A REMARKABLE CAREER.

It is with feelings of unfeigned regret that we have to make the announcement—already well-known to the majority of our readers—that Mr William Brown, of Prospect House, Leadgate, passed away at his residence, after an illness of less than five weeks' duration, at the age of 70 years. The demise of Mr Brown, although the event was not wholly unexpected, has cast a gloom over the neighbourhood generally, for he was a gentleman who was known in almost every part of the North of England, and he was a prominent figure in our local commercial, public, and social life. His career may be selected as a fitting example of what can be achieved by perseverance, industry, integrity, and determination.

EARLY LIFE.

Deceased was born at Walker-on-Tyne, in 1820, his parents being in a humble position. He began to work in the Walker pit when he was only seven or eight years of age, and one of his schoolfellows and most intimate friends assures us that his mother had to carry her son to the pit, and wash him when he returned home at night from his daily toil. After the lapse of a few years young Brown started to change the curves, and later on served his time to be a "curver"—that is, little baskets for drawing the coals to bank instead of the tubs now in vogue. His master was named Anderson, who contracted for this class of work at different places, and Brown had to go to work not only at Walker, but Earsdon, Cramlington, West Moor, and other collieries on Tyneside, and he finished

HIS TERM OF APPRENTICESHIP

at Gosforth, Kenton and Fawdon. After he had been employed for a few weeks as a journeyman at this avocation, the system of "curving" was done away with, tubs being substituted for bringing the coals to bank, consequently like "Othello," Mr Brown found that his occupation was gone. About this period—when he was about 22 years of age—

MR BROWN MARRIED

Miss Summerbell, of Elsdon, a small village bordering on the North and situate between Kirkwhelpington and Rothbury. It is worthy of note that his wife died only five months ago, and the worthy pair have spent nearly 50 years in the happiest conjugal bliss. Subsequently, Mr Brown found employment

AT WEST STANLEY COLLIERY,

then belonging to Mr David Burn, the father of the present proprietor of this colliery (Mr J. H. Burn, of Cullercoats), and here he acted as banksman for upwards of 10 years. It is also stated that he held a similar capacity under the firm of Messrs Joicey and Company, but of this we have no authoritative information. After that, the deceased entered the service of the

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY,

and filled the position of under-manager of the branch mineral line running between Carr House (Consett) and the Stanley Bank Head. Having occupied this post for the space of three years. Mr Brown became an *employe* of the

CONSETT IRON COMPANY,

and has now been in the service of this prosperous firm for the lengthened period of 33 years. He first acted as an assistant manager under the late Mr Edward Charlton, general traffic manager, and on the retirement of that gentleman, some 18 years ago, the deceased succeeded him, and has since had the sole supervision of the extensive railways belonging to the Consett Iron Company, running between their different collieries, and the Iron and Steel Works, and also their numerous connections with the North-Eastern system. The traffic on these lines at the present moment is something enormous, trains being kept going almost night and day, and during Mr Brown's *regime*, the traffic must have increased at least ten-fold. He had some

300 OR 400 MEN

under him, and he was such a kind and generous overseer that the workpeople regarded him with the highest esteem, and sincerely deplore his death.

PUBLIC OFFICES.

Mr Brown also proved himself a valuable servant of the public. For about twelve years he has been a member of the Leadgate Local Board, and for ten years he sat as a Guardian for the township of Iveston—holding both these offices up to the time he was taken hence. In all his actions, he always tempered justice with mercy. At one period he represented the Leadgate district on the School Attendance Committee for the Lanchester Union. He moreover discharged the dual functions of waywarden and overseer of the poor for the township of Billingside, till two or three years ago, when the Divided Parishes Act was put in operation in the Union, and by order of the Local Government Board, Billingside was merged in the ancient and extensive parish of Iveston. Since his arrival in the imediate locality, Mr Brown has resided at Iveston, Templetown, Leadgate, and Prospect House, having lived at the latter place for 14 or 15 years.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

He was of a very social and genial temperament, and could adapt himself to any circumstances which fell to his lot. There was no issue by his marriage; but two sisters still survive—viz, Mrs Westell, of Prospect House, and Miss Brown, Benfieldside Edge. Mr Brown was a strong Conservative politician, and a firm adherent to the Church of England faith.

THE INTERMENT.

The remains of the deceased gentleman were consigned to their last resting-place in St. Ives Churchyard, on Wednesday afternoon, the funeral being, without doubt, the largest ever witnessed in Leadgate for many years. The sacred rites at the burial ceremonial were reverently performed by Rev J. W. Mitchell, M.A., vicar. The coffin, which was covered with many beautiful wreaths, was of a handsome character, and bore a simple inscription. Nearly the whole of the

MANAGERS, OFFICIALS, AND FOREMEN

of the Consett Iron Company attended to pay a last tribute of regard to an old and worthy servant of the firm, amongst those present being Ald. W. Jenkins, J.P., general manager; Messrs R. Evans, secretary; Geo. Ainsworth, under manager; W. H. Hedley, head viewer, Medomsley; W. Logan, mining engineer, Langley Park; T. Siddell, Viewfield, and Thompson Siddell, Blackhill, managers of the Tinmill Works; J. J. Hedley, manager of Spen and Westwood Collieries; C. P. Douglas and J. Scott, chief engineers; J. Tilley, Blackhill; R. O. Heymer, C. Parnaby, J. Petherick, Edwd. Kirkhouse, A. Russell, sen., S. Brodie, H. Keenleyside, Crookhall; J. T. Little, Blackfine House, &c., besides a large body of the workmen. The

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD

were represented by Councillor Geo. Nicholson, Messrs T. Lammonby, L. Nicholson, M. Robson, E. Todd, J. Davison, and T. Longstaff (surveyor). On behalf of the

LANCHESTER GUARDIANS

there were present Messrs G. Hobson, Harperley Mills; J. Collinson, Consett; C. D. W. Balleny, Ebchester; W. H. Ritson (clerk); John Moon (relieving officer); and W. Ward (schoolwarden). There were some local officials of the North-Eastern Railway Company—viz., Messrs Beattie, Consett Junction; T. Thompson, Carr House; —Carr, Leadgate, &c. Amongst the

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

at the funeral were: Messrs W. J. Scott, Rowley; E. W. D. Balleny, Little Greencroft; Supt. Jas. Oliver, Consett; T. L. Gledstone, Consett; J. Eltringham, J. Surtees, and C. Stephenson, Blackhill, &c.

TOKENS OF GRIEF.

That the departed gentleman was universally respected was conclusively shown by the manifestations of sorrow on every hand—all the houses passed by the *cortege* having their blinds drawn down, and the business establishments were closed. It has been suggested that a monumental tablet should be raised by the workmen in memory of the deceased, whose loss is deeply mourned.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

The regular meeting was held in the Benfieldside Edge Schools, on Friday afternoon, under the presidency of Rev A. Baillie (chairman), the members present being Revs G. H. Ross-Lewin, M.A., Jas. Foran, and E. W. Jenkins, Messrs H. Carss, Wm. Raw, and the clerk (Mr R. G. Barclay).

FINANCIAL.

The Finance Committee presented for payment accounts representing £102 5s.

Cheques were ordered so be signed in settlement of the several accounts.

THE CENSUS OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Mr A. McKean having during the Christmas holidays taken a census of the children, submitted the following summary:—

Census of children who have not passed the standard of exemption:—

Males	899	
Females	999	
Total		1898
Attending school or receiving education some other way	1265	
Aged 5 and not at school	19	
Aged 5 and delicate	7	
Under five	607	
Total		1898
Attending school of private adventure	57	
Attending school at Consett	159	

Mr McKean had informed the committee that there were fewer children in the township than when he took the previous census five years ago.

The CHAIRMAN considered this rather singular.

LOAN OF THE SCHOOLS.

An application was made by Rev T. J. Storey, M.A., for the use of the schools for a bazaar to be held this next summer in connection with St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill.

The members agreed that the schools could only be granted the first week of the holidays, the Clerk stating that the walls required to be cleaned, as nothing had been done to them for some years past.

On the motion of Mr JENKINS, seconded by Mr RAW, it was agreed to grant the use of the schools during the first week of the holidays, Mr Storey undertaking to clean the premises and not drive any nails into the walls.

THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Reported that a letter had been received from Miss Harley, complaining of the cold in the infant schoolroom, and she also asked for a cupboard. The committee suggested that a tortoise stove be substituted for the two open fireplaces, and that the cupboard be obtained. The attendance officer reported that all the children whose parents were cautioned at the last meeting were now attending well, except those who were at home through sickness.

The Board viewed the last clause of the report with considerable pleasure; Mr CARSS mentioning that although the cases seemed very trivial, they represented some 300 non-attendances.

THE BOARD AND THE MAGISTRATES.

A long discussion arose with reference to the justices' clerk at Consett (Mr A. W. Granger) calling upon School Boards to pay the costs in all prosecutions, whether penalties were inflicted or not, the amount of fine imposed being in part payment of the costs.

Mr CARSS said neither the magistrates nor the County County had power to override the Act of Parliament. He moved that the Clerk lay the subject before the Education Department.

Rev G. H. ROSS-LEWIN seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN confessed that he did not understand the matter at all, and thought the Board should have had some official intimation.

Mr McKean stated that he knew nothing about the matter till he saw the facts reported in the *Guardian*.

Mr JENKINS said that he first noticed the subject in that newspaper. He thought it expedient that they should communicate with the clerk of the justices, and enquire by what authority the Bench could mulct the School Board in the costs?

Mr RAW seconded the proposition, averting that the County Council was regarded at the outset as a heaven-born blessing, and was calculated to work wonders.

Mr CARSS retorted that the County Council had no authority to make laws, but simply to administer existing laws, He thought it would facilitate matters if they communicated direct with the Education Department, who in turn would appeal to the Home Secretary, as to whether the magistrates could legally carry out this plan.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that both resolution and amendment (which were not antagonistic) could be acted upon.

After further discussion, the amendment was not persevered with, and the motion was carried without dissent.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,—You will find from the school returns a decrease in the attendance. This is owing to the children being ill with influenza. I have entered two cases in the "Book of Proceedings" to be dealt with to-day.—Yours, &c.,

A. MCKEAN.

SCHOOL RETURNS.

Inspected Schools.	No. on books	Average Attendance	Admitted.	Left.	Sick.
Board Schools—Boys	225	191	—	—	6
,, —Girls	216	173	—	—	36
,, —Infants	118	80	15	2	21
Derwent St.— ,,	130	93	12	1	35
Shotley Grove	100	70	6	—	27
St. Mary's Roman Catholic—	198	164	6	1	30
,, —Infants	99	72	3	—	8
Total	1086	845	42	4	163
January, 1889	1069	904			
Increase	17	—			
Decrease	—	59			

THE STOVES.

Mr CARSS: How have you ordered the stoves?

The Clerk: Through the architect, Mr Smith.

Mr CARSS: You ought to have obtained the stoves direct. Mr Smith will want a commission.

The Clerk said the commission would only be a trifling expense. Besides, as Mr Smith was busy superintending the enlargement of the schools, he could see to the stoves being erected.

Mr CARSS: Bless me. It doesn't require an architect to superintend the putting up of a stove. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN thought the clerk had acted very wisely in the matter.

THE OVERSEER AND THE BOARD.

A letter was received from Mr Jos. Eltringham, assistant-overseer, intimating that unless the Board charged the overseers £1 per annum, instead of £4, for the use of the schools they would be compelled to hold their meetings elsewhere, as the auditor refused to allow any more than £1, inasmuch as the schools were rated at that amount.

Mr CARSS said that it would cost above £1 a year for gas consumed, wear and tear, and the cleaning up of the schools. The auditor was quite right, but it was rather unfair that the Board should be at a loss by the transaction, and the difficiency set down as applied towards the education of children.

It was agreed to charge £2 per annum.

TEACHERS SALARIES.

Miss E. Batey applied for an advance of salary, and the question was adjourned.

The application from Mr Teare for an increase of salary was further postponed. The Clerk having to furnish a list of the percentage of passes since the head-master accepted the charge of the schools.

THE EXTENSION.

The schools have been insured for an additional sum of £600 a year, and sums of £45 were paid to Mr Houliston, and £40 to Mr Eltringham, contractors, for the addition to the buildings.

MR CARSS AND "INCEDO."

Mr CARSS again complained that the editor of the *Guardian* permitted that bright specimen of humanity "Incedo" to villify and misrepresent him without giving him any opportunity of refuting his false assertions.

The meeting then adjourned.

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. Whole sale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London

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.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats," It clears out rats, mice, beetles, fleas bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c, 4½d and 1s. boxes.

"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.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—There were forward at this mart, on Monday, 13 fat cattle, 5 cows, 90 fat sheep, 6 pork pigs, 11 small pigs, a quantity of potatoes, hay, straw, turnips, carrots, poultry, &c. Fat cattle, to £24 5s, top, Messrs Taylor, Summerfield. Sheep, to 73s; hoggs, to 66s 6d, top, W. Dixon, Hollands. Cows, to £16. Pork pigs, to 64s; small pigs, 25s to 28s. Turkeys, to 9s; chickens, to 2s 6d. Potatoes, 6s 6d per ton. Hay, 64s per ton. Turnips, 6s per load. A good company was present, and a capital trade ensued, especially for fat stock. Beef,—8s per stone; mutton, 10d per lb; pork, 7s per stone.

TOW LAW.—There were forward, on Monday, 88 dairy cows and heifers. Calved cows made up to £24, cows to calve up to £28, 9 fat cattle, up to £21, 4 store cattle, 13 calves, to 55s, 35 fat sheep and hoggs; fat black-faced wethers, to 47s 6d, top, Mr J. Dowson, West Newlands; fat half-bred hoggs, to 60s, sow (pig now due), to £8, pork pigs, to 60s.

A WEARDALE SPILL ON THE TEESDALE MOORS.

Two gents from Butler's Village, with horse and trap, were benighted on the Teesdale Moors the other Sunday evening, as they journeyed from Middleton to Stanhope. The night was pitch dark, and the glow worms by the roadside emitted no light whatever from the moss and peat bogs of Upper Teesdale. The twosome were hale fellows, well met, crack horsemen, and could turn their hands to anything. One was a scientist, and the other a gifted orator who, had his latent talents been developed, would have been another Spurgeon. They, however, were not well versed in the geographical knowledge of the vast tract of moorland which lies between the Tees and the Wear, and came to a place where two roads converge. In the darkness they saw something like a man, which, however, turned out to be a guide-post. They drew up, when the orator addressed it thus: "Hey, can ye tell us, Misthor, which is't reet road for Wardle?" There was no reply. When the orator continued "Ye ken me, dinnit ye; aw's Bunk frae Stanhope; aw's weel kent." Still the figure was speechless. "Ista nut gan ta speak," continued the spokesman. "If thoo isn't, thoo knaws awl just git out an' mak tha." Suiting the action to the word, he got out of the trap, threw off his coat, and said: "Now, come on, awl larn tha tae treat strangers see," and let go at the supposed fellow. "Thoo hes a hard heed, thoo hes, hooiver. We'll just be independent o' tha." He put on his coat, and climbed into the trap again, and they drove on, but unfortunately took the road which leads to the lead mine of the London Company, known as California (at one time a very rich mine, hence its name). It is now known as Cale mine. There is a lead ore washing place, and close by the roadside some buntings, where waggons are run across and tipped into house teams some ten or twelve feet deep. In the darkness one of the wheels got over this dangerous spot, and at once there was a spill. They were thrown out, and the trap smashed. They gathered themselves up, luckily found the horse but little worse, and groping their way to a building they saw the dim outline of the horizon. It turned out to be a stable. They got the door open, and here they camped for the night. The scientist laid in the manger, and the orator kept sentinel. While sleeping in the manger, he had pleasant dreams of Bethlehem and its associations. Not so with the orator. They had disturbed some sheep with their smash, and one or two of them came past. He could see no one, and his hair raised his hat, and he felt his heart gradually rising into his mouth. "Who goes there," shouted he, with all the courage he could muster. There was no response. He groped for something and found a broom which he instinctively pointed to where he heard the noise. "Stand, or aa'l fire," shouted he, in loud stentorian tones, which awoke the sleeper in the manger. "It's Herod and his men," said he, "Where are they?" "Aw can hear some body, but I cannot see them." "Come in," said the other, and put the door to, which he did, and having bolted it, he stood beside the sleeper in the manger. They could both distinctly hear a noise outside, as if someone was cautiously moving about. "Now dinna talk," said the one in the manger, "Thy'l not fied us easily." The sheep, after finding a suitable place, had laid down, and the noise ceased. After listening a considerable time and hearing nothing more, our heroes both fell asleep, and were awoke by returning daylight early next morning. They presented a pitiful appearance, their faces covered with blood and their clothes soiled. They viewed the horse and found it all right. They then had a wash and dressed their wounds, and then went to see the trap which they found completely smashed, and when they saw the place they were thankful lads that they were so little worse. The place was a very awkward and dangerous one, and they had done well to escape as they did. The trap springs were broke; one of the shafts was also broke, the axle-tree bent, and the splash-board knocked off. What could they do? After consultation, it was decided that they best thing they could do was to send someone with a horse and cart to bring the trap home; they then set out for Stanhope, calling at Bollihope, and sending a cartman for the broken vehicle, with instructions to take it to the station and tell no one what had occurred. They would have liked to have kept the thing secret, but there was the owner of the trap, he would have to be told. However, they decided not to tell him the worst. At the best their story was a bad one, and suggested a night of untold misery on the moors, but the worst was not told. How to get into Stanhope without being seen was the next difficulty. But there was the horse and no trap. Big Charlie, however, as chance would have it, was astir early that morning, and espied them and holloa'd "What now, hev ye been off preaching someway, yesterday." "Aw wad rather hev seen the devil than that fellow," said the orator. "The reporter is sure to get to know." Later on in the day the cartman arrived with the remnants of the trap in a cart, and having occasion to go up into Stanhope, went before unloading the trap, so that the most of the people saw there had been a spill somewhere, and began to make enquiries, and the thing soon began to ooze out. The gossips made for the barber's shop, sure if it was known anywhere at all, it would be known there. And so ends the story of the "White Lion," at Shaftwell Head, in the California Rocks. The White Lion was not in reality a steamer, it was a dry land sailor. It was the trap which belonged the landlord of the White Lion Inn, Stanhope, which was smashed in the spill at California lead mine, a little south of Shaftwell Head, as announed in last week's issue of the *Guardian*. The moral of the story is never to cross bleak moorland after dark with a trap; but always contrive to get of't fell before dark.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—It is entirely to prevent the noxious vapours which are given off in mines and tunnels, and those who, like miners and railway operatives, have to work day after day in such vitiated atmospheres, suffer in health and strength in consequence. The chest and liver often become clogged with the prod[illegible]s of coal combustion, necessitating great attention to the health. No remedy is more valuable for miners and the like than Holloway's Pills, as they carry off all effete matter from the blood, and healthily stimulate the liver. They are also invaluable for costive bowels, and for all bilious disorders. The Ointment is a priceless remedy for piles, sprains, ulcers and all manner of sores.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL received January 15th, 1890.

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INDEPENDENT UNITED ORDER OF MECHANICS.

BLACKHILL DISTRICT.

The half-yearly council of the above district was recently held at the Commercial Inn, Blackhill, under the presidency of Bro. Ralph Walton, Grand Master of the district, who, after the financial business had been settled in a satisfactory manner, read a report of the district's business for the half-year ending December 31st, 1889. It appeared that there was a substantial increase both in members and funds, and that the district now comprised twelve lodges, with 2,036 members, and sick fund balances amounting to £5,037.—After transacting important business connected with the district, and electing officers for the ensuing year, the D.G.M. brought the council to a close in the usual manner.

The "Derwent Valley Lodge" of the above Order celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on Saturday se'nnight by a dinner in the lodge-room, Commercial Inn, Blackhill, when a substantial repast was set before the members present, by the hostess, Mrs Jameson, in her usual proficient manner. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the cloth was removed, and Bro. Ralph Walton, D.G.M., was called upon to take the chair, Bro. George Lamb, D.M., filling the vice-chair. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been given and duly honoured, Bro. Lamb submitted the toast of "The Blackhill district," which was responded to by Bro. Walton.—Bro. T. Siddell next gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Derwent Valley Lodge, coupled with the names of Bro. Jas. Lovett, I.G. and Bro. Wm. Watson, secretary. After Bro. Lovett had suitably replied, the secretary gave a very interesting history of the lodge from its commencement in 1864 up to the present time, showing the membership and sick funds for each year, which had risen from 12 members and £6 10s funds up to 145 members and £700 in funds. The secretary further stated that only four out of the first twelve members were now left—namely, R. Walton, Robert Dick, Thomas Lodge, and David Tweed, Bros. Walton and Dick being present.—The Chairman next gave "The trade of the district," which was responded to by Messrs Geo. Eltringham, T. Siddell, and N. Peacock.—Several members gave songs and recitations, which brought a very pleasant evening to a close.—[The foregoing report was accidentally omitted from our last issue.—ED. *C.G.*]

CONCERT AT EASTGATE,

A grand concert was held at Eastgate on Friday evening, in the school-room—Rev J. R. Taylor, curate-in-charge, presiding. The room was crowded, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. A few local farmers were among the artistes billed for the programme, which gave an increased zest to the proceedings, one or two of them being Weardale Guardians. The one who was down for a song entitled "The jovial crew," was conspicuous by his absence, and some went on purpose to hear this exponent of song in Weardale, but his place was ably filled by Mr Vickers, Howl John, who courageously stepped into the gap at the request of the audience, and entertained them well by singing "A drap o' good beer." Mr W. Vickers Pease Myers, the big nephew of the other, also entertained the company by giving, in capital style, "Poor old Jeff," and "The old oaken bedstead." But the hero of the evening was the Shittlehopsburn farmer (Mr Thompson), who fairly brought down the house each time he appeared on the boards. He was *encored* every time. The character of his songs, and the *naive* manner in which they were sung, carried away the audience. He was properly lionised. Few people ever dreamt he was a singer at all, but the managers of the Eastgate concerts are "up to snuff." They know what will take with the public. He found an able second-mate as humourist, in the person of Tom Moore, who, like himself, brought down the house." But the latter as a humourist, is well known. He always takes well, and is always *encored*. The presence of Miss Moore as a singer and pianist also lent additional interest to the proceedings. The Moore family, as is well known, are a talented party. One of Miss Moore's pupils, a violinist (Master Garthwaite, of Harrow Bank), also pleased the audience immensely by his performance of a selection of Scotch airs on the violin. Being *encored*, he gave "Home, sweet home," and "Auld lang syne," and sat down amid much applause. He is young, and there are the elements of a good player in him, which so able a tutor as Miss Moore will bring out. Mr W. Waller, an able exponent of song, also pleased well, and was *encored*. He has a splendid bass voice, and as he is under the special training of the Rev F. C. Jagg, as a singer he is likely to be even better than he now is. Mr J. Bell is a universal favourite, and his services are in great request, both as a singer and a player. Miss Maughan pleased well by the clever way in which she took her part, along with Tom Moore, in the well-known duet, "Hunting Tower." Miss Godsell also did well with "Five o'clock in the morning." She is the possessor of a sweet voice, and generally pleases well. Miss Hogarth is too well-known to need mention here. A concert without the Misses Hogarth now seems incomplete. Then there is the name Hogarth. The Hogarths have been musicians and composers for decades, and the nineteenth century productions keep up the name. Mrs Lee sang a charming little song in a charming way, and last, but not least, the gentleman of the cloth, who was the presiding genius, performed in an admirable way. Eastgate, although one of the least of the Weardale villages, is a spirited little place, and whatever they do there, they do it well. They go into it with a zeal that is commendable, and which gives proof to the many that perseverance in any cause ensures success. But their's is deserved. We had nearly omitted to mention the good singing of Miss A. Thompson, of Long Lee, who, by the way, has a sweet melodious voice, and will some day please the public by her sweet vocal powers. Subjoined is the programme:— Part I. Glee, "[illegible] Burdon," choir; song, "A soldier and a [illegible]," Mr W. Waller; song, "Five o'clock in the morning," Miss Godsell; song, "Robinson Crusoe," Rev J. R. Taylor; song, "Cork leg," Mr J. Thompson; violin selection, Master Garthwaite; song, "The old oaken bedstead," Mr W. Vickers, jun.; duet, "Hunting Tower," Miss A. Maughan and Tom Moore; song, "So it was," Mr T. Moore; song, "Riding on a load of hay," Mrs Lee; song, "Tired," Miss Hogarth; song, "The boat that brought me over," Mr Thompson. Part II. Glee, "Fancy's flight," choir; song, "White squall," *encore*, "I love to think of the days when I was young," Mr Waller; song, "Rothesay Bay," Miss A. Thompson; duet, "Love and pride," Miss Hogarth and Mr J. Bell; song, "A drap o' good beer," Mr W. Vickers, sen.; piano solo, "Rock of Ages," Mr J. Bell; song, "Spoonie," Miss Hogarth; duet, "Country courtship," Miss Moore and Mr Moore; song, "I really can't be still," Mr Thompson; song, "Love's old song," Miss Moore; song, "I did it." *encore*; "English as she is spoke.

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 undoubtable 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 in almost all forms of throat disease."

HUMAN LIFE.—Fifty years' record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Disease, and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D.; author of "Patriarchal Longevity Reattainable," "Earth-Life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every Sufferer. Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co. 48, Theobald's Road Holborn, London, W.C

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL & STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES, quickly correct all irregularities, remove all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes, 1s 1½d. and 2s 9d of all chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 24 stamps by the Maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham.

Business Announcements.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 3 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 22, MOUNT PLEASANT. Artificial Teeth, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Best English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1850.

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SOLE MAKERS OF THE COVENTRY IMPERIAL BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, SAFETIES, and TANDEMS

ALL GUARANTEED MACHINES BEAR THE REGISTERED TRADE MARK OF THE COMPANY.

PRICE LISTS, 3 STAMPS. 876v

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

THE Teeth supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes.

Every Set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s. to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS, from 3s. to 10s. per Tooth.

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

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SURGEON DENTIST, No. 8, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.

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CONSULTATION FREE.

Attendance from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. 772b

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PROFESSOR OF MUSIC,

Having won, WITH HONOURS, the LICENTIATE DIPLOMA OF THE LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC, and also taken FIRST-CLASS HONOURS, Senior Division, in each of the following Colleges:

"TRINITY COLLEGE," LONDON.
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"MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE," LONDON,

Gives LESSONS in the following subjects: ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT FUGUE, HISTORY, &c.

PUPILS TRAINED FOR THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

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RAIN OR SHINE, DON'T FORGET TO CALL AND SEE OUR LARGE STOCK OF HOUSE FURNISHINGS, GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, IRONMONGERY, CUTLERY BEDSTEADS AND BEDDING, WRINGING MACHINES, PAPER-HANGINGS, PERAMBULATORS.

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

OUR WAGGONS TRAVEL THE DISTRICT, AND ARE REPLETE WITH AN ENDLESS VARIETY OF USEFUL AND DOMESTIC GOODS.

GIVE THEM A TRIAL.

W. RICHARDSON,

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EVERY DEPARTMENT IS NOW FULL OF NEW AND RELIABLE GOODS.

SHEETS, SHEETING, QUILTS, RUGS, FLANNELS, BLANKETS, AND FASHIONABLE SKIRTINGS.

DRESS DEPARTMENT.—Cashmeres, Rough and Ready Mentons, Tweeds, Habit Cloths, Nun's Veiling Prints (Fancy and Fast Colour), Drilletes, Cameliana, Galateas, Oxford Shirting, Zephyrs, Stays, and Corsets. GLOVES FOR MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN.

MEN'S FELT HATS DIRECT FROM THE DENTON MAKERS. CAPS OF THE NEWEST STYLES AND SHAPES.

ALL THE RAGE TAM O'SHANTER. READY-MADES.

W. R.'S BLANKET CLUB is now in Full Swing.

AGENT TO THE HONG-KONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN SINGLE TOOTH, from 2s. 6d. A COMPLETE UPPER or LOWER SET, from 20s. EQUAL TO NATURE IN APPEARANCE.

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ATTENDANCE: EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 P.M. TILL 6 P.M.

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GROCERS, PROVISION, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

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Buyers and Bonders of Whiskeys direct from the Distilleries. Large Assortment of Wines a Stock, Prices that compare with any House in the Trade.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS IN GREAT VARIETY AT LOWEST PRICES.

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GOODS DELIVERED FREE OF CHARGE.

FOR QUALITY AND PRICE THE FIRM CANNOT BE BEATEN.

OUR SPECIAL WHISKEY, 3s. 6d. PER BOTTLE, OR 21s. PER GALLON. UNEQUALLED IN THE TRADE.

NATHAN FAWELL, JUN., 41, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of the District that he HAS OPENED the above Premises as a STATIONERY, NEWSAGENCY, BOOK-SELLING, and FANCY TRADE DEPOT.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S CARDS

☞ Orders for Newspapers, Magazines, Periodicals, &c., punctually attended to. 279b

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

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

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THE WORKING-MEN'S BUILDING SOCIETY.

INTEREST, 4½ PER CENT., PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY.

SUBSCRIPTION SHARES 2s. PER FORT NIGHT PER £50.

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THIS SOCIETY OFFERS EVERY FACILITY TO MEMBERS.

For Prospectus and Information apply to the Agent MR. JOSHUA LAX, Shotley Bridge. 350b

AN IMPOSITION ON THE PUBLIC

WHEN you get Measured for what you expect to be a Tailor-made Suit, be sure that you get one, as many People are showing Patterns, and taking Measures (purporting to be Tailor-made), when in reality they are supplied from Ready-made Clothing Factories.

GENUINE, BONA-FIDE, TAILOR-MADE GARMENTS can always be had from

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Who has on hand the Best WOLLEN GOODS of all Descriptions in the Newest Patterns.

Garments Cut, Made, and Finished equal to the best Town and City Houses, at much more Economical Prices. 283a

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOOLS can be had at JACKSON'S, "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 9, NEW MARKET STREET, CONSETT

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DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST, CONSETT,

Thanks the Public of Consett and District for their liberal patronage during the past 7 years, and at this season draws the attention of the Public to the

NEW SEASONS (Jaegt Brand) COD LIVER OIL, recommended by the Medical Faculty.

PARISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

QUININE AND IRON TONIC.

QUININE WINE PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

Malt Extract, with Cod Liver Oil, in great variety.

MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle.

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Agent for Mr LAMONT'S Magnetic Belts, Chea Procktors, Knee Caps, &c. &c.

TRUSSES AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

SEQUAH INDIAN OIL AND PRAIRIE FLOWER, 2s PER BOTTLE.

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A GREAT VARIETY OF SHEEP DIPS.

PURGING, COUGH, AND ALTERATIVE BALLS FOR HORSES AND DOGS.

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Business Announcements.

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"CLAREMONT" (Second in Derby), by "Blair Athol," from "Coimbra" by "Kingston."—"Claremont" is 16·1 h.h., immense bone and fine quality. Sire of several Winners both on the Turf and in the Showyard.—Apply to Mr HANNEBERRY, Woodlands, Consett.

A LARGE DIVIDEND.

3s. 6D. IS SAVED IN THE POUND BY BUYING YOUR SUITS OF

J. HUTCHINSON, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

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BEST HOUSEHOLD COAL.

ON MONDAY, January 20th, and until further Notice, the Price of Coal will be

6s. A LOAD OF 15 CWT.

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NATHAN ELSDON

ALE AND PORTER MERCHANT, MANUFACTURER OF MINERAL WATERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

DELVES LANE, CONSETT,

HAS PLEASURE IN SUBMITTING THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Samples of the undermentioned kinds of Aerated Waters, received from Mr N. Elsdon, Consett, have been very carefully analysed in this Laboratory, viz: Potash and Soda Waters, Lemonade, Raspberryade, Champagne Cider, and "Pick-me-up."

The Potash and Soda Waters constitute valuable anti-acid drinks, have been carefully manufactured, and are perfectly bright and clear. The Lemonade and Raspberryade are strongly wholesome and palatable, and contain, in an agreeable form, the dietetic principles characteristic of the natural lemon and raspberry fruits. The Champagne Cider is a deliciously compounded preparation, delicately flavoured and acidulated, and deserves to be much appreciated and patronised. The drink designated "Pick-me-up" possesses important dietetic qualities, and is a genial, yet tonic and stimulant. The results of my analysis demonstrate that all these beverages are pure in composition and entirely free from contamination by lead, and all other injurious mineral constituents.

At the same time I have submitted to careful analysis the essences, alkaline salts, &c, used in the manufacture of the above-named drinks, and have found them to be of good flavour, aroma, and quality. I am decidedly of opinion that the utmost care has been exercised on the part of Mr Elsdon in the preparation of his goods.

(Signed) E. H. SHARP, D.C.S., Analyst,
Late Principal of the "Liverpool College Chemistry."

MUSIC EMPORIUM.

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

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

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.

BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.

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Note the Address:—

T. JONES,

5, CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office), CONSETT. 902a

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION AND RHEUMATIC CURE.

GEO. HANDYSIDE commences again to give away his Medicine to our people, who cannot afford to pay for it, on the presentation of a letter from a Minister or Doctor to that effect, at the Bigg Market, Newcastle, on Saturday, February 15th, between three and five o'clock; and at South Shields next Monday, February 17th, between six and eight o'clock; and on every alternate week for next two months at these places, for those who have poor health should go and hear what everyone has to say about this wonderful Medicine. You will hear all say that for Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, Coldness, Spitting of Blood, Singing in the Ears, Debility, Indigestion, Scurvy, Runnings in the Body, Sciatica, Rheumatism, Cancer, Tired Life, indeed it appears to cure everything. When it purifies the blood, and cures the most obstinate diseases of Scurvys caused by that impurity, it must cure everything, for we have it on the highest authority that "The blood is the life." For such a proposition £1000 was challenged Sequah, St. Jacob's Oil, Mother Segel, and the Aztec Physicians in the Kingdom, but no one has dared to come forward. One man who professed to do great things, said champions never challenged, but my reply is that champions must either accept a challenge or take a second place. Anyone who can bring forward a man to accept the challenge will confer a great boon upon this Medicine, and to the world, for it is sure to win, and then its worth will be proved. I do not want to accept the challenge of a profession, for they are an honourable body of men; one doctor actually stood up in a public hall of my patients at Hexham and publicly stated that his mother had been cured by HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE after every other medicine had failed. Everyone should read the report of the Rev T. Cumming, of Blyth, who started the wonderful medicine was doing, and published the result of his inquiries. They should also see the letters of the editor of the *Shields Daily News*, who gave the testimony from the patients' own lips; and they should also read the pamphlet published by Mr. Handyside, containing particulars of the most marvellous cures ever effected. If you cannot get this book from the chemist, write to Mr. George Handyside, Newcastle, who will be glad to send it by return. This medicine has in nineteen months cured over a thousand people, and snatched many more from untimely graves. This is a marvellous medicine for the cure of INFLUENZA, the cases treated having experienced a most magical benefit, and a perfect cure in a few days. I hope there will be some of the worst cases at the Bigg Market next week, for then the public will hear it from the patients themselves the exceedingly wonderful cures this medicine has performed. I intend to open a dispensary in Newcastle for the cure of those whom the medical profession has failed to cure; and then every one will be in a position to know the soothing and healing effects of this cure. I have known this medicine for 36 years, and I am sorry I did not bring it before the attention of the public sooner, as it might have mitigated the privations of many fatherless homes. I am making arrangements to send a supply of my discovery to the lepers; and as I am positive it will alleviate, if not altogether cure their pitiable condition. It has cured some cases as bad as lepers, where the whole body has been covered over with ulcers, which gives me great confidence in its vigorous blood purifying power. Those who are fortunate enough to take sanguine medicine should take HANDYSIDES PILLS. They are a great purifying for Dizziness and all Liver Complaints, and worth a guinea a box compared with mercury pills, which make you better for a time, but ruin the constitution.

HANDYSIDE'S NERVE RESTORER.

GEO. HANDYSIDE has made a discovery of a medicine to take away the desire for Alcoholic Drinks. Whenever it has been tried it has been successful. It will not be sold until it is further tested; but it will be given away free to anyone on the testimony of a Minister, or to the effect that the person had no will of his own and was reduced to a slave with the drink. One man who has taken it told me that there was no end to the drunken dissipation. It will not disgust the victim against alcholic drink. It will only invigorate the nerves and lessen the desire for stimulants.

Public Notices.

BLACKHILL GOSPEL MISSION TEMPERANCE MEETING, February 28th, 1890. Address by Mr. WHITEHEAD, A.T.A., Newcastle. 776b

MR. WALKER, Evangelist, of Northampton, will conduct a Series of Revival SERVICES in the Allendale Cottages Primitive Methodist Chapel, commencing on Sunday First, February, 23rd.

LOOK OUT for the CASTLESIDE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL AND DOG SOCIETY'S SHOW, to be held on August 23rd, 1890.

Schedules may be had 1st March.

JAMES KETTLEWELL,
JOSEPH PROUD, } Secretaries.
TANFIELD FLOWER SHOW. 764b

A MEETING, in connection with the above, will be held at Mr. JOHN IRWIN'S, Pack Horse Inn, Tanfield, on Monday, March 10th, 1890, at 6-30 p.m., when all who take an interest in the welfare of the Show are kindly invited.

J. W. ANDERSON, Secretary,
East Tanfield. 755b

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

LOOK OUT FOR THE

LECTURE ON STANLEY

THE AFRICAN EXPLORER,

BY

J. R. ROBERTS

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 6th, 1890. 784b

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

"NIAGARA IN LONDON" (near St. James' Park Station, Metropolitan District Railway).

SHIRE HORSE SHOW AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

COOLIE, FOX TERRIER, AND TOY DOG SHOW AT THE CENTRAL HALL,

ON WEDNESDAY, the 26th February, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Newcastle at 12·5 a.m. (with bookings from Consett, Blaydon, &c.) for LONDON, for Two Days (via the Great Northern Railway).

See Bills. 767b

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

Sch. II (25), & Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONSETT.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIM AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all persons who are entitled to vote as Owners or Proxies at the Election of Members of the Local Board for the District of Consett, and who are not on the Register of Owners and Proxies now in force, or who being on the Register do not retain the qualification or the address described therein, and who are desirous to have their names inserted in the Register about to be made for the said District, and all persons who are desirous of objecting to any name on the Register now in force, are hereby required to give or send to me, on some one of the first six days of March next, a Claim or Objection [as the case may be] in the Form hereunder set forth.

WM. JENKINS,
Chairman of the Local Board.

Dated this 19th day of February, 1890.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Consett, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, claim to have my Name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Consett, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875.

I herewith transmit to you* the writing under the hand (or hands, or in the case of a Corporation, the seal) of

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have (or have) in the Property and the amount of the Rent-service which he (or they) receives (or receive) or pays (or pay) in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons from whom he (or they) receives (or receive), or to whom he (or they) pays (or pay) such Rent-service as are set forth in the form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which I have an Estate or Interest (b)	And in respect of which the Appointor has an Estate or Interest (b)	From (d)	And in respect of which I pay To (f) in Rent-service the sum of (e)
				£ s. d.

.....Signature of Proxy.

.....(g) Address of Proxy.

* If the appointment itself is not sent, insert the words "an attested copy of"

(a) Describe the Property by its name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or Freehold, a term of Years, and whether it is held by the Appointor solely or jointly with others.

(c) If the property is let by the Appointor insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Appointor is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the Name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Proxy's residence; but should be some Address within the District.

CLAIM OF PROXY.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Consett, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, having been appointed by of Owner (or Owners) of the Property hereinafter described which is situate in the Parish of to vote as his (or their) Proxy, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, claim to have my name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Consett, as such Proxy.

I herewith transmit to you* the writing under the hand (or hands, or in the case of a Corporation, the seal) of appointing me such Proxy.

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have (or have) in the Property and the amount of the Rent-service which he (or they) receives (or receive) or pays (or pay) in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons from whom he (or they) receives (or receive), or to whom he (or they) pays (or pay) such Rent-service as are set forth in the form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which the Appointor has an Estate or Interest (b)	And in respect of which the Appointor receives in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which he pays in Rent-service the sum of (e)	To (f)
				£ s. d.	

.....Signature of Proxy.

.....(g) Address of Claimant.

* If the Owner of the Property is not sent, insert the words "an attested copy of"

(a) Describe the Property by its name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or Freehold, a term of Years, and also whether it is held by the Claimant solely or jointly with others, and, in the case of Partner claiming, insert the number and names of the other Partners in the Firm.

(c) If the Property is let by the Owner, insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Owner is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Owner's residence; but should be some Address within the District.

* A partner must set out the amount of Rent-service which he would receive or pay if the qualifying property were equally divided among his co-partners and himself.

FORM OF OBJECTION.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Consett, this day of 18

I hereby give you Notice that I object to the Name of the Person mentioned and described below being retained on the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of

Christian and Surname of the Owner or Proxy objected to.	Address as described.	Nature of Qualification as described.	Description fin case of Proxy) of Appointor.

.....Signature of Objector.

.....Address of Objector.

Public Notices.

PIANO & SINGING LESSONS.—SHOTLEY

MR. JOHN NICHOLSON, A.C.O., visits the Old Hall (Miss SHAW'S), on Mondays. Two Vacancies. 776b

34, Grosvenor Road, Newcastle. 717b

JOSEPH OLEY,

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,

10, WOOD STREET SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

MADAM AND THE MISSES

FLOOD-PORTER'S * PARTY,

(INCLUDING THE CELEBRATED LONDON LADY QUARTETTE.)

SONGS, VIOLIN, VIOLINCELLO, FLUTE, AND PICCOLO SOLOS.

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL DUETTS, TRIOS, QUARTETTES, &c.

COMBINATIONS OF MANDOLINES AND GUITARS, ALSO BANGO, SPANISH BANDURA, COCERTINA, &c.

SPECIAL GRECIAN COSTUMES BY FOX, COVENT GARDENS

The above Ladies will give a Series of their Vocal and Instrumental Popular Concerts on

MONDAY, TUE-DAY, AND WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 25TH, AND 26TH, 1890.

Entire change of Programme each evening.

Prices:—Front and Reserved Seats, 2s; Second Seats, 1s; and Back Seats, 6d each. Seats may be reserved at Mr Sloane's Emporium, Blackhill.

Reserved Seats entrance from From Street only; Second Seats from Middle Street.

Doors open at 7, commences 7-30, closes 9-30.

100,000 SOULS' CAMPAIGN.

SALVATION ARMY, CONSETT.

Saturday, February 22nd, 1890,—7-45 p.m. "Home once More."

Sunday, 7 and 11 a.m., 2-45 and 6-30 p.m., Tremendous Meetings in the NEW TOWN HALL.

Monday and Tuesday Afternoons, at 3 p.m., SPECIAL HOLINESS CONVENTIONS, and each night at 7-45, Great Gatherings.

COLONEL AND MRS. DOWDLE WILL CONDUCT ALL THE MEETINGS COME AND WELCOME. 797b

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

Sch. II (25), & Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF TOW LAW.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all persons who are entitled to vote as Owners or Proxies at the Election of Members of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, and who are not on the Register of Owners and Proxies now in force, or who being on the Register do not retain the qualification or the address described therein, and who are desirous to have their names inserted in the Register about to be made for the said District, and all persons who are desirous of objecting to any name on the Register now in force, are hereby required to give or send to me, on some one of the first six days of March next, a Claim or Objection [as the case may be] in the Form hereunder set forth.

JOSEPH RIDLEY,
Chairman of the Local Board.

Dated this 20th day of February, 1890.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, claim to have my Name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Tow Law, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, as Owner of the Property hereinafter described which is situated in the parish of that is to say:*

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have in such Property, and the Amount of all the Rent-service which I receive or pay in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons, from whom I receive or to whom I pay such Rent-service, are set forth in the Form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which I have an Estate or Interest (b)	And in respect of which I receive in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which I pay To (f) in Rent-service the sum of (e)
				£ s. d.

.....Signature of Claimant.

.....(g) Address of Claimant.

* Here insert a clear Statement of the Property, as "House," "Building," "House and Acres of Land."

(a) Describe the Property by its Name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or Freehold, a term of Years, and also whether it is held by the Claimant solely or jointly with others, and, in the case of Partner claiming, insert the number and names of the other Partners in the Firm.

(c) If the Property is let by the Owner, insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Owner is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Owner's residence; but should be some Address within the District.

CLAIM OF PROXY.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, having been appointed by of Owner (or Owners) of the Property hereinafter described which is situate in the Parish of to vote as his (or their) Proxy, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, claim to have my name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Tow Law, as such Proxy.

I herewith transmit to you* the writing under the hand (or hands, or in the case of a Corporation, the seal) of appointing me such Proxy.

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have (or have) in the Property and the amount of the Rent-service which he (or they) receives (or receive) or pays (or pay) in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons from whom he (or they) receives (or receive), or to whom he (or they) pays (or pay) such Rent-service as are set forth in the form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which the Appointor has an Estate or Interest (b)	And in respect of which the Appointor receives in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which he pays in Rent-service the sum of (e)	To (f)
				£ s. d.	

.....Signature of Proxy.

.....(g) Address of Proxy.

* If the appointment itself is not sent, insert the words "an attested copy of"

(a) Describe the Property by its name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or Freehold, a term of Years, and whether it is held by the Appointor solely or jointly with others.

(c) If the property is let by the Appointor insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Appointor is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the Name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Proxy's residence; but should be some address within the District.

FORM OF OBJECTION.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, this day of 18

I hereby give you Notice that I object to the Name of the Person mentioned and described below being retained on the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of

Christian and Surname of the Owner or Proxy objected to.	Address as described.	Nature of Qualification as described.	Description fin case of Proxy) of Appointor.

.....Signature of Objector.

.....Address of Objector.

Public Notices.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, MEDOMSLEY.

SPECIAL SERVICES will be held in the above Chapel, on Sunday and Wednesday, March 2nd and 5th. Preacher—Sunday, March 2nd, Rev. J. CLEGG. On Wednesday, March 5th, Rev. JOS. ROBINSON, Newcastle. Well Teach at 3, and Lecture at 7 o'clock. Subject—"The Spanish Armada." TEA at 4-45 p.m. Full parliamentary Bills. 797b

CONSETT & DISTRICT BICYCLING AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

ADJOURNED MEETING to be held in Club's Room, Commercial Hotel, Consett, next Monday Evening, at 7-30, to adopt Rules and Enrol Members. All intending Members invited.

F. W. BRODIE, Secretary.

CHURCH NOTICE.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

Sch. II (25), & Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF BENFIELDSIDE.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all persons who are entitled to vote as Owners or Proxies at the Election of Members of the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, and who are not on the Register of Owners and Proxies now in force, or who being on the Register do not retain the qualification or the address described therein, and who are desirous to have their names inserted in the Register about to be made for the said District, and all persons who are desirous of objecting to any name on the Register now in force, are hereby required to give or send to me, on some one of the first six days of March next, a Claim or Objection [as the case may be] in the Form hereunder set forth.

JAMES ANNANDALE,
Chairman of the Local Board.

Dated this 19th day of February, 1890.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, claim to have my name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Benfieldside, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, as Owner of the Property hereinafter described which is situated in the parish of that is to say:*

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have in such Property, and the Amount of all the Rent-service which I receive or pay in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons, from whom I receive or to whom I pay such Rent-service, are set forth in the Form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which I have an Estate or Interest (b)	And in respect of which I receive in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which I pay To (f) in Rent-service the sum of (e)
				£ s. d.

.....Signature of Claimant.

.....Address of Claimant.

* Here insert a clear Statement of the Property, as "House," "Building," "House and Acres of Land."

(a) Describe the Property by its Name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or Freehold, a term of Years, and also whether it is held by the Claimant solely or jointly with others, and, in the case of Partner claiming, insert the number and names of the other Partners in the Firm.

(c) If the Property is let by the Owner, insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Owner is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Owner's residence; but should be some Address within the District.

CLAIM OF PROXY.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, having been appointed by of Owner (or Owners) of the Property hereinafter described which is situate in the Parish of to vote as his (or their) Proxy, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, claim to have my name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Benfieldside, as such Proxy.

I herewith transmit to you* the writing under the hand (or hands, or in the case of a Corporation, the seal) of appointing me such Proxy.

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have (or have) in the Property and the amount of the Rent-service which he (or they) receives (or receive) or pays (or pay) in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons from whom he (or they) receives (or receive), or to whom he (or they) pays (or pay) such Rent-service as are set forth in the form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which the Appointor has an Estate or Interest (b)	And in respect of which the Appointor receives in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which he pays in Rent-service the sum of (e)	To (f)
				£ s. d.	

.....Signature of Proxy.

.....(g) Address of Proxy.

* If the appointment itself is not sent, insert the words "an attested copy of"

(a) Describe the Property by its name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or Freehold, a term of Years, and whether it is held by the Appointor solely or jointly with others.

(c) If the property is let by the Appointor insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Appointor is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the Name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Proxy's residence; but should be some address within the District.

FORM OF OBJECTION.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, this day of 18

I hereby give you Notice that I object to the Name of the Person mentioned and described below being retained on the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of

Christian and Surname of the Owner or Proxy objected to.	Address as described.	Nature of Qualification as described.	Description fin case of Proxy) of Appointor.

.....Signature of Objector.

.....Address of Objector.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

WEEKLY SALES every Monday for Fat and Store Cattle and Horses, Pigs, Poultry, Conveyances, Farm Produce, &c., commencing at 10-30 a.m. o'clock with Cows. Fat and Store Stock to follow.

Special Entry for Monday First, 70 Store, 1 to 3 years old.

Entries should be sent on Wednesday each week.

JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer,

Grove Villa, Tow Law.

JOHN LOWES,

AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.

Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO COUNTRY OFFICE.

ASSISTED PASSAGES TO CANADA, Cheap Rates to America by the WHITE STAR, AMERICAN, and other popular Lines. Also Lowest Possible Fares to the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES SOUTH AFRICA, and other parts of the World. Auction Sales carried on efficiently and upon the very Best Terms.

All Emigrants and Luggage taken to the Railway Station Free of Charge; and for the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply at once to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer and Emigration Agent, Jr., Consett. 405b

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. A. & R. J. Brodie.

Monday, March 3rd, 1890.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture, Feather and Down Beds, and Miscellaneous Effects.

MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett, on Monday, March 3rd, the Superior Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS.

Particulars to follow.

Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock. 786b

HARVEY Street, Consett.—The Superior, Well-Built Freehold DWELLING-HOUSE, situate in Harvey Street, Consett, containing Sitting Room, Kitchen, Four Bed Rooms, Large Attic Bed-Room, Store Room, Washhouse, with good Cemented Yard, and every Convenience, at present occupied by Mr. Hutchinson, as Tenant. NOT HAVING BEEN SOLD at the Auction on February 20th, may be treated for privately on application to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall and Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

THE OLDEST AUCTIONEERING ESTABLISMENT IN CONSETT.

ADAM BRODIE and ROBERT J. BRODIE Members of the Auctioneers' Institute of the United Kingdom, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to execute Commissions for the SALE of FARMING STOCKS, HOUSES, and LAND, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and STOCKS-IN-TRADE, either by PUBLIC AUCTION, or Private Treaty, on Reasonable Terms. Their commodious Sale-Rooms, in Victoria Street, are open daily for the reception of Goods of all kinds for absolute Sale. Auction Sales being held, as a rule, every Pay Monday. Distress for Rent, under the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1883, and also under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888, duly carried out. NOTE THE ADDRESS:—General Office, under the Superintendence of R. J. BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. Private Office, 17, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY

TOWN HALL CONSETT.

SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. In excess, repayable at Three Months' notice.

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Secretary.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

Sch. II (25), & Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF LEADGATE.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all persons who are entitled to vote as Owners or Proxies at the Election of Members of the Local Board for the District of Leadgate, and who are not on the Register of Owners and Proxies now in force, or who being on the Register, do not retain the qualification or the address nescribed therein, and who are desirous to have their names inserted in the Register about to be made for the said District, and all persons who are desirous of objecting to any name on the Register now in force, are hereby required to give or send to me, on some one of the first six days of March next, a claim or objection [as the case may be] in the Form hereunder set forth.

W. H. HEDLEY,
Chairman of the Local Board.

Dated this 21st day of February, 1890.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Leadgate, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, claim to have my Name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Leadgate, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, as Owner of the Property hereinafter described which is situated in the parish of that is to say:*

I also state that the Interest or Estate which I have in such Property, and the Amount of all the Rent-service which I receive or pay in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons, from whom I receive or to whom I pay such Rent-service, are set forth in the Form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which I have an Estate or Interest of (b)	And in respect of which I receive in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which I pay in Rent-service the sum of (e)	To (f)
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	

................Signature of Claimant.
................(g) Address of Claimant.

* Here insert a clear Statement of the Property, as "House," "Building," "House and Acres of Land."

(a) Describe the Property by its Name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, of Freehold, a term of Years, and also whether it is held by the Claimant solely or jointly with others, and, in the case of Partner claiming, insert the number and names of the other Partners in the Firm.

(c) If the Property is let by the Owner, insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Owner is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Owner's residence; but should be some Address within the District.

† A partner must set out the amount of Rent-service which he would receive or pay if the qualifying property were equally divided among his co-partners and himself.

CLAIM OF PROXY.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Leadgate, this day of 18

I, the undersigned, having been appointed by of Owner (or Owners) of the Property hereinafter described which is situate in the Parish of to vote as his (or their) Proxy, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, claim to have my name inserted in the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of Leadgate, as such Proxy.

I herewith transmit to you* the writing under the hand (or hands, or in the case of a Corporation, the seal) of appointing me such Proxy.

I also state that the Interest or Estate which has (or have) in such Property and the amount of the Rent-service which he (or they) receives (or receive) or pays (or pay) in respect thereof, and the Names of the persons from whom he (or they) receives (or receive), or to whom he (or they) pays (or pay) such Rent-service as are set forth in the form hereunder written.

Description of Property. (a)	In respect of which the Appointor has an Estate or Interest of (b)	And in respect of which the Appointor receives in Rent-service the sum of (c)	From (d)	And in respect of which the Appointor pays in Rent service the sum of (e)	To (f)
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	

................Signature of Proxy.
................(g) Address of Proxy.

* If the appointment itself is not sent, insert the words "an attested copy of"

(a) Describe the Property by its name, Situation, or the Name of the Occupier, or any other designation by which it may be identified.

(b) Describe the Estate or Interest, as an Estate in Fee Simple, or freehold, a term of Years, and whether it is held by the Appointor solely or jointly with others.

(c) If the property is let by the Appointor insert the amount of Rent received from each Tenant.

(d) Insert Name of Tenant or Tenants.

(e) If the Appointor is a Lessee paying Rent, insert the amount of all the rent he pays.

(f) Insert the Name of the Lessor.

(g) This need not be the Proxy's residence; but should be some address within the District.

FORM OF OBJECTION

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Leadgate, this day of 18

I hereby give you Notice that I object to the Name of the Person mentioned and described below being retained on the Register of Owners and Proxies for the District of

Christian and Surname of the Owner or Proxy objected to.	Address as described.	Nature of Qualification as described.	Description (in case of Proxy) of Appointor.

................Signature of Objector.
................Address of Objector.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. James Turnbull.

Sale of the Old Material in the Old Ox Inn, Oxhill, near Stanley.

MR. JAMES TURNBULL, having received instructions from Mr. EDWARD KENNEDY, Builder and Contractor, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Friday, February 28th, 1890, at 6-30 p.m., at the Commercial Hotel, Stanley, the whole of the MATERIALS constituting the above Inn, comprising all Stones, Roofing, Windows, Doors, and Frames, Partitions, &c.

The whole of the Materials to be removed within one Month from the date of Sale.

Conditions of Sale as will then be read.

Sale at 6-30 p.m. 781b

By Mr. William Nicholson

Springwell Cottage, 1½ miles from Tow Law and Satley.

MR. WM. NICHOLSON, favoured with instructions from Mr THOMAS THOMPSON, who is declining farming, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Wednesday, February 26th, 1890, the whole of the valuable FARMING STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HAY, &c.

HORSES.

Lot 1.—Grey Draught Mare, 12 y.o.
" 2.—Brown Draught Mare, 12 y.o., 16h., in foal to "Golden Light."
" 3.—Black Draught Horse, aged, 16h.2in.
" 4.—Brown Draught Filly, 2½ y.o., by 'Brown George.'

CATTLE.

1 Young Red Cow, due to calve on Aug. 21st.
1 Black & White Cow, due to calve on Aug. 22nd.
1 Young Roan Cow, due to calve on March 5th.
1 Young Red & White Cow, recently calven.
1 Young Roan Cow, due to calve on April 7th.
2 Roan S.H. Heifers, 14mos.
2 Red and White Heifers, 10mos.
2 Roan Heifers, 6mos.
2 Finger Calves.

SHEEP.

20 Mule Hoggs forward in condition.

PIGS.

1 Sow Pig and Litter of Young Pigs 6 weeks old.

POULTRY.

45 Young Hens.

IMPLEMENTS, &c.

Long Cart; Coup Cart; large Double-Roller; Turnip Drill and Roller; Horse Hay Rake; Hay Sweep; Chaff-Cutter nearly new; Turnip-Slicer new; Double-horse Reaper, by 'Samuelson'; Single-horse do.; Wheel Plough; Swing Plough; Pair Wood Harrows; Iron Harrows; 2 Horse Drag; Scuffler; Clod-Crusher; 2 Sets of Cart Harness; 2 Sets of Plough do.; 2 Riding Pads; Bridle; Winnowing Machine; Grindstone; Long Ladder; 2 Short Ladders, new; 4 Sheep Troughs; 2 Sheep Racks; Wheel Barrow; Dipping Tub; 5 Cow Tubs; 2 Water Butts; Steel Forks; Rakes; Spades; Gripes; Hoes; Hay Spade; Cow Bands; 2 Sets of Swingletrees; Dog Kennel; Young Cur Dog; Large Metal Pan; Pig Troughs; Cart Ropes; Kitchen Table; Dairy Utensils; a quantity of Old Iron.

One Stamp of OLD-LAND HAY about 4 Tons, and One Stack of SEED-HAY, about 25 Tons, well-won. If required, the Hay can remain on the Premises Free of Charge, until May 13th, 1891.

Also, removed for convenience of sale, the household FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, belonging the late MR JOSEPH BULMAN, comprising Chest of Painted Drawers, Dressing Table, Looking Glass, Bedstead and Mattress, Bed, Bolsters, Bedding, 2 Sets of Brass-mounted Fire Irons, Oilcloth, 12 Pictures, 2 Clocks, 2 Kitchen Tables, 4 Kitchen Chairs, Knife Box, Knives, Forks, and Spoons, Reckons and Crooks, Fender, Tidy, Lamp, Trays, Kettle, Pans, Pots, 3 Stools, Bake Board, Brushes, Pails, Ornaments, Clothes, Linen, and a host of other articles.

Sale to commence with Farm Stock at 12 o'clock, Furniture at 3 o'clock.

Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY FIRST, FEBRUARY 24TH, 1890.

10 Fat Cattle.
60 Fat Sheep.
Pork and Store Pigs.
1 Fat Goose.
Cows, Calves, Poultry.
Hay, Turnips, Potatoes, &c.
Sale to begin at One o'clock prompt.

692b J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer

ON MONDAY, March 3rd, will be SOLD a number of STORE CATTLE. Further Entries (early) solicited.

J. S. MURRAY.

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

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mr John Crawford's Sale Rooms, Victoria Street, Consett.

Nothing can beat the Old Ones but the Young'uns.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL, at the above Rooms, on Monday, March 3rd, 1890, a lot of Valuable Mahogany FURNITURE, sent to the Rooms for Convenience of Sale. 795b

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK, PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. People that are leaving the District can have their Furniture turned into Cash at once by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 903a

By Mr. J. G. Smith.

Hill Head House, Gibside, Rowland's Gill.

J. G. SMITH is instructed by Mr. W. Thompson, who is declining Housekeeping, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Thursday, February 27th, 1890, at One o'clock, the Household FURNITURE, &c., comprising—Carved Oak Cabinet; Oak Hall Table; Mahogany Dining and Centre Tables; Couches; Easy and other Chairs; Mahogany and Painted Chests of Drawers; Washstands; Dressing Tables; Dressing Glasses; Oil Paintings; Engravings; Ornaments; China; Glass Ware; Clocks; Iron and other Bedsteads; Mattresses and Hangings; Feather Beds; Bolsters; Pillows; Bedding; Carpets; Hearth-rugs; Oilcloths; Fenders; Fire Irons; Ash Pans; Kitchen Press and Drawers; Tables; Flour Bin; Wringing Machine; Kitchen Utensils, &c.

A Train for Rowland's Gill leaves the Central Station at 12-15.

3, West Street, Gateshead, February 20th, 1890.

By Mr. William Raw.

ALDERHEADS FARM, NEAR CASTLESIDE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at Mrs. BROWN'S, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Monday, February 24th, 1890, at Three for Four p.m.,

MR. WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer.

(By Order of the Mortgagee, and subject to such Conditions as will then be produced),

ONE UNDIVIDED MOIETY of a FREEHOLD and COPYHOLD FARM,

Containing 70 Acres, or thereabouts, called "ALDERHEADS," situate near Castleside, in the County of Durham, occupied by Mr. Thomas Armstrong, at the Yearly Rent of £48.

The Moiety is Sold Subject to the Life Interest therein of a Lady, now aged 78 years.

For further particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, Blackhill; or to

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It is strengthening; it is flesh-forming; it is good; you will like it; and whether you are an invalid, or one who requires an occasional tonic for "body and mind," you will find this Beef Wine to be the thing you want.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INQUIRER.—If Mr Carss had written without pesonal abuse his letter would have been inserted.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 1890.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

CYCLING UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

It appears that the cyclists in and around Consett have determined to hide their respective lights no longer, and so they have at length formed themselves into a brand new association. Consett is very far from being a district in which wheel-men can ply their craft with pleasure, the banks and braes which lead to the town being of such a character as to jeopardise the necks of the venturous riders should they run the risk of riding down hill, and even in the event of that feat being successfully accomplished there is the after-damp to the passing pleasure of gliding down in the matter of fact drudgery of pushing the spider-like steed back again to the summit of the hill. Some good runs may be had in the district; but regarded in a general way cycling at Consett can only be pursued under difficulties. This natural disadvantage could in a measure be overcome by the formation by the new club of a bicycle track. But that is a matter with which the members will no doubt deal when the spirit moves them. There are some astute fellows on the committe, gentlemen who will see to it that the newly-cradled club will give a good account of itself—in the sweet by-and-bye.

DOCTORS DIFFER.

Alexander Pope was, I believe, the first who popularised the phrase: "Doctors differ and canists disagree." But the reader of the *Guardian* had last week a singular illustration of the curious fact that modern doctors still differ very materially in their professional opinions. I refer to the curious circumstance that Drs Bolton and Wilson, both parish doctors in the same locality, proceed, strangely enough, upon lines diametrically opposed the one to the other. Dr Wilson, so says the report, never prescribes stimulants for the ailing Workhouse paupers, but Dr Bolton does. This is singular, to say the least of it, and it would be interesting to know whether Dr Wilson carries this rule inso general practice, or if it is only reserved for paupers. I have never advocated the systematic use of strong drink; but to assert that there are not times in the history of individuals when a stimulant is desirable would be absurd. Within the circle of my acquaintances is a gentleman—a teetotaller—who has for a long course of years suffered from that fell malady—heart disease—and I have heard him state repeatedly that but for the periodical use of spirits he would long ago have been gathered to his fathers. I remember of having a few years ago allowed through carelessness an attack of cold to settle into my system, and the physician whom I consulted recommended me to take an occasional glass of whiskey. I remember, too, of once having had occasion to visit Dr Renton's surgery at Blackhill with a broken head. The right worthy doctor was out, but seeing that I looked ill Mrs Renton quickly brought the bottle, and urged me to take a glass of the "cratur." I did not taste the proffered draught; but I have frequently thought since of the generous impulse which prompted the offer.

A SPIRITED DISCUSSION.

One has heard a good deal about the marvellous effects of the spirit known as "mountain dew" when partaken of in quantities sufficiently large to inspire its votaries; but the members of the Lanchester Board of Guardians entirely beat the record by waxing merry by the mere discussion of the qualities of the spirit and the prospective use towhich the elixer should be applied. The members became quite as jolly as if they had actually broached the admiral, and mirth of jollity became the order of the hour. There is evidently a spirit of distrust abroad, as the members seem to have a very shady opinion of the class of spirits vended by the ordinary publican, and as a precaution against imposition they have determined to purchase whiskey and brandy for the use of the poor folks by the gallon and the bottle repectively. How such an arrangement should improve the quality of the spirit is not very clear; but the edict has gone forth and Mr Moon's dwelling will henceforth become a bonded storm.

THE BARBERS.

It is evident that notwithstanding all that has been said and written about charity beginning at home the world is still a long way from following the injunction. Witness the resolution on the part of the barbers in the Consett district to secure their thale of the passing breeze of prosperty, and the cold water ejected upon the movement by their patrons. It is an old saying that working men who rise in the world make very bad masters, and it seems as if people who look after number one in so far as that line of policy tends to benefit themselves regard things from a very different standpoint when the interests of other men are concerned. It is the most natural thing in the world for the barbers to expect a share of the good things in which all sections of every community are largely participating, and to deny their right in that respect is as ungenerous as it is unjust.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC JOTTINGS.

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

And so there is a society styling itself the Medomsley Amateur Choral Society. This must indeed be something of a revelation to most of my readers I am sure. The fact springs upon one quite unprepared for it. Where in the world has the Society been hiding its diffident head? Who is the conductor, and who the secretary of this Surprise Choral Society? These are some of the questions I have had put to me during the past day or two. Alas! I regret I am unable to answer any of them. The society may exist, and, since its life has been recently made a matter beyond question, it is possible that sooner or later an estimate may be formed as to its strength of constitution. Hush, then, my readers, and prepare to wait.

—o—

The Flood-Porter Concert Party advertised for three nights next week at the Town Hall, Consett, makes, I believe, its first appearance in the town on the occasion. The form of entertainment given by the ladies—I think they are all ladies—is of a very refined and intellectual character. Though probably the party is compartively unknown at Consett, the programme that will be submitted next week is one which has been given in Newcastle and most of the leading towns in the country before large and appreciative audiences. To all lovers of that drawing-room form of entertainment the one under notice cannot fail to prove attractive.

—o—

How is the Consett Choral Society standing now? Is it proposed shortly to set about any rehearsals or what? The last I heard was that a proposition had been made to secure Honorary patronage for the Society, and by this time there should be a good strong list of these patrons. How stand the funds, and what prospect is there of an increase in membership? Now, Mr Surtees, trot out your information.

—o—

They do things well at Jarrow apparently, and Consett might worthily imitate. On Wednesday evening, the recently-formed Amateur Choral Society of that town gave a first performance when Belline's *La Sonnambula* was submitted! What think ye of that Mr Stephenson? Good business! don't you think? I was present, and hope next week to say something of the performance.

—o—

I know that many of my readers are fond of the circus, and to these it may not be without interest if I state that Ginnett, a name which breathes of "the ring" opened a splendid place in Newcastle, on Monday last. So far there is every prospect of good support for it, and it deserves to have it. On another occasion I will speak of the attractions.

—o—

The "Royal" pantomine still goes with briskness. This week the engagement commenced of a clever troupe of performing monkeys who go through some astonishing tricks and cause intense amusement. New songs have been introduced by two or three of the artistes, Mr Lewis continues the great draw as he certainly does work hard. His funny conception of Sister Ann will be long remembered, as also will the Abraham of Mr Stevens. Miss Warden is as bright as at first, and Miss Huntley as Fatima more attractive than of yore if that can possibly be. Benefits start this week and will run more or less till the close of *Blue Beard's* reign.

—o—

Paola, a new comic opera by the composer of *Erminie*, took the place of *Babes in the wood*, at the Tyne on Monday evening, and met with a hearty reception. The plot of the opera deals with the "glorious Vendetta" of Corsica which is caricatured to all intents and purposes. There can be little doubt that the idea has been suggested to the authors by the well-known story "Mr Barnes of New York" which, it will be remembered appeared in these columns a few months ago. The libretto is for the most part decidedly "Gilbertian," without, however, its strength. The music throughout is very pretty and tuneful, and many of the members were loudly applauded, notably "A head well set," sung with all the necessary *chic* by Miss St. Quinten as "Chilina," and a superior sort of topical song "From this my native land" which ought to be published apart from the opera and it would become popular very soon. Altogether, *Paola* will do very well.

We regret to hear that Dr T. Benson, of West Stanley, is seriously ill.

A ball was held in the National Schools, Langley Park, on Friday night, but only about 15 attended.

CHORAL SOCIETY.—On Monday night, the annual concert in connection with the Ryton Choral Society was given in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, in the presence of a large audience. The production chosen for recital was "The Elf king's daughter," by N. W. Gade, which was followed by a miscellaneous selection of music.

On Wednesday afternoon, a woman named Margaret McAnulty went from Gateshead to Birtley to attend a funeral at Brown's Buildings. She was observed to fall on the road, and on examination was found to be dead.

CONCERT.—A miscellaneous concert of a high-class character was given in the British Schools, Langley Park, on Monday night, in aid of the funds of All Saints Church. The place was filled to overflowing. The artistes were principally the leading singers from Durham Catheral Choir, assisted by T. W. Richardson, Workhouse Master, and other ladies and gentlemen. The concert was a great success, a large sum being handed over to the church authorities.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Yesterday (Thursday,) there was a heavy fall of snow in West Durham.

The evangelistic and musical services conducted by the Filey Fishermen in Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel last week end were attended by very large congregations. The Blackhill Mission Band was present on Sunday.

THE INFLUENZA.—This grievous malady is prevailing to such an extent in Consett that some of the mills at the Iron and Steel Works have been brought to a standstill, owing to the scarcity of men.

SALVATION ARMY.—The Consett Corps will be honoured with a visit this week-end from Col. and Mrs Dowdle, who will conduct a great campaign in the New Town Hall. Special services are to be held on Sunday, at 7 and 11 a.m.; 2.45 and 6 p.m. On Monday and Tuesday, holiness conventions will be held in the afternoon, and services in the evenings.

THE LOCAL BOARD ELECTION.—Mr Jas. Frosdick informs us that he intends coming forward at the forthcoming Local Board election for Consett, as an independent working man's candidate.—At a private meeting, held in the Wesleyan School-room, we understand that it was agreed to nominate Mr Jos. Whitehead as a candidate.

DEMOLISHING A POLICE CELL WINDOW.—At Shotley Bridge Occasional Court, on Wednesday—before Councillor James Annandale—*John Ferens*, a tramp, was brought up by Sergeant Minto for being drunk and disorderly in Middle Street, Consett, on Tuesday forenoon, and was fined 5s and costs, or seven days in gaol.—*Charles Walton*, an old soldier and a poet, belonging to Halifax, Yorkshire, was also charged by P.C. Humphrey with being drunk and noisy, and also with causing damage to the windows of one of the police cells, to the amount of 5s. Prisoner was locked up about 11·30, on Tuesday night, for being tipsy in Middle Street, and after his incarceration in the cell he smashed 15 panes of glass during the night—in fact, all the squares in the window were knocked out.—Prisoner was condemned to pay a penalty of 5s and costs for drunkenness, and 1s and costs, besides 5s damages for breaking the windows (£1 7s in all), or undergo 14 days imprisonment.

THE LONDON LADY QUARTETTE.—From our advertising columns it will be seen that lovers of music in Consett and district will have the opportunity of witnessing a rare musical treat in the performances to be given by the celebrated Flood-Porter Party at the New Town Hall. Seldom has Consett been visited by such musical talent. The mandolin and guitar combinations, by the London lady quartette, never fail to thrill their audiences with delight. The playing of Miss Amy Flood-Porter on the violincello, is one of the greatest attractions offered by the party, and she has been truly styled by the "London Musical Standard" as "England's greatest 'cellist. The inhabitants of Consett and district, it is to be hoped, will show their appreciation of this important engagement, and encourage the promoters by attending in large numbers.

BLACKHILL.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST BAND OF HOPE.—An entertainment was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, at Blackhill, on Monday night, under the auspices of this temperance society. The chair was occupied by Mr A. E. Turner, and the following programme was gone through:—Solo, "Robin Adair," by Miss Brodie; reading, by Mr Richards; a solo by Miss Williams; reading Mr T. Williams; duet, Misses Williams and Brodie; recitation, Mr J. Cowan; solo, Miss Reed; reading, Mr T. Williams. Miss Brodie presided at the harmonium.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT CLASS.—The usual weekly meeting of this class was held in the school-room, Blackhill, on Saturday night.—The essay was on the life of Mr J. B. Gough, the temperance orator, which was given by Mr T. Davis.—The essay showed a thorough knowledge of appreciation on the subject, and from the way it was treated proved the essayist to be a strong advocate of temperance. At the close an interesting discussion took place, and the members left in the feeling that they had been greatly benefitted.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—On Friday night, the second anniversary of the band of hope in connection with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church was held in the school-room, Blackhill. There was a large number of members, and friends present. Rev A. Matheson, M.A., of Jarrow, who was expected to deliver an address, was unable to be present owing to a severe cold. However his place was ably filled by Rev E. W. Jenkins, Highgate Baptist Church, who in a short speech warned the young members against the evil of strong drink. The members of Shotley Bridge Wesleyan Choir sang some choice pieces which were well received; as also was Mr J. McTaggart who sang in his usual able style. Rev A Baillie, pastor of the church, gave a reading from Longfellow's "Hiawatha." Several recitations were given by the children, Miss Maria Clark in particular receiving hearty applause for the recitation of "Licensed to sell." Votes of thanks to the friends who had so kindly contributed towards the evening's enjoyment brought the entertainment to a close.

CASTLESIDE.

FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At a sub-committee meeting on Saturday night, the Consett society's shedule was considered and revised to suit the various classes. The industrial schedule was left for the ladies to consider.

GRAVEYARD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.—A meeting of persons interested in the above was held on Saturday, to arrange for an entertainment and coffee supper, when valuable offers were made by Messrs T. J. Muse, and Henry Clarke, towards providing coffee, tea, sugar and ham for the supper, and a committee appointed to attend to other matters. The proceeds will be on behalf of the graveyard scheme.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

A LARGE EGG.—A hen of the brahma class belonging to Mr Joseph Walton, Allendale Cottages, laid an egg this week which weighed 4¼ ounces.

REVIVAL SERVICES.—As will be seen from our advertising columns Mr T. Walker, evangelist, of Northampton, will commence a series of revival services in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allendale Cottages, when all Christian friends are invited to attend.

FRUIT BANQUET.—On Monday evening, a fruit banquet and entertainment was given in the P. M. Chapel, Allendale Cottages, when a good company assembled. The chair was occupied by Mr William Richardson (through the illness of Mr J. Williams.) The meeting was opened with hymn and prayer, after which the choir favoured with a piece entitled "Hail, smiling morn," which was well rendered; Miss A. H. Bewley, then gave a solo, which was heartily applauded, after which another solo was given by Miss E. F. Robson; Misses E Charlton and M. Brown, next favoured the audience with a duet, "The farmer boy" for which they received an *encore*; Miss A. Dawson, next gave a solo, which brought forth the applause of all present; the choir rendered in good style "Ring the merry Christmas bells"; after which Mr N. Glendinning gave a recitation, in the Tyneside dialect, which pleased everyone present; Mr James Dawson gave a solo in his usual style, which was followed by Misses Richardson and Hocking giving a duet. The programme was then brought to a close by Miss A. Clark and Miss F. Richardson giving another duet. The fruit was served at intervals by Misses E. Robinson, A. Dawson, I. Wheeler, and M. E. Clark. The young men and women of the choir gave the fruit and tarts for the occasion, to whom great credit is due. Votes of thanks and the singing of the doxology brought a very pleasant evening to a termination.

LANCHESTER.

Evangelistic services in connection with the *Joyful News* Mission, are now being conducted every night in the Wesleyan Chapel, Lanchester, by Mr J. Forster, of Witton-le-Wear.

BALL.—A private assembly was held at the hostelry of Mr Jas. Humble, King's Head, Lanchester, on Tuesday night, and was attended with the most satisfactory results. Mr J. Walton officiated as M.C., the music being performed by Mr Scott's band from Cornsay Colliery. About 33 couples were present.

LEADGATE.

CORRECTION.—With reference to our report of the Leadgate Local Board, Mr T. Lammouby asks us to explain that he said that there was a ratepayer going to oppose the Stoney Heap water supply scheme if it was taken out of the rates, and the same party was opposed to the Iveston ratepayers getting it when they got it. The Iveston people are greatly in favour of the scheme.

ESH.

Rev V. T. Jacka has been licensed to the curacy of Esh.

CHOIR SUPPER.—The Esh church choir held their annual supper in Esh Church school on Thursday se'unight, when about 30 sat down and partook of the good things provided by the worthy vicar Rev C. F. D. Hodge, and Mrs Hodge. The company was kindly looked after by Mrs Hodge, Mrs Saunders, Miss Birley, and Miss Curry. After supper a variety of games were gone through, Mrs Hodge presiding at the harmonium and a very enjoyable evening was spent. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr and Mrs Hodge for their kindness by Mr I. Phillips, and seconded by Mr I. Teasdale. The rev gentleman, in reply, thanked the choir for their attendance, and was sorry to think that the prevailing influenza had been the means of reducing the number who had attended, and hoped it would soon leave the district.

CHESTER LE-STREET.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting of this society was held at Chester le-Street, on Saturday night, Mr R. Hamilton (president), in the chair. The quarterly report showed that the turnover for the quarter amounted to £45,807 17s 11d, the number of members on the roll being 3,547, an increase of 56. The capital amounted to £61,927 10s 4d. A dividend of 3s 6d in the £ on members' purchases was declared. The committee also recommended the purchase of an additional three acres of land for building sites, which was adopted.

FIRE AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Friday night, about ten o'clock, a fire took place at some stables situated on the Pelton Bank. Two boys had been in the stables feeding the horses, and they gave an alarm, but before any assistance came the fire had got a good hold and burnt very fiercely, a good deal of straw and other inflammable materials being about. Four horses and a pig were inside, but these were speedily rescued uninjured, and the fire having now got a complete mastery the building was soon burnt to the ground.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT ON THE TEAM VALLEY LINE.—On Sunday morning, about nine o'clock, as two young men were walking near the railway at Newton Hall, between Plawsworth and Durham, they observed a man lying on the line, and on going up to him, found that he was in a semi-conscious state, and covered with blood. The injured man was carried to a farmhouse adjoining, where restoratives were applied, and having recovered a little, he gave his name as Edward Galles, residing at Chester Moor. He was afterwards removed to his home, where he was attended by Dr J. Smith, of Chester-le-Street, who found that the man's injuries were of a somewhat serious character, one side being terribly bruised, and a foot and part of one leg crushed almost flat. It is supposed that the man had been knocked down and run over by a passing train.

BLANCHLAND.

CONVEYANCE ACCIDENT.—On Thursday se'nnight an accident happened to Mr George Heppell, farmer, of Espershields, as he was proceeding to Consett, with a supply of eggs, butter, &c., for delivery there. Mr Heppell was driving a very quiet four-years-old animal in a spring cart, not dreading any misfortune occurring, and had only got a short distance from home when it took fright, from, it is supposed, his nephew, who was riding a horse in the rear of the vehicle, going past him rather suddenly. The frightened horse went at a rapid rate down the hill a little below Woodhouse, where the conveyance was upset and sadly smashed. Mr Heppell was thrown out with great force, and was much hurt, though it is expected not seriously.

RIDING MILL.

SUDDEN DEATH NEAR RIDING MILL.—On Saturday, Mrs Bowery, wife of a hind residing at Burnt House Cottage, Healey, near Riding Mill, was seized with a fit and died a few minutes afterwards. Dr McLean, of Corbridge was sent for, but the woman was dead before he could arrive. Deceased was about 56 years of age.

WEARDALE.

Wearhead School was closed on Monday, owing to the influenza, the master and his staff having been attacked.

TRAP ACCIDENT.—On Saturday evening, while Mr John Watson, contractor and farmer, Earnwell, was returning from Alston in his gig with a friend, the horse got too near the edge on Killhope in the blinding snowstorm, causing Mr Watson to be thrown out, his friend falling on the top of him. Mr Watson sustained a fracture of the ribs and shoulder. On Monday, the injured gentleman was progressing favourably.

SNOW STORM.—A heavy fall of snow took place in Weardale on Saturday. The hills around the dale were all covered to a depth of six or seven inches, and in some places it drifted considerably. It soon melted off in the low land again.

QUEBEC.

INFLUENZA.—At Hamsteels Colliery upwards of one hundred men a day have been off work with the influenza.

DIPTON.

The members the Alexandra Lodge of Bolton Unity of Oddfellows held their monthly meeting at the house of Mr James Teasdale, (Dipton), on Saturday night. There was a large number of members present, Bro. Hy. Bloomfield, G.M., in the chair, when six new members were initiated. The programme for the district half-yearly meeting was discussed, when Bro. James Crawford was elected delegate. The lodge is increasing so fast that it was thought to have two sick stewards.—Members are entering from all parts of the district.

STANHOPE.

DEATH OF AN OLD PARROT.—There died at Stanhope an old parrot last week, which had been in Mr R. Walton's family, Stanhope House, for over 50 years. It is now in the possession of Mr C. Tinkler, taxidermist, for preservation.

On Monday evening, the detached classes (men and women) of the St. John Ambulance Association, instructed at Stanhope by Dr Livingstone and Dr Robinson, were examined by Surgeon-Examiner Dr Ratcliff Gaylard. This is the second season.

Stanhope has been favoured in the entertainment line recently. Last Friday, the Green and German's American minstrels and banjo band gave a very pleasing entertainment in the Town Hall: and the Ormonde family, announced two nights this week, with a large programme of varied entertainment, performed by five of the Ormonde family.

PRIMROSE LEAGUE FESTIVAL.—A public tea, coffee supper and ball, was held at Stanhope on Thursday se'nnight, in connection with the Wear Habitation of the Primrose League. Tea was provided at 6 o'clock. At the close an entertainment was held in the Town Hall, presided over by Rev J. P. Shepperd, M.A., Vicar of Rookhope, when songs, recitations, piano and violin solos, and duets, were given at intervals to a good company; speeches were also delivered by Messrs Mills, of Skipton, and Rolleys, of Barnard Castle. Mr T. Walton, sen., of Aller Gill, proposed, and Mr M. Ridley, Peak Field, Frosterley, seconded a vote of thanks to the dame president, Mrs Arnison, Butts Mansion, Stanhope, also to the artistes, waiters at tea, chairman, and all who had taken part in the proceedings, which was carried unanimously. A coffee supper and ball followed, when some 30 or 40 couples of young folk tripped the light fantastic until between the late and early. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

FROSTERLEY.

Two deaths have occurred at Frosterley this week, that of Mrs William Wearmouth, of Broadwood Farm, and Mr T. Proud, the youth who was so long at the Stanhope Co-operative store. Both were young and both were much respected.

WOLSINGHAM.

DECEASE OF TWO OCTOGENARIANS.—Last Sunday witnessed the interment of the late Mr James Parker (stepfather of Mr J. Petty, the respected stationmaster). The deceased had reached within a few days of 81 years, and was well-known and respected. The same day the death of Elizabeth (Betty) Wilson, of "Rushy Lee," took place, at the ripe age of 83 years.

[NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.]

JEZEBEL'S FRIENDS.

A NOVEL,

BY

DORA RUSSELL,

Author of "Footprints in the Snow," "The Broken Seal," "The Track of the Storm," &c., &c.

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CHAPTER XXVII.—A Happy Birthday.

The account of Sir Robert Beaton's sudden death spread very quickly among the guests at Sudley, and it required all Frances' self-command to carry herself as gaily and unconcernedly as she had done before she heard the news.

She could not in truth put it out of her mind. She had listened to what Sir James Hastings had said about the large income that Arthur Beaton must have inherited, and the words seemed to ring in her ears. She went up to Ruth on the first opportunity she could find, and whispered a question to her.

"Have you heard?" she said.

"About Mr. Beaton's brother?" answered Ruth, looking at her sister quickly, and seeing very plainly the signs of suppressed excitement written on her handsome face.

"Yes," said Frances, in a low tone; "it's a strange thing, isn't it? A strange thing," she repeated, and she moved away, and Ruth's eyes followed her with some uneasiness.

A minute or two later, Colonel Forth also went up to his youngest daughter, full of the same tidings.

"Have you heard about Beaton, Ruth?" he said. "What confounded luck some people have, to be sure!"

"He may have been fond of his brother," smiled Ruth.

"Fond! rubbish. Fonder of sixteen or seventeen thousand a year, which they say he has come into," answered the Colonel.

"Still it's a very sad thing; Sir Robert must have been quite a young man, if Mr. Beaton is the next brother?"

"Well, Sir Arthur, as I suppose we must call him now, is a deuced lucky young man, that's all I can say," said Colonel Forth; and this opinion was very generally thought, though not quite so openly expressed.

"A great change for our young friend, truly," said the Vicar of Headfort, approaching the father and daughter, who were still talking of Arthur Beaton. "But I have no doubt, judging by what I have seen of him, that he will make a wise and judicious use of the large fortune so unexpectedly bestowed on him."

"More likely to make ducks and drakes of it, I should think," growled the Colonel.

"Nay, nay, my dear sir," smiled the urbane vicar; "even if in the light-heartedness of youth he were to spend a little lavishly at first, this exuberance of spirits will soon pass away, and the *duties* of his new position will become clear to his eyes."

"We all know what you parsons think are the *duties* of a rich man," said the Colonel, with his sour smile; "you had best get hold of him before your clerical brethren do, Appleby."

But the Rev. John only smiled benignly. He had leaning on his arm a tall, rather good-looking, middle-aged woman, whom he presently introduced to Ruth and Colonel Forth, and this lady proved to be very voluble; and while she was talking to Ruth the vicar had a word to whisper about her in the Colonel's ear.

"Mrs. Dixon is one of the lucky ones, also, as regards fortune," he said, in an aside. "She is a widow, a distant relative of my own, and largely endowed."

There was something about money to Colonel Forth—and, indeed, to most of us—irresistibly attractive. He would not have looked a second time at Mrs. Dixon unless he had heard she was rich, but now he glanced at her with his bloodshot eyes, and the widow smiled as he did so.

"What a charming place your daughter's is, Colonel Forth," she said, "and she is so beautiful."

"People say she is good-looking," answered the Colonel, with a feeling of gratification, which he would not have felt had the flattering words issued from the lips of a poor acquaintance.

"There is no doubt of it," continued Mrs. Dixon; "and this other sweet creature," and she bent her head a little closer to the Colonel's, and indicated that she was speaking of Ruth, who was exchanging a few mild words with the vicar, "is a daughter too?"

"Yes, the youngest; but can I not get you an ice or something?" asked Colonel Forth.

"Well, I am thirsty, I'll admit!" said Mrs. Dixon, smiling, and a moment or two later she was to be seen leaning on the Colonel's stalwart arm, and the middle-aged couple retired together into the house, where the most lavish refreshments were to be found.

Ruth was thus left alone with the Rev. John, who offered her his arm, and as the two went through the crowd they encountered Kenard Seaforth, with whom Ruth had only yet exchanged a few words.

She blushed and smiled slightly as they met, and the young man paused, and after a moment's hesitation joined her.

"I have been seeing Beaton off," he said. "I suppose you know?"

"Yes, we have been talking of it; it is a strange turn of fortune, isn't it?"

"Wonderful, and he seems very much cut up and excited. I think he was fond of his brother."

"I should think he was a young man of warm feelings?"

"Yes," and Seaforth's expression slightly changed. "He will be a rich man now," he added, with a little ring of bitterness, which was never formerly to be heard in his tones; "he will have it all his own way now."

Ruth made no answer. She raised her shadowy eyes and looked for a moment in his face, and there was something reproachful in their expression, which though naturally Seaforth did not understand, yet touched his heart.

She was looking very pretty, with a faint flush on her cheeks; and her pale grey silk dress with silver embroidery, and a broad silver band round her slender waist, well suited her delicate and refined appearance. She wore also a large hat, with grey sweeping feathers, and many of the guests at Sudley declared they admired her most of the two sisters. Seaforth had always done this, and to-day she seemed very lovely in his eyes. He lingered by her side, and he wished the vicar would go away; and the vicar, who was no fool, began to perceive this, and with the semi-tender smile which he indulged in to good-looking young women when the upright wife of his bosom was not present, he turned to Ruth.

"Will you excuse me a few minutes, my dear Mrs. Audley?" he said. "I see over yonder one of my parishioners, who, poor lady, being afflicted with partial deafness, may not yet have received much attention, like you beautiful young creatures naturally command. Ah, ah, you smile, my dear young lady, but is it not so? It is but human nature, is it not, Mr. Seaforth? But we poor parsons must sometimes put our inclinations into our pockets," and he smiled, took off his hat, and went away.

"He's rather good fun, the parson, isn't he?" said Seaforth.

"He's very amusing; he always makes me laugh."

"Shall we take a little turn; it is getting rather cold for you to stand about, don't you think?"

"It is a little chill," answered Ruth, and the two moved on together, going along one of the walks cut through the lawn until they came to the broad belt of lofty trees which divided the gardens from the park, and behind which the sun had now set.

It was getting dusk, in fact, and many of the guests had gone into the house, either to drink tea or make some little change in their dress before the dinner hour, which was to be at eight o'clock. But Seaforth and Ruth did not leave the shadowy, quiet, broad path beneath the trees for nearly half-an-hour. Yet there was not a word exchanged between them that the whole company might not have heard. But there was a subtle, dangerous joy felt by each, which they knew, though neither of them analysed it, that made these moments very precious. And Audley's absence was also an immense relief to them both. He had forced this poor girl to marry him, but he could not force her to regard him otherwise than with shrinking dislike.

At last, unwillingly, Ruth suggested it must be time for her to go in, and Seaforth saw that it only wanted a few minutes to eight o'clock.

"I suppose," he said, smiling, "you will have to go in to dinner with one of the big guns?"

"My big gun," answered Ruth, smiling also, "is I believe, Sir James Hastings; so Frances arranged this morning, at least."

"But you will keep a dance for me?"

"Yes; I mean to dance very little. I do not care for it, you know."

"The first waltz, then?"

"Very well;" and this having been settled they walked together to the house, which was now fully lighted and the drawing-room crowded.

Ruth went quietly in, and presently fat little Sir James Hastings approached her.

"I believe that I am to have the honour of escorting you to dinner?" he said.

"I think so," smiled Ruth.

"I shall tell my little boy at home that I have seen you; I assure you that you have made quite a conquest of his youthful heart," and Sir James smiled.

"He is a dear little fellow."

"He is sensitive and affectionate; yes, yes, I hope a fine disposition."

"He told me his father was a very good man."

"Did he indeed?" said the delighted Sir James. "It is astonishing how observing children are, to be sure!"

But a movement now took place among the company, and Colonel Kenyon, with Lady Hastings on his arm, led the way to the pavilion, where the banquet was spread out, followed by the guests, Frances being escorted by Lord St. Clair, whose wife was unavoidably absent.

In the pavilion wealth and good taste had made everything almost perfect. The beautiful hostess and the kindly, genial host sat smiling among their guests, and presently Lord St. Clair rose up to propose Colonel Kenyon's health, and on this, the anniversary of his birthday, to wish him long years of life and happiness.

"Since last year at this time," went on the white-haired old nobleman, smiling and turning to Frances with his courteous manner, "my friend, Colonel Kenyon, has chosen a wife, to whom any of my poor words of praise must fail to do justice. It will be enough then for me to add that the name of the beautiful mistress of Sudley should be joined to that of her gallant and distinguished husband. I therefore propose the health of Colonel and Mrs. Kenyon."

It is needless to tell that this toast was responded to with the warmest enthusiasm. And a glow stole to Colonel Kenyon's face, and a tender light to his eyes, as he rose to return thanks for the good wishes of his friends and neighbours.

"I heartily thank Lord St. Clair, and all my friends," he said, in his clear, sweet-toned voice, "for the kind words we have just listened to. For myself I shall say nothing; I was born amongst you, and you know all my faults and failings, of course, very well," and he gave his genial laugh. "But of my young wife I must say a word or two. She is only a stranger to you yet; but I hope the day will come when she will no longer be a stranger, when you will all look upon her as a friend, and welcome her as gladly to your homes as she now heartily welcomes you to her own. I think that I had better not say any more, lest I am tempted to say too much, but this I will add—and I thank God that I am able to say it—*this* is the happiest birthday of my life. Last year I was a lonely man with few joys if not many cares; now I am happier than I deserve, and you know to whom I owe this"; and again he looked at Frances, and sat down. And Frances smiled and cast her bright hazel eyes upon her plate, and then turned to whisper some pleasant words to Lord St. Clair behind her fan.

"This must be a proud moment to you," said the supposed rich widow, Mrs Dixon, to Colonel Forth, who had carried his attentions so far as to take her in to dinner.

"Well, I suppose it ought to be," he answered. And it was. He glanced round the table, and then at his daughters, and his heart expanded with gratification to think how well he had done for them.

"Colonel Kenyon is an old and very intimate friend of my own," he said; "and thus he came to marry my daughter, and I am very well satisfied with the match."

"Indeed you have every reason; Colonel Kenyon seems a delightful man; they are a charming couple."

Mrs. Dixon apparently was a lady who thoroughly believed that every human soul can be effectually assailed by flattery. She piled it on without stint all round, and she left a pleasing impression on Colonel Forth's mind. He had not received very much, poor man, all his life, for he had never been popular, and his daughters did not overwhelm him with soft words. And so agreeable did they now seem to him that when the banquet broke up and the company passed through the gardens, all alight now with the pretty lamps that Arthur Beaton had helped to arrange, Mrs. Dixon was leaning still on Colonel Forth's arm, though he inwardly felt he was making rather an exhibition of himself, and would gladly have deposited the lady in some convenient seat.

The dancing took place in the dining-room, which was prepared as a ballroom; and the opening dance, a quadrille, being over, Kenard Seaforth went up to Ruth and claimed her promise to dance the first waltz with him.

With a blush and a smile she rose, and as the two glided gracefully round the room, a strange excitement began to stir in Seaforth's breast; an excitement which made him forget certain rules that he had laid down for his own guidance in regard to Ruth.

"Let us go out on the terrace for a moment or two," he said as the dance finished. "It is so hot in here, isn't it?"

And Ruth went with him, and they stood together in silence looking down at the dark trees, on which the twinkling lights shone and glowed in diverse colours. It was a pretty sight, and as Seaforth glanced at the delicate profile of his companion, a sudden resolution entered his heart, and bending nearer to her he said quickly and excitedly:

"I never can understand, Ruth, why you treated me so!"

He felt her hand tremble on his arm, but she answered him, almost steadily:

"I know you can never understand it, Kenard; but we must not speak of it."

"I know that well enough; but why did you do it? Why did you throw me over?"

"Because I could not help myself; not because I had changed.

The words were almost whispered, but Kenard heard them, and a throb of joy passed through his heart.

"You made me very miserable," he said, in a low tone.

"My dear," said Frances' voice close to them, before Ruth could make any reply, "I've been looking for you; here is a telegram which has just arrived, I suppose from Major Audley."

Ruth turned very pale, and opened her telegram with trembling fingers; it was from Major Audley, to tell her that his sister had died during the afternoon; and thus the news that two souls had been summoned suddenly away reached Sudley when everything there seemed so bright and gay.

CHAPTER XXVIII.—Near Release.

Neither Kenard Seaforth nor Ruth danced again during the evening after the news of Major Audley's sister's death had arrived. Ruth went back to the dining-room with Frances, and sat quietly down on one of the benches covered with red cloth arranged against the walls of the room, and Kenard followed her, and stood near her for a while, and then went out and walked up and down on the terrace alone, trying of course in vain to solve the reason of her conduct to him.

"It must be something else; it could not be for Audley's money alone," thought the young man, and then his brow darkened. "Curse it!—and that fellow will be coming back again now, I suppose; I can't stand this sort of thing, that's the truth—I must exchange and go out to India, for I like her too well, and can't help myself."

He almost made up his mind to do this. He expected his company daily, and when he got it he would leave the regiment and keep out of sight of the fair sad-faced woman he believed loved him still.

"If she would only tell me the truth," he thought restlessly, "perhaps when she hears I am going away she will do so; it will be worth while, for to be near her as things are now is only pain."

Presently he went back into the ball-room, but Ruth was no longer there. And he felt disappointed, though he had told himself a few moments before that to be near her gave him no happiness. It did not, and yet the sweet pain seemed better to him than to find her gone. He grew weary of the whirling figures passing and re-passing him, of the light jests and aimless words that fell on his ears.

"What's the good of it all?" he said impatiently to Mr. Martin, who was in the same regiment, and who had gone up to him and said, "Isn't this a jolly dance?"

"Good?" repeated Martin, looking at Seaforth's gloomy face in astonishment; "why, isn't it good to enjoy yourself?"

"If you can," answered the other; and the good-natured lad, whose face was crimson with his exertions, wondered in his heart what had come over Seaforth to put him out.

Ruth in the meanwhile had stolen upstairs to her bedroom, and was sitting in the semi-darkness thinking how difficult and dark was her life. She could not help caring for Seaforth, she had always cared for him and his sudden question on the terrace had made the old wound bleed anew. Ah! it had been cruel, too cruel, this enforced separation, this rending apart of love that would not die!

And her marriage!—the miserable band that chained her, and chafed her, and made her days a long struggle to endure what she could not escape. It was a gloomy picture, with one bright side. Frances was happy, and for Frances she had made the self-sacrifice, the bitterness of which her own heart only knew.

"And he will be coming back again now, I suppose," she thought miserably. "Oh, I do so wish he would stay away."

How many a time she had wished this since Audley had left her! She had looked and felt a different creature during the last few days, and her heart abhorred the idea of returning to the old bondage.

"He knows I hate him; why does he make me stay?" she had asked herself again and again, and she asked herself this question now.

But while she was sitting sad and lonely upstairs, downstairs Frances was receiving the compliments and adulation that her soul loved, and was seemingly a woman standing on one of the very pinnacles of good fortune.

"Are you satisfied with the day, dearest?" her fond husband had whispered to her as the evening began to wane and the guests to depart; and she had said "Yes," and smiled, all the while with a strange unrest stirring in her heart, when she thought of what had happened to Arthur Beaton.

But as her husband's friends crowded round her to say good-bye, each with a complimentary word, Frances exerted herself to be agreeable to everyone, and tried her best to put Beaton's good fortune out of her mind. Presently Seaforth and young Martin, who were going to drive home together, went up to her to say good-night, and Frances smiled on them as she had smiled on the rest.

"Come again very soon," she said to Seaforth.

"Yes; will you say good-bye to your sister for me?" he answered.

"Ruth? Where is she? I wonder where she is?" answered Frances, looking round.

She was nowhere to be seen, and the young men went away, and when they were gone, and the rooms were cleared, Frances went upstairs to seek for Ruth. She found her alone in the half-dark room, and as Frances lit some of the candles on the toilet-table to look at herself, glancing round she saw on Ruth's face the marks of recent tears.

"What is the matter? Are you not very well, Ruth?" she asked. "Seaforth was asking for you a few minutes since to bid you good-bye."

"The room was hot downstairs," answered Ruth, "so I came up for a few minutes quiet. Are all the people gone? I heard the music cease."

"Yes, thank heavens, everyone is gone. What a day it has been. And about Arthur Beaton. I cannot help thinking about it. Fancy, Ruth, if this had happened a few months ago how it would have changed everything."

"You mean——"

"I mean I should never have been Mrs. Kenyon, my dear, as you know very well! But it is no good talking of it."

"No, indeed, Frances; and after all what is he? A good-looking boy——"

Frances did not speak for a moment as Ruth paused and hesitated. She began walking up and down the room, and then again she went up to the toilet, and looked at herself long and earnestly in the glass.

'How do you think I look to-day?" she asked.

"Very well indeed; your dress is beautiful."

"He was very much upset when he came to tell me, poor fellow," said Frances, the next moment, her mind once more returning to Beaton; "they say he will be immensely rich—fifteen or sixteen thousand a year. Well, one never can tell what will happen, certainly. I suppose Audley will come in for his sister's money too?"

"I am sure I don't know, and I don't care."

"There will be a letter from him to-morrow morning, I suppose, to tell you; however, if you won't come downstairs, I think I'll say good-night, Ruth, as this has been such an exciting day. I am dead tired." And she kissed Ruth and went away; but Ruth sat still long after she was gone, thinking of her unhappy life, and wishing with all her heart she could find any escape from it.

And the next morning did bring her a letter from Audley to tell her that his sister's death would nearly double his present income; and he also told her that immediately after the funeral he should return to Headfort.

"Ask your sister to drive you there on Monday morning," he wrote; "I expect to arrive about twelve o'clock, and by-the-bye you must go into mourning of course for poor Agnes; if you want money I can send you some;" and so on.

And with a miserable heart poor Ruth was forced to obey these orders. Her black gowns, which she was obliged to wear for one whom she had never seen, were not more gloomy than her thoughts as she prepared to return to her husband's roof. Both Colonel Kenyon and Frances saw how depressed she was, but what could they do to help her? Nothing, they told each other—and somehow Frances shrank from speaking to Ruth of her too evident unhappiness.

At last the day came when she had to leave Sudley, and Frances drove her into Headfort. It was a dull, grey morning, and the house in High Street looked very dreary as the two sisters entered it.

"Send out for some flowers to brighten the room up," said Frances, looking round; "we ought to seem glad to see him, you know."

"I don't want to seem glad to see him," answered Ruth; and Frances was half-afraid to say anything more.

She stayed with Ruth till Audley arrived, and did her best to receive him pleasantly; but there was a frown on Audley's brow, for when he entered the room he went up to Ruth and bent down as if he meant to kiss her but Ruth turned away her head.

He said nothing, but an angry look passed over his face and remained there in spite of Frances' soft words.

"We were all so dreadfully sorry," she said, "that you were away on Hugh's birthday; and still more sorry when the sad news came about your poor sister."

"It was very good of you," answered Audley, curtly. "I suppose you know about Beaton's windfall?" he added.

"Yes. Was it not odd the telegram to tell him of his brother's death was sent on to him to Sudley at the birthday party too. Have you heard from him?"

"Yes, I had a few lines; it's an extraordinary piece of luck."

"And," hesitated Frances, "did he say anything about leaving the regiment?"

"Not a word, he said he would be back here in a week."

Frances asked no more questions, and shortly afterwards took her leave, after pressing Audley to go to Sudley soon. And after she was gone, Audley turned savagely on Ruth.

"I must say," he said, "the way you received me was a little too disgusting."

Ruth made no answer. She stood there, pale and cold in her black gown, and never even looked in his face.

"I tell you what it is, Ruth, I won't stand it," went on Audley, passionately; "you married me—"

"You forced me to marry you, you mean," interrupted Ruth, with kindling eyes.

"Well, I forced you to marry me then, if that pleases you better; but at all events you did marry me, and if this is the way you mean to carry out the contract, I tell you plainly I will not put up with it."

"I wish to leave you; let me go to my father's; we should be far happier apart."

"Then you were happier, I suppose, when I was away?" asked Audley, with strong indignation.

"You know very well I am not happy here," said Ruth, now looking straight in his angry face; "you must feel, you must see this, and it's only misery to us both to go on living as we do. My father, I am sure, will take me in; let me go to-day."

He caught her fiercely by the wrist, and swore at her.

"Go at your peril!" he thundered. "Go if you dare! And do you think if you leave me I shall keep Mrs. Kenyon's fine secret? By heavens, I won't then; if you think you can make a fool of me, as you try to do, I'll have my revenge, I can tell you."

Ruth's pale face grew paler, and there was a look in her eyes that made Audley feel half ashamed of his brutal words.

"You bring it on yourself," he said, sulkily; "I've had trouble enough lately, and to come home and be received without a civil word is enough to put any man out. Confound it! I wish I had never seen your face!" And he turned in a rage and left the room, furiously slamming the door behind him.

And Ruth stood still after he had gone, with a look of unutterable scorn in her eyes; scorn and bitter, bitter dislike, almost hatred. "This was too much," she said, thinking, "to threaten Frances!" It seemed to her the basest meanness, the lowest thing he could have said, and her contempt was very great.

"I wish either he or I were dead!" she said aloud, and then sat wearily down, and presently she heard Audley leave the house, and looking up as he passed the windows she saw he had put on his uniform, and that he went straight to the Fort.

He did not come in for luncheon, and Ruth spent the afternoon alone. There was some heavy gun practising going on at the Fort, and the loud booming sound occasionally fell on her ears. About four o'clock there seemed a tremendously loud explosion, so loud that Ruth rose and went to the window, and a few minutes later a soldier ran out of the Fort gates in hot haste. Then another followed, and another; and people began to gather round the gates, but were prevented from entering by the sentry. Presently a doctor, whom Ruth knew by sight, came running down the village with the soldier who had evidently been sent for him. Something had happened, apparently, at the Fort, for Ruth could see the grave faces outside, and the excitement of those gathered round the gates.

She stood watching, and as she did so Kenard Seaforth came hastily out of the Fort gates, and straight to the door of Ruth's house. She heard the bell ring with a fast-beating heart, and a minute later he came quickly up the stairs, and entered the drawing-room, and held out his hand for a moment without speaking.

Ruth noticed he was very pale, and that there was a shocked look on his face, and she began to understand that something dreadful had occurred.

"There has been an accident at the Fort," began Seaforth, with a sort of effort. "The artillerymen were practising with the big guns there, and one has just burst, from an over-charge, I suppose, and I regret to tell you Major Audley is hurt."

Ruth never spoke. She stood there with wide-open eyes, listening to Seaforth's words.

"And I ran to tell you," he went on, "because they are going to bring him home immediately, and I thought it would be a less shock to you if you knew; it's a terrible thing—poor Martin!"

"*What?*"

"He is killed outright, poor fellow; but Major Audley is only wounded, and the two doctors are doing all they can for him."

"And—Mr. Martin is dead. How terrible!"

"Yes, poor Martin and two artillerymen. Major Audley and Martin were standing together watching the practice, when the gun burst. Ah, here they are, bringing him out. Come from the window, Ruth."

He took her hand and pulled her back as he spoke, while the body of her husband, lying on a stretcher and covered with a military cloak, his face also being covered with a handkerchief, on which blood stains were visible, was borne by four soldiers through the sympathising group collected round the Fort gates. Two doctors were also with him, one holding the wrist of the wounded man.

Ruth stood with blanched face and parted lips, grasping Seaforth's hand while he was carried into the house, and then when they heard the soldiers begin to ascend the staircase with their burden, Seaforth hastily shut the drawing-room door.

"No, no," he said, as Ruth mutely indicated she wished to go to meet them. "You must not see him at present; he is unconscious; the doctors would not wish you to see him I am sure."

"Still I must go," said Ruth, with her dry lips, and she opened the door; opened it on a terrible sight.

The soldiers had just paused on the first landing by the drawing-room door, and the handkerchief over Audley's face had slipped aside, and Ruth saw a scarred and bleeding mass; but only for a moment.

"Keep Mrs. Audley away, Seaforth," Dr. Murray called out, as soon as his eyes fell on Ruth's pale, horror-stricken face; and Seaforth needed no second bidding.

"You must come back," he said, and he drew her firmly away, and again shut the room door, and Ruth sank down on a seat and covered her face with her hands.

"Oh! this is dreadful," she said, "too dreadful!"

"Yes, but you must not give way," answered Seaforth, very kindly and gently, for he was deeply moved. "He is badly hurt, but when his wounds are dressed he will look quite different."

Ruth gave a sort of moan and started to her feet, in a sudden agony of self-reproach; the thought had flashed across her mind that she had wished him dead this very afternoon, and now he might die!

"And that other young man," she asked presently in a low excited tone, walking backwards and forwards with irregular steps. "He was at Frances' dance, was he not? And now, and now——"

"Hush! Do not think of it. Would you like me to send for your sister and Colonel Kenyon?"

"Yes, please. Oh, Kenard," and Ruth caught his hand, "ask them to let me go to him—to do what I can."

"Yes," and for a moment he held her hand fast in his; "but wait a little while, just until the doctors see what will be best to be done."

She did not speak again. She sat down once more, cold, pale, and faint, and a few minutes later Colonel Forth, who had heard of the accident, came into the room.

"This is a bad business, Ruth," he said, and he went up and laid his hand with some kindness on her shoulder; "but they say he may pull through."

"Have you seen him, father?" she asked, in a trembling voice.

"The doctors won't let anyone into the room at present; but I have seen Murray, and they say one of his legs will have to be amputated."

"Take me to him, father; please take me to him," moaned Ruth.

"My dear, you couldn't do the least good, and women are only in the way in a case like this. Keep yourself quiet, and I'll send for Frances."

"I will go upstairs and see how he is getting on," said Seaforth, and he left the room for the purpose, and Ruth was alone with her father for the next few minutes. Then Seaforth returned.

"He is rallying," he said, "and they will perform no operation to-day—until his system recovers from the shock."

"I will go beside him then," and Ruth rose as she spoke.

"No," said Seaforth, "the doctors positively forbid it. Dr. Murray told me to tell you that at present you must not see him."

"I should like to go into the next room, then," said Ruth, in a faint voice. "Father, help me into the next room."

Colonel Forth took her arm, and led her into the spare bedroom, which was on the same landing as the drawing-room.

"I'll send for Frances," he said again; "and I'll get you some wine, Ruth, or something?"

But she shook her head.

"I would rather be alone," she said, and so the Colonel left her; and when he was gone Ruth sank down on her knees, with clasped hands, her mind absolutely torn with conflicting feelings.

If he were to die she would be free, would be happy—but no, no, she must not wish him to die—should she pray that he might live? She tried to frame the words, but her lips faltered and refused their utterance. She could not say "Oh! God, spare him," because she knew it would be a false prayer, praying for what she did not wish! And yet it was so terrible, this sudden summons; and he had been so well and full of strength.

And it hung on a balance now, she knew; a moment might turn the scale, and the mysterious breath of life go forth from the maimed body of the man lying upstairs close to the portals "we call death."

(*To be continued.*)

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THE CRISIS IN THE DURHAM COAL TRADE.

MINERS' MEETING AT THE SPEN.

A district meeting of miners was held on Saturday afternoon, in the Primitive Methodist school-room, Spen Colliery. Mr J. Dobinson, of Rowland's Gill, presided, and there were representatives present from Spen, Blaydon Main, Blaydon Burn, Swalwell, Rowland's Gill, Redheugh, Stargate, Emmaville, and Addison Collieries. Owing to the unfavourable state of the weather, not more than 100 persons were present.

The Chairman briefly opened the proceedings, and apologised for the absence of some of the speakers announced, but stated that substitutes had been provided.

Mr W. Murton (Blaydon Burn) proposed the first resolution as follows:—

"That the time has arrived when we recognise the desirability of reducing the hours of labour from 12 hours to 10 hours per day, also of reducing the number of days' work per fortnight from 12 to 10 days, and of abolishing the pernicious practice of leading tubs when the pits are idle; and this meeting pledges itself to do all that lies in its power to bring about these reforms, which are so much needed, at the earliest opportunity."

He said ten hours per day and ten days per fortnight was plenty for any miner to work.

Mr John Wilson (Spen) seconded the resolution. On the question of the

LOADING OF TUBS,

he said that was detrimental to them as working men, and it should be abolished altogether. When he was a putter boy, he liked to "put," and he thought the time had arrived when men should cease "putting." (Applause.)

The Chairman said that every miner in the county of Durham would admit that the tub loading was one of the greatest curses. It had a tendency to overstock the markets, and interfered with their interests.

Mr R. Young (Rowland's Gill), in supporting the resolution, said they had a great deal of opposition, and they were likely to have. The main argument the masters were using at the present day was that if the men forced this question they would endanger capital and reduce the profits of the capitalists. If they took a retrospective view—say 22 or 24 years—the miners of that district alone worked their twelve hours per day and upwards. Since then they had gone on

DECREASING THE TIME OF LABOUR.

They now had a great deal more comfort by the shortening of their hours, but still that comfort was not sufficient. He did not think there was anyone there who could tell him that they had endangered capital or made the powers of the capitalists any less than then. He thought it was better now. There were many things they might say in regard to the benefits they derived if they had shorter hours—they could benefit themselves physically, morally, and intellectually. The speaker referred to the resolution passed by the National Trades Congress in favour of a working day of eight hours. They in Durham, so far as their districts were concerned, were only advocating for ten hours—they were only doing their duty when they were seeking that those men who worked 11½ hours a day should be brought down to their level. They were overstocking the market. A

WORKING DAY OF TEN HOURS

would reduce the amount of coal 14,000 tons per day. In conclusion, the speaker said the county average was an imaginary thing. There ought to be no county average. He thought that the wages ought to be regulated by the percentage of the owners if they could get it. They could not get it, however, and they must make the best of a bad job.

The Chairman said they were working for something like 10 per cent. above the county average, and it was unfair that the coalowners should come down on them and say they must have a 10 per cent. reduction.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr T. Charlton (Stargate), moved:—

"That this meeting recognises the principle of paying house rents and young men's lodging money, and that we press upon the Executive Committee the necessity of bringing the matter in dispute before the coalowners at the earliest possible date."

He said that a fairer or more reasonable request could not be made. The house rent question had been agitated for some time, but they were not much further forward than when they started. Twenty or thirty years ago such a thing as miners paying their own house rent was not heard of. It had crept up lately, and it was a growing evil. (Hear.) Two men worked together, side by side; one man had his house and his plot of land, and the other had not. Yet they worked for the same amount of tonnage, the same amount of yard work, and the same amount of "helping up." In the long run, it meant

WIDELY DIFFERENT PAY.

There should not be this difference. As to lodging money, he thought that as soon as ever a young man took the pick he began the duties of manhood, and had a perfect right to the same privilege as the man who received his house rent and his plot of land. (Applause.) The only way in which they could remedy these evils and secure the desired reforms was by union. (Applause.)

Mr E. Stoker (Spen), briefly seconded the proposal.

Mr Joseph Robson (Spen), supported the resolution. He said they wanted equality. Before they went to the Executive Committee, they should do their little bit at home first. (Applause.) They took too little interest in their own welfare. Instead of a few men coming to meetings, they wanted all men in and about the collieries to come and agitate to the best of their ability.

THE HOUSE RENT QUESTION.

Here was a man paying 4s or 5s a week for house rent, and he was allowed 2s. They wanted to state the rent they needed. A young man had as much right to his lodgings money as the married man had to his house rent. (Applause.) If a lodger paid 3s 6d a week for his lodgings, he should be paid his 3s 6d. If a man paid 3s 6d or 4s for his house rent, he wanted his rent returned, the same as any man who was living in a free house. (Applause.)

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr Armstrong (Blaydon Burn) moved:—

"Seeing that organisation is the only means by which we can defend ourselves, and obtain our rights, we urge on every workman employed in and about our mines the necessity of joining the union at once; and that we further demand the 15 per cent. advance in wages."

He said they should all be thoroughly convinced of the benefits of the union. If they had not had that organisation they would have been little better than slaves. They had made one stand. But they must not run away with the idea that the union was as far as they could shove it, because, if they did not shove further, the owners were going to shove themselves further in organisation. He saw they were holding meetings in London for national federation of the coalowners, for the

PROTECTION OF COLLIERY PROPERTY.

Whenever did the law of this country deny it protection? If the men did such a thing they would be called to book about it. They would be told that they had no property to protect. They had a national property—(applause)—one that was given to them. They should always try to make the best of it they could, and preserve it as long as possible. If they wanted to preserve that property, they could only do it by being solidly cemented and fastened as tightly by the bonds of union as they possibly could. (Applause.) He liked to see a colliery well organised. And if a colliery that was well organised looked well, what would the universal body of miners be like? (Applause.) If they were all one body, they could go to the owners and say, "Here is the county of

DURHAM WANTS 15 PER CENT.,

they think it is their due; if you don't give them it, we will stop at once." (Applause.) The owners were coming to the same conclusion with regard to federation. They could say, "The county of Durham wants 15 per cent. We are all federated, and we can get as many coals as we like from Wales and Lancashire. They can strike away." If the men did not act, they would be in the backwash; and the owners would give it to them as strong as they could. They were going to fight for the 15 per cent., and it was going to be a stiff battle. It would take all they knew to keep themselves together. He hoped the county would remain staunch, and carry the thing to its final issue. If they had to fight, they could only get what they wanted by these means. (Applause.)

The Chairman said the owners' books stated their side. These books were kept by intelligent clerks. The men had clerks, but they did not want the books. They wanted facts—the prices that appeared in the papers of the public markets; these were the facts that were the poor man's guide and the poor man's bible. (Applause.)

Mr Moody (Addison Colliery) supported the resolution. He said their position at present was a very serious one. They were entering upon a crisis which, in his opinion, was one of the most serious they had had for years in the county of Durham. The cloud was gathering every day. It had been charged with electric fluid that shortly would burst with all its terrific force over the heads of both capital and labour. Every intelligent man who took an interest in the well-being of the men in that county realised all the disastrous consequences that would be entailed by the

CONFLICT THAT WOULD ENSUE.

At the same time they were one party to this question. They had made a demand from the owners. That demand now lay before them. He sincerely hoped that the owners, holding in their hands the means of relieving the county from a disaster which would bring untold misery and devastation on the homes and happiness of the community, would wisely consider their position, and listen to the voice of reason and judgment, and that they would relieve the tension of the county in the present crisis by meeting them in the spirit of conciliation which the men had always expressed in the past on their side. (Applause). The demand was for 15 per cent. Whatever action the owners might deem it advisable to pursue

THE DEMAND WOULD HAVE TO BE GRANTED.

otherwise, there would be disaster. (Applause). That was his firm conviction, and it was no use speaking mealy-mouthed about the matter. The grant of an advance of wages upon the prevailing rates must be conceded; it would be left for the county and the owners on the other side to determine that question. In discussing the question, they must now allow comparisons to enter into it, inasmuch as the county of Durham, in its geograhical position, in its variety of produce, differed from Northumberland or Cumberland, or any other county. He would like the question discussed in the light of facts, not of mere sentiment and assumption. They had

THE QUOTATIONS IN THE MARKET

in making the demand. They said coals were going up in the market; they had advanced something like 45 or 50 per cent. The owners told them that these quotations were not a safe guide, inasmuch as they represented only a small proportion of the coal which they sold in the coal market. Seeing that the sources of information were denied by them, they naturally had to turn their eyes to some other source. He found that the gas company's

CONTRACTS FOR THE YEAR 1889

had risen—according to the authority of a gentleman who addressed the annual meeting of the gas company at Newcastle a few days ago—50 per cent. These were contracts that ran over a period of time. This had an important bearing on the question. If the contracts terminating in 1888 were 6s per ton, the contracts in 1889. were 9s per ton. Between the seller and the gas company there was no intermediary to take the profit, and the 50 per cent clearly went into the sellers' pockets. These gas coal contracts in the North, as far as they affected the county of Durham, were a very large percentage of their output. (Hear). They might be told that these were not a safe guide. Very well. He was prepared to lose sight of these local agreements, and he wanted to call their attention to some statistics from the *Colliery Guardian*, representing the export trade from the county of Durham. These had gone up, and these, with the gas coal contracts, represented a very large percentage of the produce of that county. The

EXPORTS OF COAL, COKE, CINDERS, AND FUEL

for the month of December, 1889, were 2,237,281 tons, showing an improvement of 6,360 tons as compared with Dec. 1888, and 145,442 tons more than in Dec. 1887. That showed a gradual improvement in the volume of trade. Turning to the profit side, he found that the value of coal, coke, cinders, and fuel exported in Dec., 1889, showed an improvement, as compared with the exports in December, 1888, of 21 per cent. Allowing for the increased prosperity of trade, the entire profit upon the export trade for Dec. 1889, compared with December, 1888, showed a clear and distinct advance of 21 per cent. (Applause). Taking the export trade in the same articles for the entire year of 1889, he found it was 28,974,655 tons. The entire value of that export trade was £14,793,655—an average for the entire year of 10s 3d per ton. That showed an improvement upon the year 1888 of 2,300,573 tons, or 7½ per cent. in quantity and 30½ per cent. in value increase. Taking that 30 per cent as representing the entire export trade, and putting that in the local markets with the gas coal contracts, he held that the demand that they had placed before the owners at the present moment was

FAIR AND REASONABLE,

and that the owners ought to meet them in that spirit of frankness which they had always asked and demanded from the men. (Applause).

The resolution was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

NOTES FROM IVESTON.

[By "Ivestonian."]

The notes on shooting have had the desired effect:—

"The shooting talent has awoke
And shots are heard, while in the smoke
Is seen a figure, which I ween
Was very often on the green,
Leading the novices to victory."

Novices are chips of the old talent; so we may expect something will be made of them. Let us hope that it is not the beginning of the end. Also that an example will never be taken from the uncivilised meetings, held not half-a-mile from Iveston.

Now that shooting is reviving, why not the more interesting and beneficial games of football and cricket? Iveston has been noted for such, and can be again. Are there no youths in the place? I should think so! Then rouse up and show yourselves worthy of your predecessors. Form a committee, go round to every householder, and then commence operations. Set the children an example. They are longing for it. They naturally think that they are among old age instead of stalwart sturdy youth, while things are so quiet.

Influenza has at last reached us. *La grippe* is mowing us down; but as the patients are out in a day or two, we are slightly held in comparison to other places, and have much to be thankful for. As a preventative to cold during changeable weather, I have for many years carried out the following plan:—When emerging from any enclosure, especially a warm room, breathe through the nostrils only, until the whole body becomes warm. This after a short time, becomes habitual, which of course will have a good effect on the lungs, &c., and therefore prevents colds. In east winds this is a positive prevention.

The afore-mentioned entertainment to be held in the school-room cannot possibly be held during the prevailing sickness. It is astonishing that the natives should be making inquiries concerning the date of the above, when they know that almost one-half of the children in Leadgate and Iveston are poorly.

The Wesleyans are also training a choir, but for what object I can't say. They have good talent, and when ready, I expect they will give a good account of themselves. By-the-bye, their teacher is an old and recent inhabitant, who now dwells afar from Iveston, therefore great praise is due to him for his disinterestedness.

An accident occurred last week, which nearly deprived us of our lamplighter, but as it resulted in no broken bones, we shall see his welcome face again, I hope in a day or two. I know that he will be grateful to the persons who happily rescued him when in an insensible condition.

No business could be done at the "Mason's Arms" the other evening, on account of such a poor muster. Let us hope that all the members of the leek club will respond to the summons for the next meeting, and that the agenda will be gone through in a workmanlike manner.

"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

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

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

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

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL.

RESULT OF THE CHESTER-LE-STREET ELECTION.

Friday was the polling day for the above election. The candidates were four in number, viz:—R. J. Coxon (Conservative), Peter Hay (Gladstonian Liberal), John Mitchell (Liberal Unionist), and Jos. Witherspoon (Gladstonian). The poll at Chester-le-Street opened very quietly, and no great stir was made until about five o'clock, at which hour it was estimated that about 300 had polled. From that time there was a steady influx of voters, which continued until the close of the poll at eight o'clock. About half-past eight the counting of the votes commenced, and the poll was declared at 9·40 as follows—

Peter Hay (GL)	542
John Mitchell (U)	487
R. J. Coxon (C)	158
Joseph Witherspoon (GL)	65

MARRIAGE OF DR A. MANTLE, OF WEST STANLEY.

At Christ Church, Mayfair, London, on Tuesday, last week, the marriage of Dr Alfred Mantle, Stanley, and Miss Edith Frances Devas, daughter of Mr C. F. Devas, of Pickhurst Manor, Beckenham, took place in the presence of a large number of friends. The bride's dress was ivory satin, trimmed with Mouseelina de Chiffon lace, and orange blossoms on the skirt and on the neck. She wore a long tulle veil, fastened with a diamond pendent, the gift of her mother, and had a spray of orange blossoms in her hair. Among other ornaments, she wore a gold bracelet, set with pearls and diamonds, the gift of the bridegroom, and her bouquet was of choice white flowers. The bridesmaids, who were early in attendance, were Miss Laura Devas (sister of the bride), Miss Alice Salt, and Miss Margaret Salt (cousins of the bride), and Miss Ethel Murray. They wore dresses of cream serge, trimmed with beaver and gold braid; brown hats with brown feathers; and each carried boquets of azalea, and wore gold bracelets, with horse-shoes set in pearls, the gifts of the bridegooom. The clergy who officiated were Rev Geo. Chilton, vicar of Wanborough, Guildford; assisted by Rev George Clowes, rector of Hayes; and Rev Herbert Rowsell, vicar of Christ Church, Mayfair. They, with the choir, awaited the arrival of the bride at the church entrance, and the hymn, "The voice that breathed o'er Eden" was sung as a processional. The bridegroom was supported by Mr Lyon-Smith, and the bride was given away by her father. The Rev G. Clowes delivered a short address, which concluded the ceremony. The wedding party were afterwards entertained at the house of the bride's father in Hertford Street, Mayfair. Amongst those present were Mr and Mrs James Alexander, Mr and Mrs Gerard Normon, Lady Stapleton, Mr and Mrs F. Norman, Hon. Mrs R. Dawson, Major and Mrs Borton, Capt. Simpson, Mr and Mrs Horace Devas, Mr and Mrs H. George Devas, Mrs Robert Wigram, Miss Ada Wigram, Capt. and Mrs Torrins, Mrs and Miss Scott, Mrs H. Bonham-Carter, the Misses Goschen, Mrs Whitmore and Miss Akers, Mr and Mrs W. House, Mrs Wilmot Holland, Misses Holland, the Hon. Mrs Hugh Elliott, the Hon. Mrs Long, Dr. and Mrs Russell Reynolds, Miss Dyke, Rev C. and Mrs Wright, and Mrs Simpson. The presents were very numerous. Amongst others were the following:—

Mr Devas—Dressing bag, mounted in silver.
Mr and Mrs George Devas—Pearl and diamond bracelet.
Miss Devas—Gold bracelet.
Miss Laura Devas—Moonstone brooch.
Mrs and Miss Devas—Kingsley's life and works.
Mr F. S. Devas—Carriage cloth.
Mr and Mrs Horace Devas—Ornamental Dresden china.
Mr Ed. Devas—China dessert dishes.
Sir Arthur and Lady Borton — Revolving silver dish.
Major and Mrs Borton—Set of silver apostle tea-spoons.
Captain Alexander—Scent bottle.
Mr and Mrs James Alexander—Tulip vases.
Sir Francis and Lady Stapleton—Smelling bottle.
Mrs Norman—Silver box.
Misses Norman—Cape ruby and gold bangle.
The Hon. Mrs Long—Diamond swallow brooches.
Mr and Mrs F. Norman—Onyx and gold necklace.
Mr A. C. Norman—Pearl and coral brooch.
The Hon. Mrs R. Dawson—Pearl and diamond bracelet.
Colonel Hon. Mr and Mrs Campbell—Silver sugar sifter.
Miss Campbell—Silver stamp box.
Sir Edward Scott, Bart.—Claret jug.
Mr and Mrs Edward Norman—Silver and tortoise-shell box.
Mr and Mrs Herbert Norman—Silver sugar basin.
Mr and Mrs H. Bonham Carter—Glass vase.
Mrs Hambro—Gold bracelet.
Miss Holden—China dessert dishes.
The Misses Salt—Silver pen and pencil.
Mrs Maden—Italian china vases.
Miss Maden—Brass bowl.
Mr Robt. Wigram—Silver botton-hook.
Miss Ada Wigram—Photograph frame.
Miss Ethel Murray—Brass base.
Miss Williamson—White china figures.
Mr J. G. Mantle—Brass flower stand.
Mrs Mantle—China flower brackets.
Mr and Mrs Mantle—Oil painting.
Mr and Mrs H. B. Choice—Lady's writing-table.
Mr and Mrs F. Choice—Silver fruit spoons.
Mrs Neal—Indian scarf.
Miss Torrens—Gold bangle.
Capt. and Mrs Torrens—Silver cream jug.
Mrs Scott—Photograph frame.
Mr and Mrs Allen—Silver apostle tea-spoons
Mr Leveson-Gower—Dresden china brackets.
Mr and Mrs Swallow—Twisted ivory-handled bread fork.
Rev L. M. Chesters—Brass candlesticks.
Miss Beatrice Drummond—Small remembrancer.
Rev G. and Mrs Clowes—China photograph frame.
Mr and Mrs John Graham—Silver napkin rings.
Dr and Mrs W. M. Renton—Pair vases.
The Misses Goschen—China lamps.
Mrs Packe—Pocket scent bottle.
Mrs Miller—Silver sugar basin and cream jug.
Miss Cator—White china lamp.
Mr and Misses Wilmot Holland—Silver candlesticks.
Misses Holland—Silver string box.
Mr and Mrs W. House—Gold and amethyst necklace.
Miss Leveson-Gower—Silver mounted pin-cushion.
Mr and Mrs Hammersley—Silver mounted candlesticks.
Mr Whitmore and Miss Akers—Gilt ink-bottle.
Rev S. Denton, Drs Duncan and Mander—Silver mounted claret jug.
Miss Taylor—Gold bracelet.
Surgeon-Major Hutton—Dessert knives and forks.
Miss Mabel Gage—Siver photograph frame.
Mrs Simpson—Bracelet.
Miss Simpson—White china photograph frame.
Mr and Mrs T. W. Asquith—Revolving silver dish.
Mr H. Lyon-Smith—Ivory basso relievo—Elizabeth and Essex.
Rev J. and Mrs Mathwin—Seaports of Great Britain.
Rev J. and Mrs Crennell—Brass ink-stand.
Rev Edwin Day—Brass candlesticks.
Mr and Mrs Franklen—China vase.
Rev C. and Mrs Cameron—Silver button-hook.
Rev C. and Mrs Wright—Ornamental hand candlestick.
Rev G. and Mrs Chilton—Brass tea tray.
Mrs Edward and Miss Lennard—Picture of cherubs.
Mr R. Simpson—Prints.
Capt. and Mrs J. Howard—Brass tray.
Rev E. and Mrs Salt—Ivory paper knife.
Mr and Mrs G. R. Saunders—Breakfast service.
Mrs E. Hambro—Leather work basket.
Mrs Strachey—Photograph frame.
Dr Russell-Reynolds—Gold bracelet with moonstones set in pearls and diamonds.
Mrs Russell-Reynolds—Silver date stand.
Miss Dyke—Photograph frame.
Mrs Harper—Cruet stand.
Mrs Bishop—Flower bowl.
Mrs Berry—Tea-cloth.
Mrs Masterton—Knitted couvre pied.
Mr Lumley—Reading lamp.
Mr and Mrs N. Clark and friends at Beamish—Silver entrée dishes and tea kettle.
Servants at Pickhurst Manor—Silver-mounted blotting book.
Mrs R. and Miss Alexander—Photograph screen.
Mrs Daniell—Table.
Miss Thompson—Vases.

The same evening a supper and dance were given at Beamish Hall, to the servants and tenants, when the health of the bride and bridegroom was enthusiastically drunk. The supper, which was served in the entrance hall, was tastefully laid out under the superintendence of Mrs Harrold, the house-keeper, and dancing was kept up until an early hour.

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

LINTZ JOLLY ROAMERS v MARLEY HILL ST. CUTHBERT'S.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the home team by two goals to nil.

DIPTON WANDERERS RESERVE v LEADGATE EXILES RESERVE.—Played at Leadgate in stormy weather, in periods of two-fifteens. Soon after the kick off, the Wanderers pressed, and by a splendid screw shot, Teasdale scored first goal. Soon afterwards, Temple scored another goal for the visitors, and when the whistle blew, the Wanderers were left victors by two goals to nil.

MEDOMSLEY v ALBION HOUSE (BAINBRIDGE AND CO., NEWCASTLE).—This return fixture was played at Medomsley on Friday. Owing to several of the home club being unable to play, a few members of the Leadgate Park club kindly offered their assistance. In the first half Medomsley put on three goals to nothing. During the second period the home team completely outplayed the visitors, adding five goals to their score, while Albion House scored once from a free kick. Medomsley thus won easily by eight goals to one. Robson, Charlton, Anderson, Mansell, and Graham played splendidly for the winners.

CATCHGATE ALBION v CAUSEY STARS.—The Albion, although the weather was so unfavourable, journeyed to Causey to play off their fixture. The home team won the toss, and decided to play with the rain at their backs. The game was played in two half-hours. In the first half the game was well contested, but from a fine run by Berkley and Moore, Crudass scored the first goal for the Albion. On the change of ends the Albion had matters a little more their own way, and managed to score other two goals and two disputed, thus leaving the game in favour of the Albion by three goals and two disputed goals to nil. The Albion were represented as follows—Goal, T. H. Thompson; backs, Argyle and Blackie; half-backs, Atchinson, Bell, and Berkley; forwards, Graham and Shaw, right wing; J. Thompson, centre; Moore and Crudass (capt.), left wing. Umpire, Mr E. Stoker.

NORTHUMBERLAND MINOR COMPETITION.

MICKLEY v SCIENCE AND ART B.—Played at Mickley, and resulted in a win for the home team by three goals to one. The losers protested against the state of the ground.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

LEADGATE EXILES v LINTZFORD.—The Exiles journeyed to the latter place to meet Lintzford in the first round of the above competition. As the day was of a miserable description, and the game played in a blinding snowstorm, only a meagre attendance was present. The Exiles from the commencement had the game all their own way; in fact, so one-sided was the affair that the redoubtable Callaghan never handled the ball during the whole progress of the match, the final score in favour of the green-and-white jerseys being five goals to nil. Appended are the teams:—Leadgate Exiles—Goal, H. Callaghan; backs, J. McGuire and J. Monaghan; half-backs, P. Hughes, J. Costello, and Wm. Costello (capt.); forwards, G. Walton and C. Quinn, right wing; P. Quinn, centre; J. McGee and T. Campbell, left wing. Umpire, Mr J. Toner. Lintzford—Goal, T. Smith; backs, Andrews and Cook; half-backs, G. Burton, Weightman, and M. Abbott; forwards, J. Taylor, G. Abbott, McKenna, Rule, and R. Abbott. Umpire, Mr Wm. Smith. Referee, Mr C. R. Hewitt (Evenwood).

BIRTLEY RESERVE v PELTON FELL B TEAM.—Played at Birtley in rainy weather. The home team won by six goals to one.

TOW LAW v ESH ALBION.—These teams met at Tow Law to play off their tie in the first round of the Durham Junior Cup competition. The weather was very unfavourable for football, sleet falling incessantly throughout the game. There was only a meagre attendance of spectators, and this was not to be wondered at, considering the weather. Tow Law were again unable to put their full strength on the field, four of their men being absent owing to the influenza, but their places were ably filled by reserves. The Albion won the toss, and played down the hill, and shortly after the game was started Tow Law registered the first goal. Still pressing, they scored other two before the call of half-time, when the score stood—Tow Law, three goals; Esh, nil. The home team now played with the wind and snow in their faces, but this did not prevent them from scoring other four goals in the second half, Tow Law securing a hollow victory by seven goals to nil. Before the finish the Esh men wanted to leave the field (having had enough of it), but the referee ordered them to play the time out. Had it not been for the good defence of one of the visitors' backs, Tow Law would have scored oftener. Shaw and Trotter played well for the Albion, while Brown, Rooney, and Graham were the pick of the home team. The Tow Law goalkeeper (Burns) only handled the ball once throughout the game. Mr J. McCurley, of the Leadgate Exiles, acted as referee.

OUSTON v GATESHEAD.—Ouston journeyed to Gateshead to play the tie with St James', and were very well received, the weather being dreadful, and the ground in a very dirty state. The game was not as pleasant as was hoped for by both teams. The home team winning the toss, they kicked off, but the ball was very soon secured by the visitors, who got the ball back into the home territory, but as the home team were kicking with the wind, they got the ball into their possession, and after a bit of neat passing, Downey sent in a long shot, which was just saved by Marshall throwing it out, but the ball falling into the care of Hind, he sent it swiftly to McDermott, who, with the aid of Usher, took it to the other end of the field, and then lost it in attempting to shoot. The home team team pressed heavily, but were overcome by the visitors, when, after a long pass from Hind, Jefferson shot, but without result, the goalkeeper having a clear kick, but Turpin headed the ball to Dodds, who ran within three yards of the goal with it, and then passed it to McDonald, who lost it, but it was eventually returned to him by Dodds, when he passed it to Jefferson, who, with great difficulty, ran it through, thus scoring the first goal for Ouston. The ball being kicked off again, the home team tried hard by long shots to score, but the visitors' backs being on the alert, they were kept back, the goalkeeper getting in a good kick, but Turpin, with the aid of Hind and Dodds, took it to the home goal, the ball being put through by Dodds. Shortly after the ball was started again the whistle blew, announcing half-time, the score standing—

Ouston	Two goals
St. James'	Nil

On the ball being centred, the visitors kicked off, playing calmly and well, but were greatly obstructed by the home team, who at one time had the benefit of three corners in succession without success. Smith secured the ball, and sent it to mid field, when Usher, with the assistance of McDermott, got it to the goal, but it was made a corner of by the goalkeeper. Hind kicked it cleverly in, but the home team secured the ball, took it down the field, but Smith, with the aid of Hind, secured it again, and, by a long shot, sent it over to McDermott, who shot, the ball hitting the post, and going right through. The game from now till ten minutes before time was of a give-and-take character, until McDonald scored another goal for Ouston. When time was called, the score stood—

Ouston	Four goals
St. James'	Nil

Ouston team—Goal, W. Marshall; backs, E. Hind and G. Smith; half-backs, T. Hind, R. Turpin, and J. Dodds; forwards, W. McDermott, W. Usher, M. Dodds, J. W. Jefferson, and D. McDonald. W. Coulson, Waldridge Fell, was Ouston umpire, and R. K. Wilson, Birtley, was referee.

RUGBY.

CONSETT v TYNEDALE.—This important fixture was brought off in a storm of sleet. Owing to no definite information having been received regarding the coming of the Hexham team, several of the home players did not turn up, and their places had to be filled by 2nd team men. The team nevertheless gave a very good account of themselves, and the game ended in a draw, no major points being scored. The ground was in a beastly condition, and rendered back play very uncertain. However, whenever a chance came, Ward at three-quarter back put in some powerful work, and proved himself very bad to hold. Gray at half-back was exceedingly lively. Amongst the forwards Turnbull was in rare form, especially at the line out, collaring his man in a very decisive fashion. The remainder played a consistent game, especially in the loose, Wood being most conspicuous. The Tynedale forwards were the heavier lot, and proved themselves a good body by some smart combination. McIntyre played three-quarter back, and was undoubtedly the best man in his team.

JOTTINGS.

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

The Tow Law team seem to be in good form at present, having scored 22 goals to one in the last six matches, and have not been defeated on their own ground for two seasons.

Lintz Jolly Roamers have played twelve matches this season, and have not yet suffered defeat. They have scored 24 goals to their opponents' five.

Owing to Medomsley failing to put in an appearance at Dipton, the Wanderers were disappointed of a game on Saturday. This is the third time this season that the Wanderers have been disappointed by clubs not turning up to play their return games.

CONSETT RUGBY 2ND v. CONSETT ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In last week's issue you published the report of a football match between Consett Association 2nd team and Consett Rugby 2nd. The writer gave everybody to understand that it was our first team they had been playing. He also says we had the assistance of Callaghan, which we had not; but we had two first team men playing, and the Rugbyites had three first team men playing. Hoping they will make their report a little plainer next time,—Yours, &c.,

A MEMBER OF THE CONSETT A.F.C. COMMITTEE.

Consett, Feb. 19th, 1890.

Cricket.

The members of the Tanfield Temperance C.C. wish to arrange matches for the ensuing season, ages averaging 18 years. Clubs will oblige by sending their dates to G. Murgeson, secretary.

Sporting Items.

GREYHOUND MATCH AT DIPTON.—At the Dipton Running Grounds, a match for £20, straight out, was decided between Chambers's Little Pat and Birch's Fox, in the presence of a fair number of people. Fox won easily.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT WINLATON.—A match took place on Saturday near the New Inn, Winlaton, in a field kindly lent by Mr G. Bullerwell, Snook Hill, between R. Bennett, Elswick, and J. Smith, Swalwell, for £20. Bennett won at the ninth round by killing six birds, his opponent grassing two out of eight.

SHOOTING MATCHES NEAR CONSETT.—A pigeon shooting match, at 7 birds each, and 25 yards rise, for £5 a-side, was shot off on Saturday afternoon, between Towler Parker, of Consett, and J. Milner, of Castleside, with 1¼oz shot, in a field kindly granted by Mr Henry Oliver, of Hurbuck Farm, near Consett. Betting at the start ruled at 5 to 4 on Milner. In the result Parker killed three birds out of six, while his opponent killed one. Wm. Howe, of Consett, was referee. Another match was afterwards shot off between John Mason, of Consett, and James Cush, of Blackhill, for £2 a-side, the former grassing two pigeons and the latter one. Although the weather was miserable, there was a large number of onlookers.

QUOIT MATCH AT WITTON GILBERT STATION.—The match between George Raper, of Langley Park, and Thomas Correy, of Witton Gilbert, for £10 a-side, was decided on Saturday afternoon, at the quoit ground adjoining Mr Thomas Suddes's, Station Hotel, Witton Gilbert. The conditions were 11 yards on the sward, 4lb quoits, Raper receiving 5 start in a game of 41 chalks up. Notwithstanding the miserable state of the weather, there was a large attendance of spectators. Speculation commenced at 6 to 4 on Raper. The game, however, was one-sided. Scores:—Currey, 41; Raper, 16. T. Gott, of Langley Park, was stakeholder and referee.

QUOITING AT LEADGATE.—Despite the inclement weather, there was a good muster at the grounds connected with the house of Mr W. Jackson, the Coach and Horse Inn, Leadgate, on Saturday, to witness a quoit match, for £20 a-side, between W. Steel, of Leadgate, and W. Dixon, of Backworth; 41 points game. Dixon succeeded in winning by 14 chalks.

FORMATION OF A BICYCLE CLUB FOR CONSETT DISTRICT.—A meeting was held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, on Monday night, for the purpose of considering the advisablity of establishing an amateur bicycling club for Consett and the immediate neighbourhood. There was a good attendance of young fellows, and Mr C. Routledge was voted to the chair.—It was unanimously decided to form such an organization, to be called "The Consett and District Biclying and Athletic Club." The following officers were then appointed:—President, Councillor Richard Murray Benfieldside House; vice-presidents, Messrs John Petherick, Geo. Ainsworth, Supt. James Oliver John Calvert, Ed. Kirkhouse, T. D. Dryden, W. Aynsley, T. L. Gledstone, A. Brodie, C. P. Douglas, T. W. Welford and T. Milner, Consett; Councillor Geo. Nicholson, Leadgate; W. Robinson, and R. Park, Blackhill; and T. J. Muse, Castleside. Captain, Mr J. Ridley; vice-captain, Mr Chas. Routledge; Secretary, Mr F. W. Brodie; assistant-secretary, Mr Wm. Eales; committee, Messrs J. Pescod, F. Moss, R. J. Brodie, S. Rayner, W. Eales, T. Duckworth, and J. R. Wood; buglers, W. Brand, and A. Lowery.—Various matters of detail were discussed at length, and the meeting was at length adjourned till next Monday night, at 7·30, when the rules and byelaws will be submitted for revision and conformation, and members enrolled.—The club hope to secure a large and commodious structure at the rear of the Freemason's Arms Hotel, Consett, providing suitable terms can be arranged with the landlord (Mr Edwd. Wylam). The place, which is entirely apart from the hostelry, will be regarded as the headquarters of the club for meetings, &c., and will be used as a gymnasium, &c. The committee were empowered to make the preliminary arrangements.—The captain will draw up a list of runs during the coming season, the first "outing" being on Good Friday.

SHOCKING FATALITY AT PELTON FELL.

On Sunday afternoon, an old man named McLean was found dead in the valley of the Stanley Burn at Pelton Fell. It is known that he was at Chester-le-Street on Saturday night, and went to Pelton Fell with one of the brakes running that way, and it is thought that in crossing over what is called "The Battery," he missed his way, falling from the roadway down the side of the embankment into the valley. What appears a most curious matter is that his body was found on the east side of the embankment, where it must have been washed through the culvert from the west side by the burn, which was in flood, arising from the rain which fell all the day on Saturday. Deceased was well-known at Pelton Fell, where he was highly respected. He had been employed at the colliery as a coal leader for many years. Before the Team Valley line was built, deceased used to drive the coach between Chester-le-Street and Newcastle for many years.—On Tuesday, an inquest was held by Mr Coroner Graham, when a verdict of "Accidentally drowned" was returned.

EVENING CONCERT AT CONSETT.

On Monday night, the bell-ringers of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Blackhill, held a grand concert in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. There was a fairly good audience. Besides various well-known vocalists, they had engaged the City of Newcastle Hand-bell ringers (under the leadership of Mr F. Lees). These were twelve in number, and all are working-men. The various selections they performed were rendered in a pleasing and accomplished manner, and received the hearty applause of the audience. Miss Mulholland, a young lady of about 16 years, made her first appearance in public on this occasion. Her voice is a pure soprano, and she gives promise of developing into a singer of a high order. Her voice is clear and sweet and her expression and articulation of the highest order. The other local singers were Miss Lamph, Mr P. E. Surtees, and Mr J. McTaggart, Blackhill and Consett, all of whom did their duty in an able manner. The musican was Mr E. J. Sloane, L.Mus., L.C.M., Blackhill, who once more delighted the audience by his excellent accompaniment. The comic part of the programme was entrusted to Mr J. Nevin, Newcastle, the well-known Tyneside comedian, his efforts again meeting with the greatest success. The following is the programme:—Part first—March, "Men of Harlech," polka, "Merry bell," Hand-bell ringers; song, "The White squall," Mr P. Surtees; air, "My love, she's but a lassie yet," march, "Rob Roy," Hand-bell ringers; song, "Meeting of the waters," Miss Mullholland (*encored*); air, "Village chimes" (introducing change ringing), "Keel row," Hand-bell ringers; song, "The dawn of Home Rule," Miss Lamph (*encored*); song (comic) "The school board man," Mr J. Nevin (*encored*), Part II.—Duet, "Collon and Patty," Miss Lamph and Mr P. Surtees; song, "They all love Jack," Mr J. McTaggart; song, "Rory O'More," Miss Lamph; song, "Simon the cellarer," Mr Surtees; song, "Tired," Miss Mullholland (*encored*); song, "The anchor's weigh'd," Mr J. McTaggart; song (comic), "What are you going to do with it?" Mr Nevin (*encored*).

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FIRE AT LEADGATE INFECTIOUS HOSPITAL.

On Wednesday evening, a fire broke out in the upper rooms of the Infectious Hospital near Leadgate, and had it not been for the prompt and energetic measures adopted by Mrs Bell, the wife of the caretaker, who managed to extinguish the flames by throwing buckets of water thereon, it seems likely that the entire building would have been destroyed. It appears that about five p.m., after Bell had gone to his work, Mrs Bell intended to go out visiting, but in consequence of a slight shower of rain, she remained indoors. She had been much troubled with smoke, but failed to discover exactly from whence the fumes came. On looking upstairs, however, she found that something behind a skirting-board was on fire, occasioned by an escape of gas. Fortunately she managed to get it under before any serious injury was done.

At the monthly meeting of the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, under the presidency of Mr Geo. G Taylor-Smith, J.P., Mr J. Collinson described the circumstances as detailed above, and said had Mrs Bell gone out and locked up the premises, the structure might have been burnt to the ground. She regarded it as a merciful intervention of Providence that she was obliged to remain at home. (Laughter).—The Chairman: Bosh! (More laughter).—Mr Collinson suggested that the damage should be repaired, as they could not light the kitchen fire.—It was arranged that Mr Jos. Eltringham, contractor, should be employed to repair the damage, and on the recommendation of Mr W. H. Hedley, a fire extinguisher is to be purchased, in case of any future outbreak. The matter was left in the hands of the local committee.

CRICKETERS' ENTERTAINMENT AT CONSETT.

On Wednesday night, the members of the Consett and District Cricket Club held their annual entertainment in the New Town Hall, Consett. The public are aware that the end of last cricket season this club lost their ground, in the park, and are at present having a new one laid at Blackfine, and this concert was held for the purpose of enlarging the funds of the club, and to enable them to make the new goound a suitable one. Last year, Mr Harry Liston, of the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, gave such satisfaction to the public in the part of the programme that was taken by him that the committee decided to try and secure the services of this gentleman for this year. There efforts in this direction were eminently successful, and on Wednesday night Mr Liston once more made his appearance before a Consett and district audience, under the auspices of the above club. The spacious building was capitally filled, particularly the front seats, which contained the representatives of the local leading families. Mr Liston is renowned as a humourist, author, instrumentalist, and ventriloquist, and his musical and mimetic entertainment being thoroughly refined, and neither vulgar or offensive, to the most sensitive, has charmed tens of thousands of people during the last few years. Although Mr Liston was suffering from a severe cold, he succeeded in acquitting himself to the entire satisfaction of his auditors who were convulsed with laughter from beginning to end. The specialities introduced into the present entertainment embraced "The jubilee concert," which was recently produced with such success at the Crystal Palace; "The football muff"; his sparkling, satirical, and highly amusing monologue, entitled "Merry moments"; and his latest successful novelty (invented by Miss St. Kilda), "The animated mummy." It is superfluous to remark that these inimitable and wholly original representations provoked endless merriment; the absurd situations, ludicrous acting, and humorous delineations of characters being remarkably well performed. A number of excruciating funny comic songs were interspersed here and there; and his solos on the tin whistle, Japanese violin, banjo, and pianoforte—some of which were exquisitely executed—created unbounded enthusiasm. Mr Liston's entertainment is brimful of witty remarks, puns, &c., and a great number of *bon mots* concerning local tradespeople, cricketers, &c; and the puns on the topics of the day transpiring in Consett, really "brought down the house." With a programme of such infinite variety, it is quite unnecessary to particularise the different items; but we can assure all our readers who did not avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing Mr Liston's entertainment, that they missed one of the best treats ever served up to a Consett audience. The dresses and general make-up are truly characteristic, and left nothing to be desired. Mr Herbert Wolfings, R.A.M., accompanied Mr Liston's songs. We can only express the hope that the eminent humourist will favour us with another visit in the near future, as for nearly two-and-a-half hours Mr Liston kept the company in ecstacies of delight.

The proceeds of the entertainment will considerably augment the funds of the cricket club, and we may state that, in addition to the donation of £50 offered by the Consett Iron Company for laying out the new ground and erecting a pavillion Councillor James Annandale, J.P., of Shotley Bridge, has promised the sum of £10.

SUDDEN DEATH AT BEAMISH.

On Tuesday, a man named Robert Scott (50), a tramping bricklayer, was travelling on the road from Gateshead, in company with Dennis Wade, *en route* to Consett, for the purpose of seeing a friend. During the evening, while near the Stanley Burn, Scott dropped down upon the roadside, and suddenly expired without complaining or even speaking. His body was carried into the stable connected with the house of Mr Christopher Arkle, Blue Bell Inn, Beamish. Deceased was a total stranger in the district. He had no money upon him, and all his pockets contained was a couple of pawn tickets. Wade promised to visit Scott's friends at Consett, and said he would return the following morning, but he failed to do so. The Coroner was communicated with, but he did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest, as it was supposed that the man had died from heart disease. The Lanchester Guardians yesterday (Thursday) instructed Mr Ralph Walton (the relieving officer) to have the unfortunate man's body interred at the expense of the parish, as he apparently had no relations in the neighbourhood.

THE ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Lanchester Guardians yesterday (Thursday)—Mr George G Taylor-Smith, J.P., presiding—the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) read an order issued by the Local Government Board, notifying that, owing to the fact that the statutory dates for the election of Guardians falling during the Easter holidays (April 7th, 8th, and 9th), the following days had been affixed instead:—Voting papers distributed on the 10th April; collected on the 11th, and the votes counted up on the 12th. The last day for receiving nominations was as usual—26th March.—The Chairman hoped the reporters would make a note of that statement, so that the ratepayers in the different townships affected this year by the triennial system of electing Guardians, would be fully prepared.—The Clerk, in answer to the members, said that elections would arise this year in the townships of Conside and Knitsley, Benfieldside, Medomsley, Iveston, Ebchester, and Healeyfield.

We are informed that Mr T. S. Longstaff, Leadgate, intends coming forward as a candidate for the vacancy caused by the decease of Mr W. Brown. Communications are now being interchanged with Canon Father Kearney, The Brooms (who now resides near Darlington), with a view of eliciting a definite statement as to whether he intends to offer himself for re-election or not. If the rev gentleman chooses the latter course, Councillor Nicholson will probably be a candidate. We learn that Mr W. Aynsley intends to contest the third seat for Consett; and there is a rumour that an Irish representative will be nominated. So far as can be ascertained, there will not be any contests in the other townships.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

TO-MORROW'S FIXTURES (SATURDAY, FEB. 22ND.)
Consett Rugby v Gateshead Institute, at Benfieldside.
Leadgate Exiles v Sunderland Albion Reserve, at Sunderland.
Leadgate Park v Fernwood Albion, at Fernwood.
Medomsley v Stocksfield, at Medomsley.
Dipton Wanderers v St. Oswald's College (Tynemouth), at Tynemouth.
Tow Law v Shildon, at Shildon.
Catchgate Albion v Langley Park Rovers, at Langley Park.
Lintz Jolly Roamers v Tanfield, at Tanfield.
Dipton Wanderers 2nd v Percy Iron Works 2nd, at Newcastle.
Langley Park Rovers 2nd v Catchgate Albion 2nd, at Langley Park.
Mickley v Science and Art (Newcastle), at Newcastle.

CONSETT v GATESHEAD INSTITUTE.—This match will be played at Benfieldside to-morrow (Saturday), and will certainly be a very interesting game. The following will represent Consett, and the same set are also chosen to play next Saturday in the first round of the Cup-ties, being pitted against Boldon:—Back, Jas. Aitken; three-quarter backs, A. Ward, T. Jameson, and M. Williamson; half-backs, J. Anderson and J. Wilson; forwards, W. Turnbull, J. Lencaster, A. Wood, T. T. Gray, G. Williamson, F. Moss, A. Taylor, L. McTaggart, and Jos. Askew (capt.)

DIPTON WANDERERS v ST. OSWALD'S COLLEGE, TYNEMOUTH.—To be played at Tynemouth to-morrow (Saturday). Owing to some of the usual players being absent, the Wanderers will only be poorly represented. The team will be:—Goal, T. Mann; backs, J. Walker and A. Tuson; half-backs, Bruce, Batey, and W. Bowes; forwards, Jordan and Gilliard, right wing; D. Crozier and T. Walker, left wing; R. Crozier, centre. Reserves, Turpin and Bell.

CATCHGATE ALBION v LANGLEY PARK ROVERS.—This match will be played at Langley Park to-morrow (Saturday), when the following will represent the Albion:—Goal, T. Holmes; backs, Argyle and Blackie; half-backs, Atchinson, Bell, and Berkley; forwards, Graham and Shaw, right wing; J. Thompson, centre; Crudass (capt.) and Bates, left wing.

LINTZ JOLLY ROAMERS v TANFIELD.—The former will journey to the ground of the latter to-morrow (Saturday), when a good game may be expected. The following have been chosen to represent the Jolly Roamers:—Goal, M. Watson; backs, V. and A. Henderson; half-backs, H. Nevins, P. McGee, and Paddison; forwards, Hewitson, Hughes, Keith, Minto, and Neville. Reserves, Middleton and Fayle.

HOLLINSIDE MANOR.—The romantic ruins of Hollinside Manor, in the vale of the Derwent, are to be carefully preserved and kept in proper order for the future. During a recent visit to the estate by its owner, the Earl of Strathmore, he expressed his surprise that such interesting remains should have been converted into cattle sheds. His Lordship ordered the immediate removal of the wooden structures, and issued instructions that every care should be taken to preserve the manor. Beneath the steep banks upon which stand the Hollinside ruins runs the famous Clockburn, by the side of which Cromwell marched with his artillery to cross the Derwent at Winlaton in 1650, when it is said he rested at Stella Hall before crossing the ford below Ryton, now known as Cromwell's Ford.

The influenza epidemic at Wolsingham rages still with but slight abatement. The several friendly societies are being very heavily taxed on account of the unprecedented amount of sickness amongst their members.

The usual sewing meeting was held at Mr J. D. Henderson's, Wolsingham, on Monday night, when tea was gratuitously provided by the gentleman named. A collection was taken at the table in aid of the proposed Wesleyan kitchen scheme.

"My friends," said a politician the other day, with a burst of ingenious eloquence. "I will be honest——." The terrific outburst of applause which followed this remark entirely upset the point which the orator was about to introduce.

One of "our young girls," at an examination in grammar the other day, when asked why the noun "bachelor" was singular, blushingly answered, "Because it is very singular they don't get married." She went up to the head.

"You say he called you a donkey?" "Yes." "What did you do about it?" "Nothing." "Well, if a man should call me a donkey I'd kick him with both feet." "Certainly, any donkey would naturally do that."

BEAU HICKMAN'S SECRET.

"Speaking of clever things," said Captain Hassler, who enjoys the reputation of being one of the best story-tellers in public life, "you all remember dear old Beau Hickman, the notorious 'beat' of antebellum days? I shall not soon forget my first meeting with him. It was in the early days of the war. One day a crowd of soldier boys, myself among the number, stepped into the Rotunda at Willard's Hotel. The first person we met was Beau, faultlessly dressed and serene, smiling as usual. The boys gathered about him, and began plying him with questions.

"'Tell us, Beau,' said one of the youngsters, 'how you manage to live without working?'

"'Ah!' said Beau, drawing himself up stiffly, 'that's a secret, and I don't tell my secrets without being paid for them.'

"He paused for a moment, and coolly counted us over and said, 'There are just sixteen of you. If you'll chip in a quarter apiece I'll tell you.'

"In less than thirty seconds sixteen shining twenty-five cent pieces were laid in Beau's hand. He satisfied himself that the number was correct, and then, sliding them deftly into his trousers pocket, he faced about, and, as he stalked majestically away, he added, 'You wanted to know, gentlemen, how I live without working. Well this is one way. Ta, Ta!'

"And then, as he disappeared in the direction of the bar, the boys, with one accord, shouted, 'Sold, by Jove!'"

REPROVING A JUDGE.

Curran was often annoyed when pleading before Lord Avonmore, owing to his lordship's habit of being influenced by first impressions. He and Curran were to dine together at the house of a friend, and the opportunity was seized by Curran to endeavour to cure his lordship's habit of anticipating.

"Why, Mr. Curran, you have kept us a full hour waiting dinner for you!" grumbled out Lord Avonmore.

"Oh, my dear lord, I regret it much; you must know it seldom happens, but I've just been witness to a most melancholy occurrence."

"You seem terribly moved by it—take a glass of wine. What was it? What was it?"

"I will tell you, my lord, the moment I can collect myself. I had been detained at Court—in the Court of Chancery—your lordship knows the Chancellor sits late."

"I do, I do—but go on."

"Well, my lord, I was hurrying here as fast as ever I could—I did not even change my dress—I hope I shall be excused for coming in my boots?"

"Pooh, pooh! Never mind your boots—the point—come at once to the point of the story!"

"Oh, I will, my lord, in a moment. I walked here—I would not even wait to get the carriage ready—it would have taken time, you know. Now there is a market exactly in the road by which I had to pass. Your lordship may perhaps recollect the market—do you?"

"To be sure I do; go on, Curran—go on with the story."

"I am very glad your lordship remembers the market, for I totally forgot the name of it—the name—the name——"

"What the deuce signifies the name of it, sir! It's the Castle Market."

"Your lordship is perfectly right—it is called the Castle Market. Well, I was passing through that very identical Castle Market, when I observed a butcher preparing to kill a calf. He had a huge knife in his hand—it was as sharp as a razor. The calf was standing beside him. He drew the knife to plunge it into the animal. Just as he was in the act of doing so a little boy, about four years old—his only son—the loveliest little baby I ever saw—ran suddenly across his path, and he killed—oh, Heaven; he killed——"

"The child! the child! the child! vociferated Lord Avonmore.

"No, my lord, the calf," continued Curran, very coolly; "he killed the calf, but—your worship is in the habit of anticipating."

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY WEARSIDER].

Mr Walter W. Coxon, manager of the Earl of Durham's Picestill Farm, has a fine crop of healthy lambs. This is considered early.

The election of Mr George Ridley, of Stanley, to the chairmanship of the Board of Guardians and Rural Sanitary Authority, has given unqualified satisfaction in the district. There is a general concurrence of opinion that no better man could be found on the Board for the post. His extensive knowledge of Poor Law and Public Acts, is only equalled by his genial, unassuming dignity; and strict business habits. That he will discharge his onerous and important duties with satisfaction to the ratepayers, and credit to the Boards and himself, is the opinion of all classes of people. The Boards have been singularly fortunate in finding such a worthy successor to their late able chairman, Mr Thos. Robson.

The terrible death of poor old Dick McLane, at Pelton Fell, on Saturday night, caused quite a sensation. There is a likelihood now, however, of a fence being erected along the edge of the battery. It has been asked whether it was worth while to wait until somebody was killed by falling over, before something was done? Certainly it is a most dangerous place, and if the statement that it is not a thoroughfare is to be maintained, a gate ought to be put on at each end.

Our annual Shrovetide football match was not so satisfactory this year as is usual. The weather was poor, there was a large attendance, an immense number of strangers visiting our ancient city. Such play as there was in the Front Street, was good, but the ball was several times carried away out of sight for a long time, and in the end when the downstreeters had fairly won the game, the ball was lost, and could not be returned to Mr Murray, the Football King, in the usual way. Mr Murray was very much annoyed that the traditions of the game should be so infringed upon, and from an upper window in the Crown Inn expressed himself very strongly on the matter. It may be some consolation to him to know that his fellow citizens are equally annoyed, and that although it is a far cry to next Shrove Tuesday, sharp and certain measures will be taken to prevent a recurrence of such reprehensible practices.

QUEBEC DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY A "CORNSAYITE."]

The epidemic known as influenza is still spreading in the district, and there are workmen daily falling victims to the disease, which fortunately, is of a more favourable character than in some parts, as many are able to resume work after a week or a fortnight's illness. It is therefore necessary to exercise great care to keep free from cold least they should be subject to a relapse, while we may hope for more seasonable weather than at which we have at present, accompanied with such damp heavy air, resulting in so much suffering.

There is at present no prospect of carrying out the suggested improvements by the Board, which indeed are highly necessary for the convenience of the inhabitants as well as those whose duty occasionally brings them to the place. The road is in a most delapidated condition. In addition to this there is much need of a footpath being made on which the villagers could travel to and from church. One has been partly constructed, but, from neglect, it is far from what we require in wet weather. A little extra cost would make a good path from Cornsay to Quebec, apart from the highway or cartroad.

The Durham miners and the wages question is now causing a great deal of excitement; and, if a strike takes place, the consequences will be disasterous to both parties—employers and employed. The prospect is a serious one to those who have large families. We trust, however, that matters will be amicably arranged. A dead-lock is a serious matter, and will tend to drive trade away from our shores.

MEDOMSLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "GEORDIE."]

The Primitive Methodists of Allendale Cottages are a thoroughly energetic body. They do not let the grass grow under their feet, and are constantly devising ways and means to benefit their place of worship. Scarcely a week passes by but what they hold an entertainment of some kind, and these are invariably successful. No better way could be found of spending the long winter evenings, and every praise is due to the Allendale Primitive Methodists for their energy and forethought, and their example might be followed with advantage by other religious sects.

On Monday evening, a fruit-banquet and entertainment was held in the chapel. There was a large company present to enjoy the bill-of-fare provided. The fruit for the occasion has been most generously given by the young men of the choir, while some of the young ladies, not to be out-done, provided several tit-bits for the company. Such actions as the above are worthy of all praise. Unfortunately, Mr J. Williams, who was announced to preside, was unable, through illness, to be present. In his absence, the chair was most efficiently filled by Mr William Richardson. The choir sang several selections, and fruit was handed round at intervals. Altogether a most enjoyable and profitable evening was spent, and I sincerely hope the Primitives will continue the good work they are doing. About £3 was realised by the banquet.

Owing to having fallen a victim to the fashionable complaint, I was unable, much to my regret, to be present at the concert given by the Medomsley Choral Society, on Monday evening. Consequently, what I am writing is from "information received." The affair was a great success, everything passing off with *eclat*. There was a good company present, the music was good, and the singing was good. Therefore, who could grumble? I sincerely hope that this will be the first of a series of entertainments by the society, as amusements in this district are few and far between—that is to say, amusements worth the name.

A rather queer story reaches me from Westwood. Not long since a pitman in that locality was suffering from influenza, and thought he would go and see the doctor. Consequently he did so, and in the course of some questions, the medical man asked, "Are you costive?" Now our hero had his own ideas concerning the meaning of this, and prompty replied, "No, I'se hewing coals at Westwood." The doctor could not refrain from smiling, but determined to try him again, so he again repeated his question. "No, I'se not drawing coke, I'se hewing coals at Westwood," was the second reply. The medico saw it was a hopeless case, so he furnished our hero with some medicine and bid him a polite "good-night." I have been informed that our hero is still sore over the "dulness" of the doctor.

The influenza is still very prevalent in the district, and large numbers have been compelled to lay off work, but I scarcely think it is quite so bad as it was.

One of the chief items of conversation in the village is 15 per cent increase asked for by the men. According to present arrangements, if the masters do not agree to the demand, the notices go in on Monday. Doubtless some settlement will be arrived at, which is devoutly to be hoped for.

DEATH OF MR T. LONGSTAFF.—There died from consumption, at Stanhope, yesterday (Thursday), a young man named Timothy Longstaff, of Hope Level, lately a platelayer at Newlandside limestone quarry. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him, on account of his social disposition and many other excellent qualities. His premature death is much lamented.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The usual meeting was held on Thursday in last week, there being present Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J.P. (*ex-officio*), J. Kirkup, G. Ridley, J. Crawford, J. Humble, P. Oswald, J. Chrystal, E. Nicholson, J. T. Anderson, J. Witherspoon, John Snowball, P. Hay, W. Ironsides, Geo. Swinburne, and G. E. Steele.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr Kerrich-Walker took the chair *pro. tem.*, and Mr CRAWFORD proposed that Mr J. Kirkup be appointed chairman for the remainder of the year. Mr Kirkup was their senior vice-chairman, had been a member 16 years, and vice-chairman eight years. It had always been their custom to appoint their senior vice-chairman until the appointment of their late chairman, and Mr Robson was only appointed after Mr Wm. Morris positively refused to accept the chair. Mr Kirkup was also an excellent attender, and, he thought, a fit man for the post.

Mr STEELE seconded.

Mr WITHERSPOON asked if they were to understand that Mr George Ridley refused to stand?

Mr RIDLEY said he did not know any reason why he should not stand.

Mr WITHERSPOON proposed that Mr Ridley be chairman of the Board. In Mr Ridley they had the ablest man on the Board, and probably the ablest man in the county on Poor Law matters. He was quite sure it was their duty to put the best man into the chair, and in his opinion they had no better man than Mr Ridley.

Mr HAY said he had the greatest possible pleasure in seconding the nomination. They should certainly put the best man into the chair, and not be carried away by claims of seniority.

The two candidates retired, and

Mr OSWALD supported Mr Ridley's nomination. He would say, in the face of that small Board, that a number of members had stayed away because they were afraid to come and do their duty.

Mr HUMBLE also supported the nomination of Mr Ridley, who had been connected with Poor Law matters since he was 16 years of age. No man in the county knew more of the duties of Guardians than Mr Ridley, and if they elected anyone else until the end of the year they would only have to alter it then to make it a permanency.

Mr KERRICH-WALKER also spoke in favour of Mr Ridley's ability and fitness for the post.

On a vote being taken, six voted for Mr Kirkup and seven for Mr Ridley.

Mr KERRICH-WALKER announced, amid applause, that Mr Ridley was appointed.

Mr RIDLEY took the chair, and briefly thanked the members for placing him in such an important postion. He looked for their consideration and assistance in the mistakes which he would doubtless make. By their action they had created a vacancy in the vice-chairs. Would they proceed to fill it up at the next meeting, or let it stand over until the beginning of the year.

On the motion of Mr HUMBLE, it was resolved to let the appointment of vice-chairmnn stand over until the first meeting of next year.

THE LATE CHAIRMAN.

Mr David W. Robson wrote thanking the Guardians for their vote of sympathy with the relatives of his brother, the late chairman.

The letter was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

THE RISE IN COAL.

A letter from the Local Government Board stated that the Guardians could not legally increase Mr Joseph Goldbrough's contract price for the Workhouse coal; but they could terminate the contract.

Mr OSWALD: Which meant that they could end the contract, and enter into a new one either with Mr Goldbrough or some one else.

The CHAIRMAN: That was so.

It was then agreed that as the contract would terminate on the 25th March, that Mr Goldbroughs application for an increase lie on the table.

RELIEF.

Messrs Joseph Armstrong and Thos. Turnbull, relieving officers, presented their accounts as follows:—Chester-le-Street £67 16s 7d; Harraton £58 10s 10d.

Cheques for the amounts were ordered and signed accordingly.

THE WEALTHY PAUPER'S EFFECTS.

Mr Armstrong said that persuant of the Board's instructions he had sold the furniture of the late Isabella Pearson, and after paying expenses, and refunding the out-door relief given her he had £2 5s 2d left. There was no one to give it to, and it was not his. He did not know the husband's address in America, or whether he was alive or not.

The officer was instructed to retain the money until he had made further inquiries; but if any one who had a legal claim to it made application in the meantime to pay the applicant.

DOES IT PAY?

The Master asked the Guardians to get him a saw, for use in making up fire-wood.

Mr WITHERSPOON: Is it profitable to do that sort of thing?

The CHAIRMAN: It pays best of anything we have.

Several Guardians: Get the saw then.

The implement was ordered.

WASHINGTON OVERSEERS AND THEIR ASSISTANT.

Mr George R. Dixon, one of the overseers for the township of Washington, waited upon the Guardians. He explained that Mr Hunter, the other overseer, would also have attended, but had been unexpectedly called away. They had to complain that the assistant overseer would not call meetings when they asked him. He would do nothing for them. They did not know whether their cases were met or not. Their rates were made half-yearly, and should be collected quarterly, but he collected then when he liked. They had asked him half-a-dozen times to do it. They had come to the Guardians for help.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the assistant overseer was entirely under the direction of the overseers; but to simplify the matter they had better have the officer before them at the next meeting. In the meantime they might order him to do what they wanted done.

The Chairman's suggestion was adopted.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RATE COLLECTOR.

A letter from the Local Government Board approved of the appointment of Mr Edward Usher as rate-collector for the township of Chester-le-Street, at a salary of £53 per annum.

The Guardians present then sat as the

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr KIRKUP proposed, Mr STEELE seconded, and it was agreed unanimously that Mr George Ridley be appointed chairman.

The CHAIRMAN thanked them. He was willing to do anything in his power, but they must not overload the willing horse.

TAKE ACTION.

Respecting Mr William Hunter, of Washington, who systematically refused to take in the Authority's water, the Sanitary Inspector was instructed to take action, and to employ an attorney to conduct the case.

A CLAIM FOR DAMAGE.

Mr William R. Rotherford, Brecon Beds, wrote, reminding the Authority of a resolution agreeing to pay him £10 a year for damage done to his land by the sewage from Pelton village. He had received for 1888, but although it was February, he had not received for 1889.

Cheque for the amount ordered and signed.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr Duncan reported that during the fortnight there had been registered 46 deaths and 75 births, giving a death-rate of 23·4 and a birth-rate of 38·2 per 1,000. The high death-rate was attributed to measles and lung diseases, influenced by the prevailing epidemic. There were two cases of typhoid fever at Usworth, where there was little or no improvement in the sanitary condition of the High Rows.

UNSANITARY USWORTH.

The Sanitary Inspector (Mr Thos. Barras) reported that in October last he obtained an order from the Gateshead magistrates upon Messrs Bowes and Partners, ordering that firm to clear away the filth from the gutters, repair the privies and ashpits, and build additional ones at the High Rows, Usworth Colliery. That order had not been complied with, and there was little if any improvement in the place. He sought the further instructions of the Authority.

On the suggestion of the CHAIRMAN, it was agreed that the Clerk write a strong letter to Messrs Bowes, urging them to carry out the Justices' order.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT.

The CHAIRMAN said that since the provisions of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act came into operation, on the 1st inst., 15 cases had been notified. Their Medical Officer had also prepared a report of the influenza epidemic for the Local Government Board, a copy of which he had sent in. Any member who wished could see it.

The Authority then adjourned.

MEDOMSLEY CHORAL SOCIETY.

The first concert under the auspices of the choral society recently established at Medomsley, was given in the National Schools, on Monday night, In spite of other attractions in the town and district there was a fairly large audience. The vocalists included Mrs Rounthwaite, Benfieldside; Miss Matthews, Blackhill; Master Ascough, Newcastle; Mr J. Symington, Consett; Mr J. Chaytor, Hamsterley Colliery, Mr Daniels, Westwood Board Schools, &c. A varied and comprehensive programme was rendered, and it is needless to add that the artistes acquitted themselves in a highly accomplished and acceptable manner. The choir, numbering 50 or 60 voices, also sang some glees remarkably well, under the direction of Mr Chas. Stephenson, Blackhill. Mr Geo. Dryden Consett, ably accompanied. The society, on the whole has made a successful debut.

BELL-RINGERS' FESTIVAL AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

On Monday afternoon, the general meeting of the Newcastle and Durham Diocesan Association of Bell-ringers was held at Shotley Bridge. Nearly 30 members were present from Newcastle, Winlaton, Durham, South Bank, Jarrow, Ripon, &c. The committee met at the Commercial Inn, but the business transacted was not of public interest. Afterwards the members partook of an excellent dinner, which was very well served up by the host and hostess (Mr and Mrs Moffatt).

After dinner, Mr L. Lees, of Newcastle, (in the absence of Mr Storey, Newcastle, president), occupied the chair.—After disposing of the loyal toasts, the chairman proposed the health of the bishops and clergy in the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle.

REV G. H. ROSS-LEWIN in responding, said that unfortunately at the present time there was no Bishop in the Diocese of Durham. No body of men rendered more valuable work to their venerable Church of England than the ringers of the bells, and the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers had been one of the greatest blessings. (Applause). During this last portion of the 19th century, such Associations had become general. It was gratifying to find that in this class of church work, which was very necessary, many muscular young churchmen found something to do in the furtherance of Christianity. He did not under-rate the good work accomplished by Sunday-school teachers, district visitors, and choristers. The greater variety they had was much better for the church, for it brought forward this great truth, that the clergy and laity alike, were doing something for the church. The ringers in their belfries did a vast amount of good. They went from one place to another, and carried with them a certain amount of church feeling, inspected the different styles of architecture, and had opportunities of seeing how the church work was carried on in different circumstances in different places. This had a great tendency to encourage local and liberal views of things in general. He did not know of any society more worthy of the support of all classes of church people than the Durham and Newcastle Association of Ringers. (Applause). He heartily welcomed the members to Shotley Bridge, and trusted they would pay another visit before long. (More applause).

After confirming the minutes of the last meeting, Mr Lancelot Newton, of Earl's House, Durham, hon. secretary and treasurer, presented the annual report, which ought to have been submitted at the annual meeting held at Durham in October last, but owing to the resignation of Mr G. J. Clarkson, of Stockton-on-Tees, the secretary and hon. treasurer, the necessary particulars were not forthcoming. The twelfth yearly report for the year ending October 31st, 1889, showed that the association was still prospering. The number of members was as follows:—Hon. members, 46; life members, 38; hon. performing members, 20; and performing members, 216; total, 300. (Applause). The balance-sheet indicated that the sum of £17 11s 11d was still in hand, as against £22 9s 4½d the previous year. Mr Clarkson had resigned his position of hon. secretary and treasurer, after having held office for about 12 years, consequently the report was meagre in comparison to what they were accustomed to receive. The year's proceedings commenced with the annual meeting, held at Newcastle, which was well attended. A service was held in St. John's Church, when there was a fairly good congregation. A great deal of interest was shown in the affairs of the association by their clerical friends, who not only became hon. members, but were always ready to forward the interests of the society. The ringing during the day comprised several touches of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major, rung at St. John's, St. Stephen's, and All Saints' Churches. Several 720's were rung at St. John's and All Saints. At a committee meeting held in St. John's vestry, it was arranged that some attempts at peals should be made, and over 2,000 changes rung, the ringers coming from a distance to take part in the same to be paid one-half of their expenses. The report proceeded to deal exhaustively with the returns received from the various ringing centres throughout the two dioceses, Stockton-on-Tees heading the list with surprise methods.

The report was adopted, and a number of new members were elected. The members in the course of the day rang peals from the bells of St. Mary's Church, Lanchester; St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside; Christ Church, Consett; and St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Blackhill. Votes of thanks were unanimously passed to Revs G. H. Ross-Lewin, F. W. Glyn, F. Steggall, and J. Foran for granting the use of their bells.

Rev G. H. ROSS-LEWIN, in acknowledging the compliment, referred to the fact that before long a peal of six bells would be hung in the tower of Tanfield Parish Church. (Applause).

The proceedings then concluded.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "ANNFIELDITE."]

THE COKE TRADE.

The Messrs Dickinson's Coal and Coke Company, Annfield Plain, are making arrangements for increasing their output of coke, by building more ovens. They have recently added some new ovens, which are now in full working order, and still further development is going on.

FOOT-ROADS.

The Highway Board are slow in having the foot-roads in this district put into a good state. We have kerb-stones nearly all around, but the limestone chippings are scant, and the paths very uneven; and, when a shower of rain comes, you have pools of water all along the paths.

SOCIAL TEA.

The members of Mr Philip Reay's class, in connection with the Annfield Plain Primitive Methodist Society, held a sewing meeting supper on Wednesday night last, when there was about £3 taken towards the funds of the new chapel effort.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION.

The Greencroft Board night-school examination, which has just been held, shows the pupils to have done well in their work, and speaks very highly for Mr Mackay, the head master, and his assistant, Mr F. Thompson. Mr Brown was the examiner on this occasion. Results—very good.

WHAT NEXT?

It is said that the master of one of our schools has kept some boys in after school hours, and questioned them about their conduct on Sunday last. What a day-school master has to do with boys during the interval between Friday and Monday puzzles me.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CONSETT—Mount Pleasant, 10th inst., the wife of P. E. Surtees, of a son.

CASTLESIDE—10th inst., the wife of Thos. Pattinson, of twin daughters.

LINTZ GREEN—The Hagg, 18th inst., the wife of J. Pattinson, of a son.

CHESTER-LE-STREET—Ouston House, 13th inst., the wife of J. D. Wilson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

BLACKHILL—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 15th inst., by Rev J. Alderson, Robert Lee, of Blackhill, to Elizabeth Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr J. Urwin, of Highgate.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 10th inst., by Rev J. Alderson, Wilkinson Battinson, of Castleside, to Alice Robson, of Howns Gill.

Primitive Methodist Chapel, 20th inst., by Rev E. Campbell, Matthew Ridley, of Gateshead (lately of Snows Green), to Margaret, second daughter of John Guthrie, Shotley Grove. 781b

WATERHOUSES—Wesleyan Chapel, 8th inst., James Abraham Poole to Annie Alice Morland.

LONDON—Christ Church, Mayfair, 11th inst., by the Rev George Chilton, assisted by Rev Herbert Rowsell, rector of the parish, and Rev George Clowes, rector of Hayes, Alfred Mantle, M.D., of Stanley, Durham, to Edith Frances, daughter of Charles F. Devas, Esq., of Pickhurst Manor, Hayes, Kent.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—East Parade, 15th inst., aged 22, Hannah Mary, wife of Robert T. Peacock.

Buddle Street (at the house of her grandson, John Summerbell), 19th inst., aged 89, Mrs Sarah Dodds, formerley of Hatherwick, Otterburn. Interment on Sunday, at Benfieldside, at Three o'clock. 788b

LEADGATE—Prospect House, 16th inst., aged 70, William Brown.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE—2, Front Street, 8th inst., Ann Wood, widow of the late C. Wood, of Allansford Mill, aged 80.

DIPTON—15th inst., aged 18, Frederick, youngest son of Elizabeth and the late James Turner.

SHIELD ROW—Shield Row Inn, 16th inst., aged 46, Henry, husband of Susannah Heslop.

EAST KYO—14th inst., aged 84, Mary Ann Forster.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES—12th inst., aged 16, Mary, daughter of William Parker.

WHITE-LE-HEAD—17th inst., aged 57, Jane, wife of Daniel Clark.

F[illegible] HILL—18th inst., aged 14, eldest daughter of George and Isabella Cumberledge.

BLACKHILL.—17, Murray Street, aged 58, Emma Berford, the beloved wife of James Vivian. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery on Sunday, at Three o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation. 920b

FROSTERLEY—Broadmoor Farm, 16th inst., Sarah, wife of William Wearmouth.

18th inst., aged 22, William Proud.

PELTON FELL—Dove Cote, 16th inst., aged 69, Richard McLane.

CHESTER-LE-STREET—Butchers' Arms Inn, 12th inst., aged 63, Thomas Smith, late sergeant in the 18th King's Regiment of Foot, husband of Annie Smith.

13th inst., aged 63, Ann, widow of the late Thomas Gibson.

Shafto House (the residence of her son, James Fairley, mining engineer), 14th inst., suddenly, in her 85th year, Isabella, widow of the late Joseph Fairley, colliery manager.

WINLATON—Hanover House, 13th inst., aged 13, Isabella Bagnall Reed, daughter of Joseph Reed.

BIRTLEY—Mount Pleasant, 14th inst., aged 36, Mary Ellen, wife of Benjamin Crozier.

RYTON—Emmaville, 11th inst., aged 51, Mary Ann wife of John Atthey.

Westwood Lodge, 18th inst., aged 73, John Watson.

BLAYDON—1, Marche's Terrace, 18th inst., aged 10 George, son of J. Dodgson.

Stella Road, 19th inst., aged 60, George Daglish.

PERKINS VILLE—17th inst., aged 75, Thomas, husband of Susan Gray.

CULLERCOATS—13th inst., aged 85, Richard Backhouse Close, third son of the late Rev Richard Close, vicar of Hunstanworth.

WASHINGTON, U.S.A.—1st inst., aged 41, Robert, son of the late Robert Dalkin, tailor, of Chester-le-Street.

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