THE BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN THIS DISTRICT IS THE
"CONSETT GUARDIAN,"
Which is Published every Friday Afternoon, and may be had of all Newsagents in Consett and District.
PRICE ONE PENNY.
☞ The *Consett Guardian* contains Leading Articles on Political and Social Subjects, Special London Letter, Our Ladies' Column, Something for Young People, Notes by "Incedo" and "Rambler," a Tale of Thrilling Interest, entitled—"Shaugh Bridge," and a wide range of Local and General News for the week.

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

THE GUARDIAN ATMOSPHERIC
PRINTING WORKS,
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ROBERT JACKSON, PROPRIETOR.
PROGRAMMES, CIRCULARS,
MEMORY CARDS, RULES,
BALANCE SHEETS, INVOICES,
POSTING BILLS,
HAND BILLS,
TRADE CIRCULARS,
AUCTIONEERS' CATALOGUES,
AND ALL KINDS OF PRINTING,
Executed on the Shortest Notice, and with despatch.

No. 1,228 {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, February 22nd, 1884. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

THE INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMPANY advances Money from £5 to £500 to respectable Householders, at a moderate rate of interest and easy payments. Applications personally or by letter (strictly private), 20, Clayton Street East, Newcastle.—Manager, I. TURNER. Business hours, 10 till 5.

MONEY WITHOUT SECURITIES.—The Monetary Advance Company Lends Money from £10 to £500 to respectable householders, farmers, &c., on their own security, at moderate interest and easy repayments. Applications, personal or by letter, receive prompt attention, with the strictest privacy. Offices, Neville Street, (opposite Central Station Hotel), Newcastle-on-Tyne.—H. S. SCOTT, Manager. 539s

MONEY ADVANCED in large and small sums in Town or Country, on Personal and Household Security, Farm Stock, Second Mortgages, Deeds, Life Policies, Building Society or any other Shares or Interest, repayable to suit borrowers' convenience, as may be arranged. Write or call on Agent, Mr. JAS. FROSDICK, Rose Mount, Consett, or direct to M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 54, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (opposite Mr Angus, Coachbuilder.) Established 1860. 696½r

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite Tenders for the execution of the following Works:—

1.—Finding and Setting about 20 Lineal Yards of Kerbing and Channelling.

2.—Excavating, Finding Materials, and Macadamising about 50 Superficial Yards of Roadway.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Office of the Local Board, on and after Saturday, February the 23rd, 1884.

Tenders, addressed to the Consett Local Board, will be received up to 12 o'clock on Wednesday, the 5th March.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.—By order of the Board.

763s THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Jun., Clerk.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

TO PAINTERS.

THE Directors are prepared to receive Tenders for Painting the STATION BUILDINGS, &c., on the CONSETT BRANCH.

Specifications, Quantities, and further information may be obtained on application to Mr. A. R. G. Harrison, the Company's District Engineer, Central Station, Newcastle-on-Tyne, up to the 3rd March.

Sealed Tenders, marked "Tender for Painting," to be sent to the Secretary at York not later than noon on Wednesday, the 5th March.

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

C. N. WILKINSON, Secretary.
York, 11th February, 1884. 709s

Wanted.

BOARD and RESIDENCE offered to Ladies and Gentlemen. A comfortable, quiet Home.—Mrs. J. PROUD, Derwent House, Shotley Bridge. 499s

WANTED, 20 SHARES in the Consett Water Company.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 757s

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL, about 16 or 17 years of age; one that can Milk preferred.—Apply at Westwood House, Ebchester. 750s

BOY WANTED.—A small boy to help Blacksmith, &c. Wages 6d. per day.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett. 733s

WANTED, immediately, APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply at No. 10, Backstone Burn, Benfieldside. 730s

WANTED, a respectable HOUSEKEEPER, to take charge of Three Children.—Apply to Mr. ISAAC LONSDALE, No. 23, Allendale Cottages. 728s

ASSISTED PASSAGES TO QUEENSLAND.—First-class Steamers from Glasgow to Brisbane in April. Passengers Booked, and all Particulars given, on application to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

REGISTRY OFFICE.

LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations. — Apply at MRS. COCKBURN'S Registry, 13, Front Street, Consett. 149p

WANTED, at once, COOKS, HOUSEMAIDS, NURSEMAIDS, and good General SERVANTS.—Apply, Miss SCOTT'S Registry Office for Male and Female Servants, 3, Saville Row, Newcastle.

EMIGRATION TO QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA.

WANTED, 500 Female Domestic Servants, Farm Labourers (married or single). Coal Miners, and all classes of Mechanics. Immediate employment upon arrival, at high wages. Free and assisted passages granted by mail steamers every month.—Apply to Local Agents, J. DALY, 2, Shakespeare St., Consett; or J. HILLARY, Auctioneer, Tow Law

WANTED, Ladies requiring SERVANTS, Male or Female, also NURSES, INVALID NURSES, &c., and Servants good Situations, can be suited daily by applying to Miss PHELAN, Servants' Institute, 75, Clayton Street, Newcastle (formerly with the late Miss Leybourne). Hotels supplied from the Bar to the Kitchen.—Wanted, daily, Cooks, Kitchen and Scullery Maids, House and Kitchen Maids, Head and Under Laundresses. General Servants, &c., &c. 15s

FREE AND ASSISTED PASSAGES TO QUEENSLAND. Five thousand Domestic Servants, Farm Labourers, Miners, Mechanics, and good workmen of all kinds Wanted at once. Immediate employment obtained at highest wages.—Apply to THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT EMIGRATION AGENCY (Chief Office for the District), 96, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD. Passages Booked to Canada, Texas, and all parts of America and Australia at exceedingly low rates. 453s

To Let.

COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS for One or Two Gentlemen.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 744s

TO LET, with immediate possession, a good 5 Roomed HOUSE, at Templetown, Consett.—Apply to WM. RAW, House Agent, Blackhill. 742s

TO LET, a First-class HOUSE, of 7 Rooms, with all necessary Convenience, situate in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, and now in the occupation of Mr. G. HAWDON.—Apply on the Premises. 743s

TO LET, with immediate possession, a good SHOP and DWELLING-HOUSE, with Stable, &c., situate at 62, Derwent Street, Blackhill (next door to the Post Office).—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Blackhill, or to ROBERT OXLEY, Blackhill. 721s

LANCHESTER.—TO LET, a commodious DWELLING-HOUSE of Seven Rooms, with Stable and Coach House, Vinery and Garden; pleasantly situate, and near the Railway Station. To a good Tenant, Rent moderate.—Apply to FRANCIS LOCKEY, 14, Market Place, Durham. 720s

TO BE LET, LOW WOODSIDE FARM, in the Parish of Lanchester, containing 190 Acres or thereabouts, of which 40 Acres are Arable, and the remainder in Grass. This Farm is two miles from Consett Iron Works, and one-and-a-half mile from the Village of Leadgate, at which place any quantity of milk can be sold, and is one mile from Knitsley Station, on the N.E. Railway.—Thomas Sedgewick, at the farm, will show the boundaries, and offers in writing will be received by Mr BALLENY, Greencroft, Consett. 759s

For Sale.

FOR SALE, an APPROPRIATION of £200 in the Shotley Bridge Starr-Bowkett Building Society.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

FOR SALE, a Chestnut PONY, 14½ h.h.—Apply to W. ELLISON, Front Street, Leadgate. 729s

FOR SALE, 10 Young PIGS.—Apply to H. HERDMAN, Morrowfield, near Ebchester.

FOR SALE, a Sow PIG, due to pig in a fortnight.—Apply to 50, Plantation Street, Leadgate. 740s

FOR SALE, cheap, a Small STACK OF WELL-WON HAY.—Apply to J. BEATTIE, Consett Junction. 727s

FOR SALE, a good Blue-grey COW, due March 5th. Also, 5 good BULLOCKS.—Apply to T. STEPHENSON, Upper Houses, Lanchester. 746s

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a Handsome Sow PIG. Second Litter. Time up in 14 days.—Apply to CHARLES McCARTNEY, 182, Green Street, Leadgate. 735s

BUILDING SITES FOR SALE, at Maiden Law.—Apply to WM. W. BROWN, Howdon Bank, near Lanchester. 682s

HARMONIUM FOR SALE, good case and tone.—Apply to HENRY BLOOMFIELD, South Medomsley Cottages, Dipton. 701s

FOR SALE, a SHORT-HORNED COW: fourth Calf; due in a few days. Also, a LITTER of YOUNG PIGS, two months old.—Apply at Westwood House, Ebchester. 749s

SEED OATS FOR SALE.—Black Tartar Oats, grown originally from Hallett's Pedigree Stock, 24s. per quarter.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Farm Bailiff, Woodlands, Consett. 734s

FOR SALE, a Splendid AMERICAN "BELL" ORGAN, suitable for Church or Chapel, containing 12 Stops, Grand Organ, and Knee Swell.—Apply at the Office of this Paper. 649s

FOR SALE, RIDING SADDLES and BRIDLES HORSE CLOTHING, GIG APRONS CLIPPING MACHINES, and SINGING LAMPS.—THOMAS OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

VALUABLE FREEHOLD BUILDING SITES FOR SALE, overlooking the proposed New Park, situate at Mount Pleasant, Consett.—Apply to Messrs. JOHN SMITH & SON, Shotley Bridge; or Mr. WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Middle Street, Consett. 451r

AN IMPORTANT FACT!

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THE DIRECTORS of the SHOTLEY BRIDGE TOWN HALL BUILDING COMPANY, Limited, are prepared to receive and consider OFFERS FOR THE SALE of the TOWN HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Offers to be sent on or before the 31st March next, to the Secretary (Mr. J. KIRSOPP), Shotley Bridge, who will show the Premises.

13th February, 1884. 700s

FOR SALE, an unlimited supply of PIANOFORTES, in Black and Gold, Walnut, and Rosewood Cases, by English and Foreign Makers, on our SPECIAL HIRE SYSTEM, from 50s. per quarter for three years, when the Instrument becomes the Property of the Hirer. Every Instrument warranted for seven years. HARMONIUMS from 10s. 6d. per month, on the same system.—DAWSON & Co., Pianoforte and Harmonium Warehouse, and Music Sellers, 1 and Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

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VALUABLE ANCIENT COPYHOLD LAND AT LANCHESTER.

ALL those FIELDS of GRASS LAND, situate near Lanchester, containing together 19 acres 2 roods 22 perches, or thereabouts, in the occupation of Mr. John Buckham, as Tenant.

The Land is situate within a short distance of the village of Lanchester, and may be let most advantageously as accommodation land. A mill race runs through the centre of the land, and a small burn runs on the north side of it.

The Land can be inspected on application to the Tenant, Mr. BUCKHAM; and all offers are to be made in writing to, and further particulars obtained of, Mr. H. J. MARSHALL, Solicitor, 25, Market Place, Durham, where a Plan can be seen. 641s

Business Announcements.

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GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
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HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.

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

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STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER,
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ACCOUNT BOOKS, DIARIES, POCKET BOOKS, BIRTH-DAY CARDS, And STATIONERY of every Description in Stock.

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☞ TO SHEEP FARMERS AND OTHERS.

T. MILNER, Chemist, Consett, wishes to draw the attention of the above to Messrs. NESS & CO.'S CONCENTRATED TAR ELIXIR SHEEP DIP, which is one of the Cheapest and Best Dippings for Sheep or Cattle ever discovered, and received the Prize Medal at the Amsterdam Exhibition, 1883. Sole Agent for Consett, Benfieldside, and the surrounding district,

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,
DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, opposite the Post Office CONSETT.

Price 2s. 6d. per quart; 4s per half gallon; 7s. 6d. per gallon. One gallon sufficient for 100 Sheep.

"Hylton, Southwick, Sunderland,
"September 23rd, 1880.

"I beg to inform you that after having used your Sheep Dip for two seasons, I can with confidence recommend it, as it improves the quality of the wool, and keeps the sheep clear of maggots. J. RENNOLDSON.

"Agent for Major Briggs, of Hylton Castle, R. L. Pemberton, of Hawthorn, &c., &c."

N.B.—T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S Hexham SHEEP DIP, McDOUGALL'S, COOPER'S, BIGG'S, MORRIS'S, LITTLE & Co.'s, WILSON and KITCHEN'S, &c.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

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OILS, PAINTS AND COLOURS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Numerous testimonials have been received for Milner's Dandelion and Podophyllyn Pills, Blood Purifying Mixture, Quinine and Iron Tonic, &c. Finest New Season's Cod Liver Oil.

Agent for LAMONT'S Chest Protectors, Magnetic Belts, and Appliances of every description.

SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

Balsamic Cough Mixture, an excellent remedy for Coughs, Colds, Influenza, and all diseases of the Chest and Throat. Dr. Coffin's Composition Powder and Composition Essence. Homœopathic Medicines in great variety. 494s

Business Announcements.

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STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

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HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

TRY J. GOODFELLOW,
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For the Best Value in
MEN'S OVERCOATS, at 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 16s. 11d., 19s. 9d., 22s. 6d., &c.
BOYS' OVERCOATS, from 4s. 11d., 5s. 6d., &c.
BOYS' SUITS, from 2s. 7½d., 2s. 9d., 3s. 11d., &c.
MEN'S HEAVY TWEED SUITS, from 16s. 11d., 19s. 9d., 21s., &c.
MEN'S BLACK WORSTED SUITS, Well-made and Bound, 22s. 6d., 26s. 6d., &c.
MEN'S TWEED TROUSERS, from 2s. 11d. MOLESKINS, from 3s. 11d.
CHEAP CALICOES, HOLLANDS, FLANNELS, SHIRTINGS, WINCIES, &c.
CHOICE MILLINERY, Lowest Prices in the District.
605s A TRIAL SOLICITED!

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR
HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW,
SHOULD USE THE
"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.
IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.
PREPARED ONLY BY
JOHN HUME AND SONS
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
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BEST VALUE IN DRESSES AND DRAPERIES.
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BEST VALUE IN SHIRTS AND HOSIERY.
BEST VALUE IN SMALLWARES.
BEST VALUE IN WOOLS.
BEST VALUE IN YARNS.

N.B.—DONALD BAIN SUPPLIES SHOPS, DRESSMAKERS, CLOTHING CLUBS, MOTHERS' MEETINGS, DORCAS SOCIETIES, AND OTHERS ENGAGED IN THE DRAPERY TRADE AT THE LOWEST GLASGOW, MANCHESTER, AND LONDON WHOLESALE PRICES.

N.B.—Mr. MATTHEW WILLEY, Iveston Road, Leadgate (late with GEORGE HAWDON, Rate Collector), will be happy to wait upon you, on receipt of Post Card, and submit Patterns and Prices of our well-known Dress and Drapery Goods. All Parcels forwarded at once, CARRIAGE PAID! 99s

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"Castle GRAND" SCOTCH WHISKY Fine Highland Malt Whisky—Very old 10 *per cent under proof*	3/6	42/
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Each Bottle should bear W & A Gilbey's Gold Label and Capsule with Patent Seal on Cork as in margin, and Signature on side of Cork thus— W & A Gilbey

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

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J. McINTOSH,
(Cutter for the late Mr. T. S. Atkinson, of Consett),
HAS REMOVED his Business to JESSAMINE COTTAGE, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL.
☞ ALL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION

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☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

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PROFITS are divided every three years.

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☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK, SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

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So do not any longer wait
But go at once and take a look.
At all the goods therein displayed,
In quality—both rich and rare—
And this much may at least be said,—
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Examine well, the prices note,
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Cooke's Suits are noted near and far,
A ready sale they must command
For neatness, elegance, and wear,
Are they renowned throughout the land.
Some hundreds have been sold, and still
Their sale increases day by day,
For suits like these they must, and will
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If then you want a useful Suit
Or Draperies of any kind;
Go to Cooke's shop and I've no doubt,
Full satisfaction you will find.

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PHARMACY,
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PURE CHEMICALS OF ALL KINDS IN STOCK.

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☞ ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

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HARVEY STREET, MEDOMSLEY ROAD,
CONSETT. 482s

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HALF-DOZEN CARDE-DE-VISITES AND ONE CABINET FOR 3s. 6d. SPLENDID FINISH.

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

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UMBRELLAS COVERED AND REPAIRED ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

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

☞ Note the Address:—ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. Dealer in Steamship Shares. 752q

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THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND FOR CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATED GOODS, CUTLERY, AND FANCY GOODS, IS

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RESPECTFULLY announce that they have commenced Business as above, and as they intend to conduct their Business in a straightforward manner and at Moderate Terms, they hope to secure a share of public patronage.

☞ All Orders left at either Address will be promptly attended to. 691q

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CELEBRATED
FELT 2s. 6d. HAT,
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SUPERIOR DENTISTRY AND REASONABLE CHARGES.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH from 3s. to 5s.; complete Upper or Lower Sets, containing 14 teeth, 30s. to 50s.; a perfect fit; and all work guaranteed and warranted for five years.

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FURNITURE AND HARDWARE SOLD UPON THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM.

DISCOUNT 2s. IN THE POUND FOR CASH ONLY

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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, February 22nd, 1884.

TAXATION AND REPRESENTATION.

The *Times* of Monday last contained a letter from a correspondent on the subject of the reduction of the county franchise. The writer of this communication showed by the example of the village in which he himself resided, that the effect of establishing household suffrage in counties would be to transfer effective political power from the classes who bear the bulk of public burdens to other classes who bear only a small proportion of these, and who are likely to become chargeable on public funds to a greater extent than they contribute to them. The figures upon which this induction was based were no doubt significant; but we doubt whether they afford anything like an exceptional illustration of the effect of reducing the county franchise. The information afforded by such figures seems to have been a revelation to the leading journal, judging from the prominence which it gave to the letter containing them; but politicans of both parties already knew full well what would be the general effect of household suffrage in the counties—namely, that it would, even far more than in the boroughs, interfere with the supposed constitutional connection between taxation and representation. Conservatives have used this consideration as an argument against reducing the county franchise; while Liberals have treated it as not of the slightest consequence. If the new school of Parliamentary Reformers take any account at all of contribution to public burdens as a qualification for the franchise, it is only to contend that the poor man's payment of pence in taxation should be considered as good a qualification as the rich man's payment of pounds, since the former equally with the latter pays according to his means. It is too late now to come forward with the discovery, that a farm labourer who at the best of times contributes an insignificant amount to general or local taxation, and who in adversity becomes a burden on the taxpayers of his neighbourhood, will by the proposed Ministerial measure obtain the same voice in public affairs as his contantly and heavily tax-paying employer. That is just the effect which the measure is advisedly intended to have; and we should have thought that the leading journal ought to have discerned this before it lent its influential support to the movement for household suffrage in counties. But, through its correspondent's letter, the *Times* has now offered to the country a notable device for preventing the transference of electoral power to ever-potential paupers. This plan is no other than to make membership of a benefit society a necessary ingredient in the qualification of electors, or at least of rural electors not possessing a certain amount of property qualification. To propose such a new condition on borough electors would now be preposterously out of question; and as the principle of the Government measure is the equalization of the county and the borough franchise, the imposition of a special and peculiar qualification in the counties would not be admissible. But even if this preliminary objection did not present itself, the suggested qualification would be found impracticable. To disfranchise a man who becomes a burden on the rates, or who even fails to contribute his small modicum to them, is a simple and practical matter; but it would be far otherwise to insist that every voter should make provision in a specific manner against the contingency of distress. Benefit Societies are doubtless very excellent institutions, and it might be well if the State gave them more encouragement, even to the extent of aiding them by capitation grants, but it is not within the province of the State to coerce a man into any particular manner of investing his savings, or even into saving at all. To the State, the man who expends his spare cash on beer and tobacco is probably a more effective tax-contributor than the abstemious and thrifty man. But if the humble toiler prefers the Post Office savings-bank, or any other means of investment, to a benefit society, why should the State attempt to influence his choice unduly in favour of the latter. Thrift in any shape ought to be treated as equally meritorious; but it would be impracticable to make its general recognition the basis of Parliamentary and local suffrage. It is only practicable to make a disqualification of the obvious and public evidence of unthrift afforded by pauperism. "Fancy franchises" are entirely out of date; and if any countenance were given to their revival, a bewildering variety of them would at once be presented for the consideration of a perplexed legislator. If it is expedient to extend the suffrage, it must be done on the old lines; and the only question for practical discussion is whether such extension is expedient.

There has been a good deal of interest lately in the political crisis in Norway. Some curious misconceptions as to the real state of affairs seem to prevail in this country. For instance, it is supposed that the King is maintaining the Constitution against the Republicans. So high and dry is Norwegian Conservatism, that any man who ventures to differ from it is called a Republican; but, as a matter of fact, though there are some rather wild theorists in Norway as in every country, there is no real Republican sentiment, and nothing resembling a Republican organisation. The truth is that the King has been trying a little arbitrary rule. According to the Constitution, he is entitled to veto a measure submitted by the Storthing, or House of Representatives; but this veto is only suspensory, and if the legislators stick to their bill they are entitled to pass it. Now the majority of the Storthing have come to the conclusion that the King's Ministers should be members of their House, and should be responsible to them. They have passed a bill to that effect; but the King has thought fit to veto it absolutely on the ground that the Storthing are not entitled to reform the Constitution without his consent. This is simply an evasion; for there is nothing in the Constitution declaring that it shall not be reformed if the Storthing think fit. This attempt on the part of the King to turn his suspensory veto into an absolute veto has naturally been much resented, especially as the King's Ministers represent the party which is not dominant in the Storthing. This is a very simple issue, and no Englishman, be he Liberal or Conservative, can have any difficulty in deciding that the essence of Parliamentary Government demands that the Storthing should insist on the responsibility of the Ministry. To represent the Norwegian popular party as Republicans is a very sorry device, which is not sustained by a single fact. The whole country is loyal to the Constitution, which would not be in the smallest danger were it not for the obstinacy of the King and his advisers. Unfortunately, social distinctions are very strong in Norway. The wealthier classes regard themselves as the salt of society, and everybody beneath them in station as unfit to associate with respectability. This feeling has much to do with the attitude of the minority on this constitutional question. It may be hoped that so childish a sentiment will not be allowed to interfere with the development of one of the most interesting countries in Europe.

The Irish members have got another grievance. Mr. Healy complained in the House of Commons that foot-and-mouth disease had been introduced into Ireland by the favouritism of the Castle officials. It may generally be taken for granted that every evil in Ireland is to be traced to the Castle. If a comet fell and burnt up half the island, Mr. Healy would have no difficulty in shewing that the fiery visitor was brought down by Lord Spencer's minions. This time it seems that the foot-and-mouth disease was brought into Ireland by Lord Carbery's bull. Mr. Trevelyan explained that "animals intended for breeding purposes were, at the time referred to, admitted by licence, under stringent regulations as to which the Veterinary Department was responsible. As he stated, in reply to inquiries on this subject last Session, there was no reason to suppose that the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Ireland was due to the admission of Lord Carbery's bull. There was, on the contrary, every reason to believe that it was caused by infection brought to Dublin by drovers or dealers who had attended markets in affected districts in Lancashire." This, it is needless to say, did not satisfy Mr. Healy. He means to draw attention to "the favouritism shewn by the authorities in Dublin Castle in admitting into Ireland Lord Carbery's bull, by which the farmers of the country had been nearly ruined." Irish bulls have hitherto been associated in the Saxon mind with a harmless kind of pleasantry, but Lord Carbery's bull is a very serious animal. It is likely to become historic, and future chroniclers of the struggles of Irishmen for freedom will tell in words of scathing scorn how the British Ministry, which had pretended to take a great interest in the welfare of Irish farmers, allowed them to fall a prey to the devastation caused by the servility of the Castle to an Irish aristocrat. We do not know whether Lord Carbery is an absentee landlord; but it would have been a distinct benefit for the Union if his bull had been an absentee.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Lords, Lord CARLINGFORD introduced the Cattle Disease Bill, which was read a first time.

In the House of Commons Mr P. RYLANDS gave notice that he would call the attention of the House to the subject of national expenditure with reference to a resolution of last year, and would ask what steps were being taken to carry it out. In reply to Mr Northcote, Mr FAWCETT said the system of taking a single payment in cash for the postage of circulars and letters, which formerly existed only in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh, had recently been extended to several provincial towns. He thought there were serious objections to its extension to all country towns, but he would be glad to consider whether other towns could not be included in the arrangement. Mr S. LEFEVRE, in answer to Mr Rylands, said it was a fact that in consequence of gross breaches of duty, if not something worse, in connection with public contracts at the office of works, he had felt it his painful duty to dismiss four of the officials. Mr GLADSTONE replying to Sir E. Lechmere, said the Porte had expressed a wish to effect an exchange of views with the Government on Egyptian affairs, with a view to arriving at a complete understanding on the subject, and Musurus Pasha had been requested to make a sketch of the basis on which such a proposal should rest. Mr BOURKE asked if General Gordon was executing the orders of Her Majesty's Government, or the Sultan, or the Khedive. Had the Government any commission from the Sultan? Mr GLADSTONE said Her Majesty's Government had no commission from the Sultan with reference to the Soudan. Her Majesty's Government was not in any way touching upon the rights the Sultan might have in Egypt. Sir WILFRED LAWSON then resumed the debate on the vote of censure by moving his amendment, which was seconded by Mr LABOUCHERE, and opposed by Mr GLADSTONE on behalf of the Government.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords some bills were read a second time. Earl GRANVILLE, replying to Lord Ellenborough, said there would be a considerable addition made to the police force in consequence of the number of men placed in charge of public buildings. His Lordship also answered questions with reference to the publication of papers relating to the crisis in Egypt.

In the House of Commons, Sir JOHN HAY gave notice that on Monday next he will move an addition to Sir Stafford Northcote's motion of censure on the Government in regard to their Egyptian policy—the addition being to the effect that the fall of Sinkat and the massacre of the garrison was due to the apathy and neglect of Her Majesty's Ministers. In answer to a question, Mr TREVELYAN said the entire number of appeals from the decisions of the Sub-Commissioners under the Irish Land Act had been 12,869, of which 4,223 had been disposed of. Replying to the member for Hertford, Mr GLADSTONE said the cost of the expedition to Egypt, so far as the despatch of British officers and troops was concerned, would fall upon this country. He had no information as to who would bear the charge of General Gordon's journey, which was a separate matter. Mr JOHN MORLEY resumed the debate on the motion of censure. Petitions in favour of the absolute repeal of the C.D. Acts were presented by Mr C. M. Palmer, from Wesleyan congregations at Shotley Bridge (2), Blanchland, South Moor, and Tanfield Lea, and by Sir F. Herschell from Wesleyan congregations at Framwellgate and Durham.

MONDAY.

In the House of Lords, Earl GRANVILLE stated that the exact terms of the proclamation issued by General Gordon at Khartoum had not yet been received by the Government, but he did not believe that that officer would take any step calculated in the long run to promote the slave trade. A motion by the Earl of DUNRAVEN, condemnatory of the conduct of the Irish Executive in removing Lord Rossmore from the Commission of the Peace in consequence of his action in connection with the recent Orange and Nationalist demonstrations in Ulster, was, after discussion, withdrawn.

In the House of Commons, the newly-elected members for Paisley and West Somerset took their seats. Mr GLADSTONE made a statement similar to that of Earl Granville in regard to the proclamation alleged to have been issued by General Gordon. Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, who supported the Government, resumed the debate on the Vote of Censure. He was followed by Mr MARIOTT, who, speaking from the Liberal benches, announced his intention of voting for the motion, and of immediately thereafter applying for the Chiltern Hundreds in order that he might submit his action in so doing to the judgment of his constituents. The discussion, in which Lord John Manners, Mr Childers, and others participated, was once more adjourned.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, questions were answered with reference to General Gordon's proclamation, Russia and Merv, and the defence of Suakim. The Cattle Diseases Bills and the Law of Evidence (Amendment) Bill were read a second time.

In the House of Commons, Mr VILLIERS STUART gave notice to ask the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether the lives of 29,000 men, besides women and children depend on the success of General Gordon's mission. Whether premature discussion would endanger his success and weaken his authority, and whether Her Majesty's Government will exercise their influence in Parliament to check premature discussion: and by Mr DILLWYN of a resolution in favour of the disestablishment of the Church of England in Wales. In reply to Mr A Bartlett, Lord E. FITZMAURICE said the Sultan had not expressed his assent to the withdrawal from the Soudan, but it was being made without any derogation of his soverign rights. In reply to Mr KENNARD, who asked whether the terms of General Gordon's proclamation to the Soudanese as reported in the papers of to-day are in conformity with the instructions given him by Her Majesty's Government, especially in regard to the uninterrupted facilities to be accorded to the hunters and dealers of slaves. Mr GLADSTONE said he had not received a copy of the proclamation, but no proceedings would be so much out of keeping with the purpose of General Gordon's mission and the instructions given him as those indicated in the question. Sir S. NORTHCOTE asked whether the Government can now give an explanation of the proclamation stated to have been made at Khartoum by General Gordon—whether that proclamation was made by the authority of Her Majesty's Government, and whether General Gordon's instructions were intended to cover a proclamation granting permission to carry on the slave trade? Mr GLADSTONE said the only objection he had to giving an explanation was that until the Government were in possession of the details the explanation must necessarily be a conjectory explanation between slavery in the Soudan and slavery generally. The House would find a very full and material distinction in the book which was called "General Gordon in the Soudan." He thought particularly between pages 334 and 354 of that book they would find an admirable illustration of what he had stated. He thought it was stated in the book that a large portion of the population of the Soudan were in a state of slavery, which had been the subject of legislative consideration, and was under a distinct guarantee of the law until 1889 in the Soudan. In reply to Mr Parnell, Mr GLADSTONE stated that the debate on the Irish members' amendment to the Address would be resumed to-morrow. Mr A. Bartlett resumed the vote of censure.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr GLADSTONE, replying to Mr Villiers Stuart, said he had no power to prevent a premature discussion on General Gordon's mission. The adjourned debate on Mr Parnell's amendment to the Address, condemning the Irish Executive for having incited illegal acts and disorder in Ireland, was resumed by Mr O'CONNOR POWER, who pointed out that the amendment accused the Irish Executive with having incited illegal acts, disorder, and violence in Ireland, but to that he did not agree. He denied the right of the Parnellites to the designation of the National Party, and insisted that they did not represent the feelings of the people of that country. He severely censured the action of the member for Cork and his party, but he made some excuse for the hon. member by saying that he was surrounded and urged on by certain lieutenants who hoped to arrive at a similar prominence to that he occupied. He objected to the policy of the Nationalists ever since the introduction of the Land Act into Parliament. Mr HEALY defended the action of the National Party in Ireland, and said the amendment of Mr Parnell was justified by the action of the Irish Executive as regarded Lord Rossmore and the treatment of the Roman Catholics, because it had brought about illegal acts, disorder, and violence in Ireland. Lord LYMINGTON supported and justified the Government, and said the Orangemen had shown by their conduct their utter inability to maintain social order. The discussion was continued by Lord G. Hamilton, Mr Justin McCarthy, Mr McCartney, and the debate was adjourned.

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THE DURHAM COKE TRADE.—Owing to Messrs Bell Bros. blowing out one of their blast furnaces at Port Clarence, it will cause 600 tons of coke less per week to be sent from Page Bank, Browney, and Tursdale Collieries, all of which are owned by Messrs Bell Bros.

THE SPEAKER.—On the occasion of his retirement from the office of Speaker, Sir Henry Brand will be asked to accept a presentation from members of Parliament. This will take the form of a portrait of the retiring Speaker for presentation to Lady Brand.

POSTAL MONEY ORDER CHANGES.—The Post-master-General notifies in Tuesday night's *Gazette* the new regulations respecting postal money orders. From the 2nd of June next orders for sums of 12s 6d, and 17s 6d, will be discontinued, but new orders for sums of 2s, 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, 4s 6d, and 10s 6d, will be issued. The poundage on orders for 10s 6d, to £1 will be reduced from 2d to 1½d.

DR. BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For eradicating 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.

"ADVICE TO DYSPEPTICS."—Symptoms of Dyspepsia and Indigestion, with special advice as to Diet.—This little pamphlet appeals *forcibly* to those who have allowed the palate to decide everything for them, and have paid the inevitable penalty of their folly."—*Globe*. Sent for one stamp. J. M. RICHARDS, Publisher, 92, Great Russell Street, London.

ECKELAER'S ROSE SOAP.—The best for the Toilet.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in the search for a Cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgic Pains, you are hereby directed to obtain of any chemist POWELL'S RHEUMATIC EMBROCATION. Its extraordinary efficacy has been attested by Earl Clarendon, Lady Waldegrave, the Countess of Radnor, General Wood, and many other eminent persons. It is for external application only. Sold in bottles, at 1/1½ and 2/9, by all Chemists.

"FOR ASTHMA, HAY FEVER, AND CATARRH.—Himrod's CURE was employed under the highest medical sanction in the case of the late Earl of Beaconsfield. The medicine from which his lordship found most comfort and relief was Himrod's Powder. The fumes are inhaled by the patient, and at once afford relief."—*Per Tin, 4s. Sample Free.* J. M. RICHARDS, 92 and 93, Great Russell Street, London.

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"BRIGHT'S DISEASE AND LIVER COMPLAINT.—The 'HOLMAN PAD' has a national reputation through its wonderful efficacy in all ailments that have their origin in a torpid liver or diseased kidneys, and is endorsed by thousands of earnest, intelligent witnesses, who will tell you that the 'HOLMAN PAD' is a cure for these diseases. Read the pamphlet entitled 'Nature's Laws,' sent free to any address. Holman Pad Co., 92, Great Russell Street, London." Price of Holman Pad, 10s.

"GET A BOTTLE TO-DAY OF PERRY DAVIS' PAIN KILLER.—It instantly relieves and cures severe scalds, burns, sprains, bruises, toothache, headache, pains in the side, joints, and limbs, all neuralgic and rheumatic pains. Taken internally cures at once coughs, sudden colds, cramp in stomach, colic, diarrhœa, and cholera infantum. PAIN KILLER is the great household medicine, and has stood the test of 50 years. Any chemist can supply it at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d."

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"BEEF-TEA FOR INVALIDS.—DELACRE'S EXTRACT OF BEEF is the best for beef tea, soups, gravies, stock, flavouring and general use, and has been adopted by the Red Cross Association and Medical Board of the English Army. Its absolute purity certified by Prof. Attfield, of the Phar. Soc. Its strength equal to double quantity of other Extracts of Beef. Five prize medals awarded. Sample jars by Parcels Post on receipt of 1s. 9d. Depôt: 93, Great Russell Street, London."

SPECIAL LONDON LETTER.

Again, the first effect of an agitation at all likely to be beneficial to the Conservatives is to shew the Conservatives incapable of benefiting. The Union of Conservative Associations makes Lord Randolph Churchill its president, which is an act of mutiny against Sir Stafford Northcote, and next day there are complaints against Conservative leadership on all hands. Lord Folkestone asks the Conservatives for a policy. Next morning the secretary of the Manchester Conservative Association writes to point out that the "Dual Control" is useless to produce a policy, and is paralysing Conservatism in the constituencies. "A Dual Control inevitably involves continual hesitation, for one leader cannot define a clear issue without a perpetual deference to his colleague, or without the danger of compromising him. Hence the recourse to criticism only. Lord Beaconsfield, if I may be allowed to say so, owed his power neither to his prudent reserve at times nor to his impetuous courage at others, but to the fact that he could decide the policy of the party. The party believed in his capacity and power just as the Liberal party believes in Mr. Gladstone, who has only to speak to find his words at once echoed on every Liberal platform and in every Liberal newspaper. There is no pretence for saying that a leader sufficiently strong and courageous is not available. The constituencies, if it be thought right that they should do so, are quite willing to proclaim him in unmistakeable terms; but it would be better if the decision were made elsewhere." In other words, Lord Salisbury is wanted. Then you would get policy indeed and rash policy too.

Mr. John Morley is the Apostle of Calm.' His powerful individuality is making itself felt in the House of Commons because he is always consistent and always has the courage of his opinions, and he speaks out plainly. Are there murders in Ireland? Then Mr. John Morley would have us harden our hearts and thicken our skins, cease to be sensitive and imitate the great calm Republic of the West, where nobody cares about the murders in Kentucky. Do the Boers want to steal the farms of the Bechuanas, and to make the natives part of a Republic which denies to Blacks the right to hold land? We are to remember that Dutchmen are capable of managing their own affairs, and not intervene. Do we talk of Australia? Mr. Morley is quite calm in pointing out that, at the first war, Australia will secede. Speak of Sinkat and Tokar and it is no concern of ours. The Eastern Question is no concern of ours. Egypt has unhappily been made our concern; but we should try to wash our hands of it. The only thing political that is a concern of ours, except in a philosophical sense, is the Franchise Bill. Mr. John Morley's speech on Friday night was too much of an essay; but it was very striking, and it was the speech of the night; and Mr. Gladstone's cheers given to it were very significant.

Baron de Worms has discovered a policy for his party. Let the Government, he says, establish "a proper and civilised Government in the Soudan." What is a proper and civilised Government? General Gordon's aim is to restore the Sultans who formerly ruled the country. This is the only course that can be taken; but whether the government thus established can be called civilised, seems open to question.

It is refreshing to observe how the foreign correspondents of the *Times* take their cue from Printing House-square. The *Times* inveighs against the Egyptian policy of the Government, and promptly there come from all the capitals of Europe telegrams echoing its aggressive sentiments. The correspondents discover that Europe thinks exactly like the *Times*. Even at Madrid, where one does not usually look for any opinion that is worth having, it is found that the press is sarcastic about Mr. Gladstone. As for Berlin, there has been no limit to the scorn and disgust of the Prussian journals as interpreted by the *Times'* correspondent. But that gentleman has made an unpleasant discovery. The semi-official *North German Gazette*, the personal organ of Prince Bismarck, suddenly changed its tone about Mr. Gladstone. Deep is the disappointment of the agent of Printing House-square. "As this is the first time, to my knowledge, that the *North German Gazette* has ever written a kindly word of Mr. Gladstone and his Government, I am inclined to look with suspicion on this mysterious Press manœuvre, as it is called here. There is always an *arrière-pensée* in the inspired effusions of the mouthpiece of the German Foreign Office." So rage against Mr. Gladstone is German statesmanship; but rational writing about him is a "Press manœuvre." The only really patriotic expression for a German is to thank heaven that his country is not governed by the British Premier.

Lord Cairns will probably vote, if he gets the chance, for Colonel Makins's Breach of Promise of Marriage Bill. It is very short, sharp, and to the point. It has no preamble of "Whereases," and, therefore, it goes straight to the mark. Here is the whole bill: "Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: 1. From and after the passing of this Act no person shall be entitled to maintain an action in respect of the breach of a promise to marry: provided always that this shall not apply to any action commenced before the passing of this Act." We could not have anything terser. But the House of Commons will not carry the measure while Miss Finney's case is pending. That case is likely to make breach of promise actions almost popular again.

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

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." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may, perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice.—Yours faithfully, GORDON HOLMES, M.D., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary."

NEWCASTLE CARRIAGES FOR THE COLONIES.—Following up their success at Amsterdam, Messrs. Atkinson and Philipson, local carriage manufacturers, are exhibiting specimens of their work at Calcutta. Their export trade has recently been exceptionally good, and there are signs of a considerable increase. The majority of foreign orders received by the firm of late years have been from residents at the Cape, but we are glad to learn that their Indian business, which some years ago was pretty brisk, is again setting in. Their shipping orders for the week ending February 16th include three carriages for India (one of their handsome sporting dogcarts, a Sparkinhoe, and a Whitechapel), and one for Natal (an elegant sociable phæton), to the order of a Goverment official resident in that colony. Their Indian carriages are shipped from London, the above going by P. and O. steamer, and their African orders from Liverpool or Birkenhead per Clan Company's vessels.

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.*)

TRIENNIAL ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—In your report of the Guardians, meeting at Lanchester on Thursday, the 14th inst., in the discussion upon Triennial Elections of Guardians, I am reported to have said that not one in a dozen goes to a place of worship. What I said was that not one in a dozen who goes to a place of worship will stay to read these notices posted up at church and chapel doors, and that they ought to be posted in other public places as well, where they will be more readily observed and read by the general public. By inserting this in your next issue of the *Consett Guardian* you will greatly oblige.—Yours truly,

THOS. SIDDELL.

Viewfield, Benfieldside, Feb. 16th, 1884.

A WORD TO LOCAL BOARD ELECTORS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—As the time is drawing near for the annual "Local Board Election" it ought to be a question of interest to the electors to send proper men to the Board "to manage our local affairs." I think the present Board is not likely to give satisfaction, as some at least of their proceedings are manifestly unfair. Perhaps, sir, I can best show some of this unfairness by referring to the conduct of the Board in the case of Mr Hall's property which is situated in Middle and Havelock Streets respectively. The Board by the Inspector requested Mr Hall to abate a nuisance in the yard, the entrance to which is by a passage in Middle Street, and after some delay Mr Hall did as he no doubt thinks abate the nuisance. He caused the yard and passage to be flagged, the privy to be removed, and a water closet put in its place, and now the yard is ordinarily as clean as any other yard. Certainly there is not now a nuisance. But, sir, somehow the Board is not yet satisfied, or was not at last Board meeting, at which time the improvement had all been made. At that meeting, some of the members standing I fancy on their dignity, declared Mr Hall to be treating them with contempt. And why? Because he does not fall down and scatter some out-buildings at their superior command.

Now, sir, I will just compare the yard referred to with some other yards in the Local Board district. I will not select all the worst but some yards that are supposed to be very fair, and certainly no nuisance, at least the Board must think that, or else notice would have been served on themselves. 1st. Take a property at one side of Melbourne Street. That property has two yards for at least twelve tenants. There, sir, the yards are not so good as Mr Hall's in proportion to the number of tenants. The yards are not flagged they; have privies in them and not waterclosets, and I have myself, seen the liquid filth oozing through the midden walls running across the flags into the channel. Neither of these yards are as good as Mr Hall's in proportion to the number of tenants that uses them. I have also been told of some property on the other side of that street, that has little if any convenience at all attached to it, and I know that in Raglan Street there is property so utterly without convenience that they have to cross a street—a public street—with their refuse and put it without law or leave into the midden that Mr Hall's tenants uses, but they never do anything towards cleaning it out. Take next, the first four shops and houses on the west side of Shakespeare Street, and their accommodation is not so good as Mr Hall's by far. The way, sir, it occurs to me, that there is a large building which the Inspector must have passed lately. One of the shops has not only no convenience, but no back door, and whatever refuse the place makes has to be carried across Middle Street, and deposited in somebody else's midden. This, too, in Middle Street, where the Town Hall is built, and where the Market is going to be built; and at one end of which is the Church and the other the fountain. Surely our local legislators should have served us better than that, and that is not the only shop in Middle Street where the refuse has to be carried across the street. Why that sort of thing is not considered a nuisance I do not know. There are still more places both in Middle Street, in Front Street, in Victoria Street, and in all the streets in the place very near, except the streets that have been built lately, where there is less accommodation and places less cleanly and less conducive to health. I am sure that Mr Hall's yard is; and yet the Lords of our local Parliament continue to pursue their hectoring and badgering policy of demanding some to enlarge their conveniences; while others with less convenience are allowed to go on their way untroubled. Surely, sir, we elected these men to attend to the sanitary well-being of the place, and to administer to the general welfare of all classes without favour or distinction. But have they done it? No; not if what I have stated here is true. And I am quite satisfied that if any unprejudiced person will visit the places I have referred to, they will find the picture under rather than overdrawn. Some time since, in discussing Mr Hall's case, the Board seemed to have some difficulty in getting the owners to remove the nuisance, and one of the members suggested the propriety of making the tenants do it—and if that principle were applied and carried out, we would find one of these days some puddler or some labouring man compelled at considerable expense to remove nuisances and make alterations which the owner ought to do, but would not. A very nice suggestion, indeed, and very like an emanation from the people's tribune. Only very recently some of the members were going around the place in their official capacity, and on entering some yard one of them asked the wife of one of the tenants if she kept pigeons. Now, sir, I happen to know both parties—the questioner and the one questioned—and I think the questioner is the most likely of the two to keep pigeons. In conclusion, I would suggest that we be a little more careful in the future in selecting the men to represent us on the Board, and I also hope that whoever may be elected, in the future will prove themselves worthy of the people's choice.—Yours, &c.,

CHEVIOT.

Consett, Feb. 20th, 1884.

THE SPEN AND BLAYDON LOCAL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Seeing in your two last issues some reports to the Blaydon Local Board from its Medical Officer, supplemented by some information from its Inspector, and wishing a little more information than is given in the above reports, would the gentlemen named, or the Clerk to the Board, kindly answer the following questions:—

1st. Is it true that at the west end of the Board's district at Spen and Victoria Garesfield, the inhabitants have been petitioning the Board for the last two years for an improved water supply, and that they have not yet got a better supply? 2nd. Is it true that at Spen, the Ryton Heater Company's pipes are within fifty yards of a greater part of the houses; and that they are within a quarter-of-a-mile of all the houses at Victoria Garesfield? 3rd. Is it, true that the colliery doctor at the above villages is stating that the insufficient and bad quality of the water in connection with the bad drainage is causing a fever, and that the fever has been the cause of five deaths at Victoria Garesfield this last eighteen months. 4th. Is it true that at the week of your issue there were five persons suffering fever and two of them not expected to recover at Victoria Garesfield. 5th. Is it true that within twenty-one yards of where a little child is lying ill of fever, there is a large hole to catch the drainage, covered but is periodically allowed to overflow in an open space alongside, and that the workmen at the colliery have complained to the Board about this, and it has never been altered? 5th. Is it true that the whole of the men and boys working in the pit at Victoria Garesfield have to pass the hole spoken of twice each day, and that the greater part of the inhabitants and children going to school have also to pass this place? 6th. Is it true that the inhabitants of the village say that the stench from the hole and the open drains at the place is nearly unbearable. But that a gentleman coming to look after his interests at the colliery, says that he feels no smell attached to the hole or drains? 7th. It is true that the whole of the privies at the village are within seven yards of each house door, and that the children at the village have no park, but play between the privies and houses the whole time? 8th. Is it true that the ratepayers of Victoria Garesfield and Spen contribute to the Blaydon Local Board finance nearly £200 per annum, and that nearly the whole of this money is laid out at Blaydon and Winlaton on parks, drainage, water supply, and lighting, and that very little is expended at or for the benefit of the above places?—I am, yours, &c.,

TOM OF COVENTRY.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

A LOCAL EMIGRANT IN VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

The following extracts are from a letter received by Mr James Harper, Consett, from a friend of his who left Weardale about three years ago, owing to the great depression then existing in that vale, and may prove interesting to many of our readers:—"Nanaimo, Vancouver's Island, British Columbia, January 10th, 1884.—We are living under the British Government now on Vancouver's Island out in British Columbia. It is a splendid climate we are living in; there is no cold weather at any season. The cattle are running out in the brush yet, and are in splendid condition. We have also plenty of good water, and get all the coal we need for nothing. We have a house with six rooms, and a fine large garden in connection with it. It is an exceedingly healthy place, and displays a large amount of beautiful scenery. Fish of various sorts are very numerous, especially salmon. They were so plentiful in one of the rivers here that farmers offered one dollar and a quarter per ton for them to scatter on the fields for manure. Deer also are very plentiful, and can be bought at nominal prices. There are thousands of wild ducks and geese, besides a large amount of other game. There are no praire lands here; it is all timber land. There are some very large trees; some 300ft. high. The island is very rich in all sorts of mineral—gold and silver and copper and coal. The coal from this place commands the largest price of any coal that is shipped to San Francisco. They pay good wages here, men earn from £12 to £25 per month. I have four dollars per day for six hour shifts. Nanaimo contains about 3,000 inhabitants, a large number of which are Chinamen and Indians. There are five different tribes of Indians, but they are very quiet and peaceable. They are holding their "Paw-waw," or yearly dance, at this season of the year. I was down seeing them last night, they have a large room in which they hold it, all being seated around with three large fires in the centre of the building. There would be upwards of 600 Indians assembled together. It is a wonderful sight to see the dresses that they wear, and the attitude in which they form themselves; they make an awful, hideous noise, and become terribly excited. I cannot describe to you the manner of their performance as I would wish to do. It is something so singular and yet interesting to anyone that has never seen it before. We live a very short distance from the edge of the bay. There are very good prospects here at present; they have sunk a new shaft, and calculate to hoist 2,000 tons of coal per day out of it. All the coal is taken away by ships. There are constantly some in the harbour waiting to be loaded. There is a young man here that I am acquainted with; a carpenter, that worked at Consett the winter that I was there, about three years ago. I had three horses when I left the States, I sold two and left the other one with my brother, who has a share in a coal mine and lives away out on the praire. It is upwards of 3,000 miles from Kalo, in Iowa, to Nanaimo. We had a long but very pleasant ride when on land. We journeyed through the western part of Iowa, and through the States of Nebraska, Wyoing, Utah, Nevada, and California, then across the coast of the Pacific Ocean to Victoria, the principal seaport town of this island. It is very delightful riding through the country along the green and extensive praires of Nebraska, where there were thousands of cattle and sheep feeding by the wayside. There is also a large amount of wonderful and interesting scenery all through the plains and over the mountains of Utah and Nevada. No one can form any idea what these countries are like until they see them, such a large amount of desert barren land, not a sign of life or vegetation for hundreds of miles. We passed over places in the train that were fearful to look at. At one spot we came through 40 miles of tunnel. We passed through Palisade in Nevada about twelve o'clock on the Sunday evening. California is a very beautiful country, with its large farms and orchards some a mile long, full of nothing but fruit trees. We spent two days in Sans Fransico, the great city of the West. It resembles Newcastle-on-Tyne very much; it is a beautiful place. There are thousands of Chinese people in it, and it contains many excellent buildings. We travelled eight days in the train from Otho to Sans Francisco, and nearly four days in coming along the ocean to Victoria. There are a large number of English settlers here. I love to be amongst the America people, but there are much better prospects here than what there is in the States, except for farming.

THREE YEAR'S PROGRESS IN BLAYDON AND WHICKHAM DISTRICT.

The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* is at present publishing a series of papers describing the progress on Tyneside during the last three years, from which we take the following extract: In Blaydon proper several important industrial items are to record. The Blaydon Main Colliery has changed hands and is now being briskly worked by the Townley Coal Company. The Sanitary Pipe Works on the Haughs, which were standing two years ago, have been resumed and are employing a fair number of hands; and the Bottle Works, formerly belonging to Messrs Alex. Austin and Co., which were laid in for some years, have been started by a new firm. At the large works of Messrs Douglass the manufacture of patent iron doors and door frames for steamships, has been commenced, and this, added to their other industries, has provided much increased employment. Messrs Harriman have increased their output of sanitary appliances by the establishment of a branch at Eltringham, near Prudhoe. The Blaydon Ironworks Company (late Messrs Nicholson and Wilson) have very largely increased their premises, and are building an entirely new foundry at the top end of the town. The new premises are of a most lofty and extensive kind; they will form, it is believed, the largest foundry in the North, and will produce much that is required in the efficient furnishing of steam vessels. Messrs Smith, Patterson, and Co. have been very busy, a similar remark also applying to the Blaydon Alkali and Colour Works, and, indeed, to the whole of the local industries. The Tyne Commissioners have carried out a most important change in the route of the river near what is known as the Cromwell Point, and other work is proceeding higher up the river banks. Stella, the Spen, and Blaydon have all increased in size. At Swalwell, which is within the boundaries of the Board, the manufacture of steel has been commenced at the old ironworks, and Winlaton Mill has been recommenced by Mr Watson, of Burnopfield. The total number of houses built within the jurisdiction of the Board have been about sixty, principally of a self-contained kind. Public buildings opened are the Primitive Methodist Chapel on Blaydon Haughs, the Primitive Methodist Chapel at Rowland's Gill, and the schools at Victoria Garesfield Colliery. Building has been busier within the past six months than at any other part of the two years, and the prospect of still further operations is apparent. During the two years the Local Board have perfected as far as possible the sewage system of Blaydon and Winlaton, at a total cost of about £5,000, and they have opened during the same time two recreation grounds at Blaydon and one at Winlaton. An addition to the Blaydon water supply has been obtained at Bewes Hills.—The small shipyard, commenced some time ago at the entrance to the village of Dunston is in operation, and a screw steamer about seventy feet in length is being built. When finished, it will be launched into the Team Gut, and the event will be attended with interest, as it will be the first vessel of the kind ever launched into that narrow stream. Building operations have been fair, and the whole of the local works, with the coke ovens between Dunston and Blaydon, have been well employed.

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

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.—The return for the week ending Feb. 16th, shows a total decrease of £980. The increases are, passengers, &c., £1,838; dock dues, &c., £69; and the decreases, merchandise and cattle, £662; minerals, £2,225. The total decrease to date is £20,650.

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

NORTHERN LIGHTS.

X.—LORD COLLINGWOOD.

The insular position of Great Britain makes her navy a matter of great importance, and is the service in which every loyal subject takes a particular interest. Even her schoolboys can boastingly sing:—

"Brittania needs no bulwark,
No towers along the steep,
Her march is o'er the mountain wave,
Her home is on the deep;
With thunders from her native oak
She quells the floods below,
As they roar on the shore
When the stormy tempests blow,
When the battle rages loud and long,
And the stormy tempests blow."

The British navy rose from insignifance by the destruction of the Spanish Armada in 1588; a blow from which Spain never recovered. At this time, the British fleet possessed no decisive superiority over that of France; but each was inferior to the Dutch. The Commonwealth and reign of Charles II. are memorable as being the time of the struggle for mastery between the English and Dutch; when success, after many alternations, ultimately sided with the former. Through the last century the English and French fleets were the most powerful; but Louis XVI. gave an undeniable superiority to the navy of France; and at the time of the American war, the naval power of England was seriously threatened. Spain, Russia, and Holland had fitted up fleets of considerable magnitude; and the policy of "armed neutrality," to which the northern powers gave their adherence, made the situation of the British most perilous. However, the slowly roused power of her government, the unequalled bravery of her seaman, and the ability of her commanders, brought England safely through all her trials. Camperdown destroyed the Dutch power; numerous battles enfeebled the French navy; and at Trafalgar in 1805, it, with the Spanish power, was driven from the ocean. Braham's glorious song graphically depicts the bravery of her seaman at that wonderful battle; and we cannot forbear quoting the well-know lines:—

"T'was in Trafalgar's bay
We saw the Frenchmen lay,
Each heart was bounding then;
We scorned the foreign yoke,
Our ships were British oak,
And hearts of oak our men.
Our Nelson marks them on the wave,
Three cheers our gallant seaman gave,
Nor thought of home and beauty
Along the lines the signal ran,
'England expects that every man
This day will do his duty.'"

Cuthbert Collingwood was born at Newcastle, on the 26th September, 1750. Like Lords Eldon and Stowell—who were his class-mates—he was placed under the care of the Rev Hugh Moises, at the Newcastle Grammar School; but at eleven years of age he was removed from that seat of learning, and entered the British navy. He was put in charge of his uncle, who was at that time captain of the Shannon, and from whom he received instruction in things relating to his profession. Personal interests, however, made it necessary that they should separate, and the young midshipman was placed under another officer. After serving in the Gibraltar, the Liverpool, and the Lennox, he joined the Preston, under the command of Vice-Admiral Graves.

Collingwood served on board this vessel with so much distinction, that by the strong recommendation of the captain, he was appointed fourth lieutenant in the Somerset. Transferred to the Hornet, then under orders for Jamaica, he soon reached that station, where his talents and resolutions were not long in making themselves perceived. Lieutenant Nelson being promoted from the Lowstaft to the "Admiral ship," Collingwood was appointed to fill the vacancy thus caused. In 1781, he received the command of the Pelican and the Sampson successfully, but the latter being paid off in the peace of 1783, he was transferred to the Mediator, at that time under orders for the West Indies. In 1786, he returned to England, and came to Newcastle, where he remained until the threatened hostilities with Spain in 1790, when he was appointed to the command of the Mermaid. The disturbance having passed, he returned to his friends, and on June 16th, 1792, was married to Miss Blackett, of Newcastle. The honeymoon was scarcely over, before it was seen that a war with France was inevitable, and Collingwood's services were required on board the flag-ship Prince. Ultimately he was removed to the Barfleur, in which he honourably distinguished himself during the great battle, which took place off Brest in June, 1794. A peculiar circumstance occurred at the close of this battle; it is described by Lawson as follows:—"Up to this point, the hardships of his profession had been but as the sweets of life. In the perilous atmosphere of action, his mind was ever possessed of that equanimity which did him noble service in emergency. Amid the raking showers poured from the cannon of the enemy, he could stand unmoved, administering his orders to the best advantage, and directing the efforts of his men with the highest skill. One thing alone unstrung the heroism of Collingwood. The thunder of the artillery had died away, the wreathed smoke had melted into purer air, the iron tongue of the enemy had ceased, and Lord Howe had his official report to make to the authorities at home. That despatch contained 'favourable mention' of many under his command, but not one word of commendation for Collingwood. Medals commemorative of the victory were awarded to those of whom notice had been taken in the Admiral's narration, but the hero of the Barfleur was neglected. Well might Captain Packenham, one of the distinguished, and then in command of the Invincible, observe—If Collingwood has not deserved a medal, neither have I, for we were together the whole day!" It may be conceived that Collingwood was extremely chagined at this neglect; but he bore the disappointment patiently, and very soon a greater honour was sought to be conferred upon him. In 1797 he bore such a prominent part in the fight off Cape St. Vincent, that Sir John Jervis spoke highly of him in his report to the Admiralty, and he consequently received the offer of one of the medals struck in commemoration of the victory. He remembered the former neglect and said,—"I feel that I was *then* improperly passed over, and to receive such a distinction *in this case*, would be to acknowledge the propriety of that injustice." Lord St. Vincent replied, "That is precisely the answer I expected from you Captain Collingwood." This conversation led the Admirality to further consider his case, and resulted in the transmission of both medals. In 1799, Collingwood was gazetted Rear-Admiral of the White, and appointed to the Triumph, at that time one of the Channel Squadron; and in the following year, he was made Rear-Admiral of the Red. The restoration of peace now gave him an opportunity of re-visiting his friends, and a season of quiet domestic enjoyment had been well and nobly earned. The renewal of hostilities, however, soon drew him from his happy Northumbrian home, his appointment being Admiral of the Venerable. He was instructed to resume his position off Brest, and as his flag was observed in the distance, Admiral Cornwallis exclaimed:—"Here comes Collingwood —the last to leave and the first to join me." In 1804, he was advanced to the rank of Vice-Admiral of the Blues; and in the year following was detached to the blockading fleet at Ferrol and Cadiz. The arrival of the French and Spanish ships compelled him to abandon his position, until the arrival of Lord Nelson with reinforcements. After ascertaining the strength and position of the enemy, the two Admirals soon decided upon their own course of action, and these were the preliminaries for the renowned battle of Trafalgar. Early on that October morning, Collingwood commenced the attack in glorious style; as he advanced into the thickest of the fight, Nelson exclaimed—"Look at that noble fellow, Collingwood! Observe the style in which he carries his ship! How I envy him!" Presently the enemy was seen to waver, and Collingwood's ship was the first to break through the line of the combined French and Spanish fleets. After Nelson had received his death-wound, he assumed the chief direction, and completed gloriously the triumph which had been so bravely commenced. A peerage was his reward for his gallant conduct in this battle, he also received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament. After several years able service in the Mediterranean, Collingwood died at sea, on March 7th 1810, in the sixtieth year of his age; and well did he deserve a place in St. Paul's Cathedral, beside the remains of his intimate friend, Lord Nelson. He was a thorough seaman, unsurpassed, if not indeed unequalled by any officer of the navy. He never allowed his ardent courage to exceed his cool judgment. At once firm and mild in command, the men rightly called him father; while his virtues and generousness made him beloved by his equals. The noble statue standing at the mouth of the Tyne, shows the esteem in which he is held in the North; and a more suitable site could not possibly have been chosen. "Standing at the outlet of the Tyne, and overlooking the blue expanse of the German Ocean, he seems to be keeping 'watch and ward' of the soil of his native land."

The subject of the next sketch will be Sir Joseph Cowen.

Historicus.

HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

An important meeting of this Board was held in the Castleside Schools, on Monday afternoon, under the presidency of Mr T. J. Muse. Present: Mr Elliot Leyboure, Mr M. Lee, Mr J. Milner, and the Clerk (Mr R. Ward).

THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE SCHOOLS.

The minutes of the last ordinary meeting, and of a special meeting held on the 11th inst., having been confirmed, the Chairman said the amended plans, prepared by the architect, were ready to be considered by the Board. He might mention that by building the class-room at the north-end of the schools only, they would just provide accommodation for the number of children within their district. Only five children had left the village, as yet, in consequence of the depression existing at the Healeyfield Lead Mine.

Mr Leyborne, in accordance with notice already given, then proposed to rescind the motion passed some time ago to add two more rooms on to the schools; and further moved that they proceed with the erection of No. 1 Class-room on the north end of the schools. He thought the additional accommodation thus provided would serve them for the present.

Mr Lee seconded the proposition, which was carried *nem con.*

The Chairman next read the following document:

To the Honourable Members of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board.

Gentlemen,—I am directed to call your attention to a meeting of ratepayers and householders, held in the Board Schools, Castleside, on Feb. 11th, 1884, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposed alteration or addition to the Board Schools. After some little discussion, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That in consequence of the depression in trade, and unforeseen circumstances occurring in connection with the Lead Mines causing so many families to leave the district, we think it inexpedient on the part of our School Board to make any addition to the present schools, as we consider there is now sufficient accommodation for the children in the school district; and that the Board be asked seriously to lay the matter before the Educational Department before proceeding further."—Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Wm. Pattinson, Chairman.

Gentlemen,—After the close of the above meeting, some conversation ensued as to the fitness or unfitness of the Infant's class-room for our children sitting in during school hours, when it was resolved:—

"That we request the Board to take immediate steps to prevent draughts and dampness, as many of our children have repeatedly suffered, and are suffering at present, from colds engendered by such."—I am, yours &c.

W. Pattinson.

Feb. 13th, 1884.

The Chairman said he was very much surprised at the contents of the document; it certainly did not come to them as an "Angel of Light." He wished a reporter had been present, so that they might have gleaned some particulars of the meeting, as that letter did not enlighten them in the least. In the first clause the Board were told to curtail the expenditure as much as possible; and in the second, they were directed to spend money by taking immediate steps towards improving the class room. He did not understand it; there seemed to be something lurking behind. They had already done at the last meeting what was suggested in the latter part of the communication. There had been a great deal of agitation among a certain section of the public protesting against the enlargement of the schools; but he was sure they would obtain little knowledge on the subject from the letter. He did not attach much importance to the signature, as it was not his motion; he believed that individual was only acting as a scapegoat for someone else.

Mr Leybourne said he had always endeavoured to look after the welfare of the children, and from first becoming a member of the Board, it had always been his aim to keep the rates as low as possible. The Board was compelled by the Educational Department to find additional accommodation for the scholars, otherwise they would be heavily fined. As regards the class-room, well, all the members were perfectly well aware that it required some improvements.

Mr Milner did not expect any of the members wished to spend money needlesly; but it was evident that the dampness in the class-room would have to be remedied.

Mr Leybourne pointed out that it was only at the last meeting that the Board proposed to effect certain improvements in the class-room to render it comfortable and dry.

The Chairman could quite understand a meeting of ratepayers being convened to consider the New Code or the question of over-pressure in the schools; but to call a meeting simply to censure the Board for doing its duty, was beyond his comprehension. If there had been any particulars furnished in the document, he should certainly have felt great pleasure in replying to it at length, even if by nothing else but statistics.

Mr Leybourne: We must have another room.

The Chairman proceeded to explain that when the schools were first built, each child was allowed a space of 8 sqr. ft., and plans were accordingly prepared to that scale; but before the schools were completed the New Code of 1876 was passed, which altered the standard allotted to each child to 10ft., thus reducing their accommodation to 143 children. They were at that time admitting children from the outlying districts, and then, as now, they tried to get the parents to defray their share of the expenses in the management of the schools. Several letters were written on the subject, but the Education Department refused to let the Board cast away these "outsiders;" but allowed them to retain the 8ft. scale on condition that they admitted these children to the school. In 1879 the average attendance was 131; in 1880, 138; 1881, 150; 1882, 148 (a slight reduction owing to depression in the lead trade); in 1883, 163; and for the 2 months in 1884 the average had reached 171. The number of children of school age when the recent census was taken was 232, and after deducting a percentage for absence due to illness and unavoidable causes, that number was reduced to 203. Since the census was taken, only 5 children had left the district. If the Board did not find the requisite accommodation, they were liable to be mulcted in a heavy penalty. They received notice from the Inspector at the examination held so far back as 1882, that another class-room would have to be erected and added to the school, and consequently the Board engaged Mr Smith to prepare the necessary plans and specifications, and obtain suitable tenders for carrying out the work. If this had not been done, the consequences would have been disastrous. Concerning the reduction of the Grant, Article 115 of the New Education Code stated: "The Annual Grant may be reduced (1) by not more than one-half upon the Inspector's report for faults of discipline, instruction, or registration on the part of the teacher; or (after six months' notice) for failure on the part of the managers to remedy such defect in the premises, as seriously interferes with the efficiency of the school, or to provide proper furniture, books, maps, and other apparatus of elementary instruction. If the Inspector, at a visit without notice no less than six months after intimation has been given of the requirements of the Department, reports that they have not been carried into effect, a deduction may be made from the next Grant to the school." A footnote is appended, stating that "Managers should note that failure to comply with the requirements of the Department with respect to furniture, books, maps, suitable premises, and apparatus, may cause a reduction of the Grant to the extent of one-half of the whole. . . . Reductions of this kind do not effect the salaries of the teachers." Therefore (proceeded the Chairman) if the Board failed to comply with the requirements of the Department by enlarging the schools, the ratepayers would only have to make up the deficiency in the amount of Grant earned. There had likewise been a good deal of talk about allowing the infants under three years to attend school. He wished it to be distinctly understood that, supposing the infants did not come to school, they were bound to find accommodation for them. The ratepayers of the district did not fully comprehend the full circumstances of the case, otherwise they would not have uttered the remarks they had done. A schedule was sent to them every year by the Educational Department asking for a return of the number of children from three to thirteen years of age living in their district. True, they could not compel parents to send infants under five years old to school, but it was absolutely necessary, if they wished to maintain the efficiency of the schools, that children under this tender age should be present. They would remember that some two years ago a proposition was adopted that all infants under the age of five years should be allowed to attend school on payment of a fee of 1d per week. It was said by some ratepayers that it was cruel and inhuman to take children to school before they had attained five years, but he (the speaker) regarded this as a lot of bosh and nonsense. He had ascertained that in the Consett district (without including St. Mary's Roman Catholic Schools) 226 children under five years were in the habit of attending school. He noticed, from the report of the last meeting of the Collierley School Board, published in the *Consett Guardian*, that the members had resolved to award prizes to the infants under five years who attended the most regularly, so that it would act as a stimulus to the younger ones to come to school.

Mr Leybourne: We would not press the parents to send infants to school, but we allow them the privilege of so doing if they wish it.

The Chairman suggested that they should keep the foregoing document as a relic sent by the enlightened ratepayers in the Healeyfield and Rowely School District. (Laughter).

Mr Milner moved that a copy of the letter be submitted to the Educational Department with statistics shewing the number of children in attendance at the schools.

Mr Lee seconded the proposition, which was adopted.

Mr Milner remarked that he was present at the meeting referred to, and one speaker spoke very strongly regarding the condition of class-room, and said he had a good mind to call in Dr Bolton to inspect it. He further attributed the death of two of his children to the dampness and coldness of the room. That was, he (the speaker) considered, a most serious charge to make against the Board.

The Chairman understood that these two were exceedingly precocious children, and the parent distinctly informed him that they died from consumption of the brain. He might state that they had over 200 children on the registers, and only one death occurred during the past year. That was a most remarkable fact. He certainly should advocate the schools being made as warm and comfortable as possible for the children, but it was monstrous that they should be charged with causing the death of their scholars.

The members then conferred with Mr Smith, as to the contemplated erection of a class-room, and urged upon him to use the best means he could for remedying the defects in the Infant's Room.

On the motion of Mr Leybourne, seconded by Mr Lee, the Clerk was directed to forward the amended plans to the Educational Department for their approval.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following statistics for the past month were submitted by the master (Mr Duckworth):—

No on Roll: 91 boys; 97 girls. Total 188.
Average in attendance 165
Average ,, for this year.. 171
Percentage on attendance .... 8·7
Cash banked £9 15s 8d.

MASTER'S REPORT.

The Master reported the attendance of some of the children was very bad and he laid on the table weekly returns with regard to such.

The Chairman inquired if they had received any report from their attendance officer?

The Clerk replied in the negative, but said that Mr Proud had promised to submit a report next month.

The Master likewise reported that he would esteem it a favour if it could be managed for him to pay the cash in at Messrs Hodgkin and Barnett's bank at Consett instead of at Shotley Bridge.

The Clerk was asked to speak to Mr R. G. Barclay, the manager, on the subject.

A PARENT'S GRIEVANCE.

Mr Wm. Pattinson attended the Board, and explained that he had a boy who had been attending the school for some years, and he expected he was compelled to send him. He had been informed that his son, as a rule, was being taught by boys only 12 or 18 months his senior. He wished to know if such a method of instruction was sanctioned by their bye-laws or the Educational Code? He mentioned the fact to their Clerk, who laid his complaint before the master. Mr Duckworth subsequently came to his house and he spoke to him on the subject.

The Chairman said that this system was not sanctioned either by the Education Act or in their bye-laws, and, moreover, the Board did not approve of such a proceeding.

Mr Pattinson observed that he had no feeling against the master, but the subject had troubled him for some months. He had mentioned the fact to no one outside his own household, until he informed Mr Ward that he intended writing to the Board on the subject.

The Master having been called into the room and acquainted with the nature of Mr Pattinson's complaint, emphatically declared the statement to be incorrect.

Mr Pattinson: My boy has frequently told me that he has been taught by monitors just a few months older than himself, and on being questioned by me he always adheres to his assertion. It is very strange that the statements should be so conflicting. I am in a position to produce at least half-a-dozen parents, who have received similar complaints from their children. I am not here to tell a lot of lies, and I should not have been present to-day only Mr Duckworth challenged me to appear before the Board and meet the charges.

Mr Duckworth: Mr Pattinson asserts that his boy has constantly been taught by children a year or eighteen months older than himself. No scholar has been teaching in the Infant Department as a monitor for the past six months. I told Mr Pattinson that just before the Examination in October last, when all the teachers were otherwise engaged, I appointed a monitor to look after the infants, but Mr Pattinson's boy was not in that stage as to require the education he does now. In schools of the same size as the Castleside School, they cannot manage without monitors, unless the Board were prepared to provide a separate teacher for every class, and that is impossible for a school of that size. In schools attended by 300 or more children, then the managers could afford to pay for assistant teachers or pupil teachers for every class. The facts mentioned in the Inspector's report would certify whether I am doing my work efficiently or not. It is impossible for me and the assistant master to attend to the whole of the classes without the assistance of monitors; but I again assert that no boys have acted as teachers in the Infant Department since prior to the examination.

The Chairman pointed out that if Mr Pattinson had sent his boy to school before he had attained the age of five years he would have been a much cleverer boy than he was at present. That was beside the question, however. The Board did not approve of the teaching of infants by infants; but at the same time, it must be distinctly understood that they must have monitors to look after some of the classes occasionally.

At the desire of the Master, Miss Watson (who has charge of the Infant Department) was called into the room, and she flatly denied that any boy had been engaged as monitor for the infants since prior to the examination.

The Master remarked that when Mr Pattinson first brought his son to school, he then told him that he was not a precocious child, and that they would have to exhibit some little patience with him. The opinion he (Mr Duckworth) then formed had turned out to be the correct one.

After some further observations, the Master inquired if Mr Pattinson was convinced that his boy was not taught by monitors.

Mr Pattinson replied that it was a question with him whether he was satisfied or not. This was not his grievance only, but the same complaint had been made by several other parents, only they had not the courage to tell the Board so.

All the members of the Board testified that they were satisfied with the explanation given by the master, that no monitor had been employed in the Infant Department since October last.

Eventually Mr Milner gave notice to move at the next meeting, that no monitor be allowed to teach in any department of the schools.

Mr Lee: We shall then have to employ an additional teaching staff to conduct the school.

The Chairman: It will run the ratepayers into a great deal of expense.

ANOTHER COMPLAINT.

Mr Proud interviewed the Board, and complained that the lads climbed over the school yard wall and got into his field. They were in the habit of playing around his haystack, and he had suffered a great deal of damage thereby. In fact, he believed the stack had been almost destroyed, and it would not pay him to cut it up. He also asked the Board to compensate him for the loss he had sustained.

The Master stated that he had frequently cautioned the boys from scaling the wall and getting into the field; and he had only caught one boy in the act. His opinion was that a number of lads gained access to the field after school hours, when he had no control over them.

It was agreed to call the attention of the police to the matter, and get the offenders summarily punished.

APPLICATION FOR THE LOAN OF THE SCHOOLS.

Mr E. Williams, of the Refreshment Rooms, Blackhill, applied for the use of the schools for the purpose of giving a Christy Minstrels entertainment therein at an early date.

The application was refused.

The monthly cheques, amounting to about £20, having been signed, the Board arose.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Board-room, Town Hall Buildings, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday evening. There were present—Messrs. Jas. Annandale, J.P. (in the chair), W. Wheatley, J. Lax, J. Eltringham, F. Priestman, H. Carss, J. Dowson, A. E. Turner, R. Murray, the Clerk (Mr J. Booth), and the Surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

The minutes of last meeting were read and, after conformation, signed by the Chairman.

DETACHED ROADS.

The Clerk stated that as instructed at last meeting, he had drawn up a draft agreement between the Lanchester Highway Board and the Benfieldside Local Board, anent the former taking over and keeping forever certain roads situate outside the district of Benfieldside Local Board, and at present kept by the latter body, which he read to the members.

Mr Lax considered the agreement to be everything that could be desired, and suggested that the Board approve of the same.

All the members gave their entire approbation of the draft, and the Clerk was instructed to forward it to the Lanchester Highway Board for their approval.

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee recommended for payment the Surveyor's monthly pay sheet (£81 12s.), and also the Shotley Bridge Gas Company's account (£97 14s. 6d.)

On the motion of Mr Carss, seconded by Mr Priestman, cheques for the same were signed.

The estimate for the new rate presented to the Board last month was, on the motion of Mr Murray, seconded by Mr Carss, sealed by the Chairman.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.

The Clerk read a letter from the North-Eastern Railway Company in answer to the Board's request asking for increased accommodation at Consett Station, which intimated that the Directors had pleasure in stating to the Board that in a very short time they would commence to make considerable additions and improvements to the station referred to.

Mr Eltringham informed the members that it was not at all likely a ticket office would be placed on the east side of the platform, as requested by the Board.

Mr Murray: By the letter received from the Company, there seems to be a prospect of great improvements being enacted.

Mr Lax: Have you good authority for saying that there will not be a ticket office placed on the east side of the station?

Mr Eltringham: Yes; I tendered for the work. There is only to be a new general waiting-room and a ladies' waiting room, with all the appurtenances thereto, but no ticket office on the opposite east side of the station.

Mr Lax: It seems singular that the main station on the branch cannot have a ticket office on both sides of the railway. I think we are justly entitled to have one on either side, and we should again petition the Company to accede to our desires.

Mr Carss: I think we should have patience for a while to see if they are really going to place a ticket office on the east side of the station. The matter is rather premature, and I think it would be rather impudent on our part to petition the Company again before we know definitely what they are going to do.

Mr Lax: I beg your pardon, Mr Carss, but the thing is not premature. Mr Eltringham has already tendered for the work, and he says there is not going to be an additional ticket office.

Mr Murray: The only course we can take, if the Company will not place a ticket office on the east side of the station, is to lay the matter before the Board of Trade, and they will compel them to place a ticket office as desired.

Mr Lax: I think we can gain our ends without going about the matter in that way. If we ask the Company to give us our request in a courteous manner, then they will deal with us courteously. At the same time, it does seem hard that a small place like Lanchester can have a ticket office on each side of the line, while Consett, the chief centre, is deprived of such a boon.

Mr Eltringham assured the members that there were good and palpable reasons (which he was not permitted to divulge) for the Company not erecting a ticket office.

The Chairman thought the matter was rather premature, seeing that they had no official information thereon.

Mr Carss: If we were to ask the Company immediately, it would be alike boring them. I think we had better let the subject remain in abeyance until they do the improvements they purpose making, and then if we think it desirable, we can again petition them for a ticket office on the east side.

Mr Lax: If there is any chance of getting a ticket office erected it is now when the thing is in embryo as it were, because if the plans were prepared and the work about to be set in motion, there would be little fear of them altering them for us. I think we should at once ask them to again kindly reconsider their decision regarding our petition.

Mr Priestman thought that would be the most effective way to go about the business.

It was then decided that the Clerk be requested to write to the North-Eastern Railway Company, expressing a hope that they would add a ticket office to the improvements which they proposed to make at Consett Station.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr Dixon) read the subjoined report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the past month, your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district scraping and laying on materials. They have also been engaged bottoming with stone the Benfieldside Edge footpath.

I wish to have the instructions of the Board with regard to the erection of urinals; whether they have to be stone, brick, or metal, as the time has now arrived for the erection of the same.

I would suggest that the Board advertise for tenders for the scraping, channelling, and cementing the east side of Derwent Street footpath, Blackhill.

I have collected and paid to the treasurer during the month the following sums:—

	£	s.	d.
General District Rate	24	9	8
From other sources	8	5	9

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
John Dixon.

Shotley Bridge, Feb. 20th, 1884.

URINALS.

Mr Eltringham said the urinal to be erected at the lower end of Shotley Bridge had already been resolved to be metal, as they might some time have to remove it. With regard to the one proposed to be placed on the Slonks, he thought it would be best to be made of stone, similar to the one at Blackhill.

The other members shared a similar opinion, and on the motion of Mr Carss, seconded by Mr Priestman, the Surveyor was requested to lay before the Board at next meeting plan, specifications, and estimate of the same.

With regard to cementing, &c., the east side of Derwent Street, the Surveyor was likewise instructed to lay the necessary estimate and specifications, before the Board next month.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of Benfieldside Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the past month, I have made several inspections in your district, and I find the ashpits, on the whole, in good condition.

I received from Mr Thompson, through the County Court, the sum of £9 10s. 9d. The work done cost the Board £7 10s. 9d., Court fees paid by me £1 5s., allowed by the Court to solicitor 15s., making a total of £9 10s. 9d

As instructed by the Board, I sent the secretary of the Consett Iron Company a copy of the resolution passed at last meeting with regard to the ashpits and privies in Bottle Bank, Blackhill, asking them to arrange a meeting at their convenience to meet the Medical Officer and Inspector of this Board. A letter was received by Mr Booth, in answer to the letter I wrote, arranging a day of meeting. The Medical Officer and myself were at the place at the appointed time and stayed 45 minutes. No one came to meet us. I received a letter from Mr Douglas, the Consett Iron Company's engineer, apologising for not being able to meet us at appointed time, and also stating that he had seen the Medical Officer, who had explained to him what the Board required to be done at this place. He promised to lay the matter before Mr Jenkins.

Scotch Arms, Blackhill.—I met Mr Murray and pointed out the alterations required to be done to this property. The work has been done, except the erection of an ashpit. This will be done shortly.

The plan for cottages proposed to be built by Mr J. S. Murray came before your Building Committee, and have been returned to be amended, as they are not in accordance with the bye-laws. Other plans have been examined by your Building Committee, and they will report thereon.—I am, your obedient servant,

John Dixon.

Shotley Bridge, Feb. 20th, 1884.

THE BOTTLE BANK QUESTION.

The Chairman said that all they could do was to let the matter remain over until a communication was received from Mr Jenkins, general manager of the Consett Iron Company.

This was agreed to.

MR J. S. MURRAY'S PLANS.

Mr Murray said, with regard to these plans, he thought the Board ought to pass them. He maintained they were in accordance with the bye-laws. They were not perhaps of the highest artistic skill and penmanship, but still he did not think they should be thrown out on that account, as they very often were. The Benfieldside Board were too particular about workmen's cottages, and that was the reason there were not so many erected at the present day. It was very desirable that a great many houses should be erected in the district, as he knew of several cases where lodgers had to sleep in the same room as the man and his wife, as well as other cases of overcrowding. He had himself only last week commenced to build a street of houses, and already every house was spoken for. This would show the great demand there was for them, and unless the Board were less stringent in their passing of plans, this state of things would still go on, as enterprising men would not build property without any remuneration; and workmen with their 15s to 20s per week could not afford to pay a large rent.

Mr Carss contended that the steps taken by the Committee were perfectly justifiable.

Mr Lax: I think our Committee have acted quite right. They are intelligent and just enough to pass plans if they are all right, and I am sure penmanship is not taken into account at all.

Mr Eltringham: As regards artistic penmanship, I may say that we have passed several plans that have been so bad that we had to put them into ship-shape ourselves.

Mr Murray: As a matter of fact, I submitted some years ago plans for workmen's cottages, and they were thrown out for very trivial things. Now I think it is time this sort of thing was put a stop to, and then it would encourage the erection of workmen's cottages in our district, which are greatly needed.

The Chairman: But the Committee compare them with the houses in Bottle Bank.

Mr Murray: Each of the houses which my brother proposes to build has a space of 1,500 feet, and I think they will hardly be as bad as Bottle Bank.

Mr Carss: If you had 15,000 yards to each house, you could still build them not according to the bye-laws.

Mr Lax: The very fact that the Building Committee would not take the responsibility of passing the plans until they were made in accordance with the bye-laws makes me believe that they are not really fit to be erected, and I therefore, move that the plans be referred to the Building Committee with power to pass them as soon as put in accordance with the bye-laws.

Mr Dowson thought that the Board was too stringent on the subject, and suggested that the plans be stamped.

Mr Carss: I beg to second Mr Lax's motion.

Mr Murray: I assert that the proposed cottages are of a much superior building than three-fourths of the workmen's cottages in Blackhill.

Mr Eltringham: But still, we want to stop the erection of such property as was built formerly; we want to improve the class of dwellings.

Mr Carss: It is a mercy both to builders and tenants that this Board exists to see that houses are built properly.

Mr Dowson contended that it seemed as if the Board wanted to stop houses being built.

Mr Murray also asserted that during the past six or seven years there had been very few houses erected in their district, on account of the strict mode of procedure on the part of Benfieldside Board.

Mr Eltringham: I am on the Building Committee, and if the plans referred to come before me again in their original state, I shall decidedly object to them again. But to think that it would be to my advantage to stop the erection of property: why it is simply absurd. At the same time, at the yearly meeting I shall certainly resign my position on the Building Committe to make room for Mr Dowson or Mr Murray, who will *perhaps* execute the duties better than I.

Eventually the Chairman put Mr Lax's motion to the meeting, which was carried, Mr Murray and Mr Dowson dissenting.

LAYING DOWN AN TRAMWAY.

A letter was read from Mr R. Murray asking the Board if they had any objections to him laying down rails to carry stone from the quarry to the new houses being erected by him on the high end of Benfieldside estate, which crossed over the footpath in Ritson's Road.

The necessary leave was granted, on Mr Murray promising to sign an agreement bearing all responsibility of any accidents that might occur.

PLANS.

The plans for two houses submitted by Mr Surtees and for four cottages for Mr J. Eltringham both received the seal of the Board. The plan for converting a stable into a dwelling-house by Mr Richardson was also stamped, on the understanding that it be made a single tenant cottage.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORT.

Appended is the quarterly report and statistics presented by the medical officer (Dr W. M. Renton):—

To the Benfieldside Urban Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,—It will be seen by the accompanying statistics that two cases of enteric fever have occurred in the district in the last quarter of the year, namely, at 37, Bottle Bank and at 24, Wood Street.

In connection with the last-named case, I wish specially to draw your attention to the filthy state of the stable adjoining the house. It has no proper drainage, and no means of ventilation except through the broken wall of the kitchen of the house, on to which the stable is built. The stench from the stable can be felt in every room of the house, and my firm conviction is that this pollution of the atmosphere has been the cause of the fever. I would recommend the stable to be removed from its present site, with the double object of abating the nuisance, and giving proper yard accommodation to the house of which it is almost destitute.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. M. Renton, Medical Officer of Health.

Shotley Bridge, Feb. 20th, 1884.

There were 52 births—31 males and 21 females—representing an annual ratio of 35·2 per 1,000. There were 26 deaths—17 males and 9 females—representing an annual ratio of 17·7 per 1,000.

The report was referred to the Sanitary Committee.

MORE ILLUMINATION REQUIRED.

Mr Turner said he had had various people at him complaining of the great insufficiency of light there was in Benfieldside Edge Road, especially that part near Mr Heymer's house, where it was very dangerous both to pedestrians and equestrians. He hoped the Board would move in the matter, as it was highly requisite.

The subject was referred to the Lighting Committee for their consideration.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

The Chairman said it had been his usual custom to decline acting as returning officer, and as he could not possibly fill that position on this occasion, he begged to move that their Clerk be requested to act as returning-officer, and employ all aid necessary in the carrying out the election.

Mr Wheatley seconded the motion.

Mr Dowson enquired who were the members retiring?

Mr Lax said the retiring members were Messrs. Murray, Turner, Priestman, and Wilson.

The Chairman's motion was adopted.

THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF THE DISTRICT FOR ELECTORAL PURPOSES.

A letter was read from the Clerk to the Consett Local Board (Mr T. W. Welford) asking the Board to appoint a committee of three gentlemen to confer with similar deputations from Leadgate and Consett Local Boards for the purpose of uniting to make an electoral district of the North-West division of the County of Duaham,

The Chairman said this was a question that was not in their province to deal with. They were sent there by the ratepayers to look after the sanitary requirements of the district, and had nothing at all to do with electoral questions. He had consulted Mr Booth (who had previously left the meeting), on the matter, and he shared a similar opinion, that according to law no political question could be worked upon by the Board

The other members expressed themselves similarly and it was resolved, on the motion of Mr Lax, seconded by Mr Wheatley, that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Consett Local Board expressing their right at not being able to accede to their desires, seeing that it was not at all in their province to do so.

The Board then adjourned.

Sporting Items

A pigeon flying match took place at Winlaton on Saturday between J. W. H. Flinn's Wandering George and N. Brown's Little Joe, from a point known as the slatey heaps, for £3 a-side, when Wandering George won by 10 seconds. Mr John Smith was referee.

Sparrow Shooting at Hill Top.—A sweepstake promoted by Mr J. Davis took place at Hill Top, Dipton, on Saturday, and resulted as under:—Plain Lad, 18, 1 0; T. Foster, 18, 0; Wheatly, 18, 1 0; Hull, 17, 0; Clogger, 18, 1 1 1 1; T. Foster, 10, 0; W. Thompson, 17, 0; Robbie Burns 18, 1 0; W. Thompson, 17, 0; No. 1, 18, 1 1 1 1; Lizzie's Novice, 1 0 0; John Turnbull, 19, 1 1 1 1; Thos. Foster, 18, 1 1 0; Heslop, 17, 1 0; Burnopfield, 17, 1 0; F. Heslop, 17, 1 1 0; T. Heslop, 17, 0; C. Bolam, 17, 1 1 0; W. P., 1 0; R. Smith, 17, 1 1 0; J. Turnbull, 19, 1 1 1 0; No. 2, 18, 1 0; J. Turnbull, 18, 1 1 1 1; Peachey, 17, 0; F. Heslop, 17, 1 0; J. E. Foster, 18, 1 1 1 1; T. Foster, 18, 1 1 1 1; R. Smith, 17, 1 1 0; W. P., 17, 1 0.

Splendid Sport with the Durham Beagles.—These hounds met on Tuesday last, by permission of Mr James Fowler, Park Hill, near Durham. They threw off at two o'clock. A strong hare was soon found, and the hounds, although they did not get well away at first, soon hit the line, and drove their game in first-class style over the railway for Tarsdale, on to Woodhouse, past West Bowburn, over the highroad towards West Hetton, where she recrossed the road and went for Hoggersgate, back by Tarsdale, forming a circle of over five miles. This, as nearly as possible, was repeated, and the huntsmen and spectators, including Mr James Fowler, his family, and friends had the pleasure of witnessing nearly every yard of the run from the railway, which formed an impromptu grand stand. Puss squatted in the plough, and the hounds worked her in a beautiful manner. After another good spin, she again tried for refuge, but the hounds, five couples in all, were soon hard at her again, and after a short burst, fairly ran her down. Nothing could have been more pleasing than the run, and it is impossible for any little pack to do better work. Thus ended as good a day's sport as ever was witnessed, through which the hounds were never once lifted or spoken to.

North Durham Foxhounds.—These hounds met at Brancepeth Castle on Friday last. They had a run of one hour in the morning, found a second fox in the afternoon at The Middles, which broke away for Bowden Close and up to Crook, came through Stockley Gill, then through Weather Hill for Waterhouses, made way for Wooley, for Middles, and Tanner's Hall, then for Crook cover, away for Sunniside, up nearly to Tow Law, crossed the Stanley pastures for Dicken's House, and away over Hedley Hill for Cornsay Common. Here most of the horsemen had blown their horses, and were obliged to stop. Now the fox made over Broomshield's earths, crossed the Gill and over the Park, and made straight for Springwell and Badajos, with his head straight for Waskerley. The fox and hounds all went into Sattersgate together, and this gallant pack pulled him down, after one of the best and longest runs ever known in the Durham county. Only four horsemen were up at the finish, namely, Mr A. L. Maynard, the Master; Mr R. Clark, Mr F. Baker, of Elemore Hall, and his friend. Mr Maynard got his hounds out of Sattersgate at six o'clock at night, and arrived at the kennels, with the kind assistance of Mr R. Clark, at 8·30. This was quite the longest and best run ever known with the North Durham. The Master was eleven hours in the saddle, and never once got off his horse, "Old Barney," one of the best hunters in England.

Braes of Derwent Foxhounds.—These hounds met at Crawcrook on Saturday. Only fifteen or sixteen riders turned out to enjoy what proved to be one of the fastest and best runs of the season. Bradley Hall Coverts were first tried, but proved blank, and so also did all those splendid covers of the Prudhoe Hall estate until we got to the extreme west boundary, Ions Wood, where a fox of the right stamp broke to the west. Siddle Dixon, Jun., the huntsman, soon had his hounds on the line. In a trice we were streaming past Mickley Grange and on to Apperley Wood, but our fox being headed, he turned northward, and took us down that exceedingly steep hill called Mickley Banks, over the road and through Painshawfield Wood, without a stop close to Stocksfield Station, then turning up Stocksfield Burn to Old Ridley, where he was unfortunately chased by a cur dog, which caused a short check. By a judicious cast we quickly hit him off below Hindly Hall and from thence to Bromley, horses could with difficulty keep with the hounds. Through Bromley Fell, past Sandyford Cottage to the Bridges, we went at top speed. Near the Bridges our fox was again headed and turned westward, but a friendly "view hollo" put us right without loss of time, and on again we sped to Scales Cross, and passing through Minsteracres Demesne, and keeping Fairley on the left, he tried the favourite old earths at Grey Mare Hill but found them stopped. From this over the hill nearly to Bolishes, but our gallant fox evidently did not like to face the bitter wind, so circling round brought us back past the old ruins of St. Andrew's Church, and found refuge in one of the many holes in the wood adjoining the Letch Houses. The run lasted one hour and ten minutes. These hounds have had excellent sport this season, and notwithstanding the woody nature of their country have killed a goodly number of foxes.

"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) [illegible] Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who [illegible] an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J. White [illegible] have not any Agents.

Business Announcements.

NINTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss WILLIAMS', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 1·30 p.m. to 3·30 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1830. 962p

JOHN HALL, GROCER, &c.,

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

January 21st, 1884.

JOHN HALL kindly requests you to compare prices of undermentioned Goods bought at one of the Stores in the Neighbourhood, with his as stated below. Anyone wishing to compare quality of Store Goods with his, can be obliged by calling at the above Address.

HALL'S PRICES.	s.	d.	STORE PRICES.	s.	d.
2 lbs. Sugar ..	0	5	2 lbs. Sugar	0	6
1 lb. Loaf Sugar..	0	3½	1 lb. Loaf Sugar	0	4
*½ lb. Tea, "P.K. Brand"	0	7½	½ lb. Tea, "Lalla Rookh Brand"	0	10
½ lb. Fry's Cocoa	0	3½	½ lb. Fry's Cocoa	0	4
1 lb. Currants	0	4	1 lb. Currants	0	5
¼ lb. Lemon Peel	0	2½	¼ lb. Lemon Peel	0	3
1 oz. Cassia ..	0	1½	1 oz. Cassia ..	0	2
1 Tin Lingford's Baking Powder, X6½ oz.	0	5	1 Tin Baking Powder, X5½ oz.	0	5
1 Tin Double Superfine Mustard ..	0	4½	1 Tin Double Superfine Mustard	0	6
1 Tin Milk (Maid Brand)	0	5	1 Tin Milk (Maid Brand)	0	6
1 lb. Butter ..	1	2	1 lb. Butter ..	1	6
1 lb. Lard (Bladdered) ..	0	7	1 lb. Lard (only equal to our 6d.) ..	0	8
*1 lb. Cheese..	0	8	1 lb. Cheese..	0	9
*1 lb. Bacon ..	0	7	1 lb. Bacon	0	8
½ st. Japan Rice ..	0	8	½ st. Japan Rice ..	0	10
1 lb. Tapioca	0	3	1 lb. Tapioca ..	0	3½
1 lb. Margerison's Windsor Curd Soap ..	0	4	1 lb. Magerison's Windsor Curd Soap ..	0	4½
½ st. Pale Soap ..	0	10	½ st. Pale Soap..	1	1
¼ lb. Blue ..	0	2½	¼ lb. Blue ..	0	3
1 lb. Dips..	0	5½	1 lb. Dips	0	6
1 lb. 18 Wax..	0	6½	1 lb. 18Wax	0	7
	9	9½		11	9

The Goods marked * are decidedly superior to the Stores. Our Bacon at 7d., and Cheese at 8d., are fully 1d. per lb. better quality than the Stores at 8d. and 9d. Taking Quality and Price into consideration, we are about 3s. in the Pound Cheaper!

☞ PRICES OF FLOUR ARE—

FINES, 1s. 8d.; SUPERS, 1s. 9d.; NEW PROCESS, 1s. 11d.; SNOWFLAKE, 2s. 1d.; and HUNGARIAN, 2s. 6d.

OUR TERMS ARE CASH.—DISCOUNT, 6d. IN THE POUND.

HALL'S 2s. TEA IS THE BEST!

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,

NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN,

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDSMAN, GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF

PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.

OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED

Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

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

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

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save calves from that inflammatory fever commonly called quarter-ill.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF

PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-five years.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION 427r

STANDARD LUBRICATING OIL CO.
1, DRAPERS GARDENS,
THROGMORTON STREET,
LONDON, E.C
IMPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF LUBRICATING OILS. 713r

T. C. CAMPBELL,

SURGEON DENTIST,
6, GRAINGER STREET,
(4 Doors from Bigg Market)
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH!

With all the latest Improvements, of Superior Workmanship, and made of the Best Materials. Life-like in Appearance, &c.

☞ PERFECTLY FITTED TO THE MOUTH, WITHOUT EXTRACTION OF STUMPS.

EVERY CASE WARRANTED FOR FIVE YEARS

FROM 4s. TO 10s. PER TOOTH. PARTIAL SETS, FROM 3s. PER TOOTH, UPWARDS.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SETS, FROM £1 10s. TO £4 10s.

TEETH STOPPED, FROM 2s. TO 5s.
TEETH EXTRACTED, 1s.
TEETH PAINLESSLY EXTRACTED BY NITROUS OXIDE GAS, 5s.

Teeth Scaled, Cleaned, &c.
Children's Teeth Regulated.
Deformities of the Mouth Treated.

ALL OPERATIONS SKILFULLY PERFORMED.

☞ ALL CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.

☞ Patients may be attended at their own homes by appointment, by letter or otherwise. Wherever possible, Railway Fare will be allowed to patients from the Country. 129s

Public Notices.

49 Is the Winning Number for the Sewing Machine Raffled by Mr. E. BAINBRIDGE, Springwell.

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the above Association will be held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, the 23rd inst., at Seven o'clock in the Evening.
ELI BURTON, Hon. Sec. 703s

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, BURNOPFIELD.

ON SUNDAY, February 24th, 1884, the Rev. H. PERCY GRUBB, M.A., will Preach on behalf of the Church Missionary Society. Hours of Service: 10·30 a.m., 3 p.m., and 6·30 p.m. 707s

A LECTURE, on "Lord Macaulay," will be given in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of England, Blackhill, by Rev. ALEX. BAILLIE, on Monday Evening, February 25th, 1884. Mr. C. P. DOUGLAS in the Chair. Chair to be taken at Eight o'clock. See Handbills. 708s

Public Notices.

62 IS THE WINNING NUMBER for the Quilt Raffled for at Allendale Cottages. 756s

IF the Gentleman that sent the *North Star*, dated January 29th, to Durham, will call at G. BROWN'S Railway Hotel, he can have his paper back with thanks.

SPECIAL.—TO LADIES ONLY.—A Lady having discovered a SECRET invaluable to Ladies generally, will be pleased to forward same gratis to any address on receipt of stamped directed envelope.—Address, Mrs. C., Highland Villa, Totterdown, Bristol.

MEDOMSLEY CRICKET CLUB.

IN connection with the above, a Grand EVENING CONCERT will be given in the Templars' Hall, on Monday Evening, February 25th, 1884. Artistes:—Miss SHIELD, Leadgate; Miss McALLEER, Consett; Mr. G. H. WELCH (Tenor), Durham Cathedral; Mr. G. LEATHAM (Alto), Durham Cathedral; Mr. J. NUTTON (Bass), Durham Cathedral; Miss BEATTIE, Medomsley, Accompanist.

ADMISSION—Reserved Seats, 2s.; Second Seats, 1s.; Back Seats, 6d. Doors open at 7; to commence at 7·30. Carriages may be ordered for 10·30. 719s

FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370TH STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY

THE 12TH BALLOT FOR

APPROPRIATION

WILL TAKE PLACE AT SEVEN P.M.

ON THE 13TH FEBRUARY, 1884,

AT THE

SONS OF TEMPERANCE HALL, BLACKHILL.

745s J. GIBBINSON, Secretary.

(ESTABLISHED 1794.)

NORTHUMBERLAND CARRIAGE AND HARNESS MANUFACTORY, 27, PILGRIM STREET, Newcastle-on-Tyne, February 18th, 1884.

TO THE NOBILITY, CLERGY, AND GENTRY OF THE NORTHERN COUNTIES.

WE have pleasure in informing you that we have this day taken into partnership Mr. WILLIAM PHILIPSON, the eldest son of our Mr. JOHN PHILIPSON, who has for the last thirty years, acted as managing partner in this firm.

Mr. WILLIAM PHILIPSON has been brought up to the practice of the art of Carriage Building, and has had experience of the plans adopted by the best London and Continental firms.

He is an Associate of Science of the University of Durham, and has also been successful in obtaining two medals (one of gold) from the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers, for proficiency in designing and drawing of carriages, and he has also been awarded two full technological certificates by the City and Guilds of London Institute.

We sincerely trust, with his assistance, and our continued personal attention to improvements, to extend our manufacture of Carriages and Harness, and to obtain greater perfection of design with lessened cost of production, and thus benefit those who may entrust us with their patronage.

We return our sincere thanks for the liberal support that has been accorded to us for nearly a century.—We are, your most obedient servants,

737s ATKINSON & PHILIPSON.

Public Notices.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
38 and 39 Vict. c. 55. Sch. II. (25) and Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health Forms, Sch. II. e.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF BENFIELDSIDE.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all presons 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.

(Signed) JAMES ANNANDALE.
Chairman of the Local Board.

February, 1884.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, this day of March, 1884.

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 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 edentified.

(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 Benfieldside, this day of March, 1884.

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 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 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, of 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 March, 1884.

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.

THE NEW

COAL AND STONE BORING MACHINE

From 20s. and 25s. each, complete with Drills; also BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT STEEL PICKS and SHAFTS, DRILLS, JUMPERS, and STEMMING GEAR, Wholesale and Retail at

THOMAS BOSTON'S,
NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT.

THE

"CONSETT GUARDIAN"

AFTER ATTAINING

A LARGE AND INCREASING CIRCULATION

HAS BEEN

CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED,

AND MAINTAINS ITS POSITION AS

THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

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

☞ TO ADVERTISERS.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

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

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

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON

AT

59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

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

Public Notices.

BENFIELDSIDE PARISH CHURCH.

LENT, 1884.—Evensong, Wednesdays, 7·30 p.m., February 27th (Ash Wednesday), Rev. W. E. NOWELL, B.D., of St. Cuthbert's Newcastle. March 5th, J. MORRIS, M.A. Lecturer of Durham University. March 12th, W. F. COSGRAVE, M.A., of St. Thomas's, Sunderland. March 19th, P. SULLIVAN, B.A., of Birtley. March 26th, H. J. RICHMOND, M.A., of Sherburn.

For Private Study, "The Holy Communion," by Canon W. H. Ridley, Price Sevenpence. "The Daily Round," Price 3s., published by Whittaker, London. "Historical Position of the Church of England," by W. Baker, D.D. (S.P.C.K) 1s. 6d. "The Englishman's Brief" (S.P.C.K.), Sixpence. 726s

NOTICE.—MARKET PLACE FOR CONSETT.

AT a RATEPAYERS' & OWNERS' MEETING of the Local Board District for Consett, held in the British Schools, on Thursday, 21st inst., WM. JENKINS, Esq. (Chairman of Consett Local Board) in the Chair, the following Resolution, moved by the Chairman, and Seconded by Mr. M. McNally, was adopted:—"That the Consett Local Board provide a Market Place for the Local Board District of Consett, and execute all such works as may be necessary for the purpose of Holding Markets, as provided under the Public Health, 1875, Section 166, and Schedule 3 of the same Act."—For the Meeting,

W. JENKINS, Chairman.

21st February, 1884. 762s

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
38 and 39 Vict. c. 55. Sch II. (25) and Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health Forms, Sch. II. e.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF LEADGATE.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all presons 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 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.

R. W. SHAW, Chairman of the Local Board.

21st February, 1884.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Leadgate, this day of March, 1884.

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 edentified.

(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 March, 1884.

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 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, of 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 March, 1884.

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.

MOST MONEY LENT

On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &c., &c., at

J. & E. WILSON'S,

The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England. Established 1780.

12, PILGRIM STREET

(FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET).

PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—A large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold and Silver GUARDS, ALBERTS, &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.

Mr W. Shaw, of Wolsingham, has applied for a patent for his improvements in moulds for making castings.

Public Notices.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
38 and 39 Vict. c. 55. Sch II. (25) and Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health Forms, Sch. II. e.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF TOW LAW.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all presons 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 if 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.

(Signed) JOSEPH RIDLEY,
Chairman of the Local Board.

Dated this 20th day of February, 1884.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, this day of March, 1884.

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 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 edentified.

(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 Tow Law, this day of March, 1884.

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 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 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, of 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 March, 1884.

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

CARRIAGES.

J. COWEN,
CARRIAGE BUILDER,
HEXHAM,

HAS FOR SALE, NEW DOG CARTS and WHITECHAPELS of most substantial make, elegant designs, and fine finish. For quality and price they are the cheapest in the market, and never fail to give satisfaction.

Carriages of any description built to order.
Repairs of all kinds well and cheaply done.
Gentlemen waited on, and Estimates given. 668s

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Turnbull and Adamson.

The Leases, Burnopfield, Lintz Green Station.—Sale of Grazing Cattle, Cows, Horses, and Implements.

MESSRS. TURNBULL AND ADAMSON will hold their FIRST ANNUAL SALE OF KEEPING STOCK, HORSES, & IMPLEMENTS, on the above Farm, on Wednesday, February 27th, 1884.

Present Entries include 60 to 70 Grazing Cattle, from 1 to 2 years old, many of which are from good S.H. Cows, by Pedigree Bulls; 10 to 12 Cows, calved and to calve; 4 Young Geld Cows, and 2 well-bred Bull Stirks; 50 Grazing Hoggs. 1 Alderney Bull Stirk.

HORSES—1 Powerful Brown Mare, aged, 16·2 hands, 1 Bay Horse, 8 years, 16·1 hands; 1 Bay Mare, aged, 16·0 hands, all well-known workers in all gears. Mr. Adamson is disposing of these horses as he has laid one of his farms to grass. Also, 1 Brown Horse, aged; 1 Black Mare, aged; 1 Brown Filly, rising 3 years, by "Marquis of Lorne;" 1 Draught Filly Foal, by "Sovereign." Several other Horses of various sizes, including 2 from Lintz Colliery.

Also, part of the FARM IMPLEMENTS, CARTS, REAPERS, &c.; Four-Wheeled Dog Cart; and Two-wheeled do., all in good condition.

Further Entries will be received by Mr. ADAMSON, or the AUCTIONEER. No Commission to Purchasers.

Sale at 1 o'clock for 1·30 prompt.

Chester-le-Street. 699s

A. PHILLIPSON,
GENERAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION AND HOUSE AGENT, &c.,
DIPTON.

☞ TO AMERICA, £4, BY THE BEST LINES.

FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly, and upon Reasonable Terms.

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

Public Notices.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
38 and 39 Vict. c. 55. Sch. II. (25) and Sch. IV. (Form L.) Public Health Forms, Sch. II. e.

REGISTER OF OWNERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONSETT.

NOTICE OF TIME FOR MAKING CLAIMS AND OBJECTIONS.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that all presons 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.

W. JENKINS, Chairman of the Local Board.

February, 1884.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Consett, this day of March, 1884.

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, 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 edentified.

(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 Consett, this day of March, 1884.

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 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 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, of 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 Consett, this day of March, 1884

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 Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

☞ Royal Auction Mart, Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside.

MONDAY First, February 25th, 1884, FAT CATTLE AND SHEEP, including some prime Fat Half-bred Hoggs, Milk COWS, Incalving COWS, Geld COWS, Store CATTLE, PIGS, &c., a lot of large Feeding Troughs, Tubs, Barrels, Gantries, &c., Hay Knife, Cart Ropes, Riding Bridles, Spurs, Stirrups Blocks, &c., &c.

Sale at One o'clock.

NICHOLSON and MURRAY, Auctioneers.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

By Mr. John Crawford.

In Liquidation

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL, on Monday First, February 25th, 1884 at Six o'clock in the Evening prompt, the remainder of Mr. HODGSON'S STOCK, at No. 2, Front Street, Consett. Come early for cheap bargains. Must be cleared out—Myatt's Prolific, Seed Potatoes, Holme's Relish, Tea, Barrel Churn, and a lot of other articles.

JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer.

25, Victoria Street, Consett. 748s

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly and on reasonable terms.

By Mr. Thomas M. Dawson.

PERSONS having Goods for Disposal should send them to a Central Auction Room,

Where there is a regular Weekly Sale held every Friday.

Where there is always a large attendance of Buyers.

Where the Auctioneer's experience can be trusted to secure a fair price.

Where prompt and ready settlements are always made.

Where the Auctioneer will Purchase the Goods, and thereby undertake the risk of Sale.

Where the Auctioneer will advance Cash prior to the Sale.

Where Goods of every description are regularly Sold.

Where?

AT "THE" AUCTION ROOMS,
6, MARKET STREET, AND 16, HOOD STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THOMAS M. DAWSON, AUCTIONEER. 835

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Methodist Free Church, Watling Street, Leadgate.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1884.—Under Power of Sale.

ADAM BRODIE has received peremptory instructions to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Methodist Free Church, Leadgate, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 25th, 26th, and 27th, under Power of Sale contained in a Mortgage Deed, the entire Stock of Superior LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERY of all kinds, including—Woollen Cloths, Dress Goods, Blankets and Flannels, Hollands and Calicoes, &c., full particulars of which will be given in Bills. 713e

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock each evening.

Liquidation in Bankruptcy.—67 and 69, Newport Street, Bolton.—Re J. HOLDEN, Draper.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by the Trustees in this Estate to SELL BY AUCTION, the entire Stock of Superior LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERY, which includes an immense assemblage of the best and most fashionable Goods of all kinds. The Sale will commence on Friday, February 29th, and will continue for fourteen days without the slightest reserve. Sale to commence at Two in the Afternoon, and Half-past Six o'clock in the Evening of each day. 761s

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 764t

By Mr. J. Vickers.

Tow Law Auction Mart.

MONDAY FIRST, February 25th, 1884,
Notified Consignments:—
15 Dairy Cows and Heifers, calved and close to profit.
4 Geld Cows.
21 Steers and Heifers, from 9 months to 2 years old.
1 Draught Mare, aged.
More Entries expected.
Sale at One o'clock p.m.
No Restrictions in County of Durham,
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Tunstall House, Wolsingham. 736s

By Mr. J. Jenkins.

Trafalgar Street Sale-rooms, Consett.

MR. JOHN JENKINS will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, February 25th, 1884, a large quantity of New and Second-hand Household FURNITURE, comprising 7 Second-hand Mahogany Drawers; Painted Drawers; Do. Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase; Mahogany Lobby Drawers; Birch Desk Bed; Large Dutch Drawers; Washstand; Dressing Drawers, in Maple; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; Couch; 2 Easy Chairs; Mahogany Cane and Windsor Chairs; 2 Rocking Chairs; 2 Second-hand Round Tables; 2 Mahogany Low Tables; Kitchen and Tea Tables; Clocks and Timepieces; Brass and Iron Tester Bedsteads; several Pairs of Mattresses; Down and Flock Beds; a quantity of Bedding, consisting of Blankets, Quilts, and Rugs; Parlour and Kitchen Fenders and Fireirons; 2 Towel Rails; 2 Cornice Poles; Sewing Machine; Longsettle; Pole and Camp Bedsteads; Kettles, Pans, Tubs, and Pails; large assortment of Pictures; together with a large quantity of other Useful Goods.

Sale to commence at One o'clock. 746s

Mr. J. Cooper.

Saturday, 23rd February, at one o'clock prompt.—Special and Important Sale of Colliery and Heavy Draught Horses, within Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket, Newcastle.

MR JAMES COOPER has the honour to announce his instructions to SELL, as above, on Saturday first, at one o'clock precisely, a consignment of COLLIERY HORSES, also a large consignment of highly-bred CLYDESDALE HORSES and MARES from a Dumfries-shire gentleman, who is leaving a large arable farm to enter on an extensive sheep holding.

Mr. Cooper would respectfully draw the attention of the public to this sale, the animals being equal, if not superior, to any ever offered in the city; and in order that buyers may have entire confidence, each animal will be warranted sound and a good worker in all gears, and will be sold on three days' trial.

Catalogues in course of preparation, which can be had from the AUCTIONEER, 10, Percy Street; or at the Repository, Haymarket.

JAMES COOPER, Auctioneer.
JOHN PEEL, Proprietor. 764s

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket.
The Oldest Established in the City.

SALES BY AUCTION of HORSES, CARRIAGES and SADDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, at Two o'clock.

Entries respectfully solicited.
A. T. CROW, Auctioneer
JOHN PEEL, Proprieto

Business Announcements.

Patent Medicines at less than London Store Prices.

A NOTE!

Were the enormous advantages resulting from purchasing "Patent" and other Medicines from J. Roberts, The Newcastle Chymist, properly understood, we have no hesitation in stating that Consett residents requiring such and similar articles would invariably call (when in Newcastle) and consult Mr. Roberts, at 1, New Bridge Street, or 87, Clayton Street. Our Consett friends will do well to take 'a note' of this fact! 128s

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 1884.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

In these latter days when the spirit of liberty seems as if its pinions had been shorn by the introduction of the gun tax, dog tax, and other taxes which, in advertizing phraseology, are too numerous to mention, it is gratifying to reflect that there is yet one delightful outlet to recreation and pleasure which, in the Derwent Valley at least, is untrammelled by statute or fetter. I refer to the flourishing Society which to-morrow (Saturday) evening will hold its annual session in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge—the Derwent Angling Association *to wit*. A solitary half-crown per member is all that is levied by way of backsheesh. The payment of that sum constitutes membership for a year, together with all the benefits which flow from combination, and not the least of these is protection. Some eight or nine gamekeepers have their palms crossed annually by way of quickening the faculty of perception. The Derwent trout thus enjoy comparative exemption from marauders, and have, moreover, the satisfaction of being killed scientifically, for the Derwent anglers are experts with the rod. One gentleman, resident in Consett, killed nearly 600 trout in course of the late fishing season; while another member of the Association came pretty well up to that number. No family of fishes, however large, could stand such a tremendous drain, and by way of keeping the members' hands in practice, recourse was had to artificial propagation, if I am allowed the expression. Thousands of small fishes in the shape of fry were introduced to the limpid waters of the Derwent, and having grown and waxed strong, the disciples of Isaac Walton anticipate a glorious harvest. The supply must, of course, be kept up, but that, let me say, is being well looked after. I was present at a special meeting of the Association held in the autumn of last year, and there on the table lay the lifeless bodies of two virgin trouts. They had been reared in the sunny south, taken from their element and forwarded per parcel post to the "Black North." Accompanying the specimen fishes was a document detailing the exact birth and death, just as if they had been respectable Christians. Something was said too of——well now, I am not quite sure whether mention was made of their many virtues or no; but I am positive that much was said about their good qualities, respective ages, development, &c. They were laid out on a large table, round which the wily anglers mustered; their eyes beaming with animation as visions of blue skies, murmuring streams, and leaping trouts rose before them like the mirage of the desert. It was pleasing to see men so happy, and although I did not share the interest in common with them, I dined sumptuously on the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table—so rich is the vein and exhaustless the fountain of human brotherhood.

Who would have thought that so excellent a sermon could have been preached from so brief a text—"Incedo." It is rarely that criticism is to be seen in so comely vestments. I am sure no reader of the *Guardian* laughed heartier than did the subject himself. The keen edge of ridicule was tempered by brilliant touches of pleasantry, and every touch betrayed the hand of the connoisseur. But to mention my name in common with those "sleepless souls," Defoe, Swift, Milton, and Shakespeare, was carrying the joke too far. The ghosts of those heirs of fame will owe me a grudge.

It will be seen from the advertising columns that the Presbyterian minister of Blackhill will lecture in his own church on Monday evening next on Lord Macaulay, the celebrated English historian, orator, essayist, and poet. The subject is an excellent one, and that Mr Baillie will do full justice to it no one will for a moment doubt. The utility of such lectures cannot be questioned. We live in a remarkable age. Men have neither time nor patience to wade through voluminous books—hence the popularity of lectures. And but for this deservedly popular channel of communication many a gem of thought would, like Gray's neglected flower, waste its sweetness on the desert air. I had the pleasure of listening to this most interesting lecture on a former occasion, and gladly would I have embraced another opportunity of heairng so delightful a story had not Dame Fortune, the fickle jade, played me a dance.

The series of papers contributed to the *Guardian* from the lively pen of Mr Nicholas Morgan would have graced the pages of any journal, and yet the author has grave doubts as to whether they were appreciated or no. It is always thus: men of real worth are continually beleagured by fears and doubts, while the shallow and the egotist rise superior to such consideration. It is a pity that Mr Morgan's articles didn't appear prior to the date of his entertainments; but he may, peradventure, be with us in the flesh before long. It is almost an age ago since he visited his haunt of old—Shotley Bridge.

I am much obliged to the party who didn't forget me in these days of February favours, but I don't wear red breeches, and when I go in for the fine arts I'll choose a more graceful attitude than that prefigured by my latest valentine!

It is rarely indeed that clouds of depression bedim the industrial horizon at Consett; but the present wave is so far-stretching that no corner of the vineyard, however well-favoured, can hope to escape the blighting mildew of cause and effect. Next to the want of health, that of employment is the most distressing of the thousand and one ills that afflict toiling humanity. In the case of the ironworkers, the present stagnation has a painful significance. Working short time for the last twelve months, they are ill-prepared to part with the little they have. It was a fatal mistake to stem the natural flow of the living torrent. A man might as well thrust a spear into the sea. It is to be hoped, however, that the sun of prosperity will shine forth before many weeks go past. The pending question of a reduction of wages in the shipbuilding industry is, of course, indissolubly linked to the parent stock—the iron trade. Another fortnight will see the question in the balance, but the men are singularly reticent as to what course they mean to pursue. The men are of opinion that the masters are playing at fast and loose with them, there being, they allege, no good reason why a notice of reduction should be served on them. The masters, on the other hand, assert that the few quotations in the market range from ten to twenty per cent. under cost price. It will be well if an amicable settlement can be come to, but if reduced freights necessitate the building of cheaper steamers, the masters and the operatives must needs bear the loss between them. Iron cannot very well be made at a cheaper rate; nor is there any comparison between the ironworker and his fellow in the shipyard. The lot of the former is a very hard one, and the scale of remuneration is dangerously low.

A correspondent, writing this week, asks in what way I purpose helping forward the good cause of education, in a mild way, seeing that I don't seem to favour the twin tyrants—mental cramming and the muscle-moving rod. It is questionable whether I am in a position to answer such a question. My experience of human nature is neither so broad nor so deep as to warrant my laying down a basis for future operations. I should like to see some of our local schoolmasters take the matter up. They are interested parties, it is true, but it is a subject about which they know more than any other class of men. I don't know what to think of our friends on the other side of the Border. The cram and the rod are bad enough, but what are they to a doze of castor oil? Ugh! A most extraordinary and withal a slippery way of disseminating knowledge. Solomon, with all his wisdom, never thought of such a scheme, or if he had, he never would have written the words—take fast hold of instruction. To somebody's son at Loch Goil Head, on the Frith of Clyde, belongs the honour of having found a novel use for castor oil. The slow of understanding had better make a note of this.

CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE.—On Saturday afternoon a general conference of the Northern Sectional Board, Co-operative Union, was held in the Co-operative Hall, Claypath, Durham. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Bone, president of the Durham society, and there was a good attendance of delegates. The principal feature of the meeting was a paper on "Co-operative Farming," read by Mr W. S. Harper of Whitehaven. A long and interesting discussion followed.—On the motion of Mr Scott (Newbottle), seconded by Mr Lowes (Consett), it was resolved that the paper should be referred to the various sections in the district for discussion.—In the course of the evening a handsome gold watch and chain, a purse of gold, and a tea and coffee service were presented to Mr H. R. Bailey for his faithful and valuable services to the cause of co-operation in the north; a neat gold watch and chain being at the same time presented to his wife, Mrs Bailey.—Mr Bailey feelingly responded, saying their past had been a glorious success, and he would labour in the future with a view of bringing about a still more successful issue. Delegates afterwards partook of a substantial tea.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Charlton McDonald, of Consett, a police-constable in the Newcastle Constabulary, has been dismissed from the force for being drunk and neglecting his duty, as reported last week.

OCCASIONAL COURT.—On Wednesday before Jas. Annandale, Esq., J.P., Jane Hinds, of Delves Lane, Consett, was brought up by P.C. Watson for being drunk at Leadgate, on Tuesday night. She was fined 2s 6d and costs; or seven days in default.—On the same day, George Brown, sweep, belonging to Wolsingham, was charged by Sergeant Tate with being drunk in the streets of Consett, on the 19th inst.—A fine of 5s and costs was inflicted.

THE WATERWORKS COMPANY.—The half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Consett Waterworks Company was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the offices, Sherburn Terrace. Mr John Burdon, of Claypath, Durham, (chairman of the Board of Directors) presided over the meeting. There was only a small attendance of shareholders. The report (published in last weeks' *Guardian*) was adopted, and a dividend of 5½ per cent for the next half-year was ordered to be paid. Votes of thanks to the Chairman and the Directors concluded the proceedings.

WESLEYAN METHODIST KINGSWOOD SCHOOL.—We are pleased to learn that a pupil from this school, Mr Arthur Thomas Shearman, son of the Rev. James Shearman late of this town, at a recent examination, for his matriculation at the London University successfully passed in the first division. Out of some eight hundred and fifty candidates that came up for examination, about four hundred failed to reach the standard of efficiency. As this was rather a rigid and stiff examination, which involved a great deal of preparatory work and close study, it is the more creditable that Mr Shearman should have taken honours in the first division.

CONSETT BAPTIST CHAPEL.—The annual special services, under the auspices of the Baptist Home Missionary Society, were held in the above place of worship on Sunday and Monday last. On the former day, the Rev J. Pring, of Wolsingham, occupied the pulpit morning and evening, and on each occasion preached an excellent sermon to a good audience. On Monday evening a public meeting was held, at which there was a moderate attendance. Vigorous and encouraging speeches were made by the chairman (Mr R. Evans, Beech Grove) and the Rev J. Charter, of Middleton-in-Teesdale, which were much enjoyed. A collection was made at each service in aid of the Home Mission Fund.

LEADGATE.

We have pleasure in seeing the name of Mr A. T. B. Dunn (Old Etonians) grandson of Mrs Dunn, of Low Brooms, in the list of those selected to play for England against Ireland in the football match to be played at Belfast, on Saturday next.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.—This association, which holds its annual meeting in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, to-morrow, Saturday evening, have, we learn, deposited 3,000 trout in the Derwent last season, and 6,000 during the present year, making a total of 9,000 for two seasons.

BENFIELDSIDE PARISH CHURCH.—The following clergymen have consented to preach at the Wednesday evening service at 7·30 in St. Cuthbert's Church. Ash Wednesday, 27th inst.:—Rev W. E. Nowell, B.D., vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Newcastle; March 5th—Rev Jos. Morris, M.A., Mathematical Lecturer of Durham University; March 12th—Rev W. F. Cosgrave, M.A., of St. Thomas's, Sunderland; March 19th—Rev Ponsonby Sullivan, B.A., of St. John's, Birtley; March 26th—Rev H. J. Richmond, M.A., vicar of Sherburn. There is a celebration of the Holy Communion on all Sundays at 8 a.m., Litany on Fridays at 7·30 p.m.

THE WESLEYAN MISSION SERVICES—Unparrelled success continues to attend the mission, conducted in the Wesleyan Chapel, by Mr Browell. The services are well attended, souls are nightly born into the kingdom, prodigals reclaimed, backsliders returning to their offended Father through Christ Jesus; parents and children are found enlisting under the same banner to fight for their Great Commander Christ Jesus, they having faithfully served their late Commander and proved him an exacting master. He did not give them that consolation which their souls required. We are praying and hoping for a yet more glorious victory. —*Correspondent*.

LOCAL POEMS.—We understand that the successful and interesting volumne of historical and descriptive poems, from the pen of Mr Joshua Lax, of Shotley Bridge, the Derwent Valley Poet, will be issued sometime in March. The extraordinary number of 800 copies have already been subscribed. The following notes, which accompany an exquisite ballad on the Battle of Neville's Cross, will be read with interest at the present time:—"Historians agree that the ground whereon this battle was fought was ill-chosen, being hilly and intersected by field enclosures, which considerably retarded the movements of large bodies of men. However, the Scots came on, and by dint of sword and battle-axe they hurled the first English column back. But Baliol rushed in with a body of horse, threw the Scotch battalion into confusion, and gave the English time to rally and regain their ground. The Earl of Murray fell at this juncture, and Sir Wm. Douglas was taken prisoner; and the division seeing their leaders fall, fell into disorder, and took to flight. But the fate of the day was not decided, for the other two divisions of the Scots stood their ground, and for three hours nothing was heard save the clash of arms, the breaking of spears. the muffled twinge of the bow as the archers played their deadly cloth yards, those famous six-feet bows, which won for England imperishable glory on many a bloody field in Scotland and France,—the thunder of the charging squadrons, the hoarse shouts of the combatants, mingled with the cries of the wounded, and the groans of the dying. David himself fought with the courage which hope lends to despair. He was, however, disarmed, and led from the scene of carnage. On the fall of the royal banner, the Scots gave way, and made good their retreat, but not till 15,000 of their comrades slept their last sleep on the field. The Cross erected to commemorate the English victory remained standing until 1589, in which year it is said to have been defaced and broken down. Davies, however, in his 'Rights and Monuments," fully describes it. A drawing of the Cross was made and engraved for Hutchinson's History of the County Palatine, printed in 1787, which agrees with Davies' description, and may, we think, in the general features, be accepted as a fair representation of the original erection. For the loan of this beautiful little block we are indebted to the courtesy of Mr George Walker, author and publisher of the Guide to Durham, whose father, at the beginning of this century, lent it to Surtees to embellish his magnificent History of Durham. It is believed that the block was cut by Thomas Bewick—at least the elder Mr Walker used to say so, and he possessed a large number of the famous wood engraver's woodcuts. The only portion of the Cross now remaining is the octagonal stone, or boss, referred to by Davies as supporting the Cross. The pillar let into it is no part of the original erection, having evidently been placed there in modern times. At the latter part of 1883, Mr Henry Dodds, of Rokeby Villa, solicited subscriptions for repairing the Cross, and the public responding liberally, the mound on which it stands has been repaired, and the boss has been placed on a stone base, a strong iron palisade, let into a neat low wall, protecting the whole."

STANHOPE.

A 'BUS PROPRIETOR FINED.—On Friday, at the Stanhope Police Court, John Blair, of Westgate, who runs conveyances, had been found drunk on his vehicle at night between Stanhope and Eastgate.—Superintendent Liddell proved the offence, and defendant, who did not appear, was fined 10s and expenses.

WOLSINGHAM.

Special services are being held this week in the Wolsingham Baptist Chapel, conducted by the Rev G. Wainwright, of Stockton.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—A successful concert was given on Monday night. Several excellent songs were sung by the Misses Knott, Middlesbrough. The Wolsingham Tonic-Sol-Fa Choir sang numerous pieces, under the leadership of Mr M. Wharton. Mr J. Longstaff, Shildon, presided at the piano.

SPEN COLLIERY.

A BANDSMAN "IN HIS CUPS."—Robert Hall, of The Spen (a member of the Spen band) who had been in Newcastle, along with some companions, to see the pantomime, became intoxicated. He was locked up by the police, but on giving his address he was admitted to bail, and bound over to appear at the Newcastle Police Court on Tuesday last, on a charge of drunkenness.—Defendant was fined 9s 6d, including costs.

MEDOMSLEY.

CONCERT.—We would draw attention to the grand concert announced to be given in the Templars' Hall, in connection with the Medomsley Cricket Club, on Monday evening next. The programme contains many popular pieces, among the artistes engaged being Miss Shield (Leadgate), Miss McAllen (Consett); Messrs G. H. Welch (tenor), G. Leatham (alto), and J. Nutton (bass), all from the Durham Cathedral choir. The accompanist will be Miss Beattie, of Medomsley.

SHERBURN.

LECTURE.—On Monday evening last, a very interesting lecture on "Some poets, and their poetry" was delivered in the Wesleyan Chapel, Sherburn, by Mr Joshua Lax, of Shotley Bridge. There was a large and intelligent audience, the meeting being presided over by Dr Harrison, of Sherburn. The lecturer, in rhetoric effusions, gave the biography of such poets as Wesley, Tennyson, Burns, &c., with specimens of their best works. During the recital, the company seemed highly delighted, judging from the frequent and hearty outbursts of applause that greeted the lecturer. The proceeds were in aid of the chapel fund.

LINTZ COLLIERY.

Messrs W. Rutherford and T. Thompson, both of Lintz Colliery, have applied for a patent for connecting coal tubs, carts and waggons, to a hauling rope by means of a portable slip fork.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT SOUTH DERWENT COLLIERY.—On Thursday se'nnight a boy of the name of George Stewart, aged 13 years, was killed while following his employment as a pony driver at this pit. It is the rule for boys driving the ponies to ride on the limmers. Deceased was coming out with a set of full tubs of coal, and his head was caught between the top of the tub and the timber which supports the roof or top of the seam, as in some parts of the seam only a small space between the top of the tubs and the timber which supports the roof. The lad's neck was dislocated.—Mr Coroner Graham held an inquest on the body on Saturday at the house of Mr Miles Handy, innkeeper, Catchgate. The evidence having been tendered, after due consideration, the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," and attached no blame to anyone.—The deceased was interred at St. Thomas's Church, Harelaw, on Sunday afternoon. He was a fine willing boy, and was much respected by his comrades when he left school and started work a little over four months ago. He was a scholar at the United Methodist Free Church Sunday-school. His remains were followed to the grave side by about 600 old and young people. Much sympathy is expressed for the parents on account of so sad a bereavement.

WEST STANLEY.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY. BEAMISH BRANCH.—The above society held its fortnightly meeting on Monday evening, in the Stanley National School, which was completely filled. The society still advances in prosperity, as on Monday night, other twelve persons signed the pledge. The society now boasts of upwards of one hundred members. The chair was occupied by the Rev. L. M. Chesters (Vice-President), who opened the meeting in the usual way (by a hymn and a prayer); and after the cards of membership had been distributed to the new members by the Vice-President; the programme for the evening was introduced by Mr Edwards, who recited "Buy your own cherries." This was followed by the song, "The Dutchman's lee-tle dog," which was sung by Mr E. Robson, and was well applauded. Then followed an interesting dialogue, entitled "The liquor-dealer vanquished," which was performed by Masters John and William Darney, and they were succeeded by Mr John Bell, who read an amusing piece entitled "The Yorkshireman and his family." Miss Colquohoun sang the Scotch song, "Within a mile o' Edinbro' Town," and was followed by the Chairman, who read a short extract, entitled "Two pints make a quart," showing the amount of money squandered in drink in three years, by only taking a quart of ale per day, and also pointing out a better use to which the money might have been put. Mr Ritson recited "Tam o' Shanter," and was followed by Miss Fairley, who sung "Who's that tapping at the garden gate?" in a creditable form, and for an *encore* she sang, "Tit for tat." The next was a reading, by Mr E. Robson, who gave "Mister Daniel O'Rourke," and this was followed by a recitation, entitled "The fireman's wedding," which was delivered by Mr Edwards in good style, Mr Mann then sang "Bonnie Mary of Argyle." The programme was brought to a successful close by Mr Edwards reciting "The last shilling." The audience seemed highly gratified, and showed their appreciation of the entertainment by the manner in which they applauded the several performers. The meeting was then closed by a hymn ("Even me") and prayer, after which there was a meeting of the Committee. A choir and batch of workers has been formed in connection with the Society.

EDMONDBYERS.

A PUBLICAN CONVICTED FOR REFUSING TO ADMIT THE POLICE.—At the Stanhope Petty Sessions, on Friday last, Thomas Milburn, of Edmondbyers, innkeeper, whose servant had wilfully secured the door against P.C. Reeves at twenty minutes past twelve midnight, was fined 40s and costs.—James Elliott, who was in the house at the time, was fined 5s and costs for drunkenness.

WEARDALE.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—Friday's meeting was attended by Mr C. Bainbridge (Chairman), Dr. Livingstone, Messrs. Rippon, Maddison, Teasdale, Stephenson, Crawhall, Wooler, Snowball, Reed, Robinson, Atkinson, W. Ridley, and Lee (clerk).—The calls for the next half-year's expenditure were signed.—Joseph Dawson, who married after receiving out-relief for ten or twelve years, wrote to explain the circumstances of his case. Through the influence of Mr David Dale, J.P., he got a situation on the railway at Stockton. Having to leave Weardale, he took a wife for the sake of his children "among strangers in a strange place." His belief that he was strong enough for work was illusive; he was never able to start on the railway, and the same misfortune followed when, shortly afterwards, another job turned up. Mrs Dawson's little bit of money was lost, and Dawson felt his situation keenly when he saw nothing but returning to Weardale. The letter concludes:—"I think that I acted somewhat rashly—(laughter)—but my motive was pure, and I hope, gentlemen, you will take a charitable view of my case. I have no one to depend upon, and no income. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." (Laughter).—The Guardians adhered to their resolution to offer Dawson and his wife the house.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.—This meeting, was attended by all the Guardians present at the Poor-law meeting, Dr. Montgomery's annual return for the Derwent district was satisfactory. Public health had been tolerably good, and there had been no fatality from infection. Edmondbyers water supply is indifferent, and might be permanently improved at small cost, the Guardians at once ordering that to be done.—The tender of Mr Thos. Alnwick, Stanhope, was accepted for the improved water supply at the Workhouse.

HIGHWAY BOARD.—The monthly meeting was held on Friday last, when the following were present: Messrs. Wooler (vice-chairman, presiding), Snowball, Vart, Brown, Reed, Robinson, Elliott, Thompson (clerk), and Gregson (surveyor). Contracts were signed for the erection of a two-arch stone bridge, nine feet carriage way, over the Wear at Haggford, at a cost of £677, to be raised jointly by rates and public subscriptions, the county declining to contribute in the absence of the Board's assent to the conditions under which ordinary county bridges are erected. The highway accounts for the month, £138 14s 6d, were approved for payment.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, Feb. 11th.—Before J. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (in the chair), and ROBT. DICKINSON, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Peter McGuinness pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Hall, of being drunk in the streets of Blackhill, about a quarter to eleven o'clock on Saturday night last.—He was fined 5s and 5s 10d. costs.

John Fitzpatrick, who was charged by P.C. Garbutt with being drunk and causing a disturbance at Blackhill on the 14th of this month, was mulcted in a similar penalty.

Peter Mahalon was found guilty, on the evidence of P.C. Newton, of being drunk and disorderly at Consett on the previous Saturday night.—Shortly after eleven o'clock the officer found the defendant lying on the ground in Medomsley Road, in a helpless state of intoxication, and he was locked up.—Defendant explained that he had been employed by the "Town's Incorporation" in breaking stones during the last week. On Saturday he had two teeth drawn out by the doctor, and, subsequently, one of his companions invited him to "take a glass to mend his teeth." (Laughter). He did so—in fact, he drank seven or eight glasses of liquor, and soon became intoxicated.—Defendant was fined 6s and costs; with the option of seven days' imprisonment.

DESERTING HIS WIFE AND FAMILY.

Michael McNulty, a powerfully-built labourer, recently working at Consett, was brought up charged with deserting his wife and family, thereby leaving them chargeable to the Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union.—Mr J. Moon, the Relieving Officer, explained that the prisoner left his wife and two children on the 25th January, from which date they had been, and still were, inmates of the workhouse.—Defendant alleged that he had been out of employment for a long time, and he left his wife and children in order to go in search of work. As soon as he learnt that they had gone into the workhouse, he returned home again. He was quite willing to pay the sum claimed by the Guardians, as soon as he was in a position to do so.—Mr Moon observed that the prisoner deserted his wife on a former occasion, but she did not enter the workhouse, as she was not destitute; but he provided her with a doctor.—The Chairman informed the prisoner that he was liable to be sent to prison for such an offence. The magistrates, however, would remand the case for a month, and bind the prisoner over in the sum of £5 to appear when called upon to receive judgment. The prisoner was advised to arrange with Mr Moon in the meantime as to the payment of costs.

AN ARDENT CRAVING FOR DRINK: A SAD STORY.

Alice Fegan, the wife of John Fegan, beerhousekeeper, of Derwent Street, Blackhill, pleaded guilty to being drunk and incapable at Blackhill, on Saturday last.—Sergeant Cruickshank deposed that at two o'clock in the afternoon he found the defendant very intoxicated in the public streets, and as she appeared to be unable to take care of herself he locked her up. The officer proceeded to explain that the defendant was a sober, industrious woman, until about fourteen months ago, when she commenced to drink very heavily, and since that period she had only been sober at short intervals for five weeks. Every precaution had been taken by her husband to prevent the woman from obtaining liquor, but she always succeeded in overcoming all obstacles and getting the drink she was craving for. Mr Fegan, being determined if possible to prevent his wife's drunken proclivities, fastened her on one occasion in a room, but she succeeded by means of inserting a tube, ½-inch in diameter, in the wall, and communicated with a wine barrel, thus enabled her to drain the contents thereof. Accordingly the woman was locked up in another room, but she escaped by the upstairs window and creeping stealthily along the tiles of the roof, made a descent to the ground. The clergymen and other persons have persuaded her to leave off this noxious habit of debanchery, but without any effect; the woman has so engendered her life that the doctor was the means of saving her on two occasions. He (the sergeant) had used the most powerful language he could command to cure the defendant of this baneful evil, but the only hope of reforming the woman was by sending her off to a retreat. A short while ago a temporary retreat was obtained for the defendant by sending her to some respectable friends; but despite their efforts to cure, she derived no beneficial results therefrom.—In reply to the Bench, the sergeant explained the reason he had not summoned the woman before now was because he took pity on her, as she was the mother of a large family of young children.—The Bench imposed a fine of 2s 6d and costs; or in default, the defendant must undergo seven days' hard labour.—At a later stage, Mr John Fegan, the husband, asked their Worships' advice as to the best means of getting his wife sent to a retreat. He told a pitiful tale concerning the defendant's intemperate propensities, and said that Sergeant Cruickshank was quite familiar with the circumstances of the case, as he had frequently given him (the applicant) some good advice, and informed him the best course open to him. There appeared to be no other means of curing his wife, than to get her into a retreat, and several persons had recommended this remedy. He had to look after a family of eight children, whose ages ranged from eight years to a few months. Lately, he had spent most of his time, however, in keeping a strict watch over his wife's movements, and he was obliged to neglect other important duties in consequence.—The Chairman: Does your wife wish to enter a retreat?—The applicant: I cannot say that she does.—The Chairman: I am of opinion that the woman must complain herself to the Bench. I don't think we can send her to a retreat solely upon your application.—The applicant explained that his wife had been constantly drunk during the past eleven weeks, and really he did not know what to do with her: She did not procure the liquor in his house, and the publicans in the place refused to supply her; but she got the drink by means of sending any children she met in the street for it. His wife had also pledged a quantity of clothing to obtain the liquor.—The Chairman did not think the magistrates could advise Mr Fegan in the matter, unless his wife expressed her willingness to go to a retreat. However, they would adjourn the case for a week to consider the point; and if Mr Fegan attended the court on Monday next and renewed his application, they would consult with their Clerk, and see what was best to be done.—Mr Fegan stated he had been advised by a competent authority not to pay the penalty inflicted on his wife that morning, but let her go to gaol instead. Would the Bench offer any advice on that subject?—The Chairman replied that they could not; but they would allow the fine to stand over for a week, and then it would be finally settled at the next court the course to be pursued under the circumstances.—Mr Fegan said he was quite willing to act upon any suggestion made by the magistrates, and he would adopt that course. Having thanked the Bench, the applicant withdrew.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Feb. 21st.—Before the Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE, (chairman), and GEORGE HEDLEY, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Robert Calvert pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness preferred against him by P.C. Raine.—On Saturday, 2nd inst., the officer was on duty near the Stag's Head Inn, Waterhouses, when he observed the landlord in the act of ejecting the defendant. He (the constable) ordered the man to go away, but he was again turned out of the public house, and afterwards desired to fight someone in the street.—Defendant was fined 5s. and costs (10s. 6d.), or seven days' hard labour in default.

Matthew Bevan, for being drunk and wanting to fight at Esh Colliery, on the same night, was mulcted in a like penalty.

James Welch was charged by Sergt. Nicholson with being drunk and incapable at Quebec, on the 8th of this month.—The Sergeant said that on the day in question, the defendant passed through the village with a load of furniture. He was very intoxicated, and caused a great deal of disturbance. He had to threaten to lock the man up before he would desist and go quietly away.—A fine of 5s and expenses was imposed in this case.

John Conroy was summoned by P.C. Cockburn for being drunk and fighting with another man at Quebec, on Friday, 8th inst.—Defendant admitted the offence, and was fined 5s and costs.

John Marley also pleaded guilty to being drunk and creating an uproar at Quebec, on the 11th inst., and was ordered to pay 10s. 6d., which includes the fine and costs.

Andrew Bolam, miner, was found guilty, on the evidence of P.C. Hawley, of being drunk and using abusive language at Burnhope Colliery, on the 8th of the present month, and was fined in the same amount.

TRESPASS BY LADS.

Robert Simpson and *John Colbart*, boys, were summoned by the Weardale Iron and Coal Company, for trespassing in a certain field at Tow Law, damaging the grass to the extent of 1d each.—P.C. Tones, on behalf of the prosecutors, asked to withdraw the charge, and the Bench consented to this course.

ALLEGED ASSAULT.

Robert and *James Horton*, brothers, were charged by Thomas Guy with having assaulted him by striking at him, at Langley Park, on the 10th Feb. The complainant said it was not a serious assault, and as the defendants had a vast amount of sickness in the family, he considered it his duty to withdraw the summonses.—This course was agreed to, the defendants promising to bear the Court expenses, amounting to 13s 6d.

BREACH OF THE MINES' ACT.

John Davison, a coal hewer, pleaded guilty to infringing the special rules enforced at the Ushaw Moor Colliery, on the 13th inst., by unraming a charge of shot which had previously missed fire.—The case was not pressed by the colliery owner (Mr Henry Chaytor), and the defendant was let off on paying 3s 6d as costs.

ILL-TREATING A WIFE.

Michael Malone, general dealer, Consett, was charged with assaulting his wife, Annie Malone, on the 30th ult. Complainant attested that on the day in question her husband struck her upon the head several times in succession, and also gave her a fearful blow on the hand, bruising it to such an extent that she had to go to the doctor's, and was laid up for nine days in consequence. During the past three years the defendant had frequently ill-treated her in this manner.—Defendant alleged that his wife threw a bucketful of dirty water over him, before he struck at her; she also broke a tea-pot, and every vessel in the house she could lay her hands upon.—The defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for six months' and defray the costs.—The Chairman reproved the complainant for her unseemly behaviour in Court, and said the Magistrates could quite believe that she had given her husband a vast amount of provocation.

SINGULAR CASE OF WILFUL DAMAGE.

Patrick Wall, a general dealer, belonging to Newcastle, was summoned for wilfully damaging a lock, the property of the Misses Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall, to the amount of 10s. Mr Armstrong, solicitor, Newcastle, appeared to prosecute, and called Thomas Newton, who said he lived at Craig Hill, and was in charge of the private tolls belonging to the Misses Surtees. On the 29th January last, the defendant travelled along one of their private roads, and deliberately broke the lock attached to one of the gates into two or three pieces, in order to unfasten it and pass through. After doing so, the defendant did not pay his usual toll, but drove away as speedily as he possibly could.—Mr Armstrong explained that the road referred to joined the Lobley Hill Road, and the Shotley Bridge Turnpike; it was also a means of communication with the main road to Burnopfield. It was a private carriage road for the use of the Misses Surtees and her own particular friends. The lock was of an especial design, and there were twelve separate keys connected with it. Defendant had been in the habit of using this road for some time, but he paid an acknowledgment every time he passed through the gate.—In replying to Mr Granger (the Magistrates' Clerk), the witness Newton said the defendant never gave him an opportunity of asking him for the tolls.—Defendant admitted that he had broken the lock, but disputed the amount assessed as damages, inasmuch as he could procure a similar lock for 6d or 8d.—Mr Hedley: But you were trespassing, and had no business there.—Defendant: I believe that, your Honour. I have gone through this gateway for a matter of fifteen or sixteen years, and I pay 3d every time I pass through. At one time, I used to pay as much as 7d. I have to start from Newcastle twice a week early every morning, and I consider it very hard that I should have to be compelled to wait until the toll-keeper thinks proper to let me pass through the gate.—The Chairman: Well, we have nothing to do with that matter.—Defendant: I have some doubts about this being a public road.—The Chairman: You admit it is such when you have been paying an acknowledgment for these number of years.—Defendant: All the other private roads on the estate have notice boards erected cautioning trespassers, but this road has not such a board.—The Chairman: You have known all along that this is a private road, and you had no business to break the lock.—Defendant: I admit so, but I wanted to bring the matter to a head.—The Chairman: Well, you have brought it to a head.—The Magistrates' Clerk: If you dispute the amount of damage we will prove it.—Mr Armstrong was then sworn, and said that it would take 5s to replace the lock; and another set of a dozen keys would also cost about 5s. The gate had likewise been damaged.—Defendant: How is it that since this affair took place, the tenants have not yet obtained another set of keys?—Mr Armstrong: Because we have not had time to get them.—Defendant: What, not since the 29th January?—The Chairman: They have been waiting for you to pay for them.—Defendant: They must be very hard up, then. (Laughter).—The defendant was proceeding to relate a long story, when the Chairman interrupted him, and told him that the Bench had heard quite sufficent about the matter. It was a very impudent trick for the defendant to break the lock in that way. He would have to pay a fine of 2s 6d, 10s damage, and the costs—19s in all.

A charge of attempting to evade the payment of the toll preferred against the defendant was (by the permission of the Bench) withdrawn, Mr Armstrong intimating that he would be responsible for the court expenses.—Defendant: Oh, that's better. (Laughter).—The Chairman: I think you have been very mercifully treated, and you must thank Mr Armstrong for such a favour.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.—Braes of Derwent Foxhounds—Wednesday, Feb. 27, Whickham; Sat., Mar. 1, Shotley Bridge, at 10.30. North Durham—Mon., Feb. 25, Witton Gilbert; Wed., 27, Rainton Bridge; Fri. 29, Butsfield, at 10·45.

GATESHEAD COUNTY POLICE.

TUESDAY, Feb. 19th.—Before L. W. ADAMSON, Esq. (chairman), and R. O. LAMB, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

John Bedlington, of Axwell Colliery, was charged by P.C. Taylor with being drunk and disorderly at Winlaton Mill, on the 9th inst.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

John Wright, of Swalwell, was summoned by P.C. Lambert on a charge of having been drunk at Swalwell, on the 8th February.—He was fined 2s 6d and costs.

John Mains, of Winlaton, charged by Sergeant Clark with having been drunk and disorderly at Winlaton, on February 9th, was fined 2s 6d and costs.

William Renforth, of Axwell Colliery, was summoned on a charge of being drunk and causing a disturbance at Winlaton Mill, on the 9th inst., and was fined 2s 6d and costs.—P.C. Taylor proved the case.

George Orowston, of Blaydon, and *Luke Gray*, of Winlaton, were summoned by Sergeant Benzies on a charge of having been drunk and disorderly at Blaydon, on February 9th.—Each defendant was fined 5s and costs.

John Gee, of Blaydon, was charged by P.C. Harkess with having been drnuk and causing a disturbance at Blaydon, on the 6th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Isabella Dixon, of Strothers, *James Brown*, of Barlow, *Thomas Robinson*, The Spen, *John Walton* and *Edward Shotton*, a well-known pigeon-shooter, of Rowlands Gill, were summoned on a charge of doing wilful damage to grass, the property of Mr George Handyside, of Strothers Farm, to the amount of 1d each.—They were fined 1s a-piece and costs.—P.C. Farrar proved the case.

Thomas Gardner and *Thomas Hickson*, both of Whickham, were summoned by Mr E. Taylor for wilfully damaging some gravel, at Whickham, on February 6th.—Defendants were fined 1s each, and ordered to pay 3d damage and the costs.—The case was proved by P.C. Green.

USING THREATENING LANGUAGE.

Robert Shield, of Winlaton Mill, was summoned on a charge of using threatening language to one Mary Phillipson, of Winlaton Mill, on February 7th.—Defendant was bound over himself in the sum of £40, in two sureties of £20 each, to keep the peace, or go to prison for three months.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND ASSAULT.

John Wilkinson, of Blaydon, was brought up in the custody of P.C. Joicey on a charge of assaulting and robbing Robert Ward, on the highway near Winlaton, and taking his watch and chain, on February 16th.—He was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY A CRIPPLE.

William Leach, a cripple, was brought up in the custody of Sergeant Benzies on a charge of having embezzled several sums of money, the property of Mr Williams, the lessee of Scotswood Bridge.—The prisoner was employed at Blaydon check-toll. His duty was to collect the toll, and afterwards pay it over to Mr French, the head collector. The largest sum embezzled was 17s.—Prisoner admitted taking the money, but said it was understood that he had to have half the money taken after five o'clock at night.—Mr French denied that there was any agreement of that sort.—Prisoner was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

OUR LADIES' COLUMN.

Ladies who take no interest in politics must have found themselves rather at a disadvantage all this week now closing. Our gentlemen relatives and friends have been so full of the meeting of Parliament as to be unable to talk on any other subject, and those pleasant topics which suited us so well, and which did duty since the beginning of the New Year are now quite excluded from conversation. When we were in the schoolroom we were obliged to master some dreary chapters of English history entitled "The Constitution of England," which were particularly dull reading, and seemed to be an utterly useless study. Though time and experience have shewn us the use of these lessons, we now require a perfectly new arrangement of the political parties. Whigs and Tories were bad enough to keep in their proper places in our memories, but now we have four parties in the House of Commons to follow, and each of the four has its little shades of distinction in the personality of its members. If, therefore, we are not to be left out of the conversation, and be consigned to corners of drawing-rooms, we must pay attention to what the gentlemen who stand on hearthrugs with their backs to the fires say on public matters.

Mr. Hayward, who died this day week, in one of his clever essays, that on Whist, dilated upon the peculiarity of the English character which had a rooted objection to leading trumps. "There are," said the writer, "hundreds of English families wandering aimlessly and half-ruined over the Continent, because they would not make up their minds to lead trumps." The fact is that only a limited number of people are equal to such a condition as a good hand of trumps implies. We see this every day in politics, watching our legislators at their work; and we see it among our friends who are unable to use the social advantages which kind fortune seems to have dealt to them. If that clever essayist who has just gone over to the majority had lived but a few weeks longer, how he would have watched the progress of events, and which of his countrymen would be brilliant exceptions to the rest, and lead trumps in the game of statesmanship.

Professor Cope has been lecturing on evolution, and has discovered that our jaws are undergoing changes, which prove that man is progressing to new forms. A great many people, it appears, have no wisdom teeth, and this is accepted as an alarming, or at least convincing, argument. Whether the fact of so many adults having these back teeth growing partially decayed is to be accepted as having none, the Professor does not state. One would be curious to know what we are likely to arrive at some thousands of years hence; whether man will then speak as fluently as he now does, or whether all his teeth will have disappeared and he will have become a graniverous animal. The American professor, who traced us back to bears, has been again in the field, urging parents to bring up their children on all fours as much as possible. Naturally a child creeps before he walks, and fond parents are always eager to see him stand upright and move on two legs, by assuming which position, says the professor, the action of the heart, liver, &c., is deranged. It is, therefore, strongly urged upon all parents to keep children as long as possible on the ground, and prevent them using their hands. How they are eventually to earn their living is overlooked, but, so far as England is concerned, a strong belief is gaining ground every day among dispassionate people that more hand work and less head would be desirable in national education. In the multitude of doctrines preached for elevating the human race, there is every variety of panacea offered. But after all Frederick the Great was not so far wrong when he said that if he wished to punish a kingdom he would hand it over to the philosophers.

We have promises of a good deal of variety in the make of our dresses this season, but it is too early to look for performance. The dressmakers are at work chiefly upon evening and dinner dresses, which are required immediately, while for morning dresses their customers can well wait for yet another month. The Queen will hold two drawing-rooms in March, and already court dresses are in preparation. At Countess Spencer's drawing-room, at Dublin Castle last week, there was such a display of new dresses as had not been seen at the viceregal court since the troubled times began. This can only be partly ascribed to payment of rents and returning prosperity; a leading modiste, who was rejoicing over the revival of trade in her particular line of business, alleged that she had made and re-made, trimmed and re-trimmed all her customers' old dresses so frequently during the last three years that the wearers were ashamed to be seen again in the rejuvenated trains; therefore new ones were imperatively necessary.

The Dublin drawing-rooms are held in the evening, and a woman is not necessarily in her decadence because she prefers to be seen in full dress by artificial light instead of in full noon tide, as at Buckingham Palace. Driving down to the Castle in the evening ample wrapping up is possible, a lady may make herself perfectly warm and comfortable without regard to appearances. In London, on the contrary, when carriages are drawn up in line in St. James's Park at or shortly after 12 o'clock, in broad daylight, with hundreds of curious people walking past, and looking in at the carriage windows, a sense of the becoming impels a woman to muffle but moderately. The old saying that pride feels no pain comes to the aid of some of these martyrs to the convenances; or, as our French neighbours put it, *il faut souffrir pour être belle.*

The profusion of artificial flowers to be worn upon evening dresses this year will be an expensive item in the milliner's bill. Clusters on the shoulders, thick garlands passing from the shoulder on one side to the waist at the other; large bouquets upon the skirts, not so much one bunch as a group of bunches, looping the tunics up, or fastening them down, and as these skirt flowers are of prodigious size, their cost will be in proportion. Cheap flowers, apart from their mean appearance and poor colours, are a great mistake. They toss quickly and lose their freshness immediately, while a good set of flowers can be transferred from one dress to another, and do duty over and over again. As artificial flower-making gives a great deal of employment of a light and pleasant nature to women, it is to be hoped that rich people will indulge liberally in dresses with lavish flower trimming this season. Some of the sets, garlands, bouquets, chatelaines, &c., which have already come over from Paris are priced at £5 each. One cannot but wonder whether the cost is for the material employed or for the workmanship. If the latter it is to be hoped the workers receive the benfit of the excessive prices.

Ladies who have found themselves out of date with their hair dressed low down on the neck behind, in a Grecian knot, find it difficult to make the coil comfortably on the top of the head. It is only necessary to look round a crowded drawing-room at an evening party to see that some ladies manage better than others to make a firm erection, defying accidents to bring it down. It is true that some heads have certain phrenological organs largely developed which afford a kind of plateau for the hair, but even this condition is a snare, as it leads tasteless hairdressers to fill up too much coiffure, which is very unbecoming.

Divide the hair by a line passing from ear to ear over the top of the head. From the centre of the front hair take a tress thick enough to twist or plait, and wind it firmly round to serve as a foundation for what is to be added. Cut the remainder of the front short enough to curl in short curls, or if no better can be devised, to friz. Take the back half of the hair and divide it into three, the extreme back, and two sides. Hold the former in the left hand, and with the right comb the hair from the roots up until it comes sufficiently high to wind round the foundation twist. Comb up the sides in the same way, one after the other, and wind loosely round. It is a great mistake to heap on flowers to any extent upon a head dressed in this manner. Ladies so fortunate as to possess diamond stars require nothing more. Very pretty pins are appearing in the shops daily, designed for the head, of cut steel, tortoise shell, enamel, pearls, &c., which are very ornamental. Little wreaths of rosebuds look very pretty, or on young women daisies or buttercups.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

ROSA BONHEUR.

To put energy into whatever we undertake is the lesson which may be learnt from the career of the greatest of female artists, Rosa Bonheur.

The daughter of a painter, whose poverty compelled him to give lessons in drawing, Rosa Bonheur early shewed her hereditary genius. When but 10 years old she delighted to wander through the Bois de Boulogne, then a rough young forest. Throwing herself on the grass, she would pass hours in listening to the songs of the birds, or watching the effects of the sunlight struggling through the wood.

Broad dusty roads run through the forest. Little Rosa often stopped on the roadside and drew on the sand, with a stick, horses, cows, people, and then surrounded them with a landscape, dotted with windmills and cottages. The drawing of the little artist frequently attracted a group of persons.

"You draw well, my little girl," said one of her admirers, as, on his knees, he examined the tracings in the sand.

"Yes, indeed," replied the child, with a decided air. Papa draws well, too. He gave me lessons."

At the young ladies' school, where her father paid for her tuition and board by giving drawing lessons, she made poor progress in the ordinary studies. Drawing absorbed her, and her sketches never failed to win the first prize.

She also used her art to express her love of fun. She would cut out caricatures of the older scholars and the teachers. These she would fasten by threads to balls of chewed paper, and then fling them to the ceiling, where they dangled to the amusement of the school. Madame, the principal, would sentence Rosa to bread and water, and then gather up the caricatures for her own album.

After several years of drawing and painting in her father's studio and at the Louvre Gallery, she resolved to be a painter of country scenes and objects. She took long walks into the country and studied the streams, fields and woods, and the flocks and herds which made them their haunts.

She and her father lived in four small rooms on the sixth story of a Paris house. The rooms opened out upon a little balcony, which Rosa made into a hanging garden where she installed a pretty sheep. For two years that sheep served as her model.

Three times a week the energetic young woman visited one of the Paris abattoirs, or slaughter-houses. There, amid butchers and disgusting surroundings, she sketched. She called often at farm yards and markets, mingled with shepherds and horse-dealers, and roamed among the mountain pastures of France and over the Pyrenees of Spain.

It is said that when Sir Edwin Landseer first saw Rosa Bonheur's celebrated picture, "The Horse Fair," he exclaimed, "It surpasses me, though it's a little hard to be beaten by a woman."

While painting this picture Rosa went twice a week to the horse-market, and there studied the horses and their Normandy owners and grooms. She loves to study the individual traits of animals. At her home she keeps, as favourite models, two horses, four goats, an ox, a cow, donkeys, sheep, dogs, several smaller animals, and a number of rare fowls and birds.

THE WOLF AT THE DOOR.

"Do wolves go to poor people's doors, mamma?
That is what the minister said
When he came to ask for money to-day,
And told you somebody's mother was dead."

"Yes! They do really, and stand and howl!"
"Then it is dreadful to be poor.
Just think how awful to go to bed
When likely a wolf will be at the door!"

"With rich people too—are you sure mamma?
But then a policeman might drive them away
Rich people can have their houses watched,
You know very well, all night and all day."

"Another kind of a wolf, but worse!"
"Worse than the poor people's kind? Oh, say,
Can it come to us? We are very rich;
I heard a man say we were to-day."

"Ah, darling, 'tis well you are afraid,
The wolf is more frightful than you can guess;
No policeman can drive him away.
His terrible name is selfishness!"

BROTHERLY BEARS.

A gentleman was making inquiries in Russia about the method of catching bears in that country. He was told that a pit was dug and covered with turf, leaves, &c., and some food placed on the top. The bear easily fell into the snare.

"But," he added, "if four or five happen to get together, they all get out."

"How is that?" asked the gentleman.

"They form a ladder by stepping on each other's shoulders, and thus make their escape."

"But how does the bottom one get out?"

"Ah! these bears, though not possessing a mind and soul such as God has given us, yet can feel gratitude; and they won't forget the one who has procured their liberty. Scampering off, they fetch the branch of a tree, which they let down to their brother, enabling him to join them."

Sensible bears, and a great deal better than human bears we hear about, who never help anybody but themselves.

A CRAZY EMPEROR.

Paul I. of Russia was so eccentric as to justify his subjects in thinking him crazy. As he was a despot, his whims had to be carried out; and when they became so numerous as to annoy the nobles, they put into execution that unwritten law which tempers Russian despotism—assassination. One of his whims is given in this anecdote:—

That crazy Emperor, Paul I. of Russia, during one of his drives, met a soldier whose countenance pleased him.

"Come into my carriage, lieutenant," said Paul.

"Sire, I am only a private."

"The Emperor is never mistaken, captain."

"I obey your orders, sire."

"Very good, commandant. Take your seat by my side. What lovely weather we have to-day!"

"Sire, I dare not venture——"

"What are you saying, colonel?"

Unluckily for the new-made colonel, the Emperor had to be back at the palace early that morning. If the drive had continued a few minutes longer, his chance companion would have been made field-marshal. As it was, he was obliged to content himself with the grade of major-general.

But, a few days afterward, the same poor wretch, picked up by the Emperor, in exactly the same way, had to go through the same gradations of rank, only in the reverse direction, and in half-an-hour, from beginning a major-general, had to become private soldier again.

On another occasion, Paul, while viewing a regiment which did not please him, gave the word of command, "Right-about face! March to Siberia!"

And the whole regiment, officers and men, were obliged to set off by forced marches for Siberia. It was only when they got half-way there that Count Rostopchine obtained their recall.

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—In time of war, when passions rage,
And alienate mankind,
An active worker in the strife
My *whole* you'll surely find.
Reject my *first*, and then I bring
Bad tidings or good cheer,
Which, taken in their proper place,
Will in this line appear.

2.—I am a visitor, and in my name are 10 letters. My 6, 7, 8, 10, 1 is what you see in a school; my 2, 3, 9, 4 is a relation of a family; and my 4, 5, 3 is the colour of my face.

3.—A river you must truly find,
If my *first* you wish to see;
And *next* a composition—mind,
'Tis musical, and sung by three.
Now find a word of letters two,
Which I am sure is known by you.
My *whole*, a word of syllables three,
That shews what all of us should be.

4.—My *first* is a colour; my *second* a river; my *whole* a Scotch town.

5.—Buried Fruit.—The town of Agra pealed forth a song of joy. The map pleased the children. Sambo ran Gerald round the garden. The ape aroused from its slumbers. The camel onward came. The figure is wrong.

6.—My *first* is part of a soldier's gun—
So much required in war—
My *second* you will surely find,
In a winedealer's store;
And if my *whole* you'd plainly see,
Search England's towns, and one 'twill be.

7.—I consist of 14 letters. My 12, 14, 6, 1, 14 is something quiet; my 1, 11, 7, 4, 8, 6, 10, 1, 14 is a female's name; my 13, 9, 2, 10 is an animal; my 4, 8, 6, 9, 7 is to discover; my 4, 12, 14, 1, 9, 6, 13 is extraordinary; my *whole* is a town in Europe.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Assassination. 2. Sham-e, Scan-t, Sod-a, Bran-d, R'd-e. 3. Southampton. 4. Ring, grin, gin. 5. Gnu, lion, panda, sable. 6. Trash, rash, ash, has. 7. Whitehaven.

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SHAUGH BRIDGE:

THE STORY OF A WOMAN'S REVENGE.

BY SIDNEY SHELLEY.

CHAPTER XIX.

Belmore had drawn on his gloves, and insolently put on his hat while Lady Breffny spoke. The appearance of a second footman seemed to imply that "delay was dangerous," as the copy books instruct us. So he moved towards the door, saying, in a voice that grew louder as he left the room—

"I only waited for the end of your ladyship's lucid and able speech. I wish you good morning, ladies. Yes, as you say, the world shall know that I have been taken in, cheated into proposing to an adventuress, who had better advertise for a character. False teeth, false hair, and paint may make a coarse imitation of departed beauty. False arithmetic may make a grasping and beggarly Countess believe in a fortune that does not exist. False pretences may——"

But in firing this parting shot, echoes from which resounded nearly all the way to the hall door, Belmore had not noticed that both the ladies had glided out of the morning room by a side door, and the two footmen appeared as if they were too busy to admit of their losing much time in shewing him into the square, where his perfect and much-admired turn-out awaited the fallen man, who had driven forth in state in order to propose to an heiress.

How white he looked, how he shook all over; how weak was his hand on the rein; how he *would* not see the friends that he passed; with what a hasty yet uncertain step he entered his reception room, may readily be imagined. How, too, he started when he beheld his friends, Hynam and Aaron, looking the very pictures of wealthy good humour and friendliness, seated beside his table, coolly turning over a book or two—one of photographs—that lay upon it.

"My dear friend," exclaimed Hynam, starting up, and seizing his hand, "My dear friend, here's news! good news. But what is the matter? You are ill! In bad plight for an attack on an heiress."

"Bother heiresses!" said Belmore. "I wish all heiresses were turning the fish of the sea into gold fishes."

"Nay, nay," said Mr. Aaron, benignantly smiling. "Never mind if you have, *par exemple*, been unsuccessful with one. Not that I suppose you have."

"Yes, I have," said Belmore, ferociously. "Cheated and lured on to propose by herself, and bothered to death to make her an offer by you two harpies."

"Rather forcible phrases; but never mind, we are used to them," said Mr. Aaron, with great command of temper. "Who has refused you, my good friend? But be calm"

"Chesterfield; with three or four millions. A girl I was engaged to; but I broke it off because she wrote me word, with her candour and all that—bother it!—that she was a hideous fright in consequence of that railway accident at Shaugh Bridge; and her uncle had sworn that he would disinherit her. But she *was* lovely, magnificently beautiful, and is so still."

"And she has refused you?" said Mr. Hynam, still with surprising equanimity, almost an hilarious manner.

"She has confound her and her beggarly Countess."

"Never mind," said Mr. Aaron. "To pursue your clever thought about the fishes, there are as good fish in the sea as have ever been caught. Lady Amy loves you. She would not refuse you."

Belmore scowled.

"And to cheer your spirits," said Aaron, in a light and airy manner, "we have good news in that quarter. True, there *was* a boy born to Lord Plantagenet in legitimate wedlock. True, the boy and his mother were sent to America by his lordship. Their identity has always been clear. No legal quibbles can shake that, as we know. But we have found out that they came back from America three years ago. They were going to London, where the widow meant to make herself and her boy known as Lord Plantagenet's widow and son, when, as good luck would have it, the lad was killed in that very accident at Shaugh Bridge that seems to have damaged Miss Chesterfield's beauty, and had a curious influence on your destiny."

Belmore's eyes were fixed on Mr. Aaron as he spoke.

"So Lady Amy is the heiress of all that enormous property. Can't be less—may be more—than a hundred thousand a-year. The income you will have, and will spend, no doubt, satisfactorily," continued the Jew.

"That is glorious news," responded Captain Belmore, still looking pale, and still shivering as if feverish. "I had best see about Lady Amy at once. I know she will not disoblige her father by a marriage which he does not consent to. Neither would that be prudent. Lord Coningsborough might marry again out of spite."

"Oh, no; years and gout would be obstacles. Still, you know best. But I assure you the Earl is very, very shaky——"

"A good and attentive daughter, who has given up her wishes to him, would be certain to prevent any idea of that sort," resumed Belmore. "But I shall be able, I am certain, to obtain her promise to marry me at his decease. She is too romantically in love, and all that. However, duty and that bosh would keep her to her word."

"You *must* let us know, then, how you fare. With an engagement like that to a woman with those notions before you, I and my friend, hard up as we are at present—What say you, Hynam?"

"Poor, indeed," returned the handsome Hynam, "yet willing according to our power to help our friends, we might continue our supplies. But the interest will be high."

"I shall start for Conyers to-morrow," said Belmore.

He took out his purse—there were five sovereigns therein, which he laid on the table: "With this I am going to propose to an heiress with a prospective hundred thousand a year—it is too absurd."

Messrs. Hynam and Aaron, after much discussion, and many assertions of poverty, at length discovered that they had fifty pounds about them; after taking a regular receipt this was deposited, together with the five sovereigns, in Belmore's purse. Soon after this, the two friends composing the Asian Mystery retired in excellent spirits, and with many jests on the number of birds they meant to kill the first season in which they would be invited to pass the dead month of September at Conyers Towers. Well they knew—jocular fellows as they were—that no client, however he might have been indebted to them, ever did invite them to park, castle, or manor-house. In a friendly manner, and a kind of jocularity which gave evidence of their confidence in his success, the two friends bade Belmore good afternoon. Mr. Hynam said, at parting, after ascertaining by what train he meant to go the next morning to Elmfield, the nearest station to Conyers, that he could be at the station to see him off and bid him good speed, and after another half-hour had passed, Captain Belmore sent for a cab and went to call upon a friend. This friend happened to be Captain De Bathe, of the 23rd Lancers—Belmore's brother, it may be remembered, was in the same regiment, and thus it happened that he was personally acquainted with most of the officers. After some indifferent conversation Belmore asked Captain De Bathe if he knew anyone who wanted to buy a specially neat "turn-out," which was to be sold immediately. "The owner," said he, with a significant smile, "is likely to be married soon, and he will not at first require such a bachelor trap; indeed he has had a summons to the home of his fiancée, where he may remain till lawyers and settlements require his presence in town; so anyone who will give a fair price may have it at once."

"By Jove!" exclaimed De Bathe, "I only wish it was yours; but I would not go in for a very long price—still I allow it is the neatest thing I have seen this season, and the newest."

"Well, suppose it *was* mine," said Belmore, with a conscious smile, like a man who is detected as being engaged.

"By Jove! I see it all," said De Bathe, charmed at his own keenness of perception; "you are the man, Lady Amy Conyers—a vast heiress, it is said—is the woman; and that accounts for the Coningsborough party not being in town this season—well, you are a lucky fellow!"

"I am going down to Conyers to-morrow," said Belmore with perfect nonchalance, "I have just had an invitation from the Earl himself; that is a good sign, I take it. But how about my trap?"

De Bathe might have inquired to which trap he alluded, but he was innocent and unsuspicious.

"About my trap?" continued the clever Captain. "If you cannot tell me of any fellow who likes it I shall go on to the club; there I don't doubt but what I shall hear of a purchaser."

"I should like—like of all things," said De Bathe, kindling to excitement, "to drive that trap to the Derby next week; but then I must get acquainted with the horse."

Finally, as De Bathe wanted the trap, and as Belmore was resolved to sell it, the bargain was struck. The trap and the horse were taken that evening to De Bathe's stables; the groom also transferring himself to their master. Ready money was paid for the horse and trap, and a legal receipt given, and when Mr. Hynam, friendly and smiling, looked out anxiously for the arrival of Belmore, at the Waterloo Station, when the ten o'clock train was ready to start, Captain Belmore had, hours ago, reached Dover, and was far on his way to Paris before the Asian Mystery acknowledged to each other that there was one man in the world deeper than themselves.

CHAPTER XX.

Lord Coningsborough sat in his library with a letter before him; Lady Calmady, always sympathising and affectionate, sat near him, looking at him so anxiously. He seemed very much affected—looked pale and agitated, and only uttered a word now and then expressive of sorrow and surprise.

"I think we should go to her, dear Reginald," said Lady Calmady; "it is true, as she says, she has never troubled us, and it seems so right in her to put it out of any one's power to pretend to be Plantagenet's son, and so place difficulties in your way and Amy's"

"She has behaved admirably," said Lord Coningsborough, drawing his handkerchief over his eyes, "but I shall always regret the existence of that morbid feeling which induced her to hide herself from us, and to reject the kindness which you, as a stranger only, have offered to her. If I had but known——"

"Dear Reginald, I can hardly say that she was a stranger to me. Do you remember the nurse of my poor boy, my Karick, Katey, my pretty Irishwoman, married to one of my husband's underkeepers? When I saw Mrs. Andrews I observed the resemblance in a moment—she was my nurse's daughter. Then I remembered how Plantagenet used to notice the girl and admire her beauty, and I feared—knowing his character, and knowing too that Mary had left a situation in which I had placed her—I feared—and heaven forgive me for having thus misjudged her! Yet, Reginald I was very kind and tender to her, and thought I was sparing her feelings by asking no questions when I saw her after the accident; and when I contrived that we should follow that poor child to his grave I thought it would be a comfort to you to have done so if it turned out that he was Plantagenet's son, even though illegitimate."

"It is—it is the greatest comfort that I did so, dear Emma, and the mother, too, was a well-conducted, virtuous woman. Poor dear Amy, she was so much interested in the poor child; she thought him so refined in manner, so gentle."

The Earl once more drew his handkerchief across his eyes.

"Dear Amy! we must tell her now of what I consider the greatest of our family misfortunes—the death of her half-brother's child——"

"And her infatuation about this fellow, Belmore, will prevent her from thinking about any other marriage. As soon as I am gone she will make him her husband and the master of her enormous fortune And I feel certain he will render her miserable."

The Earl was working himself up into one of those fits of anger which the thought of his daughter's passion for Algernon Belmore so often produced.

Lady Calmady's gentle, rather sad voice was heard saying: "Don't speak harshly to her, dear brother," when the door opened and Lady Amy appeared, white as marble and tottering in her gait, with an open letter in her hand. She went up to her father and threw her arms about his neck. Naturally kind and affectionate, the Earl put his arm round her waist and kissed her.

"Dear Amy," said he, "I see you too have heard the evil tidings, and you will be as grieved as if that news were not to be the means of making you a great heiress. Plantagenet's wife, I see, has written to you. You are aware that the poor child who was killed at Shaugh Bridge was your nephew, my grandchild?"

"Oh, papa! papa! you don't say so! I have had no news about that. Oh! would to heaven he were living to be a comfort to you, instead of a plague, as I have been. Would to heaven he were here to inherit, years, years to come, dearest father, all that you enjoy." A deluge of tears burst from Amy's eyes. She dropped her letter; her father took it up and laid it on the table close at hand. "Read, read, papa," said she, as soon as she could speak. The Earl read the epistle despatched by Norah Chesterfield, and written by Algernon Belmore.

Indignation at the insults directed towards his daughter—utter contempt for the man who could write such a letter—vexation at the infatuation which had exposed her to those insults—grief for the loss of the boy whose existence had been unknown to him an hour before—quite overpowered the Earl for a few minutes. He laid his head on his arms, then rested on the table.

Amy wept silently, kneeling at Lady Calmady's knee, and with her head buried in the bosom of her aunt.

Ah! how unlike that cruel sisterhood was Lady Calmady!

At length the Earl raised his head. It was plain that he had recovered himself in some degree, and it was settled that within an hour the father, sister, and daughter were to drive to Elmfield in hopes of seeing the widow of Lord Plantagenet alive, for she was very ill and was desirous of placing every proof of her marriage and the legitimacy of her son in the Earl's hands.

And so ended Lady Amy's romance!

Its termination was enveloped in mystery. Who was this old love that had supplanted her? She could not even guess. One thing she acknowledged to herself with a blush, and that was, she ought to have positively dismissed Belmore long ago; his conduct had been so vacillating, his attachment so subject to the cold and hot fits natural to a love that was both superficial and slight. Now that the spell was dissolved, she saw that her personal dignity had been compromised by continuing to treat him as a permitted suitor. No wonder that a feeling of extreme disgust was consequent on this conviction. No wonder that she began to despise herself for having ever loved one whom she had cause so thoroughly to despise.

Let us turn to that unknown, that unsuspected rival.

Did Miss Chesterfield—that Norah West who was the cause of Lady Amy's release from that half-engagement which had long made her so wretched, which had given so much displeasure to Lord Coningsborough—did she feel now all the sweets of revenge; all the triumph of victory; all the delight of having thoroughly exposed her false and contemptible lover; of having cut him off from the chance of imposing his pretended love on another heiress, and that one her kind and generous friend?

No!

The exultation, the excitement, the fierce delight of re-awakening Belmore's affection, of rousing his hopes of possessing her fortune, of leading those hopes to the highest point in order to render their fall more intensely mortifying, these were over; a calmer moment, a moment of reflection succeeded.

Was it a noble, a worthy feeling that she had gratified with all these pains? Had she a right to make such a use of her beauty, which had been restored to her by the matchless skill of certain French surgeons—skill and patience beyond measure? Of that fortune which no doubt had been given her that she might spread it around her like the good seed of Christian kindness that ever bears fruit both for giver and receiver.

The triumph was over. It had brought no consoling after thought, for in the midst of admirers and wooers the beautiful Miss Chesterfield felt that there was a something in the world to aim at, something to do, something to attain; even for one who possessed, in the highest degree, beauty, riches, and social success.

The [illegible] season was over, Miss Chesterfield [illegible] Lord Kiltawfern, and some [illegible] of new [illegible] sides, established herself in a country [illegible] which she purchased [illegible] of the [illegible] ies. Lady Breffny who had proved herself a firm-minded, prudent and sincere friend, [illegible] a frequent visitor. [illegible] impression made [illegible] Norah during the period of her London victories [illegible] so favourable—especially since it had appeared that she was indifferent to certain great prizes in the matrimonial lottery—that it had secured her a very unexceptionable set of acquaintances. But neither Lady Breffny—excellent but narrow minded—nor this circle of fashionable friends sufficed to fill the heart of Norah, yearning to be taught how to use the gifts of Providence as she ought. She could not find the way. Her early education, imperfect in its moral training had not pointed it out. The deceptions of Belmore, his contemptible character, her uncle's unkindness, Lady Amy's weakness in loving such a man, knowing the world as she did, seemed to have steeled her soul against the human race. She herself had misrepresented herself to Amy. She had never been a governess; was not going to a new situation. All she wished for was to conceal herself and her misery from everyone she had known, and when the goodness of Providence had restored her, had given her wealth, and beauty, and position, she had employed all these in gratifying one passion, and that one was revenge.

She did not seek to renew her friendship with Lady Amy. The remembrance of the bitterness of that moment in which she had discovered the object of Belmore's new attachment left a scar on her heart which time only could efface. But there was another person of whom she thought a great deal. That person was Mr. Rivers. Often and often and often she spread out that scroll that contained a few words that he had spoken when he had seen her in the copse in all the horror of her disfigurement. Often and often she wished to see him, to consult him, to learn, by his teaching and his example what to do with that life which she felt she ought in some way to dedicate to her fellow creatures.

CHAPTER XXI.

Two years passed away.

Norah Chesterfield had long ago seen in the public prints an account of the death of Lady Plantagenet; other paragraphs gave the history of the loss of Lord and Lady Plantagenet's only son in the railway accident at Shaugh Bridge. The Earl of Conyngsborough, and his sister and daughter had followed the widow to her grave. The first sculptor of our day was commissioned to prepare a noble specimen of his art in a monument to Lady Plantagenet and her son, Reginald Granville Conyers, to be placed in Sherfield Church. And about a twelvemonth after this Lady Amy Conyers became the wife of the Marquis of Carysbrook.

But even now, Norah did not renew the friendship so strangely broken off. Her thoughts and wishes lay in a quite different direction. For not long before then she had heard that Mr. Rivers had left Conyers some months previously, and had accepted a living in the very worst part of the East of London. And she now put into execution a plan which had long been germinating in her mind.

She wrote him a letter: indeed, she wrote him five or six letters before she could send one which in the least satisfied her. And when it was sent to the post she would have given the world if she could have recalled it, and written another.

She opened all her heart to him; told him of her want of a friend and of good advice; expressed in clear and strong language her desire to be directed in her earnest wish to use her talents, her fortune, her life, so as to do the greatest amount of good; spoke modestly, but clearly, about her complete restoration from the effects of the terrible railway accident, and only mentioned the amount of her enormous fortune in speaking of the heavy responsibilities it laid on its possessor.

Finally, she offered him her hand; hoping that they might work together, and spend their lives, and talents, and fortunes, conscientiously, for the good of those among whom they might be placed.

It was a strange thing to do, to write such a letter. She blushed and trembled and turned pale many many times between the sending it and the arrival of the answer. "But he never would have proposed to a woman of my fortune," thought she. "He would scorn to do it, and yet who would spend it so wisely as he would! so good, so prudent, so ardently devoted to his work!"

Agitated, sleepless, hoping, fearing, thinking that Mr. Rivers might despise her for an action rarely justifiable in any woman under any circumstances, poor Norah waited for the arrival of an answer to her letter. Poor Norah! most beautiful—the owner of four millions of money—only twenty five, young, lovely, fashionable rich—yet poor Norah still.

For the answer came; a kind, even approving, modest and respectful, and truly gentlemanlike letter; but a refusal. Mr. Rivers was not a marrying man He acknowledged that he had never seen any lady in whom he had been so much interested as Miss West—for Norah had told him under what name she had learnt to know and honour him—but he should never marry. The work he had to do must be done alone Grieved indeed he was to pain her, grieved so ill to repay her noble and generous confidence in him. But his resolution was final. If he had not for a moment swerved from it while under the influence of a charm of conversation and manner unrivalled in his experience, nothing could ever shake it. It was final.

(To be continued.)

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

FUN IN A TRAM CAR.

"Give me two pounds of beefsteak," said an excited man, rushing into a corner market, "and a quart of solid meat oysters too. It won't do for me to go home without them, and what's worse, I've got to pay for 'em twice!"

"What's the matter?" inquired the butcher, dumping a quarter of beef on the block.

"I've had something done to me the most impudent way. I got into a street car that was full, but a couple of good looking young ladies hunched themselves apart, and I squeezed myself in between 'em, putting my pail of oysters between my feet, and my beefsteak across my knees. You see, I am a sociable man, and I got into conversation with the bright girl on my left.

"And while I was talking to her, a big fat poodle in the woman's arms at my right was chewing up my beefsteak, and got away with nearly the best part of two pounds of sirloin.

"'That's a pretty how-dye-do!' I says to the dog's lady, and she says, 'What, sir?'

"I says, 'Your sneaking pup has eaten up my meat!'

"And what do you think she said? 'Oh mercy! Oh gracious! It will make poor Oscar sick!'

"Do you suppose I was angry? Well, perhaps I was, but I politely said, 'I hope it will, madam.'

"Everybody in the car laughed, and the beautiful young lady on my left said it was a shame that folks who own poodles should lug them around in their arms.

"'Now, I have a poodle,' she said, and then she blushed, 'but I don't take him in my lap; he chews my necktie.'

"'What do you do with him?' I inquired, 'leave him at home, I suppose?'

"Then the girl turned redder than ever, and said no, she kept him down between her feet.

"I looked down for my oysters, and would you believe it, that pup had got the cover off my pail and was swallowing those bivalves as if he was afraid I should want some of 'em. And he was swelled up like a toy balloon.

"'Oh, my poor Freddie!' said the girl; 'what shall I do for him? His health always was delicate, and his digestion impaired. Oh, what'll ma say?'

"And everybody in the car just laughed like a pack of lunatics. The first stop the car made I got out, and I shall walk home rather than put myself in the society of barbarians who carry pups around in public."

When does an artist appear most thoroughly miserable?—When he draws a long face.

Why would coal dealers make good lawyers? Because they know all about coke and little ton.

The man who was "rocked in the cradle of the deep," must have slept between sheets of water.

A smart American girl calls a young fellow of her acquaintance "Honeysuckle," because he's always hanging over the front fence.

"Your witty men," sneered Rasper, "are sometimes foolish!" "Sometimes," said the Deep Thinker: "but your fool is never witty!"

Football.

LOCAL FIXTURES.

,, 23.—Tow Law v. Middlesbrough, at Middlesbrough.
,, 23.—Hobson Wanderers v. Catchgate Red Stars, at Catchgate.
Mar. 1.—Hobson Wanderers v. Catchgate Red Stars, at Hobson.
,, 29.—Tantobie v. Birtley, at Birtley.
,, 29.—Tantobie 2nd v. Birtley 2nd, at Birtley.
Apr. 5.—Tantobie v. East End, at Tantobie.
,, 12.—Stanley Stars v. Tantobie, at Tantobie.
,, 12.—Tantobie 2nd v. Stanley Stars 2nd, at Tantobie.
,, 19.—Tantobie v. Jesmond, at Tantobie.

Pelton 1st v. Birtley 2nd.—Played on Saturday last, and ended in a win for Birtley by five goals to nil.

Stanley Star v. Stanhope.—Played at Stanhope on Saturday, in two periods of thirty-five minutes, and resulted, after a well-contested game, in a victory for Stanhope by one goal to nil.

Stanley Star 2nd v. Stanhope 2nd.—Played at Stanhope on Saturday, in two thirties. The home team had decidedly the best of the game, and were hailed the victors by one goal to nil.

Hedleyhope v. Howden-le-Wear.—These two Association clubs met on Saturday, on the ground of the former, and a game of two thirties resulted in a victory for Howden by two goals to nil. Teams:—Howden—Goal, E. Maw; backs, Hopper and Wright; half backs, Bainbridge and Jolly; forwards, Goodwin, Hanson, Hunter, Richards (captain), Close, and Ratcliff. Hedleyhope—Goal, Hardstaff; backs, J. Fuller and R. Moore; half backs, W. Moses and M. Stobbart; forwards, J. Forster, Brett, Wright, Trotter, Barnsley (captain), and Irvin.

North-Eastern v. Tantobie.—North-Eastern travelled to Tantobie on Saturday with a mixed team, and after playing two twenties defeated the villagers by one goal (kicked by John Oliver) to nil. On account of the boisterous wind, most of the time was monopolised in throwing in. Teams:—North-Eastern—Strafford, goal; Hall and Torbett, backs; Temperley, Musgrave, and Knowles, half backs; James Oliver, Forsyth, John Oliver, Pigg, and Pringle, forwards. Tantobie—Southern, goal; Scott and Stokoe, backs; Atthey, Shield, and Hodgson, half backs; Gedling, C. Atthey, Stoker, McCrum, and Dixon, forwards. Umpires, Messrs H. Fawcett for North-Eastern, and R. Rowell for Tantobie.

Hobson Wanderers Juniors v. Dipton Heroes.—Played on the ground of the latter on Saturday, resulting in a victory for the Wanderers by three goals to one. Teams:—Dipton—J. Thompson, goal; Barnes and Fullerton, backs; Riddle and Kennedy, half backs; Oates and Ledger, centres; Sargen and Smith, right wing; Brown and Nike, left wing. Hobson—J. Thompson, goal; Teasdale and McCue backs; Wailes and Middleton, half backs; McNeal and Swinburn, centres; Young and Henderson, right wing; Lown and Reay, left wing. [If the Dipton Heroes act as is reported, refuse to play with them. We cannot insert any further complaints about their behaviour.—*Ed. C. G*].

Derwent Rovers Juniors v. Elswick Leather Works Juniors.—This match was played on the ground of the latter, the Rovers playing with ten members and a substitute, which, after a pleasant game of two twenty-fives, ended in a victory for Elswick by four goals to nil. Teams:—Derwent Rovers—Goal, G. Vurdy; backs, E. Marshall and M. Baker; half backs, J. Charlton, T. Hunter, and Lubie; centre, O. Campbell; right wing, J. Ramsey [illegible] Turnbull and H. Baker; left wing V. McKernan [illegible] Turnbull. Elswick—Goal, W. Knight; backs, C. Bergna and J. Finley; half backs, G. Dobson, Harrison, and J. Scott; centre, J. Gibson; right wing, W. Scott and E. Waggot; left wing, J. Morrison and J. Cameron.

Shotley Bridge v. South Shields Rovers.—These clubs played their return match on Saturday at the Shotley Spa grounds, and the game resulted in a victory for the visitors by one try, and four minor points, to one minor point. The game throughout was a forward one, the Rovers in vain trying to make the play loose, as they were much the lighter and faster team, and several times their men nearly got over the line, but the Shotley players touched down in defence. Just before time was called, C. E. White dribbled the ball over and gained a try, and the score remained as above stated. For Shotley, Taggart played a splendid forward game, while Murray and Wilkinson played well in the backs. For the Rovers, Robertson and Pescod played well. Teams:—Shotley Bridge—Back, P. Gibson; three-quarter backs, J. G. Murray (captain) and J. Wilkinson; half backs, W. Woodley and W. Wilson; forwards, M. Gibson, Richardson, J. Thirlwell, T. Mews, A. Struthers J. Taggart, R. Dixon, H. Nichol, Berwick, and H. Brown. South Shields—Back, Sharp; three-quarter backs, W. Kempster and J. Barrow; half backs, J. Robertson and J. Pescod; forwards, Ridley, W. W. Wilkin, C. E. White, G. White, S. Wylie, H. Wylie (captain), Gilfillian, J. Burkitt, T. Johnson, and Craig.

Tanfield Lea Drainers v. Catchgate Red Stars.—These teams met on the Tantobie ground on Saturday. The Red Stars decided to play against the wind, which was almost blowing a gale. Tanfield Lea kicked off, and the ball was taken up the field by the Red Stars forwards, but one of the opposing backs by a good kick relieved his side, and the play was for the next few minutes in the territory of the Stars. Soon, however, this was reversed, and the Red Star forwards by dint of some good passing carried the ball towards the Tanfield Lea goal, where a free kick was claimed, and the leather was after some quick play forced between the sticks. Shortly after the kick off, Rutherford got possession, and by a good run scored number two; but this was disallowed on account of a claim of "hands." After the kick took place, the ball was carried into the Red Stars ground, but the splendid defence of the backs and goalkeeper prevented any score being made, and once more the hide was taken into the region of the Tanfield Lea goal, where a corner kick was obtained, but from which nothing resulted. Immediately after the whistle blew for half time. The Stars with wind at their backs, contrived to keep the ball in their opponent's territory, but were unable to augment their score, although several shots were made, three successively, from the toe of Ridley, striking the posts. For the losing team, Fields and Fawcett did some good work on the back ground, while the pick of the forwards were Donald and Gailes. For the winners, Mason (captain), Blakey, and Russell, were in good form. The goalkeepers of each team defended their charge with considerable skill. Mr W. D. Rowell acted as referee, and Mr Beattie, of the Hobson Wanderers, officiated as umpire for the Catchgate team, while Mr Northey filled the same office for Tanfield Lea. Teams:—Catchgate—Goal, Pace; backs, Weirs and Bulmer; half backs, Ridley and Dodds; forwards, Mason (captain), Blakey, Dixon, Russell, Rutherford, and Humphrey. Tanfield Lea—Goal, Stanton; backs, Fields and Fawcett; half backs, Herring, Hall, and Webb; forwards, Donald, Morton, Brown, Gailes, and Fawcett.

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Death of a Noted Personage.—On Monday afternoon, Mr Thomas Atkinson, boot and shoemaker, Dunston, a personage at one time well-known in the villages of North Durham and South Northumberland, died at Bute Hall, Dunston, which for sixty years he had rented from the late Mr R. Carr-Ellison. At the time of his death he was 95 years of age, and one of the oldest, if not the oldest, man in the neighbourhood. He served his time as a boot and shoemaker, and at the age of 20 years he commenced to travel the district selling boots of his own manufacture, and this he continued to do until the weight of old age impressed him with the propriety of retiring from his hitherto active and exposed mode of living. In the days of his youth and up to a comparatively great age he thought nothing of walking 20 or 30, or on occasions even more miles a day. Though at no time a teetotaller he was a steady and temperate man, and up to the last retained remarkable use of his faculties. By all with whom he came in contact, either in the neighbourhood of his home at Dunston or on his rounds, he was highly respected, and in some of the villages of Northumberland and Durham the genial old shoemaker and his periodical visits are still green in the memory of the inhabitants. He had nine children by his wife Dorothy, who paid the debt of nature in December, 1868, at the age of 78 years. All his children are living, and their ages vary from 70 to 50 years. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren number 123, the total issue from himself and wife being up to this time 133.

HINTS FOR THE HOME.

WHAT IS BEAUTY?

Not the show
Of shapely limbs and features. No.
These are but flowers
That have their dated hours
To breathe their momentary sweets, then go.
'Tis the stainless soul within
That outshines the fairest skin.

TRY TO BE CHEERFUL.—If you would be happy, try to be cheerful, even when misfortune assails you. You will soon find that there is a pleasant aspect to nearly all circumstances—to even the ordinary trials of life. When the hour of misfortune comes, whether it appears in the form of disease or pecuniary loss, face it manfully, and make the best of it. Do not nurse your troubles to keep them warm, and avoid that useless and senseless habit of constantly referring to them in your conversation.

WOMEN'S STUDY OF WOMEN.—Have women who write satisfied the women who read in their portrayals of intellectual or loveable women? Have they held themselves as closely to artistic and dramatic consistency and propriety as have men treating the same subject? Dickens gave poor little Dora more love taps than he did many a more admirable picture of femininity, but they were strokes that a father would give to a spoiled child. There was in his line of treatment no suggestion of the man's disposition to express the man's preference for woman. Not many women have written with as utter forgetfulness of sex, or with as complete a subordination of sex to the artistic relentlessness of the situation, as did he. As a rule women workers in fiction have given more attention to the characters and actions of men than to women. That is to say, their finest work has been on the portraits of men, and their tenderness and love taps and unconscious demonstrations of sympathy have been for men. And because of this women in fiction created by women have been no more satisfactory than those created by men.

NOTHING WASTED.—It is a truth that is often overlooked that nature, whatever may be her luxuriousness, her profusion, her generosity, always makes use of the materials she has at hand. However rich the soil or favourable the climate, she does not bring forth a bountiful harvest without using the seeds which were saved from a former crop. The leaves which wither and fall from the trees in autumn, and which seem to us to have completed all their possible usefulness, the earth receives into her bosom and converts into nutriment for the buds and blossoms of another spring. The water of the rivulet, after refreshing its banks and flowing into the sea, is never lost, but continues to do new service in cloud and dew and rain without end. Nature, in fact, repudiates nothing, however valueless we esteem it; she not only saves and treasures it, but sets it at once to work, under new conditions, to develop new forms of beauty or strength. "Much from little, but nothing from nothing," seems to be everywhere her never-failing law, and her frugality and liberality go hand in hand. It would be well for us if we put our lives and conduct into harmony with this law.

WOMAN'S WORK AND WOMAN'S WAGES.—In his story, "A Woman's Reason," Mr. Howells puts the problem of woman's work and woman's wages pretty well in the character of his heroine, Miss Harkness, who is trying to support herself by writing for the newspapers, then by millinery. She finally confides to Miss Root, a capable and self-supporting woman, that she probably will not do anything for a great length of time—only until "Robert's" return. "That's what I supposed," said Miss Root. "That's the great trouble. If a man takes a thing up, he takes it up for life, but if a woman takes it up, she takes it up till some fellow comes along and tells her to drop it. And then they're always complainin' that they ain't paid as much as men for the same work. I'm not speakin' of you, Miss Harkness," she said, with a glance at Helen's face; "and I don't know whether I want to join in any cry that'll take women's minds off of gettin' married. It's the best thing for 'em, and it's about all they're fit for, most 'em, and it's nature; there's no denyin' that. But if women are to be helped along independently of men—and I never was such a fool as to say they were—why, it's a draw back. And so most of 'em that can't wait to prepare themselves for anything, because they don't expect to stick to anything, they turn book agents, or sell some little patented thing; or they try to get a situation in a store."

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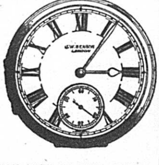

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THIS DAY'S NEWS.

"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRIDAY, 4 P.M.

ELECTION ITEMS.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.]

Mr Romer, Liberal candidate for Brighton, issued his address this morning. He announces himself a hearty supporter of the Government, and says he opposes Mr Marriott solely on political grounds.

The Brighton Conservatives meet to-night to consider Mr Marriott's candidature. It is expected he will be adopted. Nomination is fixed for Tuesday next and the polling on Saturday. Both candi will address the meeting to-night.

South Lincolnshire Liberal Association will take no further steps to oppose Mr Finch Hatton's candidature. Four gentlemen who they applied to, having refused to stand.

GAS EXPLOSION AT BIRMINGHAM.

A gas explosion occured this morning at a house in Dudley Road, Birmingham, doing serious damage to two persons.

THE SOUDAN DIFFICULTY.

REPORTED SURRENDER OF TOKAR.

The *Daily Telegraph* has received a telegram stating that the garrison of Tokar has surrendered. No confirmation has up to the present been received of this report.

TRANSFERRING THE COMMANDER OF THE THETIS.

Lieutenant Commander Goodrick has been transferred from the commandership of Thetis to that of Alert, in Greeley Expedition. The Thetis is expected to leave Dundee for America a week hence.

SIR BARTLE FRERE.

Sir Bartle Frere's condition remans unchanged to-day (Friday).

THIS DAY'S SPORTING.

WATERLOO CUP:

FINAL HEAT.—MINERAL WATER beat GREENTICK and won the cup.

WATERLOO PURSE:

FINAL HEAT.—GLADYS and ESCAPE divided.

WATERLOO PLATE:

FINAL HEAT.—COCKLAW DEAN beat CYRIL and won the plate.

Consols one-sixteenth better, and wheat remains unaltered.

TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS IN THE LANCHESTER UNION.

RESULT OF THE POLL.

LANCHESTER, FRIDAY, 3 P.M.

The result of the poll taken of the ratepayers and property owners in the Lanchester Union, as to the desirability of having triennial instead of annual elections of Guardians, has just been ascertained by Mr Ritson, the returning officer, as under:—

No of votes in favour of proposed alteration	4053
Against the proposed alteration	2212
Majority	1841

We are able to furnish the following additional particulars: No. of votes to which the owners and rate payers qualified to vote were 10,299; No of votes in respect of invalid or uncollected polling papers, 4.034; No. of votes in respect of valid papers, 6,265; No. of votes in favour of triennial elections, 4,053; against, 2,212. In only two townships have a majority of the electors voted against the scheme, viz.: Cornsay, 23; and Hedleyhope, 123—total, 146. In the other townships the majorities of the ratepayers approving of the triennial system are as under: Benfieldside, 432; Billingside, 1; Collierley and Pontop, 131 Consett and Knitsley, 176; Ebchester, 98; Esh, 144; Greencroft, 18; Healeyfield, 48; Iveston, 155; Kyo, 33; Lanchester, 110; Langley, 22; Medomsley, 85; Muggleswick, 72; Satley, 12; Tanfield, 450—total, 1987. We will supplenent additional particulars next week.

ALARMING FIRE IN NEWCASTLE.

This (Friday) morning, about 9·30, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr T. W. Waters, bookbinder, Nelson Street, Newcastle. Owing to some defects in the gas-lighting arrangements, a plumber was engaged to remedy the matter. In making an examination with a light, a sudden explosion took place, and the man was seriously injured. The place was speedily filled with flames, while the room below was considerably damaged by the explosion. The fire brigade was immediately on the spot, and the confiagration was soon extinguished. The material was of a very inflammable material, and the whole of the building has been injused.

ACCIDENT TO A LOCAL STEAMER.

The screw-steamer Avis, of West Hartlepool, Captain Smith, on arriving at Ostend, this (Friday) morning, struck the peer in entering, and broke two plates in her port bow.

THE WEATHER OFF THE TYNE

The wind is south-westerly, with a moderate breeze, the sea is smoth, the sky is slightly overcast, and the weather fine. At 9.45, the barometer registered 29·70 degrees, and was falling gradually.

SUPPOSED SUFFCCATION OF A CHILD.

Last night, an inquest was held before Mr Theodore Hoyle, at the Bath Hotel, Scotswood Road, Newcastle, upon the boby of Thomas Fallow's, eleven weeks old. The deceased, who had a twin brother, had slept with his mother, who awoke just in time to see the child cease to breathe. The jury returned a verdict of "Found dead," and added that they were of opinion that the child had been accidently suffocated.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE POTATO.—Large arrivals; fair demand; little change. Prices rather easier. Quotations:—East Lothian champions, 60s to 64s; Fife champions, 48s to 52s.

NEWCASTLE FISH.—There is not much change to report. Quotations:—Ling, 6s to 8s; haddocks, 7s to 8s per kit, and 12s to 18s per barrel; cod, 5s each.

NORTH SHIELDS FISH.—There was a good supply of fish at market; buyers were numerous, and a clearance was effected at the following prices:—Large haddocks, 7s to 8s 6d; second do., 5s 6d to 9d; small do., 3s 6d to 4s 3d; codlings, 5s to 6s 6d; whitings, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; cod, 3s to 6s each; ling, 3s 6d to 7s each; skate, 4s to 5s 6d each.

PROPOSED COVERED MARKET FOR CONSETT.

STORMY MEETING LAST NIGHT.

A town's meeting, convened by special requisition from the ratepayers, was held last (Thursday) night in the British Schools, Consett, to "take into consideration the propriety and necessity of erecting a covered market in Consett, and other erections suitable for the accommodation of the public generally; also a market for hirings of agricultural and other servants." There was a very large and influential attendance of ratepayers and householders, including representatives from all parts of the Local Board District. The chair was occupied by Mr William Jenkins, J.P. (chairman of the Board of Health); who was supported by several members of the Local Board, in addition to the Clerk of that body.

The CHAIRMAN, who was most favourably received, in opening the proceedings, read the requisition he had received, signed by upwards of 20 ratepayers, and also the notice he had published calling that meeting. He said they would gather from those documents the object of that gathering, and before submitting any resolution, it might not be amiss to offer a few remarks on the subject. As the representative of the Consett Iron Company—as an individual ratepayer in the township—he considered it would be a great boon to the working population in this district, if they could only boast of having a covered market in the town. It would be much better, not only for the working men themselves, but also for their wives and families, if they could procure the necessaries of life within the limits of a covered market, instead of having to do their "shopping" in Middle Street, on a Saturday night, exposed to rain, wind, sleet, snow, and all sorts of weather. He thought there might be some difference of opinion on this subject; but he was simply expressing his opinion as a single ratepayer, as he claimed he had a perfect right to do so. He would like the working men present to understand their position in this matter. All householders who are described as ratepayers are quite competent to vote on this particular subject. It had been alleged by some that all householders—that is, heads of families—who pay their rates indirectly, are not ratepayers. This was altogether false. His personal opinion was that all householders were fast becoming a social status in every sense throughout this country. In this township, like very many others in the North of England, the great employers of labour were the largest contributors to the rates of the district, He might say that in this town, the Consett Iron Company, for every £1 collected for the rates, contributed 10s., the working men paid about 5s., while the remaining 5s. came out of the pockets of the vigorous and enterprising tradesmen. He had no doubt that some tradespeople present entertained some compunctions of conscience with regard to the covered market—that such a scheme would seriously interfere with their trade. He held the opinion that they ought to endeavour to make Consett the chief centre of this populous district. (cheers); and they ought to encourage the people to wend their way and induce them to congregate in the town. If a suitable market place could be erected, he thought the Consett shopkeepers would be more benefitted by it than otherwise. In the town of Consett and the villages surrounding they had a population of at least 25,000 inhabitants, and these people mostly came to the town to do their "shopping," and it was a standing disgrace for them that the townspeople did not provide a suitable market. He considered the covered market scheme was a most feasible and reasonable undertaking. (Applause). How was this market to be built? The theory is that the Local Board should be authorised to borrow a certain amount, to be re-payable over a period of 35 years, and likewise levy a district rate to raise the remaining sum required. The probable cost of the market would be about £6,000 or £7,000. It did not follow, however, that this scheme will be an additional burden for the taxpayers to bear. The principal and interest would extend over a period of 35 years, and the revenue from the stalls in the market would be very considerable, and would cover the exdenses of the rate levied, as well as help to repay the principal and interest. He thought the people in Consett and district should try and get as much value for a £1 or 10s as they possibly could, and in the most respectable manner. Why, he asked, should they not have as accommodious a market in Consett, as the people of Newcastle, Sunderland, Durham, or even Spennymoor possessed? There had been times when the Consett Iron Company had paid their employees in hand cash as much as £1,000 a day, or £360,000 or £400,000 a-year. Had that money been spent judiciously by the workmen? He believed the tradespeople in Consett were able and willing to compete with any tradesmen in the North of England. During the last ten or fifteen years wonderful strides had been made in the commercial aspect and the social condition of Consett. They could boast of a large number of places of worship, but there was lacking these useful, social institutions so much needed. Public-houses were pletiful enough, and ample faculities were afforded for the working classes to get intoxicated; but he was of opinion that if they reduced the number of drinking palaces, and working men would only expend their earnings in another direction, it would be much better for themselves as well as the population at large. (Applause). He was glad to see the advancement they had made in educational matters, and it was gratifying to know that the ratepayers of Consett had not been called upon to contribute a single shilling towards the support of the various schools in the town. (Cheers). He considered they displayed a marvellous amount of pluck and courage in building their new Town Hall, and he hoped that beautiful structnre would be opened sometime during the forthcoming summer, and thus afford the residents an opportunity of assembling together on neutral ground for secular purposes, to discuss parochial matters, or to attend entertainments, concerts, and the like. He was sorry to see, however, that not more than half-a-dozen working men had come forward and bought shares in connection with this undertaking. Where did they expect their children who were now attending the day-schools, to spend their leisure hours, when they attained the age of 20 years? Were they to skulk about the street corners, or be tempted to visit the public-house, and toss away their hard-earned savings in intoxicating liquor? He thought every place in the County of Durham should either have its village green or its Town Hall. They did not seek to elevate the working classes in Consett as they ought. The people were compelled to go to Church or chapel on Sundays and visit the public-houses during the week. There was only these two extremes. They were about to obtain additional facilities for travelling by rail to Consett from Annfield Plain neighbourhood. Would such a concession be any advantage to the town? A hard-working man himself, he had began to think there was not much merit in working industrously, unless such laborious duties were relieved occasionally by social pleasures. Working men were about to have further privileges granted them by assimilation of the borough and county franchise, and he trusted the time was not far distant when the householders in Consett would be enabled to send a representative of their own to the House of Commons. (Prolonged cheers). If they were contented to be attached to some respectable corporation or borough like Newcastle or Durham, the household suffrage would be of little use to them, unless they took some active steps to constitute themselves into a borough. (Applouse). Every district must comprise a population of at least 52,000 persons before it could be formed into a borough; but he could not see any reason why they should not incorporate the whole of the Lanchester Union or the Petty Sessional Division; and not be contented with being tacked on to some insignificant borough for political purposes. In his capacity as chairman of the Local Board, he was called upon to propose the first resolution. If they approved of the proposition well and good, but if not, it was then duty to negative it. The resolution was—

"That the Consett Local Board provide a market place for the Local Board district of Consett and execute all such works for the purpose of holding markets, as provided by the Public Health Act, 1875, sec, 116, sch iii. of the same act." (Applause).

Mr MICHAEL MCNALLY briefly seconded the resolution.

Mr SIMON ROWE said this was a ratepayers' question, and he inquired if everybody present were ratepayers?

The CHAIRMAN would not object to any person who was not a ratepayer listening to the discussion, providing he did not take part in the voting.

Mr J. H. HUDSON pointed out that there might be many taxpayers present who were not direct ratepayers.

Mr ROWE thought the Chairman sholud order all who were not ratepayers to retire.

The CHAIRMAN replied that he was entirely at the mercy of the meeting.

Mr JAS. PALLISER: I think, Mr Chairman, it is scarcely necessary to ask non-ratepayers to leave the meeting on condition that they do not vote.

The CHAIRMAN: I quite agree with you.

Mr PALLISER begged to propose an amendment to the effect that if it was deemed necessary to build a covered market, it should not be erected at the expense of the ratepayers, but that the undertaking should be carried out by joint-stock enterprise. He did not wish to oppose the market scheme, but he considered it manifestly unfair and unjust that the ratepayers at Blackhill should be called upon to pay rates to send all the people and trade away, as it were, from their own back doors, to Consett. The Town Hall had been erected by a speculative enterprise; and he failed to see why the covered market could not be put up in the same way. (Loud and continued applause). The Local Board members were elected to look after the interests of the ratepayers, and he felt it a great hardship to compel them to bear the burden of providing a suitable market place. He was speaking not only on his own behalf, but in the interests of several large ratepayers in the district.

The CHAIRMAN did not wish to interfere, but explained that the meeting must either accept or negative the resolution he had proposed. Let them be clear on that point.

Mr ELTRINGHAM rose to second Mr Palliser's proposition, but if the Chairman refuses to accept any amendment, perhaps he would be allowed to say a few words in opposition to the scheme. He would confine his remarks——

The CHAIRMAN (interrupting): The rule is that no amendment can be submitted.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Well, I will confine my remarks in speaking in opposition to the motion. I always understood that at a public meeting, if any one objected to a resolution, he was at liberty to propose an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: I did not prevent Mr Palliser from moving his amendment, but merely suggested that my resolution should be negatived.

Mr ELTRINGHAM held a different opinion. He was informed on good authtrity that the requisition was got up by a certain individual, who went about obtaining signatures by means of false pretences. (Cries of disapprobation). This individual distinctly told one of the tradesmen who signed the requisition that the proposed market was to be built in the same manner as the Town Hall; and he signed it merely on that account.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall I read the requisition again?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Excuse me, Mr Chairman, (Shouts of "Order.") I am not yet finished (groans and applause.) I am prepared to give the name of that gentleman if necessary. (A voice: "Tell us, then.") He was told that the market was to be built by a limited liability company, and the requisition was signed on the strength of this fact. If such was the case, I consider the promoter of the petition was not a fit and proper person to be sent round to the shopkeepers to get signatures. (Interruption, groans, and hisses.) I think it is best to make the most of our time now we are here to discuss the question. (A voice: "Gan on, lad.") Was it necessary to have a market, either at the ratepayers' expense, or at any body else's expense; or was it necessary to have a market at all? (Voice: "None at all.") The Chairman has told us that we are to have a market at the ratepayers' expense and at no one else's.

The CHAIRMAN: That is it.

Mr ELTRINGHAM, who proceeded amidst continued cries of disapprobation, said: As a ratepayer, I strongly object to this market being built out of the rates. When no benefits are to be derived therefrom, an Englishman always feels his pocket first. (Laughter). I cannot see that it will be of any benefit to us to have a market in Middle Street. There is a great deal of property in that locality, which will considerably increase in value if the market is erected there. I cannot for the life of me understand how it happens that the shopkeepers should so far forget themselves as to sign the requisition, praying for the erection of a market in Middle Street, so as to enable the working man to buy his goods at a much cheaper rate. (Loud applause, mingled with counter cheers). When the tradespeople signed that petition, they simply told the working classes that they were robbing them. (Cries of "Question"). We are (said the tradesmen, in effect) taking money out of your pockets at the present time which we ought not to do. (Interruption). If you build a market in Middle Street, you will get your goods for less money than you are doing now. I believe the shopkeepers in Consett are selling their goods at the lowest possible price in order to clear a small profit. It would be a serious thing for the tradespeople if some unscrupulous individuals should rent stalls in the market, and sell their goods at a cheaper rate than the shopkeepers. He knew some men who would even steal their goods and give them away in the market place, in order to undersell and rob the poor shopkeepers. (Interruption, and cries of "No, no"). The tradesmen were really cutting their own throats (a voice: "And yours too.") I have been a ratepayer in Consett longer than many of you here present—in fact, I became a ratepayer before I was a man. (Laughter, and a voice: "Good lad." Another voice: "You are a very good ratepayer.") I have paid rates for 25 years. If they could find men who were willing to risk their money in the Town Hall scheme, he was sure they could find men who would be willing to purchase shares for the purpose of erecting a covered market. I would much rather pay my money in building a market than in erecting a Town Hall; because I never believe that such things pay. (Hisses). The Town Halls at Newcastle, Sunderland, and other places do not pay, a I am sure the directors of the Consett Town Hall Company could not make theirs pay. (Loud cries of "order," "chair.")

At this juncture, several persons arose and strongly protested against Mr Eltringham's irrevalent remarks, and the CHAIRMAN said he could not allow Mr Eltringham to denounce the Town Hall Company in that fashion.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I am simply comparing an analogy——.

The CHAIRMAN: You must confine your observations to the business before the meeting.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Don't consider for one moment I am here to run the Town Hall Company down. ("Question.") I am sure that if people are willing to risk their money in the Town Hall scheme (Cries of "Order.") they would sooner——

The CHAIRMAN (interrupting): I rule your remarks are out of order. I will not let you refer to the Town Hall in that way. (Applause).

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I was just going to say that I have not advocated more in my speech than the Chairman, for he touched upon the establishment of an electoral district, which is purely a political question. (A voice: "Well done, Beaconsfield," [laughter] and cries of "market.")

Another disturbance hereupon ensued, and after order had been restored, Mr ELTRINGHAM said I: am speaking against the covered market for Consett. (A voice: "Cut it short."). Warming up, Mr Eltringham retorted: I do not know I am under the obligation of cutting my speech short. (Another voice: "Let's have the market.")

Mr ELTRINGHAM (indignantly): I will talk about the market as long as I have a mind.

Mr MCNALLY: Let's have the market.

Mr ELTRINGHAM (to Mr McNally): I think you should have made your speech when you seconded the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: I hope we will avoid all personalities in discussing this question. If we are to listen to every speaker for an indefinite period, we shall be sitting here all night. I think we should limit the speakers to ten minutes each.

Mr PALLISER took exception to the ruling of the Chairman, seeing that he had made a long opening speech, and had touched upon different questions not in any way related to the market scheme.

Mr T. CARR: Stay a moment——

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Begging your pardon, I am not done yet.

Mr CARR: I think the Chairman has power to say how long a speaker may address the meeting.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I do not think any particular time was allotted to any speaker; but if the Chairman adheres to his ruling, I will obey him. If we are not to mention anything about the Town Hall, why did the Chairman refer to it himself, as well as speak about churches, chapels, schools, &c.?

The CHAIRMAN: I did not object to your mentioning the Town Hall, but I will not hear you denounce the Company and asserting it will be a failure.

Mr MCNALLY: Speak upon beerhouses. ("Order.")

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I simply touched upon the subject of the Town Hall Company, and I think it hard lines to be called to order. (A voice: "Touch upon the whole of the subjects." Laughter). Our Chairman talked as long as he liked, and touched upon all the topics in the district (Renewed cries of "question," "order," "chair:" and a voice: "Talk to us about the market. That's what we want.")

Mr ELTRINGHAM challenged the gentleman who went round to seek signatures for the petition to get up if present and contradict what he had previously said.

Mr J. MILBURN: I beg to contradict you, Mr Eltringham.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Did you go round with the petition?

Mr MILBURN: No; I am merely refuting your assertion as to what the gentleman told the tradespeople when he went round with the requisition.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I do not thank you for your information, sir.

The CHAIRMAN begged the company to allow Mr Eltringham to proceed with his speech.

Mr ELTRINGHAM thereupon condemned the proposed scheme, and said the market would only be the means of benefitting the ratepayers living outside the Local Board district (voice: "Not at all.") If, however, the other ratepayers at Blackhill were willing to pay their share of the cost of the market, he would be willing to pay his.

The CHAIRMAN explained, for the sake of accuracy, that a voluminous memorial, signed by 200 ratepayers was presented to the Local Board meeting some time ago; and the requisition signed by more than 20 ratepayers came to him shortly afterwards.

The CHAIRMAN said there was a resolution before the meeting, it was their duty to say whether they would ignore it; or had Mr Palliser or any other ratepayer any amendment to make?

Mr PALLISER declared he was not speaking with any ill-feeling against anyone——(A Voice: "Propose that there is not to be a market.")

Mr PALLISER (continuing) said he would move as an amendment that if a market were erected, it should not be built with the ratepayers' money. (Hear, hear). He considered it absolutely wrong to build a market out of the money of the ratepayers. He represented the outsiders (he was an outsider himself), and thought it extremely unfair that they should be forced to pay towards a thing that would not benefit them in the least (Cheers, hisses, and applause).

The Rev F. STEGGALL, who was greeted with cheers and loud hisses, begged to claim the privilege of supporting the resolution. (Hear, hear). He condemned strongly the language used against their worthy Chairman by Mr Palliser and Mr Eltringham—(hisses and applause)—and expressed himself that never in his long experience, had he heard such insulting remarks directed against a chairman (Hear, hear). The question before them that night was, whether they had to have a market or not? This was to be answered by not only the people living in Consett (as it had been supposed was the case) but by all the people residng in the Consett Local Board district. As to the Chairman's allusion to the schools, chapels, &c., erected in the town, the rev gentleman contended that he was perfectly right in doing so—(cries of "Stick to the question")—because in the erection of his schools there had not been anything contributed by the ratepayers either in Blackhill or Consett, and if they had not been built, both Mr Palliser and Mr Eltringham and all the ratepayers would have been suffering under a heavy school rate. How could they, then, in all conscience refuse to pay a trivial rate towards a scheme that would be a honour to the town. (Loud Cheers). Again, they would all be aware that a new passenger line was now being constructed from Consett through the very populous neighbourhood of Stanley and Annfield Plain, and if the market were erected it would bring the people from that locality as well as from the Ebchester district, and then both Mr Palliser and other tradesmen would be benefitted by it. (Hear, hear). He considered the Blackhill tradespeople would have a greater advantage over the tradespeople in Middle Street, as they could take stalls in the market and compete against them. (Cheers). Personally, he would not gain anything by the market being erected, but as it was for the welfare of the community at large, he gave it his warmest sympathy, as such a scheme fully deserved. (Applause).

Mr PALLISER begged to contradict the statement that he had insulted the Chairman in any way. Also, he begged to remind the rev gentleman that it was not only his schools that saved the ratepayers of a school-rate, but there were the Wesleyan and British Schools also. (Cheers).

The CHAIRMAN submitted that there had been no insult given. He was not very thin-skinned.

Mr HYDEN and others enquired of the personal benefit they would derive from the scheme?

The CHAIRMAN considered it was not such a matter of personal interest as of doing good to the public generally. It was not to say that there should not be a market because one out of a hundred did not benefit by the scheme. They had to look to the public weal, and not so much to their personal benefits.

Mr A. JACKSON spoke strongly in support of the resolhtion, and in an exhaustive speech pointed out the various benefits that would accrue from the market, both by the town and its inhabitants, besides those residing outside the district.

Mr SIDDELL (who was received with cheers) said it gave him pleasure in standing forward and supporting the resolution. During the past few years, Consett had made rapid strides in the way of improvements, and he was glad to see they were going to further augment the embellishment of the town by the erection of a market. (Cheers). This was a very desirable acquisition, and if the market was erected at all, by all means it should be placed in the main thoroughfare of the town. Middle Street, he considered, was the most suitable and desirable situation for it in the whole district. (Applause). It was frequented by the bulk of the populace, and the people from the outlying villages, when the new line was opened, would naturally flock there. But they would not come if they did not make proper market accommodation; they would either go to Durham or Newcastle. Why should they not have their market as well as Newcastle or Durham? It was the most desirable thing that a market should be built, as it would effect everybody in the country side. (Cheers). He urged them to push the matter to a climax, and again declared his strong approval of the resolution. (Loud Cheers).

Mr T. CARR and Mr JOHN JENKINS also spoke in favourable terms of the object.

Mr W. BRAND said he did not think there were any ratepayers against a market being built, but there was a decided objection to the ratepayers having to pay for it. Why, he asked, could it not be built by a private company as in the case of the Town Hall? (Applause and hisses).

Mr SWAINSTONE derided the idea of having the market built by a private company. He pointed out that if a market was built by private speculators, butchers and others would still stand on their public streets and sell their goods, which would mean that there would be three or four markets. If, however, the market was built by the ratepayers, then they could force all street vendors to go to the market, and thus make it entirely self-supporting. (Loud cheers). He had much pleasure in supporting the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN also pointed out that before a private company could levy rates a special Act of Parliament would have to be obtained empowering them to do so, and they would find this no mean task. (Applause.) On the other hand, the rate-had this privilege, and could so work the matter as to make all street vendors resort to the market, thus making it self-supporting. (Cheers).

Mr PALLISER again raised an objection to the scheme, by supposing that if the three bodies were converted into a corporation, the ratepayers in Leadgate and Benfieldside would have to support a market, from which they would derive no benefit at all.

The CHAIRMAN, in a lengthy speech, pointed out the utter impossibility of such a supposition, as it would only be rated on the ratepayers in Consett.

Mr SIDDELL showed that they need not trouble themselves so much about the rate, as he assured them, that the money was going to be borrowed, and therefore the rate would be very light. (Applause).

Mr J. H. HUDSON said he would never have consented to the scheme if the money had not to have been borrowed, as the rates would have weighed heavily on the ratepayers. As it was, however, the rate would be very low, and, therefore, he had great gratification in approving of the resolution. (Cheers).

Mr PALLISER submitted that a market was requisite, but still he thought it would be very wrong of them to spend the money of the ratepayers in these exceedingly dull times. (Hear, hear). He thought the matter ought to be shelved until there was a better prospect of getting the money. (Cheers).

The CHAIRMAN: I think we have partially converted Mr Palliser. (Loud laugeter). If we commence to build it now, it will tend to increase trade. (Applause).

Mr HUDSON and LUMSDEN considered there could not be a better time than at present to commence operations.

Mr A. JACKSON here stated that he had calculated the rate that would have to to be paid was 4½d in the pound, which excluded any revenue at all.

The CHAIRMAN said that taking into account the revenue there would be attending the scheme, there would be a rate not exceeding 2d in the pound levied; and surely, he asked, they would not turn their backs upon such a desirable scheme for so trivial an amount?

Mr MCNALLY observed there were many of the tradesmen trembling about their businesses, and he thought it would have looked better of them to have stayed at home. (Laughter and applause).

Mr ELTRINGHAM begged to say that he did not come under the conflicting stigma of Mr McNally's sarcasm, as he could assert before that meeting he had sufficient means to carry him through the world without any more trade, and hoped Mr McNally could say the same. At any rate, in his line of business the erection of a market would greatly increase his trade, and it was not at all impossible but that he might be the lucky individual to get the building of it——

Mr MCNALLY (excitedly): Another conversion, Mr Chairman; another conversion! (Loud and renewed laughter).

Mr ELTRINGHAM (continuing) said he still adhered to his original assertions, as it was not for his interests alone that he was there to look after, but of those coming under the category of "outsiders," and therefore begged to second Mr Palliser's amendment.

Mr PALLISER also denied being one of the "trembling tradesmen," and after others had taken part in the proceedings,

The CHAIRMAN said he would put the amendment to the meeting first, when there were 24 hands held up. He then asked those who were for the resolution to show their approval in the usual way. 62 hands were counted, but we think it was far short of the number, for almost all those, except the 24, in the well-filled room held up their hands. However, the original resolution was declared to be carried by an overwhelming majority amid thunderous applause.

Mr ROWE demanded that poll of the ratepayers should be taken on the subject, but his proposition was negatived.

On the motion of Mr SIDDELL, seconded by Mr PALLISER, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman for the indefatigable manner in which he performed his arduous duties.

The CHAIRMAN suitably replied, and the proceedings terminated at a late hour.

A MAN FOUND DROWNED.—On Sunday afternoon, the body of a man named John Kelly, supposed to be a hawker, was found drowned in the Wear, near to Shincliffe Water Works.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—On Saturday evening, a stranger, whose name is Wood, was found in Silver Street, Durham, with his throat cut. The wound had been self-inflicted, and the man, who was almost unconscious, was taken by the police to the County Hospital, where he was attended by Dr Milburn, the house surgeon.

LARCENIES.—At the Durham County Police Court, Agnes Cummings was sentenced to three months' hard labour for stealing one pound of butter from the shop of George Young at Carrville, on the 16th inst.—Peter Heenan, who had been in the employment of the Weardale Iron and Coal Company for twenty years, was sent to prison for two months for stealing a quantity of lead, brass and copper, of the value of 6s.—Andrew Summerhill, 16 years of age, was fined 25s including costs, for stealing a box of figs, belonging to Mr Michael Lidster, of Tudhoe, on the 16th inst.

THE MILDNESS OF THE WEATHER.—Whilst out on the fells of Weardale the other day, I was rather surprised to observe that the whins were breaking into bloom, and in places where the slightest shelter was afforded them, the bright golden blossoms were in full flower. When we remember that often the hill folks can scarcely collect sufficient whin blooms to dye their Easter eggs in March, the fact of seeing them out at the commencement of February, is indeed a novelty. No better proof of the mildness of the season could be given than this. Those who have sown "hard" (winter) corn must be indeed jubilant, and it is a long time indeed since I saw the corn so far forward as it is at present all over the district south of the Tyne. Farmers have in many places got in their turnip and potato sowing, and a continuance of the warm, wet weather we have experienced lately will be of immense value in fetching forward the plants before any lengthy spell of dry weather, such as killed the first sowing of turnips last year, can be expected. I am told that a few farmers of South Durham tried carrots instead of turnips on their land, and in light sandy and loam soils the experiment proved highly satisfactory. This is a kind of root that as yet Durham farmers have not cultivated, though no better food for either horses, cattle, or sheep can be grown. In the great horse-producing county of England, the land of broad acres, the value of carrots as food for stock of all kinds is fully appreciated, and farmers never fail to have a stock in hand for their winter provender. Mangold wurzel is also another root that is very little grown in the Northern counties, but which in more Southern lands finds a preference over turnips for cattle-feeding.—"Elfin" in the *Newcastle Chronicle*.

NORTH OF ENGLAND IRON TRADE.—Middlesbrough, Tuesday.—The iron market to-day opened quiet and remained in that condition throughout. Consumers show no disposition to buy iron any more than they have already done, and makers are not anxious sellers, in the prospect of the blowing out of furnaces this month, for which arrangements are already being made in some cases by giving notice to the men. Thus a very dull state of things exists, and the outlook, with a diminishing manufacturing iron trade, is more or less disheartening. The makers' quotation is usually about 37s No. 3 prompt, and 37s 6d to 38s forward. Buyers will not pay the premium asked for forward delivery. The merchants' figure is 36s 9d No. 3. Forge iron is 34s 6d to 34s 9d, being weaker than No. 3. Warrants are at a discount, and 37s No. 3 is the quotation. The stock of Messrs Connal's warrants has been reduced 800 tons upon the week and to-day the firm have in their store 61,343 tons. The shipments of pig iron have been rather small. They reached a total for the week ending yesterday of 15,324 tons, while the exports of manufactured iron and steel amount to about 2,300 tons. The shipbuilding trade is very slack. Orders have been entirely absent, and the yards are gradually stopping portions of their works as vessels get finished. There are no new orders coming to hand worth mentioning for manufactured iron or steel. Some of the manufacturers have been doing a much smaller business, not being able to get specifications even where they have orders booked. Irregular time has, therefore, been worked, and works going one week and stopped another. The steel trade has been pretty busy, and there seems no present lack of work, though orders at remunerative prices are scarce. The engineering works are not so busy as they were. The rates of manufactured iron keep weak. Common bars are £5 2s 6d; ship plates, £5 to £5 2s 6d; angles, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d, less commission. Puddled bars, £3 7s 6d nett. The figure for steel rails is about £4 10s. It is not yet known what action will be taken by the shipbuilders—whether a strike will take place on the wages question or not. The same is the case with the blastfurnacemen. The coal trade is dull, and coke also. Prices nominally the same.

VALE OF DERWENT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

OVER-PRESSURE IN DAY SCHOOLS.

The annual meeting of this association was held in the Wesleyan Schools on Saturday, 9th inst., when, considering the very inelement weather a fair muster of teachers assembled. Upon the late president (Mr BREARS, Leadgate National Schools) taking the chair,

The Secretary (Mr JACKSON, Consett Wesleyan) read the minutes of the previous meeting and submitted the annual balance sheet, which showed the Association to be in a sound condition, and very satisfactory considering the heavy calls upon the treasurer for district purposes, and the special printing of the Pupil Teachers' Scheme of tuition. There are 26 members this year, as against 31 last year. This decrease is accounted for by some of the members having left the district. One notable feature in the list of members is the scarcity of the fair sex, and this must needs be deplored, seeing that perhaps, the chief, or at least a very important feature, of the present Code is the III Schedule (on needlework) over which they alone can exercise a powerful influence.

After the transaction of the ordinary business the Chairman proceeded in a short, pithy address, to speak on a few of the burning questions of the day, dealing chiefly with the irregularity of attendance; exception on the day of Examination; and the amount of pressure placed upon children necessary to meet the demands of the present Code. He was of opinion that visiting some parents and explaining the absolute need there now is for the children to attend regularly, in order to be prepared for the inspection, would result in good in many cases; but he was sorry to say that with the majority the bench seemed the only motive power that could gain any satisfactory result. He considered that the over-pressure now existing might be very considerably modified by the judicious and careful interpretation of the "Instructions to Inspectors." The teachers alone could do little in the matter. It was needful the people, whose children were the sufferers, should stir themselves and meet *en masse* as lately at Bradford. The Members of Parliament needed a little touching up also, and it should be done on all occasions. The Chairman thanked the members for their courtesy during his presidency, and wishing every success to the Association, retired in favour of Mr W. McKay (Catchgate), the president elect.

A lively and interesting discussion ensued, in which the following teachers took part:—Messrs McKay, Jackson, Hyden, Prevell, and Teare, the purport of their experience clearly showing that over-pressure did exist, and ever would as long as the objectionable clause of "payment by results" remained a part of the Code, for in nearly all cases did managers, and especially Board members, measure the success of a school by the amount earned per head, and to obtain this the children must be *kept in*, and the time table of the school generally lengthened, pressure brought to bear upon the backward and the weak, and every available means used in order to gratify this craving for £ s d. While deploring this state of things they are powerless to hinder it. It was evident that to successfuly grapple with the Mundella Code an ample apparatus and a plentiful and efficient staff were absolutely necessary. But worry seemed the order of the day. There was worry from the children, worry from the parents, some because their child was considered neglected, some because they were taught too much, &c.; and the worry arising from the grant and the inspection day.

In speaking of the staff, one school in Leicester was cited as having four assistant masters for 60 boys, an average of only 15 each—while the Norwich School Board only allow the principal teacher to count for about 35, an assistant 50, a P.T. in fourth and third years 20, other years nothing, and monitors nothing.

On the motion of Mr DUCKWORTH, seconded by Mr TEARE, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr Brears for his address and past services.

It was also unanimously agreed to hold shortly a social gathering of teachers and friends in Consett.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year:—Mr McKay (Catchgate), president; Mr Duckworth (Castleside), vice-president; Mr Jackson (Consett), secretary and treasurer; and the members of the various committees.

A new Masonic lodge will shortly be opened at Crook, by the Marquis of Londonderry.

It is stated that the Rev J. G. Norton, Vicar of St Giles, Durham, has accepted an appointment in Canada, and will shortly vacate the living of St. Giles.

At Hobson Hotel, on Saturday night, £3 a-side was posted in the hands of Mr W. J. Cawthorn to bind a match at quoits between Robert Armstrong, of Dipton, and Henry Armstrong, of Moor Pit, for £20 a-side, 16 yards distance, 3½lb quoits.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Health or Wealth.—No sane person would hesitate an instant in the choice between these two conditions. Now is the season to secure the former either by restoring or confirming it. These Pills expel all impurities from the system which fogs, foul vapours, and variable temperatures engender during winter; this medicine also acts most wholesomely upon the skin by disgorging the liver of its accumulated bile, and by exciting the kidneys to more energetic action; it increases the appetite for food and strengthens the digestive process. The stomach and liver, with which most disorders originate, are fully under the control of these regenerative Pills, which act very kindly yet more efficiently on the tenderest bowels.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

TOW LAW—Grove Lodge, on the 18th inst, the wife of George Johnstone, M.D., of a daughter.

DUBLIN—6, St. Mary's Villas, the wife of Mr T. Pickering, of a daughter.

RYTON-ON-TYNE—20th inst, the wife of Mr W. C. Charlton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CROOK—Wesleyan Chapel, 18th inst, by the Rev Samuel Adcock, Mr James Beveridge, of Gateshead, to Jane Ann, daughter of Mr Geo. Lister.

STANHOPE—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 16th inst, by the Rev J. Elliott, Mr Jacob Peart, of Wearhead, to Miss Euphemia Graham, of Whitestones.

At the Wesleyan Chapel, 16th inst, by the Rev Thos. Barron, Mr James Lee, of Tow Law, to Mrs Phœbe Ann Peart, of Lane Hill, Weardale.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—24, Puddlers' Row, Consett, on the 20th inst., Matthew Simpson, aged 4 years and 5 months. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery on Sunday, 24th inst, at 2·30. Friends please accept this intimation.

HILL TOP, DIPTON—10th inst, aged 41 years, George Allen. Interred at Leazes, Burnopfield.

SOUTH PONTOP COLLIERY—17th inst, aged 14 years, Robert William, son of Henry and Jane Greener.

WINLATON MILL—19th inst, aged 76, Thomas Thompson, gardener, late of Scotswood.

BLAYDON-ON-TYNE—16, Bridge Street, 18th inst, aged 86, Mary Ann, widow of the late Robert Hall.

RYTON-ON-TYNE—6, Dean Terrace (the residence of her sister), 19th inst, Elizabeth Wilson.

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Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at the Atmospheric Printing Works, Front Street Consett.—Friday, February 22nd, 1884.