The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

An ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Annfield Plain, Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, &c.

No. 1,123 {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, February 24th, 1882. PRICE ONE PENNY.

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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, February 24th, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The other evening Mr. Gladstone essayed to explained what he really did mean, or perhaps we should say what he did not mean, by his recent much-canvassed utterances on the subject of Irish Home Rule. He has withdrawn nothing now of what he previously said, and scarcely be considered as having added anything definite to it. This explanation is chiefly significant from its negatives. He says that he did not intend to give countenance to any proposed changes which would menace the integrity of the Empire or weaken the control of Parliament over the affairs of Ireland; and that he would support no kind of local Government for that country which he would not equally be prepared to concede to Scotland, and to English districts, if it were demanded. The latter portion of the explanation is not without value. As the Premier did avowedly proposed land legislation for Ireland of a character which he explicitly declared was not required by the circumstances of Great Britain, some persons were ready to believe that he might be projecting similarly exceptional local Government for Ireland. But we are now informed, although he spoke specifically in respect to Irish demands, and actually invited a formulation of them subject to certain conditions, he had no idea of satisfying the demands, but only intended to show their unpracticability, and to offer something quite different from what was asked for. Whether this partial admission of a grievance, and this indication of of a substituted remedy, are likely to allay or to stimulate agitation in Ireland, is a question on which opinions will very naturally differ. Some people will think that by admitting a ground for agitation, and suggesting consequent legislation, Mr. Gladstone will satisfy nobody, but merely encourage the agitators. Be that as it may, we should have been ready to welcome the Premier's general view on the subject of local Government, if it had been expressed in connection with any other matter than the Irish Home Rule movement. Probably Mr. Gladstone himself, in listening to Home Rule speakers, was reminded that his Government are now actually exercising their energies in reference to certain extensions or reforms of local Government, and so he was led to suggest that he and his colleagues would be ready to do anything of this kind that Ireland might reasonably require. But the right hon. gentleman's words seem to point to something beyond mere County Boards or a Metropolitan Municipality. It seems to us that to give any real effect to his ideas it would be necessary to divide the United Kingdom into provinces, each with a legislature of its own for dealing with strictly local affairs, including "Private Bills" referring to matters lying wholly within a single province. If such a place as this could be devised, without interfering with the control of the Imperial Parliament in matters of general concern, we might find in it a means of relieving the present overworked House of Commons. It should be considered that within the present century the population of the United Kingdom has more than doubled itself; that its wealth and business activity have increased in a far greater ratio; that large additions have been made to our Empire beyond the seas; that our national interests have become more varied and weighty all over the world; and that, in consequence of all this development, the work requiring to be done in Parliament has enormously increased. It is this augumentation of legislative business, as much as anything, which has led to the movement for modifications in the rules of Procedure in order to facilitate legislative work. But any alterations of this kind will only be a partial and temporary palliative, as long as the Imperial Parliament has to deal with matters like local railway, harbour, water, gas, and other "improvement" bills. We would much rather see all subjects of this kind relegated to provincial councils, if it were possible, and for the Imperial Parliament to retain all its old freedom and independence in dealing with matters of national concern. Even Irishmen, we fancy, would be more content with merely local or provincial self-goverment, if they could only feel that in Parliament itself their representatives would retain all their old privileges in discussing the general business of the Kingdom or of the Empire, instead of having their liberty restricted by the operation of the *cloture*.

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.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The wearisome length of the debates on the Address have added renewed proof, if any were wanting, of the necessity of some new rules of Procedure. The delay which has been occasioned in bringing the proposed Rules before the House has, however, been favourable to the chances of the success of the Government in obtaining their acceptance. A week ago there was talk of a Government defeat and a dissolution. Many Liberal members were known to be opposed to the First Resolution. The constituencies have, however, come to the rescue of the Government. Radical organizations have spoken out on the side of the Premier, and it is now expected that no serious difficulty will be experienced in securing a Government majority. Whether it will be for the benefit of Liberalism to put so great an increase of power into the hands of the Executive is a question which has not yet perhaps been sufficiently considered.

London, with all its greatness, is a forlorn and neglected region. It is not a city, though it contains two cities. It is not a municipality, though it contains a congeries of Parliamentary boroughs. It is enormously large; but the maxim of Euclid that the whole is greater than its part does not seem to apply to it. Sympathies and energies are so absorbed in its detached portions that they cannot be extended to its entirety. Men of mark give to vestries what was meant for a municipality. There seems a near chance of a sweeping reform. Mr Gladstone has investigated existing anomalies. Only a little agitation is required and the existing order of things is doomed. The Reformers are in the field; but they want funds. The "League" have issued 20,000 circulars asking for subscriptions. What has been the result? Thousands might have been anticipated in response to the appeal. As a matter of fact, about £2 sterling has come in!!

A brilliant but erratic figure has disappeared from London Society. Three or four years ago a young barrister astonished the world by giving a fancy dress ball in the Temple. The affair was quite magnificent, and the fine suite of fine apartments which he had taken at a rent of no less than £350 a year was much admired. At the last election he was candidate in the Radical interest for a Southern borough, but was defeated. He married the charming sister of another barrister, and, leaving his chambers, lived in style elsewhere. Then came money losses, stranding him in difficulties, which were believed to be only temporary. His political friends, who had the highest hope for his career, procured him the position of secretary to a statesman of eminence. In this capacity he earned much distinction. But the last news about him is that he has fled from his wife and creditors, and taken his passage to a foreign shore, in company with a young lady he had succeeded in seducing.

Persons of distinction are more liable than others to have their names held up to ridicule by means of impudent forgeries. Lord Coleridge's position with reference to the Ferneaux frauds is not without a mortifying element in it. It is not pleasant for a man in his position to appear in the witness-box of a police-court, and be subject to examination, possibly a cross-examination, at the hands of some police-court solicitor. As a rule judges do not like giving evidence. There would be more prosecutions for perjury but for their known repugnance to becoming witnesses, and the loss of time involved to the public as well as to themselves. It is remarked by Lord Campbell in his "Lives of the Chancellors," that occupants of the Bench do not make good witnesses. He instances several historical examples, the most famous of which is the appearance of Lord Erskine as a witness for the defence at the trial of Fergus O'Connor for treason.

The holding in a Church of Sunday evening services expressly declared to be "for the people" would seem to imply that the ordinary Church services held therein were not for the people. Mr Haweis is having a long series of special services so entitled. Their speciality consists of selections from Handel and Mozart in lieu of preaching, and in an exhibition in the vestry of a collection of sacred paintings by the old masters. Compared with the rather discursive and rapid remarks which usually take the place of a sermon in St. James', Westmoreland Street, the concert, for the performance of which eminent musicians are engaged, and the subsequent promenade into the loan exhibition, no doubt deserve to be called entertaining. But Mr Haweis seems to be straying nearly as wide of the rubrics as the incarcerated Rev. S. F. Green.

The Ladies' Temperance Association is the least noisy and obtrusive, but not by any means the least effectual teetotal organizations. Instead of holding public meetings, it arranges for drawing-room assemblages in which the principles which it advocates are discussed in a semi-conversational manner, and in which unbelievers in the worship of water-drinking are given free opportunity of expressing their opinions. I was much amused by a meeting of this character which I attended a few evenings ago, at which an officer in the Army presided. Several ladies spoke with considerable effect in favour of teetotalism; but a clergyman present who was called upon for an address acted the part of Balaam, and, if he did not curse the cause he was expected to bless, at any rate said some very plain things upon the extravagances of temperance fanatics. The main objects of the Association are to induce ladies to take the pledge and to abstain from offering intoxicants to visitors or servants, and further, to use their influence with their male relations and acquaintances in the direction of total abstinence. In the last direction it was urged that they might produce great results; and no doubt they might, for we have it on good authority that the weak things of the earth are chosen to confound the mighty, and the foolish things to confound the wise.

By a slip of the pen I fell into an unpardonable error in a recent communication. In speaking of Mr Walford's quarrel with Mr Eliot Stock, I represented the Editor of the *Antiquary* as the person who opened a letter addressed to Mr Walford. That gentleman would, I am sure, repudiate such an act with the greatest scorn. As Mr Walford shows in his published "Letter to Lord Talbot de Malahide," it was in the publisher's office, and not the Editor's, that the letter was opened—a distinction in this case with a decided difference.

Mr Gladstone's sensational announcement on Monday, followed by the dramatic performance of Mr Bradlaugh on Tuesday, when he redeemed the pledge defiantly given to the Secularists a Sunday or two ago, that he would both take the oath and his seat at his own time and in his own way, have made this week one of Parliamentary surprises. Certainly the Speaker was right when he declared there was no precedent for such proceedings in the annals of Parliament, and the Attorney-General's cautious "opinion" as to Mr Bradlaugh's position shows more clearly than ever the wrong position in which the House placed itself by the vote on the first day of the session.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Lords, Earl Granville read telegrams which he had received from Lord Dufferin respecting the severe attack which had been made upon English naval officers by a party of Albanian shepherds. Replying to questions, Earl Granville said Mr Errington was not commissioned by the Government to go to Rome. He had received no appointment or remuneration. He had no authority either from him or any other member of the Government to negotiate with the Vatican, or to make any proposals or address any questions to the Vatican.

In the House of Commons, Mr Mundella stated in answer to a question, that the new Education Code was being drafted, and he hoped it would be laid on the table no later than the 6th of March. It was not proposed, however, that examinations under the code should be taken until the 21st of March. Mr Cowen was proceeding to call attention to the parliamentary rule declaring that it is a high infringement of the liberties of the House of Commons for any peer or lord-lieutenant to concern himself in the election of members of Parliament, when the Speaker pointed out that the hon. member had allowed time to elapse before bringing the subject under the notice of the House, and he had thereby lost his right of privilege. Mr Cowen gave notice that he would move a resolution on the question. The Marquis of Hartington, in the absence of the Prime Minister, made a statement as to the course of business, and said that as there was no probability of the debate on the Report of the Address being finished at a very early hour, his right hon. friend did not propose then to move the resolution standing in his name with regard to the business of the House. A variety of questions having been answered, the Attorney-General for Ireland resumed the debate on the Report of the Address.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Donoughmore moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the working of recent legislation in reference to land in Ireland, and of its effect on the condition of the country. He affirmed that the landlords were the parties who were uneasy now, and that the uncertainty in their minds arose as much from the manner in which the Act had been received by those whom it was intended to benefit, as from the way in which it had been carried out by those called upon to administer it. Lord Carlingford, in opposing the motion, said a more outrageous proposal had never, in his opinion, been made. The noble Earl wished to re-open the cases heard by the Sub-Commissioners even before the appeals had been disposed of, a course so unprecedented in its character that it should not be taken except upon the strongest and most overwhelming evidence.

In the House of Commons, Mr Jesse Collings gave notice that in four weeks he will move a resolution with regard to the Land Laws, and declaring the desirability that provision should be made to enable tenant farmers and agricultural labourers to acquire proprietary rights in their tenancies. Replying to questions with reference to the Bradlaugh case, Sir Henry James said the effect of the decision of the House could only be determined by the House itself. He knew no grounds on which it could be alleged that a vacancy had occurred in the representation of the borough of Northampton. Other questions having been answered, the debate on the Report on the Address was resumed by Sir Walter Barttelot.

MONDAY.

In the House of Lords, Earl Granville announced that, after consultation with other members of the Government, it had been resolved that the Peers on the Treasury Bench could take no part in the Committee of Inquiry into the operations of the Irish Land Act. Earl Cairns laid before the House a bill the object of which is to give to tenants for life or other limited owners of settled estates full and satisfactory powers for the beneficial enjoyment and improvement of their property. The bill, he said, was the same as that which their Lordships had approved on two previous occasions, and which was sent to the House of Commons, with this exception, that the present measure was intended to apply to existing as well as to future settlements. The Lord Chancellor thought the bill would effect a very decided improvement of the existing law, and it was read a first time. Earl Granville, replying to a question from Lord Stratheden and Campbell as to what extent and with what reservation the Government had given their sanction to the projected Channel Tunnel, said the Government had deemed it their duty to institute an inquiry into the matter, and would come to a decision as to the course to be pursued after careful consideration, and would communicate the result to Parliament before the two private bills already introduced were dealt with.

In the House of Commons Mr Allsopp took his seat for Taunton. Questions having been answered with reference to the electric light, the persecution of the Jews, and other subjects, Mr Gladstone gave notice that on Monday next he will move that a parliamentary inquiry at the present time into the working of the Irish Land Act would tend to defeat the operation of that Act, and be injurious to the interests of good government in Ireland. He afterwards stated, in answer to a question, that this would be the first business next Monday. An animated conversation followed. Mr Gladstone afterwards moved the new rules of procedure. He said everyone must recognise the insufficiency of power of the present rules to deal with the state of things which had of late arisen. It had therefore become a necessity for the Government to propose some measure which would relieve the House from a position which was painful to its credit and its dignity. The Government proposals were divided into two parts—that which dealt with the mode in which they should perform their business, and that which dealt with the delegation of a certain portion of their work. He felt that the former was of far greater importance than the latter. Obstruction had greatly increased, and it was under these circumstances that the Government asked them to give the House power of saying that a debate which had been carried on for a sufficient time should close. There was but one sound principle, and that was that the majority should prevail. He hoped the House would always respect—he might almost say worship—freedom of debate, but that it would not tolerate that licence of debate which counterfeited freedom. Sir Stafford Northcote, who followed, said he believed that the adoption of the resolutions would have a mischievous effect, not only upon the freedom of debate, but also upon the freedom of voting.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Augmentation of Benefices Amendment Bill was read a second time. Lord Bury inquired whether the evidence taken before the Departmental Committee in the matter of the proposed Channel Tunnel was to be laid before Parliament, whether the new committee would sit with closed doors, and whether Parliament would be excluded from the discussion of the question. Earl Granville, in reply, said it might be that the proposals of the Scientific Committee relating to precautions would have to be kept secret, but the general reports of both committees would be presented to Parliament as soon as the Government had come to a decision.

In the House of Commons, Sir George Elliot took his seat for North Durham. Mr Arthur Arnold gave notice of his intention to bring forward a resolution declaring that it would be desirable to establish uniformity of the franchise throughout the whole of the United Kingdom, by making the franchise the same as that established in the English boroughs, and that it would be desirable to redistribute the political power. Sir Stafford Northcote intimated that on Monday next he will oppose Mr Gladstone's motion for postponing the orders of the day. Mr Gladstone having made an explanation with reference to a statement he had made respecting the Channel Tunnel, Mr Labouchere moved a new writ for Northampton in the room of Mr Bradlaugh, who by several resolutions of the House had been precluded from taking his seat. After some discussion, the latter part of the resolution was negatived, and, on a second division, the former part was rejected by 307 against 18 votes. Mr Bradlaugh afterwards advanced to the table, read the oath, and, taking a copy of the New Testament from his pocket, kissed it. The Speaker called upon him to withdraw. He said he would do so; but added that he had taken the oath, and now claimed to take his seat. A long and animated discussion followed in which Mr Gladstone, Sir Stafford Northcote, and others took part, and eventually the debate was adjourned. Mr E. Clarke brought forward a resolution declaring it to be desirable that the practice of the House should be so amended that the consideration of bills which have passed a second reading, but have become law, shall be resumed in the succeeding session of the same Parliament at the stage of Committee.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr Bradlaugh appeared and took his seat, but afterwards withdrew at the request of the Speaker. Sir Stafford Northcote proposed that Mr Bradlaugh should be expelled, which was carried by 291 against 83 votes, Mr Bradlaugh voting in the minority. On the motion of Sir Stafford Northcote a new writ was issued for Northampton. The proceedings lasted three hours, and were of a very excited nature throughout. Mr Hugh Mason's Bill respecting inquiries into the cause of boiler explosions was read a second time.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the above authority took place on Thursday se'nnight in the Board Room of Lanchester Workhouse, the Chairman (Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., J.P.) presiding. The other members in attendance were Messrs W. M. Annandale, T. Siddell, J. Buckham, R. Clark, N. Clark, E. Leybourne, J. Bowey, G. Wall, Jos. Eltringham, J. Collinson, and J. W. Hodgson.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

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

To the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—On the 23rd ult., I visited Annfield Plain, Hill Top, Dipton, and Burnopfield, with Messrs Hobson, Mitchinson, and Hodgson; at the latter place Thomas Cutbertson had abated the nuisance complained of in the fold yard, viz:—a large pool of stagnant and foul water next the road, by filling in earth so that it presented a fairly clean appearance. Your committee will, I believe, report on the other matters looked into.

On visiting Cowsley Cottages on the 3rd inst., I found that Mr George Elliott, of Hedleyhope, had in compliance with notice from this Authority, completed a new slop channel which has long been wanted for these houses.

During the month the Ushaw Moor school-room has been occupied by a number of the wives and children of the men usually resident at that colliery. The place was inspected on the 24th ult., and again on the 8th inst. According to the best information obtainable there were 15 women and 31 children accommodated in the building. The cubic capacity per inmate is about 660 ft. which is sufficient for purposes of health; the slops are discharged into a running water near at hand; the school conveniences are in use, and the drinking water is obtained from the said runner at a point above where the slop water enters.

In accordance with your instructions, I have made a survey of the open ditch at Langley Park and beg to report that there are four pipes discharging into it—two small and unimportant ones, an 18in surface and road water drain, and the 18in slop drain or sewer from the Langley Park houses. The length of the ditch from these inlet pipes to the mouth of the culvert beneath the railway is under 40 yards. Two alternative methods of covering it in should be considered—first by a brick sewer large enough to take the full contents of all the inlet pipes together; and secondly, by continuing the two 18in pipes separately to the railway culvert. If at any future time it were intended to adopt some method of cleansing the slop drainage before discharging it into the stream the road water should be kept separate from the slops by following the latter method. The railway culvert also lends itself to this arrangement being divided apparently right through, by a central partition into two distinct channels one of which could be used for surface and the other for slop water.

Notice number 462 served on B. McAnulty, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 6th January last, to put privies at Waterson's Buildings, Colliery Dykes into usable condition within 14 days has not been complied with. Also notice number 464 served on G. T. Easten, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 6th January last, to build two new privies and a covered ashpit and repair existing conveniences at Colliery Dykes, within 28 days has not been complied with.

James Henderson, of Ryton-on-Tyne, has transgressed the Building Byelaws by omitting to provide ventilation to small bedroom and to drain, of house lately erected by him at Medomsley Edge.

Nuisance notices served during the month	35
Letters written with respect to nuisances &c	38
Plan approval notices sent out	6
Habitation certificates sent out	2
Plans received and examined	11
Villages, Hamlets, &c., inspected	88

The following new buildings are completed and fit for habitation and certificates are required for the same:—

291, West Stanley Co-operative Society, one house, West Stanley.
299, Jane Handcock and son, two houses, Barcus Close, near Tanfield.
309, Trustees of Holmside School, additions to master's house.

The following plans for new buildings have been received and your committee recommends that with the exceptions of 337 and 347 they be approved, subject to the matters marked on each plan being attended to; the exceptions to be adjourned for further information:—

337, William Ridley, conveniences, Hedley Hill.
338, Mary Barker, conveniences, Cornsay.
339, William Douglass, stable, &c., Blackhall Mill.
340, W. C. Rippon, alterations to property, Burnopfield.
341, Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, house, Annfield Plain.
342, R. Sherill, conveniences, Hare Law.
343, James Hunter, conveniences, Medomsley.
344, G. T. Easten, conveniences, Dipton.
345, Matthew Coupland, additions to house, Ebchester.
346, J. Cumming, cart shed, Lanchester.
347, Wm. Hutchinson and son, two houses, Ewehurst Head.

—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. Wm. Rounthwaite.

After due consideration the report was adopted.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Dr Benson (Tanfield district) reported that he mentioned last month the prevalence of scarletina at the villages of Dipton and Annfield Plain. In the latter place there has happily been no further spread. In the former, however, it is showing signs of becoming epedemic both in the village and neighbourhood. Five cases at South Medomsley Cottages, two at Delight Cottages, and two at Hill Top; out of these two cases were fatal. The mortality for the month is not above the average—24 deaths registered in that period, equal to a ratio of 17·8 per 1,000 per annum.

Dr Bolton (Medomsley district) reported that during the month one case of scarletina has come under his notice in the village of Medomsley. A drain within a few feet off a house which at times contained sewerage gas, was reported to the Sanitary Inspector, and by his orders the drain was cleaned out and the nuisance remedied. Ebchester is free from contagious diseases. The sanitary condition of the district is on the whole satisfactory.

Dr Wilson (Lanchester district) presented his annual report which was simply a recapitulation of the reports which we printed from time to time.

This was all the business, and the meeting dissolved.

Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allendale.—On Saturday evening last a lecture was delivered in the above chapel, by the Rev. W. Baitey, of Blackhill. Subject:—"Indications of the character and frames of the mind, from the human organisation and head." Mr W. H. Hedley, of Medomsley, presided. The opening remarks and the lecture were highly appreciated and much applauded by a most respectable and intelligent audience. A vote of thanks to the gentlemen brought a very interesting and instructive meeting to a close.

SUBSIDENCE OF LAND AT CONSETT.

SERIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

Considerable commotion was caused in Consett and neighbourhood on Saturday and Sunday, in consequence of a subsidence of the ground in the Medomsley Road, caused by the pit workings underneath. The foundations of several houses at each side of Mr. Dobson's, the Fountain Hotel, were violently shaken, the windows and doors displaced, the panes broken, and the structure otherwise seriously damaged. The hotel itself presents a perfect wreck. An ugly gap, several inches wide, extends from the top to the bottom of the building. One portion of the house stands firm and erect, but the other part has fallen away in a north-easterly direction. The wall, at one end, has separated from the ceiling, some portions of which is falling in, as well as the roof itself. The floors, both upstairs and down, are cracking and giving away. The pavement and the footpath in front of the hotel and adjoining houses, are full of cracks from three to six inches wide running underneath the property, and into the back gardens to within a few feet of the Consett Water Company's service reservoir. Should they ever reach that point, as they eventually must, the consequences will undoubtedly be very serious. On Sunday, a great hole was visible on the middle of the highway, and, being considered dangerous, was subsequently filled up with stones. The sinking of the ground was first perceived on Friday morning, and has been gradually subsiding until Sunday, when the landlord of the public-house thought it incumbent to remove all the furniture that could possibly be spared into a neighbouring cottage. For the past three mornings the inhabitants have been unable to open their doors, and had, therefore, to obtain egress by the windows, and force the door open from the outside. Some of the doors appear to be almost topsy-turvey. The affair has created the greatest consternation in the neighbourhood, and on Sunday, and during the past week thousands of persons flocked to the place. By reason of the Lanchester Common Act, the property owners cannot claim any compensation from the colliery proprietors for buildings so damaged.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held in the Board Room at Lanchester Workhouse on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., J.P. (chairman). The Rev C. Gillow, Messrs W. M. Annandale, J. Buckham, T. Siddell, J. Lax, R. Clark, N. Clark, E. Leybourne, J. Collinson, J. Eltringham, J. Bowey, and Geo. Wall were also present.

The minutes of last meeting having been read and agreed to, the several applications for relief were duly considered.

INMATES OF WORKHOUSE.

The following is the Workhouse Master's report of the number of inmates in the institution:—

Week ending Feb. 8th	155
Corresponding week of last year	147
Week ending Feb. 15th	154
Corresponding week last year	155
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	132
" " corresponding fortnight last year	120

BALANCE IN HAND.

The Treasurer (Mr Cumming) reported that the balance in hand on February 16th was £3,361 1s 7d.

INCREASE OF VAGRANCY.

Mr Siddell said he wished to draw the attention of the Board to the increase of vagrancy in the Union, which was due in a great measure to their defective casual ward system. During the past fortnight over 130 tramps had been lodged in the wards—a state of things which should not exist, considering that there was now abundance of employment for those men who desired to work. He did not think it was right that the Guardians should be compelled to maintain such lazy scoundrels, as several instances of the flagrant abuse of this system had recently come under his personal observation. Some means must be adopted to keep these men he alluded to out of the vagrant ward of the House and make them seek lodgings elsewhere. He hoped the Board would take the question into their immediate consideration. He would suggest nothing; but leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Board.

The Clerk said the only means of getting rid of the tramps was to adopt the separate cell system. When these men were congregated together they made themselves very jolly; but when confined in separate cells their liberty was considerably curtailed and they were glad to get out as quickly as possible.

The Chairman quite agreed with the remarks of Mr Siddell. Individually they were themselves to blame in allowing these tramps to come to their doors. He understood that on account of the increase of pauperism in this county there was to be some legislation on the subject. They might memorialise the justices at the Quarter Sessions and have these vagrants prosecuted.

Mr Lax: I think the separate cell system would effectually stop the practice.

The Chairman suggested that a committee be appointed to enquire into the ways and means adopted in other unions in dealing with tramps and report to the Board that day month.

Mr Siddell replied that they should take the matter, as far as they had the power, into their own hands, and do away to a great extent with their present system. If the tramps were prevented from mixing up one with another they would then keep away from the place. These individuals were at the best a lazy set of vagabonds, who would not work so long as the people in that district would assist and relieve them. If the Board were to devise some method of isolating them every time they came to the Workhouse, it would be the means of ridding the district almost entirely of that class of individuals. They were a disgrace to the neighbourhood, and went about cadging and begging in all manner of ways. In his opinion they could not lay out they ratepayers' money better than in providing separate cells for them.

Mr Eltringham enquired if it would be necessary to put up a new building to carry out that plan?

The Chairman did not think there was sufficient room at present.

Mr Collinson suggested that the various Local Boards be asked to post notices prohibiting vagrancy in their several districts, and getting the proper authorities to enforce the law.

The Chairman: After that idea had been carried out we could still have the separate cell system.

Mr Eltringham: I think it would be best to instruct the police officers to lock such tramps up.

Mr Lax maintained that if the thing was worth doing at all it was worth doing well and he would suggest that a committee of members be appointed to enquire into and discuss the matter and report thereon.

This course was agreed to, the committee consisting of the Chairman, Mr Collinson, Mr Siddell, Mr Buckham, and Mr Clark.

PIGGERIES AND MORTUARY.

The Clerk read a letter from the Local Government Board stating that they approved of the plans of piggeries and mortuary which the Board were about to erect at the Workhouse.

VISITING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee reported that on the last occasion they inspected the Workhouse they noticed that the various yards which were covered with black ashes, were now in a very dirty state, and caused a lot of cleaning up. The committee suggested that the boys' playground be cemented throughout; that a footpath be made around the women's yard and the other part sown with grass seeds; and that the girls' playground be covered with chippings from the lead mines.

It was decided to carry out the committee's recommendation with regard to the female's yard; but the other matters should stand over until the probable cost of carrying out the work be ascertained.

The Board afterwards adjourned.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The continuation of the report of the meeting of this Board on Wednesday week is annexed:—

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following is Mr Dixon's monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month the workmen have been engaged on the several highways in your district, scraping and laying-on limestone and levelling roads. Several of the footpaths have been covered with coke ashes during that period. The dangerous opening near the Bridge End public-house has been attended to during the month by the proprietors. As instructed by the Board at last meeting I have prepared plan, specification, and estimate for the formation of new street leading from Derwent Street to Railway Terrace. I have also prepared a plan, specification, and estimate for fencing the Old Quarry in at Blackhill. These plans and estimates have been laid before your Highway Committee, who will report thereon. The footpath in Green Street (near the Primitive Methodist Chapel), Shotley Bridge, has been repaired during the month. A portion of Durham Road near to Number One has subsided, caused by the Consett Iron Company's pit workings. I have seen their agent (Mr Brown) and he has promised to attend to the repairs on their portion of the road. This road has my strict attention. I wish to draw the attention of the Board to the sample of limestone now laid before you. This material can be delivered at Benfieldside Station at a cost of 6d per ton more than limestone. I should like the Board to try a portion of this material next season. According to instructions I have deposited notices for the diversion of footpath leading from Durham Road to Benfieldside. Plans of building two cottages and also plan of seven-roomed house have also been laid before your Building Committee. They will report thereon.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN DIXON.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Subjoined is the Inspector's (Mr Dixon's) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and members of Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month I have inspected your district several times. I find the ashpits well cleaned out, the privies with few exceptions are in good condition, and the drains too are in good working order. I have also made an inspection in conjunction with your Medical Officer. He will report at an early date. The works in Back Walton Street are progressing, and will be completed shortly. The drain on Lough's property has been taken up and properly cleaned out during the month. I have prepared an estimate for the next half-year's expenses, which has been laid before your Finance Committee.—I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN DIXON.

No report of the inspection had as yet been received from the Medical Officer.

THE PRESSURE OF WATER.

The Surveyor announced that the Consett Water Company were having their pipes scraped out, and he believed when this was accomplished the water pressure would be much better.

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee reported that they had examined the Surveyor's vouchers for the past month and found them all correct. The Surveyor's pay bill for the present month was £85 13s 5½d, and the amounts presented for payment represented a total of £87 17s 5½d.

Checks were ordered to be signed for the several accounts submitted.

NO. 4, CROSS STREET.

Mr GEO. ELTRINGHAM wrote to the Board with reference to No. 4, Cross Street, asking that body to take over the said street as a public highway. He was requested by the other proprietors to state that when the street was originally made by the Board they expected it had been taken over by them, and consequently took no further steps in the matter.

Mr WHEATLEY: Is the street in a proper condition now?

The Surveyor replied in the negative.

Mr J. ELTRINGHAM: That's the fault of the Board. The proprietors expected that when the Board made the street some years ago we had taken it over, and they (the proprietors) were therefore not responsible for its condition.

Mr LAX proposed and Mr W. WILSON seconded that a public notice be posted in No 4, Cross Street, declaring it to be a highway repairable by the inhabitants at large.

The Clerk read a letter from the Consett Iron Company stating that the Board charged them some time ago with making a portion of West Row up to Derwent Street and No 4, Cross Street, and asking that the said street be taken over by the Board.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said this was the same street which they had just resolved to take over.

The Clerk was instructed to reply to the Consett Iron Company's letter informing them that the matter had been attended to.

THE OLD QUARRY.

The Highway Committee reported that the Surveyor had prepared plan and estimates of two modes of fencing the Old Quarry at Blackhill—viz: one by means of a stone wall and the other by wood posts and iron bars. The Committee thought the latter system more preferable, and would recommend the Board to instruct the Surveyor to obtain tenders for the execution of the work. The estimate for a stone wall 340 ft. long was £35 17s 6d, and for wood and iron fence of a similar length £34 10s 0d.

Mr SMITH proposed that the recommendations of the Committee be adopted.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: As there is very little difference in the prices of the two fences I think the stone wall will be the cheaper fence of the two.

Mr LAX thought the wall would be less durable, as it it would probably get pulled to pieces like other walls in Blackhill. The Committee believed the rails and posts would answer all that was necessary.

Mr ELTRINGHAM proposed that the wall be built.

Mr WHEATLEY seconded.

Mr WILSON seconded Mr Smith's motion—that the Committee's recommendations be carried out.

Mr DOWSON was of opinion that a wall would be most durable, but the other fence would certainly look the best.

Only two members voted for Mr Eltringham's amendment, consequently the original motion was declared carried.

HAWTHORN TERRACE.

The Highway Committee reported that the plan and estimate for the formation of Hawthorn Terrace had been before them, and they approved of the same. They recommend that the necessary notices be served upon the owners abutting the said street to carry out the work.

Mr SMITH inquired if the street was of sufficient width to warrant the Board taking it over?

The Surveyor replied that there was a distance of 36 ft. between the Company's houses at the end nearest Derwent Street. The other portion was 20 ft. wide. The footpath at each side would be 3 ft. in width thus leaving a space of 14 ft. for the cart road.

Mr WILSON moved that the Committee's report with respect to that street be adopted.

Mr DOWSON seconded.—Carried.

Mr DOWSON remarked that another lamp was required in the same street near to the Company's coal depot. It was a very dangerous turn past Mrs Christopher's when it was dark.

Mr. TURNER: It would be well to ask the railway authorities to erect a lamp there. It was the principal way to the station and was chiefly used by the passengers.

Mr SMITH expressed an opinion that the Railway Company ought to make a street from beginning to end, as it was the only cart way from their coal depots.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said that past Mrs Christopher's house was private property, and was already macadamised.

Some members also complained of the frequent dirty state of the archway, and thought the Company should keep that properly cleaned.

The Clerk said that the most suitable place for the lamp was at the corner of Hawthorn Terrace and Railway Terrace.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: That was where Mrs Christopher wanted it at first.

The Surveyor remarked that the lamp in question was removed to a more desirable place.

The Clerk thought the Company would have no objection to remove the lamp from under the archway to the spot indicated.

Mr SMITH believed it was undesirable to interfere with the lamp under the bridge. It was highly necessary to have a light there, as it was a nasty place.

Ultimately, Mr DOWSON proposed and Mr WILSON seconded—"That the North-Eastern Railway Company be requested to erect a gas-lamp near to the coal depot at the railway station."

The Surveyor was further instructed to urge upon the station officials to keep the archway free from dirt and filth.

LIMESTONE V. WHINSTONE.

The same committee further reported that a sample of whinstone from Mr Kell's quarries at Stanhope had been examined by them, and they thought the Surveyor ought to be allowed to purchase what he might require of the same for the formation of the highways and streets, as they were unanimous of opinion that this material would be much more durable and consequently less costly than limestone.

The Surveyor said that the whinstone would cost them 10d a ton more than limestone, but he was positive one ton of the former would go as far as two tons of the latter.

Mr LAX believed the whinstone to be vastly superior to the material they were now using.

Mr SMITH remarked that at Stanhope, where there was an abundant supply of limestone, they sent miles away in order to obtain whinstone to lay upon their roads.

It was proposed by Mr DOWSON, seconded by Mr WM. WILSON, that the Highway Committee's report relative to the purchase of limestone be adopted.

Carried unanimously.

ESTIMATE FOR NEXT HALF-YEAR.

The report of Finance Committee stated that the Surveyor had estimated the expenditure for the ensuing six months to be £728 5s. The committee recommended that a rate of 1s in the pound on houses, and 3d in the pound on land, be levied for the next half-year, the same being calculated to produce a sum of £567 12s 9d. The amount they would receive from the county for half-cost of Lobely Hill and Durham Main Roads was £180.

It was resolved on the motion of Mr WM. WILSON that the estimates be approved, and that a rate of 1s in the pound on houses and 3d on land be laid for next half-year.

The Board also decided to adjourn at its rising until Wednesday, March 1st, for the purpose of signing the rate.

THE INSPECTOR'S SALARY.

It was also resolved on the proposal of Mr LAX, seconded by Mr ELTRINGHAM, that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Local Government Board asking them for half of the Inspector's salary for the past year.

PLANS.

Plan of five-roomed house to be built by Mr Wm. Shell in Station Road, Blackhill, opposite the end of Bessemer Street (adjoining the new houses now in course of erection); and plan of two two-roomed cottages proposed to be built by Mr Thos. Cheesmond adjoining Ritson's Road, and fronting on to a 30ft street behind Durham Road, Blackhill, were recommended by the Highway Committee to be passed, subject to certain recommendations and alterations made by the Committee.

Mr LAX moved that the plans submitted by Messrs Shell and Cheesmond be stamped by the Board, subject to the recommendations being carried out.

Mr WILSON seconded the proposition, which was also adopted.

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT.

The Sanitary Committee reported that the Medical Officer's (Dr W. Renton's) last report had been examined by them, but they found nothing in it which required their special attention. The death rate was very low—14·7 per 1,000.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

The Clerk announced that the four retiring members at the forthcoming election were Dr Geo. Renton, Messrs Charles Wilson, John Smith, and Jacob Dowson.

Mr LAX proposed, and Mr W. WILSON seconded, that the Clerk act as Returning Officer at the ensuing election, and that he be empowered to obtain the necessary assistance to carry out same.

The resolution was carried *nem con.*

This was all the business before the Board.

HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

At the monthly meeting of this Board held in the Castleside Schools, on Monday afternoon there were present Messrs J. T. Muse (in the chair), W. J. Scott, E. Leybourne, and J. Lee.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

THE SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

In reference to this matter which was discussed at last meeting, the Clerk (Mr Ward) was instructed to reply to the communication received from the Education Department. The following is a copy of the letter:—

Healeyfield and Rowley School Board.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 27th December, where my Lords proposed to limit our attendance to 143 scholars, I am instructed by this Board to lay before my Lords of the Educational Department the particulars of the attendance at our schools, and to ask their consideration in regard to the same. Our average attendance for the year ended 30th September, 1881, was 125·5 of children in the U.D. of Healeyfield and Rowley, for which the schools were built. The average attendance of the children from the scattered houses outside the school district was 25·1. Total attendance 150·6. As we have ample accommodation for the children within our district it will be a great hardship for the ratepayers should they be compelled to enlarge the schools in order to accommodate outsiders particularly as the rateable value of the U.D. is only £2968. The Board would feel it keenly to turn away these children, as many of them would have to travel four miles to a suitable school. It is on the question of them that the Board seek the advice of my Lords and in doing so we refer you to the letter of 24th October, 1871, in which they say that "If the school has provision for 150 or 160 children it will probably be found that, having regard to the absence from unavoidable causes, a sufficient provision will be made for the district and that probably there will be sufficient accommodation to admit the attendance of a few children from the scattered houses outside the district." The architect was instructed to prepare plans for schools to accommodate 160 children and the Board was under the impression that we had accommodation for that number.

A long conversation followed on the subject, but as no reply to the Clerk's letter had been received from the Education Department up to the present, the matter remains in *statu quo.*

STATISTICAL RETURNS.

The following is the master's (Mr Duckworth's) monthly statistics:—

Number of children on roll	198
Number present at all	151
Average monthly attendance	146
Number admitted during that period	1
Number left	9

Cash banked during the month £8 18s 8d.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY PRACTICES.

An application was read from the secretary of the Castleside Choral Society asking for the use of the class room two nights per week for practice.

The Board decided to let them have the room on the usual terms.

THE USHAW MOOR STRIKE.

ANOTHER EVICTION.

Another eviction took place on Friday at Ushaw Moor Colliery, the victim being James Maddox with his wife and ten younger members of his household. Maddox is a deputy overman, and a member of the Miners' Union, and he has hitherto sternly refused to abandon the course taken by his fellow men. The men held a meeting in the tent to receive the report of the committee sent out to inquire into statements published in a contemporary. The sub-committee found that 20 men of "all sorts" were hewing coals in the pit. In the afternoon Mr. Hewitt (who represented Mr. Nicholas Wilkinson, the treasurer of the Miners' Association, who was prevented from attending by his duties at Trimdon Grange Colliery), attended, and paid over the weekly allowance to the men from the funds. Mr. Thomas Hindmarch, the treasurer of the Durham Enginemen's Association, and Mr Trotter, the secretary of the Durham Mechanics' Association, accompanied Mr. Hewitt, and addressed a few remarks to the meeting. Mr. Hindmarch stated that the members of the Association he belonged to had decided to gave a substantial donation towards the support of the Ushaw Moor men; whilst Mr. Trotter counselled the men to hold firmly together in fighting the battle they were engaged in, and each of these gentlemen gave a personal donation of 10s. At the close the usual resolution to continue firmly to adhere together was carried without a dissentient.

The strike of miners at Ushaw Moor Colliery may now be said to be at an end, as fresh workmen are set on daily. Many of the families are leaving, and are taking up their residence in the neighbouring villages. The calamity at Trimdon Grange, too, has already had the effect of decreasing the assistance from other collieries, which, until now, poured in daily at Ushaw Moor in the shape of heavily-laden carts of provisions, as well as money.—One of the strike hands at Ushaw Moor, named Thomas Joyce, was on Monday fined 10s. and costs, by the Durham City Bench, for drunkenness in Milburngate on the 15th inst, this being his twenty-fifth appearance before the magistrates.

At a meeting of the Strike Committee, held on Wednesday, Mr. John Lee presiding, the sub-committee reported that a strict watch had been placed upon the colliery a view of ascertaining the force of men at work. The number of men who went down the pit on Wednesday morning was six regular workmen, who were hewers and one nondescript, who might be able to do a little in that way. Three men had abandoned their work at the colliery after being brought there from a distance. In conclusion, the sub-committee suggested that some means should be taken to let the men in all parts of the country know that the strike still continued.—A letter was read from Mr. Wm. Crawford stating that he had received an intimation from Supt. Dunn, of Durham, who stated that Mr. H. Chaytor had expressed fears for the safety of his property in the event of a demonstration being held at the colliery.—The President said there was not the slightest ground for such a fear, as the men had conducted themselves in a most quiet and orderly manner hitherto, and he challenged Mr. Chaytor to give any evidence to the contrary on which he could base his fears. The arrangements for this demonstration, it was agreed, should be left in the hands of the committee and of the Miners' Association agents.—Mr. Henry Smith, the secretary, reported that donations amounting to £40 had come to hand since Monday, besides supplies of bread, groceries, and provisions, and a warm vote of thanks was accorded to the donors.

CONCERT AT MARLEY HILL.

A concert was held in the Colliery schoolroom, on Monday evening last, in aid of the funds of the Church Sunday School: the Rev S. White in the chair. A very good programme was provided and the artistes were quite competent to sustain the expectations formed of it. The Misses K. and A. Hunter contributed the duet "I know a bank" in a very efficient manner, the former lady giving also a careful rendering of the beautiful song "For ever and for ever." Miss Sutherland sung "Rippling waves," and "The McGregors' gathering," and was each time *encored*; responding to the first with the "Kerry Dance," and to the latter "Let me dream again." She is well-known in this district as an artiste of no slight ability. The same lady also took part with the Rev. J. E. Mercer in the duet "The sol-fa lesson," which caused much amusement. The Rev J. E. Mercer sang a comic song "Poor little Mr Brown," and being *encored* gave "Out John." This gentleman, however, who possesses considerable histrionic power, was more successful in a reading entitled "Proverbs" which appears to be an elaboration of the famous Lord Dundreary of Mr Southern, and the celebrated actor found an excellent imitator in the reverend gentleman. Still more fortunate was Mr Mercer in his response to the rapturous applause when he made a short speech in the same lisping and affected drawl in which the reading had been given. The Rev C. E. Couchman, of Burnopfield, sang an excellent song "The Blacksmith's son" which unfortunately was not appreciated as it deserved. In his second song "The twin brothers." Mr Couchman was obliged to play his own accompaniment from memory, but notwithstanding this, he was deservedly re-called. The Rev J. L. Williams created much amusement in reading the "One-legged goose." Mr R. Clark was again to the fore in giving excellent renderings of "The Sea" and "Tar's Farewell." Mr Saunders sang "The Bay of Biscay" in a careful and efficient manner, and well deserved the enthusiastic *encore* he received for his rendering of "The Anchor's weighed." Mr W. Thirlaway made his first appearance and added to a good voice sufficient comic talent to enlist the approbation of his audience. For his singing of "Paddy's Wish" he received a double *encore*, the first time he responded with "Ginger," and being again re-demanded he gave "Ten thousand miles away." Mr Maguire sang "Bugler," "Two Spoons," and "An awful little scrub." Too much praise cannot be given to the choir for the masterly way in which the part songs entrusted to them were performed. "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower" is a comparatively simple glee, but the excellent manner in which they sang the difficult piece, "Belfry Tower," marks them as a choir far above the average. The instrumentalists Miss and Mr J. B. Clark performed two duets—the overture to "Dichter und Bauer" and the Russiam dance "Pas des Patineurs" in a very artistic and highly finished manner. Mr Clark also accompanied throughout in a manner which earned him the hearty thanks of the vocalists. At the conclusion votes of thanks were proposed to the performers by Messrs Reed and Gilchrist, and to the Chairman (the Rev S. White) by the Rev T. H. Archdale and Mr R. Clark. The Rev T. H. Archdale took occasion to allude to the good offices of Mr Gilchrist in the parish, and it is only just to mention that this gentleman has been entirely instrumental in arranging the present concert. The amount realised was about £6, which unfortunately will still leave the Sunday School in debt.

When Adam was in his bachelorhood he found his nights lonely and always welcomed the morn with gladness. Still, for all that, he was happier when Eve came.

An exchange says: 'The bicycle is a great thing to put flesh on a man's legs.' It is also a great thing to take flesh off a man's nose and other portions of his face.

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

UNDER THE TERROR.

BY

MARY C. ROWSELL.

Author of "Love Loyal," "St. Nicholas' Eve" &c., &c.

CHAPTER XVII.

"WHERE ARE YOUR OFFICERS?"

IT was with a heavy heart that De Ravignac conducted his men to Soissons. As the last glimpse of the roof tops and towers of Paris faded in distance, he cast one long lingering look behind him, for there lay all his love and happiness, and what before him but misery and discord? Hard as at best his separation from Marcelle must have been, the nature of his mission made it ten times harder; and because his profession was so dear to him his inmost heart shrank now from the task he was summoned to fulfil. What was this he was about to do? Scare and terrify with shot and sword hundreds of starving fellow-creatures. Fight and fix at bayonet point scores of fellow soldiers whose crime — what crime? Insubordination on account of arrears of pay. Great heaven! Let all the ruling of justice and of logic declare whose was the crime! Think of the pittance these common soldiers earned—these men, content to risk life, to leave, just as he himself was doing now—no more, no less—all that was dear to them; and the miserable pay, just sufficing to keep body and soul from parting, had been withheld from them, and they wanted it. Want was their crime, and want had become their master. And for the rioters, units of that mass of twenty millions odd, whose scanty strips of garden and pasture land, all counted, did not make one-third part of their fruitful mother country, and that burdened with his Majesty's taxes, my lord's rents, and his reverence's tithes. And grain was scarce, and salt and sugar, luxuries not to be named by this vulgar third estate.

To Maurice De Ravignac, as he rode between the barren fieldways, it seemed as if he could have torn from his side that silver-hilted sword, and, snapping it in two, flung it at the throne's foot, crying, "No. I buckled it on for my country's defence. Not to stain it with the blood of my countrymen."

And yet—and then his veins quivered with indignation as he thought of that brave brother officer—one at whose side he had fought many a time; the generous-souled man whose best years and fortune had been all given for France. Of him who would share his last crumb with the meanest soldier of his troops. This was the man who had been sacrificed to a state of things for which he was no more answerable than the birds twittering their spring song overhead among the poplars swaying in the strong wind; and half maddened by the revulsion of his thoughts, De Ravignac spurred his horse, and urged on the men.

His brother officers saw in his abstraction only regrets for the bride he had left. They were, for the most part, men who troubled themselves little enough about the *raison d'être* of their expedition. Aristocrats all, they went as their fathers, and grandfathers, and great grandfathers had gone out before them. On his Majesty's service. *De par le roi*, and the rest might take care of itself, as indeed it was beginning to think about doing.

As to De Ravignac—morbleu! And they twirled the dainty small moustachios it was just becoming the thing for these high-born sons of Mars to cultivate. Well, put yourself in his place, and see whether you would be cheerful under such circumstances. She looked absolutely goddess-like the Duchastel last night and, foi d'honneur, it was hard to say whether De Ravignac ought to be more envied or commiserated. Certainly it never struck the light-hearted gentlemen that their colonel's regrets for his marred happiness could be an ounce the heavier for his uncongenial mission.

It was a poor adjective—uncongenial—to express the sensations of De Ravignac when at last they came within half a league or so of the old city. It was not the growling menace, or uplifted fists of those haggard unwashed men that appalled him; it was the wan, weary faces of the women, the pinched cheeks and shrunken limbs of the little children as they gazed wistfully after the fine soldiers filing past. It was the lean ribs of the cows, and the wretched horses cropping the coarse and stunted herbage; the plaintive bleat of hungry goats, the patient stricken eyes of sheepless sheep dogs, that pierced into his very soul. For the first time De Ravignac came face to face with the things he had read of in the journals and the pamphlets, already beginning to pour from the printing presses of St. Antoine and St. Marceau. It was no longer almost the monopoly of Monsieur Métra, in his smart coat and cocked hat, to retail Paris chit-chat every morning in the Tuileries gardens. His Majesty needed no longer to enquire: "And what says Métra today?" The "Break of Day," the *Moniteur*, and a hecatomb of such sheets could tell the King now what Paris was thinking about, and even beginning to do.

And Maurice De Ravignac was not behind the humblest Parisian as a student of such literature. Moreover, though his absences from the city had been frequent and long, he understood more than many who never left its midst. He knew all about that petition of grievances, years old now, that had risen up like smoke from "the masses," as the blue-blooded elect called those who were not of them and theirs, and he guessed with awe and pity at the fire smouldering beneath. Undoubtedly, and, perhaps, because he had seen from a distance, he knew more than many; grasping the full bearings, while only what was closest touched their perceptions. Yet hitherto it had been even for him but dimly outlined. Now here, in the merciless daylight, he saw for the first time, not miseries which perhaps black type had pictured over blackly, but his own eyes saw women in ragged shawls too scanty to cover their lean breasts, about which their babies' hands—or chickens' claws were they?—clutched so hungrily—stooping to fill their tattered aprons with the ditch nettles and the rank weeds to boil for a meal—patiently and silently, for the patient stage was not exhausted yet. Women, for the most part, were women still. Some, perchance, remained so till the end. And De Ravignac and his officers and his men hastened on; over a clear road however, no farther than the barriers. There a forest of bared arms, blood-smeared, and begrimed with pistol smoke, seized the bridles of the horses, and fastened upon the men; but they fell overpowered and scattered to right and left, to the rear, closing there in wild procession, shoulder to shoulder, till a halt was called in front of the barracks.

There from end to end of the building, and with a strong guard about the main entrance, the mutineers stood leaning sternly silent on their grounded muskets, and watching the advancing manœuvres of the dragoons; but not a commissioned officer of their company to be seen—corporals and sergeants occupying their position. Still as statues they stood, their dogged and sullen eyes all concentrating on De Ravignac as he rode to the front. There reining up, he opened his lips to address them; but one deep, prolonged growl thundered down the attempt.

Lifting his hand, he waited immoveable as they, till the sound died away; then once more he strove to speak, and once more, like the surging of some fierce wave upon a shingly shore, the ominous growl uprose; but, as if suddenly impelled by some superior power, it died down with startling abruptness, as once more De Ravignac's voice rang out clear in the morning air, "Where are your officers?" he demanded, surveying their ranks.

The stolid features of the mutineers broke into grim ironical smiles, and with military promptitude they pointed to the corporals and sergeants.

"Your commissioned officers?" insisted De Ravignac, his face grown stern and resolute. Then, not waiting for any fresh general manifestations, he beckoned to him one of the corporals standing nearest.

"Where are your commanding officers?" he said.

"In the mess room yonder," surlily answered the fellow, jerking his head towards the guarded entrance.

"Prisoners?"

"Locked-in. Yes. Well taken care of—what is left of them," added the speaker, with a half-concealed chuckle.

"They must be released."

"Ah, ah! Perhaps all in good time. But you see, my colonel, we others—we have our conditions."

"And what are your conditions?"

"The paying down of our arrears in full, and at once," quickly added the man.

"At once is not possible."

"We will see about that."

"What is your deficit?"

"A few thousand livres, some odd sous," answered the spokesman, drawing a folded paper from his pocket, and handing it to De Ravignac. "How many to a fraction, if you want to know, is down here in black and white."

De Ravignac took the paper in silence, and slipped it into the breast of his coat. "A few thousand livres," he murmured thoughtfully.

"Ay," said the corporal, catching the unconsciously uttered words. "That is it. In round numbers. Maybe," he added, with an insolent laugh, "you've brought them with you, in your pockets there, my colonel."

"If I had enough in them to pay the whole French army, not a sou would be transferred to your's till you returned to your duty. Is this the way you keep your oath to the King and the nation?"

"Let the King and the nation do their part, and they will see whether we do ours."

"That is the speech of hirelings; not of the true sons of France."

"We love our country," answered the man, with fire. "Long live France!"

"Long live France!" shouted the hundreds of throats, in deafening chorus.

"We would die for her if we had a thousand lives. But, in order to die, one must live. We are starving."

"And you mend troubles by murdering your officers, and shutting them up? They must be released."

"Shoulder arms!" shouted the corporal, turning sharply from De Ravignac to the men. They obeyed; but the most rigid discipline prevailed, and not a shot was fired.

"They must have their liberty," continued De Ravignac, when he had given the same word of command to his own opposing ranks. "On what terms are they to find it? Justice——"

"Ay," hoarsely growled a score of voices, "that's what we want. Justice! Justice!"

"And you ask for yourselves what you deny your leaders?" indignantly said De Ravignac.

"Fire!" was the shouted comment.

"Charge!" cried De Ravignac; and each side dashes forward—man against man—Frenchman against Frenchman—brother, perchance, against brother—closing in deadly struggle. With hideous yells and clamour, the rabble gathered about the gates rushes in, springing, pike and pitchfork and knife in hand, upon De Ravignac's men; outnumbering them now by two to one, but failing, though they struggle like wild cats, to break the compact mass, advancing six abreast through the upheaval of mutineers and rioters. Inferior as they are in numbers, the disorder of their opponents, caused by the new element, weakens what it would have strengthened; and with a power that seems miraculous, De Ravignac's men, moving like one man, in obedience to the voice of their leader, make for the chief inner staircase conducting straight to the officers' mess rooms. On, on, through yells and shrieks and wild oaths, and the deafening crackle of musketry and carbines, and the clash of steel, they hew and thrust a passage, following in the wake of De Ravignac, who has dismounted. On, on, where he has broken through the strong picket of muskets guarding the door and around him, to where at last he stands on one of the midmost stairs, turned, sword in hand, confronting the glare of baffled faces below. Not altogether unscathed is De Ravignac. A deep cut in the wrist, apparently from a sabre, has disabled his right hand; and, hastily winding his handkerchief about it, he grips his drawn sword with his left hand, and, calmly surveying the scene before him, waits till at last the turmoil lulls. "It is enough," he says then; "too much. You have brought this blood upon your own heads; and you soldiers, at least, should know the law's penalty for what you have been guilty of. But your wrongs are great; and King Louis is the father of his people. Their troubles are his; he shall know yours." And, laying aside his sword, De Ravignac drew the schedule from his breast. "This," he added, "shall be placed before him, and without delay."

"Vive le Roi! Vive De Ravignac!" shouted hi auditors.

"Ay, ay!" growled an individual, dressed like one of the poorer sort of farmers, flourishing a blood-stained reaping hook. "That sounds very fine; but who'll guarantee it us? We've had enough promises. Who'll guarantee it?"

"I," said De Ravignac, "if you desire it. I myself will be your deputy."

"Long live De Ravignac! Long live De Ravignac!" And in these enthusiastic cries, all the tide of popular favour turned for the man assailed not half-an-hour before with bitter menaces and impromptu missiles. Type reversed of countless like scenes the next coming years should see.

The lines of their conqueror's face, so sternly fixed, softened as he gazed on those careworn rugged men, and all his generous nature's compassion and sympathy shone into his eyes, till they grew dim, and he was forced to dash away the tears with his unwounded hand, as he lifted it to acknowledge their acclamations.

At the same instant, the loud report of a musket-shot cracked in the air, and a groan of agony, broke from De Ravignac as he staggered and fell upon the staircase a stream of blood oozing fast through a wound in his left side.

(To be continued.)

The man who stood in front of his glass for two hours getting the right colour on his moustache, said he was just dyeing to see his girl.

A woman at Des Moines has a hen which she declares to be twenty-eight years old. More than fifty hotel-keepers have sought to buy the fowl.

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RACKHAM'S Liver Pills, 9½d. SCOTT'S Pills, 9½d.
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G. H. does not go from farm to farm to tell his Friends that he can do better than anyone in the trade; neither does he give Silver Cups, as a bribe—which he need not say are to be paid for by parties purchasing the Seeds—but relies entirely on the past for the benefit of the future.

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Purchasers can have the kinds and quantities properly mixed and packed up for each field, which is a great boon to farmers.

G. H. gives the same personal attention to the Mixtures for Permanent Pastures which have always given universal satisfaction.

Fine Spring Tares, Seed Peas, Oats, Barley, Potatoes, also Artificial Manure always in stock. 23p

---

Business Announcements.

GREAT WINTER CLEARANCE SALE.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN'S

ANNUAL

WINTER SALE OF GENERAL DRAPERY GOODS

WILL

COMMENCE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 27TH, AND CONTINUE TILL SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 1882.

☞ SPECIAL BARGAINS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS DURING THE SALE.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS, 92q

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.
☞ PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED OR CONTRACTED FOR.

LUTON HOUSE

DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT!

22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

COME AND SEE THE LARGE AND VARIED ASSORTMENT OF

NEW GOODS!

INCLUDING A LOT OF VERY SPECIAL BARGAINS:—

Lot of Ladies' Ulsters, to be sold at 2s. 11d.; splendid value.

Lot of Ladies' Silk Umbrellas, at 2s. 11d.; cheap.

Splendid Grey Calico, at 1½d.

1000 yards of Black Alpacca, at 4½d.; this is wonderfully cheap.

Cocoa Mattings, 1 yard width, 1s. 3d.; 1¼ yards width, 1s. 10½d.; 3 yards width, 2s. 6d., good quality.

Large Assortment of Wool Shawls, Millinery, Dress Goods, Corsetts, Trimmings, &c.

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

In this Department we have always been noted for supplying a Class of Superior Goods than what is generally kept in Stock, at Prices usually charged for an inferior article. Having just received a large supply of Men's and Boys' Suits, Trousers, &c., &c., we are now prepared to Show the Cheapest Goods in the District.

☞ Do not miss this opportunity of Buying a Cheap Parcel.

Lots of other Bargains not enumerated above.

THOMAS SHAW ATKINSON,

LUTON HOUSE,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

MITCHELL'S KING OF WASHERS

AT

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS ON LAST YEAR'S PRICES.

Delight and astonish your friends at home by taking them one of MITCHELL'S PATENT STEAM WASHERS, for by it—

Ladies' dressed may wash with ease,
On Parlour Tables if they please;
A fortnight's washing in an hour,
By steam's efficient, matchless power.

J. MITCHELL,

126, WESTGATE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

☞ Laundries Built, and Bleaching Greens fitted up on the most efficient and labour-saving system known.

LOOK HERE!

LOOK HERE!!

LOOK HERE!!!

☞ COME TO CONSETT AT LAST. ☜

THE CELEBRATED

NABOB INDIAN TEA!

THE Rare Quality and the Delicious Flavour which has obtained for it an immense Sale in every large Town in this Kingdom.

THE FAR-FAMED

CHALLENGE CUP INDIAN PEKOE!

3s. PER POUND.

ONE of the greatest boons ever introduce to the Hard-working Classes of this Country, because for its Strength and the Invigorating Properties it contains it has no equal.

ALSO, THE

NATIONAL INDIAN TEA!

2s. PER POUND.

TRULY a marvel at the Price. These Teas are in ½lb. and ¼lb. Packets. Ask for one trial and you will never change.

SOLD WHOLESALE & RETAIL BY

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,

GROCER, TEA DEALER, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANT,

CONSETT AND LEADGATE.

MRS. E. G. SMITH,

PLUMBER, GASFITTER, &c.,
21, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT.

☞ All kinds of Plumbing and Gasfitting done on the shortest notice; also efficient Workmen sent out into the Country. 85q

---

JOHN FREEK,

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

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

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

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JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND CATCHGATE,

HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stoc of FURNITURE in the district.

IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.

MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.

A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.

PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.

Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.

BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.

Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 673b

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

THE SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE TO THE WEST.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 833p

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CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE IMPROVED

MAGNETIC APPLIANCES

MAGNETIC CHEST PROTECTORS. MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATORS: MAGNETIC WAIST BELTS. MAGNETIC SPINE BANDS. MAGNETIC KNEE CAPS. MAGNETIC WRISTLETS, SOLES, &c.

Mr. D. LAMONT is pleased to say that these Appliances are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour. It is unquestionable that many hundreds of persons in the North of England have been entirely CURED or more or less substantially BENEFITED by their use.

Mr WILLIAM CRAWFORD, Secretary of the Miners' National Union, writes:—

15, North Road, Durham, 21st Sept., 1881.

DEAR SIR,—Some years ago I had one of my legs severely injured. During last year I felt a weakness and constant aching pain, which partly confined me to the house and rendered walking—except for short distances—impossible. A few months ago I procured one of your Magnetic Stockings, and the good it has done me is beyond conception. I am now free from pain and aching, and can walk as well as ever without experiencing the slightest difficulty or hinderance. It has been, and is still, to me a blessing indeed.

Very truly yours,
Mr. D. Lamont. WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

CURE OF EPILEPSY.

Whorlton, Whalbottle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
November 18th, 1881.

SIR,—My wife's belt, which you have re-magnetized and re-made so beautifully, has come to hand. It has been in constant use for over a year, and I am glad to be able now to re-affirm every word of what I wrote to you on September 22, 1880. Since then I have procured several appliances for my friends, all of which have operated beneficially. Especially ought I to mention the case of the young girl, who was afflicted with fits frequently and severely. She has worn your spine band for about 11 months, and has not had one attack during that time.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN EGGIE.

PAINS.—LOSS OF VOICE.—SORE BACK.

Cowpen Square, Blyth,
November 14th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—I consider it both a pleasure and a duty to inform you that the Magnetic Appliance supplied by you to several of my friends have in each case given the greatest satisfaction. My father got a waist belt and anklets, and they have done him a power of good. He could not walk a quarter of a mile, but can now walk about without any inconvenience. Some time ago, my mother lost her voice completely, and by applying one of the anklets to her throat for a few weeks it was entirely restored. My brother got a belt for weakness in the back, caused by injuries received while following his daily employment, and it has done him a vast of good. They are all agreeable for you to use this as a testimonial if you think proper.—Yours respectfully,

Mr. D. Lamont. ROBERT RHODES.

PAINS AND WEAKNESS IN THE KNEES.

Burnopfield Colliery, Durham
November 12th, 2881.

DEAR SIR,—Six weeks ago I called to consult you about one of my knees, which for more than thirteen years has caused me much pain and many sleepless nights. Besides the pain and swelling, it was a little stiff and weak. On your recommendation I bought a Special Power Knee Cap, and though I have only worn it six weeks the benefit I have already received is remarkable. In walking I have little or no pain, and though tired as usual when through with my work, it does not cause me the uneasiness it used to do. Often at nights the intense pain would keep me from sleeping, or I would be awoke many times through the night with the shooting pains. I am glad to say that I have slept better since I got the knee cap than for many years before.—Yours with gratitude,

Mr. D. Lamont. JAMES HOLMES.

FROM MR. T. A. BURDON, CHEMIST.

Spennymoor, October 12th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—I have sold a good quantity of your Magnetic Appliances during the last few years, with the very best results—in fact, they have in some cases acted like a charm, and for what you recommend them they cannot be praised too much. There is one thing I would mention, as I have found such good effects from it, and that is to be most particular and wear Magnetic Soles with the other appliances. You are at liberty to make what use you like of this, as I think they cannot be made too well known.—I am yours, &c.,

Mr. D. Lamont. T. A. BURDON.

☞ Descriptive Pamphlet containing recent Local Testimony, Reduced Price List, and all information gratis, or sent Post Free. 755p

MAGNETIC DEPOT.—PERMANENT ADDRESS.

D. LAMONT,

44A, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—The appliances are forwarded Post Free to any address. Consultation by letter carefully attended to.

Business Announcements.

WILLIAM URWIN,

CONFECTIONER AND SEEDSMAN,
FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

BEGS to announce that he is now in a position to supply GARDEN SEEDS of superior quality at reasonable prices. 144q

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SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

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

M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Gas Office, Shotley Bridge. 145q

CLEARANCE SALE OF SURPLUS AND WINTER STOCK FOR EIGHT DAYS.

GEO. RICHARDSON,

DRAPER AND SILK MERCER, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

BEGS to inform his numerous Friends and the Public that his ANNUAL SALE will commence this day (Saturday, 25th February), and terminate on Saturday, March 4th. On account of the very mild winter, he has left on hand a very Large STOCK OF WINTER GOODS, with other Stock, that must be CLEARED OUT at very GREAT REDUCTIONS.

N.B.—All Goods bought during the Sale to be paid for when purchased. 171q

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NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON

TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and SPLITTING MILLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.

Try the EXCELLO HORSE FEED.

Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.

Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.

Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.

Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.

Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.

HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, and
NEW STEAM MILLS, CATCHGATE,
ESTABLISHED 1817.

Agent for the Live-Stock Condiment Company's CHAMPION SPICE, for Horses, Cattle Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Poultry, Game, Stacking Hay &c. 390o

---

ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED!

CURRY'S STOMACH & LIVER PILLS

PREPARED WITHOUT
CALOMEL OR ANY MERCURIAL PREPARATION,
An absolute cure for all diseases of the
HEAD, STOMACH, LIVER, KIDNEYS, AND BOWELS.
SOLD IN BOXES, 1s. 1½d. EACH.
Prepared only by the Proprietor, N. CURRY, A.P.S.

GENUINE PALE NEW SEASON'S
NORWEGIAN COD LIVER OIL

This Oil is the finest imported, is guaranteed absolutely pure, and remains bright at a temperature much below the freezing point of water. The freedom from acidity, and the absence of all unpleasant smell and flavour, enables invalids who cannot digest ordinary "Cod Liver Oil" to take this with pleasure and advantage. In Bottles, 1s. Double the size, 1s. 9d.

CATHARTIC POWDERS, 2d. EACH.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

☞ PURE DRUGS AND CHEMICALS, with the Sundries of a First-class Dispensing and Retail Business.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

N. CURRY, A.P.S.,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
(Qualified by Examination in London)
(Assistant to the Society of Apothecaries),
SURGEON DENTIST,
54, FRONT STREET (Opposite the end of Middle Street), CONSETT. 788p

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD invite Tenders for the FENCING IN of the Old Quarry, at Blackhill.

Plans and Specifications to be seen by applying to the Surveyor, who will receive Tenders, Sealed and Endorsed "Fence," from Saturday, February 25th, till Saturday, March 11th, 1882.—By order of the Board,

166q JOHN DIXON, Surveyor.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite Tenders for FINDING and SETTING about 170 Lineal Yards of KERBING and CHANELLING in Delves Lane.

Specifications may be seen at the Office of the Local Board on and after Monday, the 6th inst.

Tenders will be received up to February 28th.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

By order of the Board,
125q T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Clerk.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the ERECTION of MANAGER'S HOUSE, &c., for the Co-operative Society, Annfield Plain.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract, may be seen, and Form of Tender obtained, at our Office, Town Hall, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders, sealed and endorsed, are to be delivered to us on or before the 2nd day of March, 1882.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects, &c.
February 14th, 1882. 153q

Public Notices.

PIGEON SHOOTING.

A VALUABLE Double-barrelled Breech-loading GUN will be SHOT FOR at the house of Mr. THOMAS ELLIOT, Manor House, on February 25th, 1882; usual conditions; shooting to commence at One o'clock. To be Shot off in one day. 137p

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GENUINE SEEDS! GENUINE SEEDS!!

WILLIAM AMBLER, Dipton, informs his Friends and the Public generally that he has received his STOCK OF VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS direct from the Grower, which he can offer at very Low Prices, and also recommend them with every confidence. 179q

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HIGHGATE BAPTIST CHAPEL.

A SERVICE OF SONG,

ENTITLED "THE MAYFLOWER,"

Illustrative of the History, Trials, and Triumphs of the famous "Pilgrim Fathers" will be given by the Highgate Choir, on Monday Evening, March 6th, 1882.

The Readings will be given by Miss M. J. EDWARDS

Doors open at Seven o'clock; Chair to be taken at Half-past Seven p.m., by Rev. E. W. JENKINS, Pastor of the Church.

ADMISSION, 6d. each. Tickets to be had of Messrs. A. E. TURNER, J. DOWSON, and S. WALKER, Blackhill; and of JOHN SWINBURN, Highgate.

☞ Proceeds to be devoted to the Fund for Erecting Two New Class Rooms for the Sunday School. 176q

Public Notices.

NOTICE.

THE Game upon Medomsley East House and Allendale Farms is strictly preserved.—Dogs found on these Farms will be destroyed, and all Persons found Trespassing will be prosecuted. 363p

SHOTLEY BRIDGE INSTITUTE AND READING ROOM.

A GRAND ENTERTAINMENT, in aid of the Funds of the above, will be held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Thursday Evening, March 2nd, 1882, in which several Ladies and Gentlemen of the District are expected to take part.

ADMISSION—Reserved Seats, 2s.; Front Seats, 1s.; Second Seats, 6d.

Doors open at 7·30; to begin at 8. 168q

☞ For further particulars see Posters and Programmes.

IF YOU WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR POSITION JOIN THE 370TH STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

Modus Operandi.

THE Members lend their Subscriptions to the Society, which the Society ballots by £100 to £400 at a time, free of interest, to its Members, to purchase houses, the rent, not only often entirely paying for the purchase, but frequently leaving a large profit to the individual. So Members become their own landlords, with the benefit of having their subscriptions back, less a small deduction (limited to 1s 3d per share per year) for working expenses. Subscriptions 6d per week per £100 Share. Entrance Fee, 1s per Share.

JOHN GIBBINSON, Secretary, Shotley Bridge.

APPROPRIATION SHORTLY.

☞ Office for Subscriptions open every Tuesday Evening at the Sonsof Temperance Hall, Blackhill.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

38 and 39 Vic., c. 55. Sch. II. (25), and Sch. IV. (Form L.).

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.

(Signed) W. JENKINS,
Chairman to the Local Board.

February, 1882.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Consett, this day of March, 1882.

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, 1882.

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, 1882.

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.

[illegible]

Public Notices.

156 IS the Winning Number of the Gold Albert Raffled at Dipton. 169q

THE SYCAMORES, ROWLEY.

NOTICE!—The GAME upon this Estate is now strictly preserved.
January 2nd, 1882.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

38 and 39, Vict., c. 55. Sch. II. (25), and Sch. IV. (Form L.).

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 desireus 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, JUN.,
Chairman of the Local Board.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, this day of March, 1882.

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, 1882.

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 Appointer 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 Distric of Benfieldside, this day of March, 1882.

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.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

38 and 39 Vict., c. 55. Sch. II. (25), and Sch. IV. (Form L).

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 to the Local Board.

22nd February, 1882.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Leadgate, this day of March, 1882.

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:*

Public Notices,

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, 1882.

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, 1882.

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.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

38 and 39 Vict., c. 55. Sch. II. (25), and Sch. IV. (Form L).

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 in force, or who being on the Register do not retain the qualification or the address described therein, and who are desirous to have their names inserted in the Register about to be made for the said District, and all persons who are desirous of objecting to any name on the Register now in force, are hereby required to give or send to me, on some one of the first six days of March next, a Claim or Objection (as the case may be) in the Form hereunder set forth.

JOSEPH RIDLEY,
Chairman of the Local Board.

OWNER'S CLAIM.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, this day of March, 1882.

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.

Public Notices.

CLAIM OF PROXY.

To the Chairman of the Local Board for the District of Tow Law, this day of March, 1882.

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 Appointer 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 Appointer 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 Distric of Tow Law, this day of March, 1882.

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 Objecter.
…………………Address of Objector.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Valuable Business Premises for Sale in Shotley Bridge

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, on Monday, the 13th day of March, 1882, in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, at Two o'clock punctually,

MR. ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer,

LOT 1.—All those COPYHOLD MESSUAGES situate in Front Street, Shotley Bridge, consisting of a Front Shop, in which an Old-established Business of a Painter has been carried on for many years, with Work Shop behind, and Six-roomed House in connection therewith, with Yard and Conveniences.

Also, a SHOP adjoining, now used as a Dwelling-house, with Kitchen, and Two Bed-rooms, in the occupation of WILLIAM REDSHAW. Gas and Water laid on both Premises.

LOT 2.—All that PIECE OF LAND, at Shotley Bridge, adjoining the Newcastle and Shotley Bridge Turnpike Road, containing 488 Square Yards, now used as a Garden.

☞ For further particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, Town Hall, Consett; to Mr. JOHN WILSON, Painter, on the Premises; or to Mr. BOOTH, Solicitor, Shotley Bridge. 173q

Preliminary Announcement.

Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Important. Sale of a Superior Stock of Linen and Woollen Drapery without reserve.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to OFFER for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, early in March, the entire STOCK OF LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERY, belonging the Estate, without Reserve.

Particulars, Date of Sale, and Inventory of Stock, will be given in Bills and future Advertisements.

☞ The Auctioneer would particularly direct attention to this Sale, and as the Goods are of first-class quality and in good condition, he trusts his friends and the public will rally round him on this occasion and avail themselves of this opportunity offered of obtaining really good Drapery cheap. 174q

Notice.

ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Valuer, Emigration and Insurance Agent, Town Hall, Consett, respectfully informs his Friends and the Public that he is sufficiently recovered from his late severe illness for the transaction of Business, and that his Office at present is at No. 17, Sherburn Terrace, where he may be consulted daily on all matters relating to the different branches thereof. The Office in the Town Hall is open as usual.

☞ Note the Address of his Offices:—17, Sherburn Terrace, and Town Hall, Consett. 177q

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). 744h

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Dipton.—Monday, February 27th, 1882.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. F. I. VIPOND, who is declining business, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place and date, a quantity of Household FURNITURE, SHOP GOODS, FITTINGS, WEIGHTS and SCALES, CARTS and HARNESS, SEWING MACHINE, perfectly new, and other Effects.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 116q

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

CASH ADVANCES made, and FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly, and upon Reasonable Terms. 27o

EMIGRATION TO AMERICA
CHEAPEST AND BEST.

For reliable information, apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton, or to WILLIAM ROBINSON Medomsley. 393p

By Mr. William Raw.

Delves Lane, Consett.—Freehold Property for Sale.

MR. W. RAW, honoured with instructions from Mr JAMES MURRAY, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. GEORGE BROWN'S, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Wednesday, March 1st, 1882, all that nearly-new and Substantially-built

DWELLING-HOUSE,

With good Block Front, situate in Delves Lane, Consett, containing Three Rooms, Yard, and other Conveniences, and now in the occupation of Mr. I. W. Harris, as Tenant thereof.

This is a comfortable House, well built, pleasantly situated, and will always command a good Tenant.

☞ The present Tenant will, on application, show the House, and for further particulars apply to Mr. JAMES MURRAY, South Medomsley: R. SIMEY, Esq. Solicitor, Sunderland; or to the AUCTIONEER.

Sale to commence at Seven p.m. precisely.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 147q

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Crawford.

Consett Auction Mart.

MR. J. CRAWFORD will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on Monday First, February 27th, 1882, the following Lots:

HORSES.

Chesnut Mare, 5 years old, good worker in all yokes, 15h. 2in.; Bay Mare, 15h.h., good Worker, with good action; Black Pony, 12h.h., quiet with Children, and a good Worker; Chesnut Mare, 14h. 2in., good hack, aged; Roan Pony, 13h.h., good worker; Chesnut Mare, 5 years old, 15h. 2in., with splendid action, and a good Hunter; Grey Horse, aged, 16h.h., good worker; Brown Horse, 15h.h., good worker; Grey Pony, 12h.h.; Black Pony, 12 h.h.

CATTLE.

Half-bred Alderney Cow, due to Calve 16th March; 2 Ayrshire Cows, due to Calve 20th March; 3 Half-bred Irish Cows, due to Calve about the day of Sale; Short-horn Cow, Calved a few days ago; also 12 Cows in Milk and to Calve.

PIGS, &c.

4 Pork Pigs; 5 Keeping Pigs; Conveyance; Harness; Saddles; Dealers' and Drivers' Whips; also 8 Tons of good Seed Hay, &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

Entries can be made up to Ten o'clock on the day of Sale.

Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 178q

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

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, 1882.

ECHOES FROM BLACKHILL.

[BY INCEDO.]

Police Constable Cummins, of Medomsley, made a clever capture the other week. Truly, "peace hath her heroes no less than war." But what a dreadful state of things the fact discloses! Imagine a huge group of upwards of four score men, with feelings strung to the utmost tension of excitement, congregated on a Sabbath afternoon within a mile or two of Consett. "Pitmen's Sunday recreation," truly. It is to be hoped for the sake of humanity that the men who resort to such low-toned methods of recreation do not fairly represent the class to which they belong. At any rate their conduct is a disgrace to the community, and the individual who craves for no more ennobling way of spending the Sabbath is a decade behind the age. Apart altogether from the religious aspect of the question the thing isn't respectable. It is disreputable, being indulged in by the lowest stratum of society only. The magistrates ought to deal rigourously with cases of this stamp. What is 10s and costs each, to men who risk 10s on the turning of a penny? If the detestable practice is to be put down other machinery must be put in motion. The police are almost powerless. What chance have they to convict when the approach to every "school" is guarded by scouts to whom the officers are but too well known? It is only by some dexterous detour; by crawling up a conduit like a water-rat; that offenders are run to earth, and yet justice is satisfied by the modest sum of 10s and costs. The State is evidently playing with this matter. Then, again, when a conviction has been made, clever lawyers are engaged for the defence, who with the craft characteristic of the profession, endeavour by every conceivable quirk, to throw discredit on the statements of the witnesses; but Mr Dix, who conducted the case for the defence, met with his match. Mr Cummins is one of the most intelligent officers in the force, hence, the volleys of cross-questions to which he was subjected fell far short of the mark. I heard from an eye-witness that the same "school" met on the following Sunday to that on which the offence was committed and for which they were convicted, and again indulged in the ignoble art of defrauding each other.

A matter of no inconsiderable importance was under discussion at the last meeting of the Lanchester Board of Guardians—the increase of vagrancy to wit. It appears, from the official report, that no fewer than 130 tramps had been lodged in the wards of the House during the last fortnight. This is most extraordinary. Where do they come from? If so many rascals pass through this district in a fortnight, how many are there in England? One has heard our countrymen stigmatised as a nation of shopkeepers; methinks we'll soon be a nation of tramps. The Guardians believe that they are in a position to check this stream of vagrancy, but I am of opinion that the system to which they intend to have recourse will not produce the *disideratum*. It seems that under the present *regime* these nomadic lodgers are allowed to fraternize, and several being in one apartment, they are in the habit of making themselves very jolly. It is proposed to curb their glee by adopting the separate cell system, so that each waif may revel in the delights of solitude. I fail to see how any practicable result can accrue from such a change. Men sunk so low are almost beyond the reach of the influence which such a change is supposed to bring about. It is hopeless to attempt to work on the feelings of creatures so debased. They are void of feeling. But they have stomachs, and I would approach them through that channel. Instead of wasting money by building cells for the accommodation of scoundrels I would lodge them as heretofore; but instead of providing them with a substantial supper I would read them a lecture on the depravity of the human family. This is a much cheaper cure than the other, and if put into practice would, I am sure, give quite another colouring to the tramps' jollity.

There is going to be a pitched battle fought over the ancient footpath question. The ground chosen for the scene of the contest is the Quarter Sessions, and the retrievers of the public rights are to be headed by Mr Carss. It would take a skilled physician to ascertain exactly how the pulse of the public beats, because some are lukewarm on the subject, while others are determined by purse and precept to put the matter to the test and

"—— gain or loose it all."

Some people complain that Mr Carss attempted to apply the *cloture* at the meeting held in the Central Hall the other week, whilst others assert that he was perfectly justified in acting as he did. Mr Carss possesses a remarkable faculty for controlling an audience and were his language less spirited, and his back strokes delivered more scientifically, he would have fewer detractors. Mr Carss carries a sharp lance and when he encounters the enemy he strikes with a vengeance, believing doubtless that "Everything is fair in love and war." I have no ambition to air my own opinion on the footpath question. I have heard what has been said for, and against the proposed change, and I cannot help regretting that the question at issue cannot be tested on its own merits. Parasites who lack the ability to think have craft enough to fawn, whilst others, who have old scores to settle, would spleen by the yard.

CONFESSIONS OF A YOUNG SCAMP.

By PERCIE SHAFTON.

I met an old friend the other day whom perhaps you would like to know. Let me introduce you, to make matters more comfortable—Readers of this particular journal, Alec Macquoid! I needn't say who the readers of this particular journal are. Everyone knows them to be the flower of intelligence, the pink of manliness and beauty. As for Alec Macquoid, he is by his own confession a young scamp, a careless dog who drifts through life with no eye beyond today. While we were together he related some of his scampish escapades, and if you have an hour or so to spare I will tell you them exactly as he told them to me.

"I cannot recall the time when I was not considered a nuisance. Memory does not carry me back to my baby days, but domestic tradition has it that from the date of my birth peace was a stranger to our habitation. My big brother, a cynical sort of fellow, says I used to make day weary with my walls and night hideous with my howlings. Probably he was right. I know I behaved like a demon at the christening, in revenge for which an eminent theologian gave me as good a soaking as ever fell to the lot of child in arms; and I can faintly recollect infantile struggles with my nurse, from which that guardian of childhood usually bore away marks inflicted with baby finger nails and prematurely vicious teeth. Poor old nursey! I'm sorry I so tried her temper now.

"I will not *try your temper*," said Alec to me, "with the details of my early life. I thought it an eventful one, but probably it differed little from the early lives of most men who end their days in poverty or in the House of Peers. A curious combination, you say. Perhaps so, but that's my theory. There is no middle course for genius. It always goes to extremes, making its possessor either among the most useful or the most mischievous of men. Not that my own career affords an exemplification of this truth. I'm an exception, you know; but that's my theory.

"Now, I should say that sixteen is a good age to begin my narrative at. When I was sixteen, then, I made a great discovery. I found out that I was born to be a great poet. Many a time before this my friend Simpson had assured me that I was an undeveloped Byron, and had said that Tupper and Jane Taylor wer'nt to be spoken of in the same breath with me; but Simpson was partial, although right, of course, and although his opinion was pleasing, it could hardly be called weighty. A day came, however, when my father told me I had idled about long enough, and gave me a week to choose a profession. Here was a pretty position for a youth of soul, who had written "Torquil, a tale of Blood," in one canto (unfinished). Like all youths of fine sensibility, I shrunk from the gross idea of a practical purpose in life, and as the shrinking process proceeded, my destiny which had gradually been unveiling itself looked me fairly in the face. I would be fettered with no base professional trammels; I would pore over no musty law books in some dingy office; I would become no butcher doctor, increasing the death rate of my unfortunate district by experimental surgery; I would be no neck-clothed parson, putting on grave looks to order as I put on my leggings in winter mornings. I must be unfettered; free; for I was born to minister to the emotional longings of a world whose ears were already primed to hear and whose souls were thirsting to absorb the rhyming rainfall from a cloud of fancy that was already filled to bursting point. That was the idea I modestly conveyed to my father when the week was at an end. But strange to say it did not find response in the paternal mind. In vain I spoke of "Chatterton, the wondrous boy;" in vain I enlarged on my passionate sympathy with nature; in vain I declaimed passages from "Torquil," with dramatic effects suggested by Simpson. My father was inexorable: I had to choose a profession, and that at once!

"Here was a pretty termination to my life-dream, inspired by consciousness of mental greatness, and fed by Simpson. I was astounded, indignant, rebellious. Simpson said—but perhaps you didn't know Simpson? Well, he was a genius, too, although, of course, in a smaller way; his face was lit up with an expression which not even the perennial dirt with which it was coated, nor yet the gumboils by which its pimply proportions were commonly marred, could destroy. Yes, I tell you, he was no common sort—such listening powers, such ready sympathy, such an eye for detecting good qualities in his friends! Well, Simpson said I was being shamefully used, and Simpson was right.

"But, as you may have noticed, fathers generally have their own way in the long run, and my case was no exception to the rule. Commerce I despised, anything unprofessional I thought low; and thus, as I had to do something, before many months were over, I matriculated at Edinburgh University with the ziew of studying for the Church. Religious? No not a bit of it; not even decently reverent. But that's nothing to do with it. The Church is a gentlemanly occupation; and after all there's not much difference between getting up the forms of Church service and those of the criminal courts.

"I kept up the hypocrisy of study for two winters, during which time I fell hopelessly back in classics, but made surprising progress in billiards and pool, an accomplishment which speedily made me the acquaintance of every unappreciated genius in the place. What a glorious companionship it was; what wit; what satire; what contempt for the forms of society; what carelessness as to the good opinion of the world! This was life; these were men.

"Of course I stayed out late at night now, and I well remember one ludicrous adventure into which my nocturnal ramblings led me. Our house used to be full of strangers at communion time; and frequently my brother and I, who slept together, had to give up our bedroom to some clerical visitor, and content ourselves with a shakedown anywhere. Towards the end of my first session a clergyman from a neighbouring town came, among others, to visit my father, an elderly, corpulent, hopelessly deaf, but singularly sound divine, and as ours was the only bedroom at his disposal, it was arranged that he should put up there during his visit. I knew of this when I went out to read Juvenal (i.e., to play pyramids) in my chum's rooms, but unfortunately I became so engrossed with study that when I was making my way home shortly before one o'clock I had forgotten everything about it. Imagine me, then, quietly opening the door, carefully groping my way to the staircase noiselessly ascending it, and without stir of any kind entering the bedroom of which I innocently thought my brother was the only occupant. To throw my clothes off and jump into bed was the work of an instant; to place my arm round my brother's waist that of another. Then all at once a strange misgiving came over me. My brothers breathing, generally so quiet, had changed into a sonorous grunt; my brother's form, hitherto so slender, had assumed proportions absolutely Falstaffian in character. The truth flashed upon me: I was in bed with the distinguished divine. Deafness was no safeguard against alacrity with which I scattered the blankets and made for the door. What I said I don't exactly know, but in the morning I sat opposite the forgiving old party at breakfast, and he only said that I looked as if I had been late out the night before.

"In due time it became apparent that I had mistaken my calling. No one doubted my capacity to preach sermons, however they might doubt my powers of application to string them together, but somehow or other my friends did not think I possessed the qualities to gain the confidence of a congregation, and this being so, I bade adieu with a light heart to the classic shades I had so unfrequented. My father said I bade adieu with an empty heart as well. But that was not so.

"Behold me next apprenticed to a legal gentleman, not occupied in the humble duties once performed by Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., but copying far the most part, by which occupation I became an accomplished eraser. This did well enough for a month or two, but after that I became impatient. Law didn't seem to agree well with literature somehow; I preferred Hone's Day Book to that in which my employer entered his services to his clients, and as for the intricacies of legal procedure they wearied me beyond belief. Of course I had some relief at nights, where my old friends in the billiard-room welcomed me heartily, pocketing my losses in friendly fashion. But generally speaking, I considered the life too slow, and gradually made up my mind to change its scene. One fine morning accordingly, with no worldly stock beyond an unlimited supply of cheek and the manuscript of several poems, I set out on a journey to the South. I should say that journey will not soon be forgotten in religious circles in the South of Scotland. The weather was superb, and as I was a practised pedestrian I resolved to enjoy my runaway jaunt. Here and there I had to pass through charming scenery or close to baronial residences, and wherever that was so I spent hours among them, lying in woods or at brook sides, picturing to myself the glorious welcome I would get from the publishers in London. But Free Kirk manses had greater attractions for me still. I knew the clerical almanack better than either the Bible or Jack Sheppard, so that not only were the characteristics of every parish through which I passed familiar to me, but the name of every minister also, the date of his ordination, the amount of his stipend, and the number of his family. I never made for manses with large families. Common prudence attracted me to the manses of bachelors or young men, who have more regard for the eccentricity of genius than domesticated clerics. By this means I was able to get past *Berwick* and well into England before I had to face the position of having nowhere to put up for the night. But I was hopeful. A night in a haystack, another in a van belonging to a travelling circus somewhat damped my poetic ardour. Then came a gumboil of portentious size to depress me, rheumatic pains to make me lag, a vacant sensation in my internals to remind me that feeding was irregular.

"At last one of the North-East ports was reached. I do no think I was regarded as an acquisition by those who witnessed my entry. They seem to look suspiciously at my dusty feet and travel-soiled clothes, and when I in forced unrecognition of my penniless state inquired of a shopman standing at his door for a suitable hotel, I was directed to a fourpenny lodging-house, whereat my pride was grievously offended."

(To be continued.)

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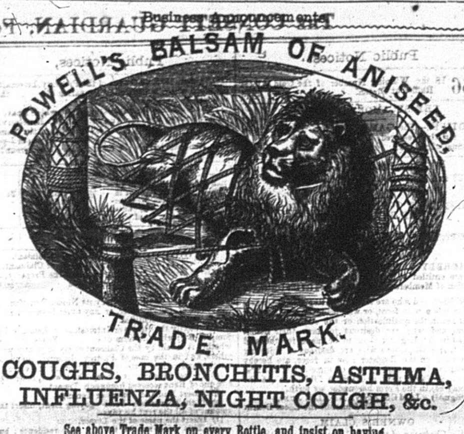
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LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, February 23rd—Before Edward Taylor Smith, Esq. (chairman), Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., and Major W. J. Joicey.

THE PITMAN'S CHAMPION PUPS.

John Conroy was charged with stealing a dog belonging to Peter Hines at South Pontop Colliery, on the 14th February.—Mary Ann Hines, wife of prosecutor, said that about three o'clock on the afternoon named defendant came to their house and looked at the two puppies, after which he remarked that he did not know which of them to take. Witness told defendent not to touch either of the animals as they were not his, but he never-the less caught hold of one of the puppies and carried it openly away.—By the defendant: She did not say that he ought to take away the white pup.—Prosecutor alleged that the two pups he kept at his house were valued at £2 a-piece. [The animal in dispute was here held up in Court, but presented such a puny appearance that the abnormal price fixed upon it by prosecutor caused much laughter.]—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith: How do you base your valuation? Are the dogs of a superior breed?—Defendant: They are terrier and cross-bred pups.—Mr Smith: What is the nature of the cross breed?—Defendant: Well, I cannot state. I only know what is the breed of the father and mother. (Laughter.)—Continuing, defendant said that on the 14th inst. when he came home he found that defendant had taken one of the pups away. He did not give him one of them.—By defendant: I did not tell him at Quebec to go over and get one of the dogs.—P.C. Rogerson subsequently apprehended defendant, and on charging him with stealing a dog, he made no reply. He was under the influence of drink at the time.—Defendant asserted that prosecutor told him at Quebec to go over and get one of his puppies, neither of which, as they could see, were "worth a farthing." In support of this statement, he called prosecutor's brother, Thomas Hines, who stated that three weeks past Saturday night since his brother Peter came into a public-house at Quebec and offered the defendant one of the dogs. Prosecutor was slightly intoxicated at the time.—Defendant created much amusement in court by declaring that prosecutor had "not been reet in his heed for the past ten months," and required looking after. He was more fit for the lunatic asylum than anywhere else, and would say "owt that comes into his heed."—The Bench dismissed the case upon defendant promising to pay costs.

CRUELTY TO PIT ANIMALS.

A youth named *Wm. Holmes, alias Wm. Jas. Mason*, pony putter, employed at Messrs Joicey's South Tanfield Colliery, was summoned for brutally and cruelly ill-treating a certain animal by kicking it violently with his foot.—Mr A. O. Smith, of Durham, who appeared in support of the charge briefly related the facts of the case and said if the evidence he brought forward fully substantiated the charge he was sure the Bench would feel it their duty to mark their sense of the inhuman and brutal conduct of the defendant in such a manner that it would be a warning to other youths. The proprietors of the colliery regretted that they were compelled to take these proceedings, but it was necessary to protect their ponies from the cruel hands of those employed like defendant, and he hoped the Bench would inflict a severe penalty.—Thomas Stones, putter at South Tanfield Colliery, said that on Wednesday, 1st February, he was employed along with defendant in the pit referred to. He handed the pony over to defendant at seven o'clock a.m. There were no wounds upon it, and no blood flowing from its mouth. About half-past ten he was working in the "cross-cut" pit, when he happened to pass the place where defendant was standing. He observed defendant kick the pony on the fore legs several times. Witness remonstrated with defendant and told him to let it alone, but he replied that "he wasn't going to let the galloway bite him." The animal was quite inoffensive. Defendant also added that if the pony attempted to bite him again he would give it good "scudding." They were violent kicks inflicted by defendant, and the animal's mouth was bleeding. Witness made a complaint to the deputy-overman, who subsequently accused defendant of striking and kicking the animal, but the latter denied that he ever kicked it. Witness had often used the pony himself.—Cross-examined by Mr Oliver: He merely happened to come upon the spot at the time defendant was ill-using the animal. He was unaware of what occurred before he came up. He had used the pony himself for about an hour on that particular morning. The reason he exchanged animals with defendant was because his was so high that he could not get it into the place where he wanted to work. He believed defendant would be the third person who worked the pony that morning.—Mr Robert Gray, deputy-overman, stated that when he charged defendont with ill-treating the pony, he denied striking it with a lamp, but admitted kicking it. He told defendant he had no business to beat the animal.—Mr John Womack, veterinary surgeon, was requested to examine the pony on the 2nd February, when he found from four to six bruises on each of the near fore and hind legs. Two inches above the knee a place had evidently been burnt. The animal was also bleeding profusely from the lips. He considered that it had been very badly used.—Cross-examined: The wounds referred to could not have been inflicted by striking it; they were the result of violent kicks.—For the defence, Mr Oliver said that the answer he had to make to the charge was that the defendant had only been accused of kicking the pony on the legs a few times. Whatever had been done to the animal, however, did not hinder it from performing its work. He submitted there was no evidence which testified that the galloway was perfectly sound when given over to defendant, and the prosecution had not proved that his client was the person who inflicted the wounds spoken of.—The Chairman said the magistrates had found defendant guilty of the offence, and considering the nature of the case they wished to express their abhorrence of such unmerciful cruelty. The defendant would have to pay a fine of £3 and costs; in default, one month's hard labour.

ATTEMPTED RAPE NEAR LANCHESTER.

A farmer's [illegible] named *James Jamieson*, living at Whitehouse, near Burnhope, was placed in the dock on a charge of having, on the 19th inst., felonously and violently assaulted Jane Hunter, a girl of 17 years; and also with attempting at the same time to commit a rape upon the said Jane Hunter.—Mr Smith prosecuted in this case; Mr Oliver defended.—Prosecutrix, examined by Mr Smith, said she was domestic servant at Mr J. Simpson's of Colepike Farm, near Lanchester. On Sunday last, 19th inst., she went to see some friends at Burnhope, and on returning home about six o'clock in the evening she noticed that the prisoner was following her. He subsequently overtook her and they entered into a short conversation. When prosecutrix got past the Lanchester Churchyard she entered a friend's house, where she remained about five minutes, and afterwards proceeded on her way home. She met prisoner again under the bridge, who asked her if she had any objection to him setting her home. Prosecutrix replied that she did not want "his company nor any of mankind." The prisoner, however (who was a perfect stranger to prosecutrix) still followed her. When she got past the rectory into a lonely part of the road, the defendant threw her down upon her back and committed the assault complained of against her will. She told prisoner she would inform the police of what had taken place. Prosecutrix ultimately got away and reached home about half-past seven. When she arrived at Mr Simpson's she made a complaint to her mistress. Prosecutrix was very ill the next morning and could hardly walk about. There where several marks and scratches on her abdomen.—Mrs Simpson said that prosecutrix was her servant. On the Sunday previous she went to visit some friends, and returned to the house about half-past seven o'clock. Witness saw prosecutrix when she came in and observed that she was crying and appeared in a very distressed condition. Witness several times interrogated her as to what was the matter. She did not speak but only continued to cry the more. Afterwards, however, prosecutrix told her all what had happened.—Dr Wilson, surgeon practising at Lanchester, who examined prosecutrix, gave medical testimony in support of the charge.—P.C. Hawley, stationed at Burnhope Colliery, arrested prisoner on a warrant on the succeeding Tuesday, when he charged him with attempting to commit a rape on Jane Hunter. Prisoner replied "O Lord God; that is a crasher." He admitted that he had being playing with prosecutrix; but denied criminally assaulting her. When prosecutrix indentified the prisoner the latter said "I hope you wont press the case, Lizzie."—Upon being charged by the Magistrates' Clerk, prisoner replied "I am not guilty; I will leave my defence to my solicitor."—Prisoner was then formally committed for trial at the Assizes, bail being accepted—prisoner himself in £100 and two sureties of £50 each.

ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF LICENSE AT HEDLEY HILL.

At Lanchester Petty Sessions yesterday (Thursday), *John Bell*, beerhouse keeper, Hedley Hill, was charged that he being a spirit and beer retailer, duly licensed to sell spirits and beer to be consumed off the premises there situate, unlawfully did sell one pint of beer, and allow the same to be drunk on his premises without having a license authorising him so to do.—Mr Maw appeared for the defendant.—P.C. Kendrew stated that on Saturday night, the 11th inst., he visited the defendant's beerhouse at Hedley Hill, in company with another man. While standing in the backyard he saw a man coming out of the back door of the defendant's house. He had hold of a little boy with one hand, and in the other he had a pocket handkerchief, and was wiping his mouth. A man named Walton went to the back door, ordered a pint of beer, and was supplied with it by a young woman, and he paid for it.—The Chairman: What time was it?—Witness: It would be about half-past eight o'clock.—The Chairman: The defendant has the license to sell off the premises?—Witness: Yes; off the premises. The man Walton drank the beer in the passage, just inside the house. He was asked to go into the house and sit down, but declined to do so. Witness stepped up and asked the man what he had got there, and he replied a pint of beer. Witness stood talking to the man two or three minutes, and then Mrs Bell came up. Witness said, "Mrs Bell, you have no right to supply this man with a pint of beer, to be consumed on your premises," and she replied, "He has only had a gill of beer," at the same time giving the man a "dunch" with her arm. Witness looked into the pot, and there was a deal more than a gill in at that time, and he had had a drink. I saw the man give the money to the young woman.—Mr Maw: You saw this man Walton go into the house? Yes, and another man come out.—Will you swear that the man you saw coming out of the house had been supplied with drink? No; but he was rubbing his mouth with his handkerchief.—Did you go to this house on purpose to entrap the defendant? Yes.—You know William Walton; where did you first see him that night? At Quebec.—Did you ask him to go with you? Yes.—Have you brought Wm. Walton with you? No.—How many dogs had you that night? He had one and I had one.—When you got to Hedley Hill you stood outside with Walton some time? No, I did not. From Walton leaving me to being supplied with beer would not be more than two minutes.—Before Walton left the house did you stand outside with him? No; we walked right up to the back door.—These dogs had some chains and leaders on? One had a chain and the other a leader.—Did Walton give you charge of the white dog? Yes.—Did you not tell Walton to go inside the house and call for a pint of beer? No; I did not.—Did you tell him what to call for? I said he had to go and see if he could get a pint of beer, as I had had numerous complaints about the house.—You told him you would wait outside? Well, I did.—Then, this is what we call a "plant"? Yes, it is.—When Walton went inside the house where did you stand? In the yard.—Could you see the door? Yes, certainly, I stood against the backyard door.—And you could see into the house? Yes, I could.—Was Walton never out of the passage? No.—You said you could see him pay for the beer. What coin was it paid in? Threepence.—Did you give him the money? I did not give him that.—Have you recouped him? I paid him before.—How far was the young woman from you that supplied the beer? Two and a half yards.—Did you hear the young woman tell him to take the beer away, and not drink it there? No; she asked him to go into the house and rest himself.—When you went into the house did you ask the man his name? No, I think not.—Will you swear on your oath you did not? No, but Mrs Bell did.—Were you not told the man was a perfect stranger? Yes, I dare say I was.—Did you ask him his name? No, I did not.—Did not the man tell you his name was Dodds? No, he did not.—And did not he say he had come from Tow Law and was going to Langley Moor? No; Mrs Bell asked him where he had come from, and he said Langley Park.—Will you swear he was not asked his name, and that he gave the name of Dodds? He gave the name of Dodsworth, Langley Park.—Then it was a lie that the man came from Tow Law? Yes; I knew he lived at Langley Park.

Mr Maw, having spoken in defence, called upon Mary Jane Coteman, servant with the defendant, who stated that on Saturday night she went into the back yard to get some coals, and saw the policeman standing talking to another man. She heard one man say something to the other about beer. A short time afterwards the man came in, and asked for a pint of beer. She supplied it, and he gave her threepence in copper, and then she told him to take the beer away off the premises.—The Chairman: What did you give it in? A jug.—Your own jug? No, sir.—Whose jug was it? I don't know.—The Chairman: Whose jug was it? It was our jug.—The Chairman: Then why can't you say so? You never intended him to take it away? No. I thought he just wanted to drink the beer outside.—Witness (continuing) said the mistress came to the door and told the man to take the beer away, and then the policeman came up and found fault.—Policeman: Is it not true you asked him into the house?—No, I did not.—The Chairman: Did you see the man drink the beer? No sir; he never drank it in my presence.

Eliza Bell, wife of the defendant, and Mary Ann Wright, widow, corroborated the evidence of the last witness.

The Bench retired, and after a few minutes consultation in private, the Chairman said they were of opinion that the case ought to be dismissed. It was a pity that the man Walton was not brought forward, for he might have put a different complexion on the case altogether. They dismissed the case, but at the same time they would remind Mr Bell that except for the evidence he had brought forward, and the uncorroborated evidence of the policeman, they considered he was perfectly guilty, and they advised him to be more careful for the future.

A SCENE BETWEEN BENCH AND SOLICITOR.

Superintendent Oliver said that there was a similar charge against *Thomas Forster*, of the Monkey's Nest, but with permission of the Bench he would withdraw the summons, unless they would grant him an adjournment for a fortnight, so that they could get some further evidence to support the statement of the police-officers.

Mr Maw said he certainly objected to the case being adjourned. The summons was issued on the 16th February, and to-day was the 23rd, and therefore the police had had a full week to get up the case. Walton only lived two or three miles from Quebec, and could easily have been brought if the police had wished him. The defendant had, at great expense, brought him (Mr Maw) from Bishop Auckland to defend the case, and had also subpoened a number of witnesses, therefore he opposed the application. If the Bench granted it he should certainly ask that his five witnesses should be paid their full expenses.

The Chairman said the Bench had made up their minds to adjourn the case, and if the charge was proved they would inflict a very heavy fine.

Mr Maw observed that this remark was not right to come from any bench of magistrates. It showed their minds were biassed.

The Chairman: Not at all. I say if the case is proved against him he shall be severely punished. These cases are difficult to prove, and it is only proper, when they are proved, that a heavy fine should be imposed.

Mr Maw said that remark was most unfair to come from a bench of magistrates.

The Chairman: You have said that once. Pray don't repeat it. It does not come with very good grace from a solicitor. We do our duty, and I trust you will do yours.

Mr Maw applied for the costs of his witnesses, but the bench refused the application.

ANNUAL DINNER AT CATCHGATE.

The annual dinner in connection with Mr Hobson's seed pay, took place in the Town Hall Buildings, Catchgate, on Wednesday, February 15th. Amongst the company present we noticed:—Messrs Geo. Hardy, Knitsley; W. Rutherford, Collierley; Geo. Ballerwell, Snook Hill; J. T. Mitchinson, Park Head, Greencroft; W. C. Bowman, Colepike; Robt. Humphrey, Loud; John Ritson, Knitsley Mill; W. Bates, Stanley; Robt. Ayre, senr., Riding Hill; Robert Ayre, jun., Birtley; John Elsdon, Sunniside; Thos. Forster, Town Head; W. Swinburne, Wagon Hill; George Bell, Maiden Law; W. Hornsby, Chapman's Well; Stephen Atkinson, Andrew's House; James Charlton, Pont House; Robert Inness, Lizzards; Jos. Hall, Harelaw; Jos. Irwin, Catchgate; John Hunter, Medomsley Grange; A. Hunter, Medomsley; Thomas Clark, Billingside; L. W. Pearson, Ravensworth Grange; John Urwin, Dipton; Geo. Coxon, Middles; Miles Handy, Fines House; E. Wylam, Cornsay; W. Wilson, Maiden Hall; A. Shotton, Smailes; E. Wilkinson, Dipton; Joseph Ridley, Try-'em-All; T. Jamison, White House; M. Adamson, Burnopfield; Anderson, Bradley; George Turnbull, Twizel Hall; A. Blench, Brooms; Thomas Turnbull, Stanley; James Cuthbertson, Crookgate; Thomas Lamb, Annfield Plain; W. S. Telford, Henderson and Wheatley, of Catchgate.

The dinner was presided over by Mr George Hobson, of Harperley Mills, Mr Adamson being in the vice-chair. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been proposed, as well as those connected with the trades of the district, and heartily responded to, the evening was spent very pleasantly. Several of those present contributed to the amusement in speech and song.—The programme was varied occasionlly by lively discussions on land questions, which could not fail to prove of immense value to those having actual interest in agricultural work. For example, "Free Trade *versus* Fair Trade," was keenly appreciated, the former having a stout champion in Mr Stephen Atkinson, who expounded his cause in a very able manner.

"The health of the Chairman" was then proposed and supported by Mr Inness, who paid Mr Hobson in a pithy speech, some high compliments.

In responding, Mr Hobson thanked all present, as well as to those who were unable to join him on that occasion. He assured them that the business carried on as it was under his personal supervision, and with his long and vast experience, coupled with the aid of his son, who took an active interest in the trade, would maintain its high reputation in the ftuure, as in the past.

The proceedings afterwards terminated.

CONCERT AT IVESTON.

On Monday evening last, this quaint little village was aroused from its dreary solemnity by a grand musical treat given in the village school-room. Considerable excitement prevailed amongst the villagers, on account of concerts being so rarely held in Iveston, and about the time of commencement crowds of people flocked into the place, thus showing how the object promoted by the concert was appreciated by them. The schoolroom was embellished with artistic designs, mottoes, evergreens, and garlands of every variety, which had a very pleasing effect on the brilliantly-lighted room. Punctual to time of commencing the Chairman (E. W. C. Balleny, Esq.) rose and briefly stated the object of the concert. He said that it gave him very great pleasure to be present that night, and also to see so many well-wishers in the room. Some time ago the Rev. J. W. Mitchell (vicar of Leadgate), and his curate (Rev J. Kirk), thought it necessary, on account of a lack of places of worship in Iveston, to commence a branch of the Church of England there, and by very strenuous efforts had done so. Shortly after the movement had been begun, he (the Chairman) attended the service, and was much astonished at the very meagre attendance, and thought that if an effort was put forth for getting a harmoniun and also a choir it would be more attractive, and draw a larger attendance. He suggested to the Vicar that they should endeavour to get up a concert and so procure a harmonium, and with the assistance of the Rev J. Kirk and several others interested in the furtherance of God's work, the scheme was accomplished. He hoped that the people of the village who did not attend any place of worship would go to the services instead of wasting their time and money in public-houses. He wished the promoters of the grand undertaking God speed, and hoped that they would have every success. (Applause). The Chairman then introduced the programme by calling upon Master Simpson for a pianoforte solo, which was executed with so much dash and precision, that he gained the hearty plaudits of the audience. Miss Shield, who possesses a splendid soprano voice, contributed the song "No, Sir," in capital style. The song "Kilarney" was given by Mr Lees (Durham) in a very effective manner. Miss Morgan next sang very sweetly "The fancy fair." A duet—"Brotherly Love,"—rendered by Messrs Lees and Raine, was loudly applauded by the auditory. Mrs C. Balleny, in singing "Tit for tat," received the hearty appreciation of the audience, and was followed by a song—"Nancy Lee"—rendered by Mr Eden, his rich baritone voice doing full justice to the piece, and he was enthusiastically *encored* by the assemblage. A reading, "The crew of the Captain's brig," was given by C. D. Balleny, Esq. Miss Collinson followed with the song "Thy voice is near," in a very pathetic manner. "The gipsy's warning" was next contributed by Miss Cranston. In the absence of Mr Anderson, the comic song, "Velvet and rags" was executed in first-class style by Mr Raine (Durham). The second part of the programme was opened with a pianoforte solo by Miss Fiddler, her efforts being loudly cheered by the audience. Mr Raine again favoured the company with a song—"Half-mast high," after which Miss Mitchell received an *encore* for the performance of the song "A bird in the band." The historical piece—"Mary Queen of Scots"—was recited by the Rev J. Kirk in very brilliant style. Miss Morgan sustained her part exceedingly well in the song—"The little faded Mayflower." A glee entitled "The laughing chorus," by Misses Shield and Stewart, and Messrs Brears and Shield, evoked the plaudits of the audience, and they were recalled. Miss Shield again rendered a song "The miller and the maid," in a very graceful manner, for which she received a well-merited *encore*, and responded with the song "To Twickenham ferry." Miss Stewart in giving the song "Father, pray with me to-night," received the cheers of the company, and was followed by a glee—"The Huntsman's chorus," by the Party (under the leadership of Mr Brears) which was accomplished in excellent style. The comic song, "The two spoons," created much laughter on being performed by Mr Lees, as also did the song "What are they made of?" by Miss Morgan. Misses Fiddler and J. Thompson efficiently presided at the pianoforte.

At the close of the concert votes of thanks were accorded to the Chairman for the able manner in which he had presided over the meeting, as well as to the performers who had so kindly given their services, and after the singing of "Auld lang syne" and the National Anthem, the company dispersed, all being highly pleased with the evening's proceedings.

The committee were very much indebted to Mr Balleny, senr., Mr E. Balleny, Greencroft, and Mr and Mrs Charles Balleny, of Ebchester, for the invaluable servces rendered by them in the getting up of the concert, and at which, we understand, the handsome sum of £8 was realised, which sum, together with other subscriptions, has enabled the committee to obtain a first-class harmonium.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE REV. W. H. FARRAR.

In the *Barrow Times* of Saturday last there is a lengthy account headed, "Interesting Presentations," in connection with the Rev W. H. Farrar's leaving Barrow to commence his new work in the Tyne Mission Ship, which will interest many of our readers. It is impossible to give the account in detail, but we extract a few remarks.

The St. Mark's annual social tea was held in the schoolrooms, but the meeting afterwards was in the Town Hall, there being too large a number to be accommodated in the schools. After speeches from the Rural Dean (chairman), the Vicar of St. Mark's, and other clergy, the following presentations were made:—

Mr. HUDDLESTONE rose for the purpose of presenting to Mr Farrar, on behalf of the church officers and congregation and temperance society, a purse of gold, accompanied by an illuminated address, expressive of the high appreciation of his labours in the parish during the 2½ years he had acted as curate, and wishing him God speed in his new sphere of labour. In making the presentation Mr. Huddlestone said that from the beginning of Mr. Farrar's ministrations he had compelled them to love and esteem him. In Mr. Farrar they had a faithful minister of Jesus Christ and of the Church of England, and he did not believe that any other temperance society had possessed such an earnest and devoted worker as he was. (Applause.) In fact he had always been ready to help on any good work in the parish.

Mr. MOSSOP next presented Mr. Farrar with a set of silver spoons and forks, card tray, &c, on behalf of the Sunday-school teachers and children. He observed that Mr. Farrar had acted as general superintendent of the Sunday-school, and that he had always taken a most active part in promoting the social, moral, and spiritual welfare of the people. By his intense earnestness, his energy and zeal, his unbounded sympathy, and his open-heartedness he had endeared himself to everyone with whom he had been brought into contact. He would not soon be forgotten. (Applause).

Mr MCGOUGH, on behalf of the "Mothers' meeting," asked Mr Farrar to accept a handsome biscuit canister, bearing a suitable inscription, and also a gold pencil case subscribed for by the Band of Hope children.

Mr SNOW then handed to Mr Farrar a large and elegantly bound album, subscribed for by the men's bible class, which he stated contained the portraits of a number of the members. He remarked that since Mr Farrar had taken charge of the class the membership had increased from 15 to upwards of 100.

Mr WAGSTAFFE, on behalf of St. Mark's Drum and Fife Band, presented Mr Farrar with a photograph of the members, mounted in a neat frame.

The Rev. H. W. FARRAR acknowledged the gifts in appropriate terms, and in an affectionate and heartstirring address bade them farewell, the audience being deeply and visibly affected.

LINTZ FORD BAND OF HOPE.—The members of the above Band of Hope gave an entertainment in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Burnopfield Colliery, on Saturday evening last, the chapel being crowded in every part. Melodies were sung in good style by the Misses Richardson, York, Morris and Hadley. Dialogues and recitations were also gone through in a very creditable manner by other members of the band of hope. Mr. Jno. Watson presided.

PHONOGRAPHY.—Two boys, under 12 years of age, Master WILLIAM OLIVER, of Blackhill, and THOMAS STEVENSON, of Church Square, Leadgate, pupils at Mr. TAIT'S Academy, have this week obtained Certificates of a thorough knowledge of Phonography from Mr. I. PITMAN. This makes Five who have passed in Mr. TAIT'S School within six months. One of them, Master JOHN CANT, of Leadgate, got the Certificate within Nine Months of commencing. One of the two who have just passed has been engaged about Eleven Months, and other Twelve Months. The charge is only Two Shillings a quarter additional for Teaching Phonography; an easy mode of acquiring this useful art. 172q

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS are admirably adapted for the cure of diseases incidental to females. Many from delicacy bear in secret, for women are subject to complaints which require especial remedies, and it is now an indisputable fact that there is none so suitable for such complaints as Holloway's Pills. They are invaluable to females of all ages, young or old, married or single. They purify the blood, regulate the secretions, correct all suspended or altered functions, clear the complexion, and brighten the countenance. The first approach of disordered action should be met with appropriate doses of these Pills; whilst taking them no restriction need be placed over the patient. They contain nothing which can possibly prove injurious to the system. They act by purifying the blood and regulating every organ.

CONSETT WATERWORKS COMPANY.—The half-yearly meeting of the Consett Waterworks Company took place at the Company's Offices, Consett, on Wednesday afternoon. The report of the directors, submitted for the half-year ending 31st December, 1881, showed that the revenue from domestic rentals had slightly increased during the half-year, while there had been a diminution of mechanical rentals, owing to the large rainfall during that period; such rentals, however, are in considerable excess of those received in the corresponding period of 1880. After payment of interest on bonds, wayleave rents, and management expenses, there remains a balance of £3,903 4s 3d available for dividend, and the directors recommend payment of a dividend at the rate of £5 per cent. per annum, leaving a balance of £128 18s 7d to be carried to the next half-year's account. During the past half-year, special attention has been given to the delivery of the company's water in as pure state as possible, to ensure which additional number of flush valves have been fixed throughout the district. The mains in the Shotley Bridge district have been scraped; strainers have been fitted on the mains at the Smiddy Shaw reservoir, and other alterations have been carried out with the effect of considerably increasing and improving the supply of water to consumers. The erection of storehouses, workshops, &c., in the rear of the offices at Consett have been completed in a satisfactory manner.—The report was adopted.

Correspondence.

(☞ We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.—Ed. C.G.)

THE ANCIENT FOOTPATH.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—I am pleased to find that the Ancient Footpath question is not likely to die out so readily as some people imagine. It is not merely a question of the convenience of the roads, as we must all admit that Ritson's Road is of more use to the inhabitants of Blackhill, than the Ancient Footpath; but it is a question of cost to the ratepayers. Now if the Board go to the Quarter Sessions, and have the footpath diverted, then Ritson's Road becomes a public road the property of the Board, and in the course of a few years, when building sites are sold, and houses built upon the land adjoining the middle of Ritson's Road, the owners of such property will ask and compel the Board to kerb, channel, and macadamise the road, and light it, costing the township for making the road out of the public purse £2,000. If we oppose the Board at the Quarter Sessions and by that means stay the diversion, then when the land adjoining Ritson's Road is built upon the cost of making the road would fall upon the owners of the property. And the Board can then accept it without any cost whatever to the township. If the ratepayers stand out against the diversion now, it will save them heavy cost in sometime not far distant.—Yours, &c.,

A RATEPAYER.

BURNOPFIELD LAND LEAGUE.—The Burnopfield Branch of the Land League held a grand concert in aid of the Irish political prisoners, on Saturday night last, when £6 was raised for the object.

CROOK v CASTLESIDE.—This return match was played on Saturday last, on the ground of the latter, and after a very exciting game, ended in a draw in favour of the home team, by two dead balls. Castleside, one try, two touches in goal, and five touches down. Crook, one try, and six touches down. Owing to a violent gale blowing, play could not be judged. Teams—Castleside: Back, G. Davison (captain); half-backs, R. Davison, and G. S. Brown; quarter backs, G. Brown, and J. Robinson; forwards, J. Iley, J. Wilkinson, T. Robinson, W. Pattinson, H. Howells, R. Joes, T. Davison, W. Davison, R. J. Davison, Wm. Toward. Crook—Back, G. Harding (captain); half-backs, G. Browning, and T. Wilson; quarter-backs, J. Batey, and J. Nicholson; forwards, J. Carr, J. Woodhall, J. Moore, G. Herron, W. Reid, T. Featherstone, and J. Noddings.

EXPLOSION AT CONSETT.—Shortly after nine o'clock on Wednesday night three loud reports enamating from the Ironworks were heard in Consett and Blackhill, the force of which shook the neighbourhood for miles around. Hundreds of persons immediately hurried to the spot, when it was ascertained that whilst the slag was being tapped at No 2 Blast-furnace, the heated fluid accidentally flowed over the top of the "bogie" to the ground, where it came in contact with some water standing there, which caused the reports in question. Beyond shaking the engine houses close at hand, and throwing some connecting pipes and machinery out of gear, no serious damage was done. A few pounds will put everything right. We may add that two of the reports were heard as far off as Tow Law.

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

BALL AT VICTORIA GARESFIELD COLLIERY.—The members of the Accident Fund at this place held their annual ball for the benefit of this fund, in the Village School-room, on Saturday evening last. There was a crowded audience at the dance, and an enjoyable evening was spent by all who were present. Mr Summersides' Reed Band from the Spen supplied the music, which was of first-rate character. Nearly £3 was added to the fund. These entertainments in connection with this fund are deservedly popular at the colliery, as is also the fund itself. The workmen and officials at the village have the management of it jointly.

EAST HEDLEYHOPE.—On Wednesday evening last, Mr. Alexander Blyth, secretary to the Northumberland and Durham Miners' Permanent Relief Fund, with his magic-lantern, gave some excellent views of various incidents and places in the Large School-room of the above place.—The views comprised a visit to Italy and back, with such places on the route as Paris, Lyons, Marseilles, Rome, Pisa, Naples, Pompeii, Vesuvuis, Venice, Berne &c. He also exhibited views of the Seaham explosion; Scotland and Ireland, also of eminent men of various places and countries. During the exhibition Mr. Steele, agent to the fund, gave a short address as to the work and aim of the fund. Refering to the Trimdon Grange explosion he said that the total number of lives lost through it up to that time amounted to 74. These left 26 widows and 57 children to be provided for. They had paid about £1,000 at once and the explosion had increased the liabilities some £7,700. Each widow would receive averaging 13½ years about £175 each whilst the children would receive at an average of six years about £31. This was the work and aim of the fund, and he urged upon all to further it in every possible way.

[In consequence of pressure of advertisements, several items of news are omitted.]

THOMAS O. MOIR,
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CONVEYANCES of all descriptions on hire. Hearse, Mourning Coaches, and Mourning supplied on the shortest Notice.

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MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR
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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

MILKWELL BURN.—17th inst., the wife of Jos. Batey, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

LANCHESTER.—At the Register Office, 18th inst., Mr W. T. Brass to Miss A. Burton, both of Holmside.—20th inst., Mr J. Bell to Miss A. Dixon, both of Greencroft Cottages.

HAMSTEELS.—At the Parish Church, 21st intt., Mr Allan Thompson, of Manless Green Farm, Cleveland, to Isabella Hannah, second daughter of Mr Charles Davison, of Cornsay Colliery.

DUBLIN.—St. Thomas' Church, 21st inst., by the Rev. James White, Mr Thomas Pickering, Consett, to Louisa, daughter of the late John Cleary, Dublin.

DEATHS.

LEADGATE.—16, West Street, 21st inst., William Miller.

BLACKHILL.—At Derwent Street, 14th inst., aged 63 years, Elizabeth, relict of the late Mr Thos. Reid.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.—11th inst., aged 7 years, William Thomas Twentyman.

SEDGEFIELD.—At the County Asylum, 9th inst., aged 35 years, Mr Robert D. Stephenson, formerly of Shotley Bridge.

MARLEY HILL.—At Sunniside, 20th inst., aged 67 years, Hannah, wife of Mr Thomas Telford.

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